



Parks and Recreational Facilities



Master Plan Update

June 2004





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Executive Summary

Introduction

This Parks Master Plan Update represents a vigorous commitment by the City of North Las Vegas (CNLV) to expand its parks system and recreation programs over the next ten years. This current need to update the original 1997 Parks and Recreation Master Plan is based on the impact of the unprecedented suburban growth that has occurred in the CNLV since the late 1980's.

Since 1990, the CNLV has grown in population by nearly 190% to become the second fastest growing city over 100,000 in the entire country. By 2002 the City's population was estimated to be approximately 138,000, becoming the fourth largest city in the State of Nevada, with nearly 1,000 new residents arriving per month.

Approximately 70% of the available land within the City is currently undeveloped or underdeveloped. At build out, the City could see an ultimate population in excess of 480,000, requiring over 38% of the available land area to be devoted to some form of residential development.

The Parks Master Plan Update report contains Goals, Objectives, Policies, and Actions (GOPA'S), which were developed utilizing extensive community input to help expedite the park planning and development process.

Catching Up

In 1996, the first Park Master Plan was completed and concluded that *"the significant need for developed park acreage over the near-term and long-term could create an insurmountable obstacle in terms of land acquisition, park design, construction and on-going maintenance"*. It became clear that the City was facing a challenge to meet park acreage needs beyond its capacity at the time.

Progress on Parks

Since 1997, the accomplishments of the City in this area have been impressive as witnessed by the significant reinvestment in existing CNLV parks. This commitment by the City to renovate and upgrade existing facilities is ongoing, and will continue through the first five years of this Plan. In addition, five new local parks (approximately 55 acres) will be created.

The planning and design phase is now completed for a regional trail and greenway along the western tributary of the Lower Las Vegas Wash, and the Desert Demonstration Garden next to City Hall is currently open and operating.





Coming to Terms

This Master Plan Update is designed to be realistic and attainable, and has no “built-in shelf-life”. This approach allows the CNLV to achieve long term flexibility in order to be responsive to shifts in fiscal resources, political considerations, and community priorities.

It became apparent mid-way through the preparation of the Plan, the City’s needs for local and regional park development, parks/trails, and greenways using the adjusted and recommended parkland acreage and facility level-of-service (LOS) standards, are as follows:

- ✦ Local (Neighborhood and Community) Parks – an 81 to 135 acre deficit;
- ✦ Regional Parks (assuming Craig Ranch is acquired and developed) - over a 1,000 acre deficit; and
- ✦ Linear Parks/Trails/Greenways - over a 66 mile deficit.

This assessment led to the development of an implementation program that reflected the preferences of the community and assured consistency with the Goals, Objectives, Policies, and Actions (GOPA’s) of the Plan. The program proposes park and recreational facilities within the City’s budget capabilities, and promotes a desire to elevate park and recreation activities to a high priority for the community.

Approach

The implementation portion of the Park and Recreational Facility Master Plan Update provided revenue choices– the “Status-Quo”, “Modest”, and “Ambitious” scenarios. Because they differed in terms of accomplishing the community priorities outlined in the Plan, variable amounts of public investment would be required to fund the projects, depending upon which scenario was chosen. The three scenarios were individually evaluated against several criteria, potential outcomes assessed, and then projected costs were estimated and potential sources of funding identified.

As a result of the priorities established by the community, the City Council fully funded the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for implementation of the Master Plan according to the “Ambitious” scenario, which has now been redefined as the “Development Plan”. This strong endorsement for the Plan, demonstrated by the City Council’s action, was fully supported by the CNLV’s Planning Commission, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, and the Parks and Recreation Department. The Development Plan is based upon the combination of the following two actions by the City:

- ✦ Continued commitment to park renovation and development projects in a strategic and financially affordable manner over the next five to eight fiscal years; and
- ✦ Incorporation of additional projects, depending upon the accomplishment of certain key projects, and continued public support for new projects.

A general description of the major elements of the Development Plan appears near the end of this executive summary.





Points of Beginning

Given the unprecedented growth of the CNLV, public expectations have increased for renovation, expansion, and protection of existing parks and open spaces, and the establishment of new community recreational facilities. The City's parks and recreation services have become an indicator of a higher quality-of-life, thereby enhancing its positive image. To this end, the City's parks and recreation services promote the following:

- ✦ Social benefits by connecting people within the community of various backgrounds and economic levels;
- ✦ Economic benefits by improving the quality-of-life and overall image of the City, which in turn, contributes to the attraction of new businesses and residents;
- ✦ Protection of the environment, providing a sense-of-place, incorporating linear parks and greenways, and preserving sensitive natural areas for open space; and
- ✦ Potential health benefits for community residents by promoting physical fitness and self-improvement.

The above value statements formed the starting points for discussion on the Master Plan Update with the general community and identified stakeholders.

Community Outreach for the Master Plan Update

Extensive public input was obtained through a community outreach program to help further define the areas of community interest and concerns regarding the Master Plan Update. This program included:

- ✦ Three community workshops;
- ✦ 13 stakeholder interviews;
- ✦ Two focus group interviews; and
- ✦ A public survey.

Several common characteristics became evident through feedback from the community outreach process. Most fell into broad categories relative to the variety of parklands, recreational facilities and programs the City currently offers, or could provide in the future. The following are some of the reoccurring comments from the community outreach effort.

Qualitatively, the City should address the issues of park safety and security, introduction of new and non-traditional recreational facilities, provision of additional "green" and shaded areas within parks, and the development of larger community centers that contain more diversified space to promote increased social interaction.

Quantitatively, the City should provide more trails, sports fields, larger playgrounds, skate and BMX parks, water play features, more community-sized parks, a regional park, swimming pools, a new multi-generational community center, amphitheatre/events center, and accessible natural community open space.



Park and Recreational Facility Master Plan Update



Survey

The public survey that was distributed yielded a return with a confidence level of 95%, assuring statistical reliability. Significant results from the survey were the following:

- ✦ The most popular recreational activities were family gatherings, picnicking, enjoyment of open space, playground usage, and walking.
- ✦ Over 40% of survey respondents visited the City's neighborhood parks between one and five times a year.
- ✦ High marks were given to the overall appearance and care of CNLV parks, with 40% of the respondents stating their condition "improving," and an additional 31% rating them at an "acceptable" maintenance level.
- ✦ If offered by the CNLV, the most popular recreational activities desired by those surveyed included family activities such as picnicking, walking, passive enjoyment of open space, indoor/outdoor swimming pools, playgrounds, exercise and weight training facilities, and active areas for organized sports. Public preference was expressed for larger community and regional parks which could accommodate these activities.
- ✦ In recognition of the future shortage of sportsfields, 32% of survey respondents desired to have more multi-sports complexes, and another 22% would like to have such facilities more equally distributed through the City park system.

The Real Issues

Several recurring issues, revealed through the community outreach program, became very useful in defining a vision statement and a corresponding set of Goals, Objectives, Policies and Actions (GOPA's). The results of this outreach program provided a valuable nexus to develop an approach to address specific community concerns and to evaluate the costs associated with them, such as the following:

- ✦ Establishment of larger community parks versus small neighborhood parks;
- ✦ Location of some neighborhood parks in the most underserved areas of the City;
- ✦ Creation of the first regional park in the CNLV;
- ✦ Continuation of redevelopment and renovation projects for existing City parks;
- ✦ Provision of more sportsfields at new community parks, sports complexes or joint/school parks;
- ✦ Development of more non-traditional recreational facilities;
- ✦ Establishment of more linear parks/streetscapes/greenways throughout the City to promote more opportunities for walking, bicycling and horseback riding;
- ✦ Introduction of a downtown-oriented plaza park in the City;
- ✦ Development of another community center;
- ✦ Acquisition and preservation of valuable open space;
- ✦ Provision of more shade (either through tree groves or structures) in City parks; and
- ✦ Creation of a community amphitheater and/or outdoor events center.





The Vision

With a set of consensus-driven issues for the Plan Update, the GOPA's were built around a vision statement. The statement that appeared to capture the spirit and public interest of this Plan Update was:

"The City of North Las Vegas will strive to offer safe and high-quality park, open space and recreational facilities that encourage residents and visitors to live, invest and play in the community. The City is committed to creating recreation programs that promote memorable experiences in people's lives."

This vision statement serves as a guiding principle for decisions to be made by the City Council, advisory commissions and committees, staff, and the community at large, utilizing the GOPA's.

The goals below define the spirit of the vision statement, and combined with clear objectives, sound policies, and positive future actions by the City, resolution of the issues addressed in the Plan should be accomplished.

Goal 1.0 Acquire, develop, and renovate a system of parks, recreational facilities, and open spaces that will be available to all segments of the population. These facilities will be safe, functional, fully accessible, and aesthetically pleasing public spaces.

Goal 2.0 Provide recreation services that promote health and wellness for all citizens in order to create a lifetime user.

Goal 3.0 The planning, development and renovation of city parks will emphasize water conservation measures to reduce wasteful and unreasonable use of water resources and also be more consistent with their regional desert climate and setting.

Goal 4.0 Develop partnership opportunities with other public agencies, not-for-profit agencies and private businesses in the delivery of park and recreational services throughout the City. Any action plans to achieve this goal should contain provisions to assure sustainable long term funding mechanisms.

Key Findings from other Sections of the Current Master Plan

Existing Parks Report

A complete inventory of existing facilities was conducted early in the preparation of this Parks Master Plan Update. This was done to determine if any changes have occurred in existing parks since completion of the original *1996-1997 Parks and Recreation Master Plan*. The results of this analysis are contained in Appendix A - Existing Park Profile Sheets of this report.

The CNLV has made great strides in the renovation and improvement of several of its mature parks. This program has focused on improved visitor access, beautification, additional amenities, user safety and security, and maintenance programs.



Park and Recreational Facility Master Plan Update



This effort has been ongoing since the fall of 2000, and will continue until 2008, when the majority of the existing parks will have undergone some renovation and improvement.

The existing parks report cited the following key areas:

- ✦ Visitor comfort facilities including ADA access, walkways / pathways, lighting, and drinking fountains;
- ✦ Park landscape enhancement features such as new shade trees, plantings, turf, or conversion to desert plants;
- ✦ A repainting program for existing park structures, and construction of new picnic shelters and pavilions, to be built in a distinctive "park-itecture" design theme;
- ✦ Park amenities, consisting of improved playground structures and equipment, sportsfields and courts, picnic tables, barbeque grills, and trash enclosures; and
- ✦ An irrigation system replacement program to achieve operation and maintenance efficiency.

It was also discovered through this assessment, that key parks could benefit from further analysis of their current condition to fully determine their maximum potential. A renovation master plan for the Cheyenne Sports Complex, City View Community Park, and Valley View Neighborhood Park is recommended.

Demographic Profile

The demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the people of the CNLV are unique and ever-changing, and have a significant influence on the development of park and recreation facilities. Analysis of this phenomena allows projections to be made as to how the City can best respond to existing and future park and recreational needs. A demographic and socio-economic analysis is contained within the report.

Possible Influences of these Demographic Factors on this Plan

The fastest growing newer parts of the City will have the largest demand for additional local parks. The 16,000 acre reserve will likely receive the benefits from future master-planned communities that will provide quality local parks, linear parks, trails, and natural open spaces when they are developed. Other parts of the City currently experiencing significant rates of suburban growth may currently be underserved by local parks, or have actual service gap areas.

A major challenge for the City will be to achieve a balance of park and recreational facilities between the older, underserved neighborhoods, and the newer suburban areas in the central and northwest sections of the City, where higher income residents are more likely to be found. Higher income households tend to demand a wide range of facilities close to where they live, and associate larger, well-equipped contemporary park systems as indicators of a quality lifestyle.





Conversely, the greatest concentrations of lower income households are found in the established, central parts of the City, containing older, smaller, neighborhood parks. Furthermore, these established areas generally lack centrally located larger community parks within the neighborhood, or in close proximity to them.

In all areas, consideration must be given to the continuing needs of current and new family households that will demand a variety of park and recreational facilities into the future.

Level-of-Service Analysis - Parkland and Recreational Facilities

The existing and future, park, recreational facility, and open space needs were evaluated, using established park acreage to population level-of-service (LOS) ratios and standards, equity mapping, and comparisons with other similar cities around the west and southwest. Major findings from this analysis include:

- ✦ **Total Park Acreage** - In 2003, the CNLV had a current overall ratio of all types of developed parkland (local, neighborhood, community and regional) of 2.51 acres per 1000 residents. This is substantially below the locally-adjusted national standard of 7.5 acres (2.5 acres for local parks and another 5 acres for regional) parkland per 1,000 residents, primarily due to limited availability of land and funding sources.
- ✦ **Regional Parks** - The CNLV had a sizeable regional parkland LOS deficit in 2003 of nearly 500 acres, increasing to approximately 750 acres by 2007-2008. This deficit will be offset somewhat by the 160 acre Willie McCool Regional Park under lease from the BLM, and the acquisition of the Craig Ranch Golf Course.
- ✦ **Linear Parks/Greenway Corridors/Streetscapes** - In 2003, there was a need for over 38 miles of trails/streetscapes and greenways throughout the City. Given the Lower Las Vegas Wash Trail and partial completion of new trails and linear parks at Aliante, a net reduction of 10 miles will be realized by 2007-2008, leaving a remaining deficit of 28 miles.
- ✦ **Level of Service for Sportsfields** - In 2003, there was a surplus of 10 baseball/softball fields, which will become a deficit of 18 by 2005, and increasing to a significant shortage of 33 by 2007. Regarding soccer fields, there was a surplus of 6 in 2003, increasing to a shortage of 18 by 2005. Football fields will have a shortfall of 13 fields by 2005, increasing to 15 in 2007. Sports facilities of all types (football, baseball, tennis, basketball and volleyball) are in short supply in the City, and an effort should be made to provide some of these through joint usage with school facilities. In 2003, the CNLV had a shortage of 30 tennis courts, increasing to 36 by 2005, up to 43 by 2007. The City currently has a need for an additional 21 basketball courts, which will more than double to a deficit of 54 by 2007. The volleyball court situation is similar, having a deficiency of 24 courts in 2003, with a total of 35 needed by 2007. However, the actual need for all sports courts may be less, since there are many private Planned Unit Developments (PUD's), condominiums and apartment complexes that may contain them, but are not represented within the report.



- ✦ **Level-of-Service for Specialized Use Recreation Facilities (SURF)** - A list ranging from sports complexes, skate parks, community, and multi-generational centers are included under this heading as follows:
- **Sports Complexes** -The City currently needs one additional sports complex, which could potentially be located in the undeveloped BLM reserve lands north of the City. By 2007, another sports complex will be necessary, located elsewhere within the City. As an option, a redesign of the Cheyenne Sports Complex should also be explored.
 - **Skate Parks** - One of the more common community requests mentioned at the public workshops was a desire to see skate parks featured in CNLV park system. The City had no local skate parks for its residents in 2003, and it currently needs two, with the demand increasing to three facilities by 2007. As currently proposed, the Las Vegas Wash Detention Basin Park will become the City's first park with a modular skate park facility.
 - **Children's Playgrounds** - The CNLV had a surplus of twelve playgrounds in 2003. However, this surplus will become a deficit by 2005, with an additional twelve playgrounds needed, and subsequently increasing to thirty by 2007.
 - **Community and Multi-Generational Centers** - Master Plan Update participants set a high-priority for an additional community center, in a well-chosen location, to function as an anchor for either a large community or regional park. In 2003, the LOS standard for community centers recommended a new facility to augment the Silver Mesa and Neighborhood Center, with the subsequent addition of another one by 2007.
 - **Community Swimming Pools** - The City needed an additional two to three swimming pools in 2003, which will increase to a need of ten by 2007. There was a strong citizen preference shown for future pools to be designed as aquatic centers, and have them located in conjunction with community centers.
 - **Community Amphitheaters** - Community interest remained high for development of an amphitheater, (perhaps combined with an events center) in a downtown plaza, new community park, or a large regional park.

Geographic Service Area Analysis and Equity Mapping

A geographic service area analysis produced equity maps for a range of parks and recreational facilities now found in the CNLV. These maps revealed the adequacy of current and proposed parks relative to population distribution and density by area. The analysis provided a good visualization as to the distribution of parks, by type, throughout the City, in order to provide accessibility for all residents. Details of the information developed from these maps are contained in the body of the report.

Comparative Benchmark Analysis with Other Cities in the West

A benchmark analysis was conducted on six similar cities in the Western United States for the purpose of determining how the CNLV compares to other similar sized cities relative to local parks, regional parks, linear parks, greenways, and selected recreational facilities. The results of this analysis are contained within the report.



The Park Implementation Plan

The needs and demand analysis has demonstrated that a shortage of park and recreation facilities is a persistent condition facing the City, with no easy solution. A starting point to deal proactively with this situation is contained within the park implementation program of the Master Plan Update.

The Development Plan

The Development Plan selected reflects an extensive program to make significant improvements to the CNLV parks system by adding the largest number of new local parks, completing the City's first regional park, adding a new community center, a downtown park/plaza and the continued development of linear parks and trails. The program anticipates the development of essential, high-profile park projects, and the creation of a marketing strategy and community relations program to increase public support for such facilities. Although this Plan is primarily focused on new park and recreational development, it also includes an extensive renovation and improvement program for existing facilities. The Plan also contains ongoing operation and maintenance provisions.

Keeping the Plan Current

Given the dynamics of the CNLV, this Parks Master Plan Update will require additional effort to make it both relevant and useful in the years ahead. The main requirements for doing so are the following:

- ✦ Park planning to refine the Level-of-Service (LOS) Standards, chart the progress of park development against LOS standards, and identify the areas of the City most underserved by parks. In addition, an updated public needs and demand survey, and a performance assessment method, should be conducted to target new local park sites.
- ✦ Comprehensive planning to focus on creation of an Open Space and Trails Plan (adjusted to reflect current population demographics), a vacant lands analysis, and development of a plan for the remaining 16,000 acre reserve.
- ✦ Exploration of other issues such as opportunities for joint school/park development, dependable funding sources for local parks, and a downtown park and plaza development.

Conclusion – A Bright Future

This Park and Recreational Facility Master Plan Update is a valuable tool for the CNLV to manage the future growth and development of its park and recreation system. The Plan prescribes a course of action which reflects the desires of the residents, and focuses on the development of a superior, diversified park and recreation program, given the financial resources available. Implementation of this Master Plan will help the City develop a program that can become a source of great civic pride, and have the potential of becoming one of the finest park and recreation systems in the State of Nevada.





Overview

A complete inventory of the City of North Las Vegas (CNLV) existing park sites and facilities was conducted early in the preparation of this Parks Master Plan Update. The main purpose behind this inventory was to determine how much had remained the same, changed and improved within the parks that existed since the original *1996-1997 Parks and Recreation Master Plan* was completed. The original Parks Master Plan contained an inventory and appraisal of those parks that have been utilized here for comparative purposes. Conclusions and recommendations from this new park inventory will appear later as one part of the overall parks implementation and improvement program contained in this Master Plan Update.





Highlights of Existing Mature Parks Project



Prentiss Walker Park Renovation



Hebert Park



College Park Renovation



Tom Williams School Park

The CNLV has made great strides in the renovation and improvement of several of its mature parks. A renovation and improvement program for existing City parks was undertaken in 2001. The process was divided into two phases. The first phase included College, Tom Williams, Hebert and Windsor Parks. The second phase was focused on Petitti, Hartke, Joe Kneip and Walker Memorial Parks. Each park had its own individual renovation requirements, but common to most were:

- ✦ **Matters of circulation and access** e.g. walkway repair/additions and improved ADA accessibility.
- ✦ **User safety** e.g. security lighting.
- ✦ **Additional amenities or conveniences** e.g. upgraded playground equipment, drinking fountains, shade structures and picnic tables.
- ✦ **Park beautification** e.g. additional landscaping or tree planting.
- ✦ **Park maintenance** e.g. painting of restrooms, retrofitting irrigation systems, resurfacing of sports courts and other paved areas.





Existing (Scheduled) Capital Improvement Park Renovation Projects (CIPRP)

Several CNLV existing parks are scheduled for both major and minor renovation projects in this and in upcoming fiscal years. The schedule for the CIPRP is:

FY 2002-2003

- ✦ Cheyenne Sports Complex

FY 2003-2004

- ✦ Valley View Park
- ✦ Hartke Park and Pool

FY 2004-2005

- ✦ Tonopah Park
- ✦ Theron H. Goynes Park
- ✦ Seastrand Park
- ✦ Cheyenne Ridge Park
- ✦ Boris Terrace Park
- ✦ Lower Las Vegas Wash

FY 2005-2006

- ✦ Monte Vista Park
- ✦ Community Golf Course

FY 2006-2007

- ✦ Petitti Park and Pool

For a further explanation of each CIPRP, please refer to **Appendix A: Existing Park Profile Sheets.**



Theron H. Goynes Park



Cheyenne Ridge Park



Cheyenne Sports Complex





CNLV Park Classification Standards and Descriptions



Hartke Park
Neighborhood Park



Richard Tam Park

To address specific park area needs within the City, certain park and recreational area classifications have been adopted by the CNLV. The ideal park system for a community is a hierarchy of various park types, each offering certain types of recreation and/or open space opportunities. Separately, each park type may serve only one basic function, but collectively, they will serve the entire needs of the CNLV. Utilizing this system, the CNLV can develop a more efficient, cost-effective and useable park system.

The basic classifications are:

- ⊕ Mini-Park
- ⊕ Neighborhood Park
- ⊕ Community Park
- ⊕ Regional Parks or Large Urban Parks
- ⊕ Linear Greenway Park/Dedicated Open Space
- ⊕ Joint-Use School Park
- ⊕ Special Use Recreation Facilities



Community Golf Course
Special Use Facility



El Dorado/Antonello School Park

Exhibit A: CNLV Parkland Classifications, found Part 1.1, page 15, defines the different classifications.



Summary of Existing Parks Evaluation

The following section includes brief evaluations and general recommendations for CNLV existing parks. For in-depth evaluations for each park, please see **Appendix A: Existing Park Profile Sheets**.

Mini-Parks

In the original 1996-97 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, the policy decision was made to not to develop additional mini-parks due to increased maintenance requirements. While this policy will continue on the CNLV's part, that does not mean that these small spaces have been entirely overlooked.

Mini-Park Renovation Needs:

Rotary and Brooks Tot Lots have received impressive attention from the CNLV and are now both very attractive, pleasant spaces. Some thought should be given to substituting more creative and challenging play equipment than the small structures now found in each.

Tonopah Park is the one remaining mini-park that demands considerable attention. A CIPRP 2004-2005 year project is intended to remedy some of the issues reflected in the project inventory. The project needs to be expanded to include other measures that will hopefully improve its appearance and increase use by residents in the neighborhood.



Brooks Tot Lot



Rotary Tot Lot





Summary of Existing Parks Evaluation

Neighborhood-Level Parks

For more in-depth description of the nature and kind of park this is please refer to **Part II.1: "Hierarchy of Parks"**.

Neighborhood-Level Park Renovation Needs:

College Park- This park is in need of security lighting, turf renovation, additional landscape plantings and entry identification signage.

Boris Terrace Park- Turf renovation and entry identification signage would improve this park.

Cheyenne Ridge Park- A complete park redesign study is necessary. The FY 2004-2005 CIPRP should be adjusted to include a complete renovation of the park.

Valley View Park- The FY 2003-2004 CIPRP project will address many of the shortcomings within this park. A complete park redesign study is recommended. A second CIPRP renovation project to complete improvements not addressed in the first CIPRP may be required.

Flores Park- This park is in need of turf renovation, additional drought tolerant plantings, general park equipment / site furnishing, court maintenance, trail resurfacing and park identification signage.

Goldcrest Park- This park is relatively new and in good shape however the visibility of it could be improved through a park identification sign and entry statement.

Windsor Park- Minor upgrading at this park should include turf regrading and renovation, selective landscape screening to adjacent open lands and a park identification sign.

Joe Kneip Park- This park receives extensive use from area residents. Improvements requested by park users and maintenance staff include restroom upgrading and/or replacement, turf renovation/irrigation system replacement, park landscape plantings and new shade trees as well as a park entry identification sign.



Boris Terrace Park



Valley View Park



Goldcrest Park





Summary of Existing Parks Evaluation

Hartke Park/Pool- This park requires restroom and concession building renovation and/or replacement. Additional landscape plantings would enhance the park setting.

Theron H. Goynes Park- This park is already programmed for a FY 2004-2005 CIP project. No additional improvements are required.

Richard Tam Park - Small measures such as tree replacement and possible enlargement/expansion to the playground would enhance the park.

Prentiss Walker Pool / Park- Minor recommended improvements consist of landscape screening around the pool and the addition of an identification sign. The existing slab outside of pool could be removed and replaced with planting to allow for screening.

Monte Vista Park- Consideration should be given to adding a restroom, expanding and/or upgrading playground equipment and include a park identification sign.

Petitti Park- The improvements planned for the 2006-2007 CIP are adequate for this park. The CIP includes backstops, bleachers, etc.

For detailed information on individual neighborhood-level parks, please refer to **Appendix A: Existing Park Profile Sheets.**

Community-Level Parks

For more in-depth description of the nature and kind of park this is please refer to **Part II.1: "Hierarchy of Parks"**.

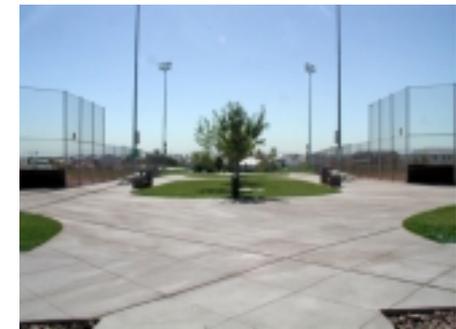
Community-level Parks Renovation Needs:

Seastrand Community Park- This park requires minimal improvements as it is relatively new, well-designed, equipped and nicely maintained. A park identification sign would help.

City View Park- This park is one of the most deficient and underutilized community-level parks in the CNLV system. It should be given high priority for a complete park renovation and makeover.



Hartke Park / Pool



Seastrand Community Park





Summary of Existing Parks Evaluation

Part I.1 Inventory of Existing Parks



Tom Williams School Park

School/Parks Joint Use Facilities

For more in-depth description of the nature and kind of park this is please refer to **Part II.1: "Hierarchy of Parks"**.

School/Parks Joint Use Facilities Renovation Needs:

El Dorado/Antonello School Park- This school/park could benefit from more landscape plantings and identification signage.

Hebert Park- This park is used heavily by the surrounding neighborhood. Improvements that would continue its use and appreciation include a restroom facility upgrade or replacement, turf renovation/irrigation system replacement, additional park landscape plantings and new groves of shade trees, and a park entry identification sign.

Tom Williams School Park- This park has undergone an impressive transformation with a recent renovation project. Progress can continue with turf renovation, shade tree groves, irrigation system upgrading, and park identification sign.

Regional-level Parks

For more in-depth description of the nature and kind of park this is please refer to **Part II.1: "Hierarchy of Parks"**.

Regional-level Parks Renovation Needs:

Willie McCool Regional Park / Model Airplane Flying Facility- A comprehensive master planning process should be undertaken for this facility. A Master Plan would aid in determining this park site's role in the CNLV park system plus the level and types of facilities and attractions.



Willie McCool Regional Park / Model Airplane Flying Facility



An example of a Regional Park Master Plan



April 2004



Summary of Existing Parks Evaluation

Special Use Recreation Facilities

For more in-depth description of the nature and kind of park this is please refer to **Part II.1: "Hierarchy of Parks"**.

Special Use Recreation Facilities Renovation Needs:

Cheyenne Sports Complex- As a specialized sports-oriented park, Cheyenne Sports Complex is both prominent and one of the largest within the CNLV system. It exhibits signs of aging and overuse. The park would benefit greatly from a complete park renovation program dealing with the majority of the conditions that remain relatively unchanged since 1996.

Silver Mesa Recreation Center/Pool- This place of civic pride is too new to require major renovations. This center is a shining-star addition to the CNLV recreation programs and facilities.

Neighborhood Community Center- CNLV's first community center, receives heavy public use despite its age and condition. This center could benefit from a complete remodel and expansion study to better serve its users.

Desert Demonstration Garden- The recently completed demonstration garden showcases drought tolerant plants for use in the North Las Vegas area. It is a beautiful and educational addition to the grounds around the City Hall campus.

Community Golf Course- A major community amenity heavily used by North Las Vegas citizens. This golf course provides users with low green fees and an opportunity to golf on a fairly well-groomed course. A major renovation project is planned that will substantially improve the current look and conveniences it offers the public.

Detention Recreation Complex- At present there is a pedestrian bridge and a short trail. Future improvements include the design and construction of an extended regional trail along the "A" Channel of the wash and, through the CIPP, construction of lighted sportsfields, associated park improvements and other amenities.

Gowan/Simmons Park- This park will be approximately 12 acres in size and consist of basketball and tennis courts, soccer and tee-ball fields, bocce, horseshoe pits, picnic shelters, restrooms, parking lots, and a demonstration garden area.



Silver Mesa Recreation Center / Pool



Desert Demonstration Garden



Lower Las Vegas Wash





Park Renovation Master Planning and Park Comprehensive Master Planning

A more focused look needs to be taken with certain existing CNLV parks. A park renovation master plan or comprehensive master plan may be required to fully appraise both the present condition and realize the promise of these parks.

The parks that merit a more in-depth renovation master plan are:

- ✦ Valley View Park
- ✦ Cheyenne Sports
- ✦ Cheyenne Ridge Park
- ✦ City View Park
- ✦ Tonopah Park

The scope of each park master plan renovation will be specific to the individual condition and character of each park. At a minimum, these studies should examine and identify opportunities to include the **key areas of emphasis** found in continuing the Renovation Program for CNLV Parks.

Parks that necessitate a comprehensive master plan are:

Regional Park – Model Airplane Flying Facility – This 160 acre site is classified as a regional park by the CNLV, mostly due to its size. Its true role or potential as a large-acreage regional-based park remains largely unknown. A complete master planning exercise to determine the best blend and location of both active and passive recreation activities and facilities, along with an emphasis on maintaining or improving natural open space, needs to be undertaken here. A basic assumption is that the established and well-used model airplane flying facility would be upgraded and continues its presence as a unique feature within the greater park.



Sportsfield Park Master Plan



An example of a Regional Park Plan



Cheyenne Sports Complex





Continuing the Renovation Program for CNLV Parks

Part 1.1 Inventory of Existing Parks

April 2004

As the program to renovate and upgrade established CNLV parks progresses, certain **key areas of emphasis** need to be applied to get maximum value from this public investment. See **Exhibit B: Continued Park Renovation Program** for site specific recommendations.

Improve Visitor access and comfort – Includes accommodation for ADA accessibility, improved pedestrian walks and paths, vehicular and maintenance access (where applicable); site lighting, sight lines and overall visibility, “defensible” space, restrooms (where appropriate) and drinking fountains.

Parks deserving of this kind of attention are:

- ✦ College Park
- ✦ Cheyenne Sports Complex
- ✦ Tonopah Park
- ✦ Cheyenne Ridge
- ✦ Gold Crest Park
- ✦ Hartke Park
- ✦ Monte Vista Park
- ✦ Prentiss Walker Pool Park
- ✦ Valley View
- ✦ City View
- ✦ Community Golf Course
- ✦ LLVWD
- ✦ Neighborhood Center

Improve parks requiring landscape –Includes more shade tree groves, buffer and perimeter planting, turf renovation, conversion of some existing turf to planted areas.

- ✦ College Park
- ✦ Cheyenne Sports Complex
- ✦ Eldorado / Antonello School Park
- ✦ Flores Park
- ✦ Joe Kneip Park
- ✦ Valley View Park
- ✦ Hartke Park
- ✦ Hebert Memorial Park
- ✦ Monte Vista Park
- ✦ Tom Williams Park
- ✦ Tonopah Park
- ✦ Prentiss Walker Pool Park
- ✦ Richard Tam Park
- ✦ Cheyenne Ridge Park
- ✦ Windsor Park
- ✦ LLVWD



Improved Vehicular Access



Buffer Plantings





Continuing the Renovation Program for CNLV Parks

Identify the park- Improve the image of CNLV parks through the use of uniform and consistent sign/entry monumentation.

The CNLV is currently focusing on community image enhancements with new signage, complemented by landscaping at key entryways into the City. CNLV parks should be considered no less important. The parks presently suffer from a lack of recognition and identity from the very people that use them. A major recommendation is to consider adopting a uniform park identification sign or monument design. The emphasis should be on simplicity, durability and resistance to vandalism or graffiti.

To insure consistency throughout the variety of CNLV parks, all other existing park identification signs would require replacement. This comprehensive park signage program could be done in phases over a three to five year period. Several suggestions for prototypical park signage/monuments are included in **Appendix B: CNLV Comprehensive Park Signage Program** of this report for further consideration.

Introduce interesting buildings and structures – For the construction of new buildings (e.g. restrooms, concession stands, maintenance, community centers) or park structures (e.g. picnic pavilions, shade enclosures) or the renovation of older ones, avoid the commonplace. Use more dynamic architecture expressed through creative designs and combinations of building materials and color to give a park both “personality” and to make it memorable.

The parks that are in need of replacement and/or remodeled buildings and structures are:

- ✦ Cheyenne Sports Complex
- ✦ Hartke Park
- ✦ Hebert Memorial Park
- ✦ Joe Kneip Park
- ✦ Neighborhood Center
- ✦ Monte Vista Park
- ✦ Community Golf Course
- ✦ LLVWD



An example of a Possible Park Sign / Entry Monument



Goldcrest Park Restroom Building



Aliante



Discovery Park





Continuing the Renovation Program for CNLV Parks

Include more park amenities - Continue the updating and upgrading of playground and picnic areas, sportsfields and sportscourts, additional and trash enclosure modules. Look at the introduction of new, more contemporary park features and facilities for existing CNLV parks.

An increase of park amenities or the introduction of new park features could improve the following parks:

- ✚ Rotary Tot Lot
- ✚ Tonopah Park
- ✚ Valley View Park
- ✚ Cheyenne Sports Complex
- ✚ City View Park
- ✚ Hebert Memorial Park
- ✚ Pettiti Park
- ✚ LLVWD
- ✚ Flores Park
- ✚ Neighborhood Center

Improve maintenance efficiency- The CNLV should continue taking measures such as the upgrade of irrigation systems for higher performance and water conservation, convert some turf to planted areas (where appropriate), integrate maintenance equipment, supply and storage space into park buildings where needed. Additionally, the CNLV should provide a satellite park maintenance annex.

Those parks which would benefit from this kind of attention are:

- ✚ Cheyenne Sports Complex
- ✚ Hebert Memorial Park
- ✚ Tom McWilliams School Park
- ✚ Joe Kneip Park
- ✚ College Park
- ✚ Community Golf Course



Irrigation System



Turf Renovation



An example of a future Park Maintenance Annex Building in the Northwest Sector of CNLV



Hebert Memorial Park



How much is this going to cost?



Flores Park

Since the fall of 2000, the expenditure by the CNLV towards renovation and upgrading of mature parks has been approximately \$1.37 million, or roughly \$32,314.00/per developed acre.

While each park and its individual conditions have varied, the majority of those monies have been spent on some common parts of the **key areas of emphasis**. Typically, those have been:

- ✦ **Visitor access and comfort** - ADA accessibility, concrete walkways/DG pathways, site lighting, drinking fountains
- ✦ **Park landscape enhancements**- New tree plantings, buffer and perimeter plantings, turf renovation
- ✦ **Park Buildings/Structures**- Painting of restrooms, new picnic/shade shelters, group picnic pavilions
- ✦ **Park Amenities**- Upgraded/ contemporary play equipment and structures, refurbished/improved sportsfields and sportcourts, picnic tables, barbecue grills, trash enclosures
- ✦ **Maintenance Efficiency**- Irrigation system replacement

The continuing program of renovating existing parks will again have to take into account several things.

- ✦ There will be variations in the level of effort and expense needed to adequately address the shortcomings in each of the above categories. Key areas of emphasis listed on the previous page.

- ✦ Expanding the idea to include more “big-ticket” items, for instance, a new restroom building in a neighborhood park where appropriate or the introduction of new recreational facilities (e.g. a dog park, disc golf course, water play area, skatepark, sportscourts) will be determined on a park-by-park basis and in accordance with expressed user needs and demands.
- ✦ Existing parks with outstanding improvement needs (e.g. City View Park, Cheyenne Sports Complex) have been recommended for a more thorough assessment in order to develop reliable estimates of future renovation costs. In doing so, budgeting for future Capital Improvement Program Renovation Projects (CIPRP) will have more realistic and phased cost estimates to go by.
- ✦ Public preferences and priorities are also expected to shift throughout the preparation of this master plan update. The renovation of existing CNLV parks may end up ranking above or below that of say, directing scarce dollars toward new, community-level oriented parks.

Actual cost estimations for future mature park renovation projects, at this early stage, is probably not a worthwhile exercise. Instead, PDG will work closely with CNLV park planning and maintenance staff to develop more general cost estimates for each of the **key areas of emphasis**.

Through this planning process, new or expanded (not scheduled in the CIPRP as of yet) existing park renovation projects will end up with a greater consensus agreement and prioritized ranking. Then, general project descriptions and preliminary cost estimates should be easier to arrive at.





Exhibit A: CNLV Parkland Classifications

Part I.1 Inventory of Existing Parks

Park Classification	Mini-Park	Neighborhood Park	Community Park	Regional Parks or Large Urban Parks	Linear Greenway Park / Dedicated Open Space	Joint-Use School Park
General Description	Includes specialized facilities that serve a concentrated or limited population (i.e. small children or seniors).	Includes landscape and turf areas and park improvements reflective of the particular needs of the neighborhood in which they are situated.	Includes most of the uses found in neighborhood parks but have additional space for more athletic fields and sports courts as the focus of the park.	Provides activities that attract users from a large geographic area. Offers both active and passive park areas and a sense of openness and natural space.	Dedicated open space provides natural or landscaped areas that enhance the feeling of openness and connection (both physical and visual) within the community. Examples can range from streetscapes, desert arroyos and mesas, semi-natural flood control channels and basins.	Depending on the circumstances (generally neighborhood in type) Within school sites and can fulfill some of the space and recreational facility needs of the surrounding residential areas where the schools are located.
Location Criteria	Less than a ¼ mile distance from apartment complexes/townhomes/ single-family homes or senior housing	Centrally located within one or several identifiable neighborhoods and easily accessible to residents on foot or bike	1 ¾ miles service radius centrally located among several identifiable neighborhoods or one larger, distinct community; mostly a "drive-to" park, accessible by car and sometimes public transit	30 minute drive time	Varies by resource availability, recreational use and opportunity, unique facility attraction	Determined by location, size and availability of school district sites
Size Criteria	Up to 1 acre (typically ¼ to ½ acre in size)	1 to 10 acres	10 to 40 acres	40 to 200 acres	Variable	Variable-depends on function of park
Characteristic Park Development Features	<p>Generally limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small open turf areas and shade trees Small children's playground Seating Hardscape area or small plaza space 	<p>Generally limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open turf areas Children's playgrounds Picnic areas Walkways Site lighting Outdoor basketball courts Multi-use sportsfields (unlighted) Shade trees and ornamental plantings <p>Typically not found:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent Restrooms Off-street Parking 	<p>Generally limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designed and lighted sportsfields Tennis courts Children's playgrounds (tot and youth) Restrooms Picnic areas (individual and group) Walkways and trails Outdoor basketball courts On-site parking (unlighted) Swimming pools Site amenities Public art Possible community buildings and spaces Limited natural open space shade trees and ornamental plantings <p>Typically not found:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extensive Open Space 	<p>Generally limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single-purpose specialized facilities (amphitheatres, camping areas, lakes, natural features) Designed and lighted sportsfields (limited) Water-related facilities Children's playgrounds (tot and youth) Restrooms Picnic areas (individual and group) Walkways and trails On-site parking Site amenities Public art Possible community buildings and spaces Extensive natural open space Shade trees and more native plantings Open meadows or multi-use grass areas <p>Typically not found:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sportsfield complexes Extensive lawn areas 	<p>Generally limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-purpose trails and hard surface pathways Rest areas and shade structures Viewpoints Individual picnic sites Parking and access areas (trailheads) Native landscape treatments Ornamental landscape plantings if a streetscape <p>Typically not found:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restrooms Other facilities that do not directly support trail-oriented recreation 	<p>Generally limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playgrounds Individual picnic sites Sportsfields (depending on space availability) Site Lighting Turf areas and shade trees Benches <p>Typically not found:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restrooms Off-street parking <p>Limitations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited public access Other restrictions based on individual conditions at each school
Existing CNLV Park Example(s)	Brooks Tot Lot Boris Terrace Park	Richard Tam Park College Park Goldcrest Park	Seastrand Community Park City View Park	Willie McCool Regional Park (Model Airplane Flying Facility)	Las Vegas Wash Lake Mead Blvd Streetscape Las Vegas Blvd Streetscape	Tom Williams Park Antonello School Park Hebert Memorial Park

April 2004





Exhibit B: Continued Park Renovation Program

PARK INFORMATION				RENOVATION PROGRAM ELEMENT									
Park # Reference	Park Planning District	Park Name / Type	Address	Park Status 2003	Existing (Scheduled) CIP Renovation	Expanded Capital Improvement Park Renovation Project (CIRP)	Park Renovation Master Planning & Park Comprehensive Planning	Visitor Access / Comfort	Park Landscape Enhancements	Park Identification	Park Buildings / Structures	Park Amenities	Maintenance Efficiency
MINI - PARKS													
MP1	1	Brooks Tot Lot	1421 E. Brooks Ave	D									
MP2	1	Rotary Tot Lot	2600 N. Magnet St	D									
MP3	1	Tonopah Park	204 E. Tonopah St	D									
NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS													
NP1	1	Boris Terrace Park	2200 E. Cartier Ave	D									
NP2	3	Cheyenne Ridge Park	3814 Scott Robinson Blvd	D									
NP3	3	Flores Park	4122 Allen Lane	D									
NP4	3	Gold Crest Park	714 W. Craig Creek Ave	D									
NP5	1	Hartke Park / Pool	1638 N. Bruce St	D									
NP6	1	Joe Kneip Park	2127 McCarran St	D									
NP7	2	Windsor Park	2227 W. Evans Ave	D									
NP8	3	Monte Vista Park	4911 Scott Robinson Blvd	D									
NP9	1	Petitti Park & Pool	1509 June Ave	D									
NP10	2	Prentiss Walker Pool / Park	2227 W. Evans Ave	D									
NP11	3	Richard Tam Park	4631 Rockpine Dr	D									
NP12	3	Theron H. Goynes Park	3903 W. Washburn Rd	D									
NP13	4	Valley View Park	2000 N. Bennett St	D									
NP14	1	College Park	2613 Tonopah Avenue	D									
NP15	3	Eldorado Park	5900 Camino Eldorado	D									
COMMUNITY PARKS													
CP1	3	Seastrand Park	6330 Camino Eldorado	D									
CP2	4	City View Park	101 Cheyenne Ave	D									
REGIONAL PARKS													
RP1	5	Regional Park/Model Airplane Flying Area	4400 Horse Dr	PD									
JOINT SCHOOL / PARKS													
JS1	3	Antonello School Park	1101 W. Tropical Pkwy	D									
JS2	1	Hebert Memorial Park	2701 E. Basswood Ave	D									
JS3	1	Tom Williams School Park	1844 N. Belmont St	D									
SPECIAL USE PARK RECREATION FACILITIES													
SR1	1	Cheyenne Sports Complex	3500 E. Cheyenne Ave	D									
SR2	4	Community Golf Course	324 E. Brooks Ave	D									
SR3	3	Lower Las Vegas Wash	Washburn & Scott Robinson	UND									
SR4	1	Neighborhood Center	1638 N. Bruce St	D									
SR5	3	Silver Mesa Recreation Center / Pool	4025 Allen Lane	D									
SR6	1	Demonstration Garden	City Hall Complex	D									
SR7	4	Keil Ranch	2534 North Commerce St	UND									

PARK STATUS KEY:
 D - Developed
 PD - Partially Developed
 UND - Undeveloped

PROGRAM ELEMENT DEFINITIONS:

Park Renovation Master Planning and Comprehensive Park Planning - A master plan that appraises both the present condition and realizes the promise of existing CNLV parks to be more appealing and attractive to their residents and visitors.

Visitor Access & Comfort - Examples of this can include:
 -- accommodating for ADA accessibility
 -- improved pedestrian walks and paths
 -- where applicable, improved vehicular and maintenance access
 -- site lighting
 -- better site lines and overall visibility
 -- "defensible" space
 -- restrooms (where appropriate); and
 -- drinking fountains

Park Landscape Enhancements - Improve the "green" and visual appearance of CNLV parks through:
 -- The addition of more shade tree groves
 -- Buffer and perimeter planting
 -- Turf renovation; and
 -- Conversion of some existing turf to ornamental planted areas

Park Identification - Place uniform and consistent signage and entry monumentation at all CNLV parks.

Park Buildings / Structures - Avoid the commonplace. Use more dynamic architecture expressed through creative design, a combination of building materials and color to give a park both personality and to make it memorable. This could apply to both new construction and renovation of:

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| Buildings: | Structures: |
| -- New restrooms (where appropriate) | -- Picnic pavilions |
| -- Concession stands (where applicable) | -- Shade enclosures |
| -- Maintenance buildings / equipment and supply storage | |
| -- Community centers (where applicable) | |

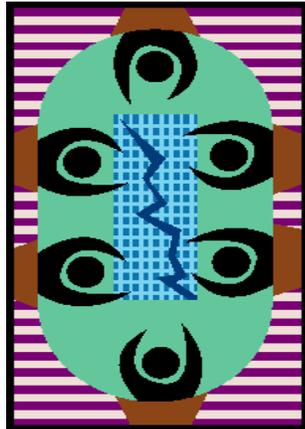
Park Amenities - Continue the updating and upgrading of existing CNLV parks through:
 -- New or expanded playground and picnic areas
 -- Add sports fields and sports courts where space allows
 -- Additional picnic table / shade structure / grills / trash enclosure modules; and
 -- Introduce new, more contemporary park features and facilities

Maintenance Efficiency - Examples of this could be:
 -- Upgrading of irrigation systems for higher performance and water conservation
 -- Conversion of some turf to ornamental planted areas; and
 -- Integration of maintenance equipment, supply and storage space into park buildings

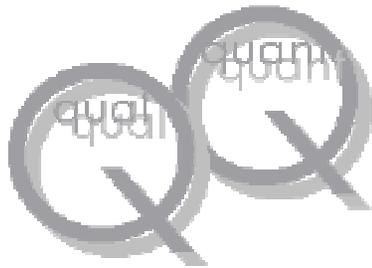




Introduction



Public participation and awareness is fundamental to the success of this Master Plan Update process.



Public Input was both qualitative and quantitative.

This report represents a collective summary of the important opinions and outlooks regarding the state of parks and recreation in 2002-2003 within the City of North Las Vegas. In addition, this section will look at the state of recreation nationally and within the State of Nevada for comparison.

The opinion and comments listed in this section of the plan were obtained through a variety of sources and means including:

- ✦ Three Community Workshops
- ✦ 13 Stakeholder Interviews
- ✦ Two Focus Group Interviews
- ✦ Public Survey

A range of preferences and viewpoints were expressed through all the different forums. In order to find some common ground, derive useful implications and develop valuable conclusions from among this variety of data, it was analyzed as follows:

- ✦ The input from the Community Workshops and Focus Groups were compared;
- ✦ The diverse set of Stakeholder agencies and organizations was combined and compared; and
- ✦ The results from the Public Survey were compared and contrasted with both recent national and local park and recreation surveys to ascertain patterns or trends.

The Bigger Picture – What it all means

Altogether, the varied input received has aided in identifying and supporting key issues. This Park Master Plan Update will attempt to address and find direction the key issues.

Several common strings of opinion and thought have threaded their way through all of these sources of input. Most fall into the broad categories of either **qualitative** or **quantitative** commentary regarding the variety of parkland, recreational facilities and programming the CNLV offers its citizenry.

An example of a recurring qualitative comment was the desire to see more trees and shade in CNLV parks. Similarly, an often repeated quantitative comment encountered was the identified need for more walking paths / trails and sports fields throughout the CNLV park system. The following summarizes this qualitative and quantitative commentary.

Qualitative

- ✦ The need for better park security and safety;
- ✦ The desire to see new and non-traditional recreational facilities and attractions introduced into CNLV parks;
- ✦ More “green” and shade in CNLV parks;
- ✦ Community Centers- more room and diversified space; more opportunity for social interaction; and
- ✦ Better access and location of parks closer to where people live.





Introduction / Community Workshops

Quantitative

CNLV parks and recreational facilities should have **one or more:**

- ✦ Pathways and trails
- ✦ Sportsfields
- ✦ Larger playgrounds
- ✦ Skate and BMX parks
- ✦ Dog Parks
- ✦ Water play features
- ✦ Swimming pools
- ✦ Another Community Center (one that is multi-generational oriented)
- ✦ Community amphitheatre/events center
- ✦ Larger acreage "Community or Regional" level parks

Community Workshops

Two community workshops were held in early January of 2003. The intent of the each workshop was to introduce the purpose of updating the Parks Master Plan, explain the value of doing so for future growth of the CNLV parks system and to also collect general community commentary and reaction to a set standard statements and questions.

The topics of discussion at both meetings included:

- ✦ Describe your ideal park
- ✦ Describe your ideal recreation center
- ✦ What is the biggest reason you don't use parks and programs as often as you would like?
- ✦ If you could change one thing about parks and recreation programs, what would that be?
- ✦ What is the best experience you have had at a City Park?

For each of these questions, the range of thoughts and opinions expressed were both broad and varied. They have been compiled in more detail and are listed in **Table A: "Workshop and Focus Group Comments"**, following this summary.



Community Workshops were the beginning of discovering and identifying how concerned people felt about CNLV parks and programs.



Plenty of Pros and Cons about the state of the CNLV parks system and recreation programs were heard.





Focus Groups - What they said...

Focus Groups

Midway through the “findings phase” of this Master Plan Update, it was determined that certain important user groups of CNLV parks might get overlooked in the process of gauging public opinion. Those more significant groups were identified as both teens and seniors. Two **focus groups** were then held with random representation of individuals from each group.

The generally accepted working definition for a **focus group** is *“A method that involves a small group of individuals their opinions and ideas about a defined topic or set of topics”*.

To assure some means of comparison and uniformity, the same set of five general statements and questions were asked of these two focus groups that were also asked the first two community workshops. In addition, since the focus groups were composed of several people who were captive for a concentrated period of time, an additional set of 10 more particular questions were also asked of each group.

Table A: “Workshop and Focus Group Comments”, located at Part 1.2, page 31, offers the detailed responses from the focus group to the first five questions and also finds common points between those responses and those obtained at the first set of community workshops. The responses to the additional 10 questions can also be found within **Table A**.

Some of the comparative common ground found between those in attendance at the first set of community workshops and these focus groups was best reflected as both qualitative and quantitative comments, such as:

Qualitative

CNLV parks (both existing and future) could:

- ✦ Look more green and shady
- ✦ Have “passive” areas
- ✦ Have more community-oriented activities
- ✦ Feel safer and more secure

CNLV community centers (both existing and future) could have:

- ✦ Newer facilities with more modern conveniences
- ✦ More room and diversified space
- ✦ More opportunities for social interaction





Stakeholders - Similar but still different

Quantitative

CNLV parks (both existing and future) could contain more:

- ✦ Pathways and trails
- ✦ Sportsfields
- ✦ Larger playgrounds
- ✦ Skateparks
- ✦ Swimming Pools

Among the other ten questions asked of the focus groups but not at the Community Workshops, it was interesting to find a few points of convergence on such points as:

- ✦ Several participants stated that they have a low frequency of visitation to and use of CNLV parks;
- ✦ Common activities people attend CNLV parks for were picnics, ball games and parties; and
- ✦ Widely shared desires for a new type of facility, not yet found in a CNLV park was for a Community Events Center or Amphitheatre.

Stakeholders

The term **stakeholder** generally means *“The stakeholder on any issue represents the parties or individuals that the expert source or sources believe are trying to shape the resolution of the issue(s) in question”.*

In the Parks Master Plan Update, many groups or persons would fit the above description. In the interest keeping the number of stakeholders’ interviews both manageable and valuable, the list was narrowed down to thirteen parties who included:

- ✦ Nellis Air Force Base (NAFB)
- ✦ Seniors (One individual speaking about senior recreation needs, preferences and programs in the CNLV)
- ✦ Hispanic Community (One individual speaking about Hispanic recreation needs, preferences and programs in the CNLV)
- ✦ CNLV Planning Commission (CNLV PC)
- ✦ CNLV Recreation Staff (CNLV Rec)
- ✦ CNLV Park Maintenance Staff (CNLV PM)
- ✦ City of Las Vegas (CLV) Parks (CLV Parks)
- ✦ North Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce (NLV C of C)
- ✦ CNLV City Council (CNLV CC)
- ✦ CNLV City Manager (CNLV CM)
- ✦ Clark County Parks and Recreation (CC P&R)
- ✦ Clark County School District (CCSD)



A wide range of people, organizations and groups were interviewed



North Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce



Clark County School District





Stakeholders - Similar but still different

Standard Questions were asked of Stakeholders in order to measure and compare responses



Stakeholders again confirmed a widespread public preference for new recreation facilities such as sportsfields complexes

Some attempt was made to have the same or similar set of statements and questions serve as points of conversation during each stakeholder interview. At times the interviews became informal discussions going outside the intent of the question, but almost always returning to it. In other cases, some questions just did not fit the context or interest area of the stakeholder being interviewed and, therefore, were purposely omitted.

In order to find some level of commonality between the variety of responses received from the thirteen stakeholders interviewed, three general "selection categories" were determined that best captured those shared comments. Those selection categories are:

1. **New Recreational Facilities**
2. **Types of Parks, Buildings and Special Use Facilities**
3. **Qualitative Features**

Table B: "Stakeholder Common Ground", found at the end of Part 1.2, summarizes those responses and graphically shows where they became familiar and repeated ones. Among the common points for demand were the following:

New Recreation Facilities

- ✦ Skate and BMX Parks
- ✦ Sportsfields (i.e. Soccer, Baseball, Football)
- ✦ Adventure Recreation
- ✦ Multi-Use Trails

Types of Parks, Buildings and Special Use Facilities

- ✦ Large Acreage (Community and Regional) Parks
- ✦ New Sports Complex
- ✦ New Community Center / Multi-Generational Complex
- ✦ Community Amphitheatre

Qualitative Features

- ✦ More Variety in Park Facilities
- ✦ More Park Beauty - Trees and Open Space
- ✦ Botanic Gardens





Outdoor Recreation - It's a national thing...

National Perspective – Let's get outdoors

The National Survey on Recreation and the Environment (NSRE) was last conducted in year 2000 and has been prepared under the auspices of the US Forest Service every two to three years since 1960. It is one of the few surveys that measures recreational participation patterns across activities and most segments of our society.

What relevancy does a national recreation survey have at the Local Park and recreation level of the CNLV?

Interestingly, several findings of the NSRE (admittedly dated by three years) reinforce what has also become known through the recent public survey conducted for this Parks Master Plan Update and others (Community Needs Assessment Survey, City of Las Vegas, 2001).

Probably the most striking finding from the NSRE was:

- ✦ "Across all people 16 years and older, we estimate 97.5 percent participated in some type of outdoor recreation during the last 12 months..."

This means, that in year 2000, more than 202 million people age 16 years or older were involved in some form of outdoor recreation.

The most popular types of individual recreation activities and the percent of the U.S. population participating applicable to the types of parks and recreational facilities CNLV now and will provide in the future were:

- ✦ Walking (84.4 percent)
- ✦ Family Gatherings (74.6 percent)
- ✦ Viewing Natural Scenery (63.0 percent)
- ✦ Picnicking (59.3 percent)
- ✦ Visiting a Nature Center, Nature Trail or Zoo (59.2 percent)

To underscore this, the NSRE survey found *"the single most popular activity in the United States is walking outdoor... Participation can occur on neighborhood streets, in local parks or in more remote settings... The next most popular ...activity is biking, with more than 80.6 million participants."*

Popularity of Activities

Percent of population age 16+ participating



Walking is the most popular individual recreation activity





Outdoor Recreation - It's a national thing...



As evidenced by the continuing demand for sportsfields around the country, the NSRE also noted that:

"Team sports constitute another category of high participation. Team sports, including baseball, football and soccer are participated in at least once annually by 43.5 million people."

The Family that Plays Together ...

Another interesting and widely cited national survey is the *Outdoor Recreation in America 2000 - Address Key Societal Concerns*. It was commissioned in by the Recreation Roundtable and has been conducted on a yearly basis since 1994. The 2000 survey/study expanded on the previous studies and, for the first time, focused on the role of recreation in addressing a variety of social problems.



An excerpt from the key highlights of the study brings home the high value Americans continue to place on outdoor recreation, by saying:

"Americans continue to ascribe many benefits to participation in recreation. This new research confirms motivations of fun, fitness, and family togetherness, but also shows that Americans believe that outdoor recreation plays a role in addressing various key social concerns, especially those related to young people. For instance, close to 8 in 10 Americans (79%) believe that outdoor recreation can improve education."

The study also reinforces the importance people place on a healthy and growing park system when determining where they will call home in citing:

"Americans are in almost unanimous agreement that outdoor recreation is beneficial for children. More than 9 in 10 (92%) agree that "opportunities for outdoor recreation are important when considering a place to raise children." A majority (54%) strongly agrees with this statement and another 38% mostly agree."

The increasing rate of participation in all forms of outdoor recreation, cited before in the NSRE study, is again substantiated by this one when it states:

"The study finds continued growth in Americans' participation in outdoor recreation. These data show that two-thirds of the American public (66%) are engaging in some type of outdoor recreation" and;

"The number of Americans who engage in outdoor activities several times a month has increased significantly as well, with a rise of 6 points in the last year to almost one-third of the public (32%)."





Recreation - The State of it in Nevada

Nevada's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is the State's guide to the provision and improvement of outdoor recreation opportunities for the citizens of Nevada and our many visitors. The goal of Nevada's SCORP is *"to increase and improve the quality of outdoor recreation opportunities in Nevada"*. It also serves as the framework for the presentation and dissemination of outdoor recreation information.

The Nevada Division of State Parks staff is currently updating the 1992 SCORP, titled Recreation in Nevada. The updated plan, the 2002 SCORP, is tentatively scheduled for public distribution in the first half of 2003.

An important part of the plan is called the Assessment and Policy document. It presents an assessment of outdoor recreation for the entire state. Outdoor recreation issues and actions recommended to address those issues, the heart of the plan, were determined and prioritized entirely by those participating in a public input process. These issues and actions will provide guidelines for the provision of outdoor recreation opportunities for the next five years in Nevada.

The Assessment and Policy Plan also assesses outdoor recreation participation in Nevada. A survey of Nevada's citizens contributed information for this assessment.



Spring Mountain Ranch State Park - within driving distance from North Las Vegas



Floyd Lamb State Park – a “regional-level” park a short distance from North Las Vegas





The Local View- 2003 CNLV Public Survey for Parks Master Plan Update

To better capture the public's view of the state of the CNLV park system and recreation programming in 2003, the City conducted a survey from March through May 2003.

The survey was both accessible through the CNLV website and through the distribution of over 1500 printed surveys at public "points-of-contact" such as libraries, recreation centers, and City offices.

The questions and statements contained in the survey dealt with the main topics of:

- # Recreation Programming
- # Park and Recreation Facility Use and Development
- # Paying for the Plan
- # Respondent Demographics

For an understanding of the specific questions and statements the survey contained, a copy of the Public Survey can be found at the end of Part I.2.

The survey provided an arbitrary snapshot of user characteristics, participation rates, opinions, and preferences. The survey also provided some insight into the public's knowledge and understanding of CNLV park operations and recreation programming.

Two commonly accepted rough measures of a survey's reliability are called the **confidence level and confidence interval**. In the case of this survey, to achieve a confidence level of 95%, the minimum number of respondents to the survey would have to have been 266.

Over 100 surveys were filled out electronically and approximately another 170 written surveys were returned for a total of 270. This, in turn, yields a **confidence interval of 6**. This is basically the plus-or-minus figure of reliability usually reported in newspaper or television opinion polls.

It is important to note here that while the survey instrument achieved a respectable rate of return and confidence factor, there was no control extended to insure a real random distribution of the survey to the citizens of the CNLV. It needs to be acknowledged that the survey results are not a complete representation of the geographic distribution, ethnic composition, range of income and age, different marital and family status or other influential demographic factors. Those factors, correctly taken into account in the random coverage of a survey, tend to reflect the true diversity of a community and heighten the validity of the survey itself.

An in depth analysis of the results of the survey, supported by graphs and charts, and the implications they have on this Parks Master Plan Update, can be found in **Appendix C: "Community Needs Assessment Survey Analysis Sheets."**



The Public Survey was available in printed form to fill out by hand.



The Public Survey was also available on the CNLV website.





The Local View- 2003 CNLV Public Survey for Parks Master Plan Update

Summary of Important Survey Results

Recreation Programming

Recreation Participation

Nearly two-thirds (66.6%) of survey respondents had participated in some form of CNLV recreation program or service within the last year. This statistic might be slightly skewed in that one of several locations to pick-up and fill out a survey were at CNLV recreation centers.

Reasons for non-participation

Close to half the people (47%) said that the main reason for their limited or non-participation in CNLV recreation programs was that they *"were not aware of the programs"* available. Other popular responses included *"locations and times not being convenient"*.

Level of Recreation Participation in Certain Activities

The top five recreational activities having a high rate of participation (0 to 10 times a month) among survey respondents included:

- Walking
- Family Activities/Picnicking
- Relaxation/Enjoyment of Park Open Space
- Playground Visitation and Use
- Exercise/Weight Training

These activities and their high popularity are consistent with those found in both national and state outdoor recreation surveys cited earlier. It is also noteworthy here to mention that in regard to this particular question, there was an average **rate of non-responsiveness** of over 60%. This would indicate either the question was misunderstood, incorrectly replied to or completely skipped over.

The exhibit **"How often do you take part?,"** found in **Appendix C**, offers a detailed look at all the recreational activities survey respondents took part in and how often.

Recreation Facility Use and Development

Frequency of Visitation to CNLV Parks

Since the current majority of parks the CNLV offers its citizen are at the neighborhood level, it is no surprise that they also receive the **highest** percentage (over 40%) of the **lowest** rate of visitation (1 to 5 times) over the course of a year. From there, the consecutive and highest percentages of the same rate of visitation (1 to 5 times) went to Mini-Parks and then to community-level parks, pools and centers (Special-Use Facilities).



In the last year- 60% of the people had taken part in at least one CNLV recreation program or activity



don't know

#1 Reason for not taking part in CNLV recreation programs was a **LACK OF AWARENESS**





The Local View- 2003 CNLV Public Survey for Parks Master Plan Update

While being at the lowest level of park visitation, it is still a curious indicator that nearly 15% of those polled attended a regional-type park facility. The only current and developed regional park facility the CNLV has is the model airplane flying grounds at the existing 160 acre Regional Park.

