



# Parks and Open Space Policy Framework

January 2024

**Policy Framework**  
Ventura General Plan Update

# Introduction

The purpose of the Parks and Open Space Policy Framework is to set goals, policies and actions related to the acquisition, management, and maintenance of parks and open space, and planning of recreational facilities and programs. Parks, open space, and the natural environment are defining characteristics of Ventura. Being able to walk, bike, hike, and play one's way through the City can improve quality of life, health, and happiness. It is important to continue investing in Ventura's parks and open space to keep pace with development and ensure all have access to the City's natural amenities.

This framework touches on the following topics:

1. Parks
2. Open Space
3. Recreational Programs and Facilities

## Statutory Requirements

The State of California requires an Open Space Element as defined in Sections 65302(a) of the Government Code. The Parks & Open Space Element must contain goals and policies to protect and maintain undeveloped lands, natural resources, and recreation areas such as parks and trails. This framework outlines the goals, policies, and actions that will be included in the element, relating to preserving and expanding parks, recreation, trails, and open space across the city.

## Context

### Relevant Plans & Documents

In the past, the City has developed multiple plans and policy documents related to the enhancement of parks, open spaces, and recreational amenities in Ventura. These have been utilized in conjunction with the findings uncovered throughout the General Plan Update process.

- **City Tree Master Plan, 2020.** This document guides the management of a comprehensive urban forest program in the city. The Plan develops guidelines and standards on the type, placement, and orientation of street trees relative to their immediate surroundings. It also surveys 28 major arterial and collector streets and identifies ideal tree species to be planted on each.
- **Senior Strategic Plan, 2020.** This Plan identifies gaps in the provision of senior services – including recreation – and proposes both goals and strategies to improve them. Goals are largely centered on improving organizational resources and partnerships, enhancing programs and service delivery, improving facilities and amenities, and strengthening financial investment.
- **Active Transportation Plan, 2023.** This plan, which was adopted by the City in late 2023, establishes a vision and priorities for how to improve pedestrian, bicycle and transit with the City. The plan includes a detailed list of locations where new multi-use trails should be

located and roadway modifications to improve walkability and bikeability in key locations throughout the City.

## Existing Conditions

This section details the current state of parks, open spaces, recreational facilities, and funding within the City of Ventura.

### Parkland

The City of Ventura operates over 30 public parks, totaling more than 600 acres, which provide a diversity of recreational amenities for the community to enjoy. Ventura's parks include active and passive leisure amenities, such as grassy fields, playgrounds, basketball and tennis courts, skateparks, walking paths, picnic areas, and public restrooms. Table 1 below details each park by type, as well as total acreage of each type. The total acreage of parks in Ventura is approximately 611 acres. Figure 1 below shows the location of these parks.

### Park Level of Service and Park Access

The City's current policy is to provide 10 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. With 611 acres of parkland in the City Limits, the City's park service ratio for city-owned parks is approximately 5.4 acres per 1,000 residents. This number does not include the State Beaches or privately owned but publicly accessible open spaces. Including just the 226.5 acres of public beaches (see below) would increase the ratio to 7.5 acres per 1,000 residents, which is significantly higher than many jurisdictions across the State.

The parks and beaches are also distributed throughout the City. Figure 2 below shows the walk access to parks, with the darker colors representing better walk access. As can be seen in the figure, the majority of city residents are within a 15-minute walk of a park.

**Table 1. Ventura Parks Inventory**

Community Parks	Acres	Neighborhood Parks	Acres	Mini Parks	Acres	Linear Parks and Greenways	Acres
Arroyo Verde Park	129.2	Harry A. Lyon Park	10.9	Solana Heights Park	1.5	Harmon	14.1
Grant Park	109.6	Cemetery Memorial Park	7.2	Citrus Walk Park	1.2	Harmon	8
Ventura Community Park	98.1	Hobert Park	7.1	Eastwood Park	1	Woodside East Linear Park	7.2
Camino Real Park	38.1	Montalvo Hill Park	6.6	Citrus Walk Sunstone Park	0.9	Woodside West Linear Park	5.9
Seaside Wilderness Park	24	Westpark	6.4	Petit Greenway	0.7	Parkside 126 Greenways (3)	4.9
Marina Park	20.4	Chumash Park	6.2	Figueroa Street Plaza	0.6	Kennebec Greenway	4.8
Fritz Huntsinger Complex	18.3	Barranca Vista Park	6	Padre Serra Park	0.6	County Square Linear Park	3.7
		Juanamaria Park	5	Harmon Antelope	0.5	Rio Grande Greenway	3.4
		Marion Cannon Park	5	California Plaza	0.4	Harmon/Wildcat Ave	3.3
		Thille Neighborhood Park	4.9	Downtown Mini Park	0.4	Woodside Greenways (2)	2.6
		Plaza Park	3.6	Petit Greenway	0.4	Harmon/Seagull Ave	2.6
		Blanche Reynolds Park	3.3	The Farm Community Park	0.4	Paseo Del Mar Linear Park	2.6
		Junipero Serra Park	2.6	California Street Mini Park	0.3	Eastside Kimball	2.6
		Kellogg Park	2.5	McWherter Corner	0.3	Stonehedge Linear Park	2.1
		Mission Park	1.5	Pacific View Skate Bowl	0.3	Weston West Greenway	2
		Ocean Avenue Park	1.3	Henderson Cottages Park	0.2	Sycamore Greenway	1.6
		Promenade Park	1	Standard Pacific	0.2	Cypress Point Greenway	1.5
		Aldea Hermosa Park	0.4	Medford Green	0.1	Weston East Greenway	1.4
		Enclave Park	0.1	Montalvo Hill Mini	0.1	Webster Linear Park	1.4
		Azahar Park	0	Enclave Green	0	Greystone Greenway	1
						Montalvo Hill Greenway	1
						Valdez Alley	0.2
<b>Total Community Park Acreage</b>	<b>437.8</b>	<b>Total Neighborhood Park Acreage</b>	<b>85.6</b>	<b>Total Mini Park Acreage</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>Total Linear Parks &amp; Greenways Acreage</b>	<b>78.0</b>

