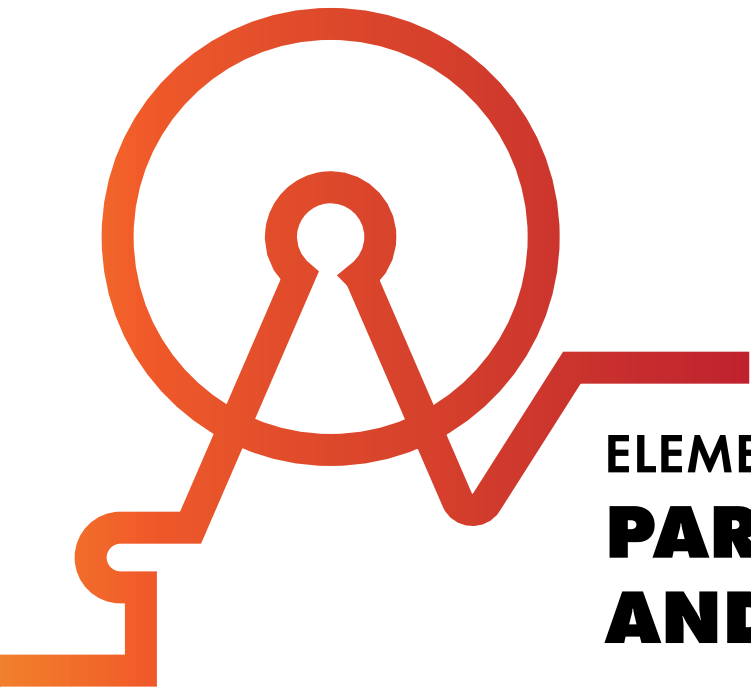


# PICTURE OUR COMMUNITY



## ELEMENT 5

# **PARKS, RECREATION, AND PUBLIC FACILITIES**

This Element addresses preserving, expanding, and improving parks and open spaces, encouraging healthy and active lifestyles, and maintaining and upgrading public facilities.

# INTRODUCTION

Culver City features a variety of parks, recreational amenities, and public facilities for residents, employees, and visitors to use and enjoy. As the city grows and the recreational, civic, and health needs of residents evolve, the City must maintain its existing parks, recreational resources, and public facilities while continuing to expand its breadth of service in an equitable manner. Improving the quality of, and expanding access to, Culver City's parks, recreational facilities, and public facilities will improve the community's ecology and make Culver City a more equitable, attractive, sustainable, and healthy community for all.

## What We are Trying to Achieve

- A connected, walkable, and bikeable network of well-maintained parks, open spaces, and recreational facilities that promote active transportation, exercise, and social connection.
- Parks, recreational facilities, and recreational programming meet the health, educational, social, and safety needs of people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds.
- Parks that sustain an urban forest, support biodiversity, incorporate sustainable practices, and provide opportunities for residents, employees, and visitors to connect to nature.
- Public facilities that serve as resilient places for learning, civic engagement, and the efficient operation of City governance and community services.
- Children and students of all ages have access to exceptional learning opportunities in Culver City.



Carlson Memorial Park in Culver City

# KEY ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Culver City benefits from a diverse array of parks, open spaces, joint use facilities, and other outdoor open spaces that residents, employees, and visitors can utilize within or near City limits. This section describes the city’s park and recreational resources, assesses their quality of service and access, and describes improvements the City can undertake to enhance access, amenities, and funding.

## Parks and Recreation

### Park and Open Space Classifications

The City uses a classification system to divide parks and open spaces into eight types: regional parks, community parks, neighborhood parks, parkettes/mini parks, linear parks, special use areas, natural open space,

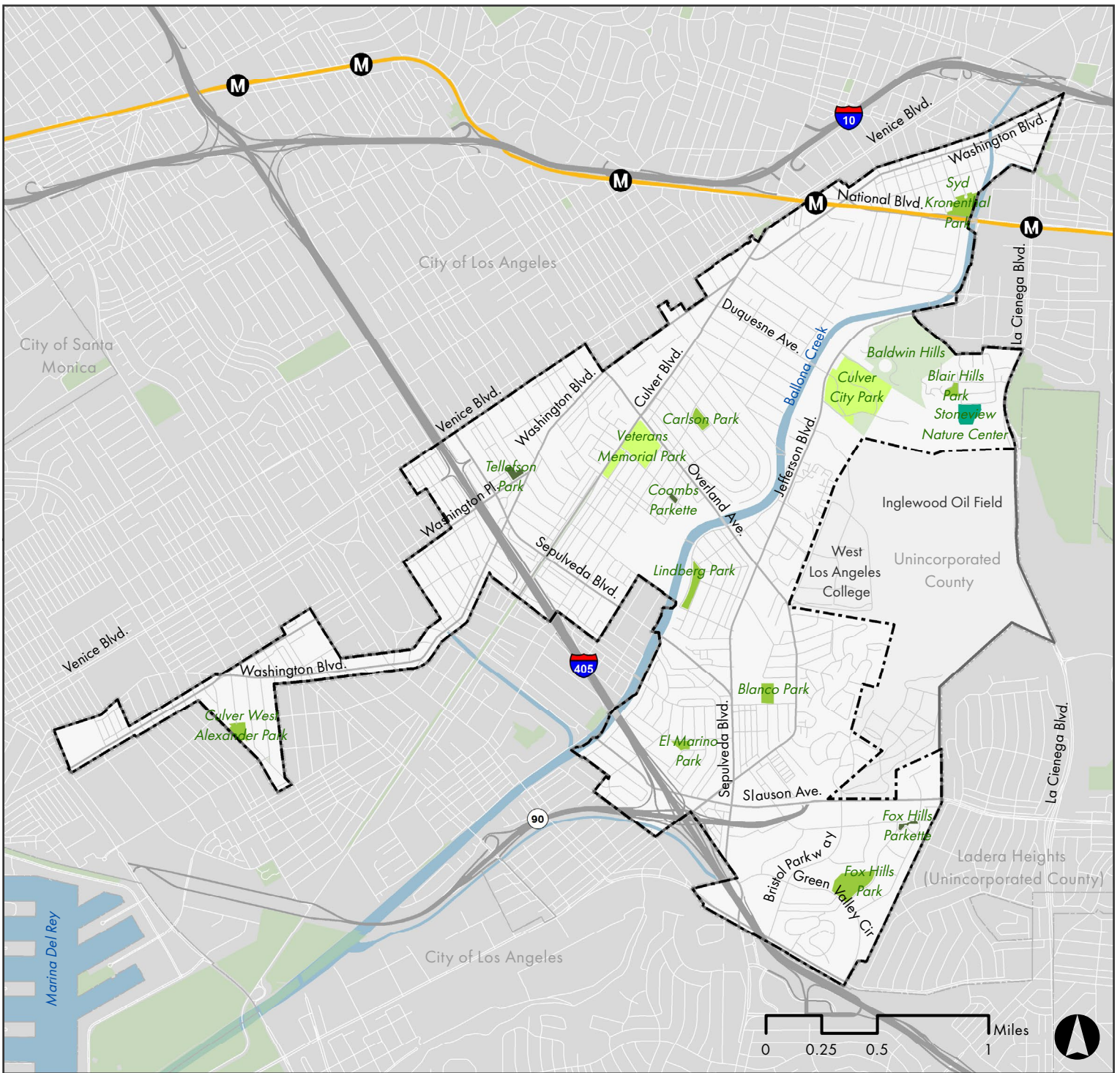
and undeveloped land. These types vary in size, function, and amenities offered to residents, employees, and visitors of Culver City (see Table 3).

