

SECTION 4

PROPOSALS

Section 4 PROPOSALS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

The proposals in this Parks and Recreation Master Plan can be accomplished by upgrading existing neighborhood parks, acquiring and developing new parks or expanding existing mini-parks where it is not cost-effective to acquire or construct a neighborhood park. These parks should be connected with trails linking the community with recreation opportunities and natural open space areas. Added to this park and open space system should be a number of special use sites providing specialized recreation areas, sports fields, and other indoor and outdoor recreation facilities.

On the Facility Plan, existing parks are identified by name only: an asterisk and temporary name identifies future park sites. The proposed parks are not parcel specific, the intent being only to show a general location of where a park site should be reserved.

The location and arrangement of the neighborhood park system is designed to serve the City when it is fully developed.

The plan covers the planning area, as defined earlier in the document. Facilities in the Wiard Park District (shaded yellow area) are shown, but not referenced to individual sites unless they are City-owned.

Objective: *Develop needed park facilities.*

Policy 1. The development of existing parks and the acquisition of new sites in and adjacent to rapidly growing areas and areas which are deficient in park facilities should be given priority.

Policy 2. When feasible, the City should acquire land for parks and preserves in advance of urban growth and development. Land may be acquired and left undeveloped until funding becomes available for development.

Policy 3. Park acquisition, development and rehabilitation efforts should be concentrated on sites larger than one acre, except where significant resources merit protection or where a mini-park would provide the only available park site in a neighborhood. Mini-parks should be acquired only if no other option exists for larger park sites, and development of existing mini-parks can satisfy the demand for play or picnic areas.

Policy 4. The City should ensure all new park and recreation proposals are thoroughly evaluated for impacts on routine operation and maintenance costs as well as for park and recreation purposes.

Policy 5. Acquisition of special use areas should not take priority over other important recreation opportunities such as land acquisition, or upgrading/development of new and existing park sites.

Objective: *Promote maximum cooperation between the City and private individuals and organization with regard to park, recreation and open space development.*

Policy 6. The City should encourage development of park and recreational opportunities by the private sector.

Objective: Closely coordinate with other public and private agencies involved in providing park and recreation opportunities.

Policy 7. The City should encourage expansion of park, recreational, and open space opportunities on government lands and consider siting new park facilities on or adjacent to these lands where appropriate.

Policy 8. Unless a willing landowner has been identified, locations proposed for future parks should be considered schematic only and may be located on any suitable lands in the general vicinity.

Policy 9. The City should cooperate with other government entities and private non-profit organizations to provide park, recreation and open space opportunities for existing and future residents.

Policy 10. The City should encourage park development adjacent to elementary, junior and senior high schools to benefit from shared use of land and facilities. A joint-use program with local school districts or private schools should be pursued, where feasible, to develop necessary agreements for cost sharing arrangements for parks near schools.

Objective: Provide various mechanisms for funding park and recreation facilities.

Policy 11. Parklands should be acquired by the city through a variety of means including, but not limited to, purchase, gifts, conservation easements, fees and conditions of approval, provided that the scope of such conditions are in rough proportion to the nature and extent of the proposed development.

Policy 12. The City should, where applicable, encourage cooperative park development and management programs which include appropriate cost-sharing mechanisms with special districts that provide park services. Joint powers agreements between agencies may be developed to provide for acquisition, development and/or operation of parks in this context.

Objective: Increase availability of city parks and recreation facilities.

Policy 13. The City should provide barrier-free access (as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act) to all new park development. Existing parks should be upgraded to include barrier-free access unless this would not be financially practical or the upgrade would fundamentally alter the nature of the service, program or activity.

Policy 14. The City should consider the importance of security and safety in any modifications to existing parks and in the design of new parks.

Objective: Target park use.

Policy 15. The City should design parks and recreation facilities to serve all age groups with particular emphasis placed on facilities and organized activities for school-aged youth and seniors.

Policy 16. The City should design and develop regional park sites to meet a wide range of activities and interests but should emphasize the features that make it unique.

Objective: Pursue suitable park and recreational opportunities.

Policy 17. The City should update specific park plans for existing parks and develop park plans for parks without detailed layouts. Priority should be given to those parks without plans and those that contain undeveloped acreage.

Policy 18. The City should encourage active public participation in city parks and recreation through programs such as Adopt-A-Park, community efforts with fundraising and volunteerism, and by continually evaluating public satisfaction with park and recreation facilities in the city.

Objective: *Provide a variety of enjoyable hiking, biking and riding experiences.*

Policy 19. To route trails over public lands whenever possible. Where public lands are not available, or where significant environmental or economic impacts are identified, routing across private property may be considered only in the following instances:

- A. As funds are available, across those lands where a willing seller has been identified, provided that sufficient funds are available for on-going maintenance and the assumption of liability responsibility and insurance for as long as the public trail shall exist.
- B. As a condition of approval in conjunction with a development proposal or subdivision, provided it can be clearly shown that the easement dedication being sought is in balance with the level of development being proposed.

Policy 20. To fully indemnify, protect and hold harmless (including all costs and attorney's fees) private property owners who dedicate or grant a public trails easement from, and against, those risks and damages which arise out of the use of a trail easement by the public and which, in good conscience, should not be borne by the private property owner.

Policy 21. To assure that if, for any reason, the public trail easement is abandoned, or if the liability acceptance is discontinued, the trail easement shall revert to underlying property owner(s).

Policy 22. To assure the reasonable protection of adjacent public and private properties. Security to protect the neighboring private property may include:

- A. Trail fencing to encourage the prevention of trespass of trail users onto neighboring land and/or activities of the neighboring land uses, from infringing on the trail activities.
- B. As necessary, the imposition of enforceable limitations on the trail use; including, but not limited to, the posting of rules and regulations, patrolling to guarantee the security of both the trail users and neighboring properties, and/or the prohibition of firearms on the trails.
- C. Where feasible, a system of permits to assure the user knows and understands the safe and appropriate use of City trails.

4.2 PARK PROPOSALS

On the following pages specific recommendations are made for parks, open space, and other recreation facilities. These are also referenced on the Facility Plan map. This is followed by recommendations for trails, specialized recreation facilities, and landscaped/beautification areas. The final part of this section includes recommendations for recreation programs as well as administrative, management, and maintenance operations.

The following standards apply to the acquisition, design, and development of parks, open space areas, specialized facilities, and trail systems. Once adopted by the City, they will provide direction to all parties involved in how to deal with park and recreation issues. All new facilities must meet current ADA standards. Prior to any park being developed a neighborhood meeting(s) will be held to create a site specific plan addressing neighborhood concerns and potential amenities for the park.

MINI-PARKS

Definition:

Mini-parks, tot lots, or children's playgrounds are all small, single-purpose playlots designed primarily for use by small children. Also included are pocket parks located in commercial or residential areas. Because of their size, the facilities found at these sites are usually limited to a small open grass area, a children's playground and a picnic area. On a per-unit basis, mini-parks are expensive to construct and maintain, and generally attract very little adult use unless located in a commercial or mixed-use area. However, they can satisfy the demand for play or picnic areas in a small space. A nearby school playground, if appropriately designed and available for use, can often meet this need.