Figure 1: Parks in Ventura

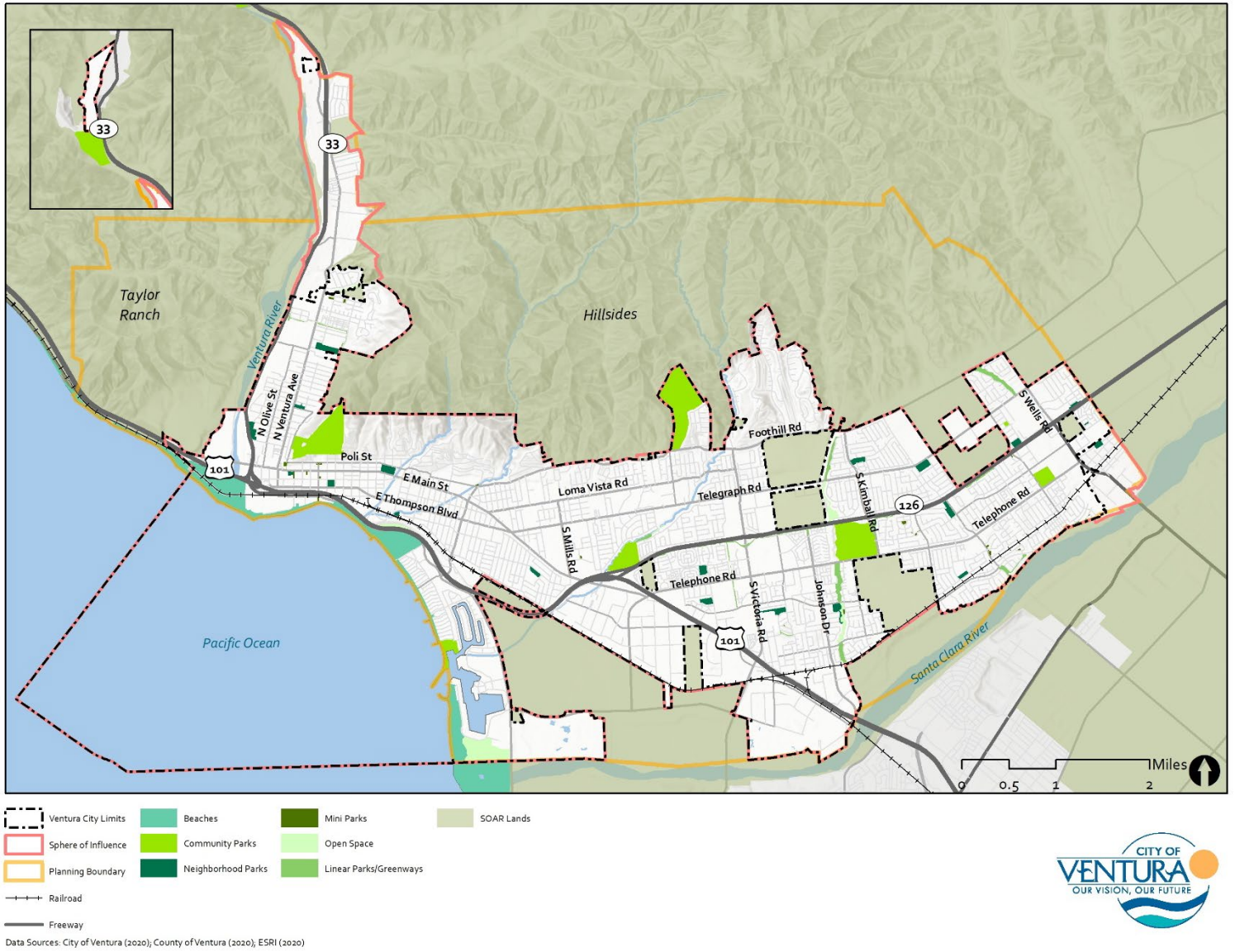
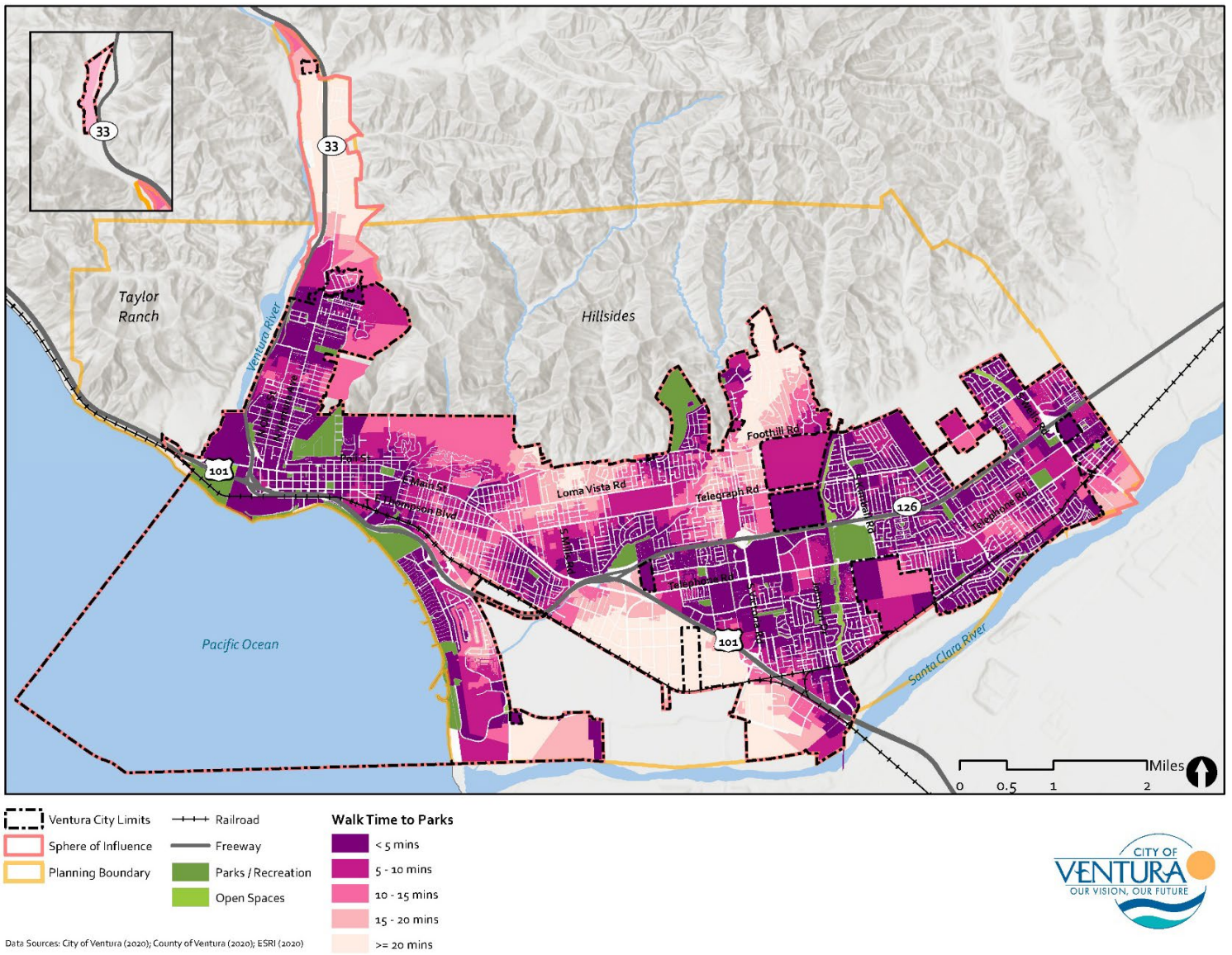


Figure 2: Access to Parks in Ventura



## Recreational Facilities & Community Centers

Many of the parks listed above also contain community facilities that provide unique recreational opportunities. Recreational facilities play an important role in daily life of Ventura's residents. They provide places to be active, take classes and develop new hobbies, and connect with other Ventura residents. Below is a summary of the recreational facilities and community centers throughout the City.

