

PLACERVILLE AREA

Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Final - December 2009

PREPARED FOR



2010 NOV - 8 AM 10:10

ROCKLIN
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
EL DORADO COUNTY

PREPARED BY



590 Menlo Drive, Suite 1, Rocklin, CA 95765
1-888-552-1001 www.foothill.com

Parks and Recreation Master Plan



Acknowledgements

Placerville City Council

Patricia Borelli, Mayor
Pierre Rivas, Vice-Mayor
Mark Acuna
Carl Hagen
Dave Machado

Placerville Recreation and Parks Commission

Frank Hainley
Andrew Mathews
Larry Redding
Jack Winkler
Richard Zito

City of Placerville Staff

John Driscoll, City Manager/City Attorney
Steve Calfee, Director of Community
Development
Dave Warren, Director of Finance
Steve Youel, Director of Community Services
Matt Lishman, Recreation Superintendent
Oz Jimenez, Recreation Supervisor
Monique Plubell, Recreation Coordinator
Candace Bernardi, Administrative Secretary
Bob Pyne, Parks and Facilities Maintenance
Superintendent

El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

John Knight, District 1
Ray Nutting, District 2
James R. Sweeney, District 3
Ron Briggs, District 4
Norma Santiago, District 5

El Dorado County Planning Commission

Lou Rain, District 1
Dave Pratt, District 2
Tom Heflin, District 3
Walter Mathews, District 4
Alan Tolhurst, District 4

El Dorado County Parks and Recreation Commission

Guy Gertsch, District 1
Charlie Callahan, District 2
Bob Smart, District 3
Jenifer Russo, District 4
Steve Yonker, District 5

El Dorado County Staff

Russell Nygaard, Deputy Director - Engineering,
Facilities El Dorado County DOT

Acknowledgments

El Dorado County Board of Supervisors
El Dorado County
El Dorado County
El Dorado County
El Dorado County
El Dorado County

El Dorado County Planning Commission
El Dorado County
El Dorado County
El Dorado County
El Dorado County
El Dorado County

El Dorado County Planning Department
El Dorado County
El Dorado County
El Dorado County
El Dorado County
El Dorado County

El Dorado County
El Dorado County
El Dorado County
El Dorado County
El Dorado County
El Dorado County

Placerville City Council
Placerville City
Placerville City
Placerville City
Placerville City
Placerville City

Placerville Recreation and Parks Commission
Placerville
Placerville
Placerville
Placerville
Placerville

City of Placerville Staff
City of Placerville
City of Placerville
City of Placerville
City of Placerville
City of Placerville

City of Placerville
City of Placerville
City of Placerville
City of Placerville
City of Placerville
City of Placerville

Table of Contents

1	Executive Summary	1
2	Introduction	1
2.1	Purpose of the Master Plan	3
2.2	Master Plan Process	7
2.3	Other City and County Plans	8
	<i>City of Placerville</i>	8
	<i>El Dorado County</i>	9
3	Recreational Resources	13
3.1	City of Placerville	13
	<i>Existing Parks</i>	13
	<i>Planned Parks</i>	17
3.2	El Dorado County Parks	17
	<i>Planned Parks</i>	18
3.3	Other Public Recreational Resources	18
3.4	Park Conditions	20
3.5	Paths and Trails	20
3.6	Recreation Programs	21
3.7	Private Recreation Facilities and Programs	24
3.8	School Resources	26
4	Community Character	27
4.1	The City of Placerville and Region	27
4.2	Population Trends	28
4.3	Demographics	29
	<i>Race and Ethnicity</i>	32
5	Community Needs and Preferences	35
5.1	Written/Web Survey	35
5.2	Phone Survey	40
5.3	Public Workshops	42
6	Planning Standards	45
6.1	Park Classifications	45
6.2	Service Area	47
6.3	Acres per 1,000 Population	48
6.4	Facilities per 1,000 Population	52
6.5	Non-Vehicular Access	54
6.6	Paths and Trails	54
6.7	Park Site Characteristics	56
6.8	Standard Park Improvements	57
7	Strategies and Recommendations	59
7.1	Improvements to Existing Parks/Facilities	59

7.2	New Park Development	63
7.3	Paths and Trails	64
7.4	Programs	65
7.5	Administration.....	66
8	Cost Analysis	69
8.1	Master Plan Costs	69
8.2	10-Year Capital Improvement Plan	69
8.3	10-Year Non-Capital Cost Projections.....	70
8.4	Other Costs.....	70
9	Finance Plan	73
9.1	Revenues Needed.....	73
9.2	Revenue Sources	73
	<i>General Fund</i>	73
	<i>Lighting, Landscape, and Maintenance District</i>	74
	<i>Recreation Fees</i>	74
	<i>Grants</i>	77
	<i>Development Fees</i>	77
9.3	Other Revenue Considerations.....	78
	<i>Fees Adjustments</i>	78
	<i>Other Revenue Sources</i>	79

List of Figures

Figure 1	— Placerville Area Parks Master Plan Area	5
Figure 2	— City and County Recreation Facilities in the Placerville Area.....	15
Figure 3	— Plan Area Age Group Distribution.....	31
Figure 4	— Age Group Projections for El Dorado County	32
Figure 5	— Race/Ethnicity Projections for El Dorado County	33
Figure 6	— Program Importance by Age Group	38
Figure 7	— Importance by Program Area	39
Figure 8	— Additional Park Facilities.....	40
Figure 9	— Panning Exercise Results.....	43
Figure 10	— Existing Park Service Areas	49

List of Tables

Table 1	— El Dorado County General Plan Guidelines for Acquisition and Development of Park Facilities	10
Table 2	— Placerville Area City and County Recreation Facilities Inventory.....	16
Table 3	— Youth Classes Attendance	22
Table 4	— Adult Classes Attendance	23
Table 5	— Youth Sports Camps Attendance	23
Table 6	— Aquatics Programs Attendance.....	24
Table 7	— Sports Leagues Participation	24

Table 8 — SACOG Population Projections.....28
Table 9 — Plan Area Age Distribution30
Table 10 — Overall Park and Recreation Experience36
Table 11 — Park Visitation37
Table 12 — Respondent Concerns about Park Conditions37
Table 13 — Overall Satisfaction with Parks and Programs41
Table 14 — Park Visitation42
Table 15 — Park Acreage Needs.....51
Table 16 — Facilities Standards by Population.....52
Table 17 — Improvements to Existing Parks62
Table 18 — Facilities Needed Following Construction of Proposed Parks.....63
Table 19 — City of Placerville Parks 10-Year Capital Improvement Program71
Table 20 — 10-Year Finance Plan.....75

Appendices

- Appendix A — Written Survey
- Appendix B — Telephone Survey

This page intentionally left blank.

1 Executive Summary

The Placerville Area Parks and Recreation Master Plan examines the existing park and recreation resources of the City of Placerville and El Dorado County serving residents of Placerville and the surrounding unincorporated areas of El Dorado County. The unincorporated area addressed in this planning effort includes the communities of Coloma, Lotus, Gold Hill, Diamond Springs, Camino, Pollock Pines, and portions of Rescue. The purpose of this plan is to provide specific guidance for the City and supporting analysis for the County to better understand how best to cooperatively manage and develop new parks and programs to meet the needs of the future population. Recommendations in this plan related to County parks will be used as a basis for further analysis in a separate countywide Parks and Trails Master Plan.

Master Plan Process and Findings

Public Participation

Many members of the community participated in developing this Master Plan in various ways. These included a phone survey, a written survey, and two community workshops. Input from all of these sources (described in Chapter 5) was essential to identifying recreation needs and priorities. The major theme of the input provided by plan area residents was that parks and recreation programs are very important to their quality of life. There is a high level of satisfaction with the overall quality of existing recreation resources, coupled with a desire for a greater number of parks.

Inventory and Demographics

Input from the community was supplemented with a number of other analyses aimed at developing a comprehensive, strategic Master Plan for parks and recreation in the plan area. A comprehensive inventory of existing City and County parks and programs was developed with analysis of other recreation opportunities in the region (Chapter 3). Current and projected demographics were also analyzed to identify trends that could be significant for recreation planning purposes (Chapter 4).

Based on this analysis, the population of the plan area is expected to increase from a 2008 population of 62,730 to a population of 73,735 by 2023. The future population will include more adults over the age of 49 as a percent of the total population, a greater degree of cultural diversity than at present, and families will continue to make up a significant part of the plan area population. Future demand for recreation programs to serve mature adults, teens, and children, and those of diverse cultural backgrounds is projected to be strong.

Planning Standards

This Master Plan includes a comprehensive set of planning standards which are intended to guide future park development (Chapter 6). The purpose of these standards is to preserve the high quality of recreation resources available to plan area residents as new development occurs and creates additional demand for these resources. The planning standards include a

classification scheme for various park types ranging from mini-parks to regional parks, and guidelines for suitability of proposed land for active use parks. The Master Plan also includes Level of Service standards as follows:

- Active Park Land – 5 acres per 1,000 population
- ½ mile service area for neighborhood parks
- 2 mile service area for community parks
- ADA accessible paths in all parks
- Non-vehicular access to new neighborhood parks via Class I trails or Class II bike routes
- Maximum population to be served for the most common types of recreation facilities, facilities such as playgrounds, sports fields and courts, picnic areas, etc.
- Standard park improvements for future neighborhood parks

The City of Placerville currently has adequate active park land to meet the active park land standard for the City population. El Dorado County has sufficient regional park acreage to meet the County's standard for these types of facilities. Once Pollock Pines Community Park is developed, there will also be enough acreage in community parks to satisfy the County's community park acreage goal. The major park deficit at this time is about 104 acres of neighborhood park land that is needed in the unincorporated parts of the plan area.