Development Criteria:

1. There is no size requirement for mini-parks, although it is preferred they be at least a half acre in size.
2. Each mini-park should be equipped with an automatic irrigation system.
3. Appropriate facilities include:
 - Children's playground equipment
 - Open grass play area
 - Picnic tables or benches
 - Turf and shade trees
4. Site selection criteria:
 - The site should be central to the area it serves and be relatively level.
 - If possible, walking distance should not exceed one-quarter mile, and not require crossing of busy streets, unless located in a commercial area.
5. Mini-parks may be permitted in new subdivisions if the developer builds them and a homeowners association is created to pay for their maintenance.

**Table 6
Summary of Mini-Park Recommendations
Klamath Falls Planning Area**

Name	Acres	Action/Comments
Proposed Basin View Parks (6)	6.00	Acquisition/planning/development
Eldorado Park	0.40	Major improvements
Henderson Park	0.60	Major improvements
Pacific Terrace Park	0.60	Minor upgrade
Richmond Park	0.60	Major improvements
Stukel Park	0.70	Minor improvements

Specific Recommendations:

Proposed Basin View Parks 6 @ 1 acre each

The proposed mini-parks are part of the overall Master Plan for the Basin View Planned Unit Development. The Master Plan was approved in 1996 and is located at the eastern edge of the Urban Growth Boundary, south of Old Fort Road and north of Foothills Boulevard. These parks would serve the residents of the Basin View development.

Eldorado Park 0.40 acre

This site is located in the Pacific Terrace section of the city. It is a triangular parcel bordered on three sides by Eldorado Avenue, Esplanade Street, and Earle Streets. Single-family homes face onto the park. The site currently has little by way of amenities.

The site's proximity to single-family residential homes makes it ideal for serving the surrounding neighborhoods needs.

Henderson Park 0.60 acre

This mini-park is located on a block of Henderson Street between Wendling and Henry Streets. The site measures 0.60 acres in size, and has a slight slope, which enables it to be used as a sledding hill by neighborhood children. The park is in close proximity to Ponderosa Junior High School and is surrounded by single-family residential homes.

In the past, the City did not maintain this park and asked the local neighborhood to assume this responsibility. The City paid for the water use. There has been discussion in the past about selling the site. However, due to its critical location and lack of alternative park sites, this park site must be retained in order to meet the needs of the neighborhood.

Pacific Terrace Park 0.60 acre

This site is located in the Pacific Terrace section of the city. It is a triangular parcel bordered on three sides by Pacific Terrace, Esplanade Street, and Earle Streets. It is located to the northeast of Eldorado Park. Single-family homes face onto the park. While classified as a mini-park, the site consists of only a bench and shade trees. The site's proximity to single-family residential homes makes it ideal for serving the surrounding neighborhoods needs. Some expansion of facilities, such as adding a small picnic area and additional benches, could serve the neighborhood better.

Richmond Park 0.60 acre

This park is located west of the downtown, within the Central Area. The park is bordered by McKinley Street and 3rd Street and exists in a triangular configuration. Because of the existing residential development, there is little opportunity to expand this park or acquire a new park site. This park needs to be upgraded as it must serve the needs of the existing neighborhood.

Stukel Park

0.70 acre

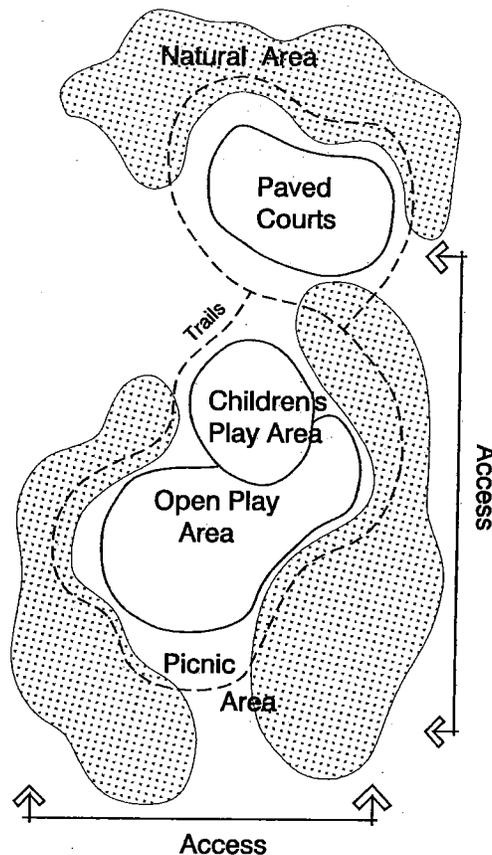
This park is located in the Mills Neighborhood, bordered on three sides by Stukel Street, Orchard Avenue, and Martin Street. Mills-Kiwanis Park is close to this mini-park, but due to the high level of development at Stukel Park and the high residential density of the surrounding neighborhood, it is recommended that this mini-park remain.

This park has been subject to considerable vandalism, which along with old play equipment, has left it in a run-down appearance. There is no guarantee that new recreation facilities will not receive the same treatment. As a result, the park will require constant monitoring to see that equipment is not damaged or park users safety is not compromised. There are a few minor improvements to the site needed to improve the overall quality of the park.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Definition:

Neighborhood parks are typically a combination playground and park designed for non-organized recreation activities. They are generally small in size and serve residents living within approximately one-half mile radius of the park. Since these parks are located within walking and bicycling distance of most users, the activities they offer become a daily pastime for most residents of the neighborhoods.



**Figure 2
Neighborhood Park
Diagram**

Development Criteria:

1. Under most conditions, neighborhood parks should be no smaller than about five acres in size, with optimum size being 7 - 10 acres. If located next to a school site, optimum park size may be reduced to 3 - 5 acres, depending upon the school facilities provided.
2. At least 50% of the site should be flat and usable, providing for active and passive uses.
3. Automatic irrigation systems should be included in all neighborhood parks
4. Appropriate facilities include:
 - Unstructured open play areas for softball, soccer, youth baseball etc.
 - Children's playground
 - Paved games court (tennis, basketball, etc.)
 - Picnic areas
 - Group structure
5. Parking Requirements: Minimum of three spaces per acre of usable active park area. If on-street parking is available, this standard can be reduced by one car for every 25 feet of available street frontage. Design should encourage access by foot or bicycle, and provide bicycle racks at each primary access point.
6. Site selection criteria:
 - The site should be reasonably central to the neighborhood it is intended to serve.
 - If possible, walking or bicycling distance should not exceed one-half mile for the area it serves. Access routes should minimize physical barriers, and crossing of major arterials.
 - The site should be relatively visible from adjoining streets and have a minimum of 100' of street frontage.
 - Access to the site should be via a local residential street. If located on a busy street, incorporate buffers and/or barriers necessary to reduce vehicular hazards and noise.