- **Ventura Aquatic Center.** This state-of-the-art aquatic facility features a 50-meter competition pool, 25-meter recreation pool, water playground pool, and two water slides, which are designed for users of all ages and abilities. The Center hosts lap swim and shallow-water exercise programs available to the public at low cost.
- **Westpark Community Center.** Located in Westpark, the Community Center consists of the only City-owned gymnasium for large meetings and sporting events. It holds a variety of community events and is also available for rental to the public.
- **Barranca Vista Center.** Located in Barranca Vista Park, the Center hosts all-age classes in theater, dance, music, art, wellness, and family events and contains a community room available for rental to the public.
- **Ventura Avenue Adult Center.** This standalone senior center offers classes, drop-in activities, facility rentals, and a range of other programs and senior services. The facility includes a kitchen, community and meeting rooms, and a patio.
- **Albinger Archaeological Museum.** This museum is on the National Register of Historic Places and is a cultural site located next to Mission San Buenaventura. The museum displays local artifacts that span 3,500 years of history, covering cultures such as the indigenous Chumash, Spanish, Mexican, Chinese, and mid-18th Century U.S. settlers.
- **Olivas Adobe:** This historic site features the restored 1847, two-story adobe home of Don Raymundo Olivas. It celebrates Ventura's Rancho and Latino heritage and is on the National Register of Historic Places and is a California Historical Landmark.
- **Ortega Adobe:** This 1857 historic home is an architectural example of smaller adobe homes that once lined Main Street in sharp contrast to the residences of wealthy landowners nearby. It was here that Emilio Ortega first began fire-roasting chiles, believed to be the first commercial food operation of its kind in California.
- **Cornucopia Community Garden.** The City's largest community garden, Cornucopia is equipped with approximately 150 plots available to the community for rent. The Garden is located off Telephone Road near the intersection with Johnson Drive.
- **Kellogg Community Garden.** The City's newest community garden is equipped with 47 plots available to the community for rent. The Garden is located within Kellogg Park in the Westside neighborhood.
- **Westpark Community Garden.** Equipped with 22 plots available to the community for rent, the Garden is located within Westpark in the Westside neighborhood.

## Open Space

Surrounding Ventura are many expansive open spaces and nature preserves that are treasured by the community. The Ventura Land Trust (VLT) Organization, a nonprofit organization in the city works to actively protect and preserve Ventura's open space, trails, and park system. VLT has

permanently protected approximately 30 acres of open space in the Ventura River watershed and managed over 60 acres of additional open space. VLT continues to actively look for new funding sources and opportunities to further conserve and protect the city’s open spaces. Some of these spaces are in private holdings and unopen to public access, but the public enjoys free access to two major amenities.

- **Harmon Canyon Preserve:** The large-scale nature preserve features extensive hiking trails traversing hillsides, oak groves, and stream crossings. The 2,100-acre site is owned by the Ventura Land Trust and hosts a trailhead at 7511 Foothill Road.
- **Emma Wood River Trail and State Beach:** Beginning just west of the Ventura River Estuary and looping through to nearby Seaside Wilderness Park, the trailhead sits less than 3 miles from its namesake State Beach. However, no pedestrian link exists between the two.
- **Grant Park/Ventura Botanical Gardens (VBG):** The expansive hillside park north of Downtown offers visitors a breathtaking panorama of the Pacific Ocean and Ventura cityscape. Spanning 109 acres, it features a 3.9-mile out-and-back trail that leads hikers through plants from five Mediterranean climate zones, including California, Central Chile, the South African Cape, Southern Australia, and the Mediterranean Basin.

## Beaches

Given its coastal location, Ventura also enjoys access to several beaches along its western periphery. These spaces provide unique recreational opportunities that are cherished by the community. Unlike public parks, some beaches in Ventura are managed by the State or County. Table 2 lists all public beaches within the City Limits. This list does not include either the McGrath or Emma Wood State Beaches, which are located either partially or entirely outside the SOI.

**Table 2. Ventura Beach Inventory**

Beach Name	Acres
San Buenaventura State Beach Park	81.1
Surfer’s Point	16.0
Surfer’s Knoll	33.7
Pierpoint Beach	24.8
Waterfront Promenade	8.5
South Jetty Beach	31.2
Harbor Cove Beach	31.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>226.5</b>

## Trails

Ventura has a network of trails throughout the city that serve both pedestrians and bicyclists. These trails are used for recreational and transportation purposes. Trails along the foothills include the Arroyo Verde Park Loop and the Two Trees Trail. Trails along the coast include the San Buenaventura Beach Trail and the Omer Rains Coastal Bikeway. Additionally, the Ojai/Ventura Trail starts at the coast in Ventura eventually ending inland in Ojai. Trails in the city are also present in city landmarks such as the Botanical Gardens, which includes the Ventura Botanical Gardens Trail that stretches approximately two miles throughout the 109-acre garden (VBG 2020).



## Funding

California jurisdictions are authorized to levy two types of fees on development to support the planning, acquisition, improvement, and expansion of public parkland. Pursuant to the Quimby Act (AB 1191), a jurisdiction can require subdivision projects to dedicate parkland, or pay a proportionate fee in-lieu thereof, at a ratio of 3 acres per 1,000 residents. Should the amount of existing parkland in an area already exceed that standard, the jurisdiction may require a dedication of up to 5 acres per 1,000 residents. Pursuant to the Mitigation Fee Act (AB 1600), a jurisdiction may also impose “impact fees” on all other projects to fund improvements needed as a result of new development, such as public parkland, school facilities, utilities, and affordable housing, among others. State law requires that a jurisdiction show a “reasonable relationship” between a fee and the purpose for which it is charged.