As of 2021, the City owns and operates 85 acres of parks. These include two community parks, eight neighborhood parks, and three parkettes/mini parks within City limits that the

City’s Parks, Recreation, and Community Services (PRCS) Department maintains and operates. Including Stoneview Nature Center, a facility owned and operated by Los Angeles County within City limits, Culver City residents have access to 90 acres of parks. Parks are listed in Table 4 and depicted in Figure 18.









**TABLE 3** Park and Open Space Classifications

Type	Description
Regional Parks	Large recreation areas designed to serve the entire region. The City does not own any regional parks.
Community Parks	Usually between 15 and 40 acres, community parks are designed to serve people within a 2- to 3-mile radius. They provide for a variety of passive and active uses. Community parks may include sports fields (lit or unlit), basketball courts, restrooms, indoor facilities, picnic areas, and specialized facilities (such as dog parks and skateparks).
Neighborhood Parks	Neighborhood parks are intended to serve neighborhood residents within a mile of the park and are usually between 3 and 15 acres. Neighborhood parks may have playgrounds, picnic areas, trails, open grass areas for passive use, outdoor basketball courts, and multi-use open grass areas for sports.
Parkettes/Mini Parks	Less than 3 acres, parkettes/mini parks are typically designed for use by small children or as green oases in the middle of an urban context. Parkettes/mini parks may have open grass areas, playgrounds, and a small picnic area.
Linear Parks	Linear parks are developed landscaped areas and other lands that follow linear corridors such as rivers, creeks, abandoned railroad rights-of-way, canals, powerlines, and other elongated features. This type of park usually contains trails, landscaped areas, viewpoints, and seating areas.
Special Use Areas	Special use areas are sites often occupied by a specialized recreation facility. Some uses that fall into this category include waterfront parks, boat ramps, botanical gardens, community gardens, single purpose sites used for a particular field sport, or sites occupied by recreation buildings.
Natural Open Space	Natural open space is defined as undeveloped land primarily left in its natural form with recreation uses as a secondary objective. It is usually owned or managed by a governmental agency and may or may not have public access. This type of land may include wetlands, steep hillsides, or other similar spaces. In some cases, environmentally sensitive areas are considered open space and can include wildlife habitats, stream and creek corridors, or unique and/or endangered plant species.
Undeveloped Land	This land is undeveloped and has not yet been designated for a specific park use.



**FIGURE 18**

## City Parks

-  City Limits
-  Sphere of Influence
-  Metro Station
-  E Line (Expo)
-  Major Roads
-  Local Roads
-  Parks and Open Space
-  Waterbody

### City Parks

-  Community Park
-  Neighborhood Park
-  Parkette/Mini Park
-  Special Use Area

Sources:  
 City of Culver City (2024);  
 County of Los Angeles (2021);  
 ESRI (2021).

**TABLE 4 City of Culver City Parks**

Facility	Acres
<b>Community Parks</b>	<b>50.2</b>
Culver City Park	34.1
Veterans Park	16.1
<b>Neighborhood Parks</b>	<b>32.4</b>
Blair Hills Park	1.8
Blanco Park	3.1
Carlson Park	2.5
Culver West Alexander Park	3.1
El Marino Park	1.6
Fox Hills Park	10.0
Lindberg Park	4.2
Syd Kronenthal Park	6.1
<b>Parkette/Mini Parks</b>	<b>2.8</b>
Coombs Parkette	0.5
Fox Hills Parkette	0.8
Tellefson Park	1.5
<b>Special Use Area</b>	<b>5.0</b>
Stoneview Nature Center <sup>1</sup>	5.0
<b>Total Acres</b>	<b>90.4</b>

Notes:

Stoneview Nature Center is within Culver City limits but operated by Los Angeles County.

Source: City of Culver City, 2009, 2019, 2023.



Aerial view of Culver City Park

### Other Outdoor Recreational Spaces

In addition to the parks that Culver City owns and maintains, Culver City residents, employees, and visitors can easily access other outdoor recreational spaces in the community. Some of these spaces are outside the city’s boundaries, but within a walkable distance (one half-mile) of Culver City residents and workers. In total, these spaces comprise about 700 acres (193 within the City limits and 506 within a half-mile of the City limits) and include the following:

- **Public plazas owned by the City of Culver City.** The City owns and operates two public plazas that provide limited passive use. These plazas are Heritage Park in front of City Hall and the Town Plaza.
- **Parks owned by other agencies.** This includes parks owned by the State of California and the City of Los Angeles. The State of California’s Baldwin Hills Conservancy owns and operates the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook, which is within City limits. To the east of City limits, the State owns and operates the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area. The City of Los Angeles owns and operates five parks within one

half-mile of City limits. The City has a long-term lease with the City of Los Angeles to use Media Park. A proposed park renovation plan for Media Park has been prepared and will be considered by the City of Culver City and City of Los Angeles.

- **Joint Use Facilities.** The City has a joint use agreement with the Culver City Unified School District (CCUSD) that allows CCUSD to use City recreational facilities in exchange for use of school buildings and fields. The City does not have a formalized joint use agreement with West Los Angeles College, but the City rents space to West LA College as needed, and Culver City residents have access to West LA College’s track facility.
- **Privately-Owned Public Open Spaces.** Some private developers in the city operate privately-owned public open spaces (POPOs) as conditions of development approval. These areas allow for passive uses like walking and sitting. This includes spaces like the Platform, Culver Steps, and the event lawn and town square at Ivy Station.

## Park Service and Access

Service and access standards are guidelines that define the amount and quality of park and outdoor recreational spaces that are necessary to meet the recreation needs of Culver City residents. Continued monitoring of park and outdoor recreational space access and service can help the City ensure residents reap health and social benefits of the outdoors through the 2045 General Plan horizon.

The City maintains park service standards for City parks, regional parks, and joint use facilities to evaluate park service. The park service ratio, or ratio of number of acres of parks per 1,000 residents, is a metric the City uses to measure park service and calculate park dedication requirements from new development. A higher service ratio indicates greater park service.

The City’s park service standard, established in the 1968 General Plan, aims to provide 10 acres of park space per 1,000 residents. 1 acre per 1,000 residents may be satisfied with joint use agreements with the CCUSD and 6 acres per 1,000 residents may be satisfied by regional parks, leaving at least 3 acres per 1,000 residents to be satisfied by City-owned parks. As shown in Table 5, the City is not currently (as of 2023) meeting its park service standard. Based on a projected population of 61,600 in 2045, the City needs an additional 256 park acres to continue to achieve its service 10 acres per 1,000 residents standard.

The City’s park service ratio provides an understanding of population relative to park acreage, and therefore a measure of the availability of park space to serve residents, but this ratio alone is not sufficient to determine the quality of park service in Culver City. The park service ratio, for instance, does not consider park amenities that improve park usability, like illuminated space, which makes parks usable for more hours of the day, or active and passive space, which allow for a greater variety of uses and



Entrance to Carlson Memorial Park

programming. Another important factor to consider is accessibility to parks and other public outdoor recreational spaces, or the quality of the pedestrian environment leading to and from a green space. Residents and workers are more likely to visit parks and outdoor recreational spaces if they live within a ten-minute, or one half-mile, walking distance of a park. Living within a walkable distance of a park or outdoor recreational space can benefit residents, as physical activity is linked to stress reduction, improved mental health, and respiratory fitness.

As shown in Figure 19, about 90 percent of Culver City residences are within a one half-mile walking distance of a park, trail, or open space, including facilities just outside City limits. The General Plan establishes policies to reduce park access inequities, plans for parks and other outdoor recreational spaces in areas lacking

convenient park access, and establishes a performance metric to track the percent of population within walking distance of a park.