**Table 7
Summary of Neighborhood Park Recommendations**

Name	Acres	Action/Comments
Proposed Balsam Park	7.00	Acquisition/planning/development
Proposed Basin View Parks (3)	21.00	Acquisition/planning/development
Proposed East Klamath Park	7.00	Acquisition/planning/development
Fairview Park	3.10	Major improvements
Kit Carson Park	9.10	Major improvements
Krause Park	2.80	Minor improvements
Mills Kiwanis Park	2.40	Minor improvements
Proposed Pine Valley Park	5.00	Acquisition/planning/development
Proposed Southside Park	5.00	Acquisition/planning/development
Proposed Southview Parks (2)	10.00	Acquisition/planning/development
Proposed South Stewart-Lenox	3.00	Acquisition/planning/development

Specific Recommendations:

Proposed Balsam Park 7 acres

This proposed site is located in the Stewart-Lennox area. Due to the low density of residential development that currently exists in the area, this park will need to serve an area larger than a one-half mile radius. It is recommended that a seven acre neighborhood park be developed with additional amenities to serve a larger area.

Proposed Basin View Parks 3 @ 7 acres each

These proposed sites are located in the center of the Basin View area. There is no development in the area currently, but a Master Plan has been approved that offers a combination of single and multi-family residential homes. Whatever type of development does take place in the area, neighborhood park sites of seven acres should be acquired in the area. After acquisition, the site could be developed concurrently with any large scale subdivision that should be approved for the area, to serve the needs of the future population. This site should also be connected to the proposed Youth Sports Complex, as well as the OC&E Trail and Ridgeline Trail.

Proposed East Klamath Park 7 acres

This proposed site is located in an outlying portion of the planning area. The location is currently cut off from the rest of the planning area by the Wiard Park District. The area is not heavily developed, but has the potential to be, and is in a location where future development will occur. It is recommended that a seven acre neighborhood park be developed on this site.

Fairview Park 3.10 acres

This existing neighborhood park is located north of downtown in the Central area. It is directly north of the Linkville Cemetery, on a parcel between Worden and Lancaster Avenue. The park is 3.10 acres in size and is surrounded by single-family residential homes. The site offers excellent views of the surrounding hills. The park needs some improvements in order to better serve the neighborhood. Fairview Elementary School is approximately two blocks away and has proposed to expand its playground.

Kit Carson Park 9.10 acres

This park is a 9.10 acre neighborhood park, located in a single-family residential neighborhood in the Pacific Terrace area. The park is located on Delores Avenue, between Painter and Manzanita Streets. The west side of the park is constrained by Kit Carson Way, allowing access only from the east and south. The "A" Canal Trail runs adjacent to the park, connecting the site to OIT to the north and numerous other parks to the south. The park is large enough to support a number of diverse uses, both for the immediate residential users as well as other residents of the community.

The park's close proximity to existing homes and limited access suggests that this park limit the amount of facilities and activities that would generate substantial amounts of automobile traffic. Residents have voiced concern over increased traffic to and from the park. Possible additions to the park include:

- Construct additional parking spaces
- Upgrade the backstop and existing sport fields
- Construct a picnic shelter/pavilion
- Add a full basketball court
- Add a youth playground structure
- Upgrade the irrigation system
- Resurface the existing tennis courts
- Construct an ADA accessible restroom building
- Add seating and picnic tables

Krause Park**2.80 acres**

This existing neighborhood park is located in the Lakefront neighborhood. Its trapezoidal shape is bordered by Melhase Avenue to the north, and Bly, Bismark, and Hanks Streets on the remaining sides. It is 2.80 acres in size, and contains a number of new park facilities. The park serves the adjacent developing neighborhood, which consists of primarily single-family homes. The park is currently adequate to serve the surrounding area, and will be connected to the overall park system by the Klamath Falls Loop trail. The only improvement to the park could be addition of picnic tables.

Mills Kiwanis Park**2.4 acres**

This is a 2.40 acre neighborhood park, located in the center of the Mills Neighborhood. The park is bordered on the north and south by Applegate and Reclamation Avenues, and on the east and west by Division and Mitchell Streets. The park has had problems with vandalism and crime in the past. New park elements added to the site should be as vandal-proof as possible.

Proposed Pine Valley Park**5.00 acres**

This proposed park site is located west of the existing Lynnewood subdivision south of Moore Park. This area has great potential for residential development as well as being an area of high natural open space value. As a result, a large portion of the area has been given the *Recreation Resource Conservation* designation. This is not to say that the area cannot be developed, but if it is, it must also meet certain open space needs. See page IV-16 for more description of this designation.

Since this area will probably be developed with residential uses, some park sites will be needed. It is recommended that a five-acre neighborhood park site be acquired on the hill to serve the proposed population that will live in this area. This site should be connected to Moore Park by the proposed Pine Valley and Southview Trails.

Proposed Southside Park**5 acres**

This site is proposed for the outlying south portion of the planning area and is bordered by the airport on the south and Wiard Park District on the north. This area is still developing, and build-out will provide an adequate number of people to support this neighborhood facility. Due to the low potential for acquiring a larger site, as well as the small population that is being served at this time, it is recommended that a five acre neighborhood park be developed.

Proposed Southview Parks

2 @ 5 acres each

This proposed site is located south of Moore Park. This area has great potential for residential development, as well as being an area of high natural open space value. As a result, a large portion of the area has been given the title Moore Mountain Open Space. This is not to say that the area cannot be developed, but if it is, it must also meet certain open space needs.

Since this area will be developed with residential uses, some park sites will be needed. It is recommended that a five acre neighborhood park site be acquired on the hill to serve the proposed population that will live in this area. This site should be connected to Moore Park by the proposed Pine Valley and Southview Trails.

Proposed South Stewart-Lenox Park

3 acres

The community of Stewart-Lenox is divided by Highway 66 and the proposed Balsam Park would be sited in the northern portion of the area. A smaller neighborhood park should be sited on the south side of Greensprings Drive to serve the immediate neighborhood.

REGIONAL PARKS

Definition:

Regional parks are recreational areas that serve the City and the area beyond. They are usually large sites which often include one specific use or feature, such as a lake, that makes the park unique. Typically, use focuses on a mixture of active and passive types of recreation activities. Regional parks located within an urban area sometimes offer a wider range of facilities and activities. Most of these parks attract large numbers of people from a wide region.

Development Criteria:

1. Size will be dependent upon the site itself and the facilities offered.
2. Possible facilities include:
 - Viewpoints
 - Trail systems
 - Special or unique physical natural features (river, lake, ridgeline, etc.)
 - Single-purpose, specialized facilities
 - Picnic areas
 - Open play areas
 - Interpretive facilities
 - Large group picnic/game areas
 - Restrooms
 - Automatic irrigation systems (in developed portions)
3. Parking requirements: dependent upon the activities offered.

4. Location criteria:

- Location is most often determined by the features it can offer.
- Access should be from an arterial or collector street if traffic volumes to the park are high.
- Environmentally sensitive areas may be appropriate if protected from overuse.

**Table 8
Summary of Regional Park Recommendations**

Name	Acres	Action/Comments
Moore Park	435.00	Minor improvements
Proposed Old Fort Park	10.00	Acquisition/planning/development

Specific Recommendations:

Moore Park 435 acres

This existing regional park is the most visited park in the community. The site is 435 acres, of which approximately 60 are developed. The remainder consists of natural open space.