Other facilities needed to meet the needs of the current population based on levels of uses and demand include tennis and basketball courts; baseball, softball, and Little League fields; multi-use, soccer, and football fields; and group picnic areas. Additional community center, gymnasium, and amphitheater facilities are also needed.

Master Plan Implementation and Funding

Specific Master Plan implementation strategies for the City of Placerville are described in Chapter 7. These include prioritized recommendations for improvements to existing parks, new park development, paths and trails, programs, and administration. Costs for capital projects are reflected in a proposed 10-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The CIP focuses on projects that will enhance the capacity of existing parks, while making needed repairs to aging infrastructure to protect public safety and minimize operational costs.

The Master Plan recommendations for the City will result in approximately \$2.1 million in capital costs and \$20.4 million in non-capital costs (Chapter 8) over the next ten years. Funding strategies for these costs are outlined in a 10-year Finance Plan (Chapter 9). While the Finance Plan relies heavily on revenues from existing sources adjusted for future projected inflation, other funding sources are also recommended to make up the nearly \$1 million in additional revenues that will be needed. These include adjustments to program and facility use fees, periodic increases in benefit assessment districts, private-public partnerships, and sponsorships. The Master Plan also recommends that the City increase its recreation impact fee to a rate sufficient to provide parks and facilities at a level consistent with the resources currently offered. The City's fee will need to be increased from \$1,320 to \$5,625 per dwelling unit to meet this goal. This level of impact fee is comparable to that currently being charged by other foothill communities, and significantly less than that charged in other parts of El Dorado County.

2 Introduction

2.1 Purpose of the Master Plan

This Master Plan analyzes the recreation facilities and programs provided by the City of Placerville and El Dorado County for residents of the City and the surrounding unincorporated area. The unincorporated area includes the communities of Coloma, Lotus, Gold Hill, Diamond Springs, Camino, Pollock Pines, and portions of Rescue. The boundary of the plan area is defined by the Regional Analysis Districts (RADs)¹ established by the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) which include the City of Placerville and these communities (Figure 1).



Residents of the plan area routinely use both City and County park facilities, and participate in City recreation programs irrespective of the jurisdiction in which they reside. Combining both City and County resources in this Master Plan facilitates resource sharing and integration of planning efforts, for the most cost-effective solutions to meet recreation needs in a manner which reflects actual patterns of use and demand.

In the period from 2001 to 2008, the population of the City of Placerville increased by approximately 3.2 percent with the addition of approximately 314 new residents.² Analysis by the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) indicates that population growth in the unincorporated areas surrounding Placerville occurred at a much faster pace.³ The area immediately around Placerville grew by 5.9 percent, the Coloma-Lotus area grew by 6.2 percent, the Camino-Pollock Pines area by 9.9 percent, and the Diamond Springs area by 11.3 percent. While current development trends have slowed, SACOG projects significant future growth for these scenic rural communities in the plan area. These communities are located just east of the most rapidly growing communities in El Dorado County and suburban Sacramento, and are a commutable distance to these employment centers. The growth-driven demand for additional recreation services should be addressed both to protect the access current residents have to such services, and to preserve the desirable quality-of-life experience that attracts new residents to the plan area.

¹ Regional Analysis Districts are aggregations of SACOG's traffic analysis zones, and are intended to generally represent geographic or community areas which would be recognizable to residents of the region. Where possible the boundaries are fixed, linear geographic features (rivers, railroad lines, freeways). The boundaries are explicitly not jurisdictional. Personal communication from Bruce Griesenbeck, SACOG, February 13, 2009.

² State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2008, with 2000 Benchmark. Sacramento, California, May 2008.

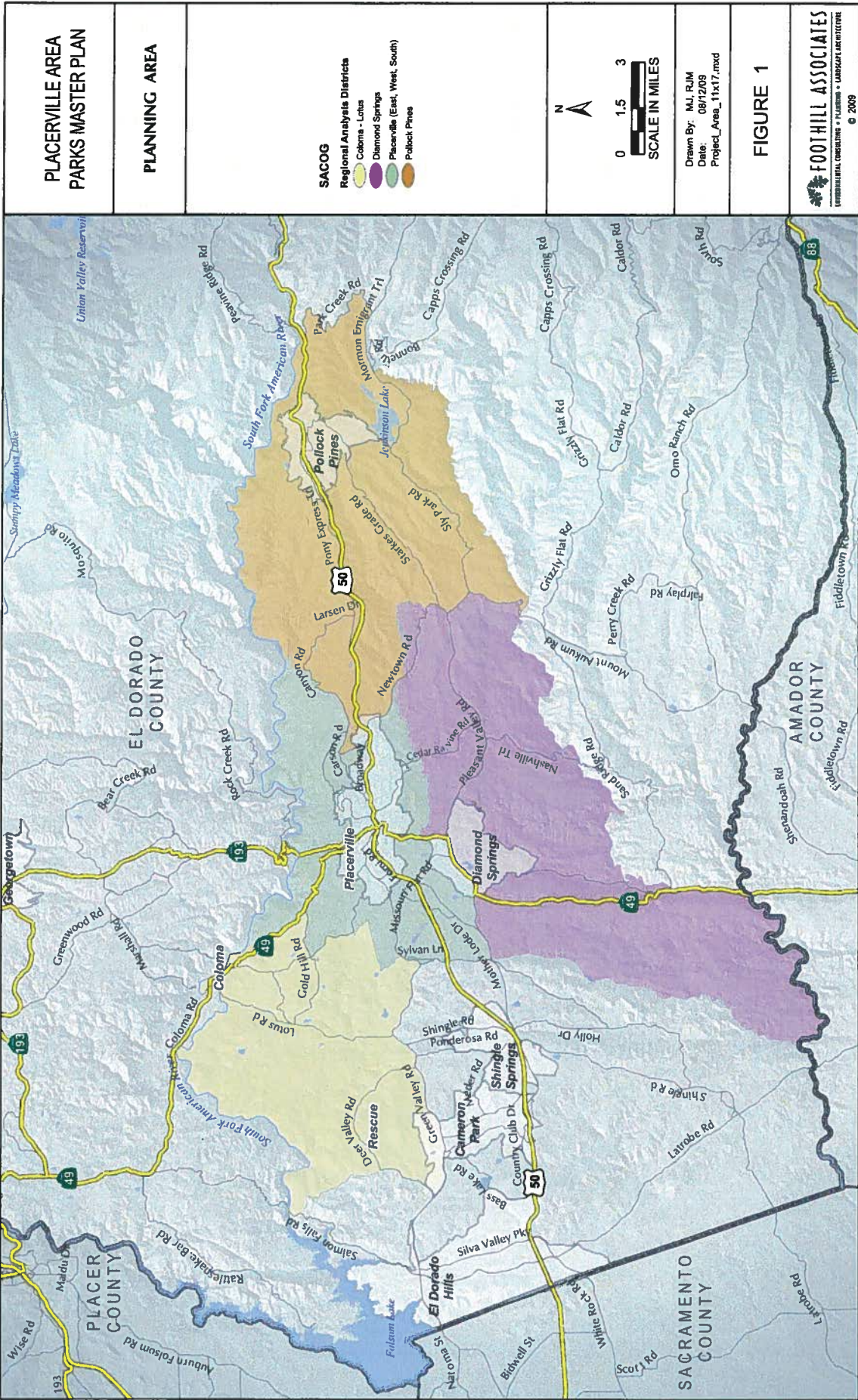
³ SACOG Population and Housing for El Dorado County, 2002 and SACOG DRAFT 2035 Projections for Households and Population by Housing Type and Employment by Sector, 2007.

As the population base increases and diversifies, residents will seek out a variety of recreation resources. There will continue to be demand for improved parks with 'active' use facilities such as sports fields and play areas, as well as access to unstructured or 'passive' recreation experiences such as hiking or mountain biking in natural open spaces. While the City has historically focused on providing improved active facilities, and the County has emphasized regional passive open space parks, each does provide some degree of both active and passive recreation resources. City and County facilities are complemented by certain school district facilities that are used during non-school hours for public recreation purposes. This Master Plan will help identify how best to coordinate which resources are provided and managed by each jurisdiction by considering various factors such as population density and the associated demand for various types of park facilities, as well as location and configuration of park improvements.

Another important focus of this Master Plan is the public demand for organized recreation activities, classes, and events. The City of Placerville offers a wide variety of recreation programs, community events, and life enrichment activities that are open to both City and County residents. The County does not have staff dedicated specifically to recreation programs; however, many recreational and life enrichment activities are directly or indirectly made available through various County departments. These include social programs through Public Health, Human Services, and Library Services; year-round recreational activities and events at the El Dorado County Fairgrounds; promotion of recreation-based tourism as an economic development strategy; trails planning through the Department of Transportation and El Dorado County Transportation Commission; river recreation; and youth programs through the El Dorado County Office of Education. Independent youth and adult sports leagues, and special interest groups also provide recreation programs within the plan area. This Master Plan examines how well the available recreation programs are meeting the needs of current plan area residents, and how anticipated demographics and preferences might influence future program offerings.

All of these services and facilities will be competing for the very limited operational and capital funding needed to construct and manage these resources. The City and County must work within their fiscal and operational limitations to allocate staff and funding towards the facilities and services that will have the most beneficial impact on plan area residents. This Master Plan provides information that will help establish current priorities, and determine the levels of funding and support that will be required to meet future needs. The need for development fees dedicated to recreation facilities is also addressed by this plan.