In addition to improving the amount of park space and access to parks, the City needs to improve park amenities to improve park quality in Culver City. City staff identified several needed improvements for its park system, including trail expansion; lighting in active spaces; shade; new and updated sports fields; Internet access; accessibility amenities and features; updated playgrounds, restrooms, and park buildings; and turf renovations. Implementation of the General Plan as well as adoption and continual updates to the City’s Park and Recreation Master Plan (PRMP) can ensure that City staff has direction and resources to make these improvements.

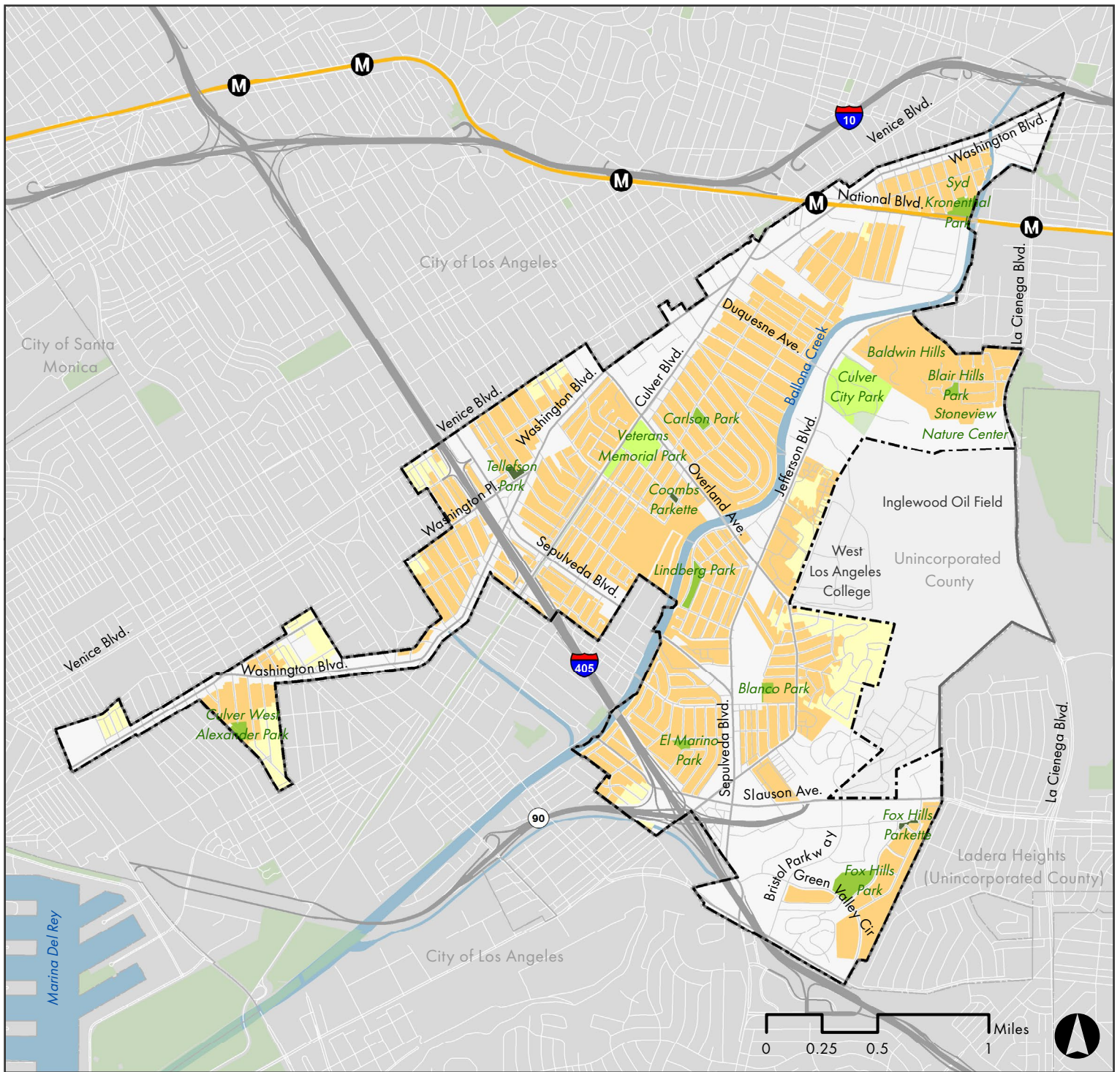
**TABLE 5 Current Park Service**

Park Type	Current Park Acres	Standard (in acres per 1,000 residents)	Current Service Ratio <sup>1</sup>
City of Culver City parks	90.4	3.0	2.2
Joint use facilities	30.0 <sup>2</sup>	1.0	0.7
Regional parks	240.0 <sup>2</sup>	6.0	5.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>360.4</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>8.8</b>

Notes:

1. Based on a 2021 population of 40,640.
2. Acreage totals based on 2009 draft Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Regional park acreage includes the Kenneth Hahn Regional Park, which is outside City limits and not operated by the City of Culver City.

Sources: Raimi + Associates, 2023; the City of Culver City, 1968, 2009, 2023; HR&A, 2019.



**FIGURE 19**

## Park Access

Sources:  
 City of Culver City (2024);  
 County of Los Angeles (2021);  
 ESRI (2021).

- City Limits
- Sphere of Influence
- Metro Station
- E Line (Expo)
- Major Roads
- Local Roads
- Parks and Open Space
- Waterbody

### City Parks

- Community Park
- Neighborhood Park
- Parkette/Mini Park
- Special Use Area

### Walk Access to Parks

- Residential Area within Half Mile to Parks
- Residential Area not within Half Mile to Parks





The Baldwin Hills offer a vista of the LA area

## Trails

Trails are an essential component of Culver City’s parks and recreation system, connecting people to and within parks and outdoor recreational spaces; providing healthy and safe options for people of all ages and abilities to get around and exercise; and guiding people to public facilities, recreational facilities, and community landmarks.

The City manages a trail network that mostly consists of trails within existing parks. Several park facilities, including Culver City, Fox Hills, and Syd Kronenthal Parks have self-contained loop trails. A trail runs along a median in Culver Boulevard, connecting residents south to Del Rey. Culver City residents also have access to trails at regional parks, including the Culver City Stairs leading up to a scenic overlook at the Baldwin Hills Recreational Area.

Perhaps the biggest opportunity for trail improvement in Culver City is the City’s Ballona Creek Revitalization Project, which has potential to improve water quality, better connect residents to Ballona Creek, provide recreational, aesthetic, and ecological benefits. Currently, a multi-use bicycle and pedestrian path follows the north side of the Creek almost the entire stretch through the city, ending at Syd Kronenthal Park at the northeast end of the path. The path connects to the Park to Playa Trail, managed by the City of Los Angeles, a 13-mile trail linking parks, trails, and

open spaces from Baldwin Hills to the Pacific Ocean. Implementing the Ballona Creek Revitalization Project, and completing improvements identified in the General Plan, will better connect neighborhoods to Ballona Creek and extend the existing multi-use path in Ballona Creek’s future development.

In addition to improvements to the Ballona Creek Bike Path, implementing the General Plan can provide trail connections between parks, improve trails within parks, and ensure all can easily use and access trails.

## Recreation Facilities and Programming

The City owns and operates a range of recreational facilities available for classes, sports, performances, social events, camps, and more, as shown in Figure 20. These include the Municipal Plunge; recreational buildings at Blanco Park, Culver West Alexander Park, El Marino Park, Lindberg Park, and Syd Kronenthal Park; Veterans Memorial Building, the Culver City Teen Center, and the Culver City Senior Center.