The park is located at the southern tip of Upper Klamath Lake, on the west side of the Link River. The developed portion of the park is accessed by Lakeshore Drive, which also separates Moore Park, from the Moore Park Marinas.

The developed portion of the park is located on flat or gently rolling topography, where there are a wide range of uses, from passive picnic areas and open space to soccer fields. There is an access road that makes a loop through the lower portion of the site. To the south of the road, the park slopes up dramatically, where the park transitions to wild and natural open space. There is a paved road into this section of the park, but it has been closed to automobile traffic. It is now used as a paved trail (Upper Loop Trail). There are also a number of unpaved trails throughout the open space area.

Because of the heavy use of the park, lack of parking has become a major problem. However, constructing large parking lots will detract from the peaceful and tranquil setting that now exists. To alleviate this impact, it is recommended that the existing inefficiently designed parking areas be redesigned and striped to maximize the number of spaces. Also the existing tennis courts are in very poor condition

Because of the need to take a comprehensive look at this park instead of the piecemeal approach used in the past, it is recommended that a park site master plan be completed before any improvements are made.

Recommendations for Moore Park include:

- Prepare a park site master plan of the entire site
- Upgrade the existing tennis courts
- Upgrade existing restroom building (ADA accessible)
- Construct new restroom adjacent to the tennis courts and soccer fields
- Add park signage listing facilities offered
- Construct picnic shelter
- Upgrade and Improve the existing playground equipment
- Add more benches and seating areas
- Add a picnic area by the wedding area

Proposed Old Fort Park 10 acres

This proposed site is located in the currently undeveloped northeast section of the city. The area is zoned for residential use and is presently used as a sanitary landfill. The existing Klamath County Landfill site could be developed as a park after its closure to serve the needs of future development that will take place. The County, at one time, intended to develop the site as a park. The City could participate in the development costs.

4.3 SPECIAL USE AREA PROPOSALS

Definition:

Special use areas are sites that do not fit into the other categories and are often occupied by a specialized facility. Some uses which fall into this park type include waterfront parks, boat ramps, botanical gardens, community gardens, single purpose sites used for field sports or sites which contain indoor recreation opportunities.

Summary of Recommendations:

**Table 9
Summary of Special Use Area Recommendations
Klamath Falls Planning Area**

Name	Acres	Action/Comments
Conger Park	10.60	Minor improvements
Ella Redkey Municipal Pool	2.40	To be determined
Kiger Stadium	11.50	No changes
Proposed Klamath Youth Sports Complex	150.00	Planning/development
Proposed Lake Ewauna Access	20.00	acquisition/planning/development
Maple Park	1.00	No changes
Mills Little League Park	5.30	Minor improvements
Moore Park Marinas	23.00	Minor improvements
Putnam's Point	2.50	Minor improvements
Proposed Vet's Park Expansion	Not determined	Acquisition/planning/development
Veteran's Memorial Park	3.30	Minor improvements

Specific Recommendations:

Conger Park 10.6 acres

This existing 10.6 acre Special Use Area is primarily soccer and softball sports fields. It is immediately adjacent to Conger Elementary School and is leased to the Klamath City School District. The fields are used by both the school and sport groups for games and practice.

Ella Redkey Municipal Pool 2.4 acres

The existing pool is on a 2.40 acre site located on Main Street near downtown. Facilities found here are paved parking, a bath house, swimming pool, and grandstands. The pool is 45 years old and was closed temporarily in the summer of 1998 because major repairs were needed.

A private donor funded the reconstruction and operation of the Ella Redkey Municipal Pool. Also a community effort is underway to fund the construction of an indoor pool located at the Youth Sports Complex. If this becomes a reality it will meet most of the future indoor aquatic needs in the Klamath Falls region.

Kiger Stadium 11.5 acres

This existing site is owned by the City of Klamath Falls, and is operated by the City Babe Ruth Association. The stadium includes one regulation baseball field with bleachers, concession areas, parking, and a vacant area to the north for overflow parking. The sites 11.50 acres are fully developed, well used, and in good condition.

The only recommendation would be to improve the external appearance of the site through better landscape maintenance.

Proposed Klamath Youth Sports Complex 150 acres

This proposed 150-acre site is located in the northeast portion of the planning area is owned by Klamath County and leased to the Klamath Youth Sports Complex. The private sports group could form an agreement with the City to participate with development and/or maintenance.

Proposed Lake Ewauna Access 20 acres

This proposed site is located on the west bank of Lake Ewauna, near the intersection of Green Springs Drive and Riverside Street. Currently the only public access to the lake is found at Veteran's Memorial Park. Thus another site that offers access for fishing, boat launching and marina facilities is needed. Because of its remote location, it is recommended that a park host be located on the site.

It is recommended that a 15 to 20 acre parcel be acquired for this purpose. A master plan will be developed with the addition of community input from user groups and neighbors.

A list of possible facilities to be developed could include:

- boat launch and dock
- restroom building
- picnic area
- car and trailer parking
- shelter building
- small open grass area
- paved and unpaved trails
- natural open space

In addition, the site may be a viable alternate location for the proposed Klamath Wingwatchers Interpretive Center. The site is close to existing trails for the purpose of wildlife viewing, and is also in a location that would be conducive to the types of wildlife that the Interpretive Center would be showcasing.

Maple Park 1 acre

This one-acre parcel contains an art museum and parking lot with some landscaping. The land is owned by the City and leased to the Klamath Art Association. This organization maintains and manages the site. Because the City does not manage the site nor does the site meet any park need, the City might look into selling this parcel to the Klamath Art Association.

Mills Little League Park 5.3 acres

Mills Little League Park is actually two sites; one owned by the City and the other owned by the Railroad but leased to the City. The site owned by the railroad is not in the park inventory but contains three little league fields. The site owned by the City contains two fields. Klamath Little League Association maintains both sites and the City pays for the water used to irrigate. If the Klamath County Youth Sports Complex is constructed the City-owned parcel of Mills Little League Park could be developed to a traditional neighborhood park with play equipment, picnic tables, etc.

Moore Park Marinas 23 acres

This existing 23 acre Special Use Area is located immediately north of Moore Park, across from Lakeshore Drive. The site provides access to Upper Klamath Lake and the three marinas. This site contains two boat ramps, docks, a picnic pavilion, a basketball court, and trails. Much of the site is underdeveloped. Because of its setting on the lake and the large open areas, this park should be used more for large group gatherings.

The City receives approximately \$11,000 annually from the Marine Board for maintenance and water related improvements. All of the money goes to the Marinas.

Minor improvements will be included in the site plan and could include:

- Construction of additional docks
- Addition of a large events pavilion between Marinas I & II
- Addition of picnic shelter at Marina I
- Planting of more trees and landscaping
- Construction of the Klamath Ice Sports outdoor ice rink

Putnam's Point**2.5 acres**

This 2.56 acre water-access site lies at the head of the Link River, where it meets Upper Klamath Lake, and is adjacent to the existing trailhead for the Link River Trail (part of the Proposed West Shoreline Trail). The site is a point that juts into the lake creating considerable shoreline access. The primary use of this site is for fishing, with a number of wooden boardwalks that are ADA accessible. The site is also utilized for bird watching.