Currently, the City of Ventura administers both types of fees. The City’s Parkland Dedication Ordinance requires subdivision projects to dedicate land, pay a fee in-lieu thereof, or provide both in support of public parkland. Subdivision projects of 50 parcels or less are typically only required to pay a per-unit fee of \$2,957.98. In the Downtown Specific Plan area, condominium projects exceeding 50 dwelling units are required to pay a per-unit fee of \$7,454.34. In all other cases, dedication of land at a ratio of 4.6 acres per 1,000 residents may be required. The following formula is used to calculate the required dedication:

Land dedication = (DU x Average Household Size x S) / 1,000, where:

- DU = number of dwelling units in subdivision
- Average Household Size = 2.57
- S = park acreage standard of 4.6 per 1,000 residents, per City Council Resolution 2015-028

Pursuant to the Mitigation Fee Act, the City also administers a Parks and Recreation Facilities Tax that ties new residential development to the construction and/or improvement of “public parks, playgrounds, and other recreational facilities” in Ventura. The purpose of the Tax is to generate adequate funding for new recreational facilities needed to support a growing population. Specifically, the City levies a one-time, per-unit tax on residential projects as a condition of approval.

## Issues & Opportunities

### Strengths and Opportunities

- **High parks ratio.** The City has a significant amount of park spaces, specifically 7.5 acres of parks per 1,000 residents when including the beaches. This exceeds the State standard defined in the Quimby Act, which is 3 acres/1,000 residents, and the City’s standard of 4.6 per 1,000 residents.
- **Excellent park access.** The majority of Ventura residents are within a 15 min walk of a park, thus providing great access to parks throughout the City. This is a significant benefit to residents and ensures the consistent use of City-funded amenities provided to the public.
- **Diversity of parks and open spaces.** Ventura has an excellent diversity of parks and open spaces that include everything from large natural open spaces to regional parks, local parks, and urban plazas.
- **Access to regional open spaces.** With the State beaches and preserved natural areas on the hillsides outside of the City, residents have access to many regional open spaces. These

open spaces also help define the identity of Ventura. This is also beneficial to the health and well-being of Ventura’s residents.

- **Large trail network.** The City has an expansive trail system that serves both pedestrians and cyclists. While the network could be expanded, it connects many destinations in the City.

### Issues and Weaknesses

- **No long-range plan.** The City does not have a Parks and Recreation Master Plan to guide improvements. An overarching document that outlines goals for the parks and recreation facilities within the City will allow for more streamlined and efficient maintenance, improvements, and additions.
- **Park quality.** Some of the City’s parks need upgrades and improvements. Some facilities are dated or lack amenities such as restrooms. Litter is often an issue in parks and at beaches.
- **Dated impact fees for new parks.** The City needs to update its impact fees for new parks to reflect current economic conditions, and in turn to be able to build new and maintain existing parks and recreation facilities.
- **Lack of access to beaches.** The majority of residents are separated from the beaches by Highway 101. Further, the access that does exist needs significant improvement to be safer and more welcoming, especially for pedestrians and cyclists.
- **Lack of access for disabled individuals.** Most of the City’s parks, beaches, and open spaces have some level of limitation when it comes to walking, playing, etc. Improvements that accommodate those with varying physical disabilities should be made to create spaces that are accessible to all facets of Ventura’s population.
- **Park and trail safety.** The City’s parks and trails need improvements to create a safer environment, especially for vulnerable populations such as youth and older adults. This includes well-maintained infrastructure and implementation of pedestrian safety measures. Homeless individuals residing in parks and along linear trails have also led so some safety concerns.
- **Park overcrowding in Neighborhood Parks.** While most residents live within a 15-minute walk of a City park, some neighborhood parks serve a relatively large population. This leads to overcrowding of certain parks that are in more densely populated areas.

## Parks Standards

The City’s park standards set definitions for each type of park found in Ventura. The typology is based on park acreage, features, and service population. These service standards should be followed when building new parks in the future.