The Master Plan relies on projections of population and demographics, and makes assumptions about recreation preferences and trends. It will be necessary for the City and County to periodically review the Master Plan to make sure it accurately responds to residents' needs as future development occurs and the plan area evolves. The Master Plan also provides potential developers with a picture of the recreation vision for the plan area to aid them in designing their neighborhoods and understanding what type of recreational amenities they will be required to provide or help fund.



PLACERVILLE AREA PARK AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

Title Map 3: District Boundaries	
Applicant City of Placerville	
Date 2010	
Scale 1" = 1 mile	
Author City of Placerville Public Works Department 2010	
Revision None	
Where Available City of Placerville	

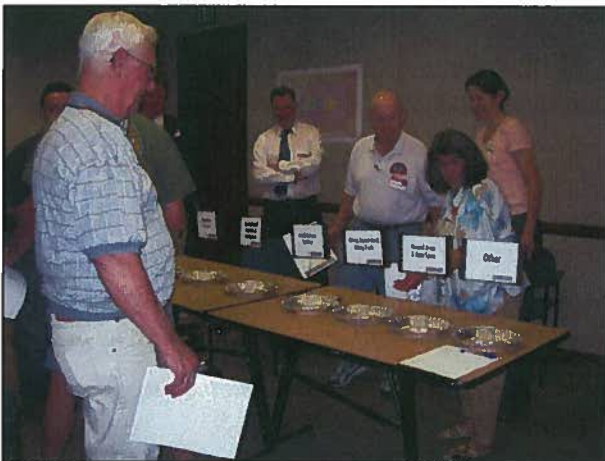
This page intentionally left blank.

Finally, it is important to remember that this Master Plan is a strategic planning document. While it identifies needs and general characteristics of specific facilities and programs and estimated costs, further design of these elements will be required. Detailed design, using the most current construction methods and materials, must be completed before implementation.

2.2 Master Plan Process

This Master Plan was developed by combining community input from the plan area residents, and City and County staff with analyses of data from a variety of sources. The planning process consisted of several distinct phases.

The Needs Assessment phase included analyzing current and projected demographic information about plan area residents, such as age, gender, and ethnicity. An inventory of existing park facilities was conducted to document the amenities and condition of each park. Data about the various types of recreational programs available to Placerville area residents were also gathered. Plan area residents were invited to provide their input on parks and recreation programs through



Community Meeting #1

participation in a randomized phone survey and by filling out a written survey available in hardcopy and online. Placerville area residents were also invited to participate in two community workshops to gather input about their recreational needs, spending priorities, and how best to allocate limited funds for recreation resources in the future. Inputs from all of these analyses were evaluated together with recreation planning guidelines to assess what types of facilities and programs are needed.

The recreation planning guidelines were based on input from the community as expressed in the workshops and surveys; City and County staff; the Placerville Recreation and Parks commissioners; a comparison with similar communities in the region; and national standards.

The next step in the process was to develop Recommendations and Phasing based on an analysis of how well the existing parks and programs met both the current and future recreation demand. During this exercise, relative priorities were assigned to the proposed improvements to help guide implementation timing. The results of this analysis were shared with the public at a meeting of the Placerville Recreation and Parks Commission.

A draft Financing Plan was then developed to identify capital and operational costs, as well as required revenues from various sources to fund these expenses over the next 10-year period. A draft of the Financing Plan was presented at a public meeting of the Placerville

Recreation and Parks Commission for review and comment. The Financing Plan was then finalized and incorporated into the administrative draft of the Placerville Area Parks Master Plan. This document was circulated to City and County staff, and City and County Recreation Commissions for review and comment. The resultant draft Placerville Area Parks Master Plan will be presented in a public meetings to the Placerville City Council. Comments from this meeting will be incorporated into the final Master Plan, which will then be presented to the Placerville City Council for adoption. It is the intent of El Dorado County to consider recommendations in the Placerville Area Parks Master Plan related to El Dorado County park facilities and incorporate them as appropriate into a countywide Parks and Trail Master Plan currently under development.

2.3 Other City and County Plans

City of Placerville

The City of Placerville General Plan provides for the establishment of a Placerville park system and recreation program in Goal D of the Public Facilities and Services element, along with a series of implementing policies.⁴

GOAL D: To establish and maintain a park system and recreation program that are suited to the needs of Placerville residents and visitors.

Policies

1. *The City shall expand the community and neighborhood park system with the goal of providing park facilities within reasonable walking distance of all City residents.*
2. *City park acquisition and development efforts shall be based on a goal of five acres of usable developed neighborhood and community parkland per 1,000 residents within the City limits.*
3. *The City shall continue to assess park development fees on all new residential development sufficient to fund citywide park improvements.*
4. *The City shall give priority in its park acquisition and development program to parks for active recreation over parks for passive recreation.*
5. *The City shall give joint use of school facilities, including college and County Office of Education facilities, a high priority in its park development program.*
6. *The City shall aggressively pursue State funding programs for park acquisition and development to augment City revenues to the extent State funding is available.*
7. *The City shall explore alternative approaches to financing parkland development, including park assessment districts, County collection of parkland development fees, and increases in user fees for County residents.*

⁴ City of Placerville General Plan Policy Document, January 1989, Amended December 14, 2004.

8. *The City shall encourage the County to provide additional parkland for residents in the unincorporated Placerville area.*
9. *The City shall, within fiscal limitations, develop another baseball field on the west side of the City and develop a park that includes a swimming pool on the east side of the City.*
10. *The City shall promote the provision of private open space and recreational facilities as part of new residential developments.*
11. *The City shall continue cooperative agreements with the school districts for the use of school facilities for City –sponsored recreation programs.*
12. *The City shall periodically survey community attitudes and preferences for recreational programs.*

Other General Plan elements are indirectly related to the provision of parks and recreation by the City of Placerville. The Housing element provides projections of new residential construction through the vacant lands inventory, annexation, and infill development, all of which could generate demand for additional parks and recreation programs.

Goals E, F, and I from the General Plan Transportation element and related policies address bicycle and pedestrian circulation, including connections to existing and planned local and regional bicycle routes and opportunities to locate park facilities along pedestrian and bicycle accessible routes.

Several goals in the Natural, Cultural, and Scenic Resources element of the General Plan are relevant to park facility design, maintenance, and use. Goal A encourages water quality protection and water conservation. Goal D provides for the protection of natural vegetation and wildlife. Energy and resource conservation are addressed by Goal F. Goals G and I provide direction on preserving Placerville's historical heritage, community character, and scenic resources. The Community Design element Goal A includes other policies related to preservation of visual attributes of Placerville, including preservation of natural vegetation. The Health and Safety element includes Goal C (flood protection) and Goal D (fire protection). Improvements at existing parks and the development of new parks will need to incorporate design concepts, materials, and construction techniques that are consistent with all of these goals and policies.

The City of Placerville also has adopted a *Non-Motorized Transportation Plan* (2005), which provides some analysis of which parks are located on pedestrian and/or bicycle routes.

El Dorado County

The El Dorado County General Plan has two major elements that specifically address parks and recreation. The Parks and Recreation element discusses the provision and maintenance of parks, recreation facilities, and trails to serve El Dorado County while the Conservation and Open Space element deals with the conservation of open space for outdoor recreation.⁵ Both of these elements include numerous goals, objective, policies, and implementation

⁵ El Dorado County General Plan, Conservation and Open Space Element, July 2004.

measures that provide clarification of the County’s overarching vision and role in providing recreation amenities. While much of this General Plan information addresses issues that are beyond the focus of this Master Plan, some of the information is relevant to this planning process, particularly as it relates to coordination with the types of recreation resources provided by the City of Placerville.⁶

The Parks and Recreation element Goal 9.1 with its supporting objectives and policies directs that the County shall assume primary responsibility for acquisition and development of regional parks, and shall assist with acquisition and development of neighborhood and community parks.

Neighborhood parks are identified as being within walking or biking distance of the residents they serve, generally 2 to 10 acres in size, and preferably located adjacent to schools. Typical improvements include play area, turf, and picnic facilities. Community parks and recreation facilities are intended to provide a focal point and gathering place for the larger community and range from 10 to 44 acres in size. They may include sports fields and courts, picnic facilities, play areas, a swimming pool, and a community center. Regional parks and recreation facilities shall incorporate natural features and serve a region involving more than one community. Size may range from 30 to 10,000 acres with the preferred size being several hundred acres. Facilities may include all those found at neighborhood and community parks, as well as special use facilities such as amphitheaters, trails, campgrounds, and interpretive centers. Guidelines for acquisition and development of park facilities are also provided (Table 1).

Table 1 – El Dorado County General Plan Guidelines for Acquisition and Development of Park Facilities

Park Types	Developed
Regional Parks	1.5 ac/1,000 population
Community Parks	1.5 ac/1,000 population
Neighborhood Parks	2.0 ac/1,000 population
Specific Standards (Neighborhood and Community Parks)	
Cameron Park Community Services District	5.0 ac/1,000 population
El Dorado Hills Community Services District	5.0 ac/1,000 population
Planned Communities	5.0 ac/1,000 population

⁶ The relevant information is summarized and not presented in full detail, since this Master Plan will not be adopted by El Dorado County and instead will be used to inform the development of a separate County Parks and Trails Master Plan. The full text of the El Dorado County General Plan may be found at the following web site: <http://www.co.el-dorado.ca.us/Planning/GeneralPlanAdopted.html>

Goal 9.1 also encourages the County to support joint efforts with Community Service Districts, cities, school districts, and independent recreation districts to provide parks and recreation facilities. The County further assumes responsibility for acquiring and developing as feasible regional non-motorized trails outside of the boundaries of cities and other jurisdictions with park and recreation taxing authority.