The exhibit "Visitation to CNLV Parks – How often do you go?," found in Appendix C, provides a closer view of the level and frequency of public attendance at the variety of parks and recreational facilities currently available within the CNLV.

Reasons for Non-Visitation

The top three reasons cited for either not visiting CNLV parks or hardly ever going were:

- ✦ Lack of time (26%)
- ✦ I don't know where the parks are (21%)
- ✦ Parks lack adequate facilities (12%)

These three selections, along with CNLV parks "not conveniently located" (10%) and the fact that individuals "feel unsafe" (9%) are similar to other comments received at the first community workshops and focus groups.

Build These and We Will Come

If they were available in existing or future CNLV parks, the five most preferred programs and facilities are:

- ✦ Family Activities and Picnicking (58%)
- ✦ Walking (47%)
- ✦ Relaxation and Enjoyment of Open Space (42%)
- ✦ Swimming Outdoors and Indoors (38%)
- ✦ Playground Visit/Use (37%)

These top five choices again are consistent with other recent national and state surveys that rank the same or similar activities as high preferences among outdoor recreation enthusiasts.

Silver Mesa Recreation Center is such a success- Let's do it again!

No sooner had Silver Mesa Recreation Center opened its doors, it was programmed and populated to full capacity. Over two-thirds (66%) of those surveyed feel that another Community Recreation Center is a very high need somewhere else within the CNLV.



Lack of Time- #1 Reason for Not Visiting CNLV Parks



Family Activities and Picnicking remain the People's Choice





The Local View- 2003 CNLV Public Survey for Parks Master Plan Update



This Community centerpiece could take the form of a multi-generational center, a remodeled and expanded one (the Neighborhood Center) or follow the inspiration and success of Silver Mesa, while also offering some new features and facilities to choose from.

Among the facilities or programs that people would prefer to see in the next CNLV Community Recreation Center, the top five were:

- ✦ After-School Program Areas (64%)
- ✦ Multi-Use Gymnasium (62%)
- ✦ Outdoor/Indoor Swimming Pools (55%)
- ✦ Children's Play Area (53%)
- ✦ Exercise/Aerobics room (50%)

Paying for the Plan

Financing an expanding park system and recreation program in attempt to catch up with and, in the long-term, keep pace with the rapid growth of the CNLV is a daunting task. People who responded to this survey pointed toward two directions of how that can be achieved. Basically those choices are:

- ✦ "Pay-As-We-Go" – This approach is evident in the responses to the question of how should future facilities, programs and services be paid for. The conventional and proven methods that people preferred were the use of Grants and Donations (57%), Registration Fees (50%) and Residential Construction Tax/Developer Impact Fees (38%). At the bottom of the list was the use of an increase in property taxes (19%) as the primary means of funding the further growth of CNLV parks and recreation programs.
- ✦ "Getting More Done and Sooner"- Even though support for use of a property tax increase to fund an expanding park system and recreation program for the CNLV was the lowest priority from above, that does not mean that people don't believe in it as practical alternative. They just need to know how the money will be spent and where it goes.



After-School Program Spaces and Places was the most preferred element to have in a future Community Center





The Local View- 2003 CNLV Public Survey for Parks Master Plan Update

Those concerns were indicated this way: 34% of survey respondents would support a property tax or bond issue for a more aggressive expansion to the CNLV parks system if they knew "the exact facilities and programs it would fund". Right behind that, were 32% who would support it in general. Another 25% had a certain tolerance of support up to an unidentified level of cost "I would support it, depending on the amount".

For those that could get behind a property tax increase or bond issue to finance a more concentrated effort in growing the CNLV parks system at a more rapid rate, their first priority was surprisingly to "take care of what we now have" in terms of directing more funding:

- ✦ For upkeep and maintenance (58%)

Close behind that and consistent with support for another Community Center was:

- ✦ Construction of new community centers (47%)

Other priorities that confirm a wide range of community input from differing vantage points include:

- ✦ Sportsfields or sports complexes (42%)
- ✦ Development of more park facilities (42%)

Who Are those People?

A typical profile of the majority of the people who responded to this survey looks like this:

- ✦ Most were between the ages of 24-34 (39%) and 35 and 44 (33%);
- ✦ Most lived in the 89031 (47%) or 89032 (24%) zip codes;
- ✦ More women responded to the survey than men by almost a factor of 3 to 1.
- ✦ It was near equal split between people who have lived in the CNLV from 1 to 3 years (26%) and from 4 to 6 years (25%);
- ✦ Presumably, most survey respondents were parents as indicated that the majority had at least one child in one of three age brackets (under 6 years, 6-12 years and 13-17 years); and
- ✦ A remarkable 85% of survey respondents either lived in or owned a home.



Without additional, non-traditional funding sources, only so much will get done



Taking care of existing parks and improving them was a high priority among people who took the survey





Another Recent and Local Reference: Public Survey Mentioning



Patriot Park - City of Las Vegas

Public Opinion Respects No Boundaries

An extensive telephone survey was conducted by the City of Las Vegas, Department of Leisure Services, in the summer of 2001. The purpose of the survey was to gauge the public's view of the provision of parks, recreational facilities and programming throughout the City of Las Vegas. The survey had a respectable rate of response approaching 14% of those contacted.

Relationship and Value to the CNLV Parks Master Plan Update

Similarities

- Respondents showed a clear preference for community parks (intermediate size) over neighborhood parks (small size) and regional parks (large size).
- Walking and hiking trails are an extremely popular choice for expansion throughout the city.

- There is city-wide (City of Las Vegas) support for the construction of more tennis courts, softball fields, and basketball courts.
- Over the past few years the City of Las Vegas has completed several skateboard and terrain parks. The survey shows that since these skate and bike facilities appear to be relatively new, their location and availability was not that widely known by the public. Since 2001, popularity and public usage of these skateparks has increased significantly.
- Renovating older parks is the clear choice as to how parks and recreation funds should be spent. Building new parks, increasing park police presence and increased services for low income areas, the disabled and senior citizens also draws considerable support.





Table A: Workshop and Focus Group Comments

Standard Questions	Community Workshops (1A & 1B) Responses	Teen Focus Group Responses	Senior Focus Group Responses	Commonalities Between Workshops and Focus Groups
<p>1. Describe your ideal park.</p>	<p><u>Workshop 1A</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ More trees ◆ More play areas for children ◆ More sportsfields ◆ Quiet, contemplative areas for book reading ◆ Public Art ◆ Fountains ◆ Lorenzi park is a good example of this ◆ Public monuments in children's play areas ◆ Things that children can interact with and climb on ◆ A fishing pond ◆ Tennis courts ◆ Bike trails and horse trails ◆ Skateboard and BMX course ◆ Roller blade paths ◆ Parking lots in local parks <p><u>Workshop 1B</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Walking and running paths ◆ Parks like Floyd Lamb (where you can enjoy animals, shade, water and barbeque areas) ◆ Multi-use parks (where families can go and each enjoy and activity) ◆ A water play park ◆ Lighted sportsfields ◆ Dog parks ◆ A skate park, ◆ A multi-use storage (especially for bikes) ◆ A long bike trail (part of regional path system) ◆ Archery ranges ◆ Public art, ◆ A community amphitheatre ◆ Music in the parks, ◆ Information kiosks ◆ Interpretive signage in natural areas ◆ an indoor pool ◆ Citizen's patrol ◆ Surveillance equipment for increased public safety, ◆ A park that does not get encroached on or pushed out of use by development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Indoor ballfields ◆ Big playground ◆ Skate park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Walking paths ◆ Trees ◆ Lakes ◆ Tables ◆ Benches ◆ Well-lit ◆ Ample and secure parking, ◆ Swimming pools ◆ Multi-generational use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Pathways and trails ◆ Sportsfields ◆ Trees/shade ◆ "Passive" areas ◆ Larger playgrounds ◆ Skateparks ◆ Swimming pools ◆ Better park security and safety





Table A: Workshop and Focus Group Comments

Standard Questions	Community Workshops (1A & 1B) Responses	Teen Focus Group Responses	Senior Focus Group Responses	Commonalities Between Workshops and Focus Groups
<p>2. Describe your ideal Recreation Center.</p>	<p>Question was not asked at either Community Workshop.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Lots of Basketball Courts ◆ Well-Maintained ◆ Nintendo Systems ◆ TV's ◆ Newer Equipment and Game Tables ◆ No ID cards ◆ More gym space ◆ More games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Televisions ◆ Individualized rooms ◆ Better heating/air conditioning ◆ Better lighting ◆ Theater with stage ◆ More variety of men's activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Newer facilities with more modern conveniences ◆ More room and diversified space
<p>3. What is the biggest reason you don't use parks or recreational programs as often as you would like?</p>	<p><u>Workshop 1A</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Time Restraints/Life Gets too busy ◆ Location (We live in a new community North of Ann Road. I would like to be able to bike or walk to a park.....It is an accessibility issue for adults but mostly for children) ◆ Safety – you need to make parks safe for people to go to <p><u>Workshop 1B</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Access. Facilities are already filled and there is not enough park space. ◆ Not enough canopy/shade areas for group gatherings/Too many use conflicts for a limited space ◆ Preventative safety measures (i.e. require helmets in skate parks) ◆ Safety- Unsanitary bathroom conditions, dilapidated buildings, bathrooms too far away from the fields, portable restrooms don't cut it. ◆ Lack of Parking Space ◆ Aesthetics – a lot of park space here is dull and uninteresting 	<p>Recreation Centers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Rules are too strict ◆ No games ◆ Boring ◆ Lack of Facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Dirty ◆ Indigents ◆ Security Reasons ◆ Not enough shade 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Park Safety and Security ◆ Access and location ◆ More shade trees





Table A: Workshop and Focus Group Comments

Standard Questions	Community Workshops (1A & 1B) Responses	Teen Focus Group Responses	Senior Focus Group Responses	Commonalities Between Workshops and Focus Groups
<p>4. If you could change one thing about parks and recreation programs, what would that be?</p>	<p><u>Workshop 1A</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Public Art ◆ More organized recreational activities at parks ◆ After school programs ◆ Programs should start later at rec centers. Most start too early. <p><u>Workshop 1B</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Separate use areas/no overlap ◆ More parks ◆ Better bike trails ◆ More parking ◆ Dog run areas ◆ Regional sports facilities. Baseball fields with diamonds. Soccer fields nearby for younger siblings to play during little league games. Currently parents have to shuttle their kids between parks to play little league. The softball tournament is moving to Henderson because that city is providing them with better facilities. Soccer/Football fields need to be separated to prevent conflicts. ◆ A botanical park with vegetation 	<p>Recreation Centers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Less strict rules ◆ More games ◆ Indoor swimming pool ◆ More billiard tables ◆ Movie theater ◆ Cheaper food and drinks ◆ Dress code 	<p>Parks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ More free concerts ◆ Regulate drinking <p>Recreation Centers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Longer hours for seniors ◆ Dedicated rooms (not several activities at once in a single room) ◆ Awareness of available programs ◆ Transportation to/from center ◆ Equitable prices 	<p>Parks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ More community-oriented activities <p>Recreation Centers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Newer facilities with more modern conveniences ◆ More room and diversified space
<p>5. What is the best experience you've ever had at a City Park?</p> <p>Additional and Related Focus Group Question Phrasing:</p> <p>What do you enjoy most about going to a city park and/or city recreation center?</p>	<p><u>Workshop 1A</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The annual Easter egg hunt. It brings together the city government, non-profit organizations and volunteers. It brings a sense community and exposes the parks to those who don't use them. ◆ Building a ballfield with a group of volunteers ◆ Designing a wall mural at Doolittle Recreation Center ◆ Family Reunions <p><u>Workshop 1B</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Fourth of July @ Seastrand ◆ Jazz in the park ◆ Renaissance Fair ◆ More parking ◆ Dog run areas ◆ Regional sports facilities. Baseball fields with diamonds. Soccer fields nearby for younger siblings to play during little league games. Currently parents have to shuttle their kids between parks to play little league. The softball tournament is moving to Henderson because that city is providing them with better facilities. Soccer/Football fields need to be separated to prevent conflicts. ◆ A botanical park with vegetation park space here is dull and uninteresting 			





Table A: Workshop and Focus Group Comments

Standard Questions	Community Workshops (1A & 1B) Responses	Teen Focus Group Responses	Senior Focus Group Responses	Commonalities Between Workshops and Focus Groups
6. What additional programs or services would you participate in if they were offered at City Recreation Centers?	Question was not asked at either Community Workshop.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Field Trips ◆ Organized Sports ◆ Athletic Tournaments ◆ Retreats 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Guitar Classes ◆ Dancing ◆ Nutrition/Health Classes ◆ Legal Advice ◆ Driving Class ◆ Art ◆ Cooking ◆ Woodworking ◆ Income Tax Assistance ◆ Information from Health Department ◆ AARP information ◆ Information on lowering utility bills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ No commonality due to difference in age groups.
7. How do you usually travel to parks and/or recreation centers?	Question was not asked at either Community Workshop.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Walk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Car ◆ Bus ◆ Walk ◆ Go with someone else 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Walk
8. How do you feel about the fees the City charges for participation in its recreational programs?	Question was not asked at either Community Workshop.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Participants feel that the price for a membership is too much. They also expressed concern over the fact that the replacement identification cards are too expensive. The participants also think that food and beverages offered at the recreation center are too expensive. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Participants feel that the fees are more than fair. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ No commonality.
9. When going to a park or recreation center, do you usually come alone or with someone else? If so, are they primarily friends or family members?	Question was not asked at either Community Workshop.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Almost all of the participants said they come to the park with friends or family members. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Almost all of the participants said they come to the park or recreation center alone. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ No commonality.





Table A: Workshop and Focus Group Comments

Standard Questions	Community Workshops (1A & 1B) Responses	Teen Focus Group Responses	Senior Focus Group Responses	Commonalities Between Workshops and Focus Groups
10. How often do you go to City parks or recreation centers?	Question not asked at either Community Workshop.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The majority of the participants said they come to the center every day during the week but not on weekends. However, the participants stated that they probably would not come to the recreation center if it weren't so close to school. The participants stated they hardly ever go to the city parks – maybe once every six months to a year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The majority of the participants said they come to the recreation center two to three times a week. The participants stated that they only visit a park once a month. Participants said that they don't visit parks as often because of safety concerns, and it is either too hot or too cold at the parks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low frequency of visitation and use of CNLV Parks.
11. What time of the day do you usually visit parks and / or recreation centers?	Question not asked at either Community Workshop.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants said they come to the recreation center in the afternoon after school (around 2:15pm) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants said they come to the recreation center in the morning because that is the only time it is available to seniors, but added it would be nice if they could also come to the recreation center in the afternoon. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No commonality.
12. How do you feel about the quality of maintenance of City parks and recreation centers that you visit? What specifically makes you feel this way?	Question not asked at either Community Workshop.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants feel that the restrooms are not very clean and that kids purposely flood the toilets at the recreation center. They also said the equipment is often broken or dirty. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The participants unanimously mentioned that the recreation center is always clean and that maintenance issues are promptly taken care of if it is brought to the attention of the appropriate person. The participants also stated that they have noticed a general deterioration of the parks and the fact that the police don't monitor parks for alcohol and other related activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety and security concerns.
13. Have you observed any changes in the City's parks and recreational programs in the past five years?	Question not asked at either Community Workshop.	Question not asked.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The participants stated that they have seen many improvements in that the parks and recreation centers have been upgraded and the new ones are extremely nice. They also said that they have noticed more parks and recreation facilities being built over the last few years. 	





Table A: Workshop and Focus Group Comments

Standard Questions	Community Workshops (1A & 1B) Responses	Teen Focus Group Responses	Senior Focus Group Responses	Commonalities Between Workshops and Focus Groups
14. What do you think are the most important benefits the City's parks and recreational programs provide to the people who live here?	Question not asked at either Community Workshop.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The participants said that they felt the recreation programs are not of much benefit and that they mostly go to the center because they have to. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The participants stated that the friends they have at the recreation center give them a sense of family as well as a positive outlet. For many of the people, it is the only family they have. They said the hot meals are also beneficial. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No commonality.
15. What are the most common things you believe City residents currently use parks for?	Question not asked at either Community Workshop.	Question not asked.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Picnics Ball games Parties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corresponds to best experiences (Question #5) responses from Community Workshops.
16. Can you think of anything over the next five to ten years that would change how people want to use parks?	Question not asked at either Community Workshop.	Question not asked.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outdoor amphitheatre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corresponds to expressed need for an outdoor amphitheatre from Community Workshops.





Table B: Stakeholder Common Ground

Selection Category	NAFB	Seniors	CNLV PC	CNLV Rec	CNLV PM	CLV Parks	CNLV CC	CNLV CM	CC P&R	CCSD	Hispanic	NLV CoFC
New Recreational Facilities												
Dog Parks												
Water Play Features												
Skate/BMX Parks												
Disc Golf												
Sportsfields (i.e. soccer, baseball, football)												
Adventure Recreation Climbing Walls/ Challenge Courses												
Expanded Playgrounds												
Multi-Use Trails												
Types of Parks, Buildings & Special Use Facilities												
Downtown Parks												
Large-Acreage (Community & Regional) Parks												
New Sports Complex												
New Community Recreation Center/ Multi-Generational Complex												
Aquatics Center												
Restrooms Facilities												
Community Amphitheatre												
Qualitative Features												
More Variety in Public Facilities												
Public Art in Parks												
Park Beauty - Water, Trees, Open Space, Botanic Gardens												

Acronym Key:

- NAFB = Nellis Air Force Base
- CNLV PC = CNLV Planning Commission
- CNLV Rec = CNLV Recreation
- CNLV PM = CNLV Park Maintenance
- CLV Parks = CLV Parks & Leisure
- CNLV CC = CNLV City Council
- CNLV CM = CNLV City Manager
- CC P&R = Clark County Parks & Recreation
- CCSD = Clark County School District
- NLV CoFC = NLV Chamber of Commerce

*Yellow Boxes denotes important features.



About you...

Please choose one of the following options for each.

Age:

- 13 – 18 years 19 – 23 years
- 24 – 34 years 35 – 44 years
- 45 – 54 years 55 – 64 years
- 65 years and up

Sex:

- Male Female

Location:

Where in the City of North Las Vegas do you live? Please mark your zip code.

- 89101 89030
- 89031 89032
- 89115 89124
- 89084 89086

How long have you lived in North Las Vegas?

- Under a year 1 – 3 years
- 4 – 6 years 7 – 10 years
- 11 – 14 years 15 years and up

Children:

Please mark in the box the number of children for each age group living in your household.

- Under 6 years
- 6 – 12 years
- 13 – 17 years
- There are no children in this household.

Residence:

- Single-family home
- Condominium
- Apartment
- Duplex / Triplex

Are you a homeowner?

- Yes No



**City of North Las Vegas
Parks and Recreation
Department**

Place
Stamp Here

The City of North Las Vegas (CNLV) has changed dramatically in the past few years. A new and larger community is beginning to take shape around those changes.

The CNLV had its first master plan for parks and recreational facilities completed in 1997. Since that time the CNLV has expanded in many ways, including:

- The number of people calling the CNLV "home" has increased by almost 50,000 since 1997 (nearly 10% every year).
- By year 2010, it is estimated that over 100,000 more additional people will move to the CNLV.
- The City has added nearly 7,500 acres to its boundaries; including two new master planned communities – Aliante (1,905 acres) and El Dorado (1,080 acres).

The present park and recreational facility master plan needs to be updated in order to capture the changing face of the CNLV in 2003 and beyond. This **master plan update** will guide decisions related to park spaces, recreational facilities and services for the City over the next ten years.

In order to better understand the needs of the CNLV community, we need your help.

This survey will help us to evaluate:

- What matters to you about CNLV parks and recreational facilities;
- How you would like them to look; and
- Where they might be located.

Please take a few moments to complete this survey. Your thoughts will help us to determine where we need go in order to provide the CNLV with the excellent parks and recreation facilities that it deserves.



This survey is also available at the CNLV website.
www.cityofnorthlasvegas.com

**Park Master Plan Update
Public Survey**
City of North Las Vegas Parks & Recreation Dept.
316 Brooks Street
North Las Vegas, Nevada 89030



**City of North Las Vegas
Parks & Recreation Department**

Parks Master Plan Update

Public Survey

City of North Las Vegas
Parks and Recreation Department
316 Brooks Street
North Las Vegas, Nevada 89030

Recreation Programming:

Have you participated in recreation programs or services offered by the City of North Las Vegas (CNLV) Recreation Department during the last 12 months?



- Yes No

If you participated in CNLV recreation programs and services, how did you learn about them? (Please check all that apply.)



- Friends / Word of Mouth Local Newspaper
 City program guide Flyers at City facilities
 Flyers from local school City Website
 Other

If you did not participate in CNLV recreation programs or services, what are your reasons? (Please check all that apply.)

- I'm not aware of programs I cannot afford the cost
 I'm not interested in programs The locations are not convenient
 The times are not convenient I need childcare in order to participate
 I participate in private programs Transportation is a problem
 I'm concerned about my safety Other



How many times in one month (30 days) do you participate in the following activities? Please mark the number of times in each box.

- Walking Family Activities / Picnicking
 Relaxation / Enjoyment of Park Playground Visit / Use
 Organized Sports Exercise / Aerobics
 Exercise / Weight Training Basketball
 Swimming outdoors / indoors Exercising a pet
 Baseball / Softball Golfing
 Gardening Soccer
 Recreational Bicycling Rollerblading
 Skateboarding BMX Bicyding
 Radio-controlled models Others **Please List:**



What age groups should receive the **highest priority** for programs, services and facilities in the future? Please rank each choice from 1 to 7 using **1 for your highest priority** and **7 for your lowest (or just indicate all ages should have equal priority).**

- Infants and Pre-schoolers (up to 4 years) Children (5-14 years)
 Teens (15-18 years) Young Adults (19-24 years)
 Adults (25-54 years) Older Adults (55 years and up)
 All ages should have equal priority

Park and Recreation Facility Use and Development:

How often in the **last 12 months** have you visited the following types of CNLV Parks?



A "Mini" Park (Tonopah Park, Brooks Tot Lot, or Rotary Tot Lot)
 0 1-5 6-10 11+

A "Neighborhood-based" Park (Antonello School Park, Boris Terrace Park, Cheyenne Ridge Park, City View Park, College Park, Eldorado Park, Flores Park, Goldcrest Park, Hartke Park, Hebert Memorial Park, Joe Kneip Park, Monte Vista Park, Pettiti Park, Richard Tam Park, Valley View Park, Windsor Park or Tom Williams School Park)
 0 1-5 6-10 11+

A "Community-based" Park (Goynes Park or Seastrand Park)
 0 1-5 6-10 11+

A Community Pool (Silver Mesa Pool, Hartke Pool, or Pettiti Pool)
 0 1-5 6-10 11+

A "Special-Use Facility" (Neighborhood Recreation Center, Silver Mesa Recreation Center, Community Golf Course, or Cheyenne Sports Complex)
 0 1-5 6-10 11+

A Regional-type Park (Regional Park / Model Airplane Flying Facility)
 0 1-5 6-10 11+

If you seldom or do not use CNLV Parks, what are your reasons? (Please check all that apply.)

- I don't know where the parks are Transportation problems
 Not interested I feel unsafe
 Not conveniently located No programs
 Lack of time Parks lack adequate facilities
 Other



On a scale of 1 to 5, with **1 being poor** and **5 being excellent**, please rate the overall appearance, maintenance and care of parks managed by the City of North Las Vegas.

- 1 2 3
 4 5

Check up to **5 activities** you would **most like** to do if the facilities were available in the CNLV Parks.



- Walking Family Activities / Picnicking
 Relaxation / Enjoyment of Park Playground Visit / Use
 Organized Sports Exercise / Aerobics
 Exercise / Weight Training Basketball
 Swimming outdoors / indoors Exercising a pet
 Baseball / Softball Golfing
 Gardening Soccer
 Recreational Bicycling Rollerblading
 Skateboarding BMX Bicyding
 Radio-controlled models Others **Please List:**

How should sports fields (e.g. soccer, baseball, football) in the CNLV be developed in the future?

- Develop multi-sports complexes (like Cheyenne Sports Complex)
 Partner with Clark County School District to upgrade existing sports fields on school property
 Partner with CCSD to **increase** the number of sports fields on school property
 Locate more sports fields evenly throughout the CNLV
 Develop sports complexes dedicated to **one** sport only
 Other

Do you believe another community recreation center is needed in the CNLV?

- Yes No Not Sure

If **Yes**, where? List location / area within the CNLV:

If you answered **yes to the above question**, what facilities would you like to have included in another community recreation center? (Please check all that apply.)

- Multi-use gymnasium After-school program areas
 Teen activity area Meeting space, kitchen and classrooms
 Exercise and aerobics room Senior activity area
 Outdoor / indoor swimming pools Tennis courts
 Children's play area Performance stage
 Racquetball / Squash Courts Skateboard / BMX / Rollerblade park



Paying for the Plan:

How should facilities, programs and services be provided / funded by the CNLV in the future?

- Grants or donations
 Partnerships with private recreation providers
 Registration fees for classes and activities
 Property taxes
 Rental fees for facilities
 Residential Construction Tax / Developer impact fees

Would you support a bond issue to acquire parks, open spaces and other recreational facilities in North Las Vegas?

- Yes, I would support it.
 I would support it, depending on the amount of increase.
 I would support it, depending on the exact facilities and programs it would fund.
 No, I would not support it.

If the CNLV were to propose an increase in property taxes for park and recreation purposes, which of the following should be included as to how and where the money would be spent? (Please check all that apply.)

- Funding for upkeep and maintenance
 Trail and pathway development
 Community and Recreation Centers
 Development of more park facilities
 Sports fields or Sports Complexes
 Park land acquisition (neighborhood, community, regional)
 Additional recreational programs, services, or special events



Thank you for your time and effort in completing this survey.

Your thoughts and opinions will help us in creating an improved parks system and recreation program for the growing City of North Las Vegas.

Please return this form by **March 15, 2003** by one of the following options:

Mail in or return to:

Neighborhood Recreation Center
 1638 North Bruce St.

Silver Mesa Recreation Center
 4025 Allen Lane

Main Library
 2300 Civic Center Drive

Satellite Library
 4528 West Craig, Suite 110

City Water Utilities
 2200 Civic Center Drive





Demographic Profile



CNLV-Second Fastest Growing City in the Country (2000-2002)



Alante will eventually be home to over 20,000 residents

Understanding the demographic environment of the CNLV is important to this plan for the following reasons:

- To better appreciate certain unique **demographic and socio-economic statistics** and characteristics of the people of the CNLV;
- To determine shifts that those statistics and characteristics suggest and **make broad generalizations** as to how the CNLV parks system and recreation delivery program should respond accordingly. A simple example: people's recreational abilities and preferences certainly change with age; and
- To periodically **reconsider and perhaps modify the CNLV's own goals, policies, objectives and actions (GOPA's)** that guide the park and recreation master plan in relationship to the demographic makeup of its people.

This demographic profile presents an overview of certain known statistical indicators and trends that are indicative of the dynamic growth and changing face of the CNLV. These factors, if taken into account, will influence the future provision of a park system and recreation delivery program that should be accessible to, and equitably shared by the diverse population of the CNLV.

The City is Booming

- Since 1990, the CNLV has grown in population by **nearly 190%** (188.6%). The average annual growth rate is **9.3%**. The most recent annual growth rate (2001-2002) has slowed from the accelerated pace of that previous decade and is estimated to be **6.3%**. By comparison over a similar period of time (1992-2002) Clark County grew by **just 81%** with an average annual growth rate over the decade (1990-2000) of **5.7%**.
- From 2000-2002, the CNLV was the **second fastest growing city over 100,000** in the entire country. In the last decade, the CNLV was the **fifth fastest** growing city in the same category.
- In 2002, the estimated population of the CNLV was approximately **138,000 people**, making it the **fourth largest** city in the state of Nevada. It has been estimated **nearly 1,000 people move to the CNLV every month**.
- Within the time span of this plan (2003-2013) the CNLV could easily reach a mid-point, or year **2008 population of 225,000**, reaching **323,000 or more in 2013**, based on a **slower** (compared to the last decade) annual average growth rate of about 6%.

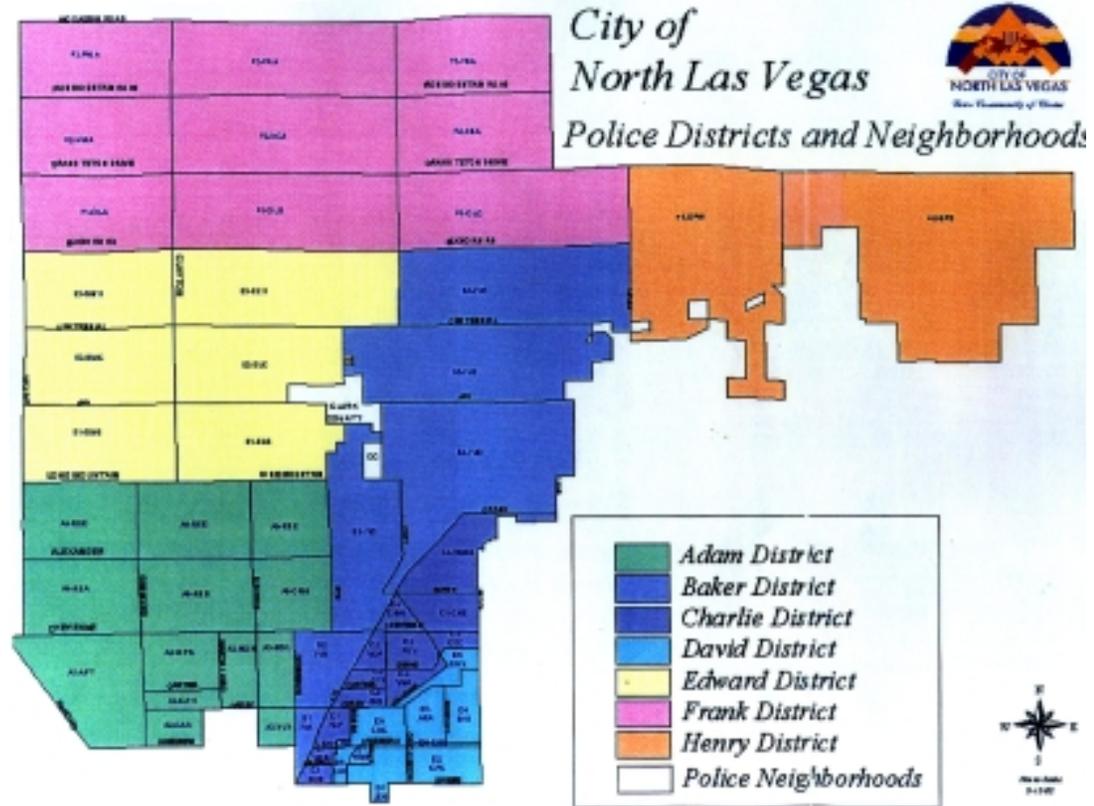




New Directions- Where the CNLV will grow in the next 10 years

Possible Influences on this Plan:

- Given the present **deficiencies** in available and developed parkland on all levels (neighborhood, community and regional) the CNLV faces, **catching up to and even keeping pace** with such strong suburban growth will remain a challenge. The City Council has made a stated commitment to improving parks and recreation and can demonstrate so by:
 - Striving to reach the objectives and many of the supportive actions (**GOPA's**) dealing with establishing **consistent and dependable funding sources** for park renovation, acquisition and development.
 - Having **clear and ambitious requirements for the dedication and development of neighborhood and community level parks and open space** within future master-planned communities in the remaining 16,000 acre suburban reserve.
 - Finding a balance between those established neighborhoods presently **underserved** by parks and recreation facilities while still meeting the **competing demands** of the suburban reserve (central and northwest) of the City.



To no surprise, the area of the CNLV anticipated to grow at the fastest rate in the next five and ten year periods is in the Northwest sector of the city ("Frank" District). This area is essentially the remaining suburban reserve of the CNLV. The area, now the location of the master-planned community of Aliante, has well-over 16,000 acres remaining and is slated for suburban development over the next fifteen years (2005-2020). Just during the term of this master plan update, (2003-2013) this district is expected to swell in population by nearly **another 40,000 people**. By comparison, the entire population of the CNLV in 1990 was around 48,000 people.





Public Survey - A Snapshot of CNLV Residents

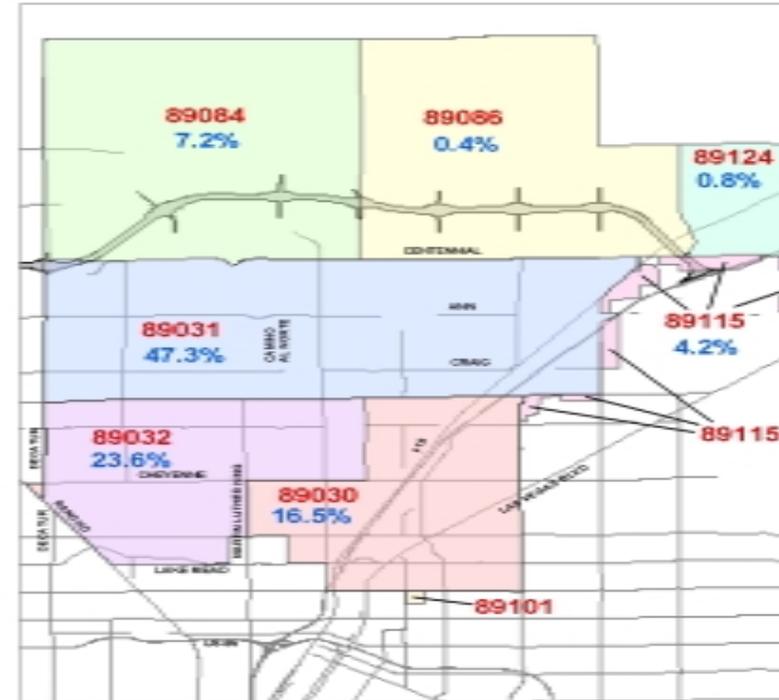
Not with such an aggressive forecast, but still showing substantial population growth, is the area referred to as the “Edward” District. This area is anticipated to grow in population by nearly 48% over the next decade.

Another district projected to grow closer to the present CNLV average annual growth rate (9.3%) is the “Adam” District. This district will experience a projected population growth between 10 and 13% in the coming decade.

The “Baker” District will actually see dynamic growth within the next five years, with nearly a 72% projected increase. Most of the available land will be “built-out” within that time as indicated by the substantial leveling off of the growth rate, dropping to an estimated 6% over the next five year period (to 2010).

As expected, older and more established parts of the CNLV will experience substantially less population growth.

Most of the buildable, vacant land is gone and rezoning or redevelopment initiatives are not anticipated to be undertaken over the next decade. What little available land remains, is mostly to be found in the “Charlie” District. That will be consumed by 2005, with this district experiencing a projected 21% growth rate during that time. This will slow to around 6% in the five years to follow (2010). What most people consider to be central and older core of the CNLV is referred to as the “David” District. This district is expected to experience insignificant or nearly “no” growth in the coming decade.



Zip Code 89031 - Slightly less than half (47%) of people responding to the survey came from this area. Of the three main zip code areas, this one has the **highest number of occupied housing units with over 95%** of the dwelling units being single-family homes.

This area has the **second highest population concentration (41,509)** with the majority (70%) being within the age ranges of 25-34, 35-44 and 45-64. About half the households had children. Incomes were the highest for any area in the CNLV with 84% being above \$35,000. The area has experienced some of the more recent suburban growth of the City, with 46% of residents living here for less than 5 years.





Population Growth and Age

Zip Code 89032 - The next largest group (24%) of survey respondents called this area of the CNLV their home. The area has the lowest number occupied housing units with most again being single-family homes (78%) along with a modest concentration of apartments. Of the three main zip code areas, **this one has the lowest total population (35,867)** with a slightly lower number (68%) being within the same above-stated age groups. **Less than half (40%) of the households had children.** Household incomes were the second highest with 76% being above \$35,000. More people have lived in this area longer, with only 28% being residents for less than 5 years.

Zip Code 89030- Of the three largest zip code areas, this one had the **lowest number of respondents (17%) but conversely, the highest concentration of population (51,606)**. Of this number, only 56% were in the major age groups stated above. This area also had the **highest number of young adults, ages 18-24 (12%) and those above age 55 (32%)** The housing picture here is different also, with a greater mix of single-family homes (53%) and apartments (37%) in an area with the highest number of overall housing units (14,427). Less than half (41%) of the households had children. **This area had the lowest household income with only 26% being above \$35,000 and the highest (54%) being below \$25,000.** People have lived in this area longer than the other two, with nearly half (49%) having a length of residence of over 20 years. To the contrary, only 22% of the people have lived in the area less than 5 years.

Age – Is it Just a Number?

The 2000 Census revealed that new residents moving to the CNLV throughout the past decade are mostly concentrated in the age profiles of:

- ✦ **25-34 (22%), 35-44 (25%) and 45-54 (17%)** with the median age being **28 years old**. By comparison, the median age in **Clark County is 34 years old (2002)**
- ✦ This fact was also reinforced by the public survey response, where most of those who took the survey were in the **age ranges of 25-34 (39%) and 45-54 (33%)**.
- ✦ **Younger age groups, have grown in size since 1990** ages 5-9, (10.7%), 10-14 (10.7%), 15-19 (6.9%) and 20-24 (7.0%).
- ✦ Overall, the age distribution can be characterized as a rapidly growing community of younger adults in age brackets where **the continued formation of families is highly likely**.
- ✦ The population under 5 years old in the CNLV was at 10.4 % compared to a statewide rate of 7.3%, which may be indicative of an **above average presence of younger families with children in the City**.



Active families are calling the CNLV their new home





Age and Income

Projections through 2008 show:

- A slight aging of the population with the age bracket 45-54 growing a little while the ones for 25-34 and 35-44, declining somewhat.
- Teen age groups, primarily 15-19 will see a slight increase in number (ranging from .10% to .80%) while the combined and younger age brackets (under 5 through age 9) are expected to decrease somewhat (.30% -.60%).
- Advance age groups (Ages 50 and up) and seniors (ages 64 and up) are also expected to have a small increase in population, ranging anywhere from .30%-.75%).

Possible Influences on this Plan:

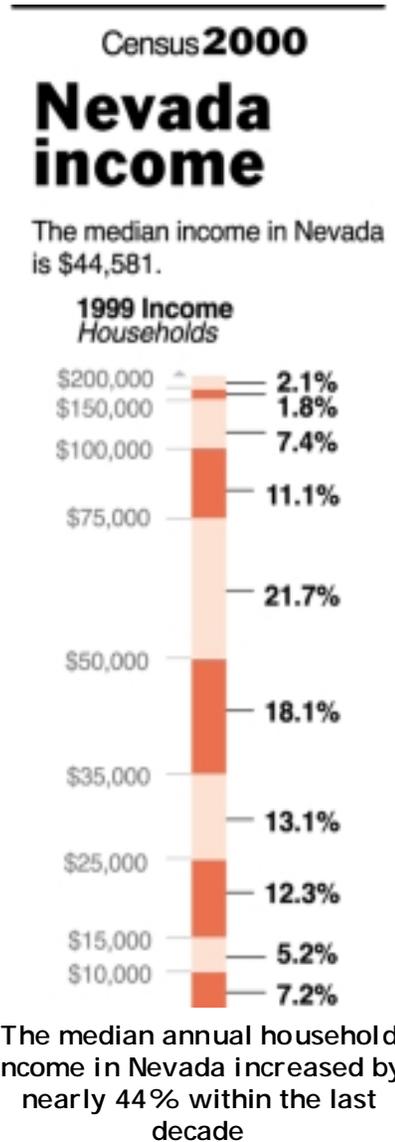
- Young adult age groups, generally in their "family-forming" years, will continue to exert a strong demand for local (neighborhood and community) parks containing an assortment of active recreational facilities to meet their needs.
- This point is also supported by the results of the public survey. The majority of the respondents to the survey were in this young adult age bracket (24-34). On the average, 85% indicated having at least one child.

- The maturing of children and teenagers in the CNLV will probably cause a higher demand for active and competitive sports facilities and programs. These same age groups, along with increases in the senior population, point toward the need for the CNLV to consider making its next community center one with a "multi-generational" emphasis.

Income – More money to spend

A common fact is that, generally the higher income, the more the individual or family is inclined to engage in more active, outdoor-oriented and more expensive forms of recreation.

- Moderate family income brackets are typically considered to be in the following ranges \$25-35,000, \$35,000-50,000 and \$50,000-75,000). The last two income brackets have increased an average of 24% and 15%, respectively, (not adjusted for inflation) since 1990. The highest percentage, 22 percent, of all the state's households earn between \$50,000 and \$75,000 a year. The majority of those were in Clark County.
- The average median family income for the CNLV increased by over 180% (from \$24,700 in 1990 to \$46,540 in 2000 (not adjusted for inflation). In contrast the 1990 average median family income for the Las Vegas Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) was \$35,172 and \$24,098 in Clark County in 1990. For the entire state, it was \$44,581. The median household income in Clark County (adjusted for inflation) raised \$4,500 between 1989 and 1999.





Income and Employment



Homeownership in the CNLV has increased tremendously over the last decade

- When adjusted for inflation, local wages (Clark County) **increased at a faster pace during the 1990s than they did in the rest of the country.**

The improving rate of homeownership, within a growing community such as the CNLV, is one more indicator of increasing economic prosperity. Homeownership brings with it a sense of personal investment in an area.

- The CNLV rate of homeownership **rose from 50% in 1990**, far below the average at that time, **to 70 % in 2000**, well above the current U.S. norm. By comparison, in 2002 57% of the single-family homes in Clark County were owner-occupied.

Projections through 2008 show:

- The three moderate income group ranges (total family income) are expected to actually **decrease slightly in growth.** Conversely, the higher income brackets of \$75,000-100,000 and \$100,000-150,000 are anticipated **to grow by over 5%.**
- Another positive trend is the expectation that **lower income households** (less than \$15,000 and \$15-25,000) will **decline in number** from between 1.5% and 4.0%.



The CNLV as well as the entire Las Vegas Valley should continue to see steady job growth

Possible Influences on this Plan:

- The people who are experiencing increased income growth and are becoming homeowners in the CNLV are the same constituency **demanding a wider range of well-equipped parks, closer to where they live.**
- Conversely, the **greatest concentration of lower income households are found in the older, more central part of the CNLV.** This area is endowed with more small-sized neighborhood parks than the new suburban central and northwest areas of the City. It still is without a large-acreage, community-sized park centrally located and in close proximity to those people with limited means or a way to get to it.

Employment- What most CNLV residents do for a living

Consistent with the employment profile for the rest of Clark County (CC), most of the jobs residents of CNLV had in 2000-2002 are concentrated in:

- Gaming, Services and Retail Trade (41.0% for CC and 37.6% for CNLV)
- Construction (11.0% for CC and 14.0% for CNLV)
- Education, health and social services (10 % for CC and 10.7% for CNLV)
- Professional (10.0% for CC and 9.9% for CNLV)





Employment

In the Las Vegas Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), an average of 1 in 4 jobs is gaming related. This is also consistent with the slightly more than 27.0% of CNLV residents who work in the "arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services" or gaming and tourism category.

Especially in the area of job growth, the Las Vegas Valley continues to outshine the national economy. Employment in Clark County is expected to **grow around 2.8% in 2003, and 3.5% in 2004** if the present "jobless recovery" the nation is experiencing, turns around.

A recent Milken Institute study indicated the Las Vegas area is in the bottom one-fourth in the nation for high-tech employment, when compared to other larger metropolitan areas in the nation. High-tech employment, it is argued, has a direct link to a higher quality of life. With the recent implosion of the high-tech and dot.com sectors of the national economy, those kinds of jobs will be in short supply anywhere in the country, for some time to come.



Even before these events, the CNLV was devising a way to attract "mid-tech" jobs that hopefully result in moderate to high wage earners, not only working in the City, but living there too.

The **Cheyenne Technology Corridor (CTC)** is envisioned to be a 5 1/2-mile long, \$225 million office park located along Cheyenne Avenue between Decatur Boulevard and Pecos Road. It is a unique concept in the State of Nevada with current plans to develop the corridor as a top destination for the expansion and relocation of business, offering tech, R&D, flex, and office space, in addition to light manufacturing and distribution buildings. The CNLV has seen steady progress in the corridor, with one portion of it called the Northport Business Center, going from being half-empty to 90 percent leased in the past year.

Some estimates place the **job creation potential** for the CTC to be as high as **15,000 jobs to North Las Vegas** over its development timeline.

The master-planned community of **Aliante** is anticipated to have **approximately 100 acres** devoted to commercial, retail and office space. Also within that acreage is expected to be 40 acre "Station" level casino. Conservative job creation numbers for this area are around 1,550 jobs in the commercial, retail and office area with another 450 related to the casino.



1 in 4 jobs continues to be gaming related in the CNLV and the Las Vegas Valley

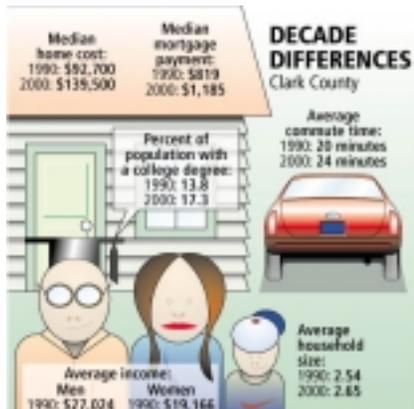


The long-term economic health of the CNLV is dependent on a more diverse work force





Employment and Education



The percent of population in Clark County with a college degree increased by 4.5 %



The Community College of Southern Nevada offers several advanced education opportunities to CNLV residents

Possible Influences on this Plan:

- ❖ While hard to quantify, many of these future jobs created within the CNLV will probably result in:
 - ⊞ Increases in personal and family income;
 - ⊞ A higher rate of homeownership; and
 - ⊞ Some increase in disposable income available for leisure and recreational pursuits.

A lot of those jobholders will conceivably become residents of the CNLV. These will be the very people who equate an expanding and accessible park system, to be one of many indicators of a higher of the quality of life available in the CNLV.

Level of Education- It is more connected than you think

Clark County and the CNLV still trail the rest of the nation in educational attainment, **but gained some ground during the 1990s.**

The 2000 census showed 79.5 percent of Southern Nevadans over the age of 25 have graduated from high school. This compares with 77.3 percent a decade ago.

By comparison, the CNLV showed an even **greater increase (over 8%)** in this category, with 58.4% having at least graduated from high school in 1990, compared to 66.5% in 2000.

Clark County ranked 196th out of 216 heavily populated areas ranked by the percentage of residents with at least a bachelor's degree, according to the census.

The share of Southern Nevadans who **completed college also increased during the 1990s.** The latest numbers show 17.3 percent of Clark County residents over the age of 25 have a college degree, up from 13.8 percent a decade ago.

In the CNLV **an even more encouraging trend** can be found, with over 12% of residents over the age of 25 possessing a college degree, up from 4.1% ten years ago.

The Progressive Policy Institute has recently developed an index to measure the "New Economy" as it relates to metropolitan areas around the county. One large factor considered is **Workforce Education** defined as "*A weighted measure of the educational attainment (advanced degrees, bachelor's degrees, or some college course work) of the workforce.*" The Las Vegas Metro area **was ranked 34th out of 50** other metropolitan cities in the entire country.

The Center for Regional Economic Issues (REI) at compared income and productivity growth between 1980 and 1998 between those metropolitan areas with the highest proportion of college graduates and those with the lowest proportion.





Education and Ethnicity

It found that in 1980, the average per-capita income in the most-educated metropolitan areas was 12 percent above the U.S. average, while average per-capita income in the least-educated regions was 3 percent below the national average.

In 1998, by contrast, the most-educated regions had average incomes 20 percent above the national average, and average income in the least-educated regions had fallen to 12 percent below the national average.

The Las Vegas Metro Area ranked 4th out of 10, as one of the least educated regions in the country from 1980-1998.

Potential Influences on this Plan:

- The trend of a larger and more educated population for the CNLV and Las Vegas Valley region has the likelihood of **increasing both family income and homeownership**. This again, leads to new residents who seemingly will have a greater appreciation and personal stake in seeing positive suburban development take place in the CNLV, such as a prosperous parks and recreation system.

Ethnicity - The Changing Face of the CNLV

The 2000 Census certainly makes clear that Nevada is becoming more ethnically diverse. There is no better example of that than what has taken place in the CNLV over the last decade.

From roughly **22% of the population in 1990 to 37.6% in 2000**, this City has seen its Hispanic population swell. Over the same time, that remained well above the state average of 19.7%.

An almost identical reversal took place with the black segment of the total CNLV population over the same time period. During the last decade, the black population **substantially decreased from 37% in 1990 to around 19% in 2000**.

In the CNLV, the 2000 census found a concentration of Hispanics in seven contiguous census "tracts" that have **between 62% and 83% of the population being Hispanic**. The majority of these tracts appear to be in the older, established portion of the City, primarily delineated by zip code area 89030. It is not uncommon for people of similar cultural and language backgrounds to reside close to one another as a means of attaining a "comfort level" with any area they call their place of residence.

According to the Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR) estimates, **about 25% of year 2000 population of the CNLV was foreign-born**, higher than the average of 15.8% for the entire state of Nevada.



The Hispanic people and culture enrich the CNLV in many ways



Enterprising Hispanics are a growing business presence in the CNLV

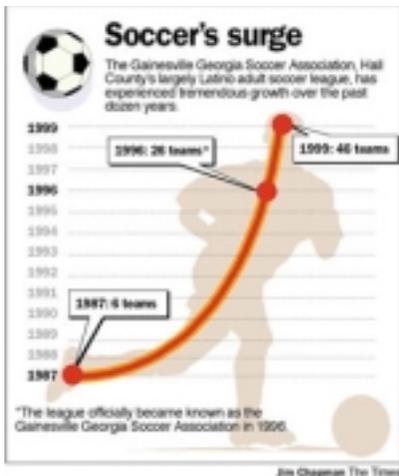




Ethnicity



A plaza park in the Downtown core of the CNLV could be a location for community celebrations and events



Like other parts of the country, the CNLV is seeing a surge in Latino soccer teams

More than half (51%) of the year 2000 foreign-born population has come to the CNLV in the last decade.

The public survey, conducted as a part of this Master Plan Update, had **an almost imperceptible response** from the areas of the CNLV with a high concentration of Hispanic residents. This is an unfortunate outcome, despite the facts that the survey was made bi-lingual and hundreds were distributed or made available from points in and around the Hispanic community.

The CNLV has made recent efforts to bring improved bus service to these highly concentrated Hispanic areas, as well as hosting employment fairs to increase job opportunities and even programs to assist Hispanics with down payments for home ownership.

Potential Influences on this Plan:

The areas of the CNLV that have the greatest number of Hispanic and other ethnic groups living in them, **have relatively good access and availability to neighborhood parks** within close proximity to their residential areas. Most of these parks have been upgraded and are in improved condition today. They are all relatively small in size, and with the exception of Hartke Park, are not large enough to allow space for recreational facilities such as a community center or pool.

- This section of the City could benefit greatly from a **centrally-located, large-acreage (20 acre minimum) community-oriented park** with ample space devoted for sportsfields. The lack and expensive nature of available, vacant land in large parcels within this area, remains a major drawback.
- While not expressed directly by the Hispanic community, the public survey did indicate significant citizen interest in seeing a **downtown-oriented plaza park** established. Such a public space could provide a noteworthy civic focal point and landmark currently missing in the downtown area.
- The **CNLV Redevelopment Division** may have the **resources and know-how** to make either of these proposals happen. They should take the lead in exploring the site feasibility, selection and development either the community park or downtown plaza.





Hierarchy of Parks



City of Glendale, Arizona - Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan

The ideal park system for the City of North Las Vegas (CNLV) is one composed of a hierarchy of park types. Each one offers certain characteristic recreation facilities, site amenities and open space opportunities. Separately, each park type may serve only one basic function and specific geographic area, but collectively they serve the entire needs of the City. With this organizing concept, the CNLV can hopefully develop a more efficient, equitable and cost-effective park system.

The proposed park system for the CNLV (See **Map A**) revolves around the premise that a community and/or neighborhood park should be located within convenient walking or short driving distance for most residents. These two levels of parks represent the core of the park system and can be improved and expanded by:

- ✦ The continued renovation and upgrading of existing CNLV parks;
- ✦ Developing already acquired park sites;
- ✦ Timely and strategic acquisition of additional park sites in areas identified with the greatest deficiency of parkland; and
- ✦ The continuation of joint school/park development with the CCSD.

Supplementing these core parks are regional parks, linear parks/greenways/dedicated open space and special use areas facilities (e.g. community centers, pools, historic sites) that serve broader outdoor recreation mandates, specialized community needs or symbolic functions.

Mini-Parks

Definition- Mini-parks, pocket parks, tot lots and children's playgrounds are all small, single purpose areas designed for active use for children and passive use for adults. Because of their reduced size, the facilities are usually limited to small open grass areas; children's play equipment, reduced landscape plantings, seating (benches) and sometimes a small picnic area or shade structure. Other small parks, such as pocket parks, do not fit into the definition of a true mini-park, including plaza spaces, and green linkages. All of these represent other types of parks that are important and will continue to be encouraged, where appropriate, within the CNLV as part of residential or commercial development. These small green spaces and plazas can provide room within neighborhoods for unorganized play for children. They can also serve as neighborhood gathering places for teens, adults, and senior citizens. Such smaller parks and spaces should, at a minimum provide seating, shade, small lawn areas and play facilities for younger children.





Mini Parks

While mini-parks and tot-lots have been created in the past, the CNLV does not anticipate building any additional ones in the years to come. The exception to this are the small “parkettes” that will be a part of the Las Vegas Wash Trail (LVWT). This is mostly due to the higher maintenance, limited public usage as well as more pressing park development priorities.

Community Workshops / Public Survey

Input: The need for additional mini-parks elsewhere in the CNLV did not appear to be an expressed priority of citizens. Both the survey and workshop results placed a higher emphasis on the creation of larger-acreage community and regional based parks.

Needs Assessment: The common average for mini-parkland to population found around the western region of the United States is about .12 acres/1000 population.

General Land Use Policies:

- ❖ The further need or citizen demand for CNLV provided mini-parks should be carefully evaluated against other competing park priorities.
- ❖ The development of mini-parks or small “pocket” type parks should be continued and encouraged as part of multi-family developments, as a part of small planned unit-developments or as an amenity to increase the appeal and use of private commercial and office development.
- ❖ If additional mini-parks are created by the CNLV, they should be developed in existing neighborhoods where a park is neither available nor easily accessible or where no options exist for larger neighborhood-level park sites.
- ❖ In commercial and office areas, mini and “pocket” parks should be designed primarily for non-residential day use, such as a place for employees and customers to have lunch, relax or other similar activities.



Brooks Tot-lot or Mini Park
City of North Las Vegas





Mini Parks and Neighborhood Parks



Brooks Tot Lot/Mini-Park
City of North Las Vegas



Neighborhood Park Plan,
Oakland, California

Site Selection Criteria

- ❖ Commonly accepted sizes for mini and “pocket” parks range from as small as 2500 sq. ft. to as large as an acre.
- ❖ The site should be central as possible to the neighborhood or private development it serves.
- ❖ The site should be relatively flat, offer good visibility, have available utilities and provide unobstructed access.
- ❖ If possible, walking distance to such a park should not exceed one quarter mile, and not require the crossing of busy streets.

Design and Development Standards:

Appropriate features of a mini-park should include:

- ❖ A children's playground
- ❖ Small, open grass play area
- ❖ Site amenities (picnic tables, benches, bike racks, drinking fountains, trash receptacles, etc.)
- ❖ Appropriate level of water-conserving landscape
- ❖ Security lighting and clear, unobstructed visibility where possible

Neighborhood Parks

Definition - Neighborhood parks are a combination playground and park designed primarily for non-supervised, non-organized recreation activities. They are generally small in size (from 5-10 acres) and serve an area of approximately one half-mile radius. Typically, facilities found in a neighborhood park include a children's playground, picnic areas, trails, open grass areas for passive use, outdoor basketball courts and multi-use sport fields for soccer, or youth baseball.

Based on the level of public use and location, portable or permanent restrooms buildings may also be included. Neighborhood parks are generally intended to be walk-to destinations, but if parking is provided, it is normally on-street and not in a confined lot.

Community Workshops/Public Survey Input: Given the fact that at present, the CNLV has more neighborhood level parks, the survey confirmed that these are the parks visited most often. This level of response also reinforces the known condition that the CNLV is short of large acreage community-based parks when comparative regional (Las Vegas Valley) and national standards are applied. In the public workshops, there was stronger support for shifting the focus and priority to community parks over neighborhood. Some people attending the workshops indicated that there are established parts of the CNLV that are underserved, with some areas having no parks for neighborhood residents.





Neighborhood Parks



Joe Kneip (Neighborhood) Park
City of North Las Vegas



Goldcrest (Neighborhood) Park
City of North Las Vegas

Needs Assessment: The commonly accepted average neighborhood parkland to population ratio found around the Western Region of the United States varies from 1 to 3 acres per 1,000 people. This Plan Update is recommending that the CNLV adopt the average as recommended by the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Council (SNRPC) which is 2.5 acres of local parkland (local parkland being the combination of **both neighborhood and community parks**) per 1,000 people. Of those 2.5 acres, neighborhood parks would make up 1.0 acre and community parks, the difference at 1.5 acres.

The service area for a typical neighborhood park in the CNLV is a 1/2-mile radius around a single or group of neighborhoods. Based on looking at the service area criteria, the older and established portions of the CNLV is fairly well-covered by existing small acreage neighborhood-oriented parks. Portions of residential areas throughout the CNLV continue to have large spatial gaps between existing neighborhood park sites. Several of these areas still contain undeveloped tracts, both large and small, interspersed among them that could be opportunities sites for additional neighborhood parks.

The long-term requirements for neighborhood parks within the CNLV are further detailed in the Needs and Demand analysis of this report.

General Land Use Policies:

- ❖ Acquisition of land for neighborhood parks should occur well in advance of their projected need. A parallel emphasis should be given to the timely acquisition of "infill" park sites within existing areas of the CNLV with established residential development, but that have no neighborhood parks in close proximity.
- ❖ An unimproved neighborhood park should be developed when the area it will serve reaches about 50% developed (measured by either acreage developed, or population accommodated).
- ❖ When elementary school sites are identified by the Clark County School District (CCSD), immediate consideration should be given to locating a future neighborhood park site in conjunction with the school.

Site Selection Criteria

- ❖ Under most conditions, neighborhood parks should be no smaller than three acres in size, with the optimal size range being between 5 and 10 acres. If located in conjunction with a school site, the park size can possibly be reduced by 2-3 acres if the school athletic fields are made a common part of the neighborhood park.



Neighborhood Parks

- ❖ In primarily new residential development, this form of a park should be at the center of a pedestrian-oriented neighborhood (a school, plaza, commercial area or other similar facility) giving the surrounding area a unique identity and place for social activity, recreation and public events.
- ❖ At least 50% of the site should be flat and usable, providing ample space for both active and passive uses. At a minimum, three acres should be developed as active park space. The site should be highly visible, and provide equitable access to adjoining streets by having less than 200 feet of frontage dedicated to any one street.
- ❖ The neighborhood park site should be as centrally located as possible to the surrounding neighborhoods it is intended to serve. Walking and bicycling distances should be less than ½ mile between the park and residential areas. Access should be direct, avoiding any physical barriers and crossing of major collector streets. Where the opportunity presents itself, additional pedestrian access points from adjoining neighborhoods should be provided via paved pathways.

- ❖ Neighborhood parks should provide for a variety of recreational experiences and be balanced to accommodate the limited presence of sportsfields. They should offer an attractive setting for non-programmed passive uses. No more than 40% of the park should be dedicated to programmed sports facilities.
- ❖ Portable or stationary (buildings) restrooms should be considered in neighborhood park sites with high public use and low incidences of vandalism.

Design and Development Standards:

Basic and appropriate features of a neighborhood park should include:

- ❖ Unstructured open play areas and practice sports fields (typically non-regulation in size)
- ❖ Children's playground (tot and youth)
- ❖ Basketball courts
- ❖ Picnic areas and shade shelters
- ❖ Pathways
- ❖ Benches
- ❖ Site amenities (picnic tables, benches, bike racks, drinking fountains, trash receptacles, etc.)
- ❖ Appropriate level of water-conserving landscape
- ❖ Ample groves of shade trees
- ❖ Security lighting and clear, unobstructed visibility where possible

Optional facilities or features could include:

- ❖ Regulation sportsfields if adequate acreage exists for a balance and diversity in both active and passive park space
- ❖ Tennis courts
- ❖ Restrooms

Parking Requirements

- ❖ A minimum of three parking spaces per acre of usable, active park area, accommodating both standard and handicap parking.

If on-street parking is available, this standard can be reduced by one car for every 25 linear feet of available street frontage. Park design should emphasize pedestrian and bicycle access and accommodation over cars.



Hartke Neighborhood Park
City of North Las Vegas



Community Parks

Community Parks

Definition- A community park is planned primarily to provide active and structured recreation opportunities. In general, community park facilities are designed for organized activities and sports, although individual and family activities are also encouraged. Such parks serve a much larger area (multiple neighborhoods) and offer a greater diversity of facilities. Community parks are intended to support a variety of needs ranging from those that are neighborhood in orientation to those that are more “community” in scale such as:

- ❖ Undeveloped open space
- ❖ Large group picnic areas
- ❖ Formal and informal activity areas

As a result, they require more in terms of support facilities such as parking, restrooms, additional lighting and other user amenities. These parks are usually the location for groups of sportsfields, community centers and pools as well as more unique facilities (e.g. skateparks, dog parks, water play areas). Their service area is generally between a 1 to 3 mile radius. The minimum acreage requirement is above 10 acres with the optimal size being between 20 to 40 acres.

Community Workshops/Public Survey Input: The public survey revealed a strong preference for community centers, sportsfields or sports complexes and the development of non-traditional park facilities. All of these are well-suited and common features found within community-based parks. At the public workshops a recurring theme was to shift the emphasis on park development to more large acreage community-oriented parks within the CNLV.

Needs Assessment: The commonly accepted average for community parkland to population ratio found around the Western Region of the United States varies from 1 to 3 acres per 1,000 people. This Plan Update is recommending that the CNLV adopt the average as recommended by the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Council (SNRPC) which is 2.5 acres of local parkland (local parkland being the combination of **both neighborhood and community parks**) per 1,000 people of which 1.5 acres is composed of community parkland.

The service area for a typical community park in the CNLV is a 1 ¾ mile radius around a large cluster of neighborhoods, one distinct community or geographically defined area. City View has been the unofficial community park in both size and level of public use serving the CNLV for some time. Of recent acclaim is the establishment of Seastrand Community Park. This park contains all the facets of a well-equipped community park and is considered by the public who uses it, as CNLV’s premier park for the time being.