**Table 3. Park Standards**

Park Type	Typical Size	Features / Purposes	Service Population
Community Park	About 20-50 acres	Athletic fields, courts, youth play structures, picnic areas, landscaped areas, indoor recreational facilities	Residents of more than one neighborhood

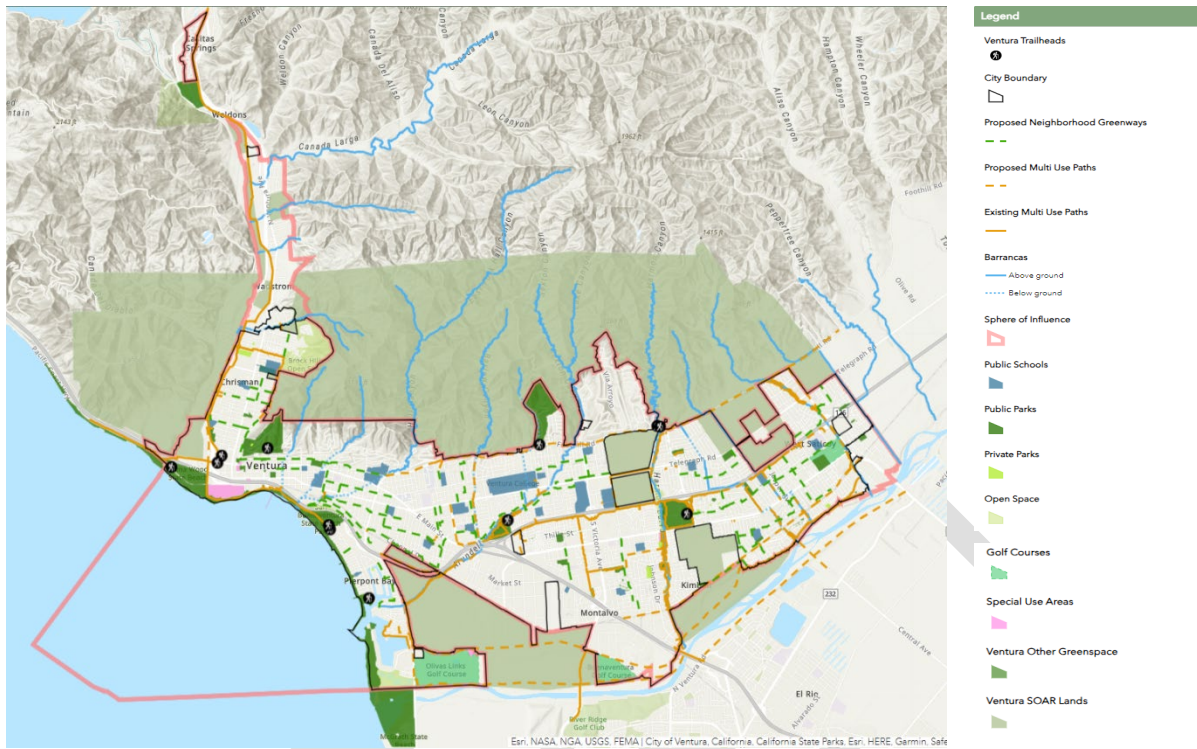
<b>Neighborhood Park</b>	Up to 8 acres	Providing an area for active and passive recreation; athletic courts, picnic areas, restrooms, trails	Specific residential areas
<b>Mini-Park</b>	Up to 3 acres	Benches, picnic tables, playgrounds	Specific residential areas
<b>Linear Parks/Greenways</b>	No set size	Programmed and undeveloped strips of greenspace; shared-use paths	City-wide use through bicycle and pedestrian paths

## Proposed Park and Open Space Network

Figure 3 below is a map of the existing and future parks and open space network in Ventura. ([Click here](#) to view the interactive version of the map below). The network consists of the following components:

- **Existing parks and recreation facilities.** All public and publicly-accessible parks within the City, as well as public facilities such as sports complexes and pools, are shown.
- **Existing trail network.** All existing trails within the City and its open space, referred to as multi-use paths, are shown. Trailheads are also shown.
- **Existing open spaces.** SOAR and open spaces within the City, sphere of influence, and planning area are shown.
- **Proposed trails.** All proposed trails shown (defined as multi-use paths and neighborhood greenways). This information is from the City’s recently developed Active Transportation Plan. (See: <https://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/2526/Active-Transportation-Plan>)

Figure 3: Existing and Proposed Park and Open Space Network



### Ideas for New Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces

During the engagement process, the GPAC and public expressed many ideas for new parks and open spaces and improved access to existing facilities. The following is a summary of the ideas expressed during the process. This list will be expanded by the GPAC and then reviewed by City staff prior to inclusion in the Draft General Plan.

- Increase park space near the hospital
- More park spaces along Santa Clara River
- Estuary and trail running from Sanjon Exit below Vista Del Mar via Allejandro to Channel across Barranca to Spinnaker
- Add parklets throughout Downtown
- Trail access and a park could be added under US-101 near the Arundell Barranca
- Add new local and neighborhood parks as part of new projects along the Johnson Corridor
- Identify new park location near the East Ventura Metrolink Station
- Increase access to the multi-use trail from the Westside
- Add a pool and community center on the Westside
- Improve access under US-101 to the beach
- Improve the State Beach
- Improve pedestrian and bike access and safety under US-101
- Improve pedestrian and bike access to natural open spaces
- Add a significant new park as part of the redevelopment of Pacific View Mall
- Add new tailheads to the regional open spaces
- Increase the number and diversity of trails in the open spaces
- Identify additional opportunities for plazas and small parks near Five Points
- Add a significant park feature as part of any development of the McGrath property
- Expand on/capitalize on the Channel Islands Visitor Center