Minor improvements will be included in the site plan and could include:

- Construction of additional boardwalks for fishing and wildlife viewing
- Addition of seating area and tables
- Addition of site lighting
- Upgrade of the landscaping and pruning of existing vegetation

Veteran's Memorial Park**3.3 acres**

This existing 3.30 acre Special Use Area is located in the Downtown, adjacent to a major entrance to the City. This park is considered a gateway to Klamath Falls, and its location makes it accessible to many visitors as well as local residents. The site is unique in that it also offers water access with dock facilities, as well as areas to picnic, a stage for concerts, and a visitors information booth. The park is an integral part of the Snowflake Festival, with trees in the park decorated with lights during the event.

There are a number of proposals either in the park or adjacent to it that will dramatically affect its ultimate size, design and use. A downtown gateway/beautification study is looking at ways of making the park more accessible both physically and visually to residents as well as visitors. Also a large mixed use project is proposed for the adjacent 40 acre Modoc Limber property. The Modoc Redevelopment Project will add acreage to the park site although the exact size of the park expansion has yet to be determined. A third proposal, by the Klamath Wingwatchers, is to construct an Interpretive/Visitors Center on the site. A fourth proposal is to construct a boathouse and marina. With all of the proposed ideas it is important that the park be designed to meet the demands of these activities. Minor improvements to the existing park will be included in the site plan and could include:

1. The Park should become a showpiece that reflects the character of the community
2. The Park should maintain an open space character and not be over-built
3. The concept of a community entrance/gateway should be the major objective
4. Access to the waterfront along the north and east shoreline of Lake Ewauna should occur
5. It should encourage large group gatherings and events
6. Daily recreation needs for central area neighborhoods located within walking distance.
7. The Park should be well maintained and managed
8. Uses more suitable at other park sites should be discouraged from this site
9. Install additional picnic tables

Proposed Veteran's Park Expansion**acreage of expansion undetermined**

This proposed site lies in the highly developed area north of the downtown core. There are currently no park facilities serving the residents that live in the Central Area. Park functions are fulfilled in part by Veteran's Memorial Park and Richmond Park. Neither of these existing parks adequately serve this neighborhood. It is recommended that the City acquire a park in the downtown area of at least three acres (five if possible). With the existing density this could prove difficult, but is necessary to give people park services within a convenient distance.

4.4 OPEN SPACE PROPOSALS

Definition:

Open space is defined as undeveloped land primarily left in its natural form with passive recreation use 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 often includes wetlands, steep hillsides or other similar undevelopable spaces. In some cases, environmentally sensitive areas are considered as open space and may include wildlife habitats, stream and creek corridors, unique and/or endangered plant species or cultural resources.

Preservation of these areas can occur through a variety of methods, including public or non-profit acquisition, conservation easements, and purchase of development rights. The management of each natural area varies. Natural Area management plans are site specific and reflect the resource(s) contained within the Natural Area. Some areas may be developed with visitor-serving improvements, while others would be left entirely alone.

Development Criteria:

1. Where feasible, public access and passive use of these areas should be encouraged, but environmentally sensitive areas should be protected from overuse.
2. Improvements should be kept to a minimum, with the natural environment, interpretive and educational features emphasized.
3. Prior to acquiring an open space site, a thorough site analysis should be made to determine if unique qualities and conditions exist that warrant the open space designation.
4. Emphasis in acquisition should be for those areas offering unique features or opportunities to observe nature. Lower priority should be given to sites that, because of development restrictions (floodplains, steep hillsides, wetlands, etc.), would not be developed anyway.
5. Parking and overall use should be limited to the numbers and types of visitors the area can accommodate, while retaining its natural character and the intended level of solitude.
6. It is recommended that the City consider placing condemned lands and lands for sale due to tax payment issues into protection.

Types of Open Space:

In Klamath Falls, four different types of open space are proposed, all of which can serve the function of a wildlife corridor. The descriptions and features of the types of open space are described below:

1. Preserves

These are primary conservation areas where development is not permitted. They are large areas of land that, because of special vegetation, habitat or other feature, makes them of extreme importance to the community. Preserves shall include, but not be limited to, such lands as:

- Lands of greater than 40% slope;

- Unique wildlife habitat, habitat for viewable wildlife, migrating species, or resident species, or critical habitat for species listed as threatened or endangered;
- Rare plant or animal species, a diversity of species or a high density of one or more species;
- Wetlands, seasonal and perennial stream corridors, floodways (as defined by FEMA), floodplains (as defined by FEMA) and urban drainage ways (this includes water related areas that support a range of desired flora and fauna);
- Other ecologically, culturally and historically significant lands;
- Outstanding scenic view-sheds, corridors, ridge-tops and mountaintops; and
- Lands adjacent to Upper Klamath Lake, Link River, Lake Ewauna or Klamath River banks for shoreline protection.

Policies for this type of open space are:

- Special land use controls should be applied to these areas to maintain the natural character.
- Public access should be controlled and limited to environmental education and interpretation.

2. **Protected Lands**

These are secondary conservation areas and shall not be developed in such a manner that will or could potentially have impact on land being protected, on an associated natural or man-made resource, or on other nearby lands. Protected lands shall include, but not be limited to, such lands as:

- Lands with slopes between 25% and 40%;
- Critical wildlife habitat;
- Ridge-tops;
- 100-year flood zones;
- Lands for Exclusive Farm Use (soil types I-IV);
- Lands zoned for Forestry; and
- Sites near electrical substations (If it is confirmed that exposure to electromagnetic fields pose unacceptable health risks).

Policies for this type of open space are:

- A mixture of land uses may be permitted in these areas as long as the natural and recreational values are maintained.
- A minimum of 80% of the area should remain in the undeveloped state.
- Sites should be a minimum of five (5) acres, but the status of the site should dictate preservation needs.
- Sites should contain a sufficiently large habitat for animal species or native plant communities.
- Encourage landowners to initiate rezoning or donating land to an appropriate agency to protect agricultural lands (soil types I-IV)

3. **Scenic/Aesthetic Areas:** These areas help define and enhance the aesthetic and scenic quality of the City of Klamath Falls. They are considered important because of their location, geological, or natural features. Policies for this type of open space are:
- Sites should contain a minimum of 20 acres, however, sites could be smaller.
 - Sites should be visible to many residents or tourists, provide a view setting, or be a natural backdrop to the city.
 - Sites may contain unique geological features such as rock outcrops, overlooks, cliffs, knolls, buttes, etc.
 - Structures, roads and grading on sites determined to have significant scenic viewsheds and/or corridors, including hillsides and ridge-tops, shall be located and designed to minimize visual impact on and off-site.
4. **Links and Public Access:** These are areas of land designed primarily to provide trail corridors and public access within the open space areas or to other parts of the City. These corridors should take into consideration the natural topography, geology, natural resources, land ownership and impact to nearby homes. Policies for this type of open space are:
- Sites should be a minimum of three acres in size and be no less than 30' in width, however, conditions may dictate alternate sizes.
 - Sites should link existing and proposed parks, preserves, protected lands, and neighborhood and commercial areas, and provide access along the river, lakeshores, drainage ways and ridgelines.
 - Sites should contain trail corridors for a wide variety of trail interests and activities.