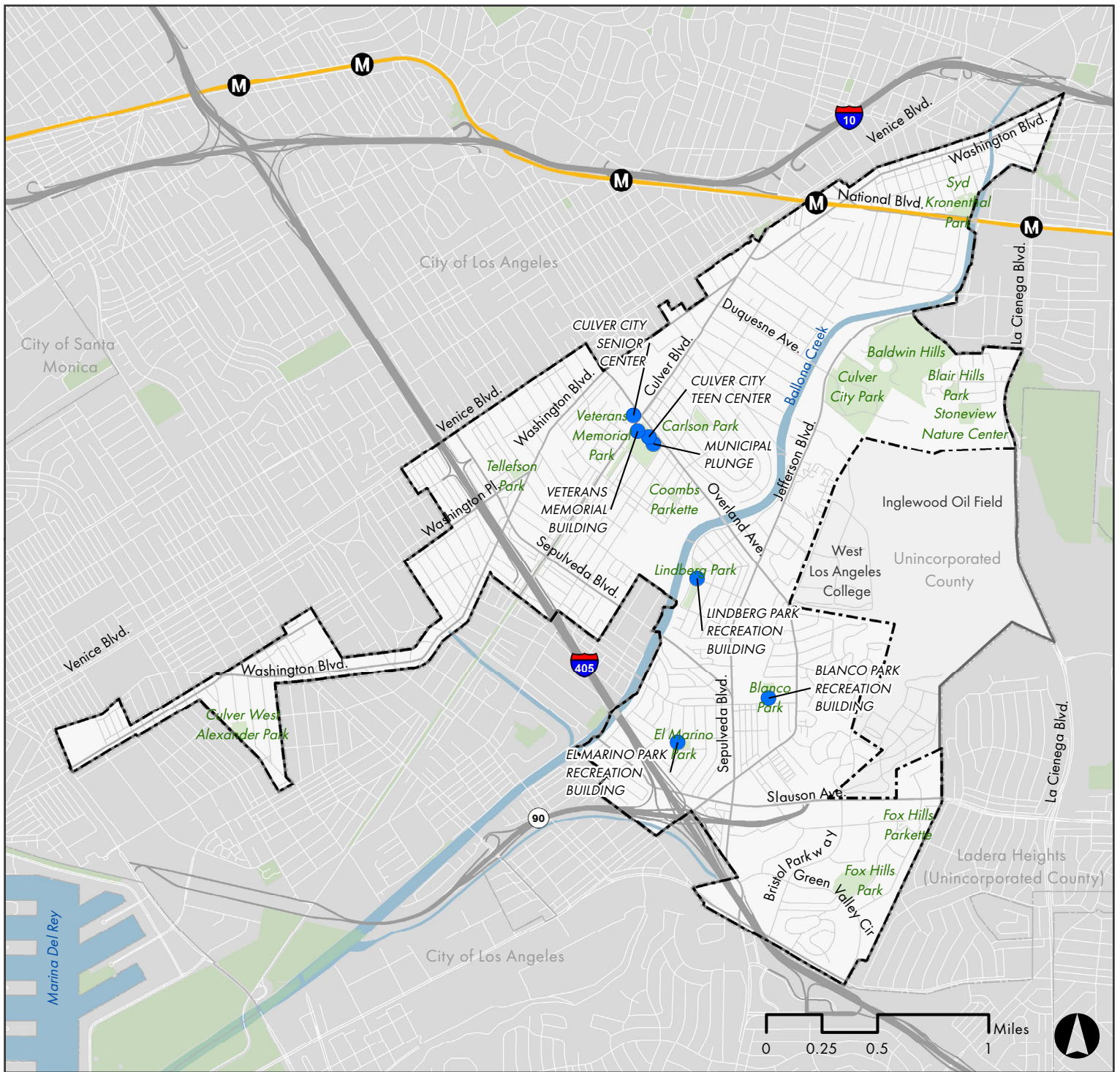
The City offers recreational programming for people of all ages and abilities, including sports, arts, dance, music, and aquatics programs. Specialized programming for youth includes after school programs, summer camps, art, aquatics, sports, and preschools. Preschool classes meet in recreation buildings at Blanco, Culver West Alexander, El Marino, and

Syd Kronenthal Parks. The City offers bilingual and language immersion preschool programs. Senior programming is wide-ranging, and includes programming focused on exercise, aquatics, arts, nutrition, computer literacy, and other educational programming. The City’s disability and social services programming includes counseling, educational programming, and social events. In addition, the City hosts several annual community events, including Fiesta La Ballona, Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration, Egg-stravaganza, and Holiday Sled-tacular.

Despite the strength of programming and facilities, the City’s recreational facilities need updates to better meet residents’ recreational needs, be more accessible, and incorporate modern technology. The General Plan advances these necessary improvements, including more meeting rooms, recreational programming, a new gym, improving Veterans Memorial Complex buildings, Internet access, accessibility amenities and features; updating park buildings, and more. It also establishes policies to ensure the City continually monitors the community’s recreational needs to undertake facility improvements. It also designs programming to match the community’s priorities, thereby encouraging more residents to participate in the City’s recreational services.












Ferris wheel at annual Fiesta La Ballona



**FIGURE 20**

## Recreational Facilities

Sources:  
 City of Culver City (2024);  
 County of Los Angeles (2021);  
 ESRI (2021).

-  City Limits
-  Sphere of Influence
-  Metro Station
-  E Line (Expo)
-  Major Roads
-  Local Roads
-  Parks and Open Space
-  Waterbody
-  Recreation Facilities

## Funding

Culver City will experience population and job growth through the 2045 General Plan horizon, which will lead to more demand for parks and recreational services and use of the City's existing parks and recreational facilities. As the City grows funding improvements will be necessary to ensure all have equitable access to parks, recreational facilities, and programming.

Many California cities require non-residential development projects to dedicate parkland or fees to support future park development. In Culver City, park and public space dedications from non-residential development are negotiated between the City and developers on a project-to-project basis. Given Culver City's growth in employment-generating uses in recent years, the City has missed opportunities to secure vital funding to expand parks and recreation facilities. A formal community benefits structure for parks and recreational capital funding could be an opportunity to receive land and/or financing for parks and recreation facilities. For larger mixed-use development, the City could also require dedicated public open space or recreational space as a condition of approval on grade, over structure or on project roof tops.

PRCS currently does not have adequate funding to support capital improvements or maintenance and operations. Consequently, the City's parks and recreational facilities are undermaintained, and will continue to be undermaintained throughout the

General Plan horizon. The General Plan identifies other strategies to fund maintenance and operations, such as community facilities districts and partnerships.

## Planned and Proposed Parks and Recreation Facilities

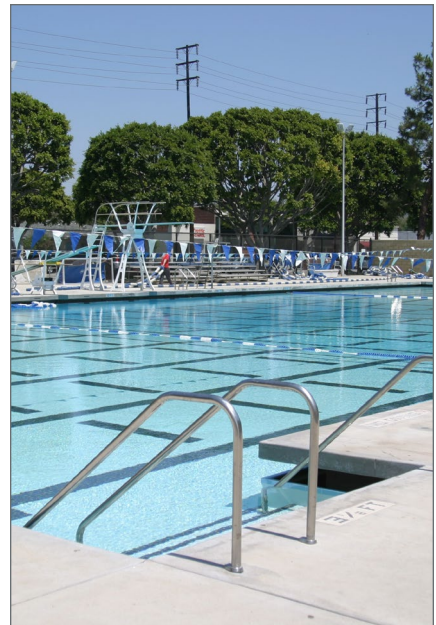
The General Plan provides an opportunity to advance a series of interconnected health, equity, and sustainability goals in the development of the parks and recreation system. The City has identified locations for planned or proposed trails and recreational facilities throughout the city, as shown in Figure 21. There are currently no planned or proposed parks. However, there are opportunities to strengthen the City's joint use agreements with local institutions.