## Goals and Policies

### **Goal POS-1: Improve Ventura’s parks, open spaces, trails, and recreational facilities network to encourage an active and healthy community.**

- 1.1 Parks classification system.** Utilize the parks classification system identified in the General Plan to help guide public park planning and improvements in the City.
- 1.2 Park quality.** Continually improve existing parks and park facilities to ensure that Ventura’s parks provide high quality spaces for active and passive recreation that meet the needs of all residents, regardless of age, income, or ability.
- 1.3 Park improvements.** Prioritize improvements to existing parks over the creation of new parks wherever feasible.
- 1.4 Park facilities.** Provide a wide diversity of facilities in parks to serve the needs of all users. Facilities should include but not be limited to playgrounds, fields, exercise equipment, tennis, pickleball, and basketball courts, picnic areas, and other facilities, as needed.
- 1.5 New park types.** Continually explore new types of park facilities and services to meet evolving trends in recreation and changes in the demographic makeup of the City.
- 1.6 Public art and historical markers.** Incorporate permanent and temporary public art, including from local artists, throughout parks for beautification and improvement of resident experiences. Add plaques, signage, and public art that celebrates Ventura’s history and culture.
- 1.7 Sustainability in parks.** Integrate sustainability strategies into City-owned parks to reduce the impact on natural resources and achieve other city sustainability efforts such as reducing the heat island effect, reducing GHG emissions, improving water quality, reducing water usage, and lowering water costs. Strategies to be considered include green infrastructure and stormwater capture, drought resistant plants, native plants, the use of recycled water for irrigation, solar panels on parking lots and buildings and other strategies.
- 1.8 Community gardens.** As feasible, allow for portions of public parks to be used for community gardens, particularly in neighborhoods without convenient access to healthy food.
- 1.9 Dog-friendly areas.** Create more dog-friendly areas, such as off-leash spaces and fenced-off dog parks. Strive to locate dog-friendly areas throughout the City so that all residents have equal access to these facilities.
- 1.10 Future Park locations.** Work to develop new parks and recreational facilities throughout the community, targeting areas with limited access to parks.
- 1.11 Purchase of land for new parks.** As opportunities arise, purchase parcels for new parks, including the purchase of surplus lands from the school district, CalTrans, Ventura County and other public entities.
- 1.12 Ventura Unified School District collaboration.** Work closely with County school district to improve community access to school facilities, including pools, athletic fields and

playgrounds. Establish procedures for the creation of joint sites, including the division of maintenance responsibility.

- 1.13 Connections with community partners.** Collaborate with community partners to expand health and educational recreation programs and services for youth, seniors, and families.

**Goal POS-2: Improve access to and safety in parks and recreational facilities for all residents.**

- 2.1 Park access.** Strive to have all residents within a 15-minute walk access to a park, plaza or open space while recognizing that this target may be challenging in lower density residential areas.
- 2.2 Universal access.** Design parks and recreation facilities for universal access, encouraging play by residents of all abilities and ages. Continue to improve existing parks and open spaces to accommodate the needs of all users.
- 2.3 Equitable distribution of parks and recreation opportunities.** Strive to distribute public facilities and services equitably distributed throughout the City. In particular, prioritize the development of new parks and recreational facilities in areas of the City that are underserved with parks.
- 2.4 Park fees for low-income residents.** Allow pricing structures for fee-based facilities and recreational programs that enable low-income residents to fully participate, regardless of income.
- 2.5 Vehicle access.** As feasible, provide adequate vehicle parking and safe access to parks throughout the City.
- 2.6 Public safety.** Strive for safety in parks by providing lighting, orienting building facades towards parks, incorporating wayfinding signage, and providing clear lines of sight.
- 2.7 Arts and culture programming.** Work with local schools, non-profits, local organizations, and artists to increase arts and culture programming (such as performing arts and theater, visual arts, youth, and senior programs).

**Goal POS-3: Utilize a diverse array of funding sources to maintain, expand, and improve its parks and open space.**

- 3.1 Park service standard.** Work to achieve a ratio of at least 10 acres of parks per 1,000 residents.
- 3.2 Residential park impact fees.** Collect impact fees for both for-sale and rental housing units for a maximum of 5 acres per 1,000 residents. Regularly review and adjust parks and recreation impact fees to work towards the City's service standard, and to account for the changing cost of land, facilities, and equipment.
- 3.3 Non-residential park impact fees.** Explore creating a park impact fee for non-residential projects, including office, R&D and industrial uses.
- 3.4 On-site requirement for new development.** Require that projects over 5 acres in size provide at least 1/3 of the project's park requirements on on-site. The on-site park spaces must be usable and high quality.
- 3.5 Private parks.** Prohibit private parks or open spaces to count toward the on-site requirement for new parks.