The long-term requirements for community parks within the CNLV are further detailed in the Needs and Demand analysis of this report.



Seastrand Community Park - CNLV’s premier community park



Master Plan for Bethel Community Park, Eugene, Oregon

Part II.1 Hierarchy of Parks...

April 2004



Community Parks



City View Park - One of CNLV's first community-oriented parks



Pioneer Community Park - City of Las Vegas
Designed by Poggemeyer Design Group



General Land Use Policies

- ❖ Because of their larger size, community parks were rated high by public input. With the rising expense of land, the acquisition of community parkland should occur well in-advance of its need.
- ❖ A community park should be constructed when the area it will serve reaches about 50% developed (measured by either acreage developed, or population accommodated).
- ❖ Where the opportunities present themselves, community parks should be located adjacent to compatible and beneficial areas such as linear greenways and pathways, natural open space, desert washes and arroyos and middle or high school sites.
- ❖ Community parks should also be considered as prime locations for compatible public facilities such as community and aquatic centers, amphitheatres, libraries and public safety buildings such as fire stations.

Site Selection Criteria

- ❖ Under most conditions, community parks should be no smaller than 10 acres in size, with the optimal size range being between 20 and 40 acres. If located in conjunction with a middle or high school site, the park size can possibly be reduced by 5 acres if the school athletic fields are made a common and accessible part of the community park.
- ❖ At least two-thirds (66%) of the community park should be available for active recreation use (sportsfields). Adequate spatial and natural open space buffers to separate use areas should also be included.
- ❖ If possible, walking or bicycling distance should not exceed 1 to 2 miles and be accessible primarily on local residential streets or bikeways or paths.
- ❖ Direct vehicular access should be a collector or arterial street.
- ❖ To the extent possible, adjacent residential uses should be separated by public streets, spatial buffers, natural open space or trails.



Community Parks and Regional Parks

Design and Development Standards

Basic and appropriate features of a community park should include:

- ✦ Designated sport fields - softball, baseball, soccer, etc.
- ✦ Tennis courts (minimum of 3)
- ✦ Sand or grass volleyball courts
- ✦ Open multi-use grass area/Natural open space
- ✦ Children's playground (tot and youth) and benches
- ✦ Restrooms
- ✦ Individual and group picnic areas
- ✦ Unique and non-traditional park facilities such as skateparks, skaterinks, dog parks, water play parks, adventure or challenge playgrounds, and community gardens.
- ✦ Complementary recreational, educational, cultural and public facilities such as community and aquatic centers, amphitheatres, libraries and fire stations.
- ✦ Site amenities (picnic tables, benches, bike racks, drinking fountains, trash receptacles, etc.)

Parking requirements

- ✦ The provision of parking is dependent upon the type of community or recreational facilities offered. At a minimum, 50 spaces per sportsfield plus 5 spaces per acre of active use area are required.

- ✦ Permanent restrooms are appropriate for this type of park but should be located in areas that are centrally located, highly visible and near public streets or parking areas.

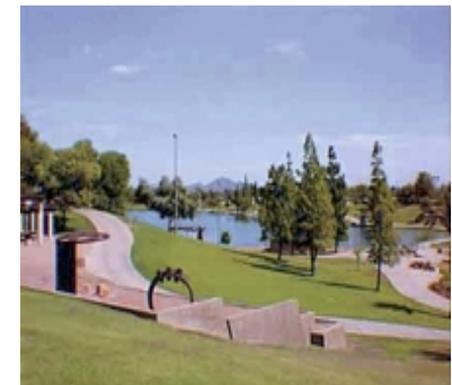
Regional Parks or Large Urban Parks

Definition- Regional parks (or large urban parks) are parks that are designed to serve the entire CNLV. Generally, for an area to be considered a regional park, it must be an area or facility that has an attraction capability that is region-wide or supplements or complements local park and recreation facilities. Regional parks include recreational facilities and/or programming elements of regional significance. Accommodation of a variety of compatible active and passive recreational facilities capable of withstanding intensive public use requires extensive acreage. Therefore, these parks usually start at around 40 acres and are more typically in excess of 100 or more.

Regional parks offer a diverse variety of specialized facilities such as sportsfield complexes, indoor recreation areas, large picnic areas, etc. In addition, they typically retain large areas in their natural state to provide opportunities for walking, bicycling, and simple relaxation. Because of their size and the variety of facilities offered, they require more in terms of support facilities such as parking, restrooms, larger playground areas, group picnic areas and pavilions, multi-use trails, and community-oriented features such as amphitheatres, recreation centers, libraries and the like. Depending on the nature, size and character of the regional park it also may lend itself to inclusion of a golf course, equestrian center, fishing ponds, and even campgrounds.



North Natomas Regional Park,
Sacramento, California



McDowell Mountain Regional Park
Tucson, Arizona





Regional Parks



Floyd Lamb State Park, Northwest Las Vegas



Las Vegas Springs Preserve, Las Vegas

Sometimes regional parks also serve the immediate residential neighborhoods or communities that surround them by offering recreational facilities typically found in more local parks.

Community Workshops/Public Survey Input: The public survey clearly showed a strong preference for parks that can accommodate a mix of more outdoor-oriented and active recreational facilities and attractions. Regional Parks are ideally suited for that purpose.

Major stakeholders interviewed during the preparation of this Plan also weighed strongly in favor of "large-acreage" parks (community and regional parks). The types of things that these individuals or organizations wanted to see more of were sports complexes, multi-use trails, natural open space, new and "non-traditional" recreational facilities and just "more variety in public facilities", precisely what one finds more so in regional-type parks. A similar theme was also expressed at the series of public workshops, with many people expressing an interest in seeing the CNLV create its first real regional park.

Needs Assessment: There is some variation in the national average for the provision of regional parkland to population ratio. That range is anywhere from 5 to above 10 acres per 1,000 people. This plan update is recommending that the CNLV adopt the lower end of this range at 5 acres per 1,000 people based on the following factors:

- At present, the CNLV is falling short of meeting common and comparative regional park acreage standards from other similar-sized cities in the Southwest region of the country;
- 5 acres per 1,000 for regional parkland was often found as the more popular (and probably achievable) ratio in other cities and counties that were referenced; and
- While difficult to measure, the nearby presence of Floyd Lamb State Park and the potential for a Northwest Open Space system to come to fruition needs to be acknowledged as meeting some of the public demand for regional recreation facilities within close proximity to the CNLV.

The service area for a regional park in the CNLV is about a 10 mile radius or 30 minute drive time. From the northwest portions of the CNLV, Floyd Lamb State Park certainly meets these criteria. Elsewhere, the CNLV has, under lease from the BLM, the currently undeveloped 160 acre Willie McCool Regional Park. This regional park site has not yet been evaluated through a park master planning process to determine its ultimate potential.

Of even greater significance is the long-term possibility of the CNLV acquiring the existing 132 Craig Ranch Golf Course (near the intersection of Craig Road and Commerce Street) for conversion to the City's first centrally located regional park.





Regional Parks

The status of this land acquisition and the intentions the CNLV has for Craig Ranch, should it become a regional park, are further detailed in **Part III: Needs and Demand Analysis.**

General Land Use Guidelines and Site Selection Criteria

- ❖ Regional parks were rated high priority by public input. Because of their larger size, expressed high priority by the public and the rising expense of land, the acquisition of regional parkland should occur well in-advance of its need.
- ❖ Eligible sites should possess some, if not all, of the following, characteristics to be considered prime candidates for acquisition and/or development as a regional park:

- ❖ Contain unique natural resource or landform qualities.
- ❖ Be a minimum of 40 acres with the optimum being between 100 and 200 acres.
- ❖ Contain (after master planning and development) recreational facilities that, because of their specialized nature, cost or demand, are not generally offered by local park and recreation agencies.
- ❖ Be a large tract of undeveloped land with some unique environmental, ecological or scenic value.
- ❖ Provides a linear corridor along washes, flood control channels, streams, rivers and other natural landscapes. Primarily for pedestrian, equestrian and bicycle uses, a regional trail or greenway may extend through two or more jurisdictions or link components of the regional park system.
- ❖ If not provided, be near a linear corridor along washes, flood control channels or other natural landscapes that can offer opportunities for pedestrian, equestrian and bicycle uses.
- ❖ Be relatively accessible from major roadways (arterials or highways).
- ❖ Be spacious enough to have adequate natural open space to serve as a buffer from active recreational areas within the park.



Sunset Regional Park



Regional Parks

Design and Development Standards

Basic and appropriate features of a regional park should include:

- ✦ Athletic complexes
- ✦ Swimming pools
- ✦ Golf courses
- ✦ Specialized or thematic gardens
- ✦ Campgrounds (where appropriate)
- ✦ Equestrian centers and facilities
- ✦ Ranges-Shooting, Archery, Clays
- ✦ Open multi-use grass area/Natural open space
- ✦ Children's playground (tot and youth) and benches
- ✦ Multi-use trails
- ✦ Restrooms
- ✦ Individual and group picnic areas
- ✦ Unique and "non-traditional" park facilities such as skateparks, skaterinks, dog parks, water play parks, adventure or challenge playgrounds, community gardens.
- ✦ Complementary recreational, educational, cultural and public facilities such as community, special event and aquatic centers, nature centers, amphitheatres, libraries and fire stations.
- ✦ Site amenities (picnic tables, benches, bike racks, drinking fountains, trash receptacles, etc.).

Parking Requirements

- ✦ Vehicular parking at regional parks is dependent on the mix of activities and facilities proposed.
- ✦ It is desirable to have an appropriate balance of both active and passive recreational facilities separated by natural open space.
- ✦ Taking into account limited water availability, water-oriented features such as fishing ponds, swimming lagoons and small boating lakes should be carefully considered for inclusion in regional parks.



Clark County Wetlands Park,
Las Vegas



Craig Ranch Golf Course





Special-Use Facilities and Areas



Silver Mesa Community Center,
City of North Las Vegas

Special-Use Facilities and Areas

Definition - Special use facilities or areas is a "one-size-fits-all" designation for miscellaneous public recreation buildings, areas or unique resources (natural, educational, cultural, historical, and archaeological) that are generally for a single purpose or activity. Examples in CNLV include community centers such as the Neighborhood Center and Silver Mesa Recreation Center, golf courses like City Golf Course, a historical site such as Kiel Ranch or unique botanic garden like the Desert Demonstration Garden.

Needs Assessment

There are only a few applicable level-of-service (LOS) standards that apply to select special use facilities and areas. Among those are community centers and golf courses. Based on recommended LOS standards, the CNLV is more than ready for another strategically placed Community Center and at least one additional public golf course. This is further detailed in the Needs and Demand analysis of this report.

General Land Use Policies and Site Selection Criteria

- ✦ Varies and dependent on the types of facilities proposed. At a minimum prior to the addition of any kind of expensive special-use facility such as another community center or golf course, the CNLV should:
 - ✦ Conduct a site-feasibility / location, facility programming and cost / benefit study; and
 - ✦ Determine if the special use facility or area is not already being duplicated elsewhere in the CNLV or nearby.



Desert Demonstration Garden,
City of North Las Vegas

Existing Conditions

Presently, there are 6 special use facilities or areas in the CNLV which qualify as such. Depending upon the function it has, the service area of special use facility varies widely. However in a city the size of the CNLV, special use areas are generally considered to be community, or city, wide.

Community Workshops / Public Survey Input: Specific to special use facilities, the need for another well-located community center on the scale and caliber of Silver Mesa somewhere else in the CNLV was shown to be a clear public preference in both workshops and the survey results. In conjunction with that, the desire for an aquatics center was also of near or equal importance.





Linear Parks and Greenways

Linear Parks and Greenways

Definition- A linear park and greenway can be any linear space established along a natural corridor, such as an arroyo or wash, ridge line, or over land along a railroad right-of-way converted to recreational use, a flood channel, utility corridors, a scenic road, or other route. They can be any natural or landscaped course for pedestrian or bicycle passage; an open space connector linking parks, nature reserves, cultural features, or historic sites with each other and populated areas; or a local strip or linear park designated as a parkway or greenbelt. Greenways come in many forms-natural open space corridors, waterways, working landscapes, streetscapes, recreational trails, ranging from pristine natural areas to landscapes transformed by human development.



Existing Conditions

The CNLV has begun to make major progress in the establishment of linear parks and greenways throughout the City.

The Las Vegas Wash Trail (LVWT) is a multi-use pedestrian and bicycle pathway along the western tributary of the Las Vegas Wash. The intent of this trail system is to ultimately link regional and local trails in the CNLV to other destinations such as the Desert National Wildlife Range, Clark County Wetlands Park, Red Rocks National Conservation Area and even Lake Mead National Recreational Area.

Ultimately the first phase of this multi-use trail will stretch for eight miles from the Northern Beltway to Lake Mead Boulevard trending along the Las Vegas Wash. At present, the construction of the first 2.5 miles is intended to start in 2004. Among the amenities planned along the LVWT are off-road trails for bicycles and pedestrians, as well as "parkettes" (mini-parks) and interpretive areas.

In the new master-planned community of Aliante, over 24 miles of landscaped, on-street/off-street pedestrian paths and natural trails will eventually (when fully complete) enable residents to reach key destinations within the community without having to cross major roads.

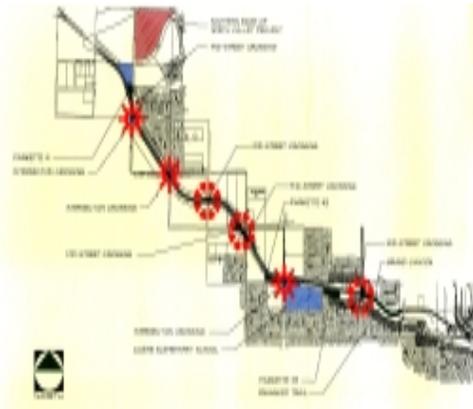


Aliante Pedestrian Pathways, City of North Las Vegas





Linear Parks and Greenways



Las Vegas Wash Trail (LVWT)
Master Plan
City of North Las Vegas



Lower Las Vegas Wash
Pedestrian Bridge

Major street beautification efforts along Lake Mead, Civic Center Drive and Las Vegas Boulevards have resulted in very attractive pedestrian streetscapes and in de-facto, linear greenways along these major streets.



Las Vegas Boulevard/Civic Center Drive

Community Workshops / Public Survey Input:

The public survey results provided an interesting contrast. "Walking" and the "relaxation/enjoyment of open space" were two of the highest preferred recreational activities (if the facilities were provided by the CNLV to support them). Major stakeholders interviewed also indicated the need for multi-use trails as being a common preference. Trails also had a recurring basis of support from individuals who participated in the community workshops.

Needs Assessment :

Standards for linear parks and greenways vary widely around the United States. An online survey of such comparative standards found a range of .10 to .50 miles per thousand people. The long-term requirements for linear parks and greenways are further detailed in the Needs and Demand analysis of this report.

No regional standard, specific to the Las Vegas Valley, was encountered. For the purpose of this Master Plan Update, the middle-ground of **.25 miles** of linear park and greenway corridors and trails per 1,000 people is the recommended standard.

Trail Routing Selection Guidelines:

- ❖ Ability to link neighborhoods, civic areas, schools, shopping and other important destinations.
- ❖ Attractive corridors with scenic views or values (e.g. topographic, natural, historical, ecological).
- ❖ Ability to link parks, other trail systems and open space with interconnected networks.
- ❖ Takes advantage of opportunities for multiple benefits such as the use of drainage ways and utility corridors.
- ❖ Avoids steep grades, hazardous crossings, noisy or unpleasant settings and conflicts with adjacent private properties.





Linear Parks and Joint School Parks

- Embodies the purpose of the recreational activity itself, such as hiking, biking, equestrian or interpretive trails.
- Meet a variety of recreational needs and challenges for potential users with a wide range of abilities.

Design and Development Standards:

Until a comprehensive open space and trails plan (which would logically include city-wide trail design standards) is conducted by the CNLV it is recommended that:

- Those trail standards contained in the Las Vegas Wash Trail (LVWT) Phase 1, Preliminary Design Report (November 2002) be followed.

Joint School Parks

Definition: Joint School parks function primarily as playgrounds and field space for schools and by the general public when schools are not in session. Depending on the circumstances combining parks with school sites can fulfill the acreage and facility requirements for both neighborhood and community parks, and if size permits, even sports complexes or special use facilities and areas (i.e. community centers).

The importance and usefulness of joint school park development can be found in that:

- They bring facilities and communities together;
- They provide opportunities for a wide variety of low cost and no cost activities; and
- They make more effective use of tax dollars through shared use of facilities.

Existing Conditions

There are presently three joint school/parks within the CNLV. Given their smaller size, limited facilities and location within predominately residential areas, they serve more at the neighborhood-park level.

Community Workshops / Public Survey Input: The public survey revealed a moderate interest by survey respondents in seeing the growing need for sportsfields met, in part, by increasing the number of such fields on existing and proposed CCSD school properties.

At the public workshops there was little public commentary, pro or con, regarding both the concept and reality of continuing joint school parks within the CNLV.



McDowell Mountain Pedestrian Pathway
Scottsdale, Arizona



CNLV/CCSD Joint School Parks





Joint School Parks



Tom Williams School/Park
City of North Las Vegas



Eldorado/Antonello School/Park
City of North Las Vegas

Needs Assessment :

The ongoing and growing deficiency of neighborhood parks throughout the CNLV has been clearly established. At a minimum, this should increase the emphasis on the establishment of joint school park developments wherever the opportunities and cooperation between the CNLV and CCSD exist.

The long-term requirements for additional joint school/parks within the CNLV are further detailed in the Needs and Demand analysis of this report.

Basic Cooperative Principles for Joint School Park Development

The existing "Open Doors- Open Schools" Joint Use Agreement between the CNLV and CCSD should be re-evaluated to ensure it meets the spirit and intent of these basic principles when future school/park sites are being considered.

❖ Shared Use

That school sites, park and recreation facilities and resources be equally shared with the emphasis being put on community accessibility .

❖ Co-operative Planning

That school sites and parks and recreational facilities be co-operatively planned.

❖ Consultation

That the parties to the agreement undertake ongoing consultation with community user groups.

❖ Efficiency & Effectiveness

That the resources of the CNLV and CCSD and community user groups be efficiently used and extended for the maximum benefit of the community .

❖ Shared Cost

That costs associated with the joint agreement be fairly shared among the CNLV and CCSD. Community user groups may have to participate in basic operating costs of facilities, and should be offered the opportunity to purchase or supply enhanced levels of service and to participate in capital improvements.

❖ Reserve Land Dedication

That all existing and undeveloped or future CCSD school sites within the CNLV be reserved solely for the purposes of mutual school facility and park development wherever possible.





Vision Statement - Goals, Objectives, Policies and Actions (GOPA's)

Planning and managing a park system and recreation program for a dynamic and changing city the size of North Las Vegas is a complex task. Each neighborhood and community that makes up the City has unique characteristics and needs for its local parks. At the same time, it is important to strive for equity for all residents in how and where park resources, including regional parks and special use facilities, are allocated.

As part of this Master Plan Update, a set of goals, objectives, policies and actions (**GOPA's**) have been built around the **vision statement**. These are intended to offer a framework giving both direction and momentum, while allowing for measurable progress, towards achieving the ambitious aims the short-range, 2004-2007, plan puts forward.

The **GOPA's** will direct CNLV staff, the overall community, the advisory commissions and the elected officials that represent them, towards making well-reasoned decisions. This is imperative when allocating scarce resources to realize a better park system and delivery of recreation programs. It is acknowledged that certain situations, opportunities and circumstances will arise in the years to come not adequately covered by these **GOPA's**. In those cases, there may be adequate rationale to flex, revise or even expand these **GOPA's**.

This body of **GOPA's** was developed by reviewing and critiquing the original 1997 Parks and Facilities Master Plan for the City of North Las Vegas. A substantial revision to that plan has occurred through a variety of influences and inputs, among them:

- ✚ The changing population, demographics and the shape and size of the CNLV ;
- ✚ Current issues and concerns identified by stakeholder and CNLV management staff in several key departments;
- ✚ Citizen priorities voiced through a series of community input workshops; and
- ✚ The return of a public survey.



"The City of North Las Vegas will strive to offer safe and high quality, park open space and recreational facilities that encourage residents and visitors to live, invest and play in the community. The City is committed to creating recreation programs that promote memorable experiences in people's lives."





Visioning Matrix - Goals, Objectives Policies, and Actions (GOPA's)

Goal 1.0:

Acquire, develop and renovate a system of parks, recreational facilities and open spaces that are attractive, safe and functional, equitably distributed and available to all segments of the population.

Supporting Objectives

Objective 1.1

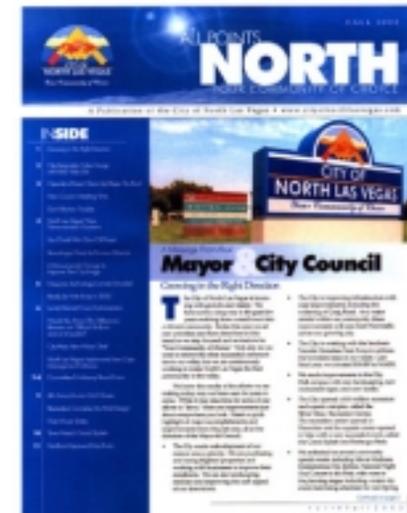
The Parks Master Plan shall be periodically updated every 2-3 years to account for improvements and expansions in the CNLV park system and recreation programs; to adjust for changes in population and other demographics; to determine resident's perception, actual use and demand for CNLV parks and recreation programs through the means of a public survey.

Policy 1.1.1

Establish equal opportunity and access to parks and recreation facilities City wide.

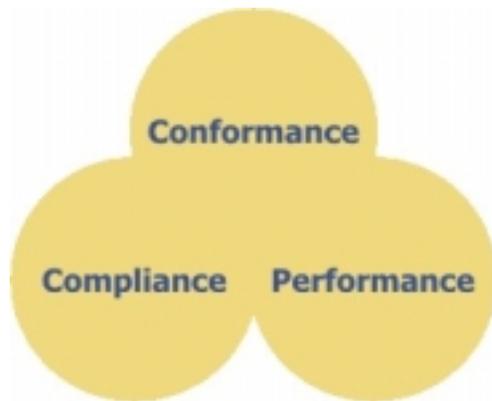
Actions

- ✚ Every 2-3 years, the CNLV should evaluate all parkland and recreational facilities by mapping on GIS to determine coverage areas for each and determine where gaps exist.





Visioning Matrix - GOPA's



- ✦ During periodic updates of the Plan, review and create new demographic profiles for each park planning district to determine changing population characteristics and their influence on park and recreational needs.
- ✦ Develop a tracking system to evaluate yearly progress of park planning and development standards as part of any future Plan Update.

Policy 1.1.2

In the comprehensive planning process, the CNLV should conduct a GIS based undeveloped land inventory assessment. This inventory has multiple applications. The inventory will identify available properties for park acquisition in areas of the City with the greatest deficiency of park acreage.

Objective 1.2

Develop design standards and guidelines for the continued renovation and development of new CNLV parks and recreational facilities.

Policy 1.2.1

Adopt the recommended, modified and potentially achievable standards for park acreage.





Visioning Matrix - GOPA's

Actions

- ✦ **Standard:** 2.5 acres per 1,000 population for neighborhood and community parkland (Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition SNRPC- Las Vegas Valley wide average)
- ✦ **Standard:** 5.0 acres of regional parkland per 1,000 population (modified NRPA average)
- ✦ **Standard:** .25 miles of linear park and greenways per 1,000 population

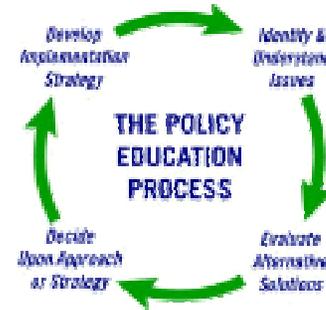
Policy 1.2.2

Establish minimum standards for the acceptance of neighborhood and community level "turn-key" parks from residential developments within the CNLV. These standards should address:

- ✦ Park site: location, size and suitability
- ✦ Park landscape: amount of turf and water-conserving plant selections, irrigation system requirements
- ✦ Park amenities and recreational facilities: appropriate to site, characteristic to type of park, reflective of user preferences
- ✦ Park maintenance and operational requirements

Objective 1.3

Planning for future CNLV parks should be in conformance with accepted service area, population standards and established park planning and design criteria.





Visioning Matrix - GOPA's



Policy 1.3.1

Adopt Park Classifications including:

- ▣ Park type definition
- ▣ Service radii
- ▣ Design and development criteria
- ▣ General land use guidelines
- ▣ Design and development guidelines and standards

Policy 1.3.2

Establish a technical scoring system to evaluate potential parks sites offered to the CNLV for dedication. Apply a similar criteria and point system to prioritize future park land acquisition and development projects and integrate into the CNLV annual Capital Improvements Program for Parks (CIPP).

Policy 1.3.3

Achieve recommended levels-of-service (LOS) standards for recreational facilities throughout the CNLV through both renovation of existing parks and development of new ones.

Objective 1.4

Create new or expand existing joint-use agreements with Clark County School District for establishing local parks or recreational facilities on existing or proposed school sites within the CNLV.





Visioning Matrix - GOPA's

Objective 1.5

Explore the use of conservation easements to preserve valuable open space, particularly in the remaining 5,500 acre suburban reserve of the City.

Objective 1.6

Use park acquisition strategies such as:

- Redevelopment opportunities
- Land swap options in underserved areas lacking parkland
- Options for long-term purchase of high-priority park sites

Objective 1.7

Encourage expanded development of recreational facilities and greenspace, consistent with the CNLV Planned Unit Development (PUD) requirements in private residential parks.

Objective 1.8

Establish consistent and dependable sources of funding for progressive park acquisition and development efforts within the City.

Policy 1.8.1

Aggressively seek and develop reliable sources of funding.

Actions

- Update the current residential construction tax every two years in order to achieve the maximum funding under the law to acquire, develop and operate CNLV parks.





Visioning Matrix - GOPA's



- ✦ Seek a future bond issue for continued park acquisition and development in the CNLV.
- ✦ Seek a proportionate share of the current levy for public safety and facilities to be devoted exclusively to park acquisition and development projects.
- ✦ Consider the feasibility of alternative sources of revenue to support park projects including a real estate transfer fee or utility surcharge.
- ✦ Strengthen partnerships with other CNLV agencies such as the Redevelopment Agency to promote joint ventures and create opportunities for new parks and recreational facilities in the downtown area.
- ✦ The CNLV will maximize all available local, state, and Federal grants for both parkland acquisition and development.
- ✦ Concession or public/private enterprise opportunities shall be considered and explored in all future planning of large acreage community and Regional Park by the CNLV.
- ✦ Evaluate the amount of fees and charges, their governing policies and practices for park and recreational facility use, special events on a regular basis to emphasize increasing actual cost recovery.





Visioning Matrix - GOPA's

Policy 1.8.2

Create a business development strategy by:

- ✦ Researching community organizations and businesses in relation to funding probabilities.
- ✦ Establishing a capital campaign with levels of sponsorship to seek user support.
- ✦ Investment in future City parks and recreational facilities.
- ✦ Investigating the establishment of a CNLV park and open space programs that include non-profit park friends groups or land trusts that can:
 - Accept financial and property donations' and
 - Support renovation and expansion of CNLV parks, community facilities, open spaces, trails and greenways.



Objective 1.9

Provide an annual and coordinated process to update the Capital Improvements Program for Parks (CIPP) and prioritize all park acquisition, development and renovation projects based on sound criteria and supported with known and reliable sources of funding.





Visioning Matrix - GOPA's



Policy 1.9.1

Establish an annual review of park acquisition, renovation and development projects based on inputs from:

-  Regular updates to the Parks Master Plan and re-examination of priorities (objective 1.1)
-  Use of technical scoring or criteria for ranking project priorities (objective 1.9)
-  Known sources of funding part of the park prioritization process (objective 1.8)

Objective 1.10

Continue to improve and adapt established park maintenance standards and practices. Existing baseline standards for park appearance will be reviewed and revised, as necessary, to address both functional and aesthetic considerations such as:

-  the appearance of park landscape areas;
-  condition of recreational facilities;
-  safety and security concerns; and
-  overall park cleanliness.

Objective 1.11

Reflect best industry practices to identify efficiency and economy to deal with rising maintenance costs.

Policy 1.11.1

Reduce excess turf (in existing parks) and/or minimize new turf areas (future park development) through the appropriate placement and use of desert-adapted plantings in order to:

-  Conserve limited water availability; and
-  Add visual and botanical interest to park landscapes.





Visioning Matrix - GOPA's

Part 11.2 Visioning Matrix – GOPA's

April 2004

Policy 1.11.2

Develop tree maintenance standards that will provide for:

- ✦ Additional planting of well-selected trees to create long-term “groves” of shade;
- ✦ Care and protection of existing trees; and
- ✦ Replacement of diseased or dead trees.

Policy 1.11.3

Develop policy that will relate cost to personnel level and acre to worker costs, recognizing that levels of service will be cost driven.

Policy 1.11.4

Conduct an assessment of maintenance and operational requirements and long-term expenses stemming from any new park development.

Policy 1.11.5

As part of the ongoing park renovation program for existing CNLV parks, a baseline assessment should be conducted on at least a bi-annual basis to:

- ✦ Evaluate health and safety issues;
- ✦ Condition of park infrastructure and facilities;
- ✦ Park access and circulation (pedestrian and vehicular); and
- ✦ Park user safety and security.





Visioning Matrix - GOPA's

Part II.2 Visioning Matrix – GOPA's

April 2004

Policy 1.11.6

Balance turf management, irrigation design and prudent water management to both conserve water and maintain acceptably "green" parks.

Objective 1.12

Provide a planned and well thought out interconnected network of both natural and developed open spaces and linear greenways throughout the CNLV.

Policy 1.12.1

An Open Space and Trails plan should be developed and adopted as a supporting component of this Parks Master Plan Update by the CNLV. The plan should:

-  Identify, manage and monitor existing and potential open space; and trail opportunities;
-  Encourage protection and maintenance of open space in perpetuity;
-  Determine needs and opportunities for additional open space and develop priorities for future acquisition; and
-  Develop criteria or guidelines for the designation of (private) or acceptance of (public) open space by the CNLV as a condition of land development. Examples of those criteria might be:
 -  Areas that provide multi-use trail connections
 -  Strategic spatial (land) buffers
 -  Preservation of significant land forms or features or habitat
 -  Interpretive, cultural, archaeological or historical significance





Visioning Matrix - GOPA's

Policy 1.12.2

The CNLV will continue planning coordination and develop working partnerships with the City of Las Vegas, Clark County and the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition on such open space and greenway initiatives as the Lower and Upper Las Vegas Wash trails, the Northwest Open Space Plan and the multi-use Beltway.

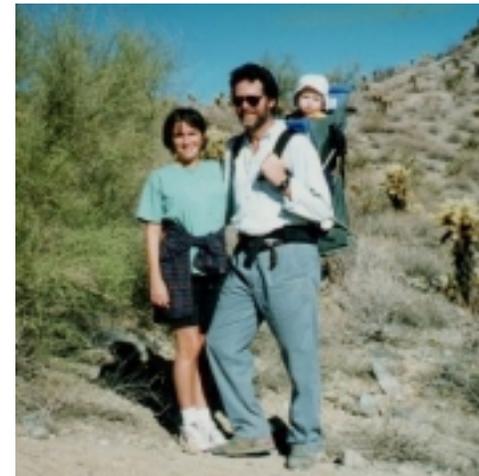
Objective 1.13

Create, protect, restore, enhance and connect open space and associated natural, recreational and historical resources throughout the CNLV.

Policy 1.13.1

Open space and natural areas shall be preserved or restored to:

- Protect wildlife habitat and biological diversity, maintain natural landforms and features (i.e. desert washes and arroyos);
- Enhance a neighborhood, community (master planned) or the entire CNLV visual image; and
- Buffer the undesirable impacts of urban and suburban development patterns.





Visioning Matrix - GOPA's

Part II.2 Visioning Matrix – GOPA's

Policy 1.13.2

Historic and cultural resources will have the emphasis on preservation and enhancement in regard to further site planning, design and programming.



Goal 2.0:

The CNLV will continue to provide safe, fully accessible, well-designed and aesthetically pleasing parks and public spaces.

Objective 2.1

Plan, design for and construct all new and renovated parks in conformance with applicable building and accessibility codes or ordinances. Incorporate City Zoning and Development Standards along with park design standards into the planning and design of new park projects and renovation projects.

Objective 2.2

Incorporate site amenities and non-traditional recreation facilities and features consistent with the established park descriptions for both new and established CNLV parks.

April 2004





Visioning Matrix - GOPA's

Policy 2.1.1

Apply park planning and design policies/actions

- ✦ Parks shall be designed with an emphasis on conjunctive use and multi-use recreational facilities to efficiently utilize limited park resources.
- ✦ Incorporate a consistent and cohesive image theme to address signage, building design, color schemes and landscape selections in all new park development and renovation projects.
- ✦ Incorporate park design standards into the planning and design of new park or renovation projects.



Policy 2.1.2

The CNLV shall strive to emphasize unique and creative park planning and design that:

- ✦ Promotes the individual character of the site and its surroundings;
- ✦ Contributes to a neighborhood or community character or desired image; and
- ✦ Reflects common recreational activity and facility preferences.



Policy 2.1.3

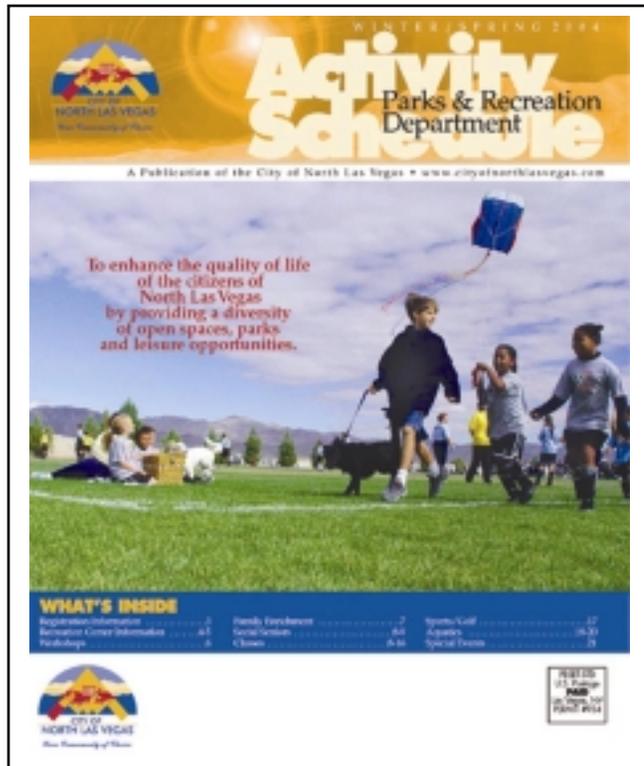
Several CNLV parks have been targeted in this master plan update for either a renovation or complete park master plan. Such planning initiatives should be carried out in sequence and ahead of the Capital Improvements Program for Parks (CIPP) and with a public involvement process prior to site development or redevelopment.





Visioning Matrix - GOPA's

Part II.2 Visioning Matrix – GOPA's



Goal 3.0:
Provide recreation services that promote health and wellness for all CNLV citizens in order to create a lifetime user.

Objective 3.1
Develop indoor recreation facilities that meet population standards, facility and programming guidelines and are equitably distributed.

- Policy 3.1.1**
Conduct a site selection and facility programming study to determine the optimum location for the next major community center to be built in the CNLV. Make it the centerpiece of a large acreage (20 plus or more) community-level park.
- Investigate the practicalities and economies of establishing a multi-generational community recreation center.

April 2004





Visioning Matrix - GOPA's

Part II.2 Visioning Matrix – GOPA's

April 2004

Policy 3.1.2

Consider expanding and modernizing the existing Neighborhood Center to better serve the growing population base in the established residential neighborhoods making up the central portion of the CNLV.

Policy 3.1.3

Develop a business plan for programs that recommend strategies for levels of service and that predict the growth and demand for future service.

Objective 3.2

Emphasize fully inclusive recreational opportunities for people of all abilities-physical, social, cultural and financial.

Policy 3.2.1

Create recreation facilities that are community and special-use driven to reach all age segments and interests in the broader CNLV community.





Visioning Matrix - GOPA's



Policy 3.2.2

Continue to offer new and innovative recreation programs and services that are consistent with public preferences and anticipate demands.

-  Along with periodic (2-3) year update of this Parks Master Plan, develop a questionnaire that addresses people's perception and use of CNLV recreation programs and services.
-  Update consumer-driven services and programs that are responsive to changing community needs and preferences.

Policy 3.2.3

Assure that recreation services are financially accessible for all participants by providing scholarships, discounts, waivers, sliding-scale fees, sponsorships when needed.

Policy 3.2.4

Continue to identify underserved populations including the economically disadvantaged, people with disabilities, and seniors, developing programs to meet their respective needs.





Visioning Matrix - GOPA's

Goal 4.0:

The planning, development and renovation of CNLV parks will emphasize water conservation measures to reduce wasteful and unreasonable use of water resources and to be more consistent with the regional desert climate and setting.

Objective 4.1

Offer more spaces and places in CNLV parks for solar escape.

Policy 4.1.1

Introduce more shade tree groves, structures and shelters that reflect the regional setting, desert "style" architecture and building materials in CNLV parks.

Objective 4.2

Encourage the reduction of water-consuming turf areas by substituting appropriate native plants and water-conserving ornamentals.

Policy 4.2.1

Continue to upgrade CNLV parks irrigation system to improve water use efficiency.





Visioning Matrix - GOPA's



 Policy 4.2.2

New CNLV parks and significant park renovation projects should undergo a design review process that considers sustainability, water conservation practices and a greater emphasis on xeriscape plant selections.

 Policy 4.2.3

Explore the use of reclaimed water as primary source of irrigation in new CNLV park development containing large turf areas.

Goal 5.0:
Develop partnership opportunities with other public agencies, not-for-profit agencies and private businesses in the delivery of park and recreational services throughout the CNLV.

Objective 5.1

Develop policies that encourage partnering with public, not-for-profit and private agencies.





Visioning Matrix - GOPA's

Policy 5.1.1

Develop a strategic marketing approach to parks and recreation services with not-for-profit and private agencies by:

- Determining where such groups or businesses could best assist the department in the delivery of park and recreation services, and
- Conduct an informational "partnership" workshop and invite selected groups and businesses.



Policy 5.1.2

Expand the CNLV volunteer programs (e.g. "Adopt-a-Park", "Tree Stewards", "Adopt-a-Streetscape") to encourage organized groups or neighborhoods to have a stake in maintaining and improving park resources.

Objective 5.2

Seek new sponsorships and partnerships to create more and better delivery of recreation programs to CNLV residents.



Policy 5.2.1

Seek new sponsorships and partnerships that create more and better delivery of recreation programs to CNLV residents and also result in cost savings and transfer of risks.

Objective 5.3

Seek to enhance the development and use of CNLV parks and other types of community recreational facilities with public/private partnerships.





Visioning Matrix - GOPA's

Part II.2 Visioning Matrix – GOPA's

 **Policy 5.3.1**

Create a list of routine opportunities for park improvements and link to the appropriate "level" of sponsorship.

Objective 5.4

Where opportunities are present, parks should be located adjacent to proposed or existing public schools.

 **Policy 5.4.1**

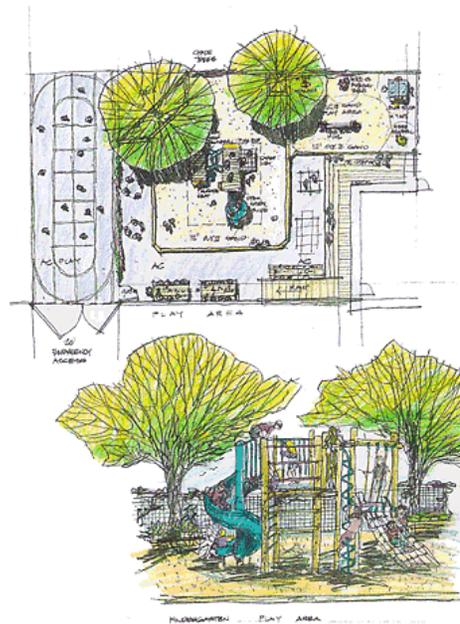
Maximize use of CCSD outdoor play and field areas at existing and future school sites to satisfy neighborhood park-level space and facility needs.

 **Policy 5.4.2**

Continue to work with the CCSD to design, develop and program outdoor recreation facilities and the associated operational and maintenance obligations.

Actions

- ✦ Establish an informal working group between CNLV Parks and Recreation, Community Development, Development Services and CCSD School and Facility Development Department to better coordinate and plan for future joint school park site development opportunities, and
- ✦ Review and revise existing "Open-Doors/Open Schools" Agreement between the CNLV and CCSD to clear up differences and perceptions regarding coordination, maintenance obligations and scheduling or use conflicts.



April 2004



Needs and Demand Analysis

Park, recreation, and open space land and facility demands in the CNLV can be estimated by several methods such as:

- ✦ Using established (national and locally adjusted) park acreage to population level-of-service ratios
- ✦ Geographic service area coverage
- ✦ Recreation activity or facility participation models
- ✦ Level-of-service (LOS) measurements
- ✦ Public survey/citizen workshop methodologies
- ✦ Benchmark comparisons



Park Acreage needs continue to climb as the CNLV expands

This section of the Master Plan Update evaluates the demand for parks, recreation, and open space lands and facilities using national, state, and regional standards where appropriate.

Acreage and Recreational Facility Ratios

The traditional method to assess demand for park, recreation, and open space lands has been estimated by using a ratio of a required acreage to a standard unit of population, such as 3.1 acres of athletic fields and playgrounds per 1,000 residents. The ratio method is relatively simple to compute, and can be compared with national or other local park, recreation, and open space standards.

However, the method has its limitations. It cannot account for unique age, social or interest characteristics that may affect the park, recreation, and open space activity patterns within a specific community.

Nor can the method compensate for the unique climatic or environmental features that may cause seasonal or geographical variations in park, recreation, and open space use patterns by the residents of the CNLV.

The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) published a set of guidelines and parks standards (in 1981 and updated in 1996) against which a parks and recreation agency could assess its own open space systems and undertake appropriate planning for the future. These standards became nationally accepted for determining appropriate levels of the various elements that comprise a public park system and recreation program. In addition to providing important standards for park planning, these standards can be instrumental in ensuring that adequate parkland and facilities are provided as a result of new development.

Overall CNLV Parkland Level of Service (LOS) Acreage Analysis

According to the NRPA standard, and an average of others used around the country, a city similar in size to the CNLV should have a complete park, recreation, and open space system offering approximately **15 acres of all types of parkland (neighborhood, community and regional) per every 1,000 people** or approximately **1,125 acres** based on an estimated 2003 city population base of 150,000.





Overall CNLV Parkland LOS Acreage Analysis

Summary of Developed Park Level-of-Service (LOS) (Neighborhood, Community and Regional Parks) Existing and Projected (2003)
Table C

All Parkland (Neighborhood Community & Regional)	Comparative Parkland Standard	Existing Parkland Supply	Recomm Add/Stnd
	NRPA Standard	CNLV	7.5 acres/1,000 pop.*
Acres of park land	2,250 acres to meet NRPA std.	377.0 acres***	1,125
Ratio per 1,000 **	15 acres	2.51 acres	748 acre deficit

* Identifies additional parkland acreage requirements based on a combination of the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition (SNRPC) **Valley-wide standard for local park acreage (neighborhood and community-based parks) of 2.5 acres/1000 pop. and a modified regional park acreage standard of 5.0 acres/1000 pop.**

** Ratio is expressed per 1,000 residents within the CNLV (population estimated at 150,000 in 2003, projected to grow to 215,000 in 2007).

*** Includes small private parks (developed open space) within Planned Unit Developments (PUDs) totaling 70 acres. Also includes the new (2003) 20 acre Discovery Community Park at Aliante.

However, as previously mention in this report, the recommended standards for the CNLV are the locally adjusted ratios of 2.5 acres/1000 population for neighborhood and community parks, and 5.0 acres/1000 population for regional parks, respectively. The combined ratio for neighborhood, community, and regional parks is 7.5 acres/1000 population. By comparison, within the CNLV, there is approximately 332 acres of dedicated public parkland of all types, and an additional 377 acres of privately-owned developed open space within Planned Unit Developments (PUD's) (Table C). This equates to a current ratio of **2.51 per 1,000 CNLV residents, substantially below the locally adjusted standard of 7.5 acres of overall parklands per 1,000 residents.**

While still a significant shortfall (1,125 acres), this overall parkland deficit needs **tempering by two other realistic considerations.** First, the existing park inventory conducted for this Master Plan Update did not take into account other forms of park and open space acreage within or close by the CNLV city limits such as:

- ✦ The presence of other existing (with either controlled or no public accessibility) parks (e.g. apartment or condominium pool or common recreation areas), recreation facilities (e.g. CCSD school sportsfields or playgrounds not a part of joint school parks) or specialized areas such as semi-private golf courses (allowing public play). While quantifiable, the effort to gather such data (acreage, access number of people served, and facilities) was beyond the scope of this master plan update.
- ✦ The close proximity of existing City of Las Vegas (e.g. Doolittle Park and Recreation Center, Lorenzi and Freedom Parks), Clark County (e.g. Alexander Villas Park, Von Tobel School Park and Recreation Center, Walnut Recreation Center) or the State of Nevada Parks (e.g. Floyd Lamb State Park) to the CNLV boundaries. Again, while difficult to quantify, **it is an assumption** of this plan that some level of public use by a CNLV resident of these city, county and state park and recreational facilities (particularly Community Centers), does take place on an infrequent basis. This is simply due to how close the facilities are to existing and developed (residential) areas of the CNLV and the fact that they are publicly accessible.





LOS Analysis by Park Classification - Local Parks

Neither of these factors reduces the looming acreage deficit for all parks in the CNLV. What they do point out:

- Some unknown number of people living in the CNLV probably use their private park areas and recreation facilities in place of ones provided by the City; and
- That some nearby public parks and recreational facilities furnished by other public park providers, are randomly used by CNLV residents. A contributing factor to this may be the fact that certain residential areas within the CNLV itself are presently underserved by nearby CNLV parks and recreational facilities. This will be revealed more clearly in the Geographic Service Area Analysis portion of this section of the Master Plan Update.

Park Acreage LOS Analysis for Local Parks- Neighborhood and Community-based parks

In 2003, the majority of the existing CNLV parks are dominated by small acreage neighborhood (inclusive of joint school/parks) and three community level parks. Combined these constitute 217 acres of developed local parkland within the City. (Table D)

However, the present allocation is not balanced between different types of park, recreation, and open space land requirements. A few select acquisitions of additional park land to be described in following pages, may provide another 101.1 acres for a total equal to a ratio of 56.05 acres per 1,000 residents by the year 2017. The resulting standard should be sufficient to provide for local needs and to conserve important regional attributes.

Summary of Local Park LOS (Community-level Parks) Existing and Projected (2003) Table D

Community Parkland (Local Parks)	Comparative Parkland Standard	Existing Parkland Supply	Recommended Standard and Surplus/Deficit
	NRPA (average range) standard	CNLV	2.5 acres/ 1,000 pop.*
Acres of parkland		217 acres***	375 acres
Ratio per 1,000 **	6-10 acres	1.44 acres	158 acre deficit

* Identifies additional parkland acreage requirements based on a combination of the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition (SNRPC) Valley-wide standard for local park acreage (local and community-based parks) of 2.5 acres/1000 population.

** Ratio is expressed per 1,000 residents within the CNLV (population estimated at 150,000 in 2003, projected to grow to 215,000 in 2007).

*** Includes small private parks (developed open space) within Planned Unit Developments (PUDs) totaling 70 acres. Also includes the new (2003) 20 acre Discovery Park at Aliante.





LOS Analysis by Park Classification - Local Parks

Since the original Parks Master Plan was completed in 1997, the CNLV has made impressive strides in both the renovation of local parks as well as the creation of 5 neighborhood and community parks contributing to over 55 new acres to its park system.

The CNLV has been attempting to catch up with its rapid population growth with the provision of these new parks, while at the same time falling further behind by conventional points of measure. **Presently the CNLV has a combined net deficit of 158 acres of developed neighborhood and community parks.**

The CNLV present ratio of local parks to existing population compares **favorably** with other cities within the Las Vegas Valley, **is short** of the Valley-wide average and **substantially below** that of other cities in the Southwest. (Table E)

Existing Local Park Acres/1,000 Population
Comparative Cities in the Southwest *

Table E

Comparative City	Present Local Park Acres / 1000 Population
Albuquerque, New Mexico	4.2 acres
Clark County, Nevada	1.1 acres
City of Las Vegas, Nevada	1.1 acres
City of North Las Vegas, Nevada	1.4 acres
Henderson, Nevada	1.7 acres
Scottsdale, Arizona	2.5 acres
Tucson, Arizona	4.3 acres
Yuma, Arizona	5.4 acres
SNRPC "Valley-wide" Average	2.5 acres

It is worth mentioning that NRPA standards are intended to be general guidelines, and be adjusted to reflect the unique characteristics of certain geographical parts of the country. The Southern Nevada Regional Planning Council (SNRPC) in 1998 (then called the Southern Nevada Strategic Planning Authority) completed a comprehensive regional study. Part of that study took a look at the need for parks and the corresponding demographic standards used to evaluate that need in the Las Vegas Valley. The SNRPC in the report "Planning for our Second Century" found that:

"The provision of parks and recreation facilities has not kept pace with the growth of the Las Vegas Valley. Standards used elsewhere in the nation for the development of parks and recreation facilities were reviewed and found not to be applicable to this region, in part due the abundance of surrounding federal lands designated for parks and open space."

Also climatic conditions in the Valley in the summer are not conducive to high public use of local parks during the day. Because of the high temperatures throughout the days of late spring through early fall, many organized recreational activities are held in the evenings. While not measured, this range of recreational activity throughout the day and night, probably results in a lower peak demand that can be served by fewer parks. Conversely, mild weather conditions, from mid fall to late spring, probably allow for greater peak use of parks in the Valley than in most other communities.

With these factors in mind, the SNRPC's recommended level of **2.5 acres or parkland per 1,000 residents** is recommended for use by the CNLV for **only local (neighborhood and community) park purposes.**

*Information Source: City of Las Vegas, Master Plan, Parks Element, March 2000





LOS Analysis by Park Classification - Regional or Large Urban Parks

Regional or Large Urban Parks LOS

The CNLV presently has no fully developed regional parks within the City. However, the City does have Willie McCool Park, which is a relatively undeveloped, 160 acre regional park site located in an isolated area off of Decatur in the northwest quadrant of the City. This park site currently contains a model airplane flying airstrip and nothing more. The existing park inventory portion of this Plan Update has recommended this park site undergo a complete master planning process. In doing so, a better assessment of its limitations and opportunities to be transformed into a characteristic regional park, would become known.

The population ratio for regional parkland suggested for use in this Master Plan Update is a modified version of the NRPA standard of 10 acres per 1,000 populations. **The modified regional parkland to population ratio used here is 5 acres per 1,000 CNLV residents.**

Based on this population ratio alone, the CNLV has a sizeable regional parkland LOS deficit in year 2003 of nearly 500 acres, growing by almost another 250 acres by 2007. (Table F)

That present acreage deficit, while substantial, needs to be viewed within the context of other existing regional or large urban parks that are nearby the CNLV. The *Master Plan Parks Element* of the City of Las Vegas has classified both Lorenzi Park (60 acres) and Freedom Park (68 acres) as large urban or regional parks.

Summary of Regional or Large Urban Park Needs LOS Existing and Projected (2003)
Table F

Regional or Large Urban Parks	Comparative Parkland Standard	Existing Parkland Supply	Recommended Standard and Surplus/Deficit
	NRPA (average range) standard	CNLV	5.0 acres/1,000 pop.*
Acres of parkland		200 acres***	702 acres
Ratio per 1,000 **	10 acres	1.33 acres	592 acre deficit

* Identifies additional parkland acreage requirements based on a modified version of the commonly accepted National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) standard of 10 acres of Regional or Large Urban park acreage per 1,000 populations. The recommended and adjusted standard here is **5.0 acres/1000 population.**

** Ratio is expressed per 1,000 residents within the CNLV (**population estimated at 150,000 in 2003, projected to grow to 215,000 in 2007.**)

*** Includes the 160 existing and undeveloped regional park site and 40 acre Arroyo Nature Park at Aliante within the CNLV. If Craig Ranch Golf Course were successfully acquired by the CNLV in the coming year, the **regional park deficit would decline by another 132 acres to 362 acres and the regional parkland supply ratio would improve to almost 2.41 acres (1.94)/1,000.**





LOS Analysis by Park Classification - Regional or Large Urban Parks

The City of Las Vegas utilizes a geographic service area radius of 8 miles for both of these parks. Part of that service radius **takes in a very large portion of the CNLV, extending to slightly above Elkhorn Road on the north and taking in nearly two thirds of the eastern reach of the City.** While classified as a state park, at 642 acres Floyd Lamb State Park contains a number of natural resources and physical amenities associated with a regional-scale park.

Historical and current public use patterns of Floyd Lamb demonstrate that most people visiting the park come from within the greater Las Vegas Valley. Closer to the park itself, a significant, but unknown portion of that visitation come from people living in the north and northwest parts of the Valley, of which the CNLV occupies a considerable share. If the same service radius of 8 to 10 miles (10 miles or a 30 minute drive is the suggested service radius used for regional parks or large urban parks for the CNLV) is used for Floyd Lamb State Park, the northwest quadrant of the CNLV actually has fairly good access to surrounding and existing regional or large urban parks.

When the location and size of Lorenzi and Freedom Parks as well as Floyd Lamb State Park are actually factored in, **there appears to be a profusion of regionally-oriented park facilities and open space acreage available to CNLV residents within a short driving distance.** Without actual visitor use surveys, it can't be determined with any accuracy, how many and how frequently some CNLV residents visit and use these three nearby regional parks. A reasonable assumption though is that without the CNLV presently offering its own central and large-acreage regional or urban park, some number of CNLV residents probably visit these other three to enjoy the outdoor space and recreational amenities they offer.

Taking that into account, does not lessen the perceived or statistically valid need for a regional or large urban park that the CNLV can call its own. From all levels of public input received throughout this plan update, one of the persistent themes of citizen preference was for **the City to establish its own regional park.** Whether that is from the exciting opportunity presented by the possible acquisition of Craig Ranch Golf Course or the phased development of the existing 160 park site, it does not seem to matter. What is clear is that people, who took part in this Park Master Plan Update, collectively see that the CNLV has reached a point of maturity and growth where it should have its own Regional Park, rather than borrowing from others nearby.



Lorenzi Park in the City of Las Vegas has a regional/large urban coverage area that takes in a portion of the CNLV



Hatch Road Regional Park, Stanislaus County California





LOS Analysis by Park Classification - Linear Parks/Greenway Corridors/Streetscapes

Summary of Linear Park and Greenway Needs LOS Existing and Projected (2003)
Table G

Linear Parks and Greenways LOS

Presently, the CNLV has no adopted comprehensive Trails or Open Space Plan, nor has this Master Plan Update been expanded to accommodate one. Three such plans that are both adopted and coordinated between the other entities are:

- ✦ The “Candidate Trail Corridors” portion of the Clark County Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2000-2020;
- ✦ The Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition (SNRPC) “Las Vegas Valley Primary Trail System” Map, dated September 2001; and
- ✦ Most recently, the RTC Trails and Corridors Plan.

None of these plans use or suggest a regional LOS ratio for trails and greenways. The LOS standard for linear parks and greenways used in this Master Plan Update was determined by an online survey of similar standards from around the country. This resulted in a median LOS ratio of **.25 miles of linear park/streetscapes and greenway corridors per 1,000 people** being found both a reasonable and common one for use here.

Included in an **expanded definition** for linear parks and greenways, the CNLV can count around **7.5 miles of existing streetscape** towards this ratio.

Linear Park/Streetcape/Greenway Corridors	Comparative Linear Park and Greenway Standard	Existing Linear Park and Greenway Supply	Recommended Standard and Surplus/Deficit
	NRPA (average range) standard	CNLV	.25 miles per 1,000 pop.*
Miles of Linear Parks/Streetcape and Greenways	15 to 75 miles	7.5 miles ***	37.5 miles
Ratio per 1,000 **	.10 to .50 miles	.05 miles	30.5 mile deficit

* **.25 miles of linear park and greenway corridor per 1,000 population** is a median LOS standard derived from an online inventory of other standards used in adopted trail and open space plans from around the United States.

** Ratio is expressed per 1,000 residents within the CNLV (**population estimated at 150,000 in 2003, projected to grow to 215,000 in 2007**).

*** The traditional definition of linear parks and greenways has been expanded here to include existing streetscapes within the CNLV primarily made up of sections of Lake Mead Blvd, Civic Center Drive, Las Vegas Blvd, and Carey Ave. Combined these streetscape total approximately 7.5 miles. The master planned community of Aliante has completed 5 miles of linear streetscape with pathways (2003). Las Vegas Wash Trail (LVWT) Phase I was not included.





LOS Analysis by Park Classification - Linear Parks/Greenway Corridors/Streetscapes

Based on that median LOS ratio, the CNLV had **an existing 2003 need for over 38 miles of trails/streetscapes and greenways throughout the City**. This comes out to a present day **.05 miles per 1,000 population** LOS for linear parks/streetscapes/greenways within the CNLV, far below the target LOS of .25 miles per 1,000.

An expressed need for more linear parks or greenways with multi-use pathways was made known from commentary derived through the community assessment portion of this master plan update. For instance, **one of the most popular activities** people indicated they would engage in was **recreational walking** if there were more extensive pathways to do that in CNLV parks. Recent national and statewide recreational participation surveys also strongly support that walking, hiking, horseback riding and bicycling activities on multi-use trails are among the most popular ways people use their leisure and recreation time.

Other Park Classifications - Mini-Parks, Special Use-Facilities and Areas and Joint School Parks – LOS

The classifications below have no applicable LOS ratios for the following reasons:

- ❑ **Mini Parks** - The CNLV has decided to de-emphasize the further establishment of mini-parks in the City mostly due to their limited size and, therefore, selection of recreational facilities and equipment. The higher costs of grounds maintenance and security are also other considerations. In established, mature parts of the CNLV where available acreage is in short-supply to provide a more spacious neighborhood park (5-10 acres), mini-parks might be the only available option.

Mini-parks should continue to be encouraged by the CNLV in more of an urban plaza or as small “common” areas in medium to high density residential development from as a desirable amenity in commercial areas. This is particularly true in the older, downtown areas of the City that are presently devoid of any attractive, landscaped public spaces for socializing, resting, and shade.

The typical average LOS ratio for mini-parks around the country is between **.25 and .50 acres per 1,000 people**.

- ❑ **Special Use Recreational Facilities** - Special use facilities include a wide-range of “hard to categorize” activity centers or areas (e.g. Botanic or display gardens, historic sites and structures, amphitheatres). The exceptions here are community centers which generally have high public usage and a commonly accepted level of service. Special use facilities are generally used by a smaller segment of the resident CNLV population and, in most cases, have no quantifiable LOS. A more practical indicator is to use existing programmable park (local and regional) space which is more often used by a wider segment of the general population.
- ❑ **Joint School Parks** - For the purposes of this Master Plan Update, joint school parks are considered to be more **neighborhood-oriented parks** in location, size and character and share the LOS (2.5 acres per 1,000 population) for local neighborhood and community parks.





LOS Analysis for Recreational Facilities

Recreational Facilities LOS

Participation models – Often recreation facility requirements are determined using variations of participation models - which are refined, statistical variations of a questionnaire or survey method of determining recreational usage or frequency of participation.

If the data is available, one of the advantages of the participation model is that it can also account for recreational facility capacity standards (e.g. community centers) that may be expressed through management policies or local population preferences concerning the volume of use or the degree of crowdedness that is satisfactory. One of main weaknesses of this approach is that it calls for an extremely detailed examination of the current usage of all individual elements of parks and facilities in the CNLV. Often, that kind of information is either non-existent, scattered or the staff and resources necessary to compile it, are just not there.

Careful consideration of the CNLV's unique characteristics and the lack of any useful and current recreation activity frequency use and activity data, led to a return to traditional approaches of LOS ratios per 1,000 people, with some adjustments.

A survey of other recreational facility use LOS service standards adopted and in use by comparable cities in the western United States was compiled and the general average was used for the CNLV standards. (See **Exhibit C: CNLV Composite Level of Service (L.O.S.) Indicators** for selected Recreation Facilities).

These standards were also compared with input received from the **community needs assessment** portion of this Master Plan Update. This incorporated a series of community workshops, focus group sessions, key stakeholder interviews and a web-accessible and written public survey. All of these have been influential factors in arriving at the recommended standards that appear Part III.2, **Exhibit C: CNLV Composite Levels of Service (L.O.S.) Indicators**. In this exhibit, recreational facilities are grouped in the categories of **Sportsfields, Sport Courts and Specialized Use Recreation Facilities**.

Application of these standards offer **one point-of-measure** to determine what kind and the number of recreational facilities that should be located in either renovated CNLV parks or new ones that will be developed in the coming years. Utilizing these LOS standards can serve as a beginning to better determine programming requirements. Beyond this, the CNLV should, during **site-specific park planning**, also take into consideration more intrinsic factors such as:

- ✦ **The actual physical characteristics of the park site** (e.g. size, shape, topography, access, existing surrounding land uses);
- ✦ **Existing supply of private recreational facilities within the service area of the park** – As part of information gathering during a park planning process, an inventory of existing private residential developments, the number of people who live there and the recreational facilities they contain (e.g. pools, playgrounds, game courts, common landscape areas) that are within the geographic service radius (i.e. 2 miles for future CNLV community parks); and
- ✦ **The expressed facility preferences of the actual people who will visit and use the park** when it is complete. Both the design for and what the park contains, should be a partial reflection of desires of the people who are invited to participate in the park design process.





LOS Analysis for Recreational Facilities

Sportsfields

Baseball, softball, soccer and football fields are grouped under the heading of **Sportsfields**. (See **Exhibit D: Projected Levels of Service (LOS) for Selected Recreation Facilities (2003-2007)** following Part III.2).