## RECREATION

- **Joint use parks.** There are opportunities to strengthen joint use agreements with CCUSD and West Los Angeles College to improve access to open space and recreational facilities.
- **Veterans Memorial Complex.** There is a plan to bridge the City's aquatics center to the Teen Center, and open new community meeting rooms in this bridge.
- **New pool.** There is a plan to build a new lesson pool and update the Municipal Plunge as a warm pool for family use. The Municipal Plunge will also be updated with modern bathrooms.

## TRAILS

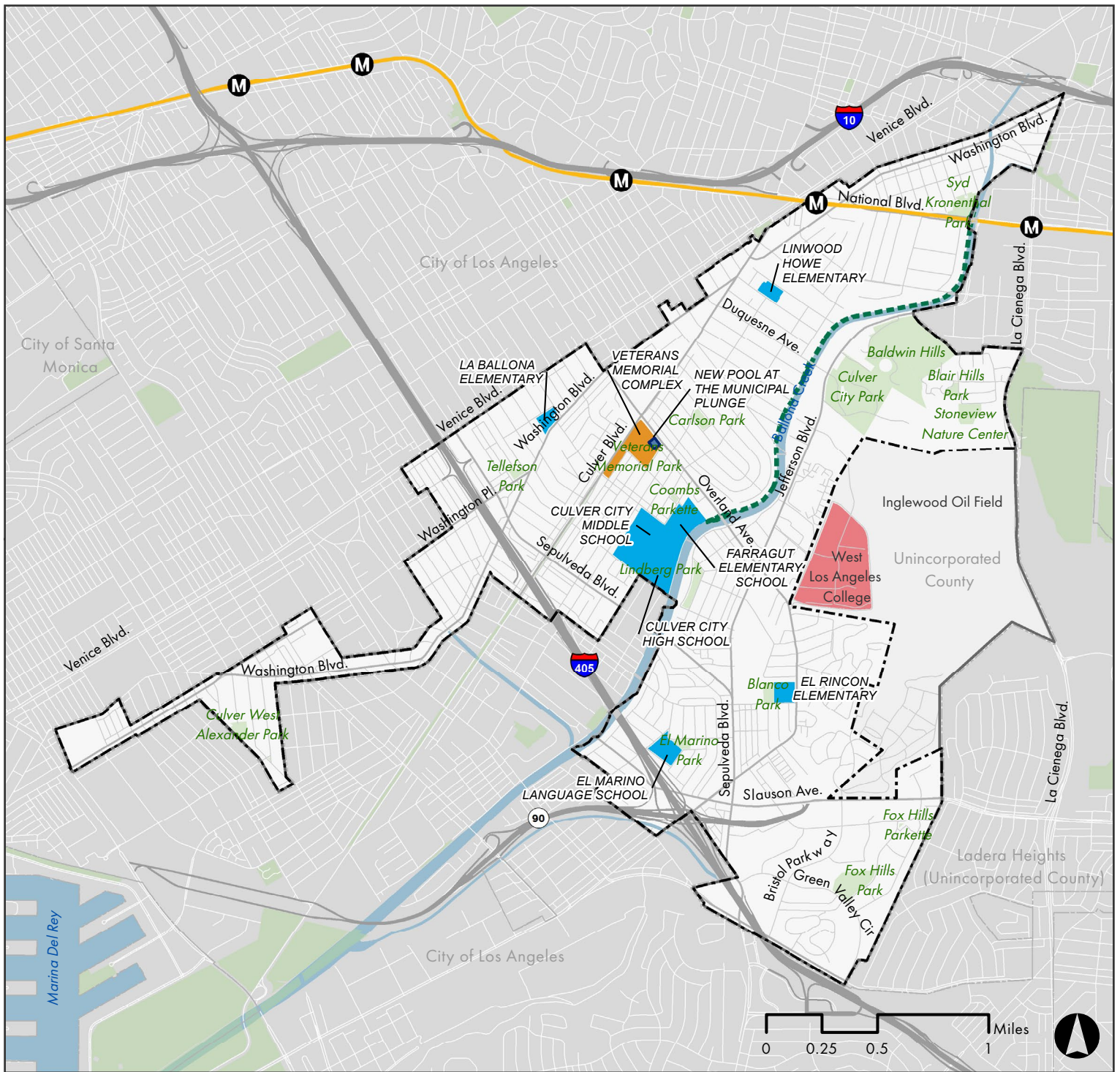
- **Ballona Creek.** There is a proposed two-mile extension of the multi-use path in the future development of Ballona Creek from Syd Kronenthal Park to Mid-City. This proposed extension would require coordination by key stakeholders, including Los Angeles County, Caltrans, the City of Culver City, the City of Los Angeles, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.



"The Plunge" community pool



Group photo at the opening of Milton Street Park along Ballona Creek



**FIGURE 21**

## Planned and Proposed Park and Recreational Facilities

Sources:  
 City of Culver City (2024);  
 County of Los Angeles (2021); ESRI (2021).

- City Limits
- Sphere of Influence
- M Metro Station
- E Line (Expo)
- Major Roads
- Local Roads
- Parks and Open Space
- Waterbody
- Trails
- Ballona Creek Trail Extension
- Joint Use Facilities**
- CCUSD Facilities
- West Los Angeles College
- The Municipal Plunge**
- New lesson pool and upgrade
- Veterans Memorial Complex**
- Bridging the aquatics center to the Teen Center



City Hall entrance at dusk

## Public Facilities and Libraries

Public facilities are critical for housing the City's administrative functions and municipal operations services, including transportation, waste collection and processing, and parks maintenance. The City owns and operates facilities used for government administrative purposes, utilities, and transportation, shown in Figure 22. The list below describes the City's public facilities and identifies proposed improvements:

- **City Hall.** City Hall is located in Downtown Culver City and houses many City Departments. The building is three stories with a two-level parking structure beneath.
- **Transportation Facility.** This facility houses the City's Transportation Department.
- **Public Works/Parks Maintenance Yard.** This facility is home to public works and maintenance operations.