Goal 9.2 and its objectives and policies direct that resources and funding for implementation of County parks and recreation improvements is to come from a variety of sources, including land dedication or fees in-lieu under the Quimby Act, benefit assessment districts, and development impact fees, in coordination with cities and local districts.

Goal 9.3 and its objectives and policies direct the County to promote recreation-based tourism and businesses, and to actively encourage major recreational events.

The County has also developed several other plans that provide additional information about specialized recreation resources and needs. The El Dorado County Bicycle Transportation Plan (2005) focuses on the transportation function of bicycle routes, including off-street trails that also have recreational value. The El Dorado County River Management Plan (2001) deals exclusively with whitewater recreation activities on the South Fork of the American River from Chili Bar Dam to Salmon Falls Road. While a portion of this river segment is within the plan area, whitewater recreation facilities are not addressed in this Master Plan due to the specialized nature of the activity.

This page intentionally left blank.

3 Recreational Resources

Park and recreation amenities available to Placerville area residents include services and facilities provided by the City of Placerville, El Dorado County, and a variety of other providers such as the State of California and local school districts. In addition, privately operated recreation programs and facilities are also available within the plan area, such as health clubs and golf courses.

Other public recreation providers in the region immediately beyond the Placerville area include the Cameron Park Community Services District, the El Dorado Hills Community Services District, the Georgetown Divide Recreation District, the El Dorado Irrigation District, and the Eldorado National Forest. While the facilities operated by these entities may in some cases supplement the recreation experience of Placerville area residents, they are not a substitute for access to local recreation resources considered in this Master Plan. The location of City and County recreation facilities within the plan area is illustrated in Figure 2. Table 2 shows a detailed inventory of the City and County parks and their amenities.

3.1 City of Placerville

The City of Placerville Community Services Department is responsible for managing and maintaining parks and public facilities within the City limits. Non-park facilities, such as City Hall and the cemeteries, are maintained by the Community Services Department but are not considered in this Master Plan. Recreation facilities maintained by Community Services Department Parks staff include six public parks, the Placerville Aquatic Center, and a portion of the El Dorado Trail. The Community Services Recreation staff is responsible for coordinating an extensive year-round offering of community recreation programs, including contracting with instructors and identifying facilities for the programs. Rentals and reservations for several City-owned recreation facilities are also coordinated by the Recreation staff.

Existing Parks

The City of Placerville has one large regional park located on the north side of town and accessed from Bedford Avenue. **Gold Bug Park** occupies 61.5 acres of mostly natural wooded hills surrounding an historic mining site. Features at this park include the historic mine, group and individual picnic areas, paved paths and unpaved trails, restrooms and various mine facilities. Off-street parking is available near the covered Liberty Claim Pavilion, which can be rented for group picnic events. A seasonal stream runs



Liberty Claim Pavilion at Gold Bug Park

through the park, and several bridges provide access from the parking lots and trails.

Gold Bug Park is a very popular destination for local and regional visitors. Hattie's Museum and the Gift Shop include displays of historic tools and artifacts, and offer books and other souvenirs for sale. Visitors can also tour the Joshua Hendy Stamp Mill, a working model of gold-extraction mill. Volunteer guides provide popular tours, and many school groups utilize the park in spring and fall. Students study California History and the gold rush era while enjoying a variety of interpretive experiences including gold mine tours, gem panning, hiking trails, and visits to the museum, gift shop and stamp mill.

Future planned improvements to Gold Bug Park include renovation of the Meagher House as an interpretive and education center. The City is currently developing and implementing a fire-safe plan for the park. The park is a designated State Point of Historic Interest and is included in the National Register of Historic Places.

Placerville has two community parks: Benham Park and Lions Park. **Benham Park**, also known as City Park, occupies 1.60 acres in the center of town. Located on Benham Street, this park has a tot lot and children's play equipment, picnic facilities, and a basketball court. The **Placerville Aquatic Center** is also located here. The aquatics facility includes multiple interconnected swimming pools with a water slide, a water play/spray area, and a restroom and shower complex. Benham Park also has a small meeting structure called Scout Hall, a multi-use field and plumbed restrooms. Parking is on-street. The aquatic center shares parking with the adjacent church.

Lions Park is a 24-acre community park located on Cedar Ravine Road. Built largely during the mid-1960's by the Placerville Lions Club, the park includes 2 softball fields, tennis courts, a play structure, individual picnic areas, a covered group picnic area, horseshoe pits, a multi-use field, off-street parking, and plumbed restrooms. The group picnic area is available by reservation for private events. A popular disc golf course occupies a natural area in the southeast corner of the park. Foot bridges across an existing drainage connect the sports fields to the multi-use field and tennis courts. The City also stores maintenance equipment for the park in a small structure on-site.

There are three neighborhood parks in Placerville: Rotary Park, Lumsden Park and Orchard Hill Park. **Rotary Park** is located on Clark Street and encompasses 4 acres, centered on a lighted little-league baseball field and terraced spectator seating areas. The park also includes a children's play area, picnic tables, and restrooms. A concession stand is located south of the ballfield above the seating area. Head-in on-street parking is available at the park site; however, capacity can be insufficient during All-Stars games.

Lumsden Park occupies 4 acres in a wooded hilly area on the southeastern side of town. The park is divided into three spaces: a pond to the south, a wooded picnic area with restrooms and horseshoe pits north of the pond, and a children's play area across Wiltse Road from the picnic area. A seasonal stream winds through the picnic area from the pond, and a bridge across the stream provides access to the restroom facility. On-street parking is located between the play area and the picnic facilities.



Table 2 - Placerville Area City and County Recreation Facilities Inventory

Facility Name	Address	Total Acreage	Neighborhood Park Acreage	Community Park Acreage	Regional Park Acreage	Within Placerville City Limits?	Amphitheater	Little League Ballfields	Regulation Hardball Ballfields	Softball Ballfields	Regulation Soccer Field	Junior Soccer Field	Other Soccer Field	Multi-Use Field	Outdoor Volleyball	Outdoor Basketball (# of hoops)	Tennis Courts	Children's Play Area	Tot Lot	Water Play Area	Swimming Pool	Multi-purpose Room/Cubhouse	Community Center	Gymnasium	Non-group Area Picnic Tables	Group Area Picnic Tables	Group Picnic Area	Horseshoe Pit	Disc Golf	Skate Park	Dog Park	Restrooms	Pond/Lake	Paths/Trails	Natural/Nature Area	Off-Street Parking	Maintenance Shop					
EXISTING FACILITIES																																										
Gold Bug Park	2635 Goldbug Lane	61.5		61.5		√																			3	12	1						1	1	√	√	√	√				
Bentham Park or City Park	3071 Bentham Street	1.6	1.6			√								1	2			1	1	1	1	1			7																	
Rotary Park	3155 Clark Street	4.0	4.0			√								1				1	1						3																	
Lions Park	3633 Cedar Ravine Road	24.0	24.0			√			2					1				2	1						5	6	1	2	1													
Lumsden Park	3144 Wittise	4.0	4.0			√								1				1	1						3																	
Orchard Hill	2355 Green Wing Lane	1.7	1.7			√								1	1			1	1						3																	
	Subtotal	96.8	9.7	25.6	61.5		0	1	0	2	0	0	0	5	0	3	2	1	5	1	1	1	0	0	24	18	2	3	1	0	0	6	2									
Henningsen Lotus Park	950 Lotus Road	51.0		51.0																																						
Joe's Skate Park	Placerville Drive	1.0		1.0		√																																				
Croanan Ranch ¹	Pedro Hill Road	62.0		62.0																																						
Chili Bar ¹	1669-1671 Chili Bar Court, State Hwy 193	15.7		15.7																																						
	Subtotal	129.7	0.0	52.0	77.7		0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	8	8	1	0	0	1	0	3	0									
	Total Existing Facilities	226.5	19.4	103.2	200.7		0	2	0	3	1	1	0	5	0	3	2	1	6	1	1	2	0	0	32	26	3	3	1	1	0	9	2									
PROPOSED FACILITIES																																										
Duffy Park (City)	Clay Street & Arizona Drive	1.5	1.5			√								1				1																								
Pollock Pines Community Park (County)	Red Hook Trail	26.0		26.0										1	2			1	1							4		1	3													
	Total Proposed Facilities	27.50	1.50	26.00	0.00		1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	7	0	1	3	0	0	0	1										
City of Placerville Total Existing and Proposed		98.3	11.2	25.6	61.5		0	1	0	2	0	0	0	6	0	3	2	2	5	1	1	1	0	0	27	18	2	3	1	0	0	6	2									
El Dorado County Total Existing and Proposed		155.7	0.0	78.0	77.7		1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	0	12	8	2	3	0	1	0	4	0									

¹Located immediately outside but adjacent to plan area

Located on the west side of town on Green Wing Lane, the 1.7-acre **Orchard Hill Park** serves the local neighborhood with a multi-use field, two outdoor basketball courts, a tot lot, and individual picnic tables with barbeques. A massive oak tree occupies the center of the site. Head-in on-street parking is available.

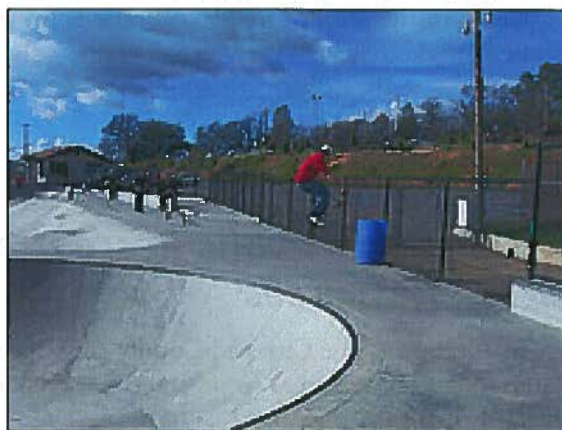
Planned Parks

Duffy Park will be a small 1.5-acre neighborhood park located between Clay and Pleasant Streets at Arizona Drive. The park will contain a children’s play area, a multi-use field, individual picnic tables, and a perimeter path. Construction timing is yet to be determined and is dependent on funding.