Summary of Recommendations:

Table 10
Summary of Open Space Area Recommendations
Klamath Falls Planning Area

Name	Action/Comments
Proposed Foothills Creek Open Space	Preserve, scenic area, links
Proposed Hogback Mt. Open Space	Preserves, protected lands, scenic area, links
Proposed Kago Hill Open Space	Protected lands, scenic area
Proposed Lake Ewauna/Klamath R. Shorelines	Preserve, scenic, links
Proposed (East) Link River Open Space	Preserves, links
Proposed McKinley Hill Open Space	Scenic
Proposed Miller Hill Open Space	Protected land, scenic area
Proposed Moore Mt. Open Space	Preserve, scenic area
Proposed Moore Ridge Open Space	Preserve, protected land, scenic area
Proposed Pine Valley Open Space	Preserve, protected lands, scenic area
Proposed Plum Hills Open Space	Protected lands, scenic area
Proposed Upper Klamath Lake Dyke	Preserve, links

Specific Recommendations:

Proposed Foothills Creek Open Space

This proposed open space area would consist of a greenway corridor that runs from a point south of the intersection of Eberlein Avenue and the Eastside Bypass, northeast along the existing creek corridors and covering existing farmland throughout the draw. This open space area would serve as a link to the proposed Klamath Youth Sports Complex and Basin View parks, as well as protecting the viewshed of the agricultural draw. The open space terminates at Old Fort Road.

Proposed Hogback Mountain Open Space

This proposed open space takes advantage of the undevelopable hillsides to the west and north of the Basin View area. The purpose of this large open space is for protection of view corridors to preserve and manage lands that would otherwise not be developed, and to provide a corridor for unpaved trail connections throughout the surrounding hillsides. The major trail that runs through the site is the unpaved Ridgeline Trail.

Proposed Kago Hill Open Space

This proposed open space area is identified for protected lands and the scenic quality. This area could connect with the proposed Moore Ridge Open Space, creating a larger corridor.

Proposed Lake Ewauna/Klamath River Open Space

This proposed open space is predominantly waterfront property. The portion on the east side of the river runs from immediately south of the Modoc property, to the South Side Bypass and headwaters on the Klamath River. The area is variable in width. The portion on the west bank of Lake Ewauna runs in variable length from the mouth of Link River south to Reames Golf and Country Club, along the Klamath River. The northern portion of this area is developed with the Wingwatchers' Trails. Also, the proposed Lake Ewauna Access (special use area) would be within this open space area. A portion of the paved West Shoreline Trail runs the length of this open space area. Preservation of this land will protect views from Lake Ewauna, as well as preserve the integrity of the shoreline, and provide more areas for wildlife habitat.

Proposed Link River Open Space

This proposed open space is located on the eastside of the Link River, north of and contiguous with Conger Heights Open Space. The land is undeveloped and serves as important wildlife habitat. Public access should be limited to a designated trail connecting Veteran's Park to Nevada Avenue.

Proposed McKinley Hill Open Space

McKinley Hill is located north of the downtown area. It is surrounded by historic residences and is a scenic backdrop for the area.

Proposed Miller Hill Open Space

Miller Hill is located south of Laverne Avenue and east of Tingley Lane. This area is highly visible from all parts of the community and should remain undeveloped.

Proposed Moore Mountain Open Space

This proposed open space is located at the peak of Moore Mountain and is identified for the quality of wildlife habitat, steepness of slopes, and excellent scenic quality. The area is adjacent to Lynnewood Open Space and Moore Park. No public access should be permitted in this area.

Proposed Moore Ridge Open Space

This proposed open space area is located south of Moore Park. The area is identified for preservation because of the scenic quality, steep slopes and habitat. Public access should be limited in this area.

Proposed Pine Valley Open Space

This proposed open space area is located at the western edge of the Urban Growth Boundary within the Pine Valley Planned Unit Development, north of Highway 140 and south of Lakeshore Boulevard. The open space area is identified for its steep slopes, wildlife habitat and corridor potential, and scenic quality. This area could also serve as a link to Lynnewood Open Space and Moore Park, and the proposed Moore Mountain and Moore Ridge Open Spaces.

Proposed Plum Hills Open Space

Plum Hills are located north and east of OIT and serve as a scenic backdrop for the campus. The area is highly visible from Highway 97 and northern sections of the community. The steep slopes also warrant conservation of the area.

Proposed Upper Klamath Lake Dyke Open Space

This proposed open space area could serve as a trail connecting Moore Park to the proposed Pine Valley trails and open space. There is an existing maintenance road along the dyke that would serve as the trail base. Development should be limited in this area for shoreline protection.

4.5 TRAIL AND PATHWAY PROPOSALS

Definition:

Trails and pathways are designed to provide walking, bicycling, and other non-motorized recreational opportunities. By providing a link to other areas and facilities, they can provide non-vehicular options for travel throughout the community. Trails can be designed for a single type or multiple types of users. The trails and pathways emphasized here are those that are recreational and multiple use in nature. Bike routes located primarily on streets are not included in this study.

Trails may be either unsurfaced or treated with a variety of hard surfacing materials including concrete, asphalt or granite chips. Unsurfaced trails may be left in their natural condition or supplemented with gravel, bark chips, sand or other material. Surfacing will be dependent upon ADA requirements, soil type, slopes, type of use and amount of use.

Development Criteria:

1. The primary purpose of recreation trails is to provide a recreation experience with transportation as a secondary objective.
2. Whenever possible, recreation pathways and trails should not be part of a street roadway, however where routes use existing streets, the pathway should be designed to minimize potential conflicts between motorists and trail users.
3. Recreation trails should be interesting to the user and maximize the number and diversity of enjoyable viewing opportunities.
4. Trail alignments should take into account soil conditions, steep slopes, surface drainage and other physical limitations that could increase construction and/or maintenance costs.
5. Trails should be planned, sized, and designed for multiple uses, except for dedicated nature trails, and/or areas that cannot be developed to the standard necessary to minimize potential user conflicts.
6. Centralized and effective staging areas should be provided for trail access. They should include parking, orientation and information, and any necessary specialized unloading features. Where possible, primary trailheads should be located at major park sites that contain the normal support facilities. Secondary trailheads need only limited parking and signage.

Trail connections, locations and orientation should encourage users to walk or bicycle to the trail. Depending upon the expected and desired level of use, secondary trailheads may have 3-8 parking spaces, whereas primary trailheads may have 20 or more parking spaces.