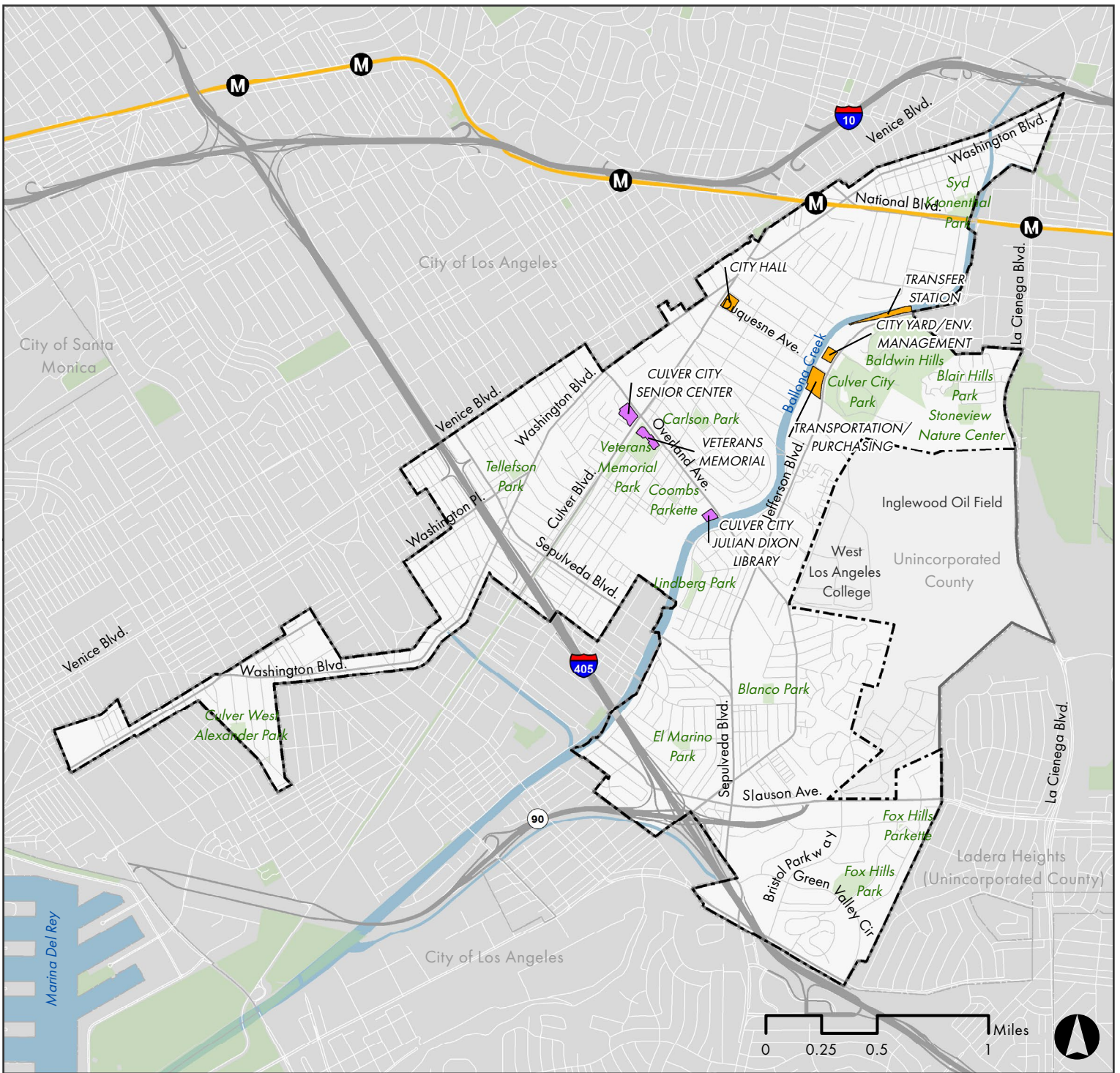
- **Transfer and Recycling Station.** The Transfer and Recycling Station is a processing site for the temporary deposition of waste and recycling and accepts waste from construction and demolition, dry industrial, municipal solid waste, and recyclable materials and organic waste. The City identified a need to expand this facility to implement on-site material sorting.

### Libraries

The Los Angeles County Public Library (LACPL) provides library services to the city through its branch, the Culver City Julian Dixon Library. The Culver City Julian Dixon Library was extensively remodeled and updated in 2016, and now features new computers, a children and family area, a homework center, and new furniture.

Though the City does not have its own library system, the General Plan

is an opportunity to strengthen the City's partnership with the LACPL and work together to further shared goals. The LACPL's Strategic Plan aims to affirm the library as a center for learning, transform the role of the library as a community space, and support and cultivate the community's creativity. These goals are similar to the aspirations to foster a more creative, empowered, socially-connected community, as described in the General Plan's Vision Statement and Guiding Principles.



**FIGURE 22**

**Public Facilities**

Sources:  
 City of Culver City (2024);  
 County of Los Angeles (2021);  
 ESRI (2021).

- City Limits
- Sphere of Influence
- M Metro Station
- E Line (Expo)
- Major Roads
- Local Roads
- Parks and Open Space
- Waterbody
- Government Facilities
- Civic and Cultural Facilities

## Schools

Culver City has a network of excellent public and private schools that provide learning opportunities for students of all ages. CCUSD serves Culver City's youth and offers public school programs, from preschool to K-12, and adult education courses. CCUSD operates five elementary schools, one middle school, one high school, one continuation high school, one alternative choice school, and one adult education school. Culver City also has six private elementary schools and various institutions offering higher education, including Antioch University Los Angeles, West Los Angeles College, and the Otis College of Art and Design Fine Arts Graduate Campus.

Because the City does not manage CCUSD schools or other educational institutions, the City has limited authority to impact curriculum, facilities, and operations of schools. However, the City can establish partnerships with educational institutions to enhance learning outcomes. Of particular importance is continued coordination with the CCUSD to apprise the District on impacts of population growth on school enrollment.



Parents participating in Safe Routes to School program in the city



Robert Frost Auditorium at Culver City High School

# POLICY FRAMEWORK

**Key:** Goal attributes.

● Equity & Inclusion

● Innovation & Creativity

● Sustainability

● Compassion & Community

## GOAL PR-1

**Equitable access. Equitable and safe access to parks, recreation, open spaces, and programming.**



For related policies and implementation actions connected to physical activity, see [Community Health and Environmental Justice Element Goal 4](#).

For related policies and implementation actions connected to active transportation, see [Mobility Element Goal 8](#).

For related policies and implementation actions connected to Ballona Creek, see [Conversation Element Goal 6](#), [Mobility Element Goal 9](#), and [Land Use Element Goal 17](#).

For a map of SB 1000 Neighborhoods in Culver City, see [Community Health and Environmental Justice Element](#).

**PR-1.1: Park walkability.** Strive for all residents to be within a ten-minute walk of parks, open spaces, and joint use facilities.

**PR-1.2: Capital projects.** Prioritize parks and recreation capital projects in SB 1000 Priority Neighborhoods and in areas where residents are not within a ten-minute walk to a park, open space, or joint use facility (see Figure 19: Park Access).

**PR-1.3: Parks and Recreation Master Plan.** Periodically update, adopt, and implement Parks and Recreation Master Plan recommendations, turf studies, and other plans following their corresponding timelines.

**PR-1.4: New parks.** Pursue new opportunities to develop parks and public space, including:

- Incorporating more green space, landscaping, and passive recreational uses onto City-owned property or land.
- Studying the potential to naturalize the Ballona Creek and incorporate new mini parks along the Creek.
- Developing parkettes/mini parks, woonerfs, and plazas, particularly in built-out areas (like Downtown) or neighborhoods in need of park space.
- Purchasing parcels to convert to parks in SB 1000 priority neighborhoods and areas not within a ten-minute walk of a park, as opportunities arise.
- Developing community gardens throughout the city, particularly in neighborhoods lacking convenient access to healthy foods.
- Identifying potential locations to extend curb bump-outs to reclaim

public space from roadways for uses such as parklets and gardens.

**PR-1.5: Linear parks system.** Enhance the linear parks system using sidewalks, trails, bicycle paths, transit stops, shared school recreational areas (public, private, charter), privately-owned publicly-accessible commercial open spaces, public parks, Ballona Creek, and other public lands to increase and enhance the value of parks and open space areas.

**PR-1.6: Accessibility.** Require publicly accessible park, recreation facilities, and public facilities to comply with the Americans with Disability Act (ADA).

**PR-1.7: Privately-owned public open spaces.** Partner with private property owners to understand how to program and use their privately-owned public spaces.

**PR-1.8: Ballona Creek path.** Extend the Ballona Creek path along both sides of the Creek where feasible.

**PR-1.9: Special Studies.** Continue to create and implement Special Studies for open space areas. They should include specific standards and guidelines to protect, develop, and enhance these open space resources.

**PR-1.10: Open space protection.** Protect and enhance the city's existing open spaces, including the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook.

**PR-1.11: Connections to parks and facilities.** Create an interconnected network of bicycle and pedestrian routes that connect people to parks, recreation facilities, open spaces, and public facilities and reduce reliance on cars.



## GOAL PR-2

**Facilities and amenities. High quality park facilities and amenities that meet the community's needs.**



**PR-2.1: Park and recreation facility amenities.** Develop parks, recreational facilities, and open spaces with amenities that meet the community's needs and preferences, including but not limited to dog parks, play areas for children, sports courts and fields, more meeting rooms, accessibility updates, a new gym, and updated parks buildings.