- ✦ **Baseball and Softball: 1 field per 1,000 people** – In 2003, the CNLV actually has a surplus of these kinds of fields (10), but growing to a deficit of 18 in 2005 which increases to a need for 33 by 2007. For comparison, the NRPA recommends a LOS ratio of 0.40 baseball/softball fields per 1,000 residents. Presently, the CNLV is below that with .22 per 1,000 residents.
- ✦ **Soccer Fields: 1 field per 1,000 people** – In 2003, the CNLV actually has a small surplus of these fields (6) that will grow to a deficit of 18 in 2005 and increase to a need for 29 by 2007. The demand for soccer fields shows no sign of weakening as *“Youth soccer leagues that draw from the elementary and secondary schools around the country attracted more than three and a half million kids this year - more than Little League baseball”*. For comparison, the NRPA recommends an LOS ratio of 0.10 soccer fields per 1,000 residents. Presently the CNLV exceeds that in providing .17 per 1,000 residents.
- ✦ **Football Fields: 1 field per 14,000 people** - In 2003, the CNLV actually was short of this standard by only 1 football field, that will grow to a deficit of 13 in 2005 and increase to a need for 15 by 2007. The NRPA recommends an LOS ratio of .05 football fields per 1,000 people. Presently the CNLV exceeds that in providing .06 per 1,000 residents. The actual need for football fields throughout the CNLV and the greater Valley may actually be lower than these numbers indicate, given the ever-increasing participation in and popularity of soccer and baseball.



By 2005, the surplus of ballfields the CNLV now has, will be gone



The demand for soccer fields continues to be strong throughout the Las Vegas Valley

Sport Courts

Tennis, basketball and volleyball courts are grouped under the heading of **Sport Courts**. (See **Exhibit D: Projected Levels-of-Service (LOS) for Selected Recreation Facilities (2003-2007)**).

- ✦ **Tennis Courts: 1 court per 5,000 people**- In 2003, the CNLV has a fairly substantial shortage of tennis courts at around 30 that will grow to a deficit of 36 courts in 2005 and increase to a need for 43 courts by 2007. The NRPA recommends a LOS ratio of .50 tennis courts per 1,000 people.





LOS Analysis for Recreational Facilities



Indoor and Outdoor use of Basketball Courts is rising around the County



Another Sportsfield complex will be needed within 5 years in the CNLV

✦ **Basketball Courts: 1 court per 4,000 people** – In 2003, the CNLV needs an additional 21 basketball courts and that increases to more than twice that in 2007 to 54. **American Sports Data, Inc.**, conducted an annual national survey that shows participation in recreational basketball has increased by an average of 7% nationally for males in all age groups, from 1987-1995. The NRPA recommends a LOS ratio of 0.30 basketball courts per 1,000 residents. Presently the CNLV is below that target by providing .14 per 1,000 residents. Again, the number of outdoor basketball courts that are in private settings within the CNLV are not accounted for here.

✦ **Volleyball Courts: 1 court per 5,000 people**- In 2003, the CNLV has 24 volleyball courts found throughout its parks, with a need for 30 in 2003. The NRPA recommends a LOS of around .20 volleyball courts per 1,000 people. The CNLV currently provides an LOS of .17 per 1,000 people and by comparison the City of Tempe, Arizona, with a similar population to the CNLV, provides a .17 LOS. The need for additional volleyball courts within the City grows by 4 more in 2005 and an additional 6 in 2007.

Presently the CNLV is far short of meeting the standard for Sport Courts, but the standard might be too ambitious to begin with. The actual need and frequency of use of public sports courts needs to be adjusted to take into account the numerous private planned unit developments, condominiums and apartments throughout the CNLV that contain tennis, basketball and volleyball courts. This also applies to the public tennis, basketball and volleyball courts that have limited access at CNLV high schools and the CCSN Cheyenne campus.

✦ Specialized Use Recreation Facilities (SURF)

A long list including Sports Complexes, Group Picnic Shelters, Skate Parks, Playgrounds, Dog Parks, Community Gardens, Swimming Pools, Water Play/Spray Parks, Community Amphitheatres, Running Tracks, Community or Multi-generational Centers, Golf Courses are all grouped under the heading of **Specialized Use Recreation Facilities**. (See Exhibit D: Projected Levels-of-Service (LOS) for Selected Recreation Facilities (2003-2007).

✦ **Sports Complexes: 1 complex per 100,000 people** – In 2003, the CNLV had one sports complex and based on LOS standards and population growth it would appear there is no need for another until around 2007. However, the pressing need for another sports complex in the CNLV does exist and can be substantiated by:

- Near overuse and full field programming of the existing Cheyenne Sports Complex as well as other sportsfields in other CNLV parks; and





LOS Analysis for Recreational Facilities

- As expressed in the public survey, a high emphasis for the development of a new sports complex (32%) somewhere in the City or at least more sportsfields placed in new parks around the City (22%).
- ⊕ **Group Picnic Shelters and Ramadas: 1 shelter per 8,000 people** – Group picnic shelters and ramadas are a popular addition to local parks. They provide much needed shade and areas for large gatherings and events. In 2003, the CNLV actually has a need to add the existing number of shelters the CNLV has now growing to deficit of 22 in 2005 and increasing to a need for 26 by 2007. More locations to provide additional group picnic shelters could be found by introducing them in selected and existing CNLV parks that are large enough to accommodate them and have enough public use to merit one.
- ⊕ **Skate Parks: 1 skatepark per 60,000 people**- One of the more repeated comments from the public workshops, held as a part of this Master Plan Update, was the desire to see skateparks featured in CNLV parks. The sheer popularity of this activity among young people, and the noteworthy success of both the City of Las Vegas and Clark County making skateparks a common occurrence in their larger parks, all contribute to this growing interest in the CNLV. **In 2003, the CNLV has no local skateparks** to offer its residents, and has a present need for 2 growing to 3 by 2007.
- ⊕ **Children's Playgrounds: 1 playground per 7,000 people** – The CNLV has done an excellent job of providing playgrounds in every local (neighborhood and community) park that it offers. This has been done so well that a current day surplus (12) playgrounds exists based on this LOS standard. That will disappear by 2005 with a need for 12 additional play areas and rising to 30 in 2007.
- ⊕ **Dog Parks: 1 park per 60,000 people** – Dogs and their owners really enjoy the fact that some parts of their parks have literally "gone to the dogs". Dog parks are becoming more commonly found, especially in community-sized parks, where there is room to accommodate them. **In 2003, the CNLV has yet to feature a dog park**, and has a present need for 2, increasing to 4 by 2007.



Skateboard Parks are one of the most popular features in parks around the Valley



Dogs and their owners appreciate Dog Parks



LOS Analysis for Recreational Facilities

Levels of Service Analysis for Recreational Facilities



Water Play Parks are refreshing addition to any park



A Community Amphitheater would be a welcome civic attraction to the CNLV

- Community Gardens: 1 community garden per 20,000 people** – Even in this harsher desert climate, community gardens have started to increase in popularity and public use. More cities are recognizing that community gardens improves the quality of life for people by providing a catalyst for neighborhood and community development, stimulating social interaction, encouraging self-reliance, beautifying neighborhoods, and offering opportunities for recreation, exercise, therapy. Community gardens have become more common nationally in public parks over the last decade. Besides offering a different shade of “green” to a park, they also instill a greater sense of ownership and pride in the park by the gardeners who use them.
- Swimming Pools: 1 pool per 20,000 people** – The CNLV has done reasonably well in keeping up with the supply of public pools as it has grown. The NRPA recommends a LOS ratio .05 swimming pools per 1,000 people and the CNLV comes close to that at .03. In 2003, the City needs an additional 2 to 3 more pools and that increases to 10 by 2007. The various forms of public input received on this plan indicated a **strong citizen preference for any future pools to be located in conjunction with community centers with more of an aquatics center in mind.** The number of pools actually needed in the CNLV could also be adjusted, and possibly downward, if a more extensive inventory of the number of private pools in planned unit developments, condominiums and apartments and the number of people served by them, was factored in.
- Water Play/Spray Pools: 1 water play pool per 25,000 people** – Like skateparks, water play parks are in short supply in CNLV parks for now. One is now available at Silver Mesa/Flores Park and the new Discovery Community Park in Aliante, which is reported to have a lot of play activity. In 2003, the CNLV could benefit from 5 additional water play parks growing as many as 9 by 2007. Recognizing the need for water conservation, these unique features should be carefully considered. They do lend themselves well to becoming a real draw at existing and larger CNLV parks in need of further renovation and certainly at some of the more premier community parks the City will build in the future.
- Community Amphitheatres: 1 amphitheater per 100,000 people** – Again and again, the interest of having a community events center, such as an amphitheater offers, was high and routinely mentioned during the focus groups, stakeholder interviews and public workshops held as part of this master plan update. Such a facility in the right location, be it a downtown plaza, a new community park or a spacious regional one, would provide a fitting public place to hold concerts, a farmers market, fairs or other seasonal and thematic events.

In 2003, the CNLV has several prime park locations that could be considered for their first community amphitheater. Depending on how the first one turns out, by 2007, another amphitheater might be required.





LOS Analysis for Recreational Facilities

Levels of Service Analysis for Recreational Facilities

- Running Tracks: 1 track per 30,000 people** – The heavy public use of the running track at Cheyenne Sports Complex is testimony to that people like to both jog and walk. **Nationwide, recreational walking and running continue to be two of the most popular outdoor activities.** In 2003, this LOS standard indicates that the CNLV should have 5 additional running tracks, growing to 7 by 2007. An allowance should be made for the existing tracks available at CNLV high schools to partially fulfill this need, even if public access is limited. Additionally, consideration should be given to connecting recreational walking pathways beyond the running tracks to future linear, community and recreational parks and the surrounding CNLV neighborhood pathways.
- Community and Multi-Generational Centers: 1 center per 75,000 people** – Since the day it opened, the Silver Mesa Community Center has been a remarkable success and gets so much use by the public, that overcrowding can occur at peak times. People who took part in the Master Plan Update showed that recognition and appreciation by placing a high priority **on another community center, in a well chosen location and as an anchor for a large-acreage community or regional park elsewhere in the CNLV.** A multi-generational center is another option. This is a type of center that offers a place where senior citizens, adults, teen-agers, children and families can gather for recreation, socializing, social services, health, fitness, cultural activities and other programs. **In 2003, the LOS standard for community centers calls for one in addition to Silver Mesa and the Neighborhood Center, with another needing to come online in 2007.**
- Golf Courses, 9 hole or 18 hole: 1 course per 50,000 people** - The present CNLV Golf Course offers affordable golf on a 9 hole layout, enjoyed by golfers of all ages and abilities. The holes range in length from 74 yards to 175 yards for the ninth hole. Most holes are in the 115-125 yard range. Currently, within the City is the public/private Craig Ranch Golf Course, which is an 18-hole, 6,000-yard, par 70 course. The master-planned community of Aliante will also offer a publicly-accessible, 18-hole a 6,900-yard, par-72 course. The NRPA recommends a LOS standard of .13 publicly-accessible golf course holes per 1,000 people. Presuming Craig Ranch Golf Course remains in operation and the Aliante course is completed in the next two years, this would give **the CNLV a LOS standard of .25 holes per 1,000 people in year 2005, still exceeding the national standard.**



Westside Multi-Generational Center, Tempe, Arizona



The CNLV needs at least another public course like the highly regarded City Golf Course between 2005 and 2007





Exhibit C: CNLV Composite Level of Service (L.O.S.) Indicators for Selected Recreational Facilities

Entertainment Facility	City of Tempe Arizona	City of Glendale Arizona	Colorado Average (Note 1)	City of Sacramento California	City of Las Vegas 2000	City of North Las Vegas 1995 Parks Facilities Master Plan	CNLV L.O.S. 2002	CNLV Existing L.O.S. 2003	L.O.S. "Says"	Surplus (+) or Deficit (-)
SPORTSFIELDS										
<input type="checkbox"/> Baseball / Softball	1 Per 5,800 People	1 Per 15,000 People	1 Per 6,700 People	1 Per 7,500 People	1 Per 14,000 People	1 Per 5,000 People	1 Per 6,500 People	33	23	10
<input type="checkbox"/> Soccer	1 per 2,000 People	1 Per 6,000 People	1 Per 14,000 People	1 Per 10,000 People	1 Per 10,000 People	1 Per 4,000 People	1 Per 7,500 People	26	20	6
<input type="checkbox"/> Football	1 per 10,000 People	1 per 10,000 People	1 Per 14,000 People	1 Per 7,500 People	1 Per 20,000 People	1 Per 20,000 People	1 Per 14,000 People	10	11	-1
GAME COURTS										
<input type="checkbox"/> Tennis Courts	1 per 4,000 People	1 Per 5,000 People	1 per 2400 People	1 Per 5,000 People	1 Per 2000 People	1 Per 1,600 People	1 Per 5,000 People	16	43	-27
<input type="checkbox"/> Basketball Courts	1 Per 1,250 People	1 Per 3,000 People	N/A	1 Per 5,000 People	1 Per 5,000 People	1 Per 3,300 People	1 Per 4,000 People	21.5	43	-21
<input type="checkbox"/> Volleyball courts	N/A	1 Per 7,500 People	N/A	1 Per 7,500 People	1 Per 5,000 People	1 Per 5,000 People	1 Per 6,250 People	11	24	-13
SPECIALIZED RECREATIONAL FACILITIES										
<input type="checkbox"/> Sports Complex	N/A	1 Per 100,000 People	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1 Per 100,000 People	1	2	-1
<input type="checkbox"/> Group Picnic / Shelters / Ramadas	1 Per 10,000 People	1 Per 6,000 People	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1 Per 8,000 People	17	19	-2
<input type="checkbox"/> Skate Parks	N/A	1 Per 50,000 People	N/A	1 Per 70,000 People	N/A	N/A	1 Per 60,000 People	0	2	-2
<input type="checkbox"/> Playgrounds	1 Per 2,500 People	1 Per 3,000 People	N/A	1 Per 5,000 People	N/A	N/A	1 Per 7,000 People	33	21	12
<input type="checkbox"/> Dog Parks	N/A	N/A	N/A	1 Per 60,000 People	N/A	N/A	1 Per 60,000 People	0	3	-3
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Gardens	N/A	N/A	N/A	1 Per 100,000 People	N/A	N/A	1 Per 20,000 People	0	8	-8
<input type="checkbox"/> Swimming Pools	1 Per 15,000 People	1 Per 20,000 People	1 Per 22,000 People	1 Per 25,000 People	1 Per 20,000 People	1 Per 11,000 People	1 Per 20,000 People	5	8	-3
<input type="checkbox"/> Water Play / Spray Pools	N/A	N/A	N/A	1 Per 15,000 People	N/A	N/A	1 Per 25,000 People	0	6	-6
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Amphitheaters	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1 Per 100,000 People	0	2	-2
<input type="checkbox"/> Running Tracks	1 Per 10,000 People	N/A	N/A	N/A	1 Per 20,000 People	1 Per 20,000 People	1 Per 30,000 People	1	5	-4
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Centers Multi-Generational Centers	1 Per 30,000 People	1 Per 50-75,000 People	1 Per 40,000 People	1 Per 15,000 People	N/A	N/A	1 Per 75,000 People	0	2	2
<input type="checkbox"/> Golf Courses; (2) 9 Hole or (1) 18 Hole and Par 3	N/A	1 Per 75,000 People	N/A	N/A	1 Per 25,000 People	1 Per 50,000 People	1 Per 50,000 People	1	3	-2

Note 1: Colorado average represents the average for particular recreation facilities of five major cities within the State: Source Ft. Collins Park and Recreation Master Plan (2000)
 Note 2: The Level of Service (LOS) is merely a quantification of the park and recreation delivery philosophy and policy of a community. The LOS provides a way to accurately calculate the minimum amount of land required to provide all of the recreational activities and the requisite facilities to support those activities by expressing this in either the context of acres or facilities / population.

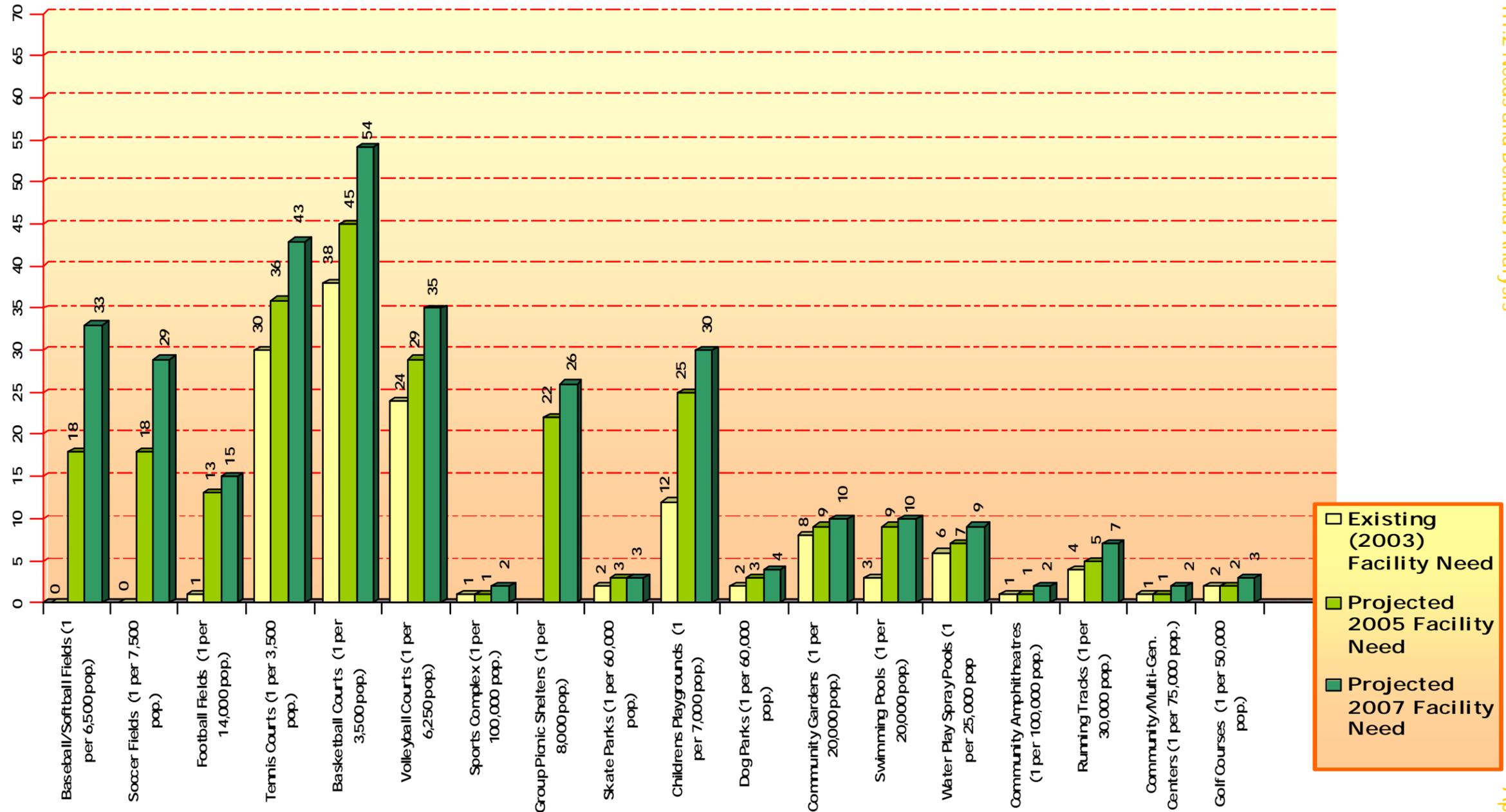




Exhibit D: CNLV Projected Levels of Service (L.O.S.) for Selected Recreational Facilities (2003-2007)

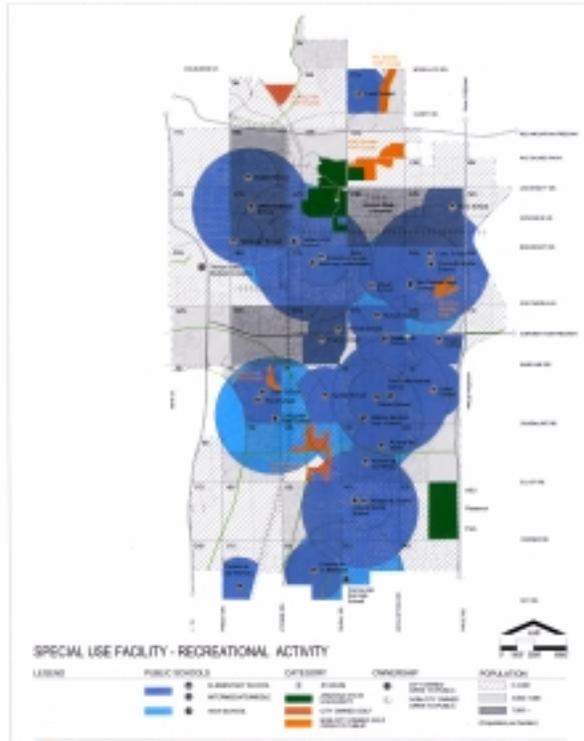
Highlights of LOS for Selected Recreational Facilities in the CNLV

- In 2003, the CNLV has a surplus of softball and baseball fields. That changes to a deficit of 18 each by year 2005.
- The shortage and demand for game courts such as tennis and basketball remain high throughout the next five years.
- The planned Las Vegas Wash Detention Basin Sports Complex will meet the current (2003) need for another sports complex. An additional complex appears necessary by the year 2007.
- The CNLV is lacking any skateparks at present and has current need for at least two, probably best located in renovated or future community park sites.
- The CNLV has done well in having the availability of outdoor public pools keep pace with population growth until now.
- A community amphitheater or outdoor events center is one key and highly desired park amenity still missing in the CNLV.
- Another community center along the size, scale and success of Silver Mesa Community Center will be needed in this five year period.
- With the addition of the championship caliber golf course at Aliante, the CNLV will cut in half the present need for more public courses.





Geographic Service Area Analysis and Equity Mapping



Example of Geographic Service Area Analysis- Special Use Facilities- Tempe, Arizona

Overview and Process

A geographic service area analysis ends with the creation of "equity maps" for a range of parks and recreational facilities now found in the CNLV. The purpose of this exercise is to analyze the current status of park distribution in relationship to existing population distribution or density. The analysis identifies whether or not there is an equitable positioning of parks by specific classifications for use by all citizens. The maps that follow, graphically identify the need for parks by each classifications, local (neighborhood and community) regional (large urban), and special use recreation facility (SURF) related to population density. In some cases, there may not be a need identified due to sufficient geographic coverage and access to parks and facilities both within and nearby the CNLV.

Freeways (I-15) and major arterial streets (such as Cheyenne Ave) were considered to be barriers to pedestrian and bicycle access to mostly neighborhood parks with service areas less than one mile. Regional or large urban parks with service areas ranging from 8 to 10 miles were located accordingly. Population density was depicted by the number of housing units per census tract or traffic analysis zone, based on the 2000 census. Four categories of population range provide a visual image to better understand the relationship between the park location, its respective service radius and the concentration of potential users within that given area. Park classifications and their respective service radiuses, follow guidelines recommended in this Master Plan Update.

Service Area Radius Guide

The current recommended geographic service radius for selected parks is:

- ⊕ Local Neighborhood Parks – 1/2 mile radius
- ⊕ Local Community Parks -2 miles
- ⊕ Regional and Urban Parks- 30 minute drive distance/8-10 miles
- ⊕ Special Use Recreation Facilities- No specific service radius





Geographic Service Area Analysis and Equity Mapping - Local Parks

Key Findings

Local Park Facilities- Neighborhood and Community

Under the heading of Local Parks, the "neighborhood and community" park equity maps have been combined (See **Map B: Local Park Geographic Service Area Analysis**, III.3), and illustrate the existing location and service area for neighborhood, community and other potential parks within the City:

✚ The area east of I-15, west of Pecos Road and north of Owens Ave., is well-known as one of the most densely populated portions of the CNLV. **It has excellent coverage from a variety of small-acreage parks, mostly neighborhood and mini-park in size and character.** This area is characterized by existing low density development and has essentially reached "build-out" with little new development activity (with the exception of the redevelopment area) expected over the next decade. While the area appears to have acceptable service area coverage from the City View Community Park, the presence of an interstate freeway (I-15) and major arterial streets (Cheyenne Ave, Carey Avenue and Lake Mead Boulevard) collectively make this a hard park to reach, even by car. The area does have some fringe and overlap coverage from other parks outside the CNLV limits, namely Doolittle Community Center and Park (City of Las Vegas) and Alexander Villas Community Park and Von Tobel School/Park and Recreation Center (Clark County). The heavily used Neighborhood Center in Hartke Park serves as this area's community center. This portion of the City could greatly benefit from several new park renovation, acquisition or development options such as:

- Acquisition and development of a mid-sized community park (10-20 acres) as centrally located as possible in the area, with most of the space devoted to athletic fields. If a feasible site (in acreage and location) were found, such a park could possibly even be the place for a town center plaza or square; or
- A renovation master plan and first phase redevelopment for Cheyenne Sports Complex with the first phase of redevelopment emphasizing on conversion of part of the Sports Complex to a more characteristic community park. Cheyenne Sports Complex is not as isolated from this area as City View Community Park is. If a portion of the Sports Complex were reconfigured into a more community park orientation, it would have easier accessibility by surrounding residential concentrations.



City View Community Park



Cheyenne Sports Complex





Geographic Service Area Analysis and Equity Mapping - Local Parks



Richard Tam Neighborhood Park



Discovery Community Park

- ✦ The area roughly defined by the proposed beltway on the north, Commerce Street on the west, Craig Road on the south, to the eastern limits of the CNLV contains one existing, but undeveloped community park site. The remainder of it contains no additional undeveloped local park sites. Roughly half of this area takes in part of the 16,000 acre future development boundary. The 1999 CNLV Land Use Master Plan targets a large portion of this area for both low density-LDR (2-4.5 DU/acre) medium-density residential-MDR (4.5-10 DU/acre) growths. While population densities presently remain low, some of the most extensive residential growth will occur in this area during the time span of this master plan (See Part I.3: Demographic Profile, Where the CNLV will grow in the next 10 years – “Frank” and “Charlie” District). **The development of the existing, but unimproved community park site, in the vicinity of Ann Road and Losee Road should be given high priority during the short-term (2003-2007) timeframe of this plan.** The closest existing local park is Richard Tam Neighborhood Park. Existing park acreage and amenities in this area are generally smaller than what the citizen demand would suggest. A significant spatial gap exists for an additional four 10 acre neighborhood park sites throughout the area (see item below). To ensure adequate service area coverage and accessibility, it appears one additional community-level park will be required in the vicinity of Ann and Pecos Road.

- ✦ With the recent addition of Discovery Community Park in the new master-planned community of Aliante, the area defined by the Grand Teton on the north, Craig Road on the south, Decatur Boulevard on the west and Commerce Street on the east, **has more than adequate community park service area coverage for the time being.** Seastrand, the City’s second and well-received community park, and one other existing but undeveloped community park site (Gowan and Simmonds) account for the other part of that strong coverage. The area is also the location of three existing local parks, Theron Goynes Neighborhood Park, Monte Vista Neighborhood Park and Eldorado/Antonello School Park. Currently the area has low (1,000 to 2,500) to medium (2,500-5,000) population density. This area mostly is composed of the “Edwards” District, which is projected to grow by nearly 48% over the next ten years. Like the previous area, the CNLV Land Use Master Plan designates much of this sector for low and medium density residential development. A look at existing local park service coverage reveals a several large spatial gaps between the existing neighborhood and school parks. **As noted above, for just minimal coverage (1/2 mile radius) to match projected population growth the area needs at least four additional 10 acre neighborhood park sites. Over the lifespan of this plan, another 20 acre minimum community park site is likely to be needed in the vicinity of Ann Road and Allen Lane.**





Geographic Service Area Analysis and Equity Mapping - Regional Parks



- ✦ The remaining area deficient in local parks, particularly at the neighborhood-level, is generally defined by the Craig Road on the north, Coran Lane on the south, Decatur Boulevard on the west and Commerce Street on the east. This area is presently served by four developed neighborhood parks, Flores, Cheyenne Ridge, Gold Crest and Windsor Neighborhood Parks. Overall, Year 2000 population densities for the area were predominantly in the middle range, at between 2,000 to 5,000 people. The "Adams" District (see Part I.3: Demographic Profile) makes up most of this area and is expected to see an annual residential population growth rate of between 10 and 13% in the next ten years. **The area is well-covered by an existing, but undeveloped community park site, centrally located within this sector of the City.** A look at existing local park service coverage reveals a several large spatial gaps between the existing neighborhood and school parks. For just minimal coverage (1/2 mile radius) to match projected population growth the area needs at least four perhaps even five additional 10 acre neighborhood park sites.

Regional and Large Urban Parks

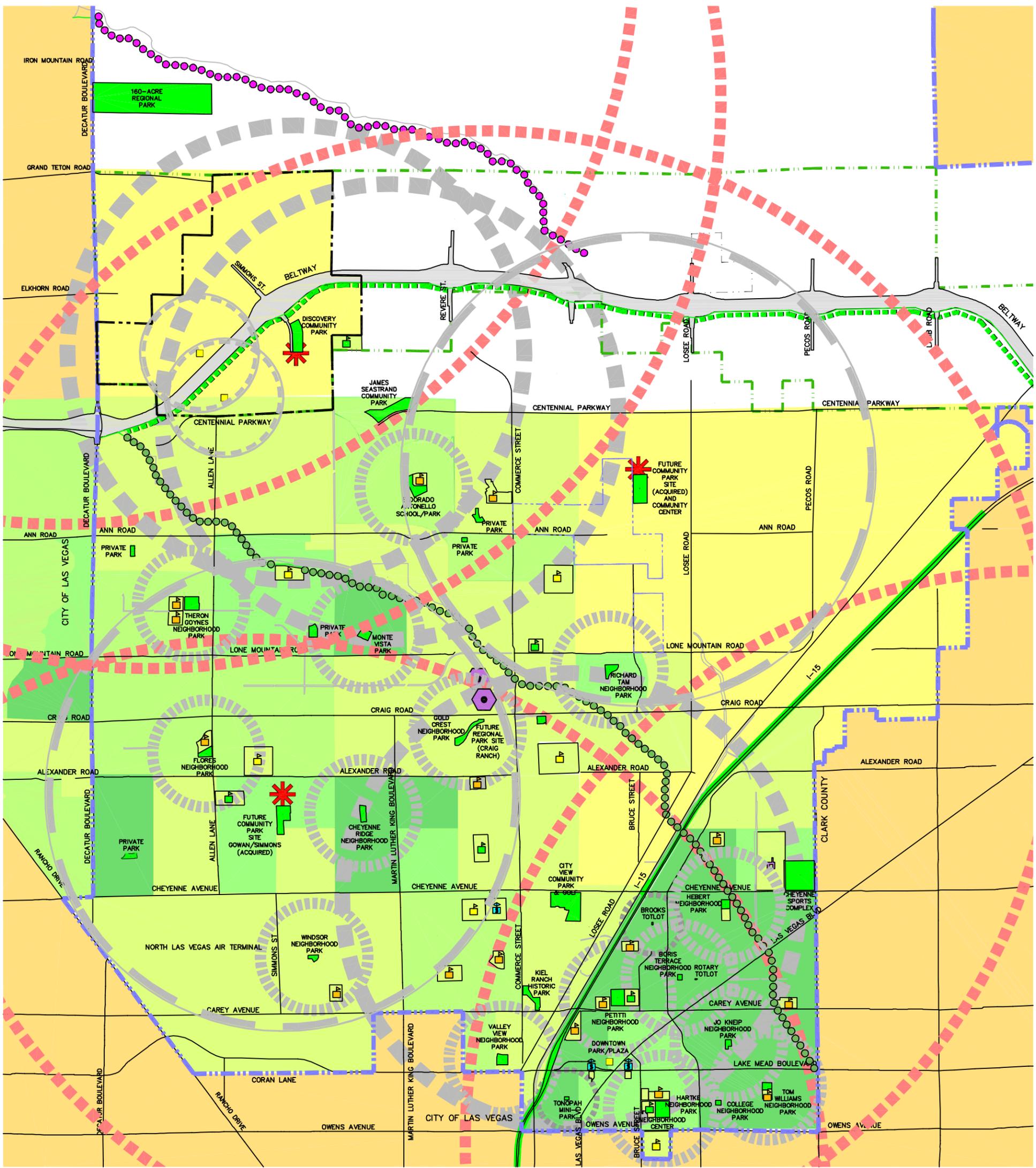
The Regional and Large Urban Parks equity map (See Map C: Regional Park Geographic Service Area Analysis, Part III.3), illustrates the existing location and service area for urban, regional and potential parks within the City.



- ✦ When Map C is viewed, it appears that the CNLV has overlapping and extensive regional park service area coverage, **when other nearby regional parks outside the City are factored in.** As mentioned earlier in this analysis, the City of Las Vegas has two large-urban parks that are classified as regional; Lorenzi and Freedom. The service area that the City of Las Vegas (8 miles) utilizes shows them having a broad reach into the southern "half" of the CNLV, reaching beyond Craig Road. While classified differently, Floyd Lamb State Park still functions and is attractive to park visitors for its regional-park feeling and amenities, from its series of interconnected fishing ponds, surrounding turf, to the shade tree groves and large group picnic facilities. When the same 8 mile service radius for Floyd Lamb State Park is applied and overlaid on the map, the existing and expanding northwestern quarter of the CNLV appears to have good blanket coverage. The only geographic area clearly deficient in existing regional park area coverage is one loosely defined as the "eastern" sector (the proposed beltway on the north, Commerce Street on the west, Craig Road on the south, to the eastern limits of the CNLV). Again, residential populations densities presently remain low by comparison to other parts of the City. That will change as some of the most extensive residential growth in the CNLV will occur in the "central" portion (Grand Teton Drive on the north, Ann Road on the south, Losee Road on the west and Lamb Blvd on the east).



MAP C REGIONAL PARK GEOGRAPHIC SERVICE AREA ANALYSIS



LEGEND:

SCHOOL TYPE

- Private
- CCSN
- Elementary
- Middle
- High
- Special

PROPOSED PARK TYPE

- Community Park (2 mile service radius)
- Neighborhood Park (1/2 mile service radius)
- Regional Parks (6 mile service radius)
- Proposed Craig Ranch Regional Park

- Future Park Service Radius
- Existing Park Service Radius
- Aliante Border
- 7500-Acre Boundary
- Existing Parks
- Existing Schools
- Major Roads
- I-15
- City of North Las Vegas

Beltway Primary Trail Corridor (Proposed)

- Las Vegas Wash Trail (LVWT)
- Upper Las Vegas Wash Trail (Proposed)

*POPULATION DENSITY

- Less Than 1,000
- 1,000 to 2,500
- 2,500 to 5,000
- 5,000 to 7,500
- 7,500 or More



This is a conceptual, diagrammatic plan. It is intended to guide park development for the City of North Las Vegas. Private parks are not factored into the service areas. The plan is not intended to identify specific properties/parcels. It represents the Parks and Recreation facilities needs, standards and aspirations of the community of North Las Vegas.
October 2003

*Population density information derived from CNLV. Current Year Estimated Persons per Square Mile. Map "September 2003"

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Geographic Service Area Analysis and Equity Mapping - Regional Parks and Special Use Recreation Facilities (SURF)

✦ As indicated before, the CNLV presently lacks a developed regional park to call its own. One of the strongest public priorities repeated often through the course of preparing this Master Plan Update was the high citizen interest in having the City create a large acreage park with a balanced blend of active and passive recreational facilities and activity areas. There are two possibilities, each with their own assets and liabilities by which to accomplish this:

■ **Craig Ranch Golf Course** - The unrivaled opportunity of the present availability of Craig Ranch Golf Course for potential purchase by the CNLV and conversion to a centrally-located regional park is both a rare and complicated one. In late fall of 2003, the City received the approval of funds from the Federal Bureau of Land Management for \$38 million so it can buy the 40-year-old Craig Ranch Golf Course and turn it into a regional park. In looking at Map C, it is obvious that as a regional park, Craig Ranch Golf Course has a near perfect, central location within the CNLV and would offer equal and easy public access from all points. The ability to utilize Craig Ranch Golf Course as a regional park was well stated in a recent article:

"Golf courses are not nature; they are almost entirely man-made. But they take some of the best features that nature has to offer and meld them in an orderly and aesthetically pleasing manner - often right in the middle of the City. For the open-minded, a round of golf is not merely an athletic endeavor; it's an escape from the urban racket, a communion with a planet wearing its Sunday best... Only large regional parks can rival the majesty of a fine golf course..."

The BLM, flushed with cash from recent land auctions Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA), has the money available to buy Craig Ranch Golf Course. Whether North Las Vegas has the staff and operational funding for such an ambitious project is uncertain. But if the City can convince the (federal government) to make the commitment, it could create one of the most inspiring urban spaces in Southern Nevada."

Thursday, April 10, 2003
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Fairways at Craig Ranch Golf Course



Craig Ranch Golf Course





Geographic Service Area Analysis and Equity Mapping - Regional Parks



Craig Ranch Golf Course

The Craig Ranch Golf Course/Regional Park acquisition has been submitted by the CNLV for Round 4 of the SNPLMA funding in the category of the "Parks, Trails and Natural Areas". The project is the 25th priority ranking of 28 projects submitted by local governments in this recent round. **It will only receive funding after the first 24 projects ahead of it are paid for in descending order and enough SNPLMA money remains to fund the estimated \$38 million dollar price tag.** What follows is an abbreviated description of the project that the CNLV wrote in its project application to BLM:

"The project involves 132 acres located within the metropolitan area of Las Vegas Valley surrounded by residential and commercial activity. The property provides unique resources to be used as a municipal park setting and will include regional and local trail systems providing linkage to the greater Southern Nevada Parks and Trails Master Plan system. The development of the majority of the property as a bird sanctuary and interpretative site will promote passive co-existence between nature and man...The remainder would be developed into family recreational facility to promote active youth and adult pursuits, such as soccer, baseball, and other activities. The multi-use pedestrian pathway along the western tributary of the Las Vegas Wash currently being constructed traverses the property proposed for acquisition...."



Willie C. McCool Regional Park
Model Airplane Facility
160 Acre Regional Park Site

Should the CNLV be fortunate to have the acquisition of the Craig Ranch Golf Course funded, it will still require a significant investment of additional public funding to both suitably master plan and convert the golf course into to an excellent regional and central park that it can become for the City. **Master planning costs could easily reach \$500,000 or more and first phase redevelopment of the golf course into a regional park alone is conservatively estimated at a minimum of between \$6 and \$8 million.**

- ✦ **The Willie McCool Regional Park (Model Airplane Flying Facility)** – Currently under lease from the BLM, the CNLV controls 160 acres of land that it classifies as a regional park. The site is located north of Grand Teton Road and immediately west of Decatur Boulevard, in the northwest quadrant of the City. The site is mostly undeveloped, but does have a well-established model airplane flying field that has considerable public use by a special interest group. While at present, the area surrounding this regional park site has undergone relatively little suburban development compared to other parts of the City that will change drastically in the next five to ten years. The area this regional park site is found in is expected to be the fastest-growing portion of the City onward through to full buildout, estimated to be in year 2020.





Geographic Service Area Analysis and Equity Mapping - Regional Parks and Special Use Recreation Facilities (SURF)

This site is not in the most ideal location to afford direct accessibility from all portions of the CNLV, unlike the proposed Craig Ranch Golf Course and Regional Park. Nevertheless, it represents the City's only park of significant enough size to be characterized as a regional park, and its potential to become one has largely remained undetermined until now. The existing parks report portion of this Master Plan Update recognized this condition and **the standing recommendation continues for this regional park site to serve as the alternative choice should the Craig Ranch Golf Course acquisition not occur.**

Park master planning costs could be equal to those of Craig Ranch Golf Course/Regional Park conversion (upwards of \$500,000). Full development costs could be as much as \$10 to 12 million, with an emphasis of 60% of the park acreage (96 acres) remaining in a relatively "passive" recreation condition with the remaining 40% (64 acres) being converted to "active" recreational areas and facilities.

Special Use Recreational Facilities (SURF)

The Special Use Recreational Facility (SURF) equity map (See Map D: Special Use Recreation Facilities (SURF) Geographic Service Area Analysis, Part III.3) illustrates the existing location and service area for community centers, historic sites, specialty gardens and golf facilities within the CNLV.

- ✦ The needs and demand analysis has set forth that in year 2003, the CNLV could use an additional Community Center, on the scale and success of the existing one at **Silver Mesa Recreation Center** in Flores Park. In terms of areas with the potential for high population growth alone, **one of the more sensible and strategic locations for this future Community Center might be at the existing and undeveloped community park site situated near Ann and Losee Roads or the Craig Ranch Golf Course, if successfully acquired by the City.**
- ✦ The existing **CNLV Neighborhood Center** serves the most heavily populated portion of the CNLV, and by virtue of that alone, receives very high public use. It is an older community recreation center, with a high potential for offering a wider array of programs and facilities, if it underwent an extensive renovation and expansion. In a similar vein, the City of Las Vegas has recently invested around \$7 million in the upgrading and expansion of Doolittle Recreation Center. Using an average and accepted service area of three miles for community centers, it would appear that Doolittle Community Center does have overlapping service area coverage for the area of the CNLV south of Alexander Road, and conceivably does attract some City residents.



Silver Mesa Recreation Center





Geographic Service Area Analysis and Equity Mapping - Special Use Recreation Facilities (SURF)

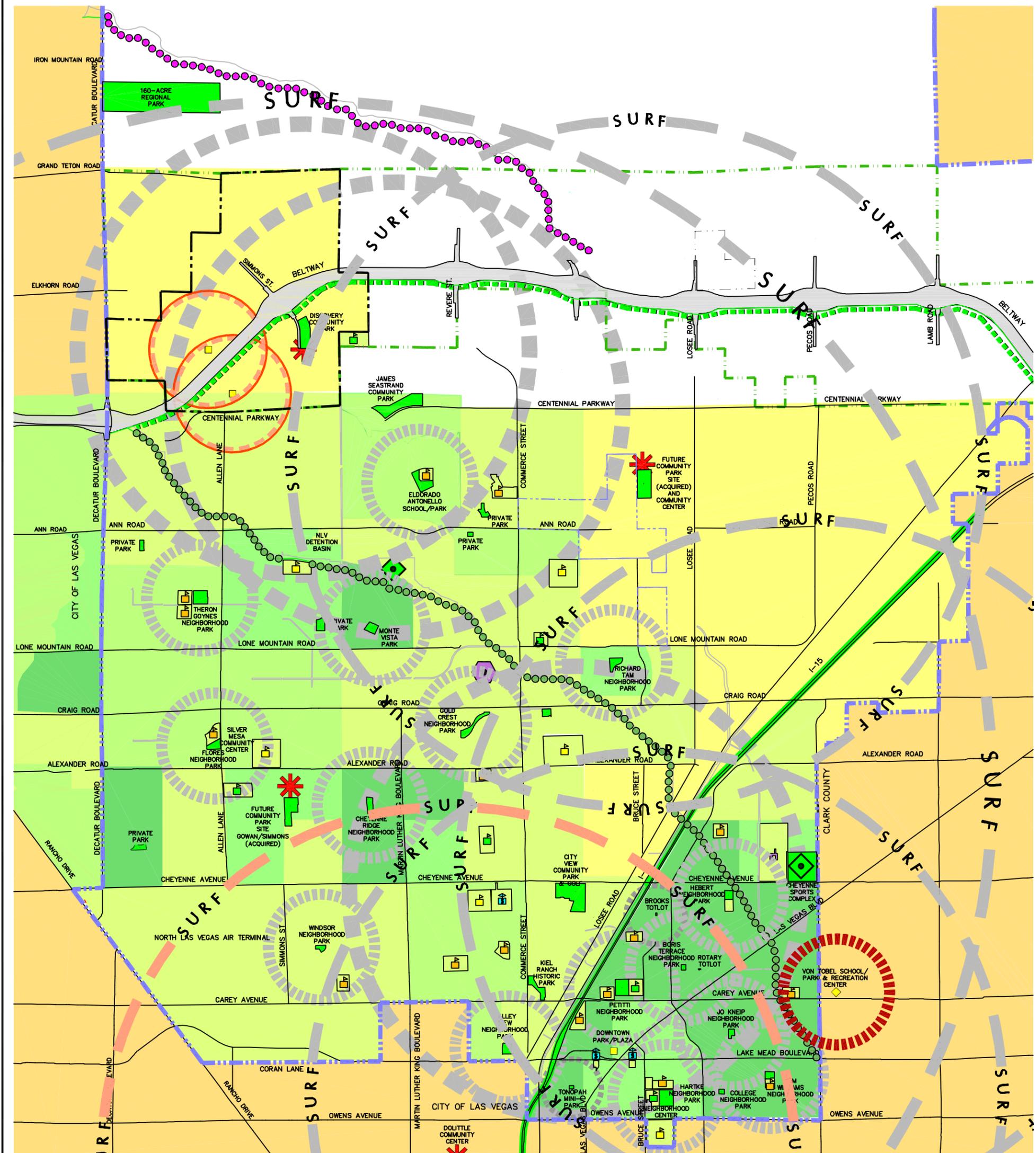


City of North Las Vegas Golf Course

- The City Golf Course is a very popular, affordable and widely used golf course within the CNLV. The City recognizes that fact by continuing to invest in the progressive upgrading of the course and the renovation of its facilities, such as the clubhouse. The championship and challenging golf course at the master planned community of Aliante is now available for public play. If correctly managed and operated, that course could be a major revenue generator and exemplary recreational attraction for the CNLV. **It is also one place the City should strongly consider as the future location for a northern park maintenance services annex.** Again, given their specialized, unique nature and regional draw, golf courses are generally classified, as they are here, as SURF.



MAP D SPECIAL USE RECREATION FACILITY GEOGRAPHIC SERVICE AREA ANALYSIS (SURF)



LEGEND:

SCHOOL TYPE	Community Park (2 mile service radius)	Proposed Park Service Radius	Beltway Primary Trail Corridor (Proposed)
Private	Sports Complex	Existing Park Service Radius	Las Vegas Wash Trail (LVWT)
CCSN	Neighborhood Park (1/2 mile service radius)	Aliante Border	Upper Las Vegas Wash Trail (Proposed)
Elementary	Local Parks (2 mile service radius)	7500-Acre Boundary	*POPULATION DENSITY
Middle	Las Vegas Park (1/2 mile service radius)	Existing Parks	Less Than 1,000
High	Special Use Recreation Facility (SURF)	Existing Schools	1,000 to 2,500
Special		Major Roads	2,500 to 5,000
		I-15	5,000 to 7,500
		City of North Las Vegas	7,500 or More

***Population density information derived from CNLV. Current Year Estimated Persons per Square Mile. Map "September 2003"**



THIS IS A CONCEPTUAL, DIAGRAMMATIC PLAN. IT IS INTENDED TO GUIDE PUBLIC PARK DEVELOPMENT FOR THE CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS. PRIVATE PARKS ARE NOT FACTORED INTO THE SERVICE AREAS. THE PLAN IS NOT INTENDED TO IDENTIFY SPECIFIC PROPERTIES/PARCELS. IT REPRESENTS THE PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES NEEDS, STANDARDS AND ASPIRATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS.
October 2003




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Comparative Benchmark Analysis with other Cities in the West

Benchmark Analysis of Six Comparable Cities

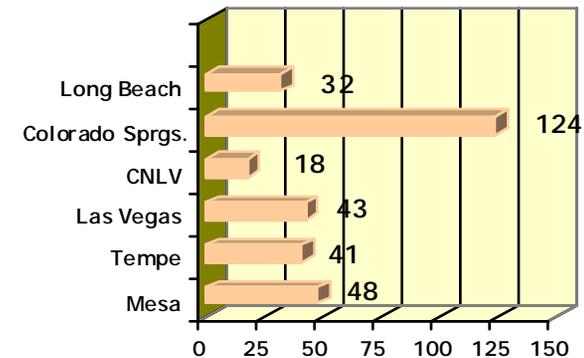
A comparative study of five similar cities in the Western United States was conducted. The cities included Tempe, Arizona (159,220); Tucson, Arizona (485,790); Mesa, Arizona (404,191); Las Vegas, Nevada (478,632); Colorado Springs, Colorado (351,000) and Long Beach, California (457,608). For the purposes of this analysis, the 2003 population for the CNLV, estimated at 150,000, was used. **The primary objective of this Benchmark Analysis is to determine how the CNLV compared to the other five cities in the areas of local parks, regional parks, linear parks and greenways and selected recreational facilities.**

Key Findings

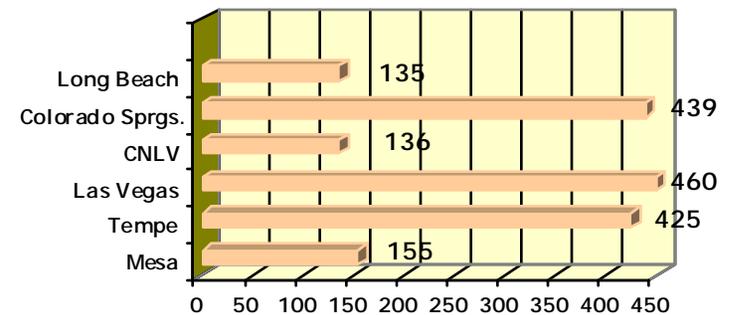
Local (Neighborhood and Community) Parks

When benchmarked against the five cities, **CNLV has the lowest number of local parks**, with the median range being shared between Las Vegas and Tempe. **The CNLV fared slightly better as far as total acres of local parkland per 100,000 being fourth among six cities.** The City of Las Vegas has the highest amount of local park acreage per 100,000 people at 460, consistent with its local park acreage ratio of 1.1 acres per 1,000 people, but still below the Valley-wide target of 2.5 acres per 1,000 people.

Number of Local (Neighborhood and Community) Parks



Acres of Local (Neighborhood and Community) Parks per 100,000 population



Aloha Shores Park - CLV



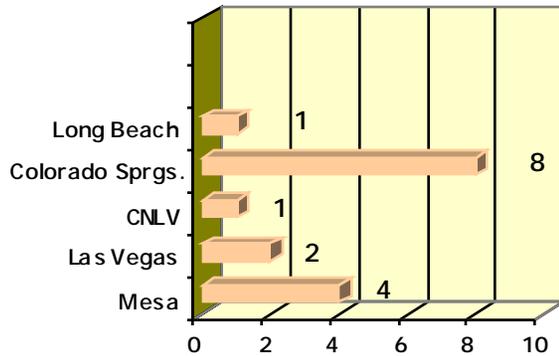
Flores Park - A CNLV Neighborhood (Local) Park





Benchmark Analysis

Number of Regional and Large Urban Parks

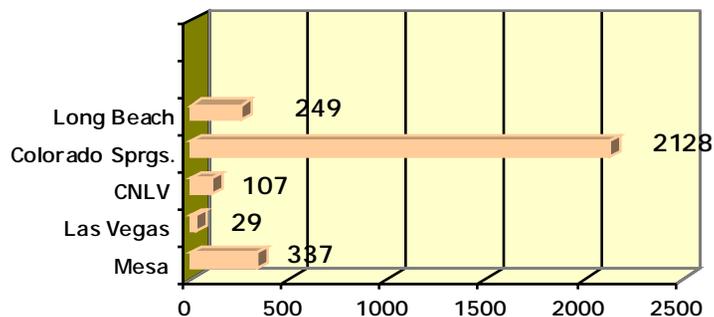


Regional Parks

In 2003, the CNLV had one, mostly undeveloped regional park for its residents. Comparitively, Long Beach which has a population three times that of the CNLV also had one regional park. Colorado Springs has a very comprehensive regional park component to its overall system with 8 regional parks serving a population roughly 2.5 times that of the CNLV.

The situation is not that much different in terms of acres of existing regional parks per 100,000 people. **The CNLV did surpass the City of Las Vegas with 107 acres per 100,000 people.** The potential addition of Craig Ranch Golf Course would increase the number of CNLV regional parks by one more and add 132 more acres to that total.

Acres of Regional and Large Urban Parks per 100,000 populations



Sunset Regional Park
Clark County, Nevada



Model Airplane Flying Facility at
Willie C. McCool Regional Park





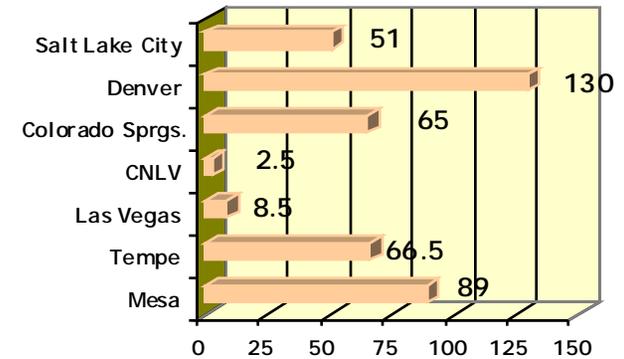
Benchmark Analysis

Linear Parks/Greenways/Trails

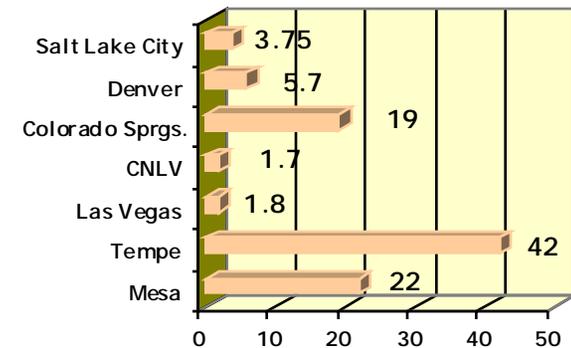
The CNLV has made an impressive start and contribution to the regional trail system in the Las Vegas Valley with the first 2.5 mile segment of the Las Vegas Wash Trail (LVWT) set to open in 2005. By comparison and closer to home, the City of Las Vegas counts only 8.5 miles of publicly accessible trail in their 2002 report, *Master Plan Transportation Trails Element*. The other cities inventoried here have made progressive strides in establishing a substantial amount of linear park or open space trail mileage.

As far as miles of trails per 100,000 people, the CNLV and the City of Las Vegas are still behind larger cities such as Salt Lake (1,360,159) and Denver (2,286,975), which also have a lower number of trail miles in comparison to their larger populations. The City of Las Vegas aspires to have between 30 and 46 miles of trail at full build-out, **while the CNLV, based on the recommended standard contained in this plan, would need 20 miles in year 2007 alone.** (This number takes into account the remaining extent of the LVWT trail (5 miles) and the complete linear streetscape and open space trail system of Aliante.)

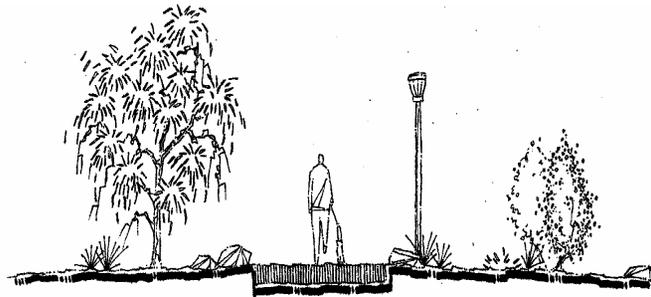
Actual Miles of Linear Park/Greenway/Trail



Trail Miles per 100,000 population



Colorado Springs Open Space Trail



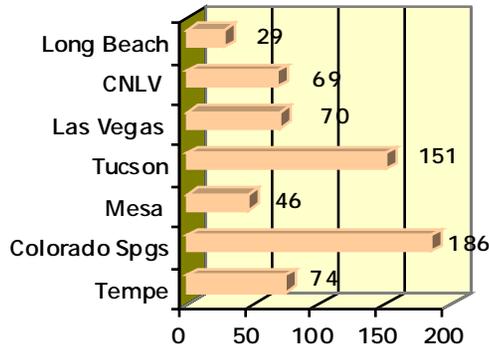
Section through proposed Las Vegas Wash Trail – City of North Las Vegas





Benchmark Analysis

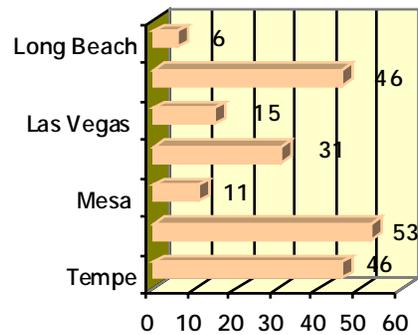
Number of Sportsfields



Sportsfields- Baseball, Soccer and Football

When compared to cities similar in population like Tempe, the CNLV appears to have a sufficient supply of sportsfields (baseball, soccer and football) to meet 2003 needs. The present condition changes quickly, as the next few years of suburban growth and the increasing popularity of organized soccer and baseball will combine to place an even greater demand on the City to build either additional fields in community parks, create a new multi-field sports complex or both. The CNLV compares very favorably as far as the number of sportsfields per 100,000 population criteria goes, coming in an equal second to Tempe, right behind the City of Colorado Springs, which has a large number of developed local parks.

Sportsfields per 100,000 population



First Class Sports Complex



Soccer places a high demand on CNLV sportsfields



Ballfields will soon be in short supply also in the CNLV





Benchmark Analysis

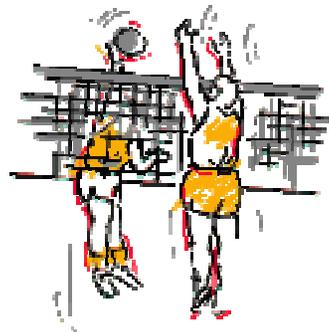
Sport Courts – Basketball, Tennis and Volleyball - With all three courts (basketball, tennis and volleyball) combined, the CNLV is last of all six cities in the number of sport courts provided in public parks. The City of Tempe, with a population resembling that of the CNLV, offers nearly three times as many courts as the City. In the category of the number of the sport courts per 100,000 people, the CNLV does slightly better, being the fourth of six cities. It is interesting to note that the CNLV doubles the number of sport courts available over the City of Las Vegas, with that City having a population base three times bigger than the CNLV.



In mild temperatures, outdoor basketball courts get a lot of use in the Las Vegas Valley.

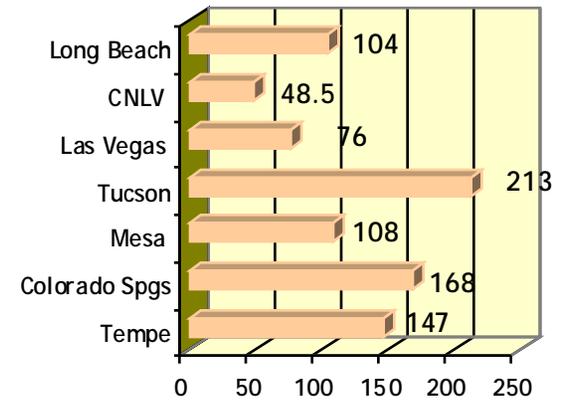


When the number of private tennis courts are factored in, the CNLV may not need as many public tennis courts.

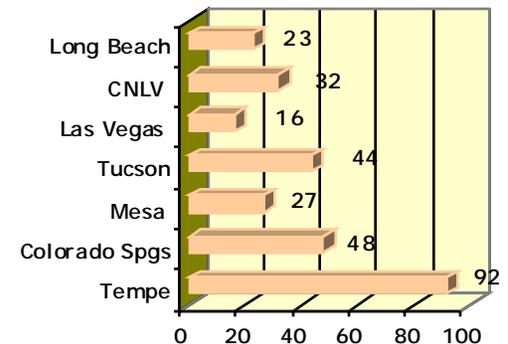


Next to soccer, volleyball is the second most participated sport in the world today.

Number of Sport Courts



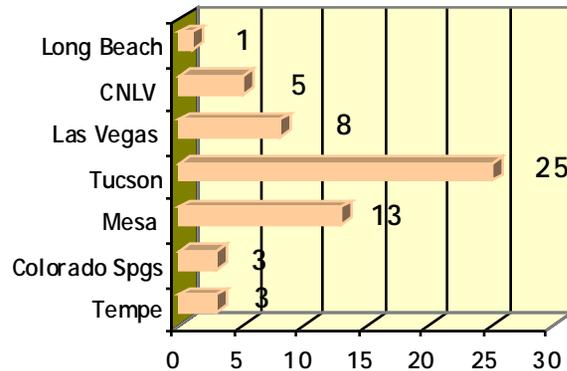
Sport Courts per 100,000 population





Benchmark Analysis

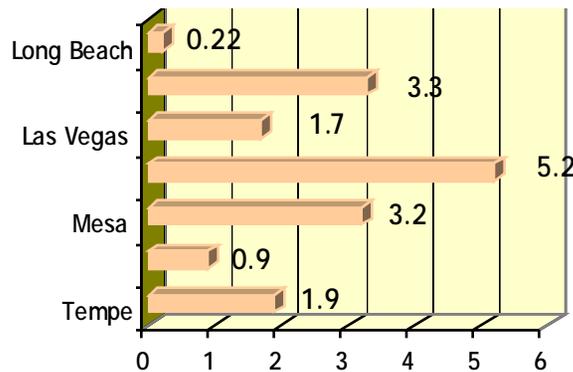
Number of Outdoor Pools



Outdoor Pools – The CNLV has done an outstanding job in providing public outdoor swimming pools that have kept pace with population growth, until now. **The CNLV ranks a respectable third among the six cities, offering 3.3 outdoor pools per 100,000 population.** In 2003, the CNLV is facing a deficit of three pools that will increase to another nine by 2005. **These numbers may be reduced if:**

- a count of private development (Planned unit developments, townhomes, condominiums and apartments) containing pools and the people who live around each of them is conducted;
- the number of pools at private health clubs, golf course clubhouses and the like and their usage rates are estimated; and
- the number of larger pools with limited public access (such as within CNLV high schools) are also factored in.

Outdoor Pools per 100,000 population



Silver Mesa Community Center
"Grand Splash" Event





Benchmark Analysis

Community Centers - All the cities surveyed were meeting the minimum and nationally accepted average standard of 1 community center per 75,000-100,000 people. The City of Tempe, Arizona population is similar to that of the CNLV and their ratio is at 1.9, keeping pace with population growth. The CNLV is likewise keeping pace, but will fall behind and be in need of at least one new community center by the end of 2004.

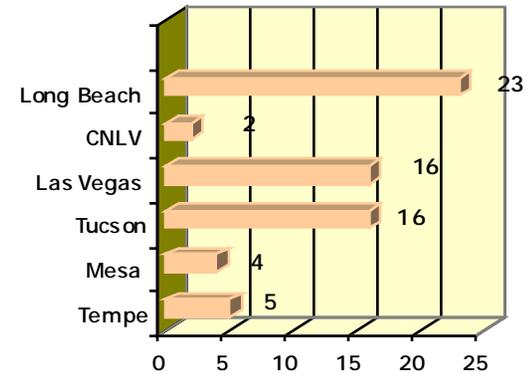


Red Mountain Multi-Generational Center
Mesa, Arizona

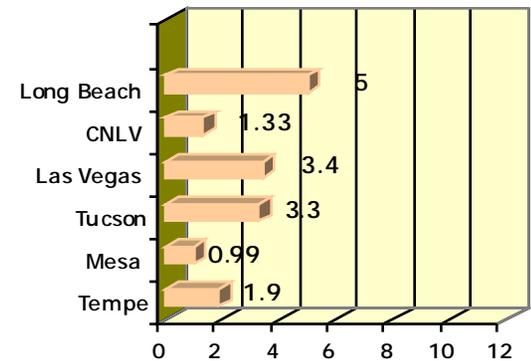


New Community Center Site Plan

Number of Community Centers



Community Centers per 100,000 population





Park Implementation Plan

Part III: A Needs and Demands Analysis has demonstrated that the CNLV is facing a shortage of park land and recreational facilities, making the effort facing the City difficult. In 1996, the Park and Recreation Master Plan concluded that:

"The significant need for developed park acreage over the near-term and long-term could create an insurmountable obstacle in terms of land acquisition, park design, construction and on-going maintenance."