7. Trails should be looped and interconnected to provide a variety of trail lengths and destinations. They should link various parts of the community, such as schools, shopping, and park sites.
8. Trails should be located and designed to provide a diversity of challenges. Enhance accessibility wherever possible, with high priority given to nature trails and trail loops or destination opportunities.
9. When trails are forced to cross roads or other conflict areas such as railroad tracks, they should be designed for optimum safety of the trail user. This includes adequate signage, visibility, and separated grades if possible.
10. Trails should be developed throughout the community to provide connections to schools, parks, and other destination points. Each proposed trail should be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to determine if it should be part of the city's park system.
11. Developers should be encouraged to provide pathways within their projects that connect to the existing and proposed city system.

Summary of Trail Recommendations

The objective of the Trails Plan is to build on the existing trail system already in place by utilizing natural patterns and private lands to connect existing trails into a comprehensive trail system. The Plan as proposed is a combination of paved and unpaved trails that can be used for recreation as well as transportation purposes. The following is a summary of the proposed trail routes. All routes must be acquired, designed, and developed. (Mileage in the following table is approximate)

Table 11
Summary of Trail Recommendations
Klamath Falls Planning Area

Name	Miles	Action/Comments
'A' Canal Trail Southern Extension	2.0	Paved trail from Homedale, following the 'A' Canal, southeast to the Urban Growth Boundary, then north adjacent but separate from Highway 39.
East Link River Trail	1.5	From Veteran's Park north along east side of Link River across Conger Heights Open Space and proposed Link River Open Space; would connect with Wingwatchers' and PP&L Trails; all new trails unpaved
Foothills Creek Trails	3.5	Unpaved trail from Shasta Way north to Foothills Creek, following the creek north to the Proposed Sports Complex, continuing on through Basin View Planned Unit Development to Old Fort Road
Hogback Ridgeline Trail	10	From Old Fort Road southeast along the ridge of Hogback Mountain to the proposed East Klamath Park, continuing on to the OC&E Trail; unpaved
Kit Carson and 'A' Canal Trail Connector	0.33	Beginning at Portland Street (southern end of Kit Carson Trail) south to Esplanade Street, connecting to the 'A' Canal Trail; paved
Lake Ewauna Trails (East and West)	4.0	These trails would follow the shoreline of Lake Ewauna from the existing Wingwatcher's trail on the west bank down to the Highway 140 crossing. The west trail would follow the shoreline from the proposed OC&E northern connector trail to the Highway 140 crossing.
Moore Park Marina Trail	0.5	Paved trail connecting the northern end of PP&L's Link River Trail to the western end of Moore Park Marina's.
Northern Connector Trail	1.0	Leading from OIT north to existing trails outside of the Urban Growth Boundary; unpaved
OC&E Woodsline Trail Northern Extensions	1.5	Across Washburn Way northeast over the railroad tracks to the proposed East Lake Ewauna Trail; spurs at East Main and Spring Streets; paved
Southview & Pine Valley Trails	10	Throughout the Pine Valley and South View Planned Unit Developments located north of Highway 140 at the western edge of the Urban Growth Boundary; connect to proposed Upper Klamath Dyke/Lakeshore Drive Trail and Moore Park and Lynnewood Open Space trails; all new trails unpaved
Stewart-Lenox Extension	0.75	A paved connector trail from Balsam Drive along Orindale Road to the South View Planned Unit Development
Upper Klamath Lake Dyke Trail	1.0	Unpaved trail running east-west along the southern shoreline of Upper Klamath Lake, from the western edge of the UGB to the last marina at Moore Park.

[facility plan map]

4.6 SPECIAL RECREATION FACILITY PROPOSALS

Aquatic Facilities

Because a private donor reconstructed the existing Ella Redkey Municipal Pool a community effort is underway to construct an indoor pool at the Youth Sports Complex, these actions will satisfy the need for pool space through the 20 year planning period.

Indoor Recreation Center

The recreation survey indicated strong support for an indoor recreation center. More and more Pacific Northwest communities are offering this type of indoor recreation facility because of the long winters. If designed correctly recreation centers can offer a wide variety of community and youth activities at a reasonable cost. To generate maximum revenue many centers offer community event space as well as areas for recreation activities. Most progressive community centers now provide rooms for receptions, meetings, large group gatherings and trade shows.

It is recommended that the City pursue the acquisition of the National Guard Armory for a multi-purpose community and youth center. This site will be sold in approximately 2-5 years and might be made available to the City for a moderate cost. The building could be easily remodeled to meet a recreation need since it already has a large room that could be modified for a small gym. The offices could be easily transformed into classrooms, special recreation areas and teen rooms.

Multi-Use Skate Park

There has been considerable discussion in Klamath Falls about the need for skateboard/in-line skating and ice-skating facilities. The survey results stated that an ice-skating rink is needed, and a need was also expressed for skateboard/in-line skating parks. Most communities are wrestling with skateboarders who use sidewalks, streets and other inappropriate places. Many skateboard parks have been developed, and some with good success.

It is possible to construct a multi-use facility to address skateboarding, in-line skating and ice-skating. However, a non-profit group is proposing to construct an ice-skating rink (to be used for various ice sports) on the north side of Lakeshore Drive between the two marinas at Moore Park. This facility would be available during the non-winter season for other uses such as a group picnic shelter, in-line skating activities, basketball, etc. It appears to be more feasible to construct two separate facilities as the proposal at Moore Park is not conducive to the type of skate-park the skateboarders are proposing. The skateboarding group would like a site more centrally located, as well.

Also of some concern is whether skateboarding and in-line skating is a fad that will lose interest in the future. Locating a suitable site is also difficult because most residents do not like them near their home. Since most of the users are youth below driving age, a convenient location is mandatory. This precludes a remote site. There are several possible options. One possibility is to lease an abandoned commercial property and provide portable ramps. This approach has the advantage of low capital outlay and if/when the interest is gone, the lease could be turned back to the property owner. Another option would be to locate it out at the proposed Youth Sports Complex. The disadvantage is that it may be some time before this site is developed and it would not conveniently located. Another option is locating the facility at the National Guard Armory Building that is proposed as an indoor space after decommission. Two final options would be to locate the facility at the Moore Park Marina or at Veteran's Memorial Park or Expansion.

Klamath Youth Sports Complex

The proposed Klamath Youth Sports Complex is an attempt by private parties to construct a multi-use recreation area for youth sports. This site contains approximately 150-acres of land and is adjacent to Foothills Boulevard. The County originally owned the property but has transferred it to the private group under a long-term lease. The plan as now envisioned is to develop a number of youth baseball fields, adult softball fields, soccer fields and an indoor swimming pool

In addition to a place for league play, this site will also be able to host major tournaments. These events will have a regional draw, bringing teams from other cities into the community, as well as having a positive economic impact.

Of some concern is where the money will come to fund capital construction and operations. Construction costs could easily exceed \$10 million and annual maintenance costs will probably run in the \$200,000 range. Because of these unanswered financial questions, it is important at this point to establish the City's role in this project.

Recommended City Role:

1. The City should fund up to a maximum of \$50,000 for basic infrastructure improvements (sewer and water utilities).
2. The City should not pay for any of the annual operational costs associated with the project.
3. The City can investigate developing a maintenance agreement where the owners of the facility pay the City for maintaining the facility, thus making it feasible for the City to hire additional employees that would be needed.