**PR-2.2: Veterans Memorial Complex.** Continue the City's efforts in planning for updates to the Veterans Memorial Complex, including a new pool, upgrades to the Municipal Plunge, updated aquatics buildings, and new meeting rooms.

**PR-2.3: Free public internet.** Provide free public internet access at City parks, recreational facilities, and public facilities.

**PR-2.4: Lighting.** Maintain nighttime lighting to enable greater availability of park and sports field use, taking appropriate steps to avoid impacts of excess noise and light exposure on nearby residents.

**PR-2.5: Shade.** Where feasible, incorporate shade structure in City parks.

**PR-2.6: Flexible use.** When developing new and renovating existing recreational facilities, incorporate multi-purposes spaces.

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## GOAL PR-3

**Maintenance. Parks, recreational facilities, and public facilities are well-maintained and upgraded.**



**PR-3.1: Maintenance funding and standards.** Secure funding for park and recreational facility maintenance and establish standards to ensure parks and facilities are adequately maintained.

**PR-3.2: Park evaluation.** Regularly evaluate parks (once per year) to make sure they are safe for all users. Promote all users to coexist by incorporating adequate lighting, providing clear sight lines, orienting buildings

towards parks, and incorporating wayfinding signage.

**PR-3.3: Public Works Department coordination.** Coordinate with the Public Works Department to ensure that PRCS facilities are audited in their Facility Master Plan.

**PR-3.4: Parks and recreation staffing.** Provide adequate staffing to maintain high-quality parks and recreational facilities.

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## GOAL PR-4

**Community-serving programs. Programming meets the community's health, educational, social, and safety needs.**



*For related policies and implementation actions connected arts and culture in the City's parks, recreational facilities, and public facilities, see [Arts, Culture, and Creative Economy Element Goal 4](#).*

**PR-4.1: Varied programming.** Provide a variety of programming to ensure all residents have opportunities to live healthy, active, and civically-engaged lives, including programs for seniors and adults, youth sports, aquatics, camps for youth, park ambassador programs, and more.

**PR-4.2: Arts and cultural programming.** Incorporate arts and cultural programming in City parks and public facilities.

**PR-4.3: Community events and festivals.** Program community events and festivals in parks and gathering

spaces throughout the city, prioritizing areas with significant foot traffic and/or areas lacking convenient park access.

**PR-4.4: Partnerships with local community organizations and businesses for community services.** Partner with local community organizations and businesses to provide community services in parks, including services for seniors, programming in languages other than English, or culturally relevant activities, and services for or outreach to individuals experiencing homelessness.

**PR-4.5: Partnerships to support recreational programming.**

Develop partnerships to support recreational programming with community organizations and non-profit organizations, including arts-related programming (e.g., a mobile stage).

**PR-4.6: Equitable programming.**

Develop and promote classes, events, tours, and other programming that everyone in Culver City, regardless of age, income level, or ability, can equitably access.

**PR-4.7: Community engagement.**

As part of regular community engagement, survey user groups of current programming in languages spoken in Culver City, and identify underrepresented groups (e.g. teenagers, parents of young children, older adults), and work with these groups and organizations to develop specific programming to meet their needs (e.g., youth programming for girls, culturally diverse programming, more preschool classes, amenities for disabled residents, senior programming).

**PR-4.8: Participation in City-run enrichment programs.**

Ensure that young people, especially youth from historically disenfranchised communities, are involved in City-run enrichment programs.

**PR-4.9: Childcare.**

Expand availability of affordable childcare and preschool for people of all income levels, with particular emphasis on lower-income families.

**PR-4.10: Program promotion.**

Use innovative strategies to promote PRCS programs, including information kiosks, posting information at businesses and public places, advertising on the City's community access channel, placing signs and screens at parks and public facilities, movie theaters, utility bill inserts, and local newspapers.

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**GOAL PR-5**

***Funding and resources. Parks, recreational facilities, and public facilities have improved funding mechanisms for maintenance and capital improvement projects.***



**PR-5.1: Dedications from private developers.**

Require developers to dedicate land and/or contribute fees to support park and recreational facility development.

**PR-5.2: Parks, Recreation and Community Services project review.**

Involve PRCS in project review to ensure community benefits are included in alignment with department goals.

**PR-5.3: Leasing parks and outdoor open spaces.**

Lease parts of parks and other outdoor open spaces to private businesses and non-profit organizations to activate the space with programs and activities, such as vendors, food trucks, exercise programs, and events and festivals.

**PR-5.4: Alternative funding sources for parks and recreation.**

Seek alternative sources of funding for parks and recreational facilities.

## GOAL PR-6

**Sustainable parks and recreational system and public facilities.** Environmentally sustainable practices and education are a cornerstone of the parks, recreation, and open space system and the City's public facilities.



For related policies and implementation actions connected to sustainability, see [Greenhouse Gas Reduction Element Goal 6](#).

### PR-6.1: Sustainability education.

Educate the community about sustainability within the City's parks and recreation system.

### PR-6.2: Sustainability information.

Incorporate educational signage and plaques related to sustainability in Culver City parks and recreational facilities. The signage and plaques should inform users about sustainable practices the City is undertaking and educate the community on ways they can be more sustainable.

### PR-6.3: Sustainability workshops and programming.

Host educational sustainability workshops and programming in City parks and facilities, in partnership with community organizations and local non-profit organizations.

### PR-6.4: Carbon footprint reduction.

Reduce the carbon footprint of the park, recreational facilities, and other public facilities and green spaces the City owns.

### PR-6.5:Vegetation management.

Manage vegetation at parks and open spaces in Culver City to support biodiversity by reducing pesticide use, reducing light pollution, and planting native and non-native species that provide valuable resources for native wildlife and increase resilience.

**PR-6.6: Wildlife movement.** Support the movement of, and recourses for, native wildlife in parks and open spaces.

**PR-6.7: Tree canopy.** Maintain a healthy tree canopy.

**PR-6.8: Biodiversity in parks and open spaces.** Evaluate park and open space improvements for their role in a well-connected parks and open spaces system and their ability to support biodiversity, enable the movement of wildlife, and increase resilience.

**PR-6.9: Collaborative watershed projects.** Pursue collaborative watershed projects as part of park capital improvement projects (e.g. use cisterns for water retention and irrigation, floodable sports fields, etc.).

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## GOAL PR-7

**Public facilities. Public facilities in Culver City, including libraries and City-owned facilities, offer high-quality services to the community.**



For related policies and implementation actions connected to sustainability, see [Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goal 6](#).

For related policies and implementation actions connected to green buildings, see [Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goal 2](#).

### PR-7.1: Public facility maintenance.

Maintain and continue to modernize and adjust configuration of public facilities, including City Hall, The Transportation Facility, the Public Works/Parks Maintenance Yard, and the Transfer and Recycling Station. Continue to reinvest in existing facilities to extend their useful lifetimes.

### PR-7.2: Long term operations and maintenance cost reduction.

Identify ways to reduce the City's long-term operations and maintenance costs, such as adapting more energy-efficient technologies for facilities, using low-water landscape palettes, and using recycled water for irrigation.

### PR-7.3: Programming on City-owned facilities.

Continue to program events, update landscapes, and incorporate art on City-owned public facilities, including City Hall, to create more welcoming, activated, attractive, and unique places.

### PR-7.4: Partnerships with the Los Angeles County Public Library.

Establish and maintain partnerships with the Los Angeles County Public Library and collaborate to provide targeted programming and outreach to students in need of tutoring, mentoring, after-school programming, and other support outside of the classroom.

## **GOAL PR-8**

***Educational opportunities. Students have access to exceptional educational opportunities at institutions in Culver City and through partnerships cultivated by the City.***



### **PR-8.1: Partnerships with CCUSD.**

Formalize partnership with the CCUSD to apprise the District on major development and population trends that may impact student enrollment and share data.