Notwithstanding the impressive progress regarding park renovation (51 acres of new neighborhood and community parks, and a new community center), the reality of the above statement is still applicable in 2004. The 1996 Plan was clear about the challenge the CNLV faced in attempting to meet future acreage and facility requirements. The purpose of this study is to develop methods and an implementation plan to overcome the current park and recreation deficiencies over the long term.

To respond to this situation, the City Council adopted a long range Capital Improvement Plan for Parks (CIPP) to pursue a comprehensive Development Plan for park and recreation facilities.

The CIPP projects for 2004-2009 have been identified, and funds allocated to implement the Development Plan. For quick comparison, an early and very rough cost estimate was prepared based on some preliminary acreage and recreational facility deficits that became known near the conclusion of the community workshops. Based on those identified shortages, the following park projects were proposed:

- Fourteen (14) Neighborhood Parks at 10 acres each
- Seven (7) Community Parks at 25 acres each
- The conversion of Craig Ranch Golf Course to a Regional Park
- Two (2) new Community and Aquatics Centers
- The completion of 5.5 miles of the remaining Lower Las Vegas Wash Trail



The City has taken a hard look at the level of public investment the CNLV park system actually needs.



Even with the long range City CIPP, a shortfall of neighborhood and community parkland remains.





Park Implementation Plan

The planning and development costs for those projects were estimated to exceed \$152 million. They were also projected to be carried out over a seven year period, concluding in 2010. If that were to occur, the deficit of local parkland would then be:



With the full CIPP funding for CNLV parks, the gap between required local park acreage and park inventory is significantly narrowed by the year 2010.

CNLV Existing Local Park Acreage 2003	332 acres
Additional Local Park Acreage Proposed Above (2003-2010) (Fourteen Neighborhood and Seven Community Parks)	315 acres
Total of Local Park Acreage by year 2010	647 acres
Year 2010 Requirement at 2.5 acres/1,000 CNLV residents (estimated population 267,500)	669 acres
Local Park Acreage Deficit in 2010	22 acres

Without clear direction of how land would be made available for the proposed local parks, projected costs for actual land acquisition would total another \$53 million. Combined acquisition and development costs even for this program were roughly estimated to be \$205 million, with another \$5 million required in cumulative park operational and maintenance costs by year 2010.





Park Implementation Plan

In each of the above projections, the CNLV could expend anywhere **between \$150 (estimated land acquisition costs not included) and \$210 million for local and regional park development and linear parks/trails/greenways** and still have the following outcomes, using the adjusted and recommended acreage and facility standards contained in this Plan Update:

- Local (Neighborhood and Community) Parks - an 81 to 135 acre deficit
- Regional Parks (assuming Craig Ranch is acquired and developed - over a 1,000 acre deficit
- Linear Parks/Trails/Greenways - over a 66 mile deficit

The prior discussion demonstrates that even **with an extraordinary amount of public investment**, perhaps beyond the capacity of the CNLV to afford through any means, the end result is that the City's park system in year 2010 will still fall far short in the three primary categories of park types alone.

The implementation portion of the Master Plan Update **originally provided three (3) revenue choices - the "Status Quo", "Modest", and "Ambitious" scenarios**. Because they differed in terms of accomplishing the community priorities outlined in the Plan, **variable amounts of public investment would be required to fund the projects**, depending upon which scenario was chosen. The scenarios were different in the fact that:

- They were individually evaluated against several criteria;
- Their potential outcomes were routinely assessed;
- The project costs, while preliminary, were estimated; and
- Their sources of potential funding were listed.



With the full CIP funding at \$128.2 million, a comprehensive park and recreation plan is no longer a "pie in the sky" goal for the CNLV





Park Implementation Plan and Funding

Overview and Background

Careful analysis of the three original scenarios were evaluated relative to the above criteria, which gave the City **various benchmarks of financial commitment** required to implement various levels of park and recreational facilities expansion. It became apparent among the options, that the **“Ambitious” Scenario provided the City the most viable solution** to develop additional needed park and recreational facilities to keep pace with population growth.

As a result of the priorities established by the community, the City Council fully funded the Capital Improvement Program for Parks (CIPP) **for implementation of the Master Plan in accordance with the “Ambitious” scenario, which has been redefined as the “Development Plan”.** The **“Development Plan” incorporates all of the elements of the first two scenarios plus the addition of significant new projects to the City’s park and recreation system.**

A fundamental outcome of the park facilities Master Plan Update should be to **establish a feasible, cost-effective and long-term solution to the financing of existing and future parks and community facilities.** This needs to include ongoing funding to sustain and grow recreation programs, park operations and maintenance.

The financing issue was recognized as a considerable challenge from the beginning of this planning effort. Nothing occurred during the development of this Plan Update to reduce this challenge. To better understand the new challenge, previous portions of the Plan Update have:

- Identified continuing deficiencies and improvement needs within existing CNLV parks;
- Identified a wide range of parkland and recreational facility requirements, based upon recommended goals, objectives, policies and actions (GOPA’s), applicable standards and other points of reference;
- Quantified and expressed the preferences and interests of the CNLV community;
- Characterized who the present and future users of CNLV parks are and will be; and
- Identified the present and five-year needs and demands for various types of parks, recreational facilities in terms of both their quantity and, in some cases, location.

The next portion of the Plan describes the significant financing challenge facing the CNLV through development of a detailed program of capital improvements and associated costs.



The final implementation plan involved juggling many community priorities and limitations



A public investment program in the CNLV park system based on new and creative funding sources makes good sense



Park Implementation Plan and Funding

Financing Principles

The following six principles were used to guide the financing strategy of the implementation plan:

1. *The improvement program should be financially feasible and funding sources must be identified and quantified to programmed expenditures.* This principle may mean phasing-in the improvement scenarios presented in this section.

2. *The level of funding determined appropriate to match the selected spending priorities of this implementation program, should be both sustaining and dependable.* In order to maintain the confidence and lasting support of the community, people will want to know that future CNLV park projects have the necessary funding to make them happen.

3. *Program requirements should define facility needs.* Program requirements have traditionally defined recreational facility needs. This means that the CNLV's ability to expand recreation programs largely supported through its own financial resources, will have a defining influence in the type, function, and phasing of future park and recreation facilities. Unless there is sustained funding for recreation programs and operations and maintenance, the benefits of constructing a new park or recreational facility will be short-lived.

4. *Maintenance, operations, and depreciation must be considered in every future park or recreational facility project.* Constructing a new park or community facility inevitably leads to additional operation and maintenance cost. The existing park and recreation facilities will require maintenance and renovation on a regular cycle. Parks and recreation facilities typically have operations, maintenance, and replacement costs that rival or even exceed, on a present-value basis, the initial capital investment. Each capital investment in the park system must be matched with increased operating revenues, either as commitments of existing funding or increased funding from new sources.

5. *Areas of the CNLV underserved and lacking accessible and high-quality parks, should receive priority in new project funding.* This Plan has targeted portions of the City that do not have neighborhood and community parks close to established residential areas. Master-planned communities such as Aliante will have a full complement of local parks, community facilities, linear parks and greenways and natural open space made available for new residents. Finding equity and balance in the future location and provision of parkland and recreational facilities need to be prime considerations in how capital improvement monies are allocated and shared in the City.



The fair allocation of parks between newer and older parts of the CNLV will be a continual balancing act.





Park Implementation Plan and Funding

6. *The high emphasis the CNLV has placed on progressive renovation and upgrading of existing City parks should continue.* At the present time, the City has several key parks that are in need of extensive renovation, whose needs and full potential exceed the level of funding currently allocated. This Plan recommends expanding the scope of those projects to include both full renovation master planning and more aggressive improvement programs for selected parks. One of the most effective uses of the public investment in park funding is to care for existing facilities and ensure their efficient functioning and appearance to an already established clientele.

Project Issue Guidelines

Several recurring issues became clear throughout the planning process for the Park Facility Master Plan Update. By listing them, they can serve as a valuable checkpoint by which to evaluate how well the various levels of spending programs put forth in this implementation plan address community concerns. The primary issue themes were:

- The establishment of larger acreage community parks over small neighborhood parks.
- The select and strategic location of a few neighborhood parks in the most underserved areas of the CNLV.
- More sportsfields either at new community parks, sports complexes or joint school/parks.
- Creation of the first regional park in the City.
- Redevelopment projects for existing parks.
- More non-traditional recreational facilities and features.
- Establishing more linear parks/streetscapes/greenways throughout the City to promote opportunities for walking, bicycling and horseback riding.
- Having a downtown-oriented plaza park in the CNLV.
- Development of another community center.
- Acquiring and preserving valuable open space.
- More shade (either tree groves or structures) in City Parks.
- Creation of a community amphitheater and/or outdoor events center.



The CNLV should continue its energetic program of park renovation with even more substantial projects.



The Community has high expectations for more quality park and recreational facilities in the years ahead.





Park Implementation Plan and Funding



Change is one dynamic the CNLV has no shortage of

Process Leading to the Development Plan

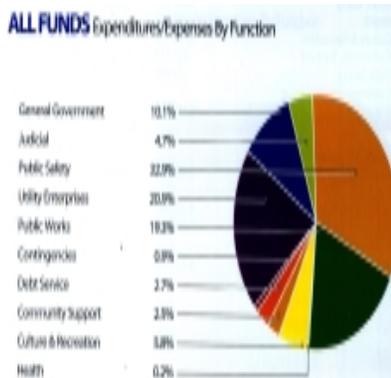
From a historical perspective, during the public workshops, the process leading to development of the Development Plan evaluated three distinct spending **scenarios**, the Status-Quo, Modest and Ambitious Scenarios. This approach was taken to allow the general community, the CNLV Parks and Recreation Department and City Council to have **flexibility and latitude in the decision-making process**. The need for flexibility in the determination of which future capital improvement projects for park acquisition and development, recreational, and community facilities get funded, was based on **three main factors**:

- The dynamic and ever-changing suburban growth the City is experiencing and which will continue throughout and beyond the next decade;
- The commensurate improvement and growth in City revenues and other resources and their hopeful direction towards park and recreational facility projects; and
- The need to update the facilities master plan every 2-3 years because of changing demographic, suburban development and community preferences as well as the acknowledgement of accomplishing key park projects.

As background, the spending scenarios reflected three distinct and different levels of potential expenditure towards a **Capital Improvement Parks Program (CIPP)** to carry out the different emphasis areas of this Plan. These scenarios included:

The Status-Quo or "Pay-As-We-Go" Scenario

This scenario was largely drawn from the existing **"Approved Major Capital Outlay Program Outline Parks and Recreation 2004-2008"** for the CNLV. This outline is composed of defined park and recreation improvement projects that are mainly funded by three primary revenue sources, the CNLV General Fund (**21%**), Tax Override Funds (**15%**) and Park District Funds (Residential Construction Tax) (**39%**). **The Plan proposes the expenditure of nearly \$16.5 million dollars from 2004-2008**, averaging around \$3.3 million each year, with the largest outlays occurring in FY 2004-2005 and FY 2005-2006. The park projects targeted in this scenario were predominately geared toward renovation and upgrading of existing CNLV parks. This scenario was very supportive of the majority of the recommendations contained in the earlier existing parks report.



In FY 2002-2003 Culture, Parks and Recreation had about a 6% slice of the CNLV budgetary pie





Park Implementation Plan and Funding



Under this scenario, more park locations will be available for high-quality sportsfields

Modest Scenario

This scenario promoted a more determined spending program intended to make more significant headway by adding more local parks, opening up the City's first regional park and completing it's first linear park and greenway. The Modest scenario incorporated the Status-Quo scenario projected expenditures of \$16.5 million and **adds another \$54.7 million in additional capital improvement park projects (CIPP's), totaling slightly over \$71 million for the next five years, 2003-2008.** This approximated \$14 million in each fiscal year, or **roughly an \$11 million increase per year over the status-quo scenario.** The primary sources of funding contemplated to finance this spending scenario was the SNPLMA with a **24%** contribution, Park District Funds consisting of **16%** of the share, and Supplemental/Dedicated Revenue adding another **45%**.

The park projects that were targeted in the Modest scenario were consistent with several recommendations contained in the existing parks section of this Plan. Among those are:

- **Significant renovation master planning and redevelopment** at existing key CNLV parks (Cheyenne Sports Complex, City View Community Park and Valley View Neighborhood Park).
- Should Craig Ranch Golf Course not be acquired and converted to a regional park, the alternate choice is the **City's existing 160 acre Willie McCool Regional Park, which would undergo a complete master planning process, resulting in a substantial first phase of development.**
- While the existing parks report did not identify the extension and completion of the Western Tributary & Upper Las Vegas Wash Trail, it is assumed in this spending scenario that the first 2.5 miles of it will be complete sometime in 2004, with the logical recommendation being to **add the remaining 5.5 miles, ending with a complete trail by the end of 2007.**



Certain areas of the Las Vegas Wash have some of the Valley's most visually satisfying and valuable open space





Bold and Visionary - The Development Plan

Development Plan

Previously referred to as the **Ambitious Scenario**, this program was selected by the City and titled the **Development Plan** to reflect the City's intent.

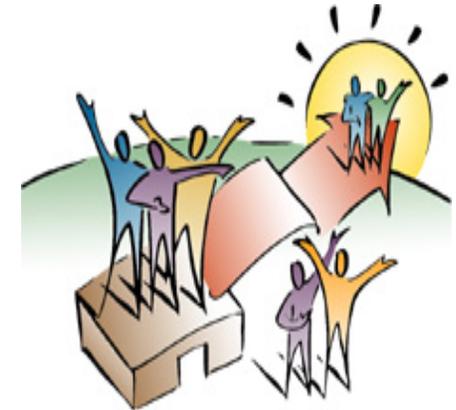
Highlights and Features of the Plan

The Development Plan sets forth a highly motivated spending program intended to make significant improvements to the CNLV park system by adding the largest number of new local parks, completing the City's regional park, adding a new community center, a downtown park/plaza and the continuation of linear parks and greenway trails. The plan incorporates all of the elements of what was formerly termed during the workshops as the Status-Quo and the Modest scenarios, having a projected expenditure of over **\$71 million. An additional \$57.2 million, bringing the total to over \$ 128.2 million in park projects, is contained within the approved 2003-2009 Capital Improvement Program for Parks (CIPP)**. The primary sources of funding proposed to finance the new projects in the Development Plan are Streets, Fire, and Parks Tax Override Funds, Park District Funds, and revenue received through the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

Comparison to Existing Park Report Recommendations

As mentioned above, the park projects from the former Status-Quo and Modest scenario are carried over and added to the new projects outlined in this scenario. The comparisons to the existing park report for those carry over projects have been made clear in earlier sections of this implementation plan.

- **Renovation to Existing CNLV Parks and Community Facilities-** With a few notable exceptions, **almost every existing CNLV park will have undergone some level of upgrading and improvement. Three community swimming pools will have been fully renovated.** The City Golf Course Clubhouse will have been substantially remodeled and the surrounding grounds improved.





Bold and Visionary - The Development Plan



Protection of the natural landforms and character of the desert are unique opportunities in future CNLV open space parks

- **New Park Development, Recreational and other Community Facilities** - Local (neighborhood and community) park acreage **will only increase by an estimated 51 acres**, still leaving a substantial **deficit of 298 acres** in year 2007, based on the recommended standard (2.5 acres of local parkland per 1,000 people). Contributing to the 51 acre increase are neighborhood/community park developments at the existing Simmons/Gowan site (approximately 11 acres), the two parks at Aliante (approximately 25 acres) and the establishment of a new community park/sports complex (approximately 15 acres) within the Lower Las Vegas Wash Detention Basin.

The additional projects targeted in this scenario are all new park acquisition, development or community facilities initiatives and bear no relationship to most of the recommendations contained in the existing parks report. The exceptions to this would be those recommendations pertaining to:

- Instituting a comprehensive park signage program. This is an option for the City to explore if the current signage program is determined to be inadequate or in need of upgrading. (See **Appendix B: CNLV Comprehensive Park Signage Program**), and
- The encouragement of introducing interesting park architecture and the inclusion of new, non-traditional recreational facilities and park amenities.



Quality signage gives City parks a unique identity and provides wayfinding capability



Bold and Visionary - The Development Plan



West Chandler Aquatic and Swim Center, Chandler, Arizona



Silver Mesa Community and Aquatic Center, City of North Las Vegas

Comparison to Community Assessment Input And Core Issues

Rather than be repetitious, given the magnitude and expense of the projects this scenario sets forth, it meets or exceeds the other community input and issue comparisons already examined in the other scenarios. Where it is markedly different is:

- Among stakeholders interviewed, several common threads of opinion on what they wanted to see in CNLV parks emerged:
 - ◆ Downtown Parks
 - ◆ New Community Recreation Center / Multi-Generational Complex
 - ◆ Large Acreage (Community & Regional) Parks
 - ◆ More Variety in Public Spaces

This Development Plan is very responsive to those preferences, because if funded at full capacity, it would deliver a downtown park/plaza, a new community center, one additional community park and the near completion of the city's first regional park. It would certainly introduce the kind of new and unique recreational facilities found elsewhere in parks around the Las Vegas Valley.

- Over two-thirds (66%) of those who participated in the public survey felt that another Community or Multi-Generational Center is a priority somewhere else within the CNLV. 47% of those same respondents indicated that they would also support a property tax or a bond issue to among other priority projects, also build a new Community Center. Survey takers also indicated that they wanted to see a new community center that had a lot of diversified space and adequate room to accommodate (the top six):
 - ◆ After-School Program Areas
 - ◆ A Multi-Use Gymnasium
 - ◆ Outdoor/Indoor Swimming Pool
 - ◆ Children's Play Area
 - ◆ An Exercise/Aerobics Room
 - ◆ Teen Activity Room



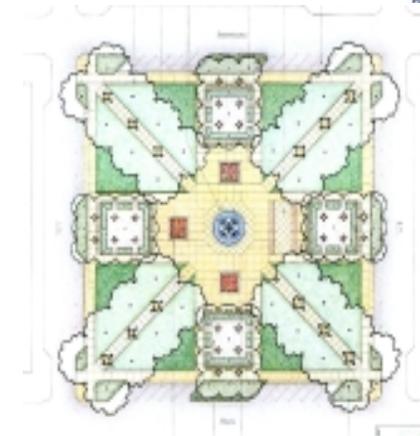
Bold and Visionary - The Development Plan

- *Establish more linear parks/streetscapes/greenways throughout the City to promote opportunities for walking, bicycling and horseback riding.* This scenario will add another 5 miles or more with its proposal to begin new linear park and greenway along Upper Las Vegas Wash.
- *Develop a downtown-oriented plaza park in the CNLV (such as Town Center in Chico, California).* A pleasant place of civic pride for community events and downtown gatherings would be created as a result of this scenario.
- *Repeat the success of Silver Mesa Community Center again by building a new one somewhere else in the City.* One of the centerpiece projects featured in this scenario is the design and construction of a new community or multi-generational center (such as the East Las Vegas Community and Arts Center) at a well-thought out and selected location.

Consistency with Goals, Objectives, Policies and Actions (GOPA's)

The Development Plan is a reflection of the community input and issues cited here, and are not much different from the GOPA's mentioned earlier. Since the plan is a synthesis of currently approved projects with the introduction of new projects, it tracks well with the aspirations and directions in these GOPA's. Some portions of the GOPA's that have not yet been addressed that new projects in the plan would consider are:

- **Goal 3.0:** *Provision of recreation services that promote health and wellness for all CNLV citizens in order to create a lifetime user.*
- **Objective:** *Development of indoor recreation facilities that meet population standards, facility programming guidelines and that are equitably distributed.*



Town Center Plaza and Park
Chico, California



East Las Vegas Community and
Arts Center-Las Vegas, Nevada





The Neighborhood Center would be improved through modernization and expansion

- **Action:** Conduct a site selection and facility programming study to determine the optimum location for the next major community center to be built in the CNLV. In all likelihood, the location for the next CNLV community center will be set in a community sized park, or larger. This scenario includes three community park development projects to choose from, two with fixed (already acquired) locations and one that can be located where the public need is found to be the greatest.
- **Action:** A major expansion and modernization of the existing Neighborhood Center to better serve the growing population base, the central portion of the CNLV should be considered. The central, older portion of the CNLV is also one of the most densely populated. Whether enough available land mass can be found to locate a decent-sized community park, will be a matter of continuing concern. Given the other underserved sectors of the City, it is also questionable if this area would be the fortunate recipient of the next community center. The existing Neighborhood Center receives heavy use from surrounding residents, despite its age, appearance and limited space. One affordable option contained in this scenario would be to increase the versatility of the Neighborhood Center, modernization and expansion.
- **Policy:** The CNLV will continue planning coordination and develop working partnerships with the City of Las Vegas, Clark County and the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition on such open space and greenway initiatives as the Lower and Upper Las Vegas Wash Trails. As evidence of that continuing coordination, this scenario also includes the first phase of the acquisition and development of the Upper Las Vegas Wash Trail, an important link in the overall regional trail system envisioned to serve Northwest part of the Las Vegas Valley.



The Development Plan opens up tremendous possibilities for the CNLV park system

Financial Assumptions and Requirements

The underlying assumptions built into this scenario are:

- **First**, this plan is based on a time-frame that:
 - ◆ Assumes it to begin in 2003, when completion of existing committed projects are completed, with the additional projects targeted for completion by the year 2010; and
 - ◆ Allows extension to possibly 2013, given the extensive list of park projects contained in the already committed projects.





Bold and Visionary - The Development Plan

- **Secondly**, the success of this plan depends upon:
 - ✦ Accomplishment of essential and **high-profile park development projects contained in the already committed projects**;
 - ✦ **Creation of a marketing strategy and community relations program** directed toward garnering increased public support to support either a tax, fee, or surcharge increase for parks and recreation; or
 - ✦ **Establishment of a revenue bond** based on a stable, known or pooled funding source (i.e. SNPLMA monies); or
 - ✦ **Passage of a general obligation bond** to finance the projects it recommends.

The Development Plan represents a collective investment in the CNLV park system totaling more than \$128.2 million through year 2010, devoted to parkland renovation, acquisition, development, and including maintenance and administrative improvements. Most of the expenditures are oriented towards development of new local and regional parks, and the completion of linear parks.

As a result of the new park facilities proposed in the plan, **annual operations and maintenance costs** are anticipated to **rise by another \$1.4 million**. When combined with the existing committed amount of nearly \$1.9 million, **the collective operational and maintenance expenditures through year 2009 could amount to close to \$3.3 million**, with most of that expenditure being required in fiscal years 2004-2006 and 2008-2009.

Performance Outcomes

Although it encompasses all committed projects, the **Development Plan is primarily oriented towards new park and recreational facility development**. Full realization of the projects outlined in the Plan is anticipated to have the following measurable outcomes:



A marketing and community relations strategy targeted toward developing key park projects is essential to increasing the confidence of CNLV park users



The added financial horsepower contained in the Development Plan will help the CNLV parks system excel in quality.





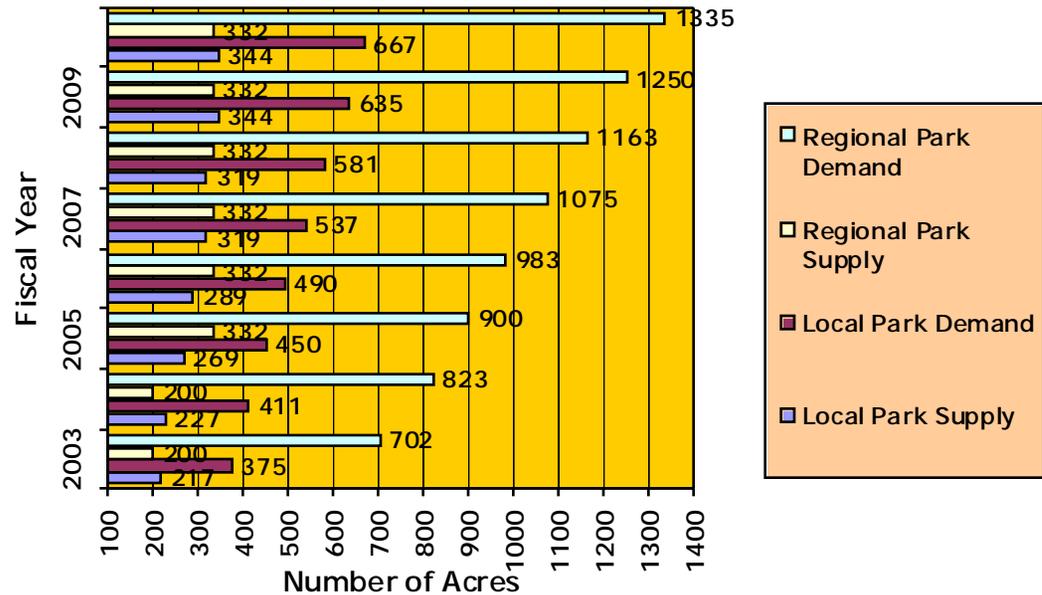
Bold and Visionary - The Development Plan

Renovation to Existing CNLV Parks and Community Facilities- The extensive park and facility renovation program that will be accomplished under the committed projects program will be incorporated in the Development Plan.

New Park Development, Recreational and other Community Facilities- Local (neighborhood and community) park acreage **will increase by an additional 51 acres over the already committed projects, narrowing the acreage deficit to 318 acres, but requiring an additional three years (2010) to be accomplished.** Contributing to the 60 acre increase will be three new 10 acre neighborhood parks (site selection/acquisition have not yet occurred), and the addition of another new community park development (in addition of the two already acquired CNLV park sites). The City would also add **50 more acres of developed and diversified park space** accessible to the public at either Craig Ranch or at the existing 160 acre Willie McCool Regional Park site. Despite the combined **introduction of 130 acres of developed regional parkland** currently committed by 2010, the **continuing shortage of regional park acreage will remain a substantial amount, exceeding 1000 acres.**

Special Use Recreational Facilities (SURF) – The situation for these types of facilities will improve considerably with the **addition of a new community and aquatics or multi-generational center.**

The Development Plan
Local and Regional Parkland Supply and Demand 2003-2010



Beyond that the existing **Neighborhood Center is slated for a major remodeling and expansion to the tune of \$5 million.** Somewhere in the redevelopment area of older downtown CNLV, **a town plaza/park is contemplated** that could serve as both a community landmark and gathering spot.

Linear Parks/Streetscapes/Greenways- With the Development Plan, more of the Valley-wide regional trail plan would be realized with the first **5 miles of the Upper Las Vegas Trail Wash.** There is also the built-in assumption that the remaining 12 miles of trail and linear parks will be in place at Aliante by the end of 2010. This would still leave a considerable shortage of built trail miles in the City, **with nearly 50 more miles needed by 2010.**



PARK & RECREATIONAL FACILITY - MASTER PLAN UPDATE



Extended Term 2003 - 2008 / 2010 Implementation Program - The Development Plan

Capital Improvement Park Project (CIPP) (CNLV Ref. #)	Target Year	Park Type	ACTION					PROJECT IDENTIFICATION	Acres	ANTICIPATED COSTS			PROPOSED EXPENDITURES AND FUNDING SOURCE(S)							
			Study / Plan / Design (S/P/D)	Land Acquisition	Construct Park & Facility	Renovation / Park Upgrade	Major Maintenance			New Parkland Acquisition or Development Costs	Existing Parks & Recreation Facility Development	Annual Operation & Maintenance Cost Estimate	CNLV CIP General Fund	Supplemental / Dedicated Revenue (i.e. Tax Override Fund)	SNPLMA Source Monies	Other State & Federal Grants	Park District Funds (Residential Construction Tax) or Impact Fee	General Obligation or Revenue Bonds	Other (*)	
	03 - 07							Status Quo Summary	\$8,571,000	\$7,902,000	\$443,500	\$3,648,500	\$2,610,000	\$2,400,000	\$549,000	\$6,530,000	\$0	\$1,179,000		
								Modest Summary	\$49,500,000	\$5,200,000	\$1,450,000	\$4,100,000	\$25,350,000	\$14,000,000	\$3,500,000	\$9,200,000	\$0	\$0		
												Total Projected Funding \$56,150,000								
N/A	07			X			Local Park Acquisition Fund		\$4,000,000									\$4,000,000		
PR-51	07	NP	X				Neighborhood Park #4 (S/P/D)		\$350,000									\$350,000		
PR-52	07	NP	X				Neighborhood Park #5 (S/P/D)		\$350,000									\$350,000		
PR-53	07	NP	X				Neighborhood Park #6 (S/P/D)		\$350,000									\$350,000		
N/A	07	M&O				X	Park Headquarters Improvements			\$250,000		\$250,000								
N/A	07	M&O				X	Revolving Park Maintenance Fund			\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000								
PR-56	07	SURF	X				Downtown Plaza / Park (S/P/D)		\$250,000									\$250,000		
2007 - 2008 TOTAL									\$5,300,000	\$1,250,000	\$0	\$1,250,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,050,000	\$250,000		
N/A	08					X	Central Garage Streetscape		\$300,000			\$300,000								
PR-57	08	CP	X				Community Park #3 (S/P/D)		\$500,000									\$500,000		
PR-56	08	SURF		X			Downtown Plaza / Park (Acquisition)		\$1,000,000									\$1,000,000		
PR-12	08	SURF	X				Neighborhood Center Remodel & Expansion (S/P/D)			\$500,000								\$500,000		
PR-51	08	NP				X	Neighborhood Park #4 (Development)	10.00	\$2,400,000		\$120,000	\$120,000						\$2,400,000		
PR-52	08	NP				X	Neighborhood Park #5 (Development)	10.00	\$2,400,000		\$120,000	\$120,000				\$1,000,000		\$1,400,000		
PR-53	08	NP				X	Neighborhood Park #6 (Development)	10.00	\$2,400,000		\$120,000	\$120,000				\$1,000,000		\$1,400,000		
N/A	08	ADMIN	X				Sports & Aquatics Office (S/P/D)		\$30,000			\$30,000								
PR-50	08	LP&G	X				Upper Las Vegas Wash Trail (S/P/D)		\$600,000				\$600,000							
2008 - 2009 TOTAL									\$9,630,000	\$500,000	\$360,000	\$690,000	\$0	\$600,000	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$6,200,000	\$1,000,000		
PR-57	09	CP				X	Community Park #3 (Development)	20.00	\$5,000,000		\$300,000	\$300,000						\$5,000,000		
PR-56	09	SURF				X	Downtown Plaza / Park Phase 1 (Development)	5.00	\$1,500,000		\$75,000	\$75,000						\$1,500,000		
PR-12	09	M&O				X	Neighborhood Center Remodel & Expansion			\$5,000,000	\$250,000	\$250,000						\$5,000,000		
N/A	09	M&O				X	Park Maintenance Service Center		\$750,000									\$750,000		
PR-45	09	RP	X				Phase 2 Park Regional (S/P/D)		\$500,000		\$50,000	\$50,000						\$500,000		
N/A	09	ADMIN				X	Sports & Aquatics Office (Construction)		\$300,000			\$300,000								
PR-50	09	LP&G				X	Upper Las Vegas Wash Trail (Development)	5 miles	\$7,955,000		\$50,000	\$50,000			\$7,955,000					
2009 - 2010 TOTAL									\$16,005,000	\$5,000,000	\$725,000	\$1,025,000	\$0	\$0	\$7,955,000	\$0	\$11,250,000	\$1,500,000		
PR-45	10	RP				X	Phase 2 Park Regional (Development)	50.00	\$5,000,000		\$350,000	\$350,000						\$5,000,000		
2010 (or before) TOTAL									\$5,000,000	\$0	\$350,000	\$350,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$0		
Summary Fiscal Years 2007-2010									\$35,935,000	\$6,750,000	\$1,435,000	\$3,315,000	\$0	\$600,000	\$7,955,000	\$2,000,000	\$27,500,000	\$2,750,000		
Percentage of Total									81.45%	15.30%	3.25%	7.51%	0.00%	1.36%	18.03%	4.53%	62.33%	6.23%		
Total Projected Expenditures - "Ambitious"									\$44,120,000			Total Projected Funding			\$44,120,000					
Combined with "Status Quo" & "Modest" Scenarios									\$94,006,000	\$19,852,000	\$3,328,500	\$11,063,500	\$27,960,000	\$17,000,000	\$12,004,000	\$17,730,000	\$27,500,000	\$3,929,000		

Key to "Park Type":	
MP	Mini Park
NP	Neighborhood Park
CP	Community Park
RP	Regional Park
LP&G	Linear Park & Greenway
JSP	Joint School / Park
SURF	Special Use Recreation Facility
ADMIN	Administrative
M&O	Maintenance & Operations

- (1) No land acquisition costs are figured in for local (neighborhood and community) park sites. Six neighborhood park sites in the "status quo" (one), "modest" scenario (two) and "ambitious" scenario (three) are expected to be secured through an RP&P lease with the Bureau of Land Management of dedication from private development. One new community park is also shown in the ambitious scenario. An additional local park acquisition fund is shown in the ambitious scenario.
- (2) \$38 million for land acquisition for the Craig Ranch Golf Course / Regional Park in not shown. As of January 2004, this real estate transaction is tentative, but has received a funding commitment from SNPLMA.
- (3) All monies identified for parkland acquisition or development projects here should be adjusted by an average inflation factor of 3% annually for each year beyond 2003 or for each additional year they are deferred or delayed. (Source: InflationData.com published by Financial Trend Forecaster)
- (4) Estimated Park Maintenance and Operational expenditures are based on year 2003 average per acre costs only.
- (5) This plan does not reflect any prospective and additional joint school / park development projects with CCSD.

Key to "Area Quadrant"	
PD1	Park District 1
PD2	Park District 2
PD3	Park District 3
PD4	Park District 4

(*) Other Includes:	
Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, City of Las Vegas, Clark County, Developer Participation, Equipment Replacement, Homeland Security, Land Fund, Municipal Golf Course Fund, One Cent General Fund Property Tax Set Aside, Private Funding, Program and Activities Fund (275), Tax Override Bond, Union Pacific Railroad, CNLV Redevelopment Agency.	





Implementation Plan Recommendation

Recommendation Description

The implementation recommendation of this Master Plan Update is two-fold:

- ✦ *Carry out the park renovation and development projects contained in the Modest scenario spending plan in a logical, financially affordable and strategic manner, over the next five to eight fiscal years and*
- ✦ *Based on the accomplishment of key projects and increased public support, consider incorporating some or all of the projects identified in the Ambitious scenario and fund those through a bond issue.*

Flexibility and Responsiveness

Even after this Plan and the projects it promotes are set in motion, a variety of factors may cause both the sequence and content of those very projects to change. New funding opportunities may present themselves earlier than anticipated, thereby accelerating a project towards being completed ahead of the fiscal year it was scheduled for. The urgent need to acquire undeveloped parkland in areas of the City experiencing high rates of suburban development may arise. Shifting community and political priorities and preferences for one project over another will undoubtedly influence the course this Plan takes.

The best means to anticipate and respond to these dynamic factors is for the Capital Improvement Program for Parks (CIPP) to be **reviewed on an annual basis** and adjusted to match the varying conditions of the CNLV as they related to financial, land use, population, or political considerations.

Financial Strategies

This section of the Master Plan Update will not go into extensive detail regarding the means and methods by which renovation, parkland acquisition or park development projects can be financed in future years. What is more important is to outline the basic financial strategies and actions that this recommendation is built around:



The Parks Master Plan Update needs to be adaptable to changing conditions over its lifetime





Implementation Plan Recommendation

Recommended Strategies and Actions for 2003-2005

Strategy: Explore all available and feasible means to establish a fund dedicated to local park acquisition and development as well as operation and maintenance funding:

Actions:

- Consider Increasing Residential Construction Tax (RCT) beyond the maximum level now allowed (will take Valley-wide consensus and State Legislation);
- Consider allocating more of Street, Maintenance, Fire and Park Fund to park projects; and
- Consider alternative funding sources such as a utility surcharge or a fractional increase to local sales tax.

Strategy: Maintain present direction and emphasis (Existing CNLV 2003-2008 CIPP)

Actions:

- Evaluate which, if any, high-visibility and community priority projects (i.e. sportsfields at Lower Las Vegas Wash Detention Basin, Simmons and Gowan Community Park) or major park renovation projects can be accelerated and built ahead of schedule.
- Address and overcome present issues of limited public access, variable standards of sportsfield and facility maintenance with CCSD (Clark County School District). This will allow for identification of existing and future school sites having available sportsfields or sports courts that could benefit from improvement and be jointly used more extensively by the CNLV.



Local park and recreational facility development, beyond the 2003-2008 CIPP, will receive additional funding





Implementation Plan Recommendation

Park Renovation, Acquisition and Development Strategies and Actions 2003-2005

Part IV.2 Plan Recommendation



Smart Steps to take



Autumn Meadows Community Park
Sacramento, California

- ✚ **Strategy:** Complete renovation and upgrading program for existing CNLV parks.
- ✚ **Actions:**
 - Conduct renovation master planning and substantial redevelopment of:
 - Cheyenne Sports Complex
 - City View Community Park
 - Valley View Park
- ✚ **Strategy:** Place a high emphasis on Regional, linear parks and greenways.
- ✚ **Actions:**
 - Commence master planning and design at either Craig Ranch Golf Course or the existing 160 acre Willie McCool Regional Park.
 - Apply for additional SNPLMA (Round 5 and beyond) funding for substantial phases of Regional Park, linear park and greenway development.
 - Commit an adequate level of park maintenance and operational funding to the phased development of the selected Regional, linear parks and greenways.
- ✚ **Strategy:** Focus on Community Park development
- ✚ **Actions:**
 - Master plan and develop both existing community park sites:
 - Simmons and Gowan
 - Bruce and Tropical



April 2004



Implementation Plan Recommendation

Recommended Strategies and Actions for 2005-2007

- ✿ Actively look for additional undeveloped acreage to add to each site (they are both currently insufficient in size to accommodate the needed level of facilities).
- ✿ Promote and market park projects in advance of realization.
- ✿ **Strategy: Develop Marketing and Outreach program to increase public awareness and involvement park projects.**
- ✿ **Actions:**
 - ✿ Use existing City media resources to advertise accomplishments.
 - ✿ Provide for greater public involvement in park planning and design process.
- ✿ **Strategy: Focus on Accomplishing Key "High-Visibility" Projects**
- ✿ **Actions:**
 - ✿ Complete full development of both existing community park sites.
 - ✿ Complete all park renovation and upgrading projects to existing CNLV parks and community recreation facilities by following the Status-Quo scenario.

MidPoint

Emphasize Major Milestones



Acquisition and development of at least three new 10 acre (min.) Neighborhood Parks should take place during the midpoint of this Plan





Implementation Plan Recommendation

Part IV.2 Plan Recommendation

Recommended Strategies and Actions for 2005-2007

- Complete substantial redevelopment at Cheyenne Sports Complex and complete renovation of City View Community Park.
- Attempt to acquire and build three new neighborhood parks in the most underserved and existing residential areas of the CNLV.
- Complete SUBSTANTIAL first phase of regional park development.
- Complete the entire Lower Las Vegas Wash Trail.
- Complete additional local park development at Aliante.
- Plan additional parks in future BLM land sales.



Keeping the vision alive

Recommended Strategies and Actions for 2007-2010

• Strategy: Keeping the Parks Master Plan Current

• Actions:

- Conduct a periodic review of the Parks Master Plan in FY 2006-2007 by following the recommendations contained in **Part V: Keeping the Plan Current**.

• Strategy: Focus on Full Funding Commitment to the Plan through Bond Issue and Grants

• Actions:

- Investigate most advantageous timing and content for bond issue.

April 2004





Implementation Plan Recommendation

Recommended Strategies and Actions for 2007-2010

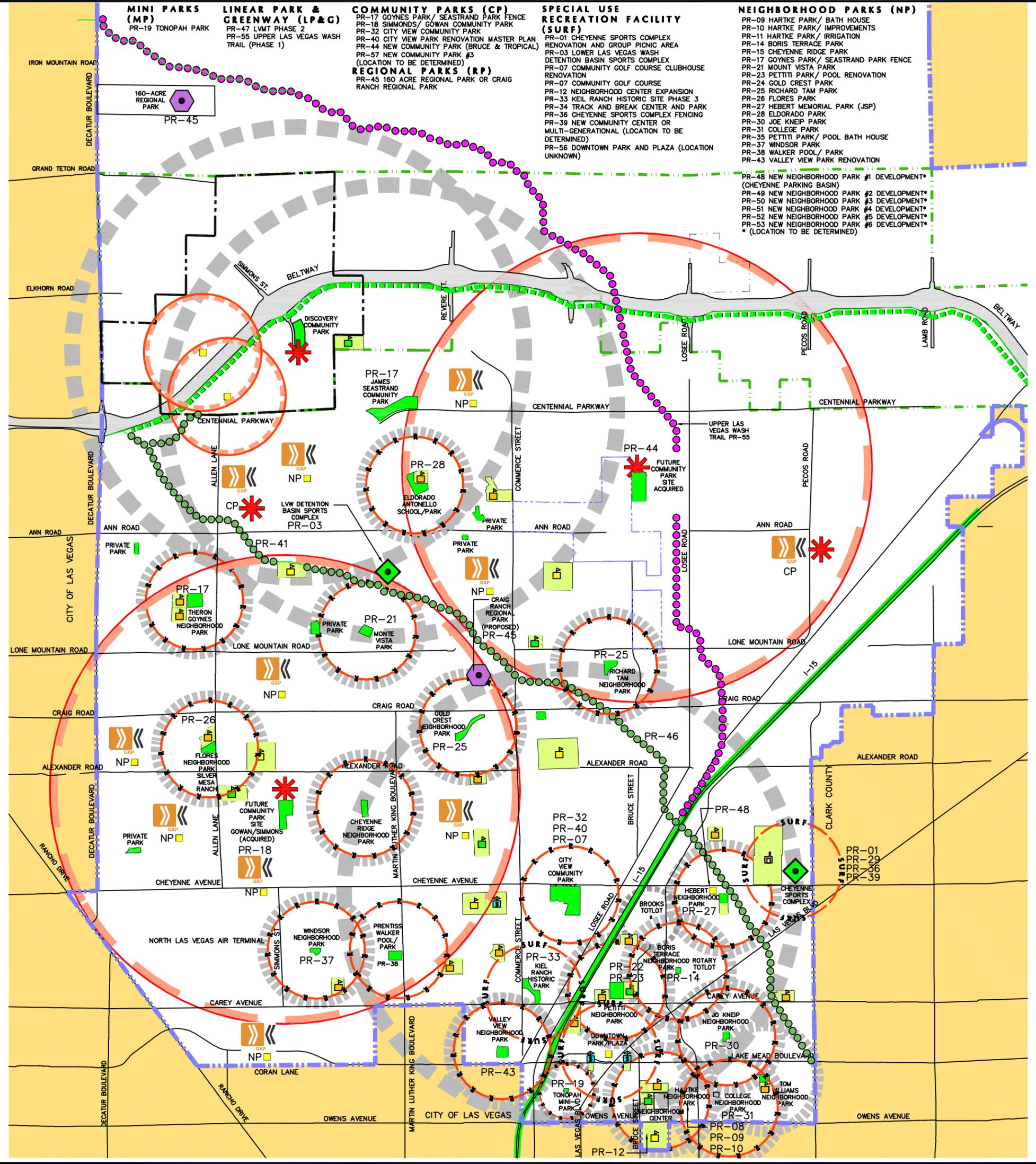
- Conduct in-depth public survey to determine level of support.
- Select key park projects to emphasize such as:
 - New Community or Multi-generational Center
 - Remodel and Expansion of existing Neighborhood Center
 - Additional neighborhood (three) and community park site (one) acquisition and development
 - Completion of regional park development
- Apply for and obtain SNPLMA funding to start Upper Las Vegas Wash Trail.
- Acquire and develop Downtown Plaza/Park through Redevelopment Agency.
- Plan, design and build new administrative, recreation programming and maintenance services facilities and buildings.
- Establish Revolving Major Maintenance Fund for Parks.
- Establish Local Park Land Acquisition Fund.
- Complete all linear park, streetscapes, and trails complete at Aliante.



A Revenue or General Obligation Bond Issue may be needed to pay for the projects listed here



MAP E 'AMBITIOUS' SCENARIO PLAN OF CNLV PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM 2003-2010



LEGEND:

SCHOOL TYPE	Sports Complex	Proposed Park Service Radius	Beltway Primary Trail Corridor (Proposed)
Private	Neighborhood Park (NP) Existing or Proposed (1/2 mile service radius)	Existing Park Service Radius	Lower Las Vegas Wash Trail (LVWT)
CCSN	Community Park (CP) Existing or Proposed (2 mile service radius)	Aliante Border	Upper Las Vegas Wash Trail (Proposed)
Elementary	Regional Park (30 minute drive)	Existing Parks	Indicates General Geographic Service Area Gap For Local Parks
Middle	Planned Renovation	Existing Schools	NORTH
High	Special Use Recreation Facility (SURF)	Major Roads	CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS <i>Our Community of Choice</i>
Special		I-15	poggemeyer design group, Inc. engineers • planners • surveyors • landscape architects 2601 North Tropic Way • Las Vegas, NV 89128 • p) 702.255.6100 • f) 702.255.6376

This is a conceptual, diagrammatic plan. It is intended to guide park development for the City of North Las Vegas. Private parks are not factored into the service areas. The plan is not intended to identify specific properties/parcels. It represents the Park Department's needs, standards and aspirations of the community of North Las Vegas.
January 2004



Paying for the Plan

Introduction

At the disposal of the City will be a multitude of ways and means to selectively fund the projects contained in the core recommendation of this Plan. Presented within this Plan is a range of local funding options. All options will require ordinance changes and City Council action; some will require a vote of the citizens; and others will require a new State enabling legislation in order to be effective. Additionally, State and Federal grant funding sources and their specific applicability to local park and recreation projects are also highlighted.

Other techniques becoming more common and effective around the country, such as conservation easements, land trusts and the establishment of a parks foundation are also presented here. Creatively and energetically applied, they can serve as additional ways to aid in the realization of some of the more strategic and "high-visibility" park development and open space projects contained in the Plan.



The CNLV has raised the Residential Construction Tax (RCT) to the maximum allowable under current law to generate additional revenue for CNLV park projects

Local Funding Choices

Residential Construction Tax Allocation to Parks:

- Consider jointly sponsoring (through the SNRPC) introducing state legislation to increase the Residential Construction Tax (RCT) beyond the maximum level allowable (\$36/sq. ft.) and direct all additional proceeds to park projects.
- NRS 278.4983** allows for the collection of a residential construction tax on single-family homes, apartments and mobile homes for the planning, acquisition, development or expansion of neighborhood parks.

"Under current law, developers must pay no more than \$1,000 per home in residential construction tax, meaning all living space in a home larger than approximately 2,700 square feet is in effect exempted from the parks tax."
November 29, 2000 Las Vegas Review-Journal "Push is on to get Legislature to OK Impact Fees"





Paying for the Plan - Local Funding Choices

At present the share of the RCT that the CNLV applies towards park projects is **approximately \$700**. During the 2001 Legislative Session the City of Las Vegas lobbied, unsuccessfully, for lawmakers to raise the RCT cap to \$2,000 a home. Also, the way the statute is currently worded, RCT monies can only be spent on *“neighborhood parks ... not exceeding 25 acres, designed to serve the recreational and outdoor needs...”* This aspect of the RCT is worthwhile in mentioning here, because it conceivably would rule out use of these funds for a future community-level park larger than 25 acres in the CNLV. In the 2003 legislature, Assembly Bill (AB) 196 was introduced which would have allowed the RCT to be expanded to include **non-residential construction projects while also widening its expenditure by allowing regional-level parks to be included**. Non-residential construction projects would have been valued at *“1 percent of the valuation of each building permit issued or \$20,000 per non-residential construction project.”* AB 196 failed to get out of joint committee and was never passed.

- **Park Impact Fees** - NRS 278B.010 allows for a separate impact fee to be assessed for a range of public improvements **including parks**. An impact fee is defined as *“... a charge imposed by a local government on new development to finance the costs of a capital improvement ... attributable to that new development”*. (NRS 278B.050) **Parks up to 50 acres (neighborhood and community sized parks) are eligible for use of these impact fees**. The process by which the impact fees can be determined and assessed is a lengthy and involved one. It requires the establishment of an advisory committee for capital improvements, the development of a City-wide capital improvements plan (establishes a means and process to determine the fee), public hearings, and formal adoption of the plan and imposition of the fee.

The apparent advantage of the impact fee over the residential construction tax appears to be:

- The proceeds from an impact fee could be higher since it can be determined by:
 - *A description of the existing capital improvement (in this case a park or recreation facility) and the costs to upgrade, improve, expand or replace those improvements to meet existing needs; and*
 - *The number of project service units (i.e. acres of local parks and the cost to acquire and develop) which are required by the new development within the service area (possibly the boundaries of the CNLV) based on the approved land use assumptions.*



Using impact fees in place of the RCT would yield more funding for local park acquisition and development in the CNLV





Paying for the Plan - Local Funding Choices

Part IV.3 Paying for the Plan

In the case of master planned communities like Aliante, if parks and recreational facilities, linear parks, trails and natural open space amenities are furnished by the developer, whether CNLV assessments were in the form of impact fees or RCT's, they would be credited back to the developer(s); and

- They can be adjusted every three years (based on an updated City Capital Improvements Plan (CIPP)) to cover any increases in park land acquisition or park facility construction costs.

The fee can apply to all forms of residential, **commercial and industrial land uses**. However, it is more difficult to determine the value of the indirect benefit of any park system to non-residential property, particularly to industrial land use. For example, in the state of Minnesota many cities and counties have been able to levy an impact fee, on a per acre basis, for commercial and industrial land uses.

Two aspects of impact fees that are particularly noteworthy are:

- The ability to charge for the cost of public facilities that are **"system-wide improvements" (i.e. parks are available to the CNLV community-at-large)** as opposed to "project improvements" (which are "onsite" and provide service for a particular development); and
- The ability to charge **small-scale development (i.e. PUD's)** their proportionate share.



Real Estate Transfer Taxes are becoming a more common means to fund park and open space acquisition

 **Real Estate Transfer Tax** - A real estate transfer tax is a tax levied on the sale of certain classes of property - residential, commercial or industrial - that increases with the size of the property being sold. Sometimes sellers, who have typically seen the value of their homes rise over the years, foot the bill. Other times the cost is imposed on buyers who, it is argued, are making an investment in the future of a community.

It is now common in many states and communities to use these proceeds to establish dedicated funds for natural resource protection and mitigation, parks and open space. **At the local level, the real estate transfer tax can create substantial funds for park and open space acquisition, particularly in fast-growing communities.** North Carolina, Maryland and Florida are leaders in using this means of funding to acquire public open space and environmentally sensitive lands. Washington State passed its own real estate transfer tax enabling legislation. The 1990 legislation allows for a tax on real property, paid by the seller, with proceeds directed to local capital projects, which are generally park-related.

April 2004





Paying for the Plan - Local Funding Choices

Sales Taxes - Described as the cornerstone of the state-local revenue system in virtually every region of the country, the sales tax is the second largest source of income for state and local governments and typically the most popular tax among voters. The success of local park and open space sales tax set-aside measures reflects this relative popularity. Communities from Nevada to Missouri to Colorado have all taken advantage of state sales tax enabling legislation to raise millions of dollars for parks, open space, and recreational facilities.

At present, enabling legislation for the imposition and use of sales tax in Nevada exists only for counties with populations fewer than 400,000 and can be applied for the acquisition and limited development of open space. With voter approval, a tax at the rate of up to 1/4 of 1 percent can be imposed for the acquisition, management and recreational development of open space lands. Use of revenues from this sales tax add-on for the acquisition or development of neighborhood or parks is prohibited. Douglas County (Carson City, Minden, Gardnerville) in northern Nevada is the only county currently using this means of funding to acquire high-priority open space lands. **To allow Nevada cities to use an additional increase in sales taxes to fund local park projects, either this present statute would have to be amended or new legislation introduced and approved.**

Overall and where allowed, sales taxes offer local communities several advantages as a park and open space funding tool. First, they are relatively easy to collect. Most local governments piggyback their portion of the tax onto the state tax and the total sum is collected at the register. Although revenues fluctuate with economy, a small percentage can usually generate substantial revenues for everything from park maintenance to recreational improvements to open space acquisition.

Utility Surcharge and Franchise Taxes – Around the nation, local park projects have begun to benefit from communities which apply a portion of surcharges and taxes related to various types of utilities or the franchise fees collected from cable television or cellular phone companies toward neighborhood and community park development. Several cities partially fund a variety of municipal services and capital improvement projects which include parkland and recreational facility improvements through these types of revenues.

The capital facilities fund for the City of Tumwater, Washington is almost entirely financed through utility tax revenue, which is used for building and construction projects, as well as parkland acquisition and development. Sacramento, California also has 7.5 percent utility service fee which is used to partially offset the operation and continued improvements to public safety, cultural and parks and recreation services provided by the City.



Nevada's enabling legislation would have to be amended to allow for sales tax to be used for local (neighborhood and community) park development



Local communities, particularly in the Pacific Northwest, are now using utility surcharges and franchise fees to partially fund local park projects

Part IV.3 Paying for the Plan

April 2004





Paying for the Plan - Local Funding Choices

Part IV.3 Paying for the Plan

April 2004

General Obligation, Revenue Bonds and Certificates of Participation - Since the 1980's, borrowing capital to acquire and develop local parks, natural areas, and open space has increased substantially. Bonds are a unique and attractive park financing mechanism because they provide large sums of up-front cash. As such, borrowing - either outright or tied to a financing mechanism - is a common park and open space tool used by county and municipal governments.

General obligation bonds have provided a key source of funds for park and open space acquisition and development at the state and local levels. The advantages of these bonds are that they allow for the immediate purchase or development of parkland.

General obligation bonds are not used for park maintenance and can be difficult to obtain for several reasons. First, general obligation bonds may require voter approval (sometimes by two-thirds of the electorate), legislative approval, or both. Also, they can also be costly since interest charges are tacked onto the cost of the project. Finally, there is typically a great deal of competition for general obligation bonds among the many local programs in need of financing. The last major and successful general obligation bond issue for parks was a \$ 54 million bond passed by City of Henderson voters in 1997. Before that, in May 1993, Clark County proposed a pair of bond measures that would have raised more than \$125 million for county parks, but was overwhelmingly rejected by voters.

Revenue Bonds are paid from the proceeds of a tax levied for the use of a specific public project or with the proceeds of fees charged to those who use the facility that the bonds financed. Revenue bonds have their own set of advantages and disadvantages. First, these bonds are not constrained by debt ceilings like general obligation bonds. In addition, voter approval is rarely required since the government is not obligated to repay the debt if the revenue stream does not flow as predicted. On the downside, revenue bonds are typically more expensive to repay than general obligation bonds. An example of the use of revenue bonds locally is in 1999 when Clark County issued a \$50 million bond issue for parks, covered by revenues from the Las Vegas Convention & Visitors Authority. The bond speeds up construction of needed parks because it leverages today's dollars, via tax-neutral bonds - which do not require voter approval - to be repaid tomorrow, as guaranteed funds arrive from the Convention Authority.



General Obligation or Revenue Bonds continue to be the primary way local governments fund park acquisition and development projects to keep pace with the growth of their community





Paying for the Plan - Local Funding Choices

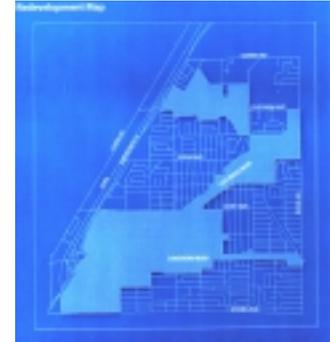
• **Certificates of Participation (COPs)** are becoming increasingly important tools that local governments are using to make timely purchase of needed local parkland, open space and natural lands. COPs are lease-purchase arrangements that allow a government to pay for a property over time. Since payments are made year by year, the transaction is not formally considered debt. This financing mechanism, although fairly new, is used in more than half the states. COPs do not require a referendum and do not impact a community's debt limit.

• **Redevelopment Districts** - There are currently two existing Redevelopment Areas in the CNLV. The Downtown Redevelopment Plan was adopted by the City Council in 1990 and the North Redevelopment Plan was adopted in 1999. Both redevelopment areas focus on the commercial core of the inner-city areas of North Las Vegas with the intent of revitalizing the downtown and its adjoining mature neighborhoods with new public and private investment.

Designating these areas as redevelopment districts is a proven method of stimulating the economic revival of blighted urban and suburban areas. The finance mechanism employed by such districts is called Tax Increment Financing (TIF). Permitted in some form by the large majority of states, tax increments are being used for a variety of purposes, including acquiring property to be resold at reduced prices and on-site improvements such as utilities, lights, repaving streets, and both acquiring and developing local parks.

• NRS 279.408 – Redevelopment of Communities allows use of TIF or bond funds, in conjunction with an approved redevelopment plan for *"Improvements of recreational areas... and improvement of other public grounds."*

• **Street Maintenance, Parks and Fire Fund (Fund 268)** – The CNLV presently has a fund that pays for Street Maintenance, Parks and Fire projects throughout the City. To date, little of that funding has been directed toward park-related projects. While one financial projection places the annual growth rate of this fund at 16%, the amount and availability of these funds remains unknown. Any park projects paid for through the undesignated monies this fund might contain would have to be weighed against the competitive community priorities of street maintenance and fire protection.



The CNLV has two redevelopment areas that may be able to direct some funding towards a new local park or town center plaza



The Street Maintenance, Parks and Fire Fund (Fund 268) is one potential source of funding that could be directed toward future CNLV park projects

Part IV.3 Paying for the Plan

April 2004





Paying for the Plan - Local Funding Choices

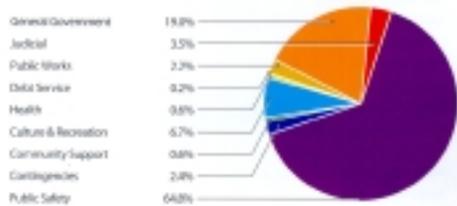
Capital Improvement Parks Program (CIPP) – In 2003 the City Council approved a Capital Improvement Plan for the years 2004-2009. This plan allocates \$128.2 million over the five year period to implement the Development Plan.

Regulatory Options

Parkland Dedication Ordinance (PDO) - A PDO for the CNLV could be modeled after the Quimby Act, first established in 1965 by the California legislature. It has provisions in the State Subdivision Map Act for the dedication of fees and/or parkland. This forward looking legislation was in response to California's continuing rate of urbanization and the need to preserve open space and provide parks and recreation facilities for California's growing communities. This act allows local agencies to establish ordinances requiring residential subdivision developers to provide impact fees for land and/or recreational facilities.

While the State of Nevada has two mechanisms for collecting fees from new residential construction for the purposes of acquiring and developing local parks (the Residential Construction Tax (RCT) (NRS 278.4983) and Park Impact Fees (NRS 278B.010), PDO's based on the Quimby Act consolidate both in one ordinance.

GENERAL FUNDS Expenditures/Expenses By Function



In FY 2002, nearly 7% of the CNLV General Fund went to support Culture and Recreation (Parks)





Paying for the Plan - Regulatory Options

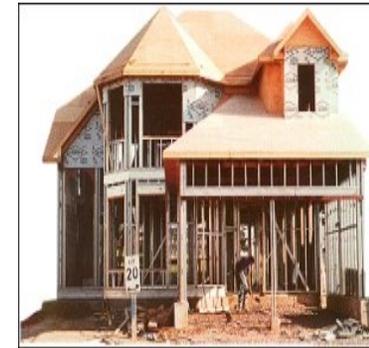
If the CNLV had a similar PDO, when land was subdivided for residential development, a portion of that land would be dedicated to the City for a future local park site. If a development did not contain any land suitable for park needs, a set fee would be paid to the City instead. The amount of land to be dedicated, as well as the fees, are typically determined by a formula based on the number of dwelling units to be built and the amount of parkland required for dedication (**2.5 acres per 1000 new residents recommended local park acreage standard contained in this plan**). While the majority of dedicated land and fees are devoted to neighborhood and community-level parks, some open space areas could be dedicated through this process. The CNLV could give a developer partial or full park land dedication credit for private open space, if the private open space meets certain park size and recreational facility criteria. Under a PDO, the CNLV could require dedication or payment of fees to provide for a range of park types and recreational facilities including neighborhood and community parks, playgrounds, sportsfields and sportcourts.

Similar to the assessment of impact fees (NRS 278B.010), but in a less complicated and involved process, a PDO modeled after ones in California, would allow the CNLV to index its park impact fees to keep up with the rising costs of raw land and the actual costs of park improvements. Local communities in California routinely update their PDO fee assessments to reflect rising land values in their area. For example in 2003, Lompoc, California nearly doubled their previous park impact fees, raising them to over \$3,000 per new single-family home.

For regional comparison, the current (2003) average park impact fee charged for new single-family home construction in California is around \$3,000, rising to over \$10,000 in metropolitan areas, such as San Jose, with scarce and expensive land availability. In the Pacific Northwest, park impact fees are commonly referred to as System Development Charges (SDCs), and range from a low of around \$800 to a high of over \$3,000 with the average being around \$1,500.

To increase residential development fees to pay a greater share of actual local park acquisition and development costs, the CNLV has three basic options:

- ✦ Consider jointly sponsoring with other Valley cities and the county, a parkland dedication ordinance modeled after similar ones in California, Oregon or Washington, that would combine the present Residential Construction Tax (RCT) with the assessment of impact fees, making the ordinance specific to local park acquisition and development;
- ✦ The CNLV and other communities in the Valley would have to jointly introduce legislation at the State level to amend the present Residential Construction Tax statute and increase the maximum allowable fee that can be assessed; or



By comparison, the equivalent park fee (Residential Construction Tax (RCT)) the CNLV presently assesses for new housing is substantially below the average park impact fee in nearby states





Paying for the Plan - Regulatory Options



The recent improvements to the CNLV Planned Unit Development (PUD) Ordinance will result in a higher quality private open space park with a greater selection of recreational facilities

- ✦ Replace the present RCT by completing the process outlined in the NRS statute dealing with impact fees, and create a targeted capital improvement program for parks (CIPP) based on projection of yearly accumulation of those fees.