3.2 El Dorado County Parks

El Dorado County owns and maintains two recreation facilities outside of the City of Placerville but within the planning area. The largest of these, **Henningsen Lotus Park**, occupies 51 acres on the site of an old gravel mining operation in the community of Lotus. Henningsen Lotus Park is a community facility containing little league ballfields, softball fields, a regulation soccer field, a junior soccer field, individual picnic tables, a group picnic area, and restrooms. The park is adjacent to the South Fork of the American River, a very popular rafting and kayaking venue, and a boat launch area and beach are located on the downstream end of the park. Paved paths throughout the park are popular with cyclists and skaters. The ballfields are lighted, which allows nighttime use of the facilities. The soccer fields are a particularly important resource, since they are the only public non-school fields available for league soccer play within the planning area. Parking is off-street. The park is heavily used during the summer season. The soccer fields, ballfields, and pavilion may be leased for private use.

Joe’s Skate Park is located at El Dorado County Fairgrounds and is very popular with local skateboarders and motocross bicyclists. It is a supervised skate park and is open only on Saturdays, but the County is exploring options to involve the community in keeping it open for additional days. The facility occupies about an acre and consists of fixed, in-ground skating facilities.



El Dorado County also owns two other regional parks that are located just outside of the plan area: Cronan Ranch and Chili Bar. While neither of these provides the type of neighborhood or community park facilities which are the focus of this plan, they are included for consideration in evaluating the County’s goals for providing regional recreation resources. The County owns a 62-acre portion of the **Cronan Ranch Regional Trails Park** which is located northwest of the planning area in Pilot Hill. Cronan Ranch Regional Trails Park is a 1,600-acre natural area that was acquired through the cooperative efforts of the American River Conservancy, the Bureau of Land Management, and others. It is held in

public trust to be used exclusively for recreation and wildlife conservation. The County has not yet developed conceptual plans for the County owned portion, but its uses will be similarly constrained by the terms of the easement.

Chili Bar is a rafting/kayaking put-in spot immediately downstream of the Highway 193 bridge over the South Fork of the American River. Owned by El Dorado County and operated by the American River Conservancy, Chili Bar is one of the most heavily used access points on the river. A store at Chili Bar sells supplies and snacks. Off-street parking and minimal day use facilities are also available. The park operates only during the rafting season, however, the County is exploring ways to expand visitation.

The County also owns a parcel next to El Dorado High School known as Bennett Park, which includes the high school's football and baseball fields. Since the high school has maintained and overseen use of these facilities for many years, the County does not include the area in its inventory of publicly accessible park sites.

The 48-acre **El Dorado County Fairground** is located in the western part of the City of Placerville. The fairgrounds are operated by the El Dorado County Fair Association under contract with El Dorado County. Attracting 65,000 visitors over its four day run each June, the fair also hosts a variety of events throughout the year including horse and dog shows, bingo, holiday events, and a monthly flea market. The grounds and facilities may be rented for private events. The El Dorado County Fairgrounds is also the home to the Imagination Theater, a local acting troupe.

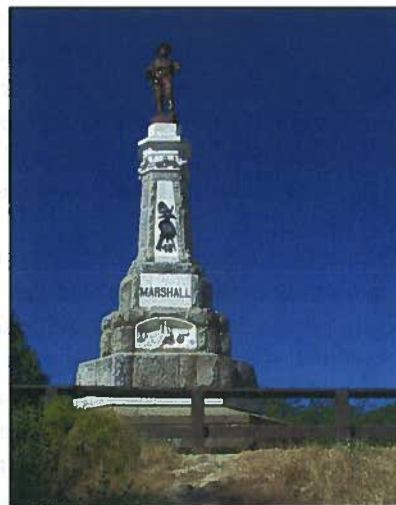
Planned Parks

El Dorado County is currently developing construction drawings for the **Pollock Pines Community Park**. Once the park is completed, amenities will include a ballfield, soccer field, basketball court, volleyball court, horseshoe pits, playground, restrooms, nature pavilion, trails, off-street parking, and an outdoor classroom amphitheater. The park will cover 26 acres at the end of Red Hook Trail north of U.S. 50 in the Pollock Pines community.

3.3 Other Public Recreational Resources

In addition to the City and County parks, plan area residents enjoy access to several other recreation facilities in the region.

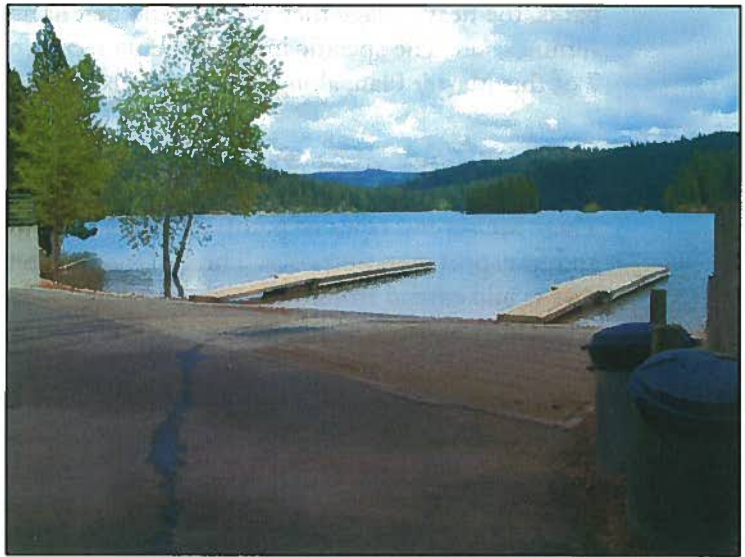
Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park in Coloma is run by the State of California and is located on the site where James Marshall first discovered gold in 1948, sparking the California Gold Rush. The park, acquired by the State in 1942, encompasses much of the historic town of Coloma. It features numerous exhibits and historic structures including Marshall's



Marshall Monument in Coloma

Monument, a recreation of Sutter’s Mill, Marshall’s Cabin, Pioneer Cemetery, a school house, and many other cabins and historic shops. Other facilities within the park include a museum/visitors’ center, an operating post-office, park headquarters, and the American River Conservancy’s Nature Center. Group and individual picnic tables are available for day use. The South Fork of the American River flows from east to west across the northern portion of the park, and informal boat put-in and take-out beaches are available for rafters and kayakers. There are approximately 5 miles of trails throughout the park, and numerous off-street parking lots provide for dispersed parking throughout the site.

On the eastern end of the planning area, located south of the Pollock Pines community, the **Sly Park Recreation Area** (SPRA) is centered on the 640-acre Jenkinson Lake. The SPRA, run by the El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) offers group and individual camping sites, 9 miles of multi-use trails, an equestrian camping area, day use areas, boat ramps, boat rentals, meeting rooms, and fishing. Sly Park is a very popular summertime regional destination for camping, water sports, hiking, and equestrians. Planning is currently underway to relocate the Sugarloaf Fine Arts Camp, operated by the El Dorado County Office of Education, to a site within SPRA.



Jenkinson Lake at Sly Park

The **Cameron Park Rotary Community Observatory** is located adjacent to the Folsom Lakes College El Dorado Center in Placerville. This facility, staffed by volunteer docents, is open free of charge and is fully accessible. The Observatory may also be reserved for special events by school and non-school groups interested in astronomy.

Outside of the plan area, there are several other important regional recreation resources. The **Folsom Lake State Recreation Area** provides water sports, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, and camping recreation for the region. Folsom Lake is usually the take-out spot for rafters and kayakers departing from Chili Bar, Marshall Gold Discovery Historic State Park, and other sites upstream. Camping is available on Rattlesnake Bar, and a marina provides boat slips and storage on Brown’s Ravine. Numerous ramps around the lake provide boat and personal watercraft access to the lake. A trail is planned to connect the Folsom Lake State Recreation Area with Cronan Ranch along the South Fork of the American River.

Located just east of the City of Placerville, **El Dorado National Forest** is operated by the United States Forest Service and offers numerous recreational opportunities including fishing, swimming, hiking trails, biking, equestrian trails, day use areas, and campgrounds. Popular summertime destinations within the National Forest include Union Valley and Ice

House Reservoirs, Loon Lake, Silver Lake, Caples Lake, Wrights Lake, Horsetail Falls, and the Desolation Wilderness. Winter activities, such as cross-country skiing, downhill skiing, and snowmobiling, are within easy reach of Placerville and the surrounding areas.

3.4 Park Conditions

While some of the older Placerville area parks are in need of updating and replacement of worn equipment, all the parks are well maintained with little evidence of vandalism or neglect. The types of enhancements needed are, in general, consistent with the age of the parks, the heavy usage they receive, and deterioration from exposure to winter snows and summer sun. The specific improvements recommended for each park are detailed in Chapter 7 of this Master Plan, along with their relative priority.