### **PR-8.2: Siting of school facilities.**

Work closely with educational institutions to site new schools and facilities near parks, bike paths, and trails.

### **PR-8.3: Opportunities for students.**

Collaborate with CCUSD and higher educational institutions in the city to develop internships, job shadowing, capstones, and other opportunities targeted to students.

### **PR-8.4: Opportunities to purchase CCUSD facilities.**

Consider purchasing CCUSD facilities for community use in the event declining enrollment leads to school closures.

# IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

**Key:** Types of actions may include partnership, program, study, plan, physical improvements, and more.

**Key:** Timeframe icons for implementation actions table.

●  
Short-term  
1-5 Years

● ●  
Medium-term  
5-10 Years

● ● ●  
Long-term  
10+ Years

▶▶▶▶▶  
Ongoing

Implementation Action	Associated Goal(s)	Timeframe	Type of Action	Primary Responsibility	Secondary Responsibility
<b>IA.PR-1: Create Parks and Recreation Master Plan.</b> Create a City's Park and Recreation Master Plan (PRMP) to maintain a park standard of 3 acres per 1,000 residents and meet current and future needs, particularly in SB 1000 priority neighborhoods. Update the PRMP every five to ten years.	PR-1	●	Plan	Parks, Recreation, and Community Services	–
<b>IA.PR-2: Temporary parks.</b> Establish pop-up programming and mobile recreational services, especially focused on SB 1000 neighborhoods.	PR-1	●	Program	Parks, Recreation, and Community Services	–
<b>IA.PR-3: Joint use agreements.</b> Develop and maintain joint use agreements in collaboration with the Culver City Unified School District, private schools, Los Angeles Metro, and West Los Angeles College to allow the public to use sports fields, open spaces, community gardens, and recreational facilities.	PR-1	●	Partnership	Parks, Recreation, and Community Services	–
<b>IA.PR-4: Ballona Creek linear park.</b> Study potential for using assessor or developer fees to transform Ballona Creek into a linear park.	PR-1	● ●	Study	Public Works	Economic Development

Implementation Action	Associated Goal(s)	Timeframe	Type of Action	Primary Responsibility	Secondary Responsibility
<p><b>IA.PR-5: Bicycle and pedestrian connections.</b> Prepare a strategy to comprehensively assess and improve bicycle and pedestrian connections to and between parks, open spaces, recreation facilities, activity centers, and major transit services. The strategy should consider developing additional public access points to key destinations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Between neighborhoods and open space resources like Ballona Creek, Culver City Park, the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook, and Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area.</li> <li>• Between neighborhoods and other parks and publicly-accessible private open spaces.</li> <li>• Between linear open space and activity nodes in the city like Downtown, the Culver City Metro Station, commercial and employment centers, and parks and schools, to reduce vehicle trips and promote multimodal travel and commuter use.</li> <li>• To and from Ballona Creek via access points and pedestrian and bicycle bridge crossings.</li> </ul>	PR-1	● ●	Study	Public Works	Planning and Development; Parks, Recreation, and Community Services
<p><b>IA.PR-6: Capital improvement plans for amenity updates.</b> Create a joint process for Public Works and PRCS to coordinate capital improvement plans. Ensure park and recreational facilities are maintained and upgraded to meet community needs.</p>	PR-2	● ●	Plan	Parks, Recreation, and Community Services	Public Works
<p><b>IA.PR-7: Park and recreation maintenance standards.</b> Establish parks and recreation maintenance standards and require all parks and recreation facilities to be periodically evaluated in condition assessment reports (every 1 to 3 years) following their corresponding timelines.</p>	PR-3	●	Study	Parks, Recreation, and Community Services	Public Works

Implementation Action	Associated Goal(s)	Timeframe	Type of Action	Primary Responsibility	Secondary Responsibility
<b>IA.PR-8: Impacts of investments.</b> Develop a process to regularly evaluate impact of public investments to ensure equitable distribution of services and programming.	PR-4	●	Study	Parks, Recreation, and Community Services	Public Works
<b>IA.PR-9: Engaging young people.</b> Identify and pilot new ways to engage young people and their families who have not previously participated in City-run enrichment programs.	PR-4	●	Study	Parks, Recreation, and Community Services	–
<b>IA.PR-10: Parkland dedication.</b> Study establishing requirements for non-residential developments to dedicate parkland, per community benefits agreements, or linkage fees, per Fee Mitigation Act.	PR-5	● ●	Study	Planning and Development	–
<b>IA.PR-11: Revisions to City's Parkland and In-Lieu Fee Ordinance.</b> Initiate a study to revise the City's Parkland and In-Lieu Fee Ordinance to make the following changes to park dedication for residential projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjusting the density factor for housing types.</li> <li>• Including language in the ordinance that requires appraising the park property to be dedicated with infrastructure in place, i.e., roads, curbs, sewers, water, and utilities to the site.</li> <li>• Adding a section that applies a "flat rate in-lieu fee" to residential development, whereby a house is being added on to or replaced with a single family unit that is over 50% greater in building square footage than the existing single family unit on the same parcel.</li> </ul>	PR-5	● ●	Ordinance / Code Amendment	Planning and Development	–

Implementation Action	Associated Goal(s)	Timeframe	Type of Action	Primary Responsibility	Secondary Responsibility
<p><b>IA.PR-12: Strategy for alternative sources of park and recreation funding.</b> Comprehensively review potential park funding mechanisms for operations/maintenance and capital improvements. Develop a coordinated, multi-departmental strategy to seek new and augmented funding sources, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seeking grants from private and public sources to fund capital improvements.</li> <li>• Developing partnerships and sponsorships with local organizations and companies to fund major projects and maintenance.</li> <li>• Considering bonds and tax measures.</li> <li>• Establishing assessment districts to fund park maintenance and capital improvement projects.</li> <li>• Expanding fee-based recreational programming.</li> </ul>	PR-5	● ●	Study	Parks, Recreation, and Community Services	Public Works; Planning and Development



Implementation Action	Associated Goal(s)	Timeframe	Type of Action	Primary Responsibility	Secondary Responsibility
<p><b>IA.PR-13: Sustainability strategy for the City’s parks, recreation facilities, and public facilities.</b> Create a joint process for Public Works and PRCS to coordinate an environmental sustainability strategy for the City’s parks and recreation facilities that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporates drought-tolerant landscaping and/or native landscaping in City parks, recreational facilities, City buildings, and other City-owned facilities.</li> <li>• Reduces potable water use through recycled water, grey-water, and smart irrigation systems.</li> <li>• Introduces rainwater capture mechanisms in City parks and recreation facilities.</li> <li>• Incorporates permeable paving in City parks.</li> <li>• Continually improves indoor and outdoor energy use, including light through retro-commissioning, retrofits, and lighting upgrades.</li> <li>• Installs additional Electric Vehicle (EV) chargers at suitable recreational facilities and community parks.</li> </ul>	PR-6	● ●	Plan	Parks, Recreation, and Community Services	Public Works
<p><b>IA.PR-14: Guidelines for landscape design and planting.</b> Evaluate creating guidelines for landscape design and planting to support native species and non-native species that provide valuable resources for native wildlife.</p>	PR-6	● ●	Plan	Public Works	Parks, Recreation, and Community Services
<p><b>IA.PR-15: Urban Forest Master Plan.</b> Implement and update the Urban Forest Master Plan every five to ten years.</p>	PR-6	● ●	Plan	Public Works	–
<p><b>IA.PR-16: Transfer and Recycle Station updates.</b> Study potential for expanding the Transfer and Recycling Station to implement on-site material sorting.</p>	PR-7	● ●	Study	Public Works	–

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