✦ **CNLV Planned Unit Development (PUD) Ordinance** – The CNLV Planned Unit Development (PUD) ordinance was updated in July 2003 with the intent of improving both the size and quality of developed open space (parks) in small lot residential (lots smaller than 4,500 square feet), attached condominiums and townhomes. All future PUD’s in the City will be required to provide both active (i.e. swimming pools, tot play and advanced children’s play areas, and sportscourts) and passive recreational facilities (i.e. ponds/water features, sheltered picnic tables with barbecues, seating and benches). Improved aspects of the PUD ordinance include:

- ✦ In the small lot PUD ordinance the developed open space ratio to resident population is now 6 acres/1,000.
- ✦ No less than 5 acres (83%) of the required six acres will be developed as private park space with both active and passive recreational facilities and features.
- ✦ Every PUD will require a centrally located park with at least 50% of the required developed open space situated there.
- ✦ Private parks in excess of an acre will have to include: two distinct children’s play areas, lighted pathways, picnic shelters and tables, a gazebo shade structure, night and security lighting and desert-adapted landscape planting.
- ✦ Private parks in excess of 4 acres and less than 10 acres will require in addition to the above items, sportscourts (basketball, bocce, tennis and volleyball), a larger and themed play area, a frisbee golf course and a dog park.
- ✦ Private parks in excess of 10 acres will require in addition to the previous items, sportsfields, restrooms and a pool clubhouse or community center.

In addition to the provision of the above depending on the acreage size of the private park, all PUD’s are also required to pay the present Residential Construction Tax (RCT).





Paying for the Plan - State Funding Sources

Question 1 - Conservation and Resource Protection Grant Program - Question 1 is a landmark environmental initiative designed to benefit, protect and preserve Nevada's state, regional and local natural resources. Passed in November 2003, it authorizes the state to issue general obligation bonds up to \$200,000,000 for natural resource projects. Funds generated by the bond sales will be used to conserve valuable environmental assets of the state and to support recreational and cultural facilities that further the enjoyment of those assets by the public. Question 1 provides a fiscally responsible mechanism for addressing the needs of environmental, historic and cultural resources across the state. It requires almost half of the bond funds to be matched by recipients. Question 1 also ensures the ability to leverage funds from other sources which will help recipients meet the matching requirements for federal/state/local grants as well as funds from public and private foundations. The breakdown of funds from this grant program that would be available to the CNLV are as follows:



Question 1 could be used by the CNLV to fund an open space and trails planning project as well as acquire and develop lands for urban parks and greenbelts

- ✦ \$7,250,000 to state agencies, counties, municipalities or qualifying private nonprofit organizations for construction of recreational trails.
- ✦ \$5,000,000 to state agencies, counties, municipalities or qualifying private nonprofit organizations for acquisition of land and water for urban parks and greenbelts. The CNLV would have to match 50% of the cost of an acquisition.
- ✦ \$20,000,000 to counties and municipalities for land and water acquisition to protect wildlife habitat, sensitive or unique vegetation, historic and cultural resources, riparian corridors, floodplains, wetlands and other environmental values pursuant to an adopted open space plan.
- ✦ \$15,000,000 for contracts or agreements under which nonprofit conservation organizations (in cooperation with the CNLV) may acquire land and water for environmental protection purposes.



Question 1 can also be used to fund the construction of linear parks, greenways, and recreation trails





Paying for the Plan - State and Federal Funding Sources

Part IV.3 Paying for the Plan



The Conservation Trust Fund is now the "umbrella" funding source for both the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Fund

- 
Conservation Trust Fund - The Conservation Trust Fund, passed by Congress in 2000, is a groundbreaking bipartisan accomplishment that protects America's conservation, recreation, wildlife, and historic resources. It is a funding mechanism created as a compromise during the debate surrounding the passage of the Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA). The Conservation Trust Fund provides funding for the **Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)** and the **Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Program (UPARR)**.

Although not considered mandatory spending like the CARA mechanism, the Conservation Trust Fund nonetheless is set up to provide a dedicated level of annual funding that should be allocated to the conservation programs contained within it for the fiscal years 2001-2006. In FY 2004, full funding for the Conservation Trust Fund is \$2.08 billion.

The Conservation Trust Fund was drastically under-funded in FY 2003. Furthermore, the President's FY 2004 budget request leaves the Conservation Trust Fund short by \$580 million, or roughly 28 percent of its dedicated level. Because of this, funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund dropped by almost 35 percent, with the federal program receiving \$175 million and the stateside program receiving \$94 million. Once again, UPARR was overlooked and funding for matching urban park grants was eliminated.



In 2003 and 2004, well over \$500,000 in LWCF money will be available to fund local park and recreation projects in Nevada

- 
Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) - Since its establishment by Congress in 1965, the LWCF has been a source of funding to local counties and cities within the States to assist in preserving, developing, and assuring accessibility to outdoor recreation resources including but not limited to parks, trails, wildlife lands, and other lands and facilities desirable for individual active participation. Eligible grant projects are evaluated based on:

-  How the project addresses the identified needs and priorities of a statewide comprehensive or strategic plan
-  Technical merits
-  Public/private partnerships

A portion of Federal revenue derived from sale or lease of off-shore oil and gas resources is the major contributor to the LWCF. In FY 2003, LWCF funding was set at \$94,383,000 for state and local grants, of which Nevada will receive slightly over \$1.12 million. In 2004, Congress passed and the President signed into Public Law 108-108, which appropriated \$91,902,000 for LWCF state assistance. **The FY 2004 stateside appropriation for Nevada is expected to be \$1.08 million of which about \$550,000 will be available on a competitive basis for local park projects.**

April 2004





Paying for the Plan - Federal Funding Sources

✚ **Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Program (UPARR)** - To address the needs of inner city recreation, Congress passed the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act (UPARR) in 1978, authorizing \$725 million to provide matching grants and technical assistance to economically distressed urban communities. The program authorizes competitive federal assistance to urban localities for rehabilitation of critically needed recreation facilities. The law also encourages systematic local planning and commitment to continuing operation and maintenance of recreation programs, sites, and facilities. UPARR grants can only be used for existing facilities, not new ones. Also, UPARR grants cannot be **Rehabilitation Grants** (70 percent federal/30 percent local), provide capital funding to renovate or redesign existing close-to-home recreation facilities.

✚ **Innovation Grants** (70 percent federal/30 percent local) are for new and cost-effective ways to enhance recreational opportunities. This fund is limited to not more than 10% of the total authorized annually.

✚ Recently, UPARR has been overlooked and funding for matching urban park grants eliminated their use for land acquisition purposes.

In 2002, North Las Vegas received \$70,000 of UPARR funding.

✚ **Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21)** - The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) authorizes highway, highway safety, transit and other surface transportation programs for the next 6 years.

TEA-21 builds on the initiatives established in the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA), which was the last major authorizing legislation for surface transportation. This new Act combines the continuation and improvement of current programs with new initiatives to meet the challenges of:

- ✚ Improving safety as traffic continues to increase at record levels; and
- ✚ The protection and enhancement to communities and the natural environment along with transportation improvements; and advancement of America's economic growth and competitiveness through efficient and flexible transportation.



In 2002, the CNLV received a \$70,000 grant of UPARR funding



TEA-21 offers grant funding for recreational trail planning and development





Paying for the Plan - Federal Funding Sources

Part IV.3 Paying for the Plan



City of Reno Truckee Riverfront Trail

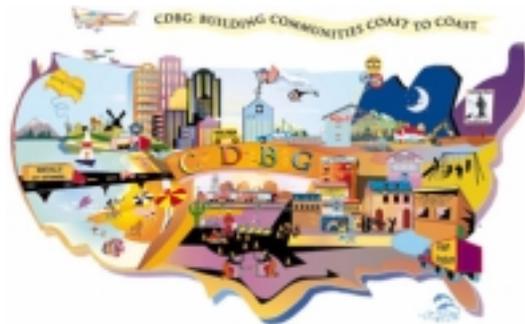
Improvements- In 1999, the Redevelopment Agency secured \$1.2 million in Federal TEA-21 grants to build and improve the paths along the Truckee River, adding decorative paving, lighting and landscaping. The Redevelopment Agency was awarded an additional \$1.2 million in TEA-21 grants in 2001. Many of the riverfront trails along the Truckee River will be expanded and enhanced over the course of the next few years.

TEA-21 continues and expands provisions to improve facilities and safety for bicycles and pedestrians. Other changes ensure the consideration of bicyclists and pedestrians in the planning process and facility design.

Recreational Trails Program - The Recreational Trails Program was authorized in the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) in 1998. The Recreational Trails Program is a Federal-Aid assistance program to help States provide and maintain recreational trails for both motorized and non-motorized recreational trail use. The program provides funds for all kinds of recreational trail uses, such as pedestrian uses, bicycling, equestrian use, or using off-road motorized vehicles.

The Nevada Ad Hoc State Recreational Trails Advisory Committee determines the maximum federal grant share and the federal/matching grant share ratio that may be awarded to each project sponsor. **The Committee set the maximum FY 2004 federal grant share at \$100,000 for non-motorized and diverse projects, and the federal/matching grant share ratio at 80/20 for FY 2004 projects.**

A total of \$270 million in contract authority is authorized for FYs 1998-2003 to provide and maintain recreational trails. Estimated fiscal year apportionments pursuant to TEA-21 as amended by the TEA-21 Restoration Act after redistribution of minimum guarantee funds **show \$600,000 per year in the State of Nevada for recreational trails out of approximately \$200 million per year in total funds for Nevada.**



The CNLV will receive over \$1.8 million in CDBG funding in 2004

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) - CDBG is money received from the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to be administered locally by the CNLV, Community Development Neighborhood Services Division. In Fiscal Year 2004, **approximately \$1.8 million** of CDBG funding will be available to the CNLV.

Under the heading of Community Facilities and Improvements, **community and senior centers, and both the acquisition and development of local park and recreational facilities** can be funded by CDBG, if they are located in eligible areas. In 2003, the majority of that eligible area within the CNLV is extends from Cheyenne Avenue south to the City limits. The area incorporates much of the older downtown area of the City and extends north to the eastern edge of Interstate 15.

April 2004





Paying for the Plan - Federal Funding Sources



Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA) – The SNPLMA allows the Secretary of the Interior to make funding available from the special account for the

“ . . . development of parks, trails, and natural areas in Clark County, Nevada, pursuant to a cooperative agreement with a unit of local government. . . ”

The Department of the Interior's goal in making funding available under this provision of the law is, in partnership with local government in Clark County, to develop better and more parks, trails and natural areas to:

- ✦ Meet increasing demand and changing demographics for outdoor recreation;
- ✦ Provide better and more education opportunities (environmental, historical, cultural, scientific);
- ✦ Protect and preserve significant resource values (including historical, cultural, scientific and natural resource values) and improve the quality of the environment; and
- ✦ Link the urban area with the public lands as a part of a regional trail system.

In the most recent 2003 round (four) of funding for regional parks, trails, environmental education programs and other improvements, over \$274 million of SNPLMA monies were approved. Included was \$104 million for the development of 28 park, trail and natural area development projects in partnership with local governments in Clark County.

The CNLV previously applied for and received a total of nearly **\$48.5 million of SNPLMA** monies for the right-of-way acquisition and construction of the Lower Las Vegas Wash Trail project (**\$8.05 million**), the restoration of Kiel Ranch Historic Site (**\$2.4 million**) and most recently for the pending acquisition of Craig Ranch Golf Course (**\$38 million**) for conversion to a future City regional park.



The Lower Las Vegas Wash Trail has received over \$8 million for both acquisition and development from SNPLMA funds since 2000



The potential of purchasing the Craig Ranch Golf Course to become the CNLV's central and regional park has been given a boost by the recent awarding of \$38 million to the City

Part IV.3 Paying for the Plan

April 2004





Paying for the Plan - Other Possibilities



One alternative the CNLV should explore for the future acquisition and protection of valuable open space and natural areas is a land trust



As the CNLV continues to grow and mature, a parks foundation should be established to both supplement and further the development of local parks and the expansion of recreation programs throughout the City

Conservation Easements and Land Trusts - A conservation easement is a method of protecting natural resources and preserving scenic open space, while keeping the land in private ownership. Any land with conservation value can be protected by easement. This includes arroyos and washes, wetlands, endangered species habitat, scenic areas, natural areas, historic areas and any other type of land that is essentially undeveloped.

A conservation easement is a legal contract between a landowner and a land trust or public agency that provides for the perpetual preservation of the landowner's property by restricting or prohibiting certain activities and structures. With an easement, only the right to develop the property is given up. Landowners maintain ownership and the land remains private. It may be bought, sold, leased or inherited as with all other land, but always subject to the recorded restrictions.

With the use of a conservation easement, there are also significant state and federal tax advantages associated with an easement donation. The value of an easement (either for donation or sale) varies, depending on the individual property, its development potential, and the degree of restrictions placed on the land.

A **land trust** can be a private or quasi-public nonprofit conservation organization formed to protect natural resources, scenic open space and natural areas, historic structures and recreational areas. Land trusts purchase and accept donations of **conservation easements**. They educate the public about the need to conserve land and can provide land use and estate planning services to the local government they serve as well as individual citizens.

Community Parks Foundation - A Parks Foundation for the CNLV could be an independent and non-profit organization committed to creating and sustaining beautiful and active parks throughout the growing City. The Foundation could initiate, promote, and facilitate physical improvements, encourage greater community involvement and create new recreation programs for many CNLV parks. Some successful park foundations in other cities supplement the municipal parks and recreation department citywide by offering a broad range of free arts, sports and education programs, while helping citizens to support their parks on a local level. In many cases city parks foundations are committed to the larger idea of parks being a focal point for community renewal, drawing on the particular needs and assets of a community to help revitalize local parks, with a particular focus on some of the city's most underserved areas.





Paying for the Plan - Other Possibilities

Private Foundations - There are numerous private foundations that can be considered for partial funding of **mostly acquisition and limited development of public open space and environmental areas**. A sampling of those appears below.

- ✦ **The Conservation Fund:** The Conservation Fund forges partnerships to protect America's legacy of land and water resources. Through land acquisition, community initiatives, and leadership training, the Fund and its partners demonstrate sustainable conservation solutions emphasizing the integration of economic and environmental goals. Public access and trails are types of projects that would match well with the goals of the Fund.
- ✦ **American Conservation Association, Inc.** - Grants from \$5,000 to \$40,000 in areas including the environment, conservation of natural resources and recreation.
- ✦ **The William T. Kemper Foundation** - Grants from \$1,000 to \$50,000 in areas including community development, the environment and recreation.
- ✦ **The Union Pacific Foundation (UP)** - UP concentrates its support in communities where the company has significant operations (**including Nevada**) providing grants in areas related to natural resources and the environment, among other things.
- ✦ **David and Lucile Packard Foundation** - Grants up to \$300,000 (based on previous grantees) to nonprofits in areas including conservation and the community.
- ✦ **The Lied Foundation** - The Lied Foundation of Las Vegas has funded a wide range of park and recreation related facilities, with features ranging from greenhouses, arboretums, ballfield stadiums, and improvement, to outdoor camps for the Boys and Girls Club.

Other organizations local to the Las Vegas Valley and the State that have supported and underwritten park, open space and natural area initiatives in the past are Nevada State Bank, Nevada Power, American Nevada Corporation and the Howard Hughes Corporation.



While limited in the types of projects funded and the amounts given, certain private foundations are still worth exploring for supplemental support of appropriate local park and recreation projects





Paying for the Plan - Other Possibilities

Part IV.3 Paying for the Plan

April 2004



The CNLV should consider establishing a private non-profit parks foundation to leverage community resources

- ❖ **Public-Private Partnerships for Parks** - Public-private partnerships for parks are proliferating across the country, generating much excitement and interest. One reason is that they work. Parks partnerships are successfully combining the assets of the public with private sectors in novel ways to create new or refurbished parks, greenways, trails, and other community assets in cities and counties, often in the face of municipal budget constraints. Cities across the country boast innovative public-private partnerships that leverage financial and human resources, raise the standard of care for parks, all while maintaining affordability. Examples range from adopt-a-park initiatives to corporate sponsorship to privatization of park management.

There are many representative examples of this success both local to the Las Vegas Valley and beyond.

- ❖ **The City of Las Vegas** has had a relatively successful relationship with the YMCA in operating its Northwest Family Resource Center, which allows the City to receive 1 percent of the annual gross receipts at the center when it operates profitably.
- ❖ Through a variety of non-profit and private funding sources, **The City of Austin Parks Foundation** created a 360-acre urban park, revitalized three neighborhood parks and improved a five-mile greenway.
- ❖ **Pierce County Parks and Recreation in Washington** has developed a new sponsorship marketing program. The program creates a business strategy that offers partnership opportunities between private companies and Pierce County Parks and Recreation. The plan approaches sponsorship from both an entrepreneurial and administrative perspective. The objective is to seek new funding sources to offset budget shortfalls, maintain or even increase the parks and recreation service level to provide tangible and measurable returns to those partners.
- ❖ **In Baltimore, Maryland the Parks & People Foundation** was created to work in partnership with the Department of Recreation and Parks to raise funds, conduct research, develop new programs, explore opportunities with entrepreneurs and leverage in-kind resources. The foundation and the City share a vision of beautiful and lively parks in a healthy natural environment with an abundance of recreation opportunities. This has resulted in several neighborhoods and communities taking an active "ownership" role in maintaining, improving and, in general, "watching-out" for **their** park.

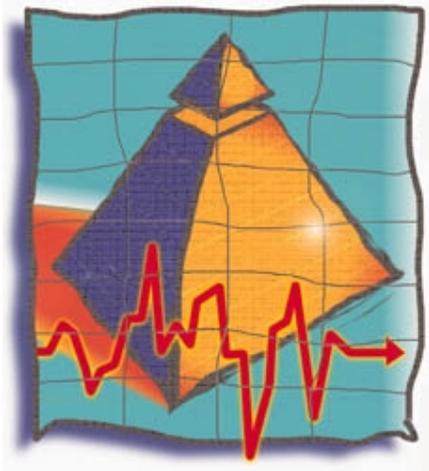




Keeping the Plan Current

Given the dynamic and ever-changing nature of the CNLV, this Parks Master Plan Update will require additional work and effort to maintain its relevance and use in the years ahead. The requirements to achieve this can be categorized into three main areas:

- 🏰 **Park Planning**
- 🏰 **Comprehensive Planning**
- 🏰 **Other Concerns**



Ongoing monitoring of the progress and successful achievements of this action-oriented plan will make the value of the public investment easier to demonstrate

At the end of Part V is a summary, **Table I: “Keeping the Plan Current - A Task and Timing Matrix”** that encapsulates the following:

- 🏰 **Park Planning** – The primary tasks ahead that park planning will play a lead role in are:
 - ✚ **Refinement of Recreation Level-of-Service (LOS) Standards-** This Plan contains a set of standards for the establishment and development of recreational facilities throughout the CNLV park system. These standards were arrived at by a general survey of similar standards being used in comparative cities around the southwest and west. Those recreational facility standards found to be close to and applicable to the CNLV, were then combined and averaged. The final facility to population ratio was then used as the adjusted standard for the purposes of this Plan.

While this is the conventional approach, a new and proven method more accurately reflecting the true community demand for recreational facilities is now recommended for use by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). NRPA believes this new methodology recognizes that every community has its own unique blend of social and economic characteristics. Each community must then be considered on an individual basis, in order to tailor the most appropriate range, quantity and quality of recreational facilities within fiscal limits. (*“The New NRPA Guidelines for Open Space- In with the new and out with the old notion of 10 acres of park land for every 1,000 people”* By RICHARD L. WILLIAMS, MRTPI AND PETER T. DYKE, Illinois Parks and Recreation-1997 (<http://www.lib.niu.edu/ipo/ip970317.html>))

Essentially, the process to arrive at these more “indigenous” recreational facility LOS standards is formula-driven, relying heavily on reasonably accurate user participation data. The gathering of such data is typically derived from actual recreation programming and scheduling as well as a quantifiable number of participants.





Keeping the Plan Current-Park Planning

Part V. 1 Keeping the Plan Current

April 2004

Over the first two years of this Plan, the CNLV Parks and Recreation Department should collect user participation data on facilities where organized and scheduled play occurs such as sportsfields and indoor facilities (e.g. Community Centers). An example of how to best use this methodology, is to factor the information into the revised LOS formula. In doing so, these specific recreational facilities (sportsfields and community centers) will have more customized LOS standards actually indicative of local use and demand, not simply based on a regional average.

While it would be difficult to utilize this methodology with facilities where programming and scheduling information is not available to gauge the frequency of use, the LOS formula should be employed when reliable user participation data is available for recreational facilities throughout the CNLV parks system. By utilizing this methodology the CNLV will then arrive at more accurate LOS standards for those facilities.

- ✚ **Chart Progress of Park Acquisition and Development against adopted LOS standards-** This Plan contains recommended parkland and recreation facility LOS standards that have been reviewed and adjusted to:
 - Still be potentially achievable over time, given the near-term (five-year) financial limitations of the CNLV, as well as the slower pace of park development within the City over the last decade;
 - Better reflect actual trends and realities in the rate of providing new parks within the Las Vegas Valley and other comparative cities in the Southwest and Western United States.

Throughout the time span of the CIPP contained in this plan (first five years and then an additional two years), the CNLV will acquire new park sites as well as build local and regional park lands and community facilities on a continuous basis. That progress should be accounted for on a yearly basis, with the accomplishments seen by how the LOS standards targets are being incrementally reached and the gaps becoming narrowed.



The Park Facilities Master Plan can remain relevant by charting the progress made in the continuing acquisition, development and renovation of CNLV parks and recreational facilities





Keeping the Plan Current- Park Planning

- ✦ **Identify the areas of the City most underserved by parks/Target new local park sites-** This Plan has laid the groundwork for a more precise determination of what parts of the City are lacking a park of any size and quality close to where people live. The Plan has generally identified the portions of the City with the largest park service area “gaps” and those with the greatest and growing population densities.

The Development Plan contained in Part IV: Park Implementation Program of this plan identifies six (6) new neighborhood parks, five of which have yet to be acquired as future park sites (the Cheyenne Peaking Basin is now identified by the City as a future neighborhood park site). Two new existing community park sites are targeted for development. Similar to five of the proposed neighborhood parks with no site specifically located, one additional community park site is proposed for both acquisition and development.

In concert with an assessment of available and undeveloped land (see Part V.2: Comprehensive Planning), a “zeroing-in” process should begin on those quadrants of the most populated parts of the City with the greatest walking and driving distance from a local park. Available and undeveloped tracts of land, suitable for local park development, should then be targeted. Several means are at the disposal of the City to possibly secure such sites. Among them:

- Should an appropriately-sized residential development project be proposed within one of the targeted and underserved areas of the City, a park site dedication and/or development agreement could be negotiated. (Park is ultimately built by the City.)
- A “turn-key” public park solely provided for and developed by a residential land developer as part of a development agreement.
- A lower-cost lease option-to-purchase an available and undeveloped property could be entered into by the City and a willing seller.
- This plan recommends a local park acquisition fund be established by the City for the purpose of having a sizeable amount of funding (\$5 million proposed as the minimum reserve) readily available to take advantage of undeveloped land purchase opportunities in these targeted areas for future conversion to neighborhood or community-level parks.



Geographic Park Service Area “Gap” Analysis
Special Use Recreational Facilities (SURF)
 City of Tempe, Arizona Parks and Recreation Master Plan





Keeping the Plan Current- Park Planning

- ✦ **Conduct an Updated Public Needs and Demand Survey-** The successful survey of CNLV citizens' opinions on a range of park development and recreation programming concerns was an important facet of this Plan. It helped shape and define the most pressing issues and priorities this Plan has attempted to address. This Plan also sets forth that some of the more key and "high-visibility" projects should be accomplished in or around the fourth year of the Plan's timeframe.

Concurrent with the completion of those projects, the CNLV should undertake another public survey to again determine the current opinion of the public towards the improved and expanded park system. Coupled with that inquiry should be questions oriented toward determining the prevailing attitude of the public towards supporting a more aggressive expansion of the CNLV park system and needed community facilities funded through a bond issue.

- ✦ **Conduct a Marketing and Promotional Program -** Upon completing a series of key park and recreation development projects or plans, the City should get as much mileage from those achievements as possible by conducting a focused public awareness campaign. Some examples of what those certain "high-visibility" projects might be:

- The Lower Las Vegas Wash Detention Basin Park
- Completion of the Lower Las Vegas Wash Trail
- Substantial progress made on the continued renovation and reinvestment in existing CNLV parks
- Acquisition and/or development of the first two neighborhood parks (#1 and #2)
- The construction of two community parks (Simmons and Gowan, Bruce and Tropical)
- Regional park master planning of the Craig Ranch Golf Course and a financial commitment to first phase development

Along with the standard press releases, ground-breaking and dedication ceremonies, some other ways to maximize the exposure of these and other projects could be:

- A Park Facility Construction Update weblink to the CNLV Website
- Project advertisement signage at the park sites describing the coming improvements well in advance of groundbreaking
- Feature stories in the City's seasonal recreation program brochure
- Project profile informational cards inserted in City utility billings



In about the fourth year of the plan, (2007-2008) the CNLV should conduct another community survey focused on public receptivity toward a bond issue for major park expansion and community facility development



Trumpeting the achievement of building key CNLV park projects in the mid-years term of this plan will go a long way in increasing public awareness and goodwill towards support of a future bond issue





Keeping the Plan Current -Park Planning



One clear way to measure progress toward the five primary goals that guide this plan is to use performance criteria



The growth of developed and natural greenspace in the CNLV is another good gauge of community improvement

- ✦ **Conduct Performance Measures Assessment** – In conjunction with the Public Needs and Assessment Survey, the CNLV should consider basing some of the areas of inquiry within the survey on respondents' perceptions of how the City is doing on topics ranging from expansion of the park system to the quality of the experience people have in CNLV parks. The public survey conducted as a part of this plan update did a little of this, and got some surprising and pleasing responses (see **Part I.2: Community Needs Assessment Report Summary** and **Appendix C: Community Needs Assessment Survey Analysis Sheets**).

To provide some means by which to evaluate the progress of implementation of this Plan Update, some performance measures, tied to the five principal goals of the Plan are suggested below. Those that could be later framed as questions in the next Public Needs and Demand Survey are followed by the notation **(survey)**.

- **Goal 1.0:** *“Acquire, develop and renovate a system of parks, recreational facilities and open spaces that are attractive, safe and functional, equitably distributed and available to all segments of the public.”*
- **Goal 2.0:** *“The CNLV will continue to provide safe, fully accessible, well designed and aesthetically pleasing parks and public spaces.”*
 - ▶ Percentage increase of existing and new parks with a staff condition assessment rating of good to excellent (internal City performance measure)
 - ▶ Percentage increase of community members who rate park facility safety and cleanliness as good to excellent **(survey)**
 - ▶ Percentage of local parks and recreational facilities in good to excellent condition (based on safety, aesthetics and functionality) **(survey)**
 - ▶ Percentage of guests at community centers that rate services and programs good to excellent (based on quality, content and responsiveness) **(survey)**
 - ▶ Percentage increase of existing/new residential properties located within a ½ mile of a neighborhood park and 2 miles for a community park (GIS mapping)
 - ▶ Percentage increase of residents that rate CNLV parks and trails as clean, safe, functional and attractive **(survey)**
 - ▶ Percentage increase of residents who rate convenient access to parks, trails and natural open space as good or better **(survey)**
 - ▶ Percentage increase in developed park greenspace acreage (local and regional) and miles of trail based on adopted standards (park planning performance measure)





Keeping the Plan Current - Park Planning

- **Goal 3.0:** *"Provide Recreation Services that promote health and wellness for all CNLV citizens in order to create a lifetime user."*
 - ▶ Percentage of participants reporting that senior-oriented programs and services increased their ability to lead more independent and satisfying lives **(survey)**
 - ▶ Percentage of participants reporting that recreation services and programs made a positive difference or improvement in their own or their family's lives **(survey)**
 - ▶ Percentage of community members who report an improved health status from participation in fitness and wellness programs by using City community recreation facilities **(survey)**
 - ▶ Increase in the annual per-capita public and private financial support of the arts and cultural programs in the city of CNLV
 - ▶ Number of new recreation program initiatives and course offerings (City performance measure)
 - ▶ Establishment of new community center (City performance measure)

- **Goal 4.0:** *"The planning, development and renovation of CNLV parks will emphasize water conservation ...consistent with their regional desert setting."*
 - ▶ Number of developed park acres converted from turf to desert-adapted landscape plantings (City performance measure)
 - ▶ Acre feet/gallons of water saved (City performance measure)
 - ▶ Square feet of shade created from tree groves and structures (City performance measure)

- **Goal 5.0:** *"Develop partnership opportunities with other public agencies, not-for-profit agencies...recreational services throughout the CNLV."*
 - ▶ Increase in the annual per-capita public and private financial support of the arts and cultural programs in the city of CNLV
 - ▶ Establishment of CNLV Parks Foundation (program accomplishment)
 - ▶ Increase in the number of new partnerships
 - ▶ Number of new joint school/park ventures with the Clark County School District
 - ▶ Net cost of City services per 1,000 attendees of outdoor special events and performances

Senior Programs



PARTNERSHIPS





Table I: Keeping the Plan Current - Task and Timing Matrix

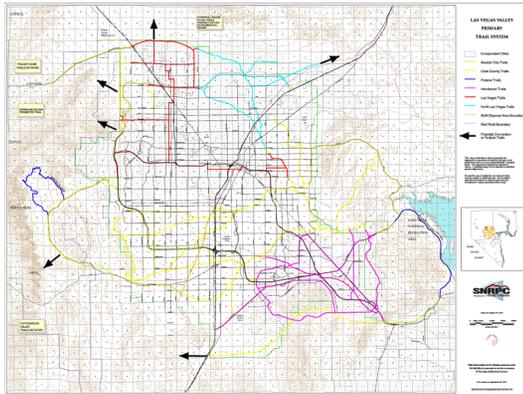
Park Planning						
Refine Recreation Level-of-Service (LOS) Standards to "Localize" to CNLV per NRPA methodology						Lead: Parks & Recreation
Chart progress of Park acquisition and development against adopted LOS Standards						Lead: Parks & Recreation
Identify most underserved geographic areas of City for local parks						Lead: Parks & Recreation Support: Planning & Zoning
Target new local park site acquisitions						Lead: Parks & Recreation
Conduct Public Needs and Demand Survey targeted toward Bond Issue						Lead: Parks & Recreation Support: City Manager
Conduct Marketing/Promotional Effort to publicize progressive accomplishments of plan						Lead: Parks & Recreation Support: Public Information Officer
Conduct Performance Measures Assessment						Lead: Parks & Recreation Support: City Manager
Comprehensive Planning						
Create an Open Space and Trails Component of Parks Master Plan						Lead: Parks & Recreation Support: Planning & Zoning
Keep community demographic information used in plan current						Lead: Planning & Zoning Support: City Demographer
Conduct Available/Undeveloped Lands Assessment						Lead: Planning & Zoning Support: GIS
5500 acre suburban reserve - Apply Parkland and Recreational Facility LOS Standard to future land "take-downs"						Lead: Planning & Zoning Support: Parks & Recreation
Other						
Joint School/Park Development Opportunities						Lead: Parks & Recreation Support: Clark County School District
Actively develop supplemental, dedicated sources of funding for local park acquisition and development						Lead: Finance & Budget, City Manager Support: Parks & Recreation
Pursue "Downtown"-oriented park possibilities						Lead: Redevelopment Agency Support: Parks & Recreation

*Yellow Boxes denote year requirement should be carried out.





Keeping the Plan Current- Comprehensive Planning



Southern Nevada Regional Planning Council (SNRPC) Valley Trails Plan



The master planned community of Aliante will ultimately contain nearly 24 miles of paved trails, linear streetscape walkways and natural trails that could be extended and interlinked with other major trail corridors in the area

Comprehensive Planning

Create an Open Space and Trails Plan-

The greatest potential for a unified open space system and interconnected trails can be found in and around the 16,000 acre “suburban reserve” of the City. Within this future suburban growth sphere of the City, promising open space and trail opportunities present themselves, such as:

- The CNLV is and will continue to make commendable progress on the trails front, with the possible establishment of nearly 8 miles of the Lower Las Vegas Wash Trail (LVWT) by 2007.
- At the master planned community of Aliante (2000 acres), nearly 24 miles of concrete walkways, linear parks and natural trails are planned at full completion of the development.
- The remaining 16,000 acres of the suburban reserve will be auctioned off by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in sections, with the next 2000 acre installment being available in November 2004. This property will also undergo a thorough master planning process similar to Aliante. The City should be well-poised to negotiate an ample amount of both natural and developed open space, accessible by a well-thought out trail system with interconnections to other important trail linkages (See **16,000 Acre “Suburban Reserve,”** Part V.2).
- Contained within the later years of the CIPP of this plan, is a recommended first phase trail study, planning and design project for the Upper Las Vegas Wash.
- The coming extension of the 215 Beltway through North Las Vegas also presents opportunities for multi-use pathways paralleling this freeway that can tie into those of Aliante.

The CNLV should conduct a full open space and trails planning initiative so all the above prospects, and those yet-to-be discovered, can be fully realized and interlinked. Upon completion, this open space and trails plan can become an adopted and complementary addition to this Parks Master Plan Update. When undertaken, this planning effort will also need to take into account:





Keeping the Plan Current- Comprehensive Planning

- The Southern Nevada Regional Planning Council (SNRPC) Valley Trails Plan;
- The ongoing planning efforts for the Northwest Open Space Plan; and
- The Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) Non-Motorized Alternative Transportation Mode Master Plan.

✦ Adjust Plan to reflect current population demographics -

While not a sophisticated look, this Master Plan Update has nevertheless examined the population changes over the last three years and the decade before that. Population growth projections, through year 2007, have also been utilized here for the purposes of projecting both the LOS standard need for acres of parkland and the diversity of recreational facilities throughout the City.

On a yearly basis, or at whatever time interval new demographic information becomes available to the CNLV, it should be factored into this Master Plan and the LOS standards adjusted to reflect any changes. Particular attention should be directed toward obtaining reliable population demographics that show changing population densities and growth areas of the City, either on a census tract or transportation analysis zones (TAZ).

✦ Conduct a Vacant Lands Analysis-

The CNLV will continue to experience the inevitable transformation of its vacant lands from an undeveloped condition, to a suburban landscape over the next decade and beyond. Before the City experiences even greater shortages of developed green and natural open space than it now faces, planning strategies are critical now, more than ever, to keep this imbalance to a minimum.

Lands that are environmentally sensitive or just simply in high demand for use in the public realm, must be protected and preserved. Clear examples of those kinds of lands are both local and regional parks, greenways, and natural uses.

"Useable vacant land" is generally defined as undeveloped properties that possess high development potential and are within the human criteria for immediate development. The analysis should identify:

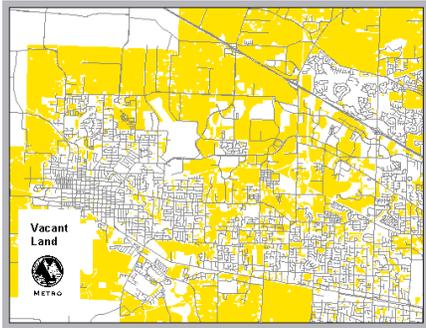


Population growth in the CNLV is dynamic and rapid enough to require that this master plan be periodically revised to reflect those changes





Keeping the Plan Current- Comprehensive Planning



A vacant land analysis map from Gresham, Oregon (vacant land in yellow)

- The location and amount of vacant land property parcels that exist throughout the entire City;
- The amount of vacant land within aggregate zoning classifications of Industrial, Business/Commercial, and Residential encompassing the City; and
- Derive high/medium/low development potential of vacant land within each zoning classification aggregate according to the composite layer.

A GIS-based vacant land analysis for the CNLV would be a useful tool in many applications, but in particular, for parks and open space because it could:

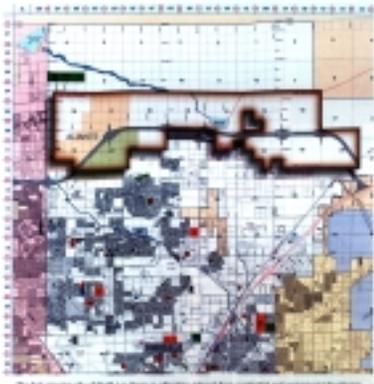
- Identify open and potentially available land (both public and private) in areas of the City with a high population density (or an increasing one) and a low proximity (access) to local parks.
- Factor in changing (appreciating) land values, the rate and pattern in the conversion of undeveloped land, all timely indicators of land that could become prime for early public acquisition. This would be of value if the City were to eventually have a local park acquisition fund.

✦ Park Planning for the remaining 16,000 Acre “Suburban Reserve” -

The recent experience of the City with the master planning of Aliante has been a relative success in terms of establishing ample and high-quality local parks, linear parks and greenways and natural open space, all in advance of and in-place as the community builds out.

This experience should be not only repeated but improved upon with the next 2,000 acre release of BLM lands within the 16,000 acre suburban reserve, now scheduled for November 2004. Even greater gains can be made for the continued provision of excellent public parks, interconnected trails and spacious natural areas in this next “take-down” by:

- Rigorous application of the park acreage and recreational facility LOS standards contained in this Master Plan Update.
- Having foresight to ensure that whatever trails, linear parks or greenways are proposed in advance of the City’s own adopted **Open Space and Trails Plan** (Part V.2) are well-coordinated with the City’s ongoing trail planning and development initiatives (Lower and Upper Las Vegas Wash Trails) and other regional trail plans (SNRPC Valley Trails Plan and the Northwest Open Space Planning project).
- Advocating for a non-waiver of the residential construction tax, so as to increase the limited reserve of funding the City currently has for local park acquisition and development.



Map Clipping showing the BLM 7500 acre disposal boundary including Aliante and the remaining 5500 acres





Keeping the Plan Current- Other Concerns

Other Concerns

Joint School/Park Development Opportunities-

Creative utilization of existing school sites, within the CNLV would contribute, in part, to meeting the chronic shortage of developed park space and recreational facilities now found in established residential neighborhoods throughout the City. Successful examples of where that has worked before can be found in and around the City at Tom Williams School/Park, Hebert Memorial Park (in need of and scheduled for renovation) and Eldorado/Antonello School Park.

The North Las Vegas City Council has taken a renewed interest in seeing if there are other existing CCSD (District) school sites where under-utilized sportsfields or sportscourts might exist and, with proper rehabilitation and improvement, become recreational assets accessible to the neighborhood residents. In order for this to occur, a few present obstacles will have to be overcome, among which are:

- **Public Accessibility** - If the CNLV is to consider contributing City dollars to the upgrading and renovation of sportsfields (e.g. infield and outfield renovation, new irrigation systems, fencing, night lighting) or sportscourts (e.g. resurfacing, striping, new goals, night-lighting) at existing District schools, the public will have to gain the maximum allowable use and accessibility to those facilities.
- **Maintenance and Upkeep**- The District has made it clear that it has very limited resources both in actual grounds maintenance dollars and manpower to devote to taking care of anything more than its existing and future school grounds. Likewise, the CNLV has and practices high standards of maintenance on City sportsfields and other recreational facilities. It may be the renovation and upgrading of sportsfields, sportcourts or even the development of a new, small-sized neighborhood park at an established District school site. Whatever that improvement becomes, the City needs to be confident it could maintain those fields, courts and park acres up to the high-level it currently emphasizes in its developed parks. With this in mind, some existing joint-use agreements would have to be rewritten. A higher degree of cooperation and coordination between the District and the City would also need to become evident, for other shared school/park projects to happen.



CNLV/CCSD Joint School Parks





Keeping the Plan Current- Other Concerns



Community play areas and fields at Travis Elementary School/Park, Houston, Texas

- **Future School Sites within the CNLV** - The basic reasons to pursue joint school/park projects at future school sites lie in both fiscal responsibility, planned and intelligent co-development. By combining efforts and resources, the City/School partnership can build better and more affordable multiple-use based community facilities.

Rather than the CNLV building its own local neighborhood or community park and the District building its own athletic fields, both can combine forces and resources and build one such facility for joint use. This results in substantial cost savings to the taxpayers of this city and a brighter social and economic boost for the surrounding community. **This is now being done at Aliante, where a 10-acre neighborhood park will be developed in conjunction with a District elementary school. The park will also be interconnected with the community's larger linear park and trails system.**

More specific-area planning for the remainder of the 16,000 acre "suburban reserve" of the City will proceed at a rapid pace in the years to come. As an integral part of that planning, strong attention should be focused to repeating, as often as it makes sense to, the economical and mutually beneficial aspects of developing neighborhood-sized parks at District elementary and middle school sites, as well as community-sized parks at District High School sites.

One example worth mentioning of a joint school/park venture paying off in a big way, is where the Lodi Unified School District and the City of Stockton, California have co-designed and will construct a high school for 20,000 students, seven soccer fields, four softball field complexes, three baseball diamonds and other fields, a community center, stadium and a future library site, all on a 75 acre site. **The City of Lodi estimates that without doing the project jointly, building a park of this caliber would cost \$15-\$20 million. The final cost to the City for developing this park through the cooperative agreement with the School District is likely to only cost \$4-\$5 million.**

- ✦ **Dependable Dollars for Local Park Development** - The case has been made in the Implementation section of this plan, that for the projects contained in either the "moderate" or "ambitious" spending scenarios to be realized, a dedicated and renewable source of funding will have to be in place. **In Part IV.3: Paying for the Plan** a variety of funding means and mechanisms are put forth that if established, could result in substantial advances in both developed park acreage and built community facilities for the CNLV.



The aims of this plan are bold, and will need an innovative funding strategy to come to fruition





Keeping the Plan Current- Other Concerns

On a yearly basis, the City should examine the political practicality and public acceptance for any of those funding strategies which can yield a predictable stream of public funding which a progressive local park development program can be built around.

- **A Downtown Park and Plaza** - While few specific projects are listed here from the extensive list contained in the implementation section, this one is particularly noteworthy. That is, it will first require the Redevelopment Agency (and the Council sitting as the Board of Directors) to make this a high community priority. By doing so, this could energize the project by directing the varied and productive tools the Redevelopment Agency has at its disposal to:
 - Conduct a site-selection process and assemble the land
 - Carry out a community-based park and plaza planning and design initiative; and
 - Gain sufficient funding to allow for either full or staged construction of the park and plaza

If done with forethought, a downtown-oriented City park and plaza could become one more place that people favorably associate with the rebirth of the older sections of the CNLV. It can serve as a much-needed downtown greenspace, the location for regular community events ranging from farmers markets to an appealing location for community concerts, as well as become a cultural hub, celebrating the growing ethnic diversity of the City.



Community Concert at City Plaza and Park
Chico, California





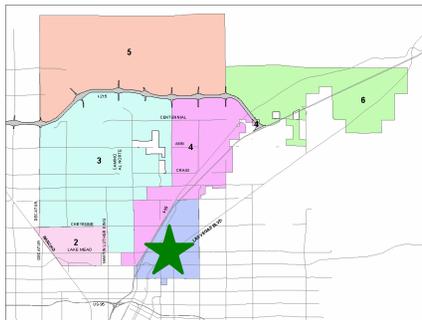
Boris Terrace Park



Park Type: Neighborhood Park
2200 E. Cartier 1.19 Acres

Facilities

Facilities on site include a basketball court, a playground area with operable play equipment, a shade structure, 3 picnic tables, 3 barbecue grills, one bench, a raised planter, a drinking fountain and a path system within the park.



Through the Capital Improvement Program, improvements include refurbishing / resurfacing the basketball court, picnic, horseshoe and active play areas, repairing and modifying raised planters, planting shade trees and other landscape accents, replacing the irrigation system and making the site ADA compliant. The improvements are scheduled for Fiscal Year 2004-2005.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Basketball court surface is deteriorating and there are no goals on the goal posts.
- ◆ Drinking fountain is clogged.
- ◆ Raised planters and built-in benches need to be repaired and painted.
- ◆ Play area needs to be redeveloped – equipment is outdated, surface is hard compacted ground with insufficient sand depth, high edges / drop-offs occur around perimeter, wooden edge is deteriorated.
- ◆ Site circulation and ADA access is fair – better than other older parks.

- ◆ Existing vegetation is mature and declining – needs new shade trees / accent landscaping.
- ◆ Raised planter with turf is hard to maintain / mow.
- ◆ Swings missing from support.
- ◆ Bench adjacent to street provides no ADA access to front – pad needs to be larger.
- ◆ Good existing site circulation pattern.

2002 Conditions

In general, the condition of the park landscape is good. Turf areas are in fair condition. Play equipment has been updated and swings have been added. A good circulation pattern is still evident. Turf has been removed from the raised planter. Intended to be a “walk-to” neighborhood park, vehicular parking is available only on the surrounding streets. The drinking fountain has been replaced and the goals and posts for the basketball court have been restored. However, the court surface is still in need of attention. The park lacks any self-identity through a monument sign or featured entry. The Capital Improvement Project scheduled for fiscal year 2004-2005, will go a long way towards improving the appearance and functional use of this park.





Brooks Tot Lot

Park Type: Mini-Park
 1421 Brooks Avenue .20 Acres

Facilities

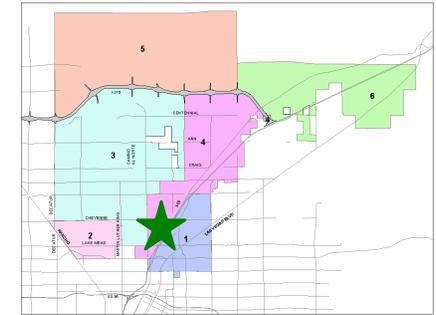
A playground oriented toward young children (small play apparatus, spring animals, merry-go-round), picnic tables, and benches. The park underwent a complete renovation two years ago.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Drinking fountain is not accessible, erosion at concrete pad possibly from poor drainage.
- ◆ Play area needs to be redeveloped – equipment, surface needs upgrading / updating.
- ◆ Entirely fenced with one access point – needs additional safe exit points and a ramp at the curb for accessibility.
- ◆ Graffiti is on everything – walls, equipment, benches, etc.
- ◆ Benches are broken.
- ◆ Landscape and irrigation need to be upgraded.

2002 Conditions

This small mini-park/tot lot has been completely redone with major upgrading in most every aspect. New play apparatus (two small climbing/slide structures, merry-go-round, spring animals) oriented toward very young children has been thoughtfully placed and has a safe, resilient surface underneath. A wide walkway, along with large trees in grates, frames both sides of the rectangular edge around the play area. Picnic tables and bench seating has been also added for visitor comfort. The perimeter concrete block wall displays a colorful mural that is free of graffiti.

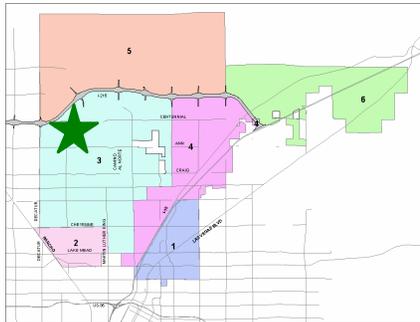




Cheyenne Ridge Park

Park Type: Neighborhood Park
3814 Scott Robinson Boulevard

5.0 Acres



Facilities

Barbecue grills, basketball court, picnic tables, a playground area, volleyball court and a walking path.

Through the Capital Improvement Program, improvements include resurfacing the site circulation system, including paths and sidewalks, replacing the irrigation system, and making the site fully ADA accessible. New elements being added to this facility include benches and picnic gazebos. The improvements are scheduled for Fiscal Year 2004-2005.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Need accessible site circulation to all facilities / activity areas – picnic ramadas, volleyball court, and basketball court.
- ◆ Wind is carrying sand into adjacent turf area and there are high edges / drop-offs around perimeter – need to provide less grade change from adjacent area to sand, and maybe a vegetative buffer from winds.
- ◆ Basketball court surface is deteriorating – probably from poor drainage. Court is in low spot with berm around perimeter.
- ◆ Benches and drinking fountains in close proximity to sport court areas would provide more comfort for users.

- ◆ Has existing pedestrian lighting, but no area lighting.
- ◆ New landscape areas are drought tolerant.
- ◆ Bollard lighting placement in turf areas creates maintenance headache, and sprinkler / water damage to fixtures.

2002 Conditions

This park falls short of its real potential. The overall layout is fairly plain. Amenities are few, but in good condition. Trails are lit by pedestrian-scale bollards. The area around the drinking fountain could be upgraded and made safer. On-street parking exists. ADA access is suspect. The open turf appears to be worn from soccer events. There is little visual relief to the park, large flat areas of turf dominate. The basketball court is well surfaced, but only has two goals. The walking path is in good condition. There are two very small shade structures, each with a picnic table and a barbecue. New play equipment has been introduced and resilient surfacing has been installed. PDG agrees with the 1996 assessment that this park could use some real help. Thoughtful redesign could make it a more appealing park for neighborhood users to enjoy. The Capital Improvements Project scheduled for fiscal year 2004-2005 should be temporarily suspended. A complete park redesign study should be done first to better assess the extent of needed improvements.





Cheyenne Sports Complex

Park Type: Special Use Park

3500 E. Cheyenne Avenue

37.67 Acres

Facilities

Lighted baseball / softball fields, restroom facilities, soccer fields, lighted soccer / football fields, lighted tennis court, and track and field.

Through the Capital Improvement Program, improvements include providing picnic shelters, barbecue grills, picnic tables and associated furnishings for group and family picnics. Restroom and service area access will be modified to provide the desired flow to the picnic area. The improvements are scheduled for Fiscal Year 2002-2003.

1996 Master Plan Observations

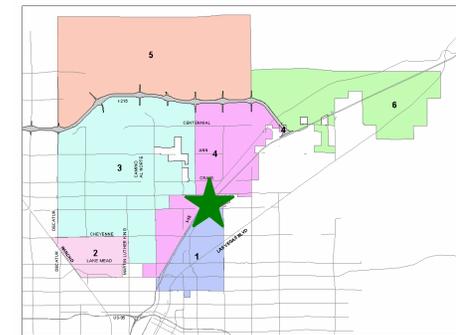
- ◆ Pool is being eliminated.
- ◆ City wants to resurface track.
- ◆ Poor ADA access at tennis courts, diamonds / bleachers, track and football field, etc.
- ◆ Path surfacing, seating, concession, etc. does not meet ADA criteria. Need to improve / expand site circulation system, and service / emergency vehicle access.
- ◆ Asphalt parking areas are deteriorating – surface becoming brittle, large cracks, etc.
- ◆ Tennis courts (surface) also have cracking – currently unlighted.

- ◆ Concession building and restrooms need upgrading / updating – addition is in poor condition – develop a concession plaza area.
- ◆ Erosion is occurring at several activity areas, probably generated from user ‘wear-n-tear’.
- ◆ Steep grades and drop-offs especially at bleachers and western side (slope) of track.
- ◆ Parking areas are located on perimeter of site, requiring long routes of travel to high activity areas, carrying equipment – parking may be more integrated for user convenience.
- ◆ Improve landscape in areas – add / replace shade trees.
- ◆ Sport fields need improvement / maintenance – surfaces, fencing, and backstops.
- ◆ Lack of sufficient benches, tables, bike racks, drinking fountains, and signage.
- ◆ Upgrade lighting and irrigation systems.
- ◆ One lighted soccer field and one practice field (where pool was originally located).
- ◆ A tot lot for child’s play area may be a needed compatible addition.

2002 Conditions

Much of the conditions noted and observed in 1996 remain and continue to persist. Improvements since that time have taken place with the resurfacing of the track and lighting of the tennis courts. The concession building has been renovated, but the plaza area remains to be developed. The lighting and irrigation system controls were upgraded. There are now two lighted soccer fields. The fitness stations around the track are in need of improvement. Additional

fencing needs to be installed around the sports fields. The scheduled CIP 2002-2003 project should improve the desirability for and increased public use of the picnic areas. This is a prominent park within the CNLV system and one that definitely shows its age and overuse by the public. It would benefit greatly from a complete park renovation program that would deal with the majority of the conditions listed above.





City of North Las Vegas Desert Demonstration Garden

Park Type: Special Use Park

City Hall Complex 1.0 Acre

Facilities

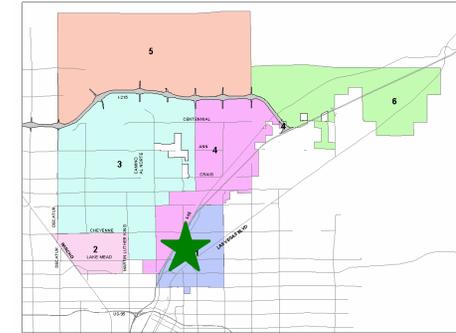
The Garden includes an ADA accessible path that connects to the bus stop. Park identification and site lighting exist. There is a shade shelter with a drinking fountain.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ The site prior to 2002 was not classified as a park. The site housed a vast area of turf and trees with benches for CNLV employees to use during their lunch hour.

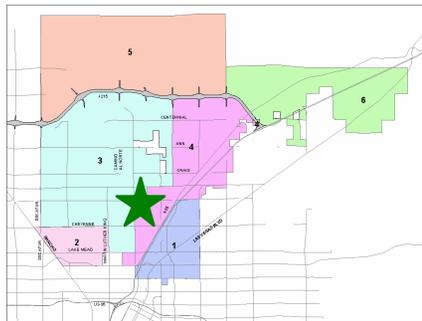
2002 Conditions

The Demonstration Garden showcases over 75 drought tolerant plant species. The site remains on route for the transit system. The Garden has a meandering path (ADA accessible) throughout which allows users to take advantage of the awesome blooming periods of various plants throughout the year. A shade shelter enables those to relax in the garden and enjoy the sights and smells of the various plant species and also invites them to view the butterflies and hummingbirds that visit the garden.





City View Park



Park Type: Community Park
101 Cheyenne Avenue 13.02 Acres

Facilities

Barbecue grills, horseshoe pits, picnic tables, playground areas, pond/stream/waterfall, a group picnic area and restroom facilities.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Road noise distracting at pond and group picnic areas.
- ◆ Water feature is a high maintenance element – trash / algae growth, pond may need new liner and pump system.
- ◆ Park lacks a decent internal circulation system – accessibility limitations.
- ◆ Existing slopes in park will require both ramps and stairs.
- ◆ Existing walkways are in bad shape.
- ◆ Abandoned reservoir needs to be redeveloped for reuse and removed.
- ◆ Drinking fountains are in poor condition and location.
- ◆ Site furnishings, play equipment and surfaces need to be updated and revamped.
- ◆ Some site lighting is present but not enough.
- ◆ Park seems to function as a community-oriented park.
- ◆ Great views of the City – hence the name.
- ◆ Landscape is mature and declining.
- ◆ Parking lot aisles, driveways and stalls need resurfacing.
- ◆ Existing slopes are unstable.

- ◆ Existing restroom and shade ramada show their age and need remodeling.
- ◆ Amphitheater could use some work and redefinition.
- ◆ Play equipment is scattered and should be brought together and unified.
- ◆ Present exercise / fitness stations still viable. Do they really get used?
- ◆ Picnic areas need to be redefined and improved.
- ◆ Site signage or way finding is non-existent.

2002 Conditions

Some improvements have been executed since 1996. A second tot lot has been provided at the upper level to the west, and is in good shape. The playground areas have been provided with updated play equipment. The park site, with its rolling topography, presents an opportunity for a great park. The location, adjacent to an industrial area, is unfortunate. The majority of the 1996 comments, for the most part, remain applicable today. The reservoir has been replaced by turf and trees planted over it. The sight visibility lines at the parking lot exit are compromised. The fitness stations have been removed. The park is currently used by many citizens, and is a definite amenity to the community. Its full potential remains untapped and overlooked. This park is a prime candidate for a comprehensive park renovation plan and a subsequent CIP “mature” park upgrading program to overcome its obvious shortcomings and take advantage of its promise.



College Park

Park Type: Neighborhood Park
 2613 Tonopah Avenue 1.19 Acres

Facilities

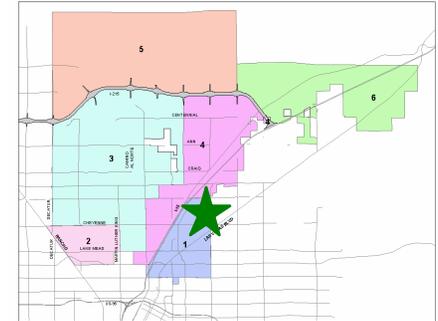
Barbecue grills, picnic tables, a playground area, and a walking path.

1996 Park Master Plan Observations

- ◆ ADA accessibility is virtually non-existent.
- ◆ Play area – very deep erosion. Needs reorganization and consolidation of equipment.
- ◆ Park is entirely surrounded by security fence – limited access.
- ◆ Picnic Tables – separate pads make maintenance difficult.
- ◆ No internal park circulation system to define and organize parts or portions of the park.
- ◆ Real park security and safety shortcomings.
- ◆ Graffiti is prevalent throughout the park.
- ◆ Irrigation system needs to be improved.
- ◆ Drinking fountain – old and in need of replacement.
- ◆ Park plantings are mature and declining.
- ◆ Trashcans need to be secured to their own posts.

2002 Conditions

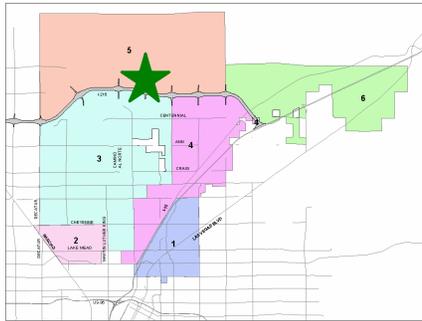
This park has undergone a pleasing renovation where several of the poor pre-existing conditions, have been remedied through the Mature Parks Renovation Project 2002. The overall accessibility to the park has been improved through curb ramps, more points of entry and concrete sidewalks within the interior. Shade shelters now cover picnic tables, which remain marked with graffiti. Existing sidewalks also are tagged. No security lighting has yet to be placed in the park to make users feel safer. The turf areas could stand some renovation and possible regrading. The irrigation system needs to be upgraded. Low screen plantings should be considered on the southwest side of homes bordering the park. The park lacks any identification and could use an entry sign monument.





Community Golf Course

Park Type: Special Use Park
324 E. Brooks Avenue 14.0 Acres



Facilities

Through the Capital Improvement Program, improvements include the fencing of the golf course, renovating / replacing the clubhouse, renovation / replacement of the irrigation system on the golf course, renovation of the parking lot, 1/2 street improvements on Brooks Avenue, and the addition of equipment and material storage. The improvements are scheduled for Fiscal Year 2005-2006.

2002 Conditions

The course appears to be in very good condition and is heavily used by the citizens of CNLV. A higher standard of golf course maintenance could result in an even better appearance than it currently displays. Minor repairs may be warranted. In general, golf course users remain positive about the condition of the course and its comparatively low green fees. The lines of sight at the exit from the parking lot need to be dealt with as they may be obscured. A major Capital Improvements Project for the Golf Course is scheduled as for Fiscal year 2005-2006 that will substantially improve the way it looks to and the conveniences it offers the golfing public.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Location of Golf Course provides landscape, visual and topographical interest.
- ◆ The course offers night golfing with area lighting.





Eldorado / Antonello School Parks

Park Type: School / Joint Use Facilities
 5900 Camino Eldorado Boulevard 11.75 Acres

Facilities

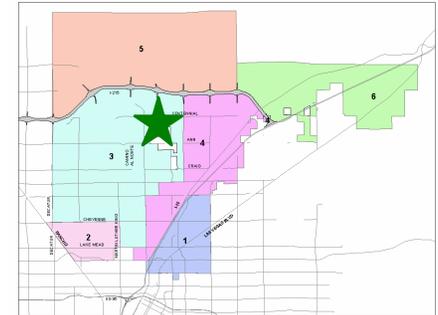
Soccer field, barbecue grills, picnic tables, a playground area, shade structures, shuffleboard, and a walking path.

1996 Park Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Picnic Tables – surrounded by turf and not accessible by walks.
- ◆ High edges / drop-offs along walk and around play area are present.
- ◆ Safety / security – berms from street side are too high – obscure activities on school side.
- ◆ Benches – re-orient for better views.
- ◆ Park does have bollards and site lighting.
- ◆ Shade trees lacking.
- ◆ Erosion and unsafe grade changes near shade ramada.

2002 Conditions

Overall, the park appears to be in good condition. Accessibility is not available to every picnic table, but they appear to meet ADA requirements. The rolling turf areas reduce the flat features common to most other parks this size. The large flat open turf area is good for sport activities but has no definition of its perimeter by the use of shade tree groves. The shrubs in various places are in poor health and more desert-adapted varieties may be better choices. Drop-off conditions at the shuffleboard courts have been corrected. Many items from the 1996 observations have been corrected. Apart from some needed landscape improvements (shade trees and additional/replacement shrub plantings) this park has been well kept considering the amount of public use.





Flores Park



Park Type: Neighborhood Park
4133 Allen Lane 5.0 Acres

Facilities

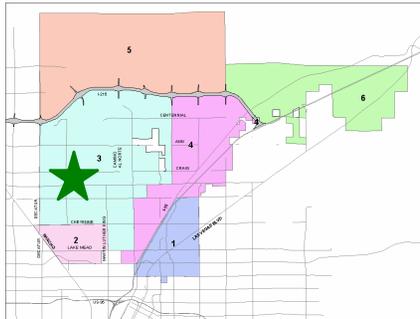
Barbecue grills, fitness stations, horseshoe pit, picnic tables, a playground area, shade structures, shuffleboard and a walking path.

2002 Conditions

Flores Park is adjacent to the Silver Mesa Recreation Center and Park. There is a noticeable age difference between the two facilities and it shows in their contrasting appearances. Flores Park displays its maturity, while Silver Mesa still sparkles with its youthful look. Other than this, the open turf is in good condition, and grounds maintenance appears good. The concrete paths appear to be in good condition. Some repair to the lighting system may be desirable. The decomposed granite loop trail will require maintenance in the future. Tree plantings are generally sparse and some species are struggling. Better, more desert-adapted varieties are suggested. Shuffleboard courts are in fair condition with cracking throughout. Fall zones for the exercise equipment along the trail are questionable. The horseshoe pits could use some refurbishing and painting, but are playable. Flores Park lacks any identification or entry statement. The park is in fair to good shape but is a prime candidate for a future renovation project.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Flores Park is a relatively new park, created since 1996.





Gold Crest Park

Park Type: Neighborhood Park
714 W. Craig Creek Avenue 7.8 Acres

Facilities

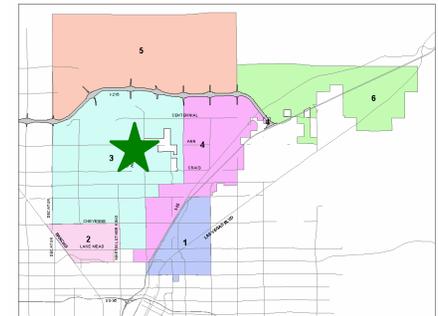
Barbecue grills, picnic tables, a playground area, restroom facilities, shade structures, a volleyball court, and a walking path.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Gold Crest is a relatively new park, created since 1996.