3.5 Paths and Trails

There are several types of paths and trails available to plan area residents for both recreation and transportation purposes. The El Dorado Trail is conceived as a multi-modal corridor that would extend from the western County boundary to the Lake Tahoe Basin. The segment from the Sacramento-El Dorado County border to the west side of Placerville is



El Dorado Trail

part of the Sacramento-Placerville Transportation Corridor and occupies the former Southern Pacific rail alignment. The segment through Placerville and east to Camino is being developed by the City of Placerville and El Dorado County. Several segments already constructed include about 4.5 miles of paved, Class I bike trail that roughly parallels Highway 50 from Clay Street to Las Trampas Drive. Approximately 2 miles of this section is within the Placerville City limits. The trail continues east of the paved section as an unpaved trail for another 1.8 miles to Camino Heights. The alignment from Camino east to Tahoe has not yet been determined, but the California Cross

State Bicycle Trail study completed in 2005 suggested potential routes. An unpaved nature trail from Missouri Flat Road to Oriental Road is open for hiking, mountain bikes, and equestrians.⁷

Additional unpaved nature trails are located in Gold Bug Park, Marshall Gold Discovery Park, and the Cronan Ranch Regional Trails Park. Gold Bug Park has about 1.5 miles of walking paths. The Marshall Gold Discovery Historic State Park has approximately 5 miles of multiuse trails that may be used for hiking, equestrian, and mountain biking. Approximately 11 miles of hiking, biking, and equestrian trails are located within the Sly Park

⁷ El Dorado County Transportation Commission. 2008. Website:http://www.edctc.org/_eldoradotrail.htm

Recreation Area. Cronan Ranch along the South Fork of the American River has another 12 miles of multiuse trails with more trails planned for the future.

Many informal trails have been blazed throughout the unincorporated planning area, including those along EID ditches. An important effort in future trail planning will be to evaluate the feasibility of acquiring easements for the more desirable of these undesignated trails. This will be considered as part of the County's trails planning process.

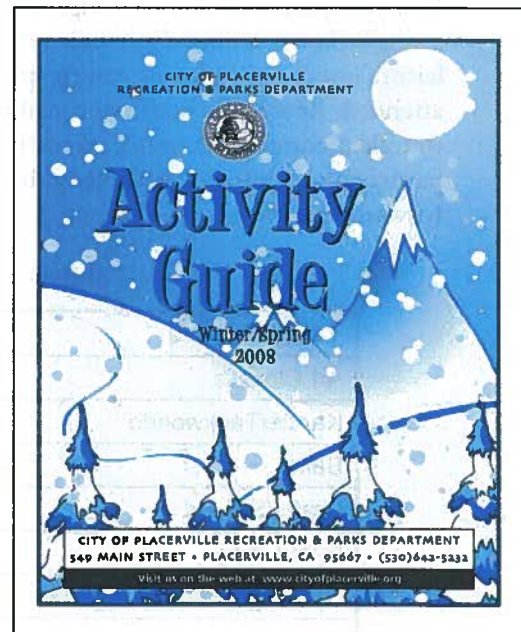
3.6 Recreation Programs

The City of Placerville runs a wide variety of recreation programs for City and County residents of all ages. These programs include football, basketball, soccer, volleyball, tennis, and sports camps. An extensive aquatics program is also available with swimming lessons, lap swim, water exercise, family swim, pool play, junior lifeguard and swim aides training, as well as use by the Dry Diggins Dolphins swim team. Self-improvement and life enrichment courses are offered including art, cooking, taekwondo, Pilates, and dance. The City also coordinates special events such as the Spring Fishing Derby at Lumsden Park and the October Spooktacular.

The Placerville Recreation and Parks Department staff produces a comprehensive Activities Guide three times a year. The guide is mailed out to residents upon request, and to prior program participants. It is also posted on the City's web site, and is available at Town Hall, Gold Bug Park, and the Chamber of Commerce. It lists classes, camps, aquatics programs, adult sports leagues, and upcoming special events as well as contacts for the youth and adults sports leagues that are not run by the City. Information on facility rentals and fees is also provided. Facilities available for rent include Town Hall, Scout Hall, Liberty Claim Pavilion at Gold Bug Park, the Lions Park gazebo, and the Placerville Aquatic Center. The City will also rent out barbecue equipment for large group events.

Fees are charged for most programs and are collected by the Recreation staff through the registration process. Youth fee assistance is available for qualified families through the Recreation for Youth Fund. City and County residents pay the same fees for all programs. Instructors are selected from the local and surrounding communities.

Due to the high demand for programs within the plan area and the limited number of City facilities available, programs are held at a combination of City, school, and private facilities. The various meeting rooms and kitchen at Town Hall are very heavily used as are the ballfields at Lions' Park. The El Dorado High School gym and pool, and the Markham



Placerville Activities Guide



Junior High School gym are also heavily used. City programs rely on these facilities because the City pool is closed except during the summer season and there are no gymnasiums in City-owned facilities.

The City has agreements with a number of private entities to share recreational resources. Town Hall is utilized by a Bingo group on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month, and Mountainside Spiritual Center uses the hall for Sunday services several times a month. Additionally, the City offers classes in several private facilities such as Foothill Taekwondo, All Star Gymnastics, the Placerville Performing Arts Center, and Stage Right Studio. Agreements for these off-site classes are made on a class-by-class basis.

The breadth and popularity of the City recreation programs is illustrated in the attendance figures for the four year period of 2005 through 2008 (Table 3 through Table 7). Each individual attending a single class is counted as single occurrence. All program areas including youth and adult leisure enrichment classes, youth sports camps, aquatics, and sports leagues are well attended. Recreation staff continually review demand for programs and adjust the offerings to reflect community trends. Since most of the recreation program costs are paid from participant registration fees, only those programs that have sustained attendance are carried forward from season to season.

Table 3 – Youth Classes Attendance

Youth Classes	2005	2006	2007	2008	TOTAL
Art Classes	8	48	80	128	264
Karate/Taekwondo	93	57	53	30	233
Ballet	22	70	36	0	128
Crafts/Sewing	18	12	33	33	96
Babysitting	0	21	22	45	88
Cooking	11	10	27	25	73
Dancing	28	13	0	23	64
Exercise/Aerobics	11	9	20	0	40
Nature/History	35	0	0	0	35
Reading/Writing/Language	9	12	11	0	32
Other	7	4	9	4	24
Proud to be Polite	8	7	0	0	15
Drama	7	0	0	3	10
Yoga/Meditation	6	0	0	0	6

Table 4 – Adult Classes Attendance

Adult Classes	2005	2006	2007	2008	TOTAL
Exercise/Aerobics	450	555	430	159	1,594
Yoga/Meditation	303	353	274	188	1,118
Dancing	222	281	302	91	896
Tai Chi	181	196	129	92	598
Crafts/Art Classes	54	79	33	28	194
Computer	38	13	57	83	191
Stained Glass	32	30	53	20	135
Dog Obedience	26	33	33	42	134
Pilates	31	28	26	10	95
Cooking	44	42	0	0	86
Other	8	0	0	10	18
Tennis	0	12	4	0	16
Karate/Taekwondo	2	5	0	0	7
Ballet	0	1	0	0	1

Table 5 – Youth Sports Camps Attendance

Camps	2005	2006	2007	2008	TOTAL
Basketball	149	286	335	141	911
Football	179	215	283	200	877
Soccer	126	163	131	199	619
Tennis	87	107	131	125	450
Volleyball	62	35	70	78	245
T-Ball/Softball/Baseball	31	90	58	60	239
Cheerleading	35	82	84	30	231
Golf	0	26	41	37	104
Taekwondo	20	11	0	0	31

Table 6 – Aquatics Programs Attendance

	2005	2006	2007	2008	TOTAL
Rec Swimming	0	18,799	16,578	12,472	47,849
Wading Pool Play	0	1,874	2,068	1,821	5,763
Lap Swimming	0	2,452	1,189	1,298	4,939
Swim Lessons	0	1,698	1,748	1,242	4,688
Competitive Swimming	238	260	267	246	1,011
Water Aerobics	0	0	473	374	847

Table 7 – Sports Leagues Participation

	Number of Teams				
Adult Sports	2005	2006	2007	2008	TOTAL
Softball	237	243	240	230	950
5 on 5 Basketball	74	71	42	58	245
3 on 3 Basketball	33	33	38	56	160
Volleyball	0	0	0	27	27
	Number of Teams				
Youth Sports	2005	2006	2007	2008	TOTAL
Basketball	114	105	97	97	413

3.7 Private Recreation Facilities and Programs

The Placerville area is rich with diverse recreation opportunities for all ages and interests. There are many privately operated recreation businesses serving the plan area and complementing the public recreation resources. Several private campgrounds provide camping and access to the American River, including Coloma Resort, Ponderosa Park, and Camp Lotus. Numerous private rafting outfitters offer trips on the South Fork of the American River. Two private golf courses that are also open to the public are located within the plan area, including the 18-hole Cold Springs Golf and Country Club in Placerville, and the 9-hole Camino Heights Golf Club in Camino. The 18-hole Apple Mountain Golf Resort in Camino is the only public course in the planning area.

Local farmers and food producers host regular Farmers Markets as well as many seasonal activities to promote their wares including apple, wine, microbrews, olive oil, and Christmas trees. The Olde Coloma Theater in Coloma presents plays in a historical setting during the summer season and also runs educational performances for schools. The Fountain-Tallman Museum, operated by the El Dorado County Historical Society, and the El Dorado County Historical Museum are both located in Placerville and house interesting collections

highlighting local history. Located across the river from the State Historic Park, Coloma Outdoor Discovery School is a private, non-profit learning center that provides educational programs to school children. Many other recreation opportunities are available through local stables, health clubs, and fitness studios.

Additional recreational opportunities are available for Placerville area youth including the Boys and Girls Club of El Dorado County Western Slope, 4-H Youth Development, Girl Scouts, and Boy Scouts. Various hobby clubs in the area include the Bridge Club of the Foothills, Placerville Area Chess Club, Dogwood Garden Club, El Dorado Camera Club, El Dorado County Mineral and Gem Society, and El Dorado Rod and Gun Club. Bingo is held at the City of Placerville Town Hall every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month.