- 3.6 Diverse park funding.** Provide reliable and diversified funding for park development, capital improvement, maintenance, and operations. Pursue all opportunities, including use of the general fund, grant funding, donations, naming rights, and developer incentives.
- 3.7 Reduced long-term costs.** Identify ways to reduce the City’s long-term operations and maintenance costs, such as adapting energy efficient technologies for park and recreation facilities, using recycled water for irrigation, or exploring the use of artificial turf, alternative materials and other types of ground cover that do not require heavy maintenance or frequent mowing.
- 3.8 Exploration of bond measures.** Explore opportunities for bond measures to fund maintenance, park operations, and park and recreational amenity investments.
- 3.9 Economic activity in public spaces.** Lease parts of public spaces, parks, and select sidewalks to private businesses and non-profit organizations to activate the space with programs and activities, such as small product vendors, bike rental, community garden plots, exercise programs, and larger events and festivals. Promote the use of City facilities for special events, such as festivals, tournaments, and races.

**Goal POS-4: Continually protect and, where feasible, improve access to open space in and around Ventura.**

- 4.1 SOAR lands.** Protect lands identified as part of the City and County SOAR initiatives (Save Open Space and Agriculture Resources) from development.
- 4.2 Enhanced open spaces.** Enhance passive recreation in open spaces through the use of access points, multi-use trails, and interpretive information.
- 4.3 Increased access points.** Create new public access points to open spaces to increase accessibility throughout the city.
- 4.4 Incentivized open space.** Work with the private development community to incentivize new publicly accessible open space through land dedications, land swaps, or other means.

**Goal POS-5: Improve Ventura’s beaches with new amenities, renovations and safe access for residents and tourists.**

- 5.1 State Beaches.** Work with the State to renovate and improve the State beaches within Ventura.
- 5.2 Beach access.** Prioritize improvements to increase safety access to the beaches, particularly in Downtown, along Seaward Avenue, along Sanjon Road, and along Olivias Park Drive.
- 5.3 Beach cleanliness.** Perform frequent and detailed beach clean-ups to ensure minimal litter.
- 5.4 Expanded beach facilities.** Expand and maintain beach facilities, including but not limited to the pier and the sea wall at Surfer’s Point.

**Goal POS-6: Maintain and improve Ventura’s golf courses.**

- 6.1 Preserve golf courses.** Preserve Ventura’s two golf courses as outdoor recreation spaces.



- 6.2 Well-maintained golf courses.** Ensure frequent and high-quality maintenance of all city golf courses.
- 6.3 Visitor service amenities.** Expand Olivas golf course to add accommodations, restaurants and a conference center so that it becomes a regional draw and contributes to the City's tourism industry.
- 6.4 Sustainable management practices.** Implement sustainable management practices, such as irrigating with recycled water, on all city golf course grounds.

**Goal POS-7: Maintain and expand an extensive trail network to allows residents to promote active transportation and access a variety of locations in the City, including schools, parks and retail areas.**

- 7.1 Expanded trail network.** Identify locations for new trails and implement them, specifically based on the plans proposed in the City's Active Transportation Plan.
- 7.2 Improved trail connections.** Create and maintain a system of multi-use trails that provide connections to regional trails systems and residential neighborhoods.
- 7.3 Accessible trails.** To the extent feasible, ensure that trails are accessible to all residents and incorporate ADA design features.
- 7.4 Trail safety and amenities.** Improve trails with seating, trash cans, lighting, shade, signage, stroller trails, and other amenities.

# Implementation Actions

**Timeframe:** Short-term, Mid-term, Long-term, Ongoing

**Types of Actions:** Partnership, program, study, plan, physical improvements, etc.

Implementation Actions	Timeframe	Type of Action	Responsibility
<b>Parks and Recreation Master Plan.</b> Prepare and maintain a Parks and Recreation Master Plan to address park conditions and needs, recreation programming, facilities, and funding opportunities. As a part of a Parks Master Plan, evaluate adopted park standards, including designations for type of parks and guidelines for the facilities to be developed in future parks.	Short-term	Plan	Parks and Recreation
<b>Park Safety Evaluations.</b> Bi-annually conduct park safety evaluations in collaboration with the Ventura Police Department. The evaluations should include statistics on crime and safety within each park and a walkthrough of each park to identify safety issues and solutions.	Short-term	Partnership	Police; Parks and Recreation
<b>Residential parks Impact Fee.</b> Update the parks impact fee for residential uses	Short-term	Fee	Finance; Parks and Recreation
<b>Commercial impact fee.</b> Create a new parks impact fee for commercial development.	Short-term	Fee	Finance; Parks and Recreation
<b>Shared Use Agreements.</b> Work with the Ventura Unified School District to create shared use agreements for all schools in Ventura. Strive to increase the number of schools included in the shared use agreements by one per year until all schools are included.	Ongoing	Partnership	Parks and Recreation; CMO; CAO