2002 Conditions

This park is new and is a good example of the pleasant contrast native landscape and green oasis landscape themes that can be designed. Adequate off-street parking space and a nice restroom are at one end of the park. A small kid's play structure is nearby with resilient surfacing, as well as a seating area. The small shade shelter "pods" with table, barbecues and trash receptacles are in very good condition. The rolling turf areas are pleasing to the eye and in good shape. The volleyball court is isolated from the parking area and the retaining wall caps are in disrepair. The park lacks a monument sign for identification. ADA accessibility across the wash and in all park areas is suspect. Except for the accessibility issue, the park is in excellent shape and is well maintained. Scheduled improvements include raising the volleyball court, installing closed conduit along the wash and adding a soccer field at the east end of the park.





Hartke Park / Pool

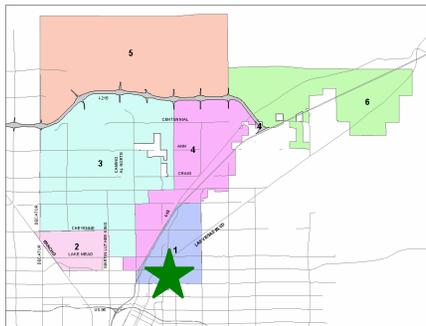


Park Type: Neighborhood Park
1638 N. Bruce Street 9.32 Acres

Facilities

Barbecue grills, lighted baseball/softball field, basketball court, picnic tables, playground area, restroom facilities, lighted soccer/football, swimming pool, and lighted tennis court.

- ◆ Need passive seating areas, benches, etc.
- ◆ Irrigation system needs attention and upgrading.
- ◆ Site lighting is lacking.
- ◆ Concession and restroom buildings are in very poor condition and have ADA shortcomings.
- ◆ Pool area – repair/improve drainage, ADA accessibility, conformance to UBC.



Through the Capital Improvement Program, planned improvements include replacing/adding ballfield fences and backstops, improving and adding play areas, installing curb and ramp access separating park from school, creating a safety area between automobiles and activity areas and renovation/ replacement of the irrigation system.

2002 Conditions

Since 1996, the general look and appearance of Hartke Park has somewhat improved. There is now an existing path system in the park that is in fair condition. Noticeable vandalism and graffiti have been contended with. Park security has been heightened with the introduction of site lighting. The park does have a monument sign. A perimeter fence still surrounds the entire park providing various access points. Play equipment and picnic tables have also been added to and updated. Sports fields have been upgraded and an outfield fence is now in place to separate the softball field from the park. People who live nearby frequent this park and uses what it has to offer. The concession building has been removed and the restroom facilities have been upgraded. The pool area is also undergoing renovation. The CIP project scheduled for fiscal year 2003-2004 will go far in remedying some of recurring shortcomings of Hartke Park. An additional and future CIP project is in order here that should include additional park landscape plantings to supplement both the scarcity of them and those that are in decline.



1996 Park Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Sports fields/courts need to be upgraded – bleachers, fencing, backstops, surfacing and lighting are in poor condition.
- ◆ Asphalt (AC) path is deteriorating – not ADA accessible – needs a continuous site circulation system for access to all areas.
- ◆ Perimeter security fence surrounds the entire park – one point of access in and out.
- ◆ Vandalism and deterioration very visible.
- ◆ Park plantings are mature and declining.
- ◆ Picnic and play areas need to be improved and better defined.
- ◆ A safety barrier (planting/structural) could help better separate parking and rest of park.





Hebert Memorial Park

Park Type: School / Joint Use Facilities

2701 Basswood Avenue

3.48 Acres

Facilities

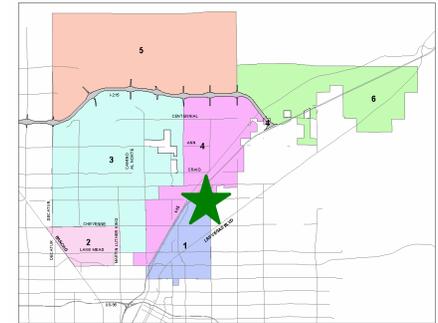
Two unlighted baseball/softball fields, basketball court (on school site), picnic tables, two playground structures, a restroom facilities and shade structure/ramada.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Planters, curbs and walks broken and falling apart.
- ◆ Asphalt surfaces need reconditioning.
- ◆ No ADA accessibility.
- ◆ Park shows its age and neglect- ramada, play equipment.
- ◆ Irrigation system and landscape need to be repaired and/or updated.
- ◆ Graffiti is prevalent throughout park.
- ◆ Restroom is closed (poor condition?) Needs ADA modifications.
- ◆ Park plantings are mature and declining.
- ◆ Picnic area needs improvement.
- ◆ Play area needs help.

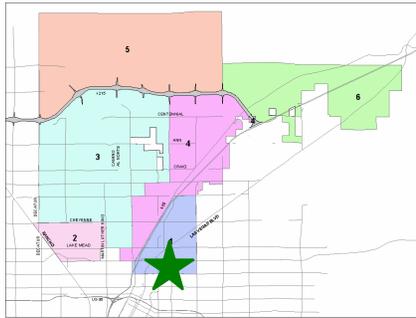
2002 Conditions

Hebert Memorial Park has undergone some selective improvements since 1996. The accessibility to and inside the park has been improved through the addition of street/sidewalk ramps and sidewalks within the park itself. Colorful and substantial play structures, although on school grounds, are open and accessible from the park. Restrooms are old, show their age and are in need of replacement, but remain useable. The relevancy of the existing shade structure/ramada and its actual use by the public is questionable. The turf throughout the park is in great need of renovation. As noted in 1996, the existing park plantings are sparse and in decline. A substantial improvement here would be the placement of new, specimen-sized trees in groves. Also, converting some of the turf to planted areas of shrub and groundcover beds adjacent to walks would go a long way to improving the visual appeal of the park. The park could have better recognition through an attractive park entry monument or sign.





Joe Kneip Park



Park Type: Neighborhood Park
 2127 McCarran Street 2.21 Acres

Facilities

Barbecue grills, basketball court, shade shelters, picnic tables, upgraded play structures, restroom facilities, shade structures, fenced basketball and soccer courts with "play" surfacing.

2002 Conditions

The park has undergone some upgrading. Play areas have received contemporary and colorful play structures. The park now contains the typical CNLV combination of picnic table pad/shadecover and BBQ grill. Since 1996, the tennis court had been converted to an enclosed soccer/volleyball/basketball court and, as a result, receives much more use. Restrooms remain open and are in decent shape. Turf areas look relatively good, but with some bare patches. Mature landscape plantings are in need of replacement. Planted areas at the perimeter of the park are in place, but remain scarce and small in certain locations. Timber shade ramadas have been cared for and painted but are in need of updating. The irrigation system needs to be renovated. The fitness equipment has been removed. Considering the heavy use this park receives by the surrounding neighborhood, the park is well maintained.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Park is entirely surrounded by security fencing.
- ◆ Limited access (one way in and out); site is not ADA accessible.
- ◆ Turf areas are rutted and in bad shape.
- ◆ Park plantings are mature and in decline.
- ◆ Asphalt surfaces need reconditioning.
- ◆ Drinking fountains clogged, restrooms closed.
- ◆ Play area – needs improved surfacing, updated play equipment.
- ◆ Tennis courts are not lighted – are they used?
- ◆ Fitness equipment is in poor condition.
- ◆ Picnic area / shade ramadas in bad shape.
- ◆ Site lighting present, but is it adequate?





Kiel Ranch

Park Type: Special Use Park
2534 North Commerce Street

3.73 Acres

Facilities

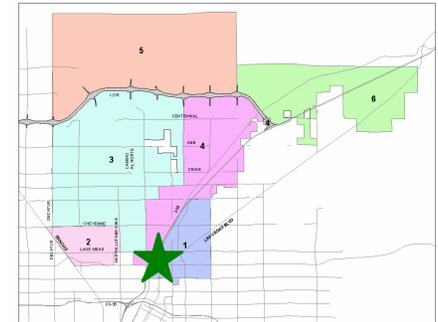
Kiel Ranch is a 240-acre ranch of which 7 acres were homesteaded in the mid-1800's. Several architectural buildings including the Park Mansion and Dollhouse were constructed here. Seven acres of the site has been designated a Natural Wetland Area which houses an artesian pond with an intermittent stream. Several plant species are grown here that are not seen anywhere else in the Las Vegas Valley. The site is rich with historical value. One of Nevada's oldest buildings still remains on-site.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Most of the ranch had been burned with the exception of the original adobe house and a small white house / shed.
- ◆ Much of the site has been used as a dumping grounds – potential environmental clean-up?
- ◆ Mature cottonwood trees and other trees could be saved – natural drainage water still available.
- ◆ Has a high potential for historical interpretation and redevelopment as a cultural park.
- ◆ Located in an industrial area.

2002 Conditions

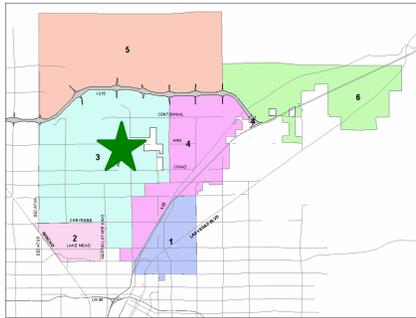
The potential for Kiel Ranch as a restored historic site and cultural park remain unexplored and undetermined. Most of the observations from 1996 still apply today. The site exhibits many possibilities, from its richness of cultural flavor to its educational value from the historical and environmental aspects, to become an integral part of the community.





Lower Las Vegas Wash

Park Type: Special Use Park
Washburn & Scott Robinson **5.0 Acres**



Facilities

At present, there only exists a short length of walking path and bridge. The bigger picture includes design and construction of an extended regional trail along the "A" Channel of the Las Vegas Wash in next couple of years.

Additionally through the Capital Improvement Program, improvements will include the construction of lighted sports fields within the Lower Las Vegas Wash Detention Basin. The project will also contain associated irrigation, parking, sanitary facilities, ADA access, landscaping, off-site improvements and a concession stand. Additionally, the area surrounding the detention basin will have a running / jogging track, picnic area, shade trees, and site landscaping. The improvements are tentatively scheduled for Fiscal Year 2004-2005.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ This multi-use purpose pathway did not exist in 1996.

2002 Conditions

Currently the uncompleted path winds along the southern side of the detention basin on the southern side. It is primarily a coarse, unconsolidated gravel that is not ADA compliant. The large bridge spans the wash at the western end. The bridge is well-designed, visually attractive and in excellent condition. Plantings alongside the trail consist of desert-adapted trees that are in good condition. There are great views of the mountains to the north. Terraced areas are on the north side of the detention basin.

This existing section of trail is a small segment of the larger eight and one-half miles of a regional multi-use pathway planned for completion in 2005. This first linkage of the regional trail is intended to follow the Western Tributary of the Las Vegas Wash, from the intersection with the Northern Beltway on to Lake Mead Boulevard.





Monte Vista Park

Park Type: Neighborhood Park
4911 Scott Robinson Boulevard

5.0 Acres

Facilities

Barbecue grills, fitness stations, picnic tables, a playground area, and a walking path.

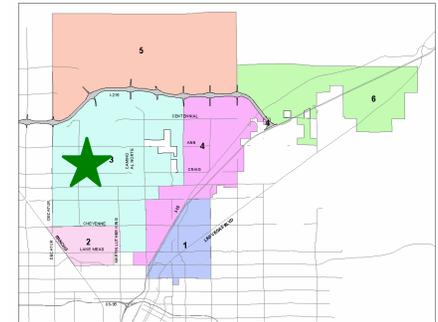
Through the Capital Improvement Program, improvements include resurfacing walkways, improving accessibility, and planting more shade trees. New facility improvements include constructing an on-site parking lot and the addition of area lighting. The improvements are scheduled for Fiscal Year 2005-2006.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ No vehicular parking for park users.
- ◆ Backyard fences and gates from adjacent homes facing park – creates potential liability, security and maintenance issues for park users and CNLV.
- ◆ Poor pedestrian circulation throughout park.
- ◆ No restroom facility or drinking fountains.
- ◆ Intersection of decomposed granite path and concrete sidewalk is a liability and safety concern.
- ◆ Park lacks shade trees.
- ◆ No signage identifying park.
- ◆ Existing decomposed granite path not ADA accessible.

2002 Conditions

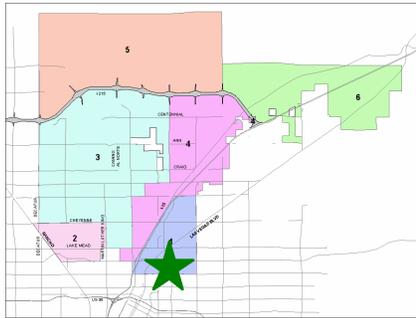
Monte Vista Park is similar to Cheyenne Ridge Park. That is, it represents the “stock” neighborhood-level CNLV park, but lacks any distinctive or memorable qualities (with the exception of a large mounded turf area) to set it apart from the ordinary. Since 1996, a drinking fountain has been added. A concrete path system exists. The play small and faded structure (plastic material) is scheduled for replacement later this year. Ten swings are possible, two are missing. ADA access to the playground does not exist. No off-street or on-street parking is, as of yet, available. Exercise equipment is in good shape but it is questionable if it gets any real use. Perimeter buffers and more shade trees should be considered and the turf condition is fair. The park exhibits park identification. The CIP renovation project scheduled for FY 2005-2006 is right on target in adding to what is presently lacking at this park. If appropriate and affordable, the CNLV should consider adding a restroom facility and certainly a park identification sign.





Neighborhood Recreation Center (Hartke Park)

Park Type: Special Use Park / Facility
1638 North Bruce Street **12.25 Acres**



Facilities

The Neighborhood Center at Hartke Park is the older of two community recreation centers the CNLV presently has. The building dates back to 1975 and contains a pool, full service gym, multi-purpose room (game room), computer labs, a mezzanine for gymnastics and karate and a kiln for pottery. The facility also houses administrative offices for the Department Head and the Special Events (Citywide) Director as well as offices for the Center’s staff. Extensive programs for senior citizens are offered at the center. The center also offers a pre-school program for children.

2002 Conditions

The Neighborhood Center is a major asset to the community it is situated in and receives extensive use from nearby residents. The building appears dated and cramped. It lacks the range and quality of appointments other newer and competing community recreation centers offer. The Neighborhood Center should be considered by the CNLV as a serious candidate for major remodeling and expansion. The only scheduled remodeling due thus far is a new roof for the facility.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Parking areas need to be resurfaced and expanded.
- ◆ Need site signage for identification.
- ◆ Remodel facility for ADA conformance.
- ◆ Landscape is mature- upgrade and replace (applies to grounds immediately around the building).
- ◆ Upgrade irrigation system (applies grounds immediately around the building).





Petitti Park and Pool

Park Type: Neighborhood Park

2505 N. Bruce Street 9.23 Acres

Facilities

Barbecue grills, lighted baseball/softball field, basketball court, picnic tables, playground area, restroom facilities, lighted soccer/football and swimming pool.

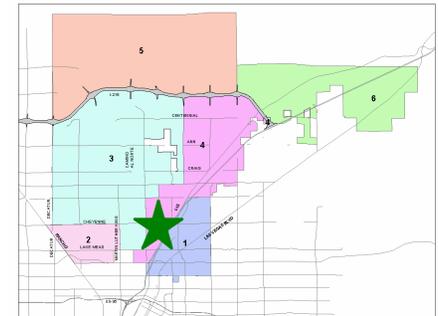
Through the Capital Improvement Program, improvements include replacing the irrigation system, and the addition of backstops, fencing, restrooms, and new bathhouse facilities. The improvements are scheduled for Fiscal Year 2006-2007.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Play area recently upgraded.
- ◆ Park site is secured with perimeter fencing.
- ◆ Low incidence of vandalism and graffiti indicates good park security and maintenance.
- ◆ Picnic areas are missing BBQ's.
- ◆ Park landscape is suffering.
- ◆ Sports fields – lacking bleachers, fencing backstops, better playing surface.
- ◆ Park sorely lacks a pedestrian circulation system.

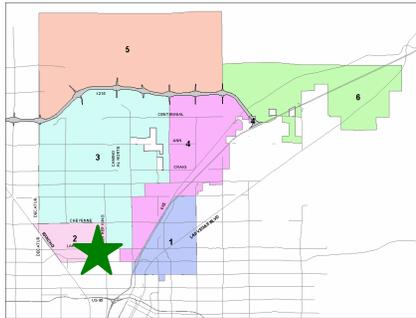
2002 Conditions

Facilities on-site include a baseball/softball field, playground area, shade structures, picnic tables, a bench, and a drinking fountain. Barbecue grills have been added since 1996. The condition of the park landscape has been improved since the 1996 Observation. There is a path system in the park that appears to be in fair condition. The play equipment appears to be in good condition. Portions of the sidewalk and a picnic table have been vandalized. Perimeter fencing is still intact since the 1996 Observation, if space allows and need exists, the park could use an additional lighted sports field.





Prentiss Walker Pool / Park



Park Type: Neighborhood Park
1509 June Avenue 3.08 Acres

Facilities

Barbeque grills, basketball court, picnic tables, play structures, shade structures, on-site parking, swimming pool, and walking path.

- ◆ Undeveloped parking and small area between lot and park.
- ◆ Remodel building/pool area for ADA conformance.
- ◆ Basketball court could use fencing or better enclosure

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Remote location, adjacent undeveloped area does not look very used or secure (no site lighting).
- ◆ No real pedestrian circulation system.
- ◆ No restroom or drinking fountain.
- ◆ Benches-too close to edge of play area; bench swing broken, none at sports courts; in general need more seating.
- ◆ Asphalt surface around shade ramada is deteriorating.
- ◆ Need more shade trees and general landscaping, planting buffer at park edges.
- ◆ More curb ramps needed for site access.
- ◆ Ballfield could be relocated for better access/use.
- ◆ Play area could use some improvement (new equipment/proper surfacing and more defined edges).

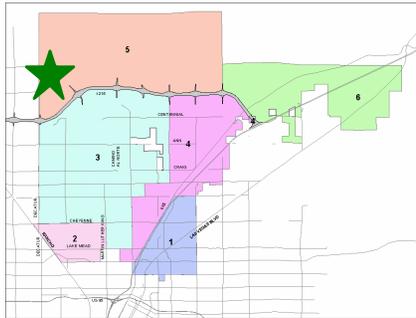
2002 Conditions

This newly renovated park adjacent to Prentiss Walker Memorial Pool is in very good condition and many, if not all, of the shortcomings observed in 1996 have been overcome. The swimming pool has been well cared for and is still heavily used by the community. The linkage adjacent to bus stop on MLK Boulevard could be improved to be ADA accessible. The park lacks a real identification sign or monument. One simple suggestion to make this park more appealing is to consider selective landscape screening around the pool.





Regional Park - Model Air Plane Flying Area



Park Type: Undeveloped
4400 Horse Drive 160 Acres

Facilities

There are 12 picnic tables, 1 bench, a shade shelter, and parking.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Remote location and unimproved access road.
- ◆ No public facilities
- ◆ No restrooms or drinking fountain.
- ◆ No lighting.

2002 Conditions

Given the size of this park (160 acres) it is highly underutilized and its potentials as a true “regional park” largely unexplored. The park lacks identity and landscape. It is currently used for only one activity. The facility is used quite frequently by model airplane enthusiasts and groups (over 50 members of one group use the facility). The runway for the planes appears to be in fair condition. This facility should remain and be improved. The opinion of the present users is to have the park resemble more of a regional park and certainly have it expanded and improved to reflect that.

The CNLV should undertake a full master-planning effort here to determine the role this designated “regional” park should play in the entire park system and the appropriate facilities and attractions it should contain.





Richard Tam Park

Park Type: Neighborhood Park
4631 Rockpine Drive 5.0 Acres

Facilities

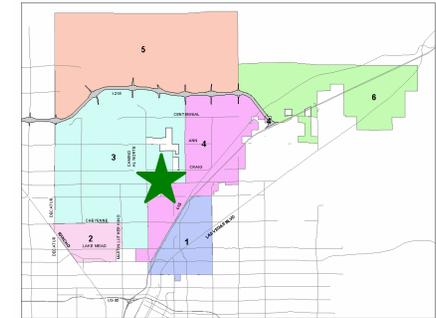
Barbecue grills, baseball / softball field, picnic tables, a playground area, shade structures, soccer field, and a walking path.

1996 Park Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Richard Tam Park is a relatively new park, created since 1996.

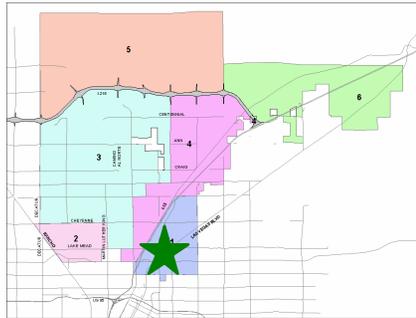
2002 Conditions

Richard Tam is a good, well-cared for example of what the standard neighborhood park should be in the CNLV. The baseball diamond is used and well-maintained. There is a set of walkways inside the park that take one to most parts of it. There is no off-street parking, on bordering residential streets. ADA accessibility from the street parking up to the park falls short of acceptable standards. The large turf areas, and the trees they contain, are doing well. Elms and oaks, planted in shrub planters, are not prospering. The playground structure has held up well, but is relatively small. The shade shelter is in good condition, but the picnic tables underneath are in need of some repair. The drinking fountain is operational. The park is generally pleasing, receives a reasonable amount of public use. For a relatively newer CNLV neighborhood park, it serves as basic template that future neighborhood-level parks can certainly exceed in both amenities and overall design inspiration.





Rotary Tot Lot



Park Type: Mini-Park
2600 Magnet Street 0.12 Acres

Facilities

Picnic tables, trees in grates, and small playground equipment.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Play area needs work – new surfacing, updated play equipment.
- ◆ Surrounded by a security fence with only one entry / exit point.
- ◆ Graffiti is prevalent throughout park .
- ◆ Irrigation system could be improved.
- ◆ The addition of benches and shade trees would make it a much more inviting space.
- ◆ Drinking fountain needs replacement and to be made accessible.
- ◆ No site lighting.



2002 Conditions

The park was completely renovated and now includes merry-go-round, two spring animals, and a small climbing structure that should be made larger. ADA access has been included and the playground safety surfacing is in good condition. Site lighting, two access points, park benches, trees and a drinking fountain have been added and have held up well. This mini-park is certainly better off than it was. The only modest improvement might be in including play equipment that children would feel more adventurous and creative on. Proposed upgrades include providing additional lighting and an automatic locking gate at night.





Seastrand Park

Park Type: Community Park

6330 Camino Eldorado 23.0 Acres

Facilities

Barbecue grills, lighted baseball / softball field, picnic tables, playground area, restroom facilities, shade structures, basketball court, lighted tennis court, soccer fields, fitness stations, seating areas, and a walking path.

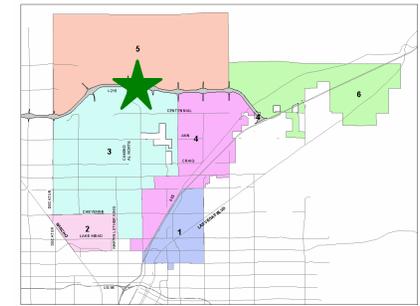
Through the Capital Improvement Program, the project includes the addition of 10 feet of additional height to the existing baseball diamond's backstop fencing for prevention of foul balls. The improvements are scheduled for Fiscal Year 2004-2005.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Seastrand Park is a relatively new park, created since 1996.

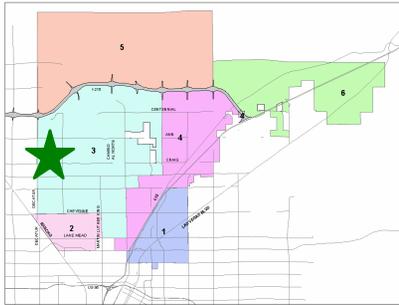
2002 Conditions

Seastrand Park represents the CNLV first and very successful attempt at developing more of a "characteristic" community-based park. This park requires little as it is relatively new, well-designed and equipped and nicely maintained. On-site facilities include a lighted baseball/softball field, playground area, shade structures, picnic tables, barbecue grills, benches, drinking fountain, restroom facilities, fitness stations, and a path throughout the park lighted with bollards. The trees and turf found in the park are in good shape. The park has two separate public parking areas. The park has established itself as an integral part of the community and is showcased as the location for large, annual citywide events. Improvements include additional shade structures and fencing at the soccer fields.





Silver Mesa Recreation Center / Pool



Park Type: Special Recreation Facilities
4025 Allen Lane 5.0 Acres

Facilities

Basketball court, gymnasium / racquetball, restroom facilities, shade structures, swimming pool, and a volleyball court.

2002 Conditions

Silver Mesa Recreation Center and Park is a great addition to the CNLV park system. The recreation center provides excellent indoor facilities, including, basketball / volleyball, gymnastics room, exercise room, art studio, Kiddie Kollege, meeting rooms, game room, aerobic / ballet room, staff rooms, lobby, lockers. Off-street parking seems adequate and ADA access is good. Parking is night lighted. The park is linked to Flores Park and has 6-20' shade shelters, each with a picnic table and BBQ. Open turf is in very good shape. A 45' diameter shelter has 5 picnic tables and 2 small BBQ's. The Aquatic / Water Play Complex are an excellent amenity and provide a large water slide, a shallow water play area, and lap swimming opportunities. The facility is in excellent condition and is well maintained.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Silver Mesa Recreation Center is a relatively new community center and park, built in 1996.





Theron H. Goynes Park

Park Type: Neighborhood Park
3903 W. Washburn Road 10.0 Acres

Facilities

Barbecue grills, lighted baseball/softball field, picnic tables, playground area, restroom facilities, shade structures, sand volleyball court, and a walking path.

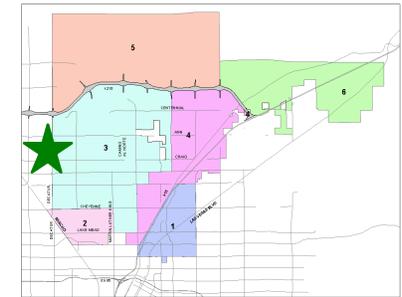
Through the Capital Improvement Program, the project consists of design and installation of a permanent outfield fence to include irrigation system modifications and installation of a warning track. The improvements are scheduled for Fiscal Year 2004-2005.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Theron H. Goynes Park is a relatively new park, constructed after 1996.

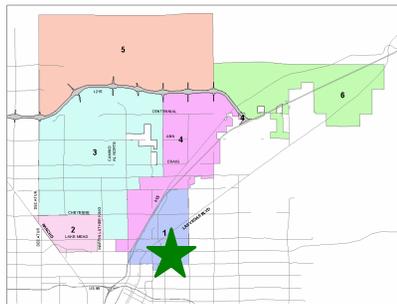
2002 Conditions

Facilities on-site include a lighted baseball/softball field, playground area, shade structures, picnic tables, barbecue grills, benches, drinking fountain, restroom facilities, sand volleyball court, two horseshoe pits and a walking path. The trees, shrubs, accents plantings, and turf found within the park appear to be in good health. The park has multiple activity areas for people to enjoy. The park has a pleasant blend of turf and desert landscape. A parking lot is available for people who drive to the park. A monument sign clearly identifies the park. The park displays a sense of place, being well kept, and adding definition to the surrounding neighborhoods and is kept good condition.





Tom Williams School Park



Park Type: School / Joint Use Facilities
1844 Belmont Street 3.22 Acres

Facilities

Barbecue grills, two baseball / softball fields (with backstops), picnic tables, and two playground areas.

2002 Conditions

This joint school/park has undergone substantial upgrading and improvement available through the Mature Parks Renovation Project. Attractive and contemporary playgrounds have been added along with safer, resilient play surfaces. Concrete walks have been included and improve access to play areas. Security lighting is a new addition and allows for extended use of the park in the evening. The typical CNLV park shelter/picnic table/BBQ grill has also been placed in several locations within the park. The turf throughout the park is worn, patchy and in great need of renovation. The supporting irrigation system could also be upgraded and coverage improved. Areas around the mature trees could be converted to shrub and groundcover beds. The park lacks an identification sign or monument.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Walking path is hazardous due to upheaval of paving from existing trees.
- ◆ Play area surfacing and equipment need improvement.
- ◆ Park plantings are declining.
- ◆ Graffiti is everywhere.
- ◆ Need improved site access – ramps and gate.
- ◆ Park is entirely surrounded by a security fence.
- ◆ Amenities – need more benches, BBQ's and site lighting.
- ◆ Trash enclosures need to be secured to posts instead of trees.





Tonopah Park

Park Type: Mini-Park
204 E. Tonopah Avenue **0.72 Acres**

Facilities

Basketball court, 3 picnic tables, barbeque grills, a drinking fountain, a playground area and a shade structure.

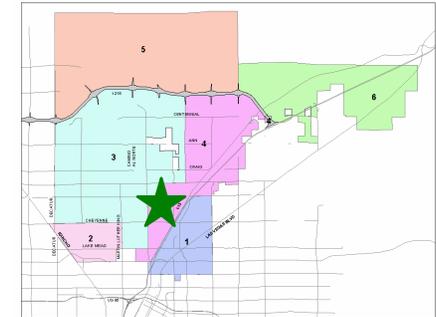
Through the Capital Improvement Program, improvements include resurfacing the basketball court, replacing the irrigation system, upgrading shade ramada, replacing perimeter fencing and accessibility ramps, refurbishing picnic areas, renovating planters, and replacement landscaping. New site lighting will be added. The improvements are scheduled for Fiscal Year 2004-2005.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Play area has existing, hazardous conditions.
- ◆ Basketball court – cracked play surface.
- ◆ Shade ramada roofing is deteriorated.
- ◆ Existing perimeter fencing highly limits access.
- ◆ ADA accessibility is non-existent.
- ◆ No restroom or picnic tables.
- ◆ Park security and safety concerns.
- ◆ Landscape is mature and declining – needs replacement of shade trees.

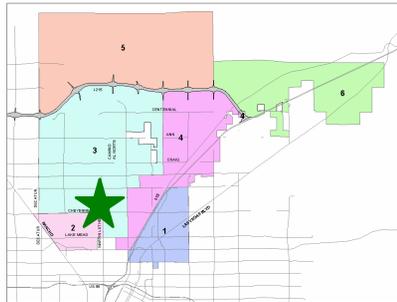
2002 Conditions

Picnic tables have been added since 1996. The park is too small to accommodate parking, so it occurs on street. The park landscape appears better maintained but still needs to be supplemented, especially with new shade trees. There are existing concrete walks within the park. The hazardous conditions at the play area have been resolved. The park perimeter remains fenced, and lacks direct accessibility. The park lacks any form of identification. Tonopah Park continues to have low use because people generally feel unsafe there due to undesirable visitors and activities as well as its overall appearance. The Capital Improvement Project scheduled in the upcoming fiscal year should be expanded to improve the overall attractiveness (more park plantings/shade trees), presence (park signage) and usability (upgraded playground equipment) of the park.





Valley View Park



Park Type: Neighborhood Park 2000 Bennett Street 3.0 Acres

Facilities

Barbecue grills, baseball / softball field, basketball court, picnic tables and a playground area.

Through the Capital Improvement Program, improvements include planting more shade trees, removing the ballfield and replacing the irrigation system. New elements being added to this facility include installing a site circulation system with more curb ramps, installing additional benches, tables, and a group shade ramada. The improvements are scheduled for Fiscal Year 2003-2004.



1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ Great views of valley.
- ◆ Potential for a future amphitheater – could be linked to playground area slab.
- ◆ Existing retaining walls are hazardous – does not meet Uniform Building Code (UBC).
- ◆ No pedestrian circulation system inside the park; no connections between use areas.
- ◆ Park landscape is mature but declining – needs shade trees, accent landscaping and turf (create views).
- ◆ Play area – needs updated surfacing and equipment.

- ◆ Curb ramps – need more to increase access.
- ◆ Benches / tables – needs more for viewing / activities.
- ◆ No existing drinking fountains and site lighting.
- ◆ Ballfield – improve surface / add bleachers.
- ◆ Irrigation system – upgrades and improve.

2002 Conditions

Most of the comments from the 1996-1997 Parks and Recreation Master Plan continue to apply here. Site lighting has been installed. Drinking fountains are present. The play area has been improved and resilient surfacing installed, but the existing retaining walls throughout the site remain a hazard to the public. Access to all activity areas needs improvement. The basketball court surface is in fair to good condition. The irrigation system has been upgraded but is in need of maintenance. This park has unusual topography to work with and could be improved into a very appealing and much more attractive park. This park could benefit greatly from a complete park renovation and upgrading study to determine and prioritize the many evident items that need improvement. The present Capital Improvements Program project for Fiscal Year 2003-2004 will address several of these concerns, but a more comprehensive assessment and indeed, a second round of park renovation is in order here.





Windsor Park

Park Type: Neighborhood Park

2227 W. Evans Avenue 3.42 Acres

Facilities

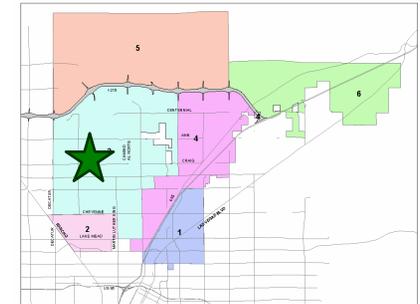
Barbeque grills, basketball court, picnic tables, play structure, shade structure, concrete volleyball court, softball backstop, turf area.

1996 Master Plan Observations

- ◆ As it was known in 1996, Windsor Park was omitted from the 1996-1997 Parks and Recreation Master Plan park inventory.

2002 Conditions

This older neighborhood-level park has been upgraded since 1996. An ADA access from Evans Avenue is in place, as well as a sidewalk system that links major activity areas. There is no off-street parking. A concrete basketball court and concrete volleyball court are in presently in poor condition. There is no net at the volleyball court and the drinking fountain does not work. Play equipment is new and has held up well. Picnic benches and barbeques have also been added. The large turf area has contains some low spots and could use regrading and renovation. This park appears plain and feels a little isolated from its surroundings due to the presence of undeveloped land around it. The overall look and appearance of the park could be substantially improved by adding groves of shade trees and the selective landscape screening of the adjacent, open properties.





CNLV Comprehensive Park Signage Program

The following park signage concepts are intended to provide direction for a future park signage program for the CNLV. The concepts here are examples only- other materials, designs and construction techniques could be applied and should be pursued in a further design refinement process.

The criteria below should be considered in that next stage of park signage design:

- ◆ **Functional/Identification** - Park signage should communicate the main entry to each park for both pedestrian and vehicular traffic.
- ◆ **Maintenance and Longevity**- Select materials and techniques that

withstand adverse environmental conditions.

- ◆ **Aesthetics and Appeal**- Create a consistent identity for CNLV parks using shape, color, material and images that convey the unique quality of the City.
- ◆ **Recycled Materials**- Where practical, create a signage concept that can be build from a variety of durable construction materials, including various types of recycled ones.

The park signage concepts presented herein should be seen as a visual starting point only. The final selected design scheme should bear some resemblance to the CNLV recent accomplishment of themed signage around the City Hall complex, but be adapted for application in the setting of a park.

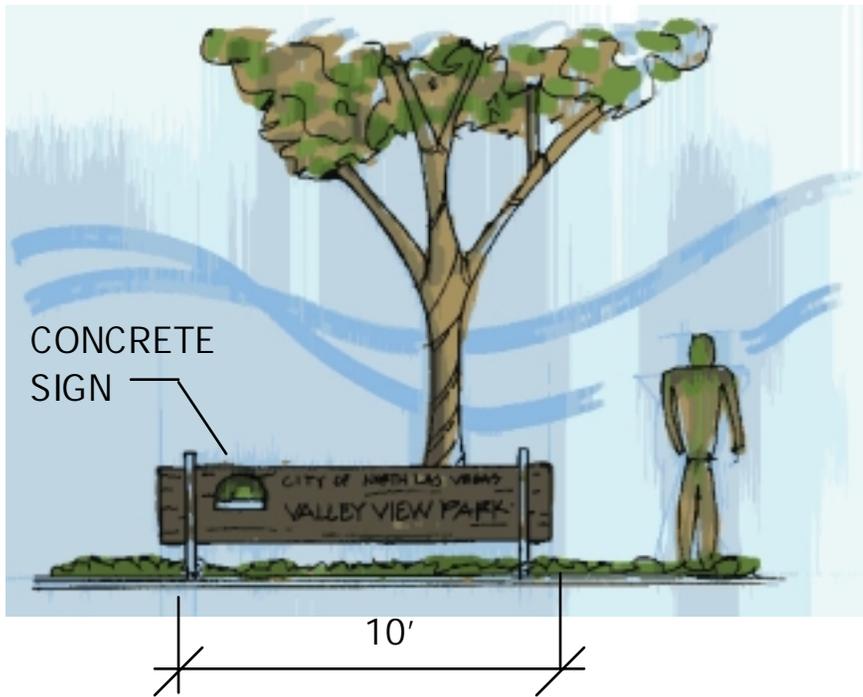
The final design process could also include a design contest; open to the general public or schools within the CNLV. This would help increase the range of design choices, allow for personalization, civic support and a more “grass-roots” community oriented approach to the selection of a permanent sign marker for CNLV parks.



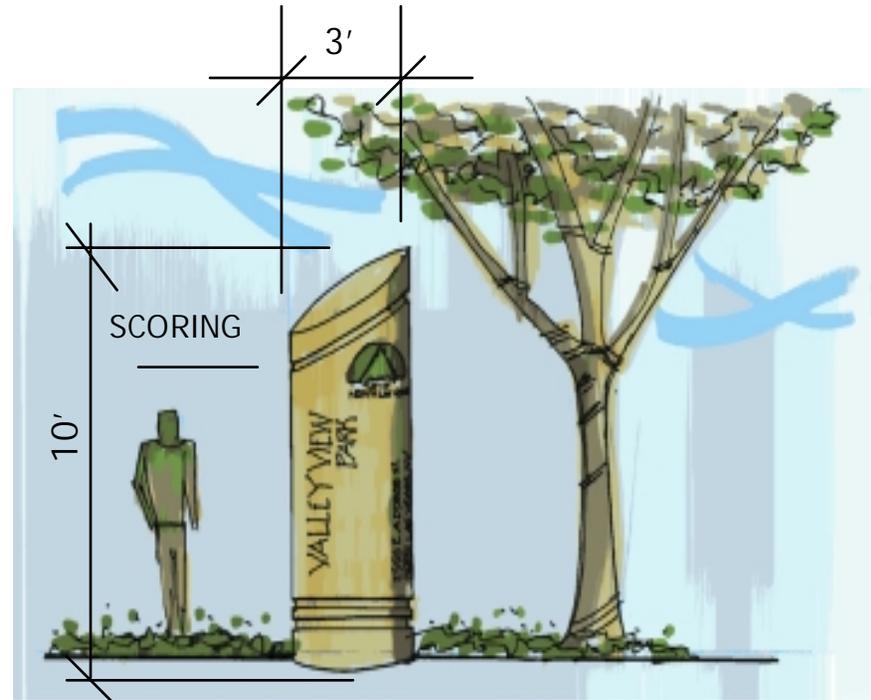
City of Las Vegas Park Monument Sign



Park Sign Options

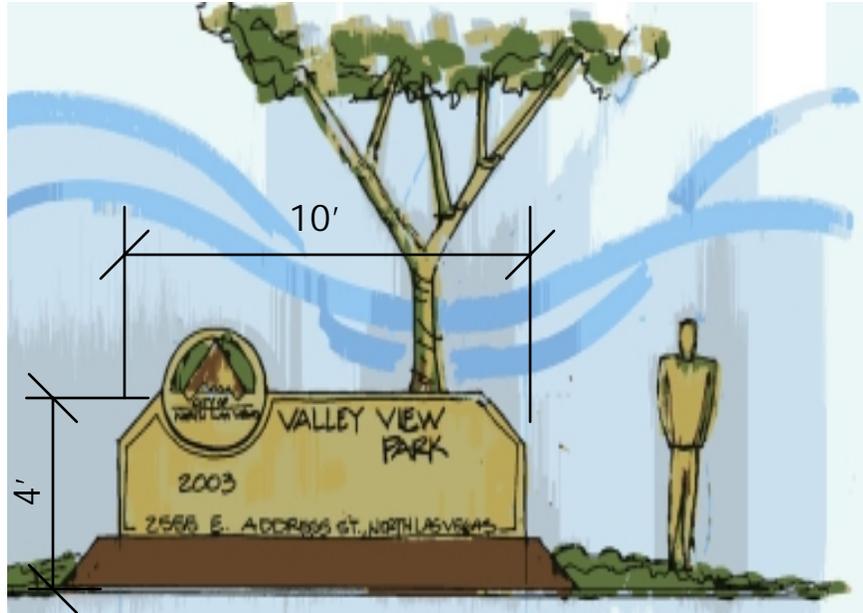


Current Signage

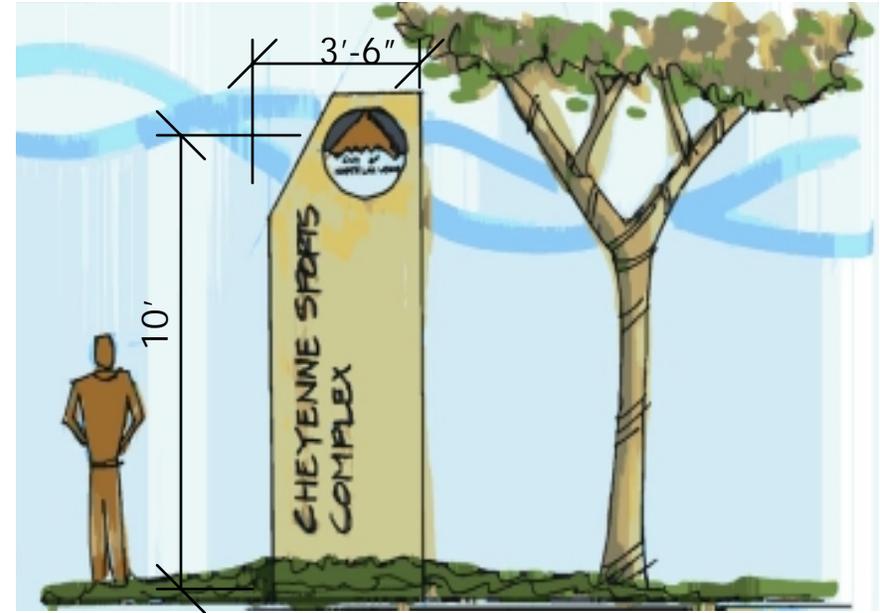


Tall Elliptical Column

Park Sign Options

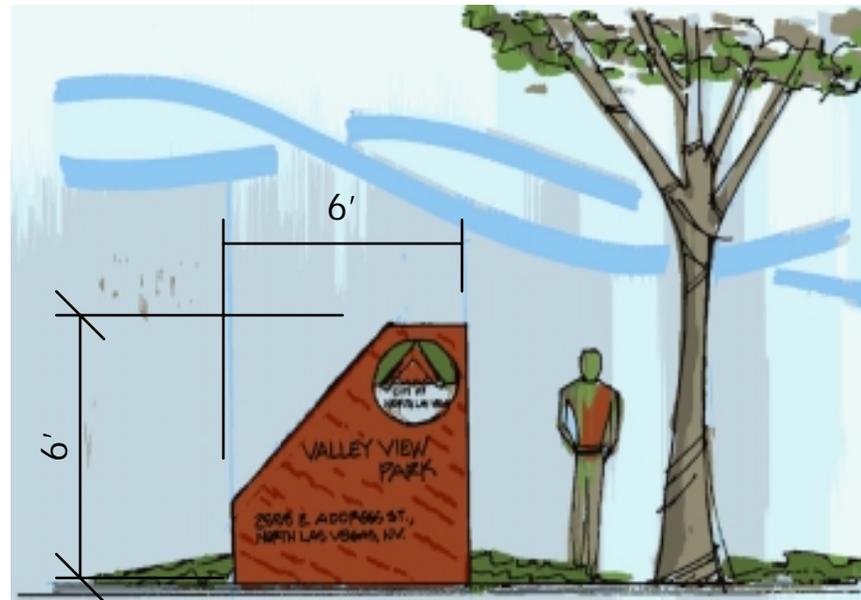


Neo-Traditional With Circle



Tall Angular

Park Sign Options



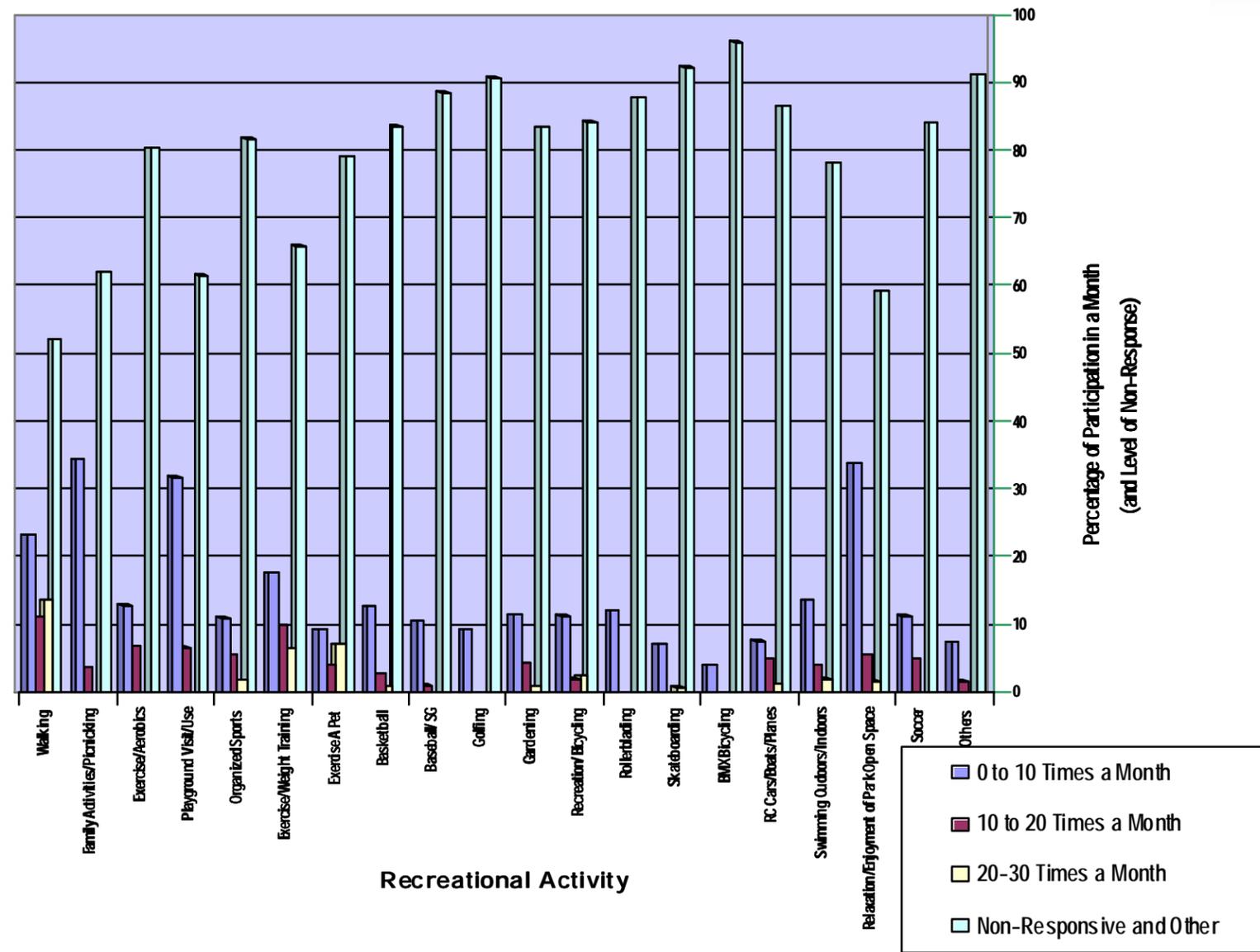
Medium Angular

Recreation Programming

How often do you take part ?



Recreational Activities- Frequency of Participation in a Month



Survey Question: Have you participated in recreation programs or services offered by the CNLV Recreation Department during the last 12 months? and How many times in **one month (30 days)** do you participate in the following activities? Please mark the number of times in each box.

Significance of Results:
 Almost two-thirds (60%) of people responding to the survey took part in some recreation program or service offered by the CNLV in the last year. The most common frequency range for people to take part in recreational activities was typically 0 to 10 times a month. Within that, the most popular recreational activities people engaged in were:

- Family Activities and Picnicking
- Relaxation/Enjoyment of Park Open Space
- Playground Visit/Use; and
- Walking

These same activities also had some of the higher percentage responses for the next level down of how often people took part in a month, 10 to 20 times a month.

Some of these selected activities and their high popularity are consistent with the findings of recent national outdoor recreation surveys.

It is also noteworthy to point out the level of non-response, which averaged 80%. This could be indicative of several factors among which could be that many people responding simply did not engage in many recreational activities very often, possibly misunderstood the question, responded incorrectly or not at all.

How the Park Master Plan Respond:

The relative popularity and high participation rates of some of these recreational activities have been confirmed by both local and national surveys. The Plan should examine a direction of park design and development that creates more larger, acreage parks (community and regional-level) that afford enough space for these activities to coexist with many of the other equally compatible ones listed here.



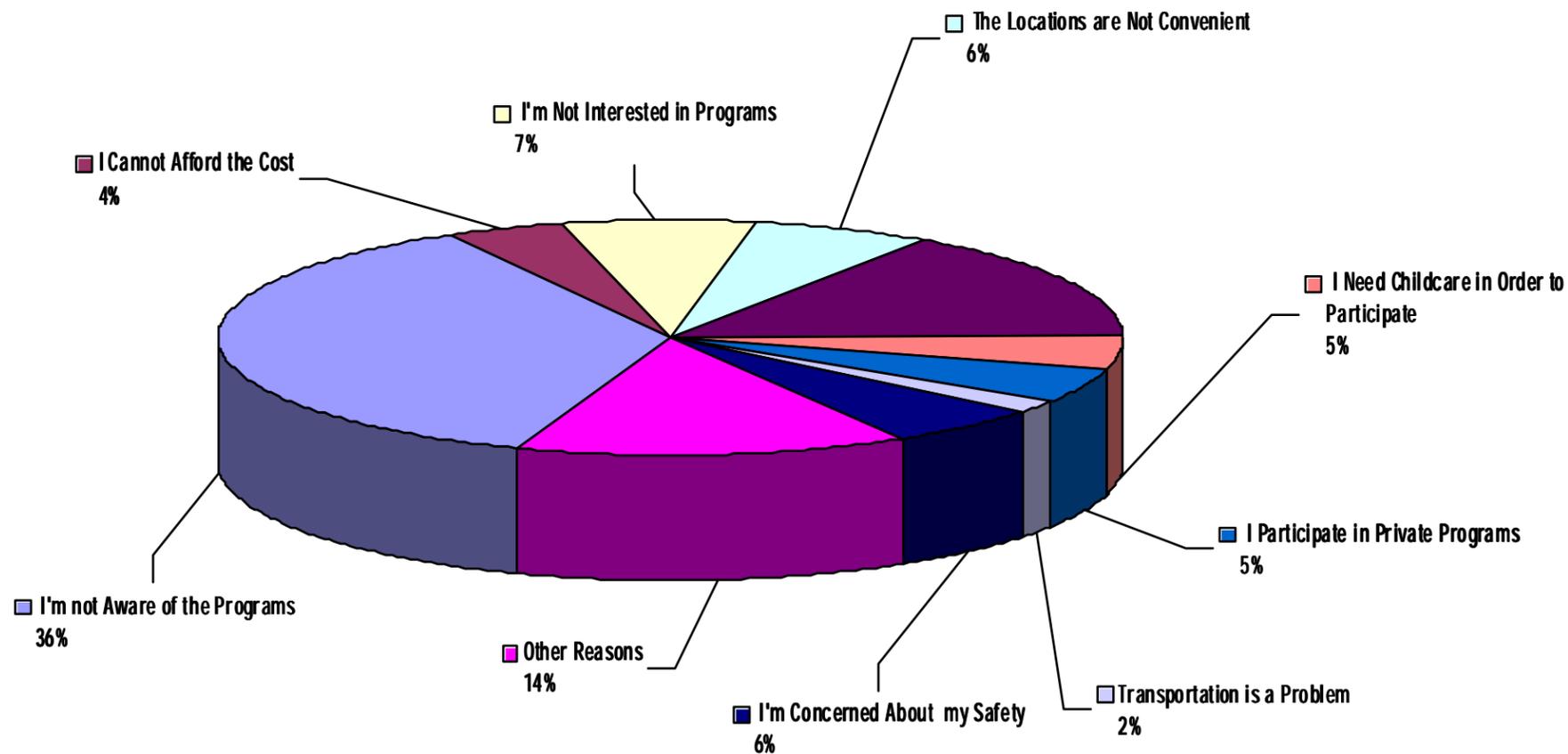


Recreation Programming

Give Us A Reason- Why don't you participate in CNLV Recreation Programs?

Survey Question: If you did not participate in CNLV recreation programs or services, what are your reasons (Please check all that apply)

Why People Do Not or Participate in CNLV Recreation Programs or Services



Significance of the Results:

Despite strong community outreach efforts on the CNLV's part (Mailing of Quarterly Recreation Program Brochure and same Program on the City's Web Page) the single most significant reason (46%) cited for not participating in City recreation programs was "*Not aware of programs*".

At a distant second, the next reason offered was that the *the times are not convenient* for when programs are offered (19%). Close behind this, was the wide range of reasons under the miscellaneous category of *Other*, the third most popular choice at 18%

In a tight cluster of near equal value, the other common reasons cited were :

- No interest in the programs
- Program times are not convenient; and
- Concerns for personal safety

How will the Parks Master Plan Respond:

The plan should contain policies and actions that are directed toward :

- Increasing public knowledge of the availability of CNLV recreation programs through other methods of publicity (newspaper ads, radio spots, billboards (all expensive))
- Establishing a new Community Center (in an area of the City demonstrating the greatest need) or expanding /refurbishing the existing Neighborhood Center to widen the availability and appeal of recreation programs and services.



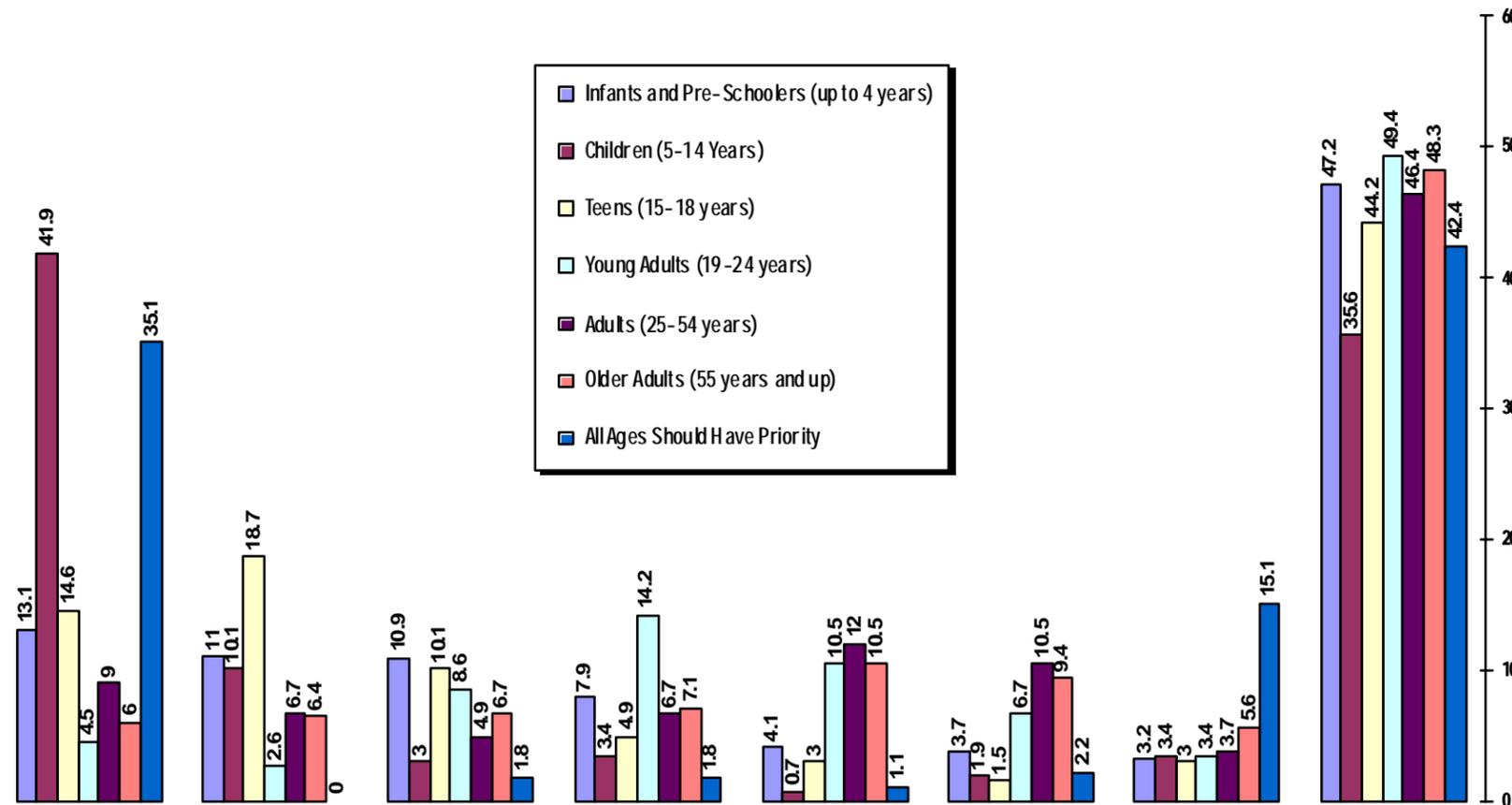


Recreation Programming

What age groups should get priority?

Survey Question: What age groups should receive the **highest priority** for programs, services and facilities in the future? Please rank each choice from 1 to 7, using **1 for your highest priority** and **7 for your lowest (or just indicate all ages should have equal priority)**

What Age Groups should get the Greatest Benefits from New Park Facilities and Recreation Programming



Significance of Survey Results:

People felt that the age group where park and recreation resources should be concentrated, and therefore, derive the **greatest benefit** from them were:

- Children (5-14 Years) followed by
- Teens (15-18 Years) with an average 2nd and 3rd priority standing and
- Young Adults (19-24 years) occupying the lower 4th and 5th priority ranking, followed closely by
- Adults (25-54 Years) rounding out the 5th and 6th priority levels.

The fair and balanced choice of "All ages should have priority" was felt by most to have the next level of first priority status after Children (5-14 Years). Infants and Pre-Schoolers (up to 4 years) had an equal priority order, at a lower level, spread across the highest to about the 4th priority. Older Adults had a consistent and the lowest level spread from highest to 4th priority with a spike in the 5th and 6th priority ranking.

It is important to recognize that this question elicited an average **non-response rate** of 45%. This would indicate either the question was skipped over, not clearly understood or answers were entered as otherwise instructed.

How will the Park Master Plan Respond:

The plan will promote a policy that CNLV park planning /design and development efforts, as well as recreation programming resources, should be allocated with these age group priorities in mind.



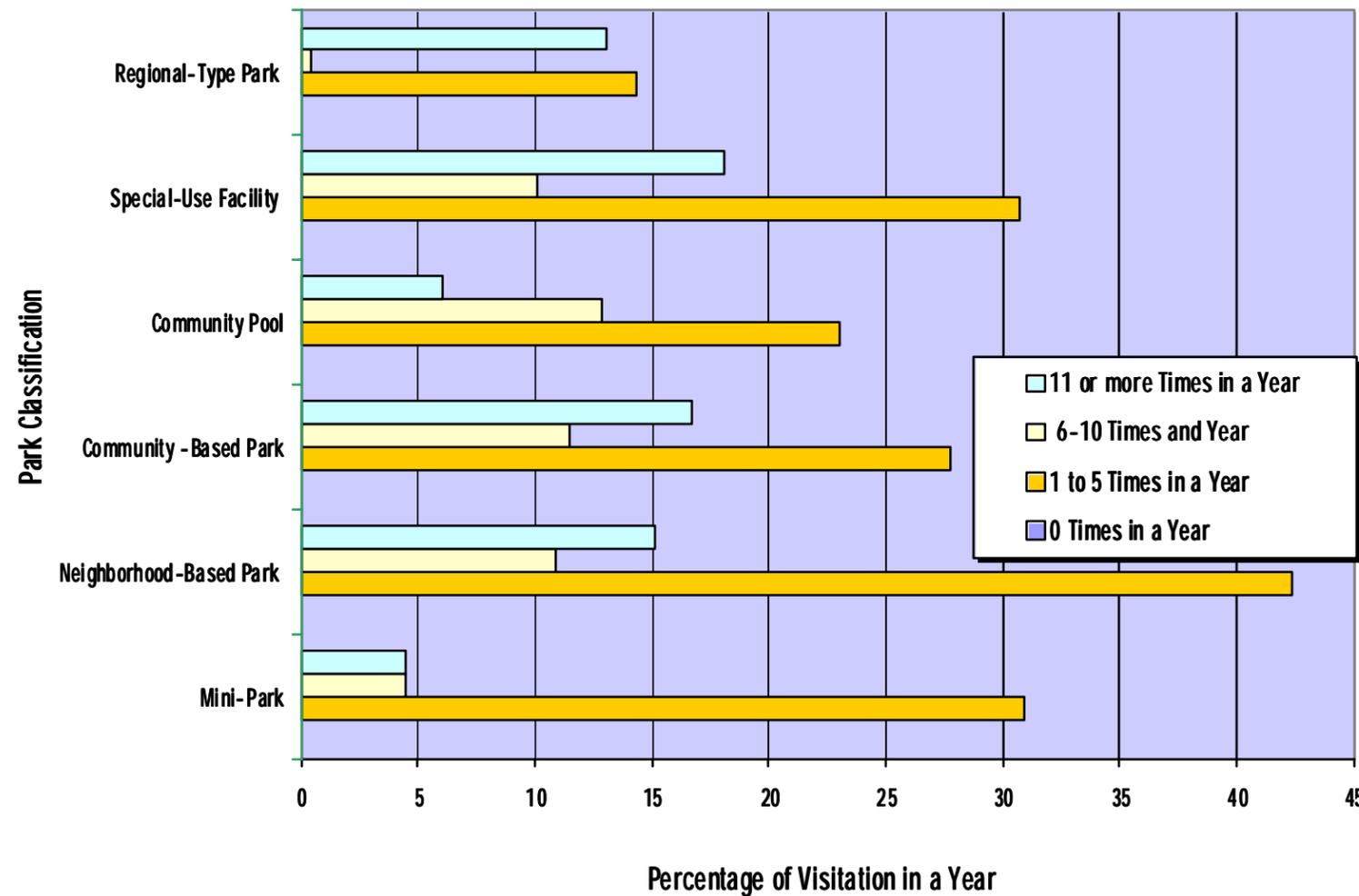


Park and Recreation Facility Use and Development

Visitation to CNLV Parks- How often do you go?