There are a number of private sports leagues that operate in the Placerville Area. Gold Rush Little League and Snowline Little League organize T-Ball, Farm, Minor, and Major teams. The Sierra Gold, High Sierra, and Prospectors Soccer Clubs offer recreational and league play for ages 4 through 18. Placerville Girls Softball provides fast pitch team play for girls from ages 4 ½ through 18. The Placerville Prospectors Senior Softball offers league play for senior citizens in the area. Football and cheer activities are coordinated by the Ponderosa Junior Bruins, Union Mine Junior Rattlers and Cheer, and El Dorado Junior Cougars Football and Cheer. Other organized sports activities are coordinated by the Sierra Storm Girls' Basketball Club, the Special Olympics, and Hangtown Women's Tennis Club.

Many special events are available to plan area residents and visitors, in addition to those coordinated by the City Recreation staff. The Placerville Downtown Association organizes numerous community activities throughout the year designed to bring local residents and visitors to the business core on Main Street. These include the Placerville Art Walk, the Bell Tower Breakfast, the Craft Faire, the Antique Street Faire, and the Art and Wine Festival. Activities coordinated by the Fairgrounds Association include bingo, horse shows, and a monthly flea market. A private company operates the Placerville Speedway at the fairgrounds and offers a six-month season of auto and motorcycle racing events. The Imagination Theater at the fairgrounds provides musical performances, plays, and acting workshops.



Apple Hill Orchards

3.8 School Resources

Eight public school districts provide educational services in the City of Placerville and surrounding areas.⁸ Placerville Union School District serves 1,160 students from kindergarten through 8th grade with two elementary and two middle schools. The El Dorado Union High School District serves 7,248 students in and around Placerville with eight high schools, including three alternative schools and one charter school. The High School District also provides adult education and occupational training services. Gold Trail Union Elementary School District provides one elementary school for kindergarten through 3rd grade and one school for 4th through 8th grade with a total of 564 students. Gold Oak Union Elementary School District serves 720 students with two middle schools and one elementary school.

The Camino Union School District has 508 students in one school with kindergarten through 8th grade. Mother Lode Union School District has two elementary schools and one middle school for a total of 1,574 students. Pollock Pines School District has two schools serving 799 students in kindergarten through 4th grade and 5th through 8th grade. Rescue Union School District has two elementary schools and one middle school serving plan area residents as well as several schools outside of the plan area.

School campuses provide many recreational amenities to the community in the form of sports fields and courts, and performance and meeting areas. The use of some school facilities for recreation purposes is governed by joint use agreements with the City of Placerville. Under these agreements, programs sponsored by the City have priority to use these facilities second only to the school district programs.

The City currently has a joint use agreement with Placerville Union School District to utilize the gymnasium at Markham Junior High School for a period of 40 years beginning in fall of 2004. The City also has a joint use agreement with the El Dorado Union High School District to use classrooms and other building facilities, the pool, gymnasiums, school grounds, and play fields of El Dorado High School (EDHS) in exchange for allowing the School District to utilize City recreational facilities such as play fields, the swimming pool, parks, meeting rooms, and community centers. Several of the EDHS facilities covered under this joint use agreement are actually located in the county-owned parcel called Bennett Park, but EDHS controls use of these fields. This agreement has a term of 15 years beginning in 2000. Of the facilities available at EDHS, the City currently utilizes 1 football/soccer field, 6 tennis courts, the swimming pool, 2 gymnasiums with indoor basketball courts, and the amphitheater. The joint use agreement with EDHS requires that the City pay for facility improvements or equipment in lieu of hourly rental fees. In addition, the City has informal agreements with 13 other area schools to use facilities in exchange for an hourly rental rate.

⁸ El Dorado County Office of Education, <http://www.edcoe.k12.ca.us/districts/eduhds.html>

4 Community Character

4.1 The City of Placerville and Region

The City of Placerville is the only incorporated municipality in the plan area. Placerville is located on the State Highway 50 corridor between the cities of Sacramento and South Lake Tahoe. Situated in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, the City is the seat of government for El Dorado County. The South Fork of the American River lies a short distance to the north of the City, and the river canyon forms a natural topographic boundary to urban expansion. The City of Placerville was named for the placer gold deposits found in the South Fork of the American River.

California Highways 50 and 49 intersect in Placerville. Highway 50 is the major route linking Sacramento and South Lake Tahoe and provides access to the many campgrounds, lakes, hiking trails, ski resorts, and other recreational amenities in the Sierra Nevada. Historic Highway 49 runs north-south through the foothills, linking many historic mining towns such as Jackson, Sutter Creek, Plymouth, Placerville, Coloma, Auburn, Grass Valley, and Nevada City. This historic highway is a major touring route, especially on the weekends.

The City of Placerville traces its origins back to the discovery of gold on the north branch of Weber Creek in June, 1849. The resultant mining camp became known as “Old Dry Diggings” due to the lack of consistent water in the creek needed to wash the mined soil. In 1849, three thieves were hung following an impromptu frontier style “trial” and the camp became known as Hangtown. In 1852, the settlement was incorporated by petition as the Town of Placerville. In 1854 it was incorporated as the City of Placerville by legislative act. The county seat was moved to Placerville from



Historic Court House in Placerville

Coloma in 1857. Other communities within the unincorporated plan area include Coloma-Lotus, Diamond Springs, and Pollock Pines, which includes the adjacent Camino area. The Pollock Pines community is located east of Placerville on Highway 50 and includes about 17,500 residents. Diamond Springs is immediately south of Placerville and is home to about 13,500 residents. The Coloma-Lotus community is northwest of Placerville on Highway 49 and includes about 8,000 residents (Table 8). Many residents of these communities live on large parcels zoned either for rural-residential or agricultural uses.

The plan area elevation varies from about 764 feet above mean sea level at Coloma to over 4,000 feet east of Pollock Pines. Placerville is located at an elevation of 1,850 feet. Native vegetation in the area includes chaparral and mixed conifer-oak woodland plant communities. The northern Sierra Nevada foothill region has a pleasant climate with four

distinct seasons ideally suited to a wide range of year-round recreation activities. Winters usually bring several feet of snow to the highest elevations with occasional dustings at the lower elevations. Summers are typically dry and hot.

The economy of the plan area is based on the urban services in the City of Placerville, agriculture in the rural areas, and a considerable amount of tourism. Visitors flock to the area for whitewater rafting, hiking, camping, and historic sightseeing. In winter months, many travelers pass through the area en-route to world-class skiing in the Lake Tahoe Basin.

4.2 Population Trends

The City of Placerville provides park and recreation resources for City residents and for a significant number of people who reside in nearby unincorporated areas of El Dorado County, including Coloma-Lotus, Diamond Springs, and Pollock Pines. For the purpose of assessing future demand on the City and County for park and recreation resources, the plan area for this Master Plan Update has been defined as areas within the boundary shown in Figure 1 (page 5).

When the most recent census was conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau in 2000, population in the planning area totaled 58,863 people. Since the time of the census, population within the planning area has continued to steadily increase. The Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG), a regional planning entity, has projected that the area will increase by approximately 15 percent from 2008 to 2023. Table 8 shows the expected population growth for six Regional Analysis Districts (RADs) that make up the plan area. The West, South, and East Placerville RADs include portions of the City of Placerville as well as surrounding unincorporated areas.

Table 8 – SACOG Population Projections

YEAR	SACOG Regional Analysis District						TOTAL
	Coloma-Lotus	Diamond Springs	West Placerville	South Placerville	East Placerville	Pollock Pines	
2001	7,904	12,200	7,209	9,518	5,468	15,946	58,245
2008	8,393	13,583	7,543	9,801	5,882	17,528	62,730
2023	9,545	17,099	8,311	10,436	6,877	21,467	73,735
Growth from 2008 to 2023	14%	26%	10%	6%	17%	22%	18%

Sources: State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2008, with 2000 Benchmark. Sacramento, California, May 2008.
SACOG Population and Housing for El Dorado County, 2002 and SACOG DRAFT 2035 Projections for Households and Population by Housing Type and Employment by Sector, 2007.

While current economic conditions have stalled development and little growth is anticipated in the next few years, the long term trend suggests growth will resume. Total population by



Highway 50 Exit to Placerville

2023 is expected to be 73,735 for the planning area. The scenic beauty, low crime rate, and rural lifestyle of the entire plan area make it a highly desirable location to raise a family as well as retire. There are several constraints to growth at this time including lack of local employment opportunities and the limited transportation network. The most significant growth in the plan area is anticipated to occur in the unincorporated communities of Pollock Pines and Diamond Springs. These areas are conveniently located on the Highway 50 corridor facilitating easy access to employment centers to the west. There is also a relatively large amount of privately owned unimproved land in these areas that will be suitable for future residential and commercial development. This is especially true in the Diamond Springs area where the topography is flatter and winters are less severe than in Pollock Pines. The Coloma-Lotus area

will be attractive to “baby boomer” retirees and others who are less concerned with seeking employment outside the home.

Within the City limits of Placerville, less growth is anticipated due to the relatively small size of the City, the number of already developed parcels, and physical constraints such as steep slopes or limited access. When the General Plan Housing Element was last updated in 2004, there were only about 178 acres of vacant land suitable for residential development and another 129 acres for which development applications had been approved.

Any increase in population throughout the plan area, which includes the City of Placerville as well as the surrounding unincorporated County, will lead to proportionally greater demand for parks and recreation services in the coming years. Most of this demand is likely to come from new County residents, with a lesser amount from new City residents. Both jurisdictions will need to have policies in place to assess appropriate levels of impact fees and land dedication to provide the new park facilities that will be needed. The new residents will also place a strain on the City’s ability to provide recreation programs, potentially requiring more staff as well as strategies to secure the facilities needed as program venues. Depending on the patterns of development, establishment of new community service districts in the unincorporated areas may also be warranted.

4.3 Demographics

The 2000 U.S. Census provides various demographic data relevant to parks and recreation planning for the plan area. Of particular importance are age distribution, age projections, and race and ethnicity. These data may be used to anticipate the types of demand for both facilities and programs since users’ preferences for both are often tied to their age and cultural perceptions.



Children's Holiday Crafts Class

Age Distribution and Projections

Table 9 shows the age distribution for the plan area in 2000. At that time, approximately 27 percent of the population was under the age of 20, 37.5 percent was between the ages of 20 and 49, and 35.4 percent was 50 or older. By comparison, 29 percent of the El Dorado County population was under the age of 20, 41 percent was between the ages of 20 and 49, and about 30 percent of the population was 50 or older.⁹ The higher proportion of people in the 50+ age bracket within the planning area may imply that Placerville and its environs are a desirable place to retire once children are raised.

Figure 3 also indicates an interesting trend in age groups within the communities of the plan area. The Coloma-Lotus area has a relatively higher percentage of people in the 40-49 and 50-59 age groups than the other communities, and

Placerville has a higher percentage of population in the under 5, 20 to 29, and the 80+ age groups. These trends may indicate a desire for young adults with small children and aging seniors to live close to town where services are readily available.

Table 9 – Plan Area Age Distribution

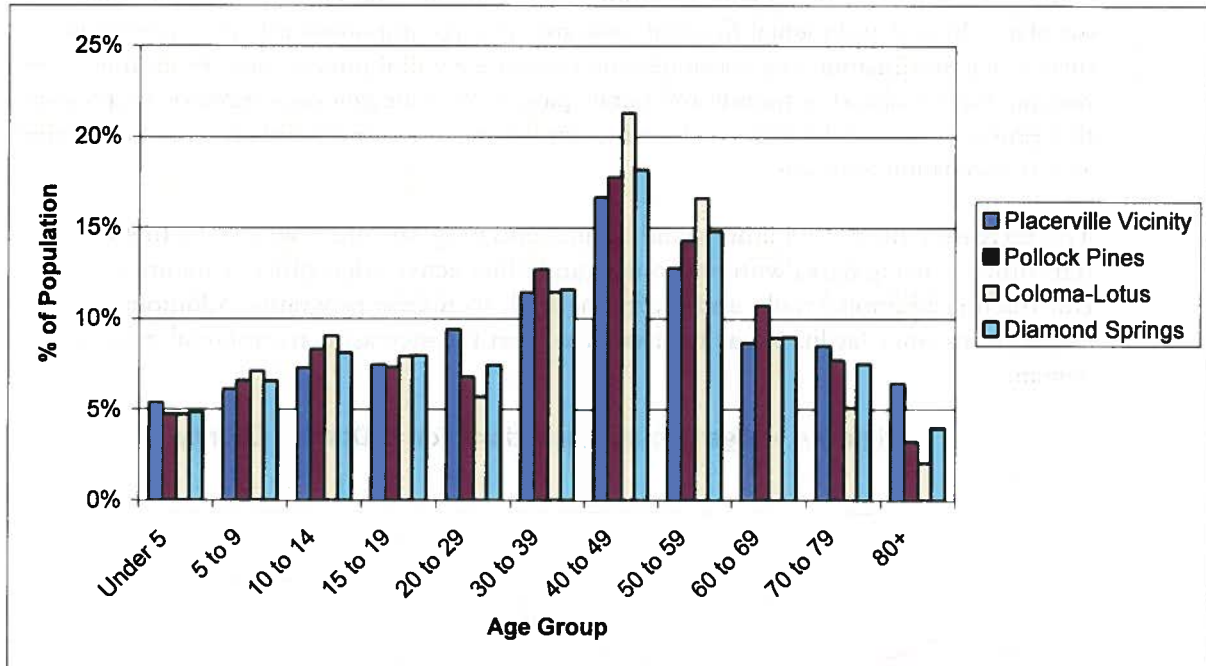
Age Group	Placerville Vicinity ¹		Pollock Pines		Coloma-Lotus		Diamond Springs	
		% of Total		% of Total		% of Total		% of Total
Under 5	1,132	5.3%	742	4.7%	485	4.7%	564	4.9%
Ages 5 to 9	1,292	6.1%	1,037	6.6%	731	7.1%	762	6.6%
Ages 10 to 14	1,538	7.3%	1,311	8.3%	932	9.0%	944	8.1%
Ages 15 to 19	1,575	7.4%	1,153	7.3%	817	7.9%	926	8.0%
Ages 20 to 29	1,988	9.4%	1,070	6.8%	586	5.7%	863	7.4%
Ages 30 to 39	2,417	11.4%	2,004	12.7%	1,184	11.5%	1,347	11.6%
Ages 40 to 49	3,526	16.7%	2,806	17.8%	2,198	21.3%	2,113	18.2%
Ages 50 to 59	2,705	12.8%	2,253	14.3%	1,714	16.6%	1,720	14.8%
Ages 60 to 69	1,832	8.7%	1,690	10.7%	923	9.0%	1,043	9.0%
Ages 70 to 79	1,801	8.5%	1,213	7.7%	523	5.1%	872	7.5%
Ages 80+	1,356	6.4%	504	3.2%	211	2.0%	460	4.0%

Source: U.S. Census 2000

¹Includes East, West, and South Placerville Regional Analysis Districts

⁹ Center for Economic Development, Chico State University. 2005. *El Dorado County 2005 Economic and Demographic Profile*. Chico Research Foundation.

Figure 3 – Plan Area Age Group Distribution



Source: U.S. Census 2000

Placerville Vicinity includes East, West, and South Placerville Regional Analysis Districts

Age group projections for El Dorado County produced by the State of California Department of Finance are shown in Figure 4. Figure 4 represents the percentage of the total population, and not the total population itself. Since the population is increasing during this time span, a decreasing proportion in an age group does not necessarily mean that the population of that age group is also decreasing. The Department of Finance data reflect the projection for the entire County, and not just the plan area. However, it provides a reasonable approximation of what is likely to occur in the plan area.

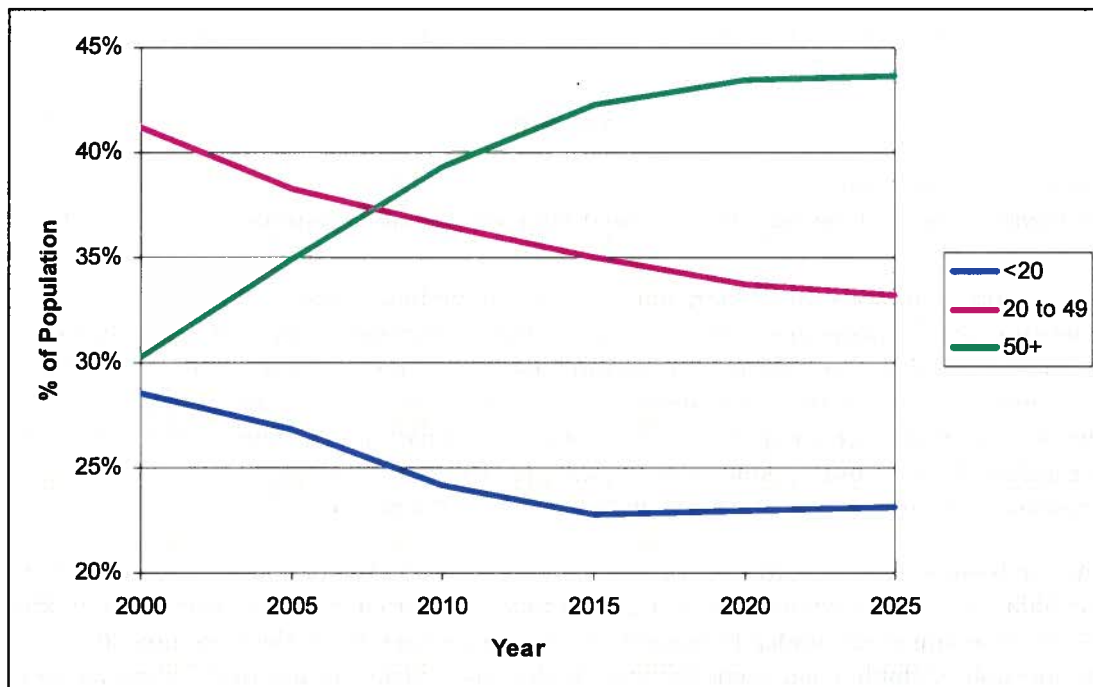
As can be seen, the proportion of people over the age of 50 has been increasing from 2000 to 2008 and is expected to continue at a steady rate until around 2015, at which time it will slowly level out at just under 45 percent of the total population. At the same time, the proportion of children and teens will steadily decrease to a low of just over 25 percent of the population around 2015 and slowly increase between 2015 and 2025. The proportion of the total population represented by the 20 to 49 age group has been declining steadily since 2000 and is expected to continue doing so through 2025.

While the need for youth play and sports facilities will likely remain high, demand may increase at a faster rate for older adult fitness and recreational facilities and programs. The mature adult age group includes many retired or semi-retired people who have abundant leisure time and an interest in maintaining their health and fitness. Because of advances in medicine, people in this age group are more physically active than