4.7 RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES PROPOSALS

Currently, the City does not provide any recreation programs. After a financial setback caused by Measure 5, the City decided to delete this service. Currently, recreation programs in the community are offered by private sport groups, private organizations or commercial ventures. However, there are still recreation needs not presently being met in the community.

Typically, recreation programs include: swimming lessons, after-school activities, aerobic classes and various sports leagues. Although the City does not participate directly with the programs, the facilities used for these programs are often at City facilities.

It is recommended that the City offer a limited recreation program on a trial basis. By starting out small, the City can ease into this type of service without any major expenditures. There would, however, be the need to hire a program coordinator to set up the program and find instructors. It is also possible to start a joint venture with a private entity to initiate these programs where management of the actual programs would occur by the other entity. Approached in the right manner, this program should be able to operate on a break-even basis. By beginning with a few programs, the City could comfortably expand as the community need and support grows. An offshoot benefit to offering a recreation program is that it builds a strong following of supporters.

The following recommendations relate to recreation programs:

1. Offer a variety of programs, focused primarily on youth

The recreation survey revealed strong support for the City to offer programs, most commonly referring to a need for youth activities. Expansion will determine the amount of additional staff that will be required. However, because most programs are nearly self-sufficient, the actual cost impact on the City will be minimal. Some possible programs to start with could be:

- After-school activities/summer programs
- Youth Organized Sports
- Youth instructional/special interest classes
- Aquatics

2. Offer innovative programs

To better serve all residents, the City should continually develop and try out new programs, and seek new locations to offer them. While offering new programs can result in low registration in some programs, by placing a minimum number of applicants for a specific program, the department can cancel programs that have a low enrollment. This will reduce the financial risk of an aggressive recreation program.

3. Build a support base

As mentioned above, by offering of recreation programs in addition to offering new and innovative programs, the Parks Division can begin to build a support base for an even bigger and better program. This can also become critical when the City asks the public for approval of tax measures. This can eliminate the financial tightening that caused the programs to be eliminated.

4.8 ADMINISTRATIVE AND MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

4.8.1 Administration and Management

1. Annual Report/Goals

The Division should prepare an annual report describing the activities, participation levels and changes in operation that occurred over the past year, as well as goals for the following years. In addition to providing basic information about the Division, it is a very useful public relations document and effective for budget justification.

2. Guide to City Parks

The City should develop a comprehensive guide to parks and other facilities in the area, stating locations, facilities within the parks, times that parks are open, fees to use facilities, programs, etc. This document should be widely distributed to the public. As the scope of parks services grows, this document should be regularly updated.

3. As-Built Drawings

The majority of parks in the planning area do not have drawn records of the facilities. As personnel retire or leave, information of this type is lost. This can be particularly troublesome for underground facilities such as drainage and irrigation systems. To solve this problem, it is recommended that 'as-built' drawings of facilities and site plans for all of the parks be created.

4. User Fees

While it is sometimes difficult to charge individual users to use the parks, fees can be charged for special events and use of facilities. The City has a "Park and Marina Use Policy" which states the policies for using parks for a variety of uses, as well as applicable fees for these uses. The charges for uses are not currently applied, so it is recommended that these be implemented to increase revenue for the Parks Division. It is also recommended that a higher fee scale be implemented, especially for non-residents who wish to obtain special use permits or reserve facilities in city parks.

5. Maintenance Fees

At the present time, the City charges a nominal fee for use of fields. These fees in no way subsidize the maintenance required for the fields. With the addition of the new Sports Complex, fees will become more important to make the project more financially feasible. While it is not recommended that the City try to recover 100% of its costs, a field rental rate more in line with actual costs would be appropriate. It is recommended that the City revise its sports field rental and maintenance agreements to reflect about 50% of the actual maintenance costs.

6. Establish an Open Space Foundation

Because of the interest in open space, and the possibility of acquiring large parcels of this type of land, it is recommended that the City establish a foundation or form a partnership with an existing group to manage these open space areas. Its responsibilities would include the acquisition, operation and maintenance of open space lands.

7. Park Security Operations

Currently, park security is not sufficiently addressed as the Park Division employees supervise the parks during work hours, regular patrols by police only occur on a limited basis. As the City grows, the issue of park security and personal safety will become more of a problem. It is recommended that the City establish a plan for dealing actively with park security. This can be accomplished with a combination of neighborhood watch programs, and regular security patrols, possibly including help from Explorers. Parks that have been identified as problem areas should receive the highest priority involving security issues.

4.9 PARK AND MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS

1. Use of Volunteers

The use of volunteers to assist in park and recreation services should not be overlooked. In larger communities, a volunteer coordinator is hired to just manage volunteer efforts. Volunteers could be used for minor park maintenance, planting of flowers, assistance on small construction projects, offering of recreation programs and other services. This type of help

not only provides a needed service but also helps to build community support and involvement in a park and recreation program.

2. Permanent vs. Seasonal Employees

A full time employee (including benefits) cost the City nearly the same as three seasonal employees. In addition, the greatest demand for park maintenance services occurs during the summer while there is little in-the-field maintenance to do in the winter months. Because of these factors, it is recommended that a higher ratio of seasonal employees be hired. This approach does require more supervision but it is a much more efficient use of labor.

A release of existing permanent employees in favor of hiring temporaries is not being recommended, however, when a job position becomes vacant or new hires occur that seasonal employees should be considered.

3. Put in Labor-Saving Devices

When parks are upgraded or new parks are developed, careful attention to design details can significantly reduce the time and effort it takes to maintain a park. With this in mind, items such as spacing between trees, correct selection of plant materials, the installation of curbs to separate use areas, paving and other items should be considered.

4. Be involved in Park Design

While it has been some time since the City has developed a new park, the Parks Division and Planning Department should either be responsible for the design or be involved in the design process.

5. Money for Maintenance

On page V-7, a strategy for financing additional maintenance operations is described. However, an overall philosophy should be instilled within the City budget process that as parks come on line, money must be found to maintain them. It is no longer possible to stretch the existing budget out over more parks. Therefore, as every new recreation area or facility is developed in the City, a maintenance impact report should be prepared and a commitment made to adequately fund it.

6. Alternative Maintenance Levels

As new parks and facilities are developed, a greater demand of the park maintenance labor force will occur. Currently, the cost to maintain the existing park system is about \$2,300 per acre, which is considered low. Unless new funding sources are found, this number will become even lower.

Assuming that there will not be an adequate maintenance budget, it is recommended that the City develop alternative maintenance levels and apply them to each park. While it means that some parks will receive better care than others, the approach will protect some parks rather than seeing all of the parks slowly fall into disrepair.

7. Partnering with other Entities/Agencies

The City has successfully entered into agreements with various entities for the maintenance of Citypark and recreation facilities. Kiger Stadium, Conger Park, Henderson Park and Ella Redkey Municipal Pool are good examples of the City providing a facility and non-profit groups, government agencies, private

citizens, and a private organization maintaining the facility and recreation program. This type of partnering is beneficial to all parties involved.