Survey Question: How often in the last 12 months have you visited the following types of CNLV Parks ?

Annual Rate of Visitation to CNLV Parks



Significance of Results:

Given the fact that, at present, the CNLV has more neighborhood-level parks, survey respondents confirmed that are they type of parks they visit most often (over 40% at 1 to 5 visits a year)

The second most visited and used were mini-parks and special-use recreation facilities, such as community recreation centers, at slightly over 30% at 1 to 5 visits a year.

Below that were community parks (e.g. Seastrand or City View) that more than 25% of the people surveyed visited at least 1 to 5 times a year.

The parks and facilities with the highest yearly visitation (11 or more times a year) were community parks and centers. An interesting anomaly regarding the high visitation rate, is that shown for regional parks. The CNLV has only a very small portion of its only regional park (160 acres) developed as a model airplane flying facility, yet nearly 13% of respondents claimed they visit regional parks at this high rate.

How will the Park Master Plan Update Respond:

Survey responses like this tend to reinforce the known condition that CNLV is woefully short of both community and regional level parks when comparative regional (Las Vegas Valley) and national standards are applied.

- Acquiring and creating more larger-acreage and centrally located **Community and Regional level Parks** should be considered as one of the many new initiatives of this Plan Update.

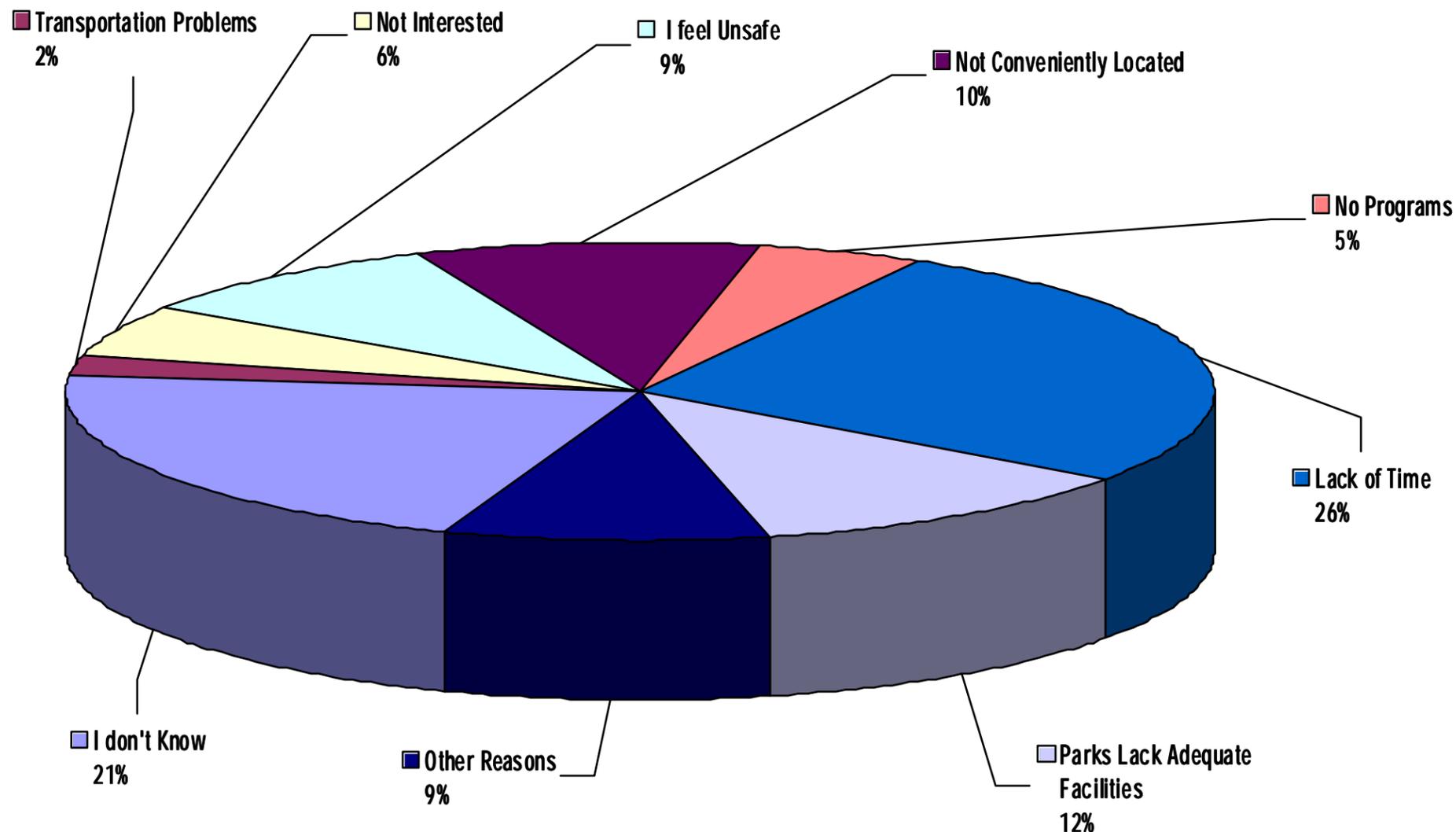


Park and Recreational Facility Use and Development Give Us A Reason- Why don't you use CNLV Parks?



Survey Question: If you seldom or do not use CNLV Parks, what are your reasons? (Please check all that apply)

Why People Do Not or Infrequently Use CNLV Parks



Significance of the Results:

Survey respondents are no different than most of us. They lead busy lives, so the most significant reason for not using CNLV Parks was "Lack of time".

The second most cited reason was that people did not know where CNLV parks were located. While ranked lower, the following reasons were clustered close together:

- Parks lack adequate facilities (12%)
- Parks are not conveniently located (10%); and
- People feel unsafe (9%)

Similar commentary received at both community workshops and stakeholder interviews further substantiates the above reasons.

How will the Parks Master Plan Respond:

The plan should contain policies and actions that are directed toward :

- Making future parks better located to areas of greatest need and population concentrations;
- Increasing the diversity and range of recreational facilities in both new and existing CNLV parks; and
- Emphasizing elements of park design that improve people's sense of personal safety and security

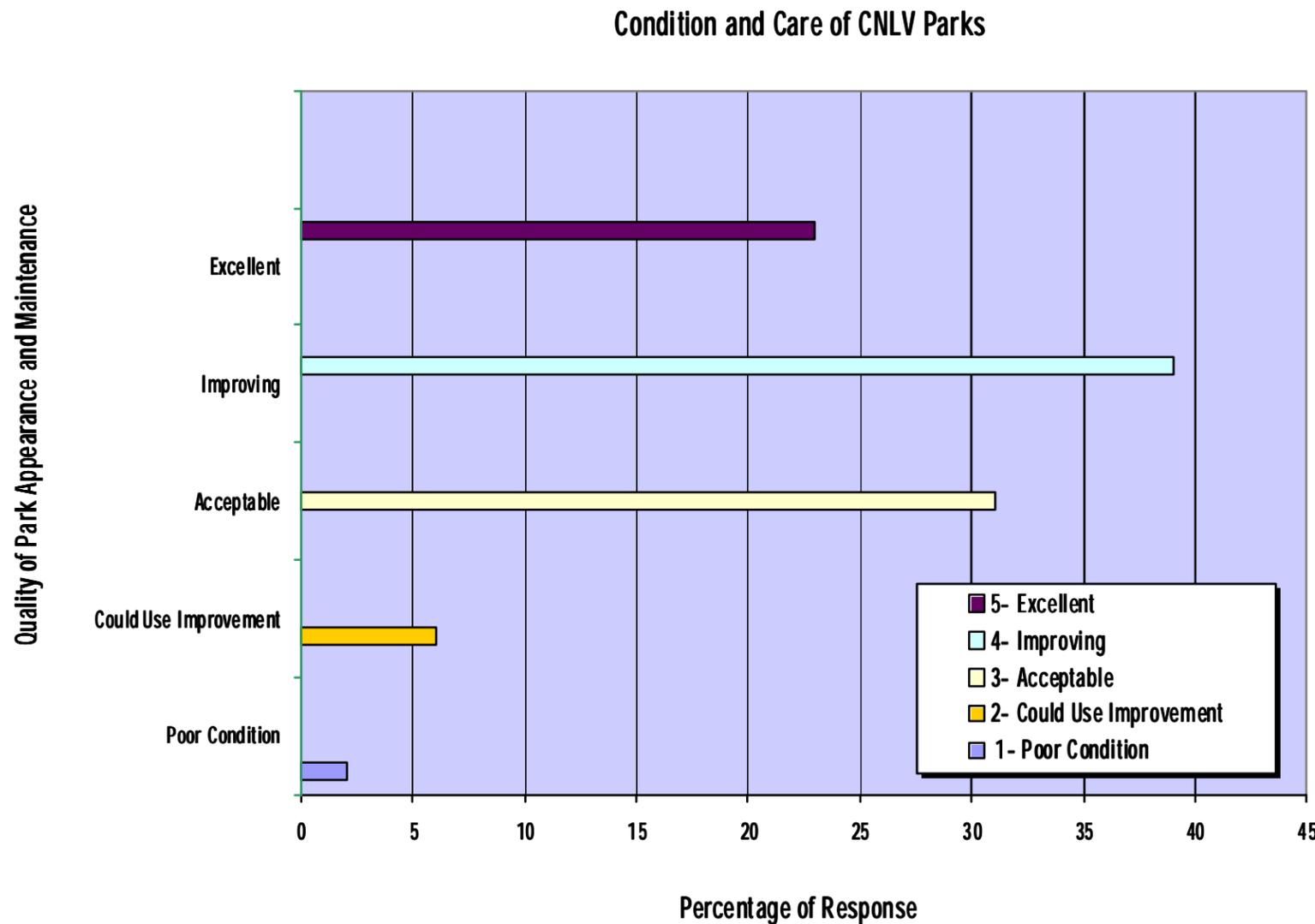




Park and Recreation Facility Use and Development

Quality of CNLV Parks - How do you think we are doing?

Survey Question: On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 being excellent, please rate the overall appearance, maintenance and care of parks managed by the City of North Las Vegas ?



Significance of Results:

From the vantage point of the people who responded to this survey, they find the overall condition and appearance of CNLV parks to be pretty good. That is strong public testimony to the level of care and quality of grounds maintenance the CNLV extends to its parks.

The majority survey respondents gave the quality of care CNLV parks now receive an **Improving (4)** rating with nearly a 40% margin. Another 22% found the quality of CNLV parks to be **Excellent (5)** which is probably indicative of the positive public reception and use of newer CNLV parks (Seastrand Community Park) and recreational facilities (Silver Mesa Recreation Center)

31% of those sampled found CNLV parks to be in an **“Acceptable “ (3)** condition. An influential factor here may be the positive and visible benefits the public sees from the reinvestment the City continues to make in the renovation and upgrading of its existing parks.

How will the Park Master Plan Update Respond:

The plan will contain policies and recommendations encouraging the CNLV to keep up its high level of park grounds and recreation a facility maintenance. The plan will explore the adoption of basic maintenance standards that would also fit the individual requirements and demands of different types of parks (e.g. neighborhood parks as compared to a sports complex).



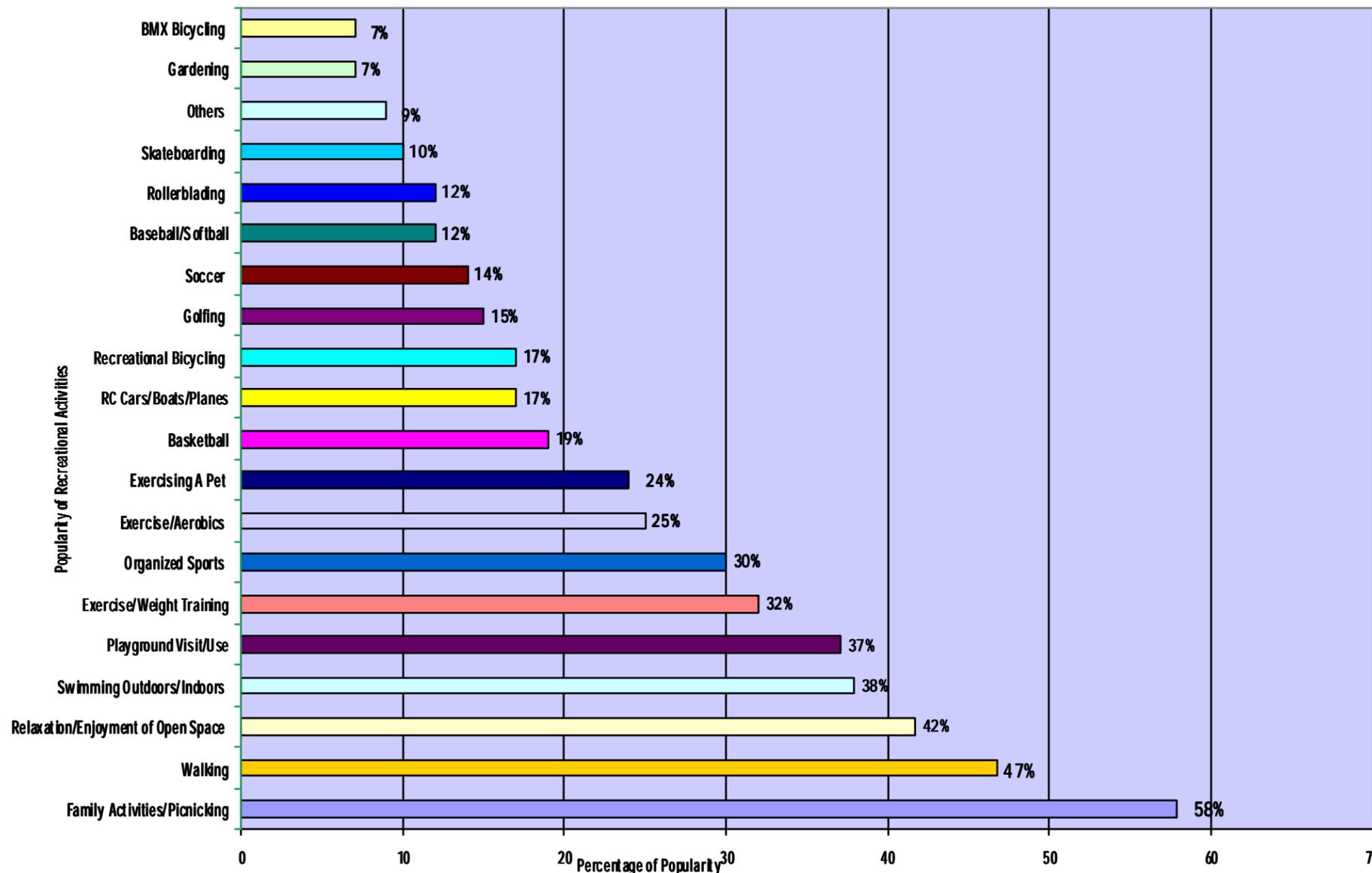


Park and Recreation Facility Use and Development

Preferred Park and Recreational Facilities and Activities

Build These Park and Recreational Facilities and We will Come

Survey Question: Check up to 5 activities you would most like to do if the facilities were available in the CNLV Parks ?



Significance of Results:

People who responded to the survey had a fairly common outlook as to what they like to do in CNLV Parks. Consistent with recent national outdoor recreation surveys indicating the same, the survey showed that when people are out in parks, they enjoy participating in are simple things like:

- Family Activities/Picnicking
- Walking
- Relaxation and Enjoyment of Open Space

Other activities requiring real recreational facilities or buildings that were clearly competitive and popular among survey takers were:

- Swimming Outdoors/Indoors
- Playground Visit/Use
- Exercise/Weight Training; and
- Organized Sports

How will the Park Master Plan Update Respond:

Most of these activities can be easily accommodated for in larger-acreage community and regional based parks. The plan will emphasize the acquisition and development of these kinds of parks. This can serve as one strong direction the CNLV can take to better accommodate these popular and highly participatory recreation activities.



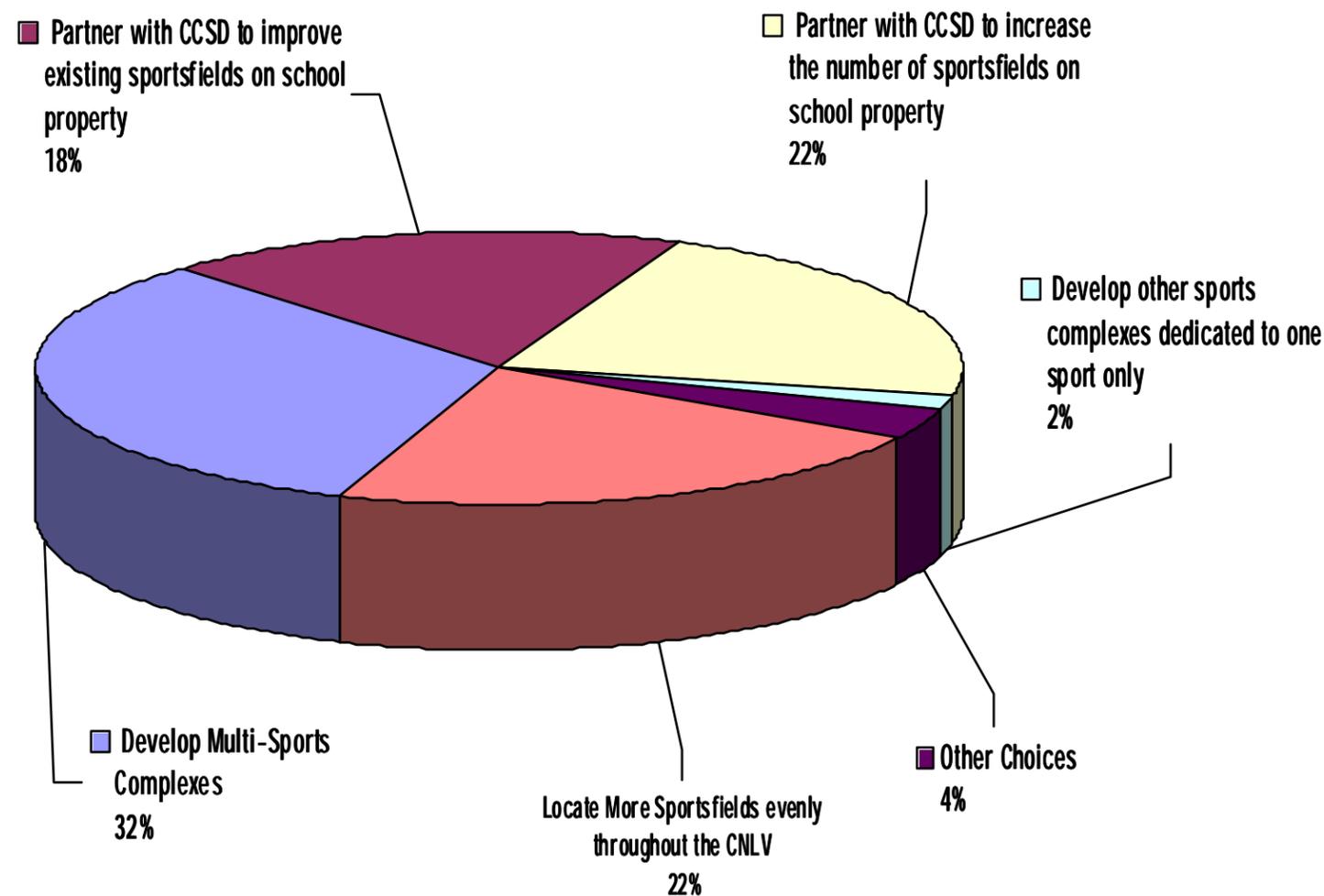


Park and Recreational Facility Use and Development

Sportsfields- We need more of them, where should they go?

Survey Question: How should sportsfields (e.g. soccer, baseball, football) in the CNLV be developed in the future ?

Choices for the Future Development of Sportsfields in the CNLV



Significance of Results:

The prevailing choice (32%) among survey respondents was to have the CNLV develop new Multi-Sports Complexes. Below that was the preference to spread more sportsfields evenly throughout the CNLV (22%). In contrast, developing a sports complex dedicated to a singular sport (e.g. a soccer complex) had a very low level of support (2%). People still feel that it is worthwhile to continue to combine resources (land, development and field maintenance costs) with the Clark County School District (CCSD) to either to **increase the number of sportsfields (28%)** or to **improve sportsfields on existing District properties (24%)**.

How will the Park Master Plan Respond:

The importance of findings locations for and the building of multi-sports complexes will be strongly emphasized in the plan. Sportsfields can be designed in a variety of configurations and be located as either part of a large acreage community/regional level park or be a "stand alone" field complex.

Opportunities for continued improvement of existing sportsfields or creation of new ones will continue to be part of the shared use program of school sites between the CCSD and the CNLV.

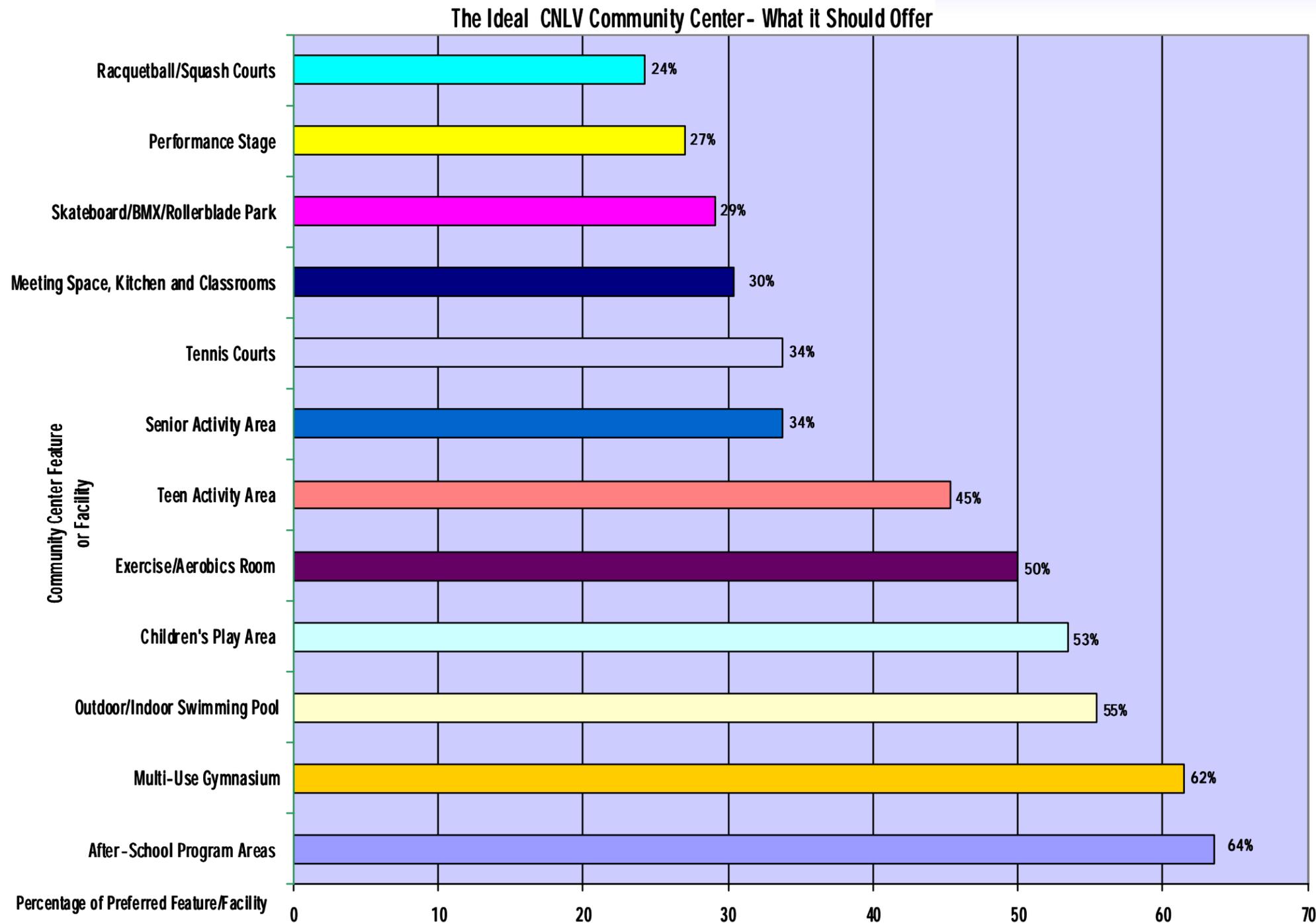




Park and Recreational Facility Development

The Ideal CNLV Community Center

Survey Question: What facilities would you like to have included in another community recreation center ?



Significance of Results:

Silver Mesa Recreation Center has been well received and heavily used by the public. So much so that over two-thirds of survey respondents felt that the CNLV should build at least an equal or even better one at some other strategic location with the highest community need. (Do you believe another community recreation center is needed in the CNLV ?) The six important features or facilities that future community center should, in their opinion, contain:

- After-School Program Areas
- A Multi-Use Gymnasium
- Outdoor/Indoor Swimming Pool
- Children's Play Area; and
- An Exercise/Aerobics Room; and
- Teen Activity Room

How will the Park Master Plan Update Respond:

- Identify the number of needed Community Recreation Centers and recommend general geographic areas they should be located as the CNLV continues to grow.

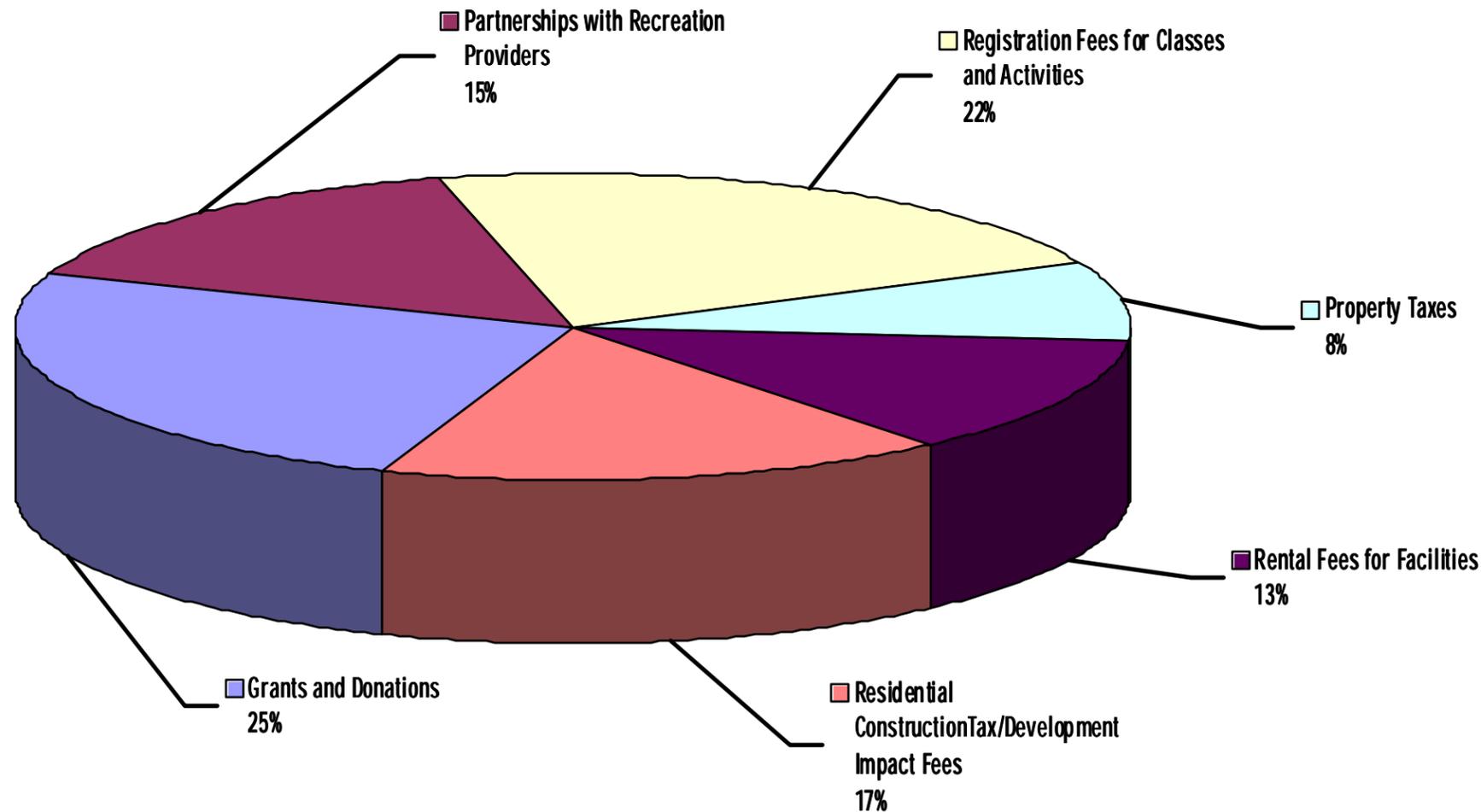


Paying for the Plan Greenprint - How do We Pay for it all?



How do we pay for park facilities, recreation programs and services provided by the CNLV in the future ?

Survey Question: How should facilities, programs and services be provided/funded by the CNLV in the future?



Significance of Results:

When asked basically, "How do we plan to pay for all of this ?", survey respondents seemed to choose the proven and traditional ways of funding expanded park development and recreation programming. The top three choices selected in order of precedence were:

- Grants and Donations (25%)
- Registration Fees (22%)
- Residential Construction Tax/Development Impact Fees (17%)

At the bottom of all choices was *Property Taxes* coming in with 8% support. There is a strong contrast between this low level of positive response for *Property Taxes* here, and the higher support for their use in either a bond issue or as a stable means to finance a growing park system in the CNLV . See Exhibits 11 and 12 **Walking the Walk...** and **Greenbacks for Parks**

How Will the Park Master Plan Update Respond:

- The plan will remain flexible, offering affordable choices for future park acquisition and recreational facility development, if known and static sources of funding are all that will be available.

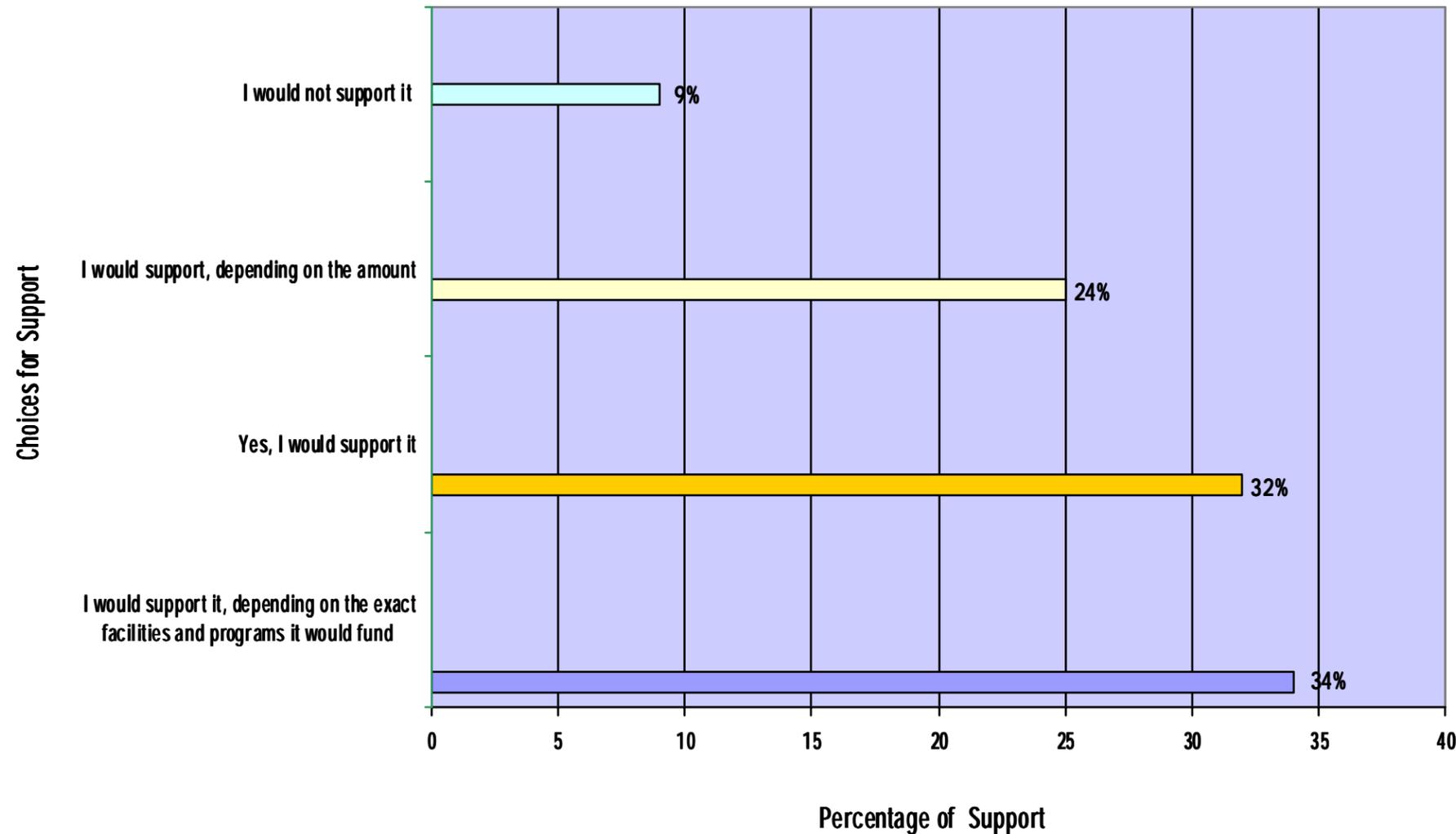




Paying for the Plan
Walking the Walk- Support for a Property Tax Increase or Bond Issue

Survey Question: Would you support a bond issue to acquire parks, open spaces and other recreational facilities in North Las Vegas ?

Walking the Walk- Support for a Property Tax Increase or Bond Issue for an Expanded CNLV Parks System and Recreation Programs



Significance of Results:

Based on this survey sampling, there appears to be a public willingness to support a bond issue for a more determined park development program by the CNLV, *if people know exactly what facilities and programs it would fund.*

Nearly a third would support the bond issue in general with no specificity as to where or on what the money would be spent, *"Yes, I would support it,"*

The total price tag of a bond issue was an important consideration among 24% of those surveyed. A mere 9% of the survey sample would not support any type of a park and recreation bond issue.

How will the Park Master Plan Update Respond:

The plan will remain flexible and adjustable. It will equally offer more expensive choices for future park acquisition and recreational facility development, if more extensive sources of funding become available to the CNLV to support a more progressive initiative.

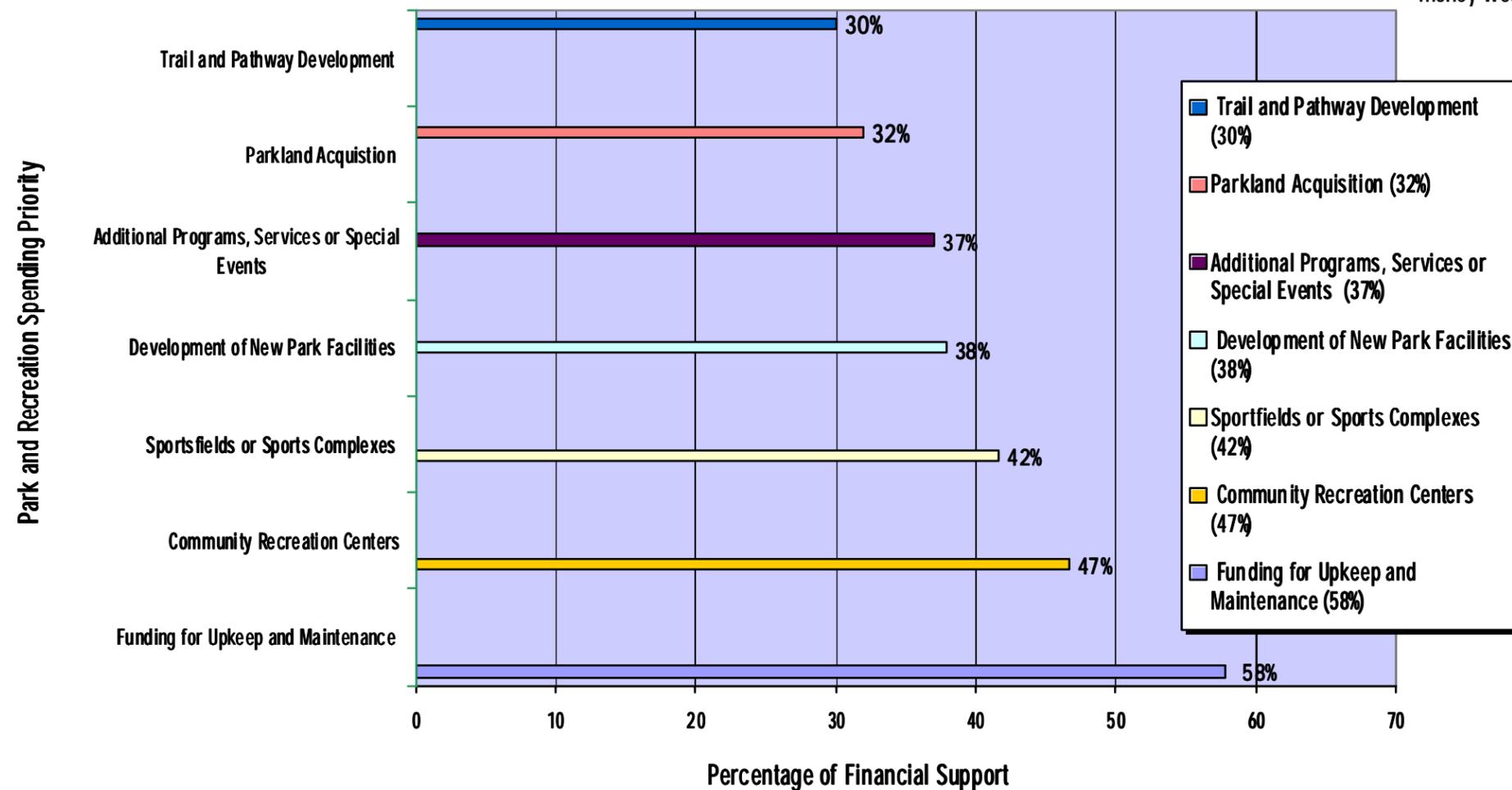




Paying for the Plan

Greenbacks for Parks- Where you want the Money Spent

Spending Priorities- Where do you want the Money to Go ?



Survey Question: If the CNLV were to propose an increase in property taxes for park and recreation purposes, which of the following should be included as to how and where the money would be spent ? Please check all that apply.

Significance of the Results:

"Taking care of the parks we have and improving upon them" seemed to be the prevailing theme here. Nearly 60% of respondents want to see additional funding directed toward the continuation of upgrading existing CNLV parks. The city has had an ongoing, successful, and well-appreciated, program of park renovation. This program still has some major projects yet to be taken on (e.g. City View Park, Valley View Park and Cheyenne Sports Complex).

Directly behind this, a close second and third priority were an emphasis on additional funding targeted towards Community Recreation Centers (47%) and Sportsfields or Sports Complexes (42%). Development of New Park Facilities (which presumably could also include those Community Centers and Sports fields) had a strong base of support at 38%

Continuing support for new recreation programs, services and events was almost even as the fourth priority coming in at 37%

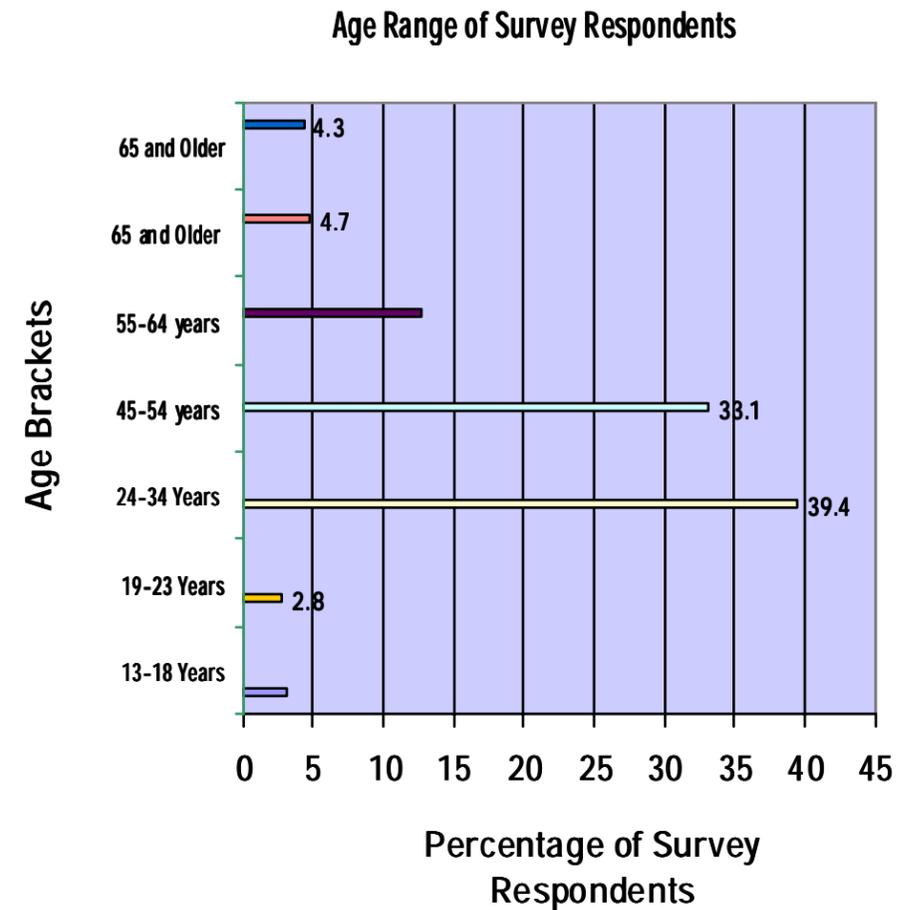
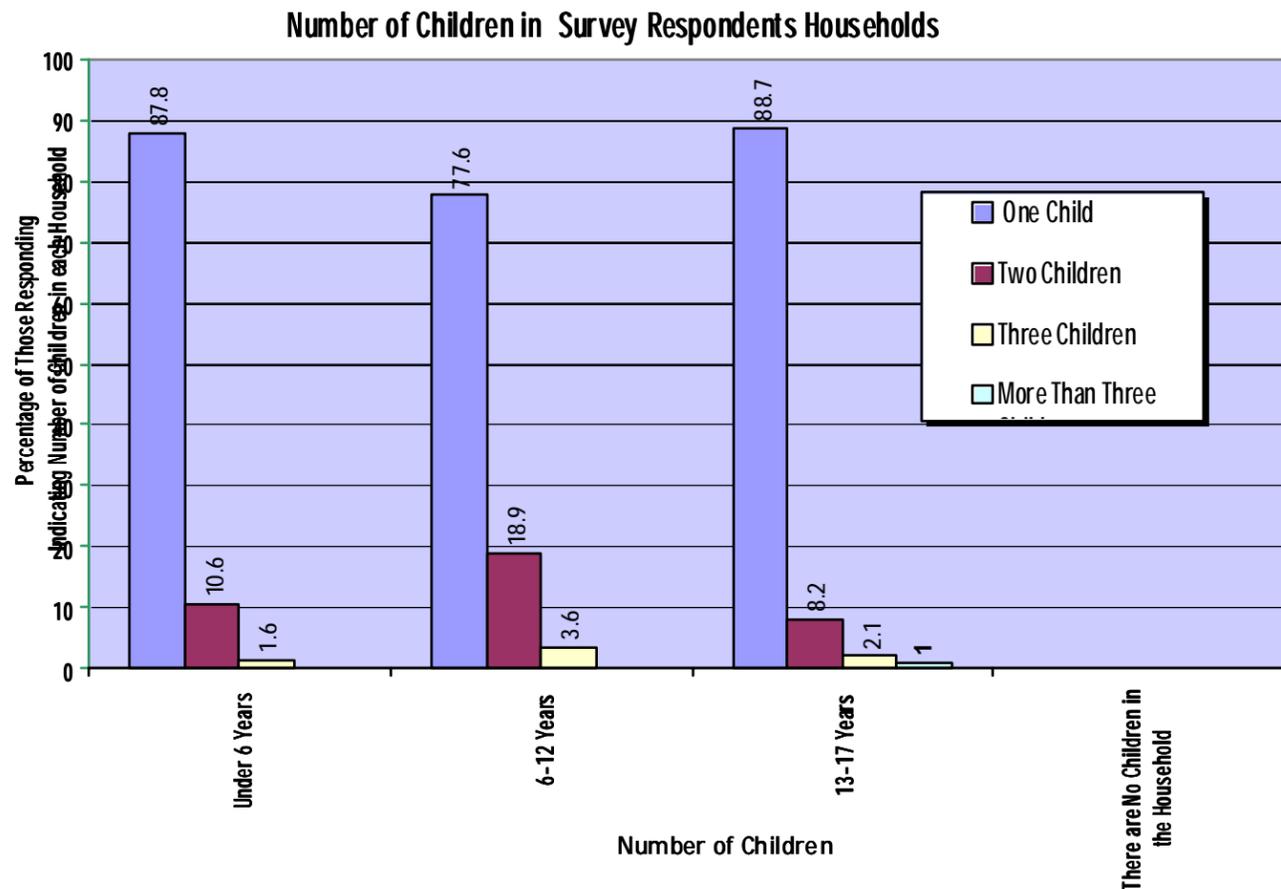
Rounding out the bottom priorities were Additional Parkland Acquisition (essential to providing new facilities) at 32% and Trail and Pathway Development at 30%

How will the Park Master Plan Update Respond:

The plan will include a shared (but weighted) emphasis on continuing park renovation and reinvestment. If additional funding sources are identified, or the CNLV becomes ambitious enough to consider an expanded park financing bond issue or higher property tax allocation, the Plan Update will emphasize both a short (5 year) and longer-term (10 year) program with these expressed priorities in mind.



About You... Demographics- Your Age and Children



Survey Question: About You ...Age: Please choose one of the following options for each. *Age Brackets*. Children: Please mark the number of children for each age group living in your household. *Number of Children*.

Significance of the Results:

An average of 85% had at least one child in each age bracket, so it is apparent that most of these survey respondents were parents with children. This correlates well with results of Exhibit X "Who Should Benefit the Most?," where the emphasis was placed on child, teen and young adult age groups.

Also, a large number of people (39%) were in the age range of 24- 34 years, followed closely by the 45-54 age bracket at 33%. This is indicative of parents with young children or slightly older households with either teens and young adults or both.

How will the Park Master Plan Respond:

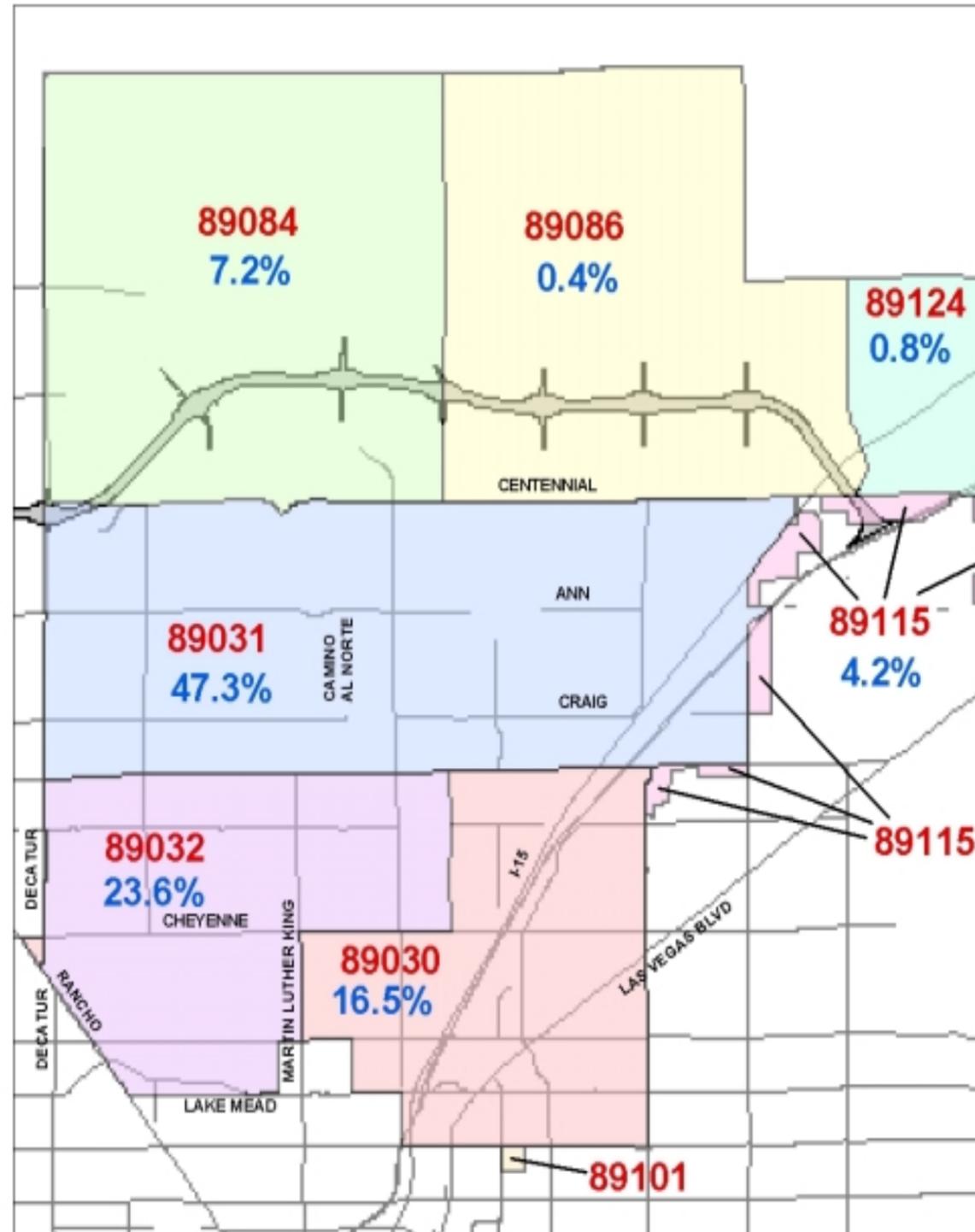
This survey sample cannot be considered a truly accurate snapshot of the communities median age groups or family composition. Nevertheless, it does substantiate the well-known trend of young and more established families making the CNLV their home in recent years (See Exhibit 15 **Are you a newcomer or near native?**) These are precisely the people that will be some of the largest user groups of the parks and recreational facilities the CNLV now has, and will offer in the future. The location, size and what is included in the new parks the CNLV will build in the years to come need to take in to account the expressed recreational needs of these age groups.





About You...
Demographics - Where are you ?

Survey Question: What portion of the City of North Las Vegas do you live in ?



Significance of Results: Three zip code areas hold the majority of the population of the CNLV.

Zip Code 89031- Slightly less than half (47%) of people responding to the survey came from this area. Of the three main zip code areas, this one has the highest number of occupied housing units with over 95% of the dwelling units being single-family homes. This area has the second highest population concentration (41,509) with the majority (70%) being within the age ranges of 25-34, 35-44 and 45-64. About half the households had children. Incomes were the highest for any area in the CNLV with 84% being above \$35,000. The area has experienced some of the more recent suburban growth of the city, with 46% of residents living here for less than 5 years.

Zip Code 89032 - The next largest group (24%) of survey respondents called this area of the CNLV their home. The area has the lowest number occupied housing units with most again being single-family homes (78%) along with a modest concentration of apartments. Of the three main zip code areas, this one has the lowest total population (35,867) with a slightly lower number (68%) being within the same above-stated age groups. Less than half (40%) of the households had children. Household incomes were the second highest with 76% being above \$35,000. More people have lived in this area longer, with only 28% being residents for under 5 years.

Zip Code 89030- Of the three largest zip code areas, this one had the lowest number of respondents (17%) but conversely, the highest concentration of population (51,606). Of this number, only 56% were in the major age groups stated above. This area also had the highest number of young adults, ages 18-24 (12%) and those above age 55 (32%). The housing picture here is different also, with a greater mix of single-family homes (53%) and apartments (37%) in an area with the highest number of overall housing units (14,427). Less than half (41%) of the households had children. This area had the lowest household income with only 26% being above \$35,000 and the highest (54%) being below \$25,000. People have lived in this area longer than the other two, with nearly half (49%) having a length of residence of over 20 years. To the contrary, only 22% of the people have lived in the area less than 5 years.

How will the Park Master Plan Update Respond:

Two of the main zip code areas (89031 and 89032) have relatively the same statistical demographics (housing, population, age and income distribution and length of residency) while the other 89030, is markedly different. The plan will need to examine these similarities and variations in an attempt to reach a more balanced and fair distribution in the allocation of park land and recreational facilities, services and programs.



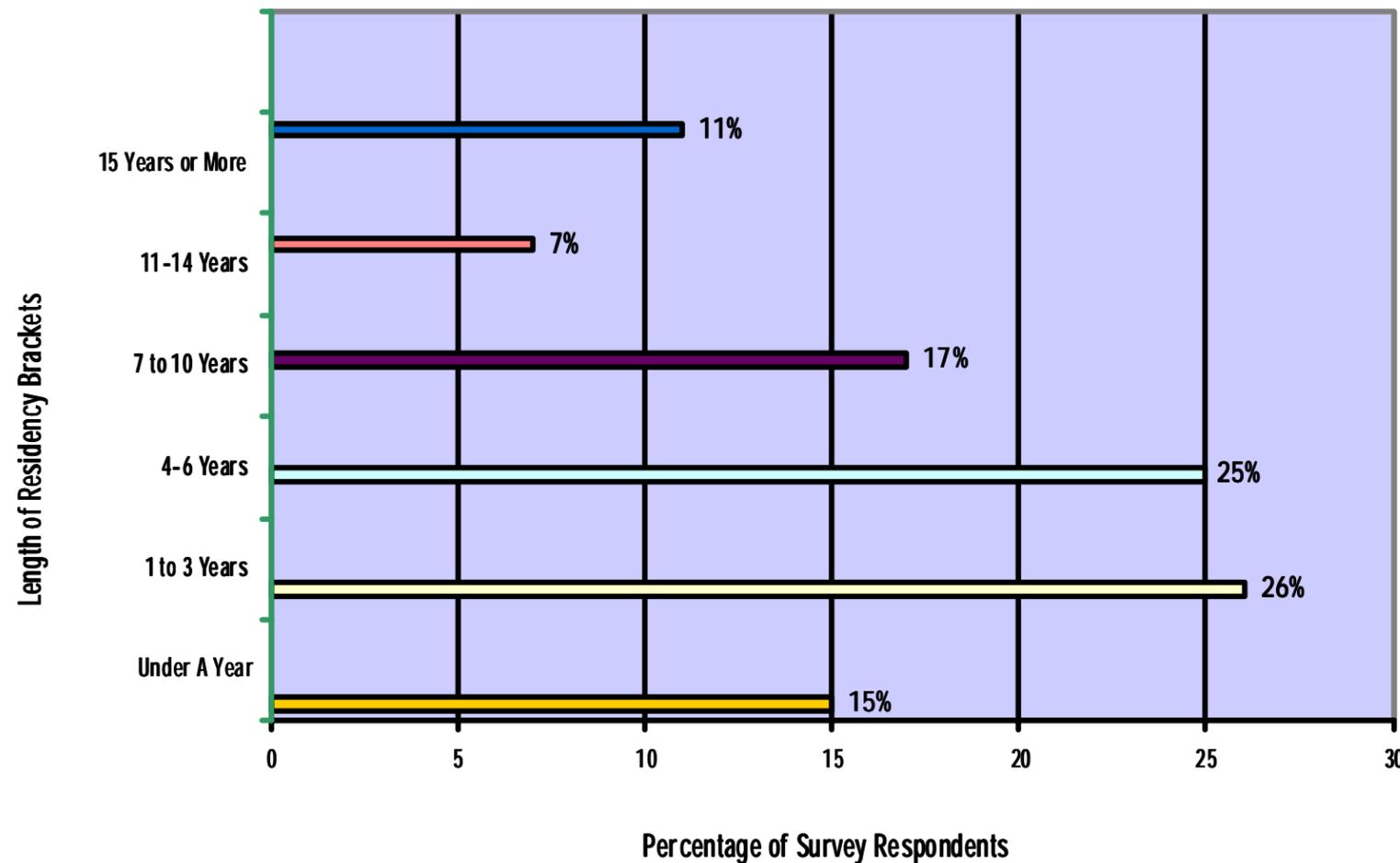


About You...

Are you a newcomer or near native ?

Survey Question: How Long Have you Lived in North Las Vegas ?

Length of Residency in the CNLV of Survey Respondents



Significance of Results:

Evidence of the rapid and recent growth in the population the CNLV is that the majority of those surveyed have lived in the city a short period of time, from 1 to 3 years (26%). Very close behind that (25%) were people who have lived in the CNLV twice as long, from 3 to 6 years, Although close in overall percentages of those sampled, people who are very new arrivals (Less than year) composed 15% of the survey sample, while those who some might consider long-term residents at 7-10 years, made up 17% of the total.

Rounding things out were much smaller percentages of near "natives", with 11% saying that they have called the CNLV home from between 11 and 14 years, and the smallest group (7%) being those people who have lived in the city longer than 15 years.

How the Park Master Plan will Respond:

New and relatively new residents of the CNLV were attracted to the city for a wide variety of reasons, from affordable housing to increased employment opportunities. One of the known ways people measure a growing and higher "quality of life" in the place they live is the caliber of the parks system and recreation programs they have available close by. The CNLV is in a unique position to elevate this one "quality of life" index by creating a more varied, accessible parks system responsive to the expressed needs of both its new and long term residents.



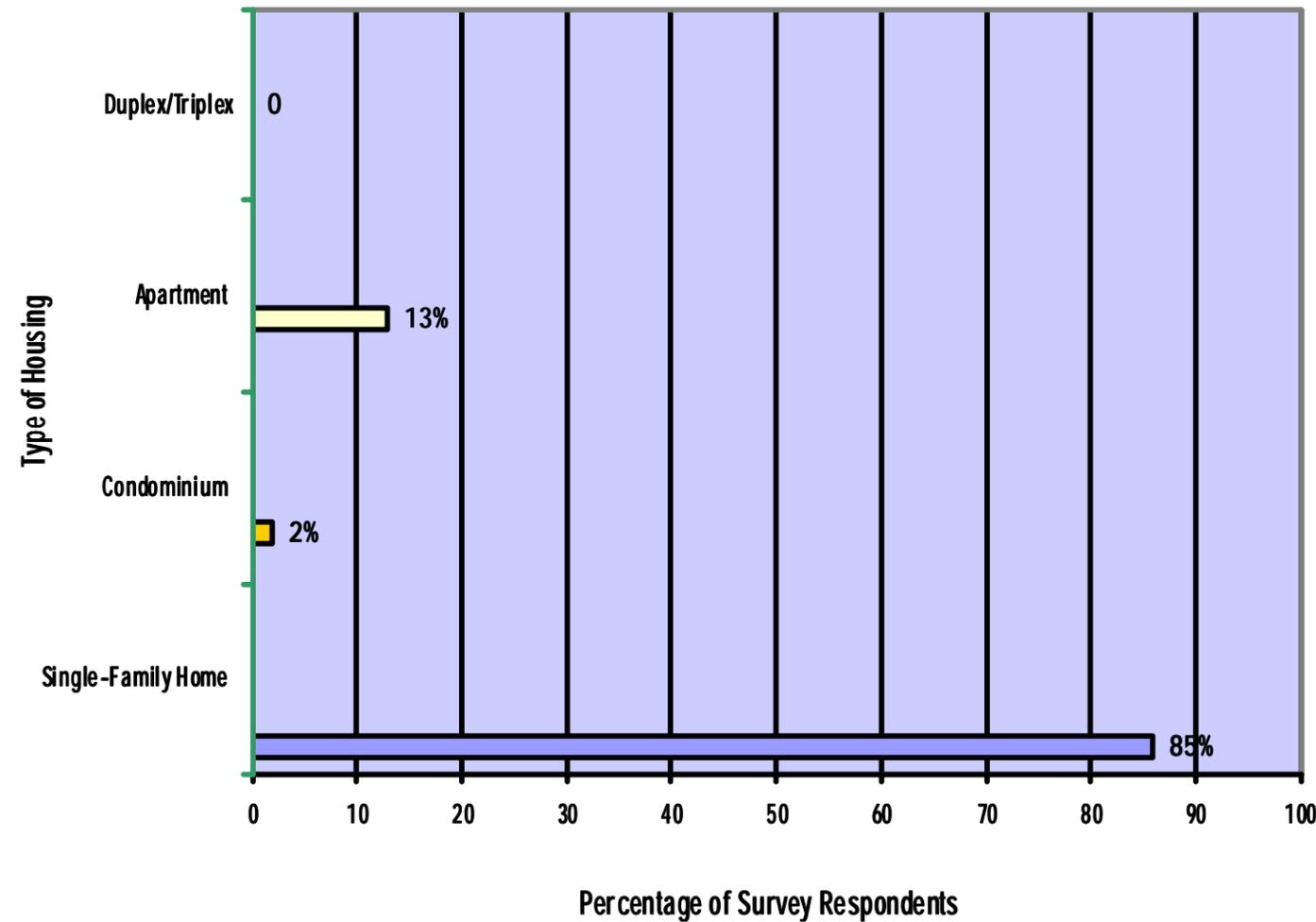


About You ...

Demographics- What do you call home ?

Survey Question : "About you", please choose one of the following options for each: Residence: Single-family home, Condominium, Apartment or Duplex/Triplex

Type of Housing for Survey Respondents



Significance of Survey Results:

The vast majority of people who filled out surveys lived in single-family homes (85%). Of those, 79% stated they were **homeowners**. A distant second were apartment dwellers, making up 12% of the total.

With most people living in and owning single-family homes, a few safe inferences can be made:

- These are the same people who expressed their distinct **preferences** for certain recreational activities and facilities (Refer to Exhibit 7) and **priorities** (Refer to Exhibit 12) for the continued development and growth of the CNLV park system and recreation program.
- This is the same constituent group most likely to be supportive of a property tax increase or bond issue to pay for those priorities *"if people know exactly what facilities and programs it would fund"* (See Exhibit 11)

How will the Park Master Plan Update Respond:

The plan should take into account the known public desires to see whatever funding is available to spend on the further growth of the CLNV parks system and recreation program, be allocated according spending priorities indicated in Exhibit 16- "Where do you want the money to go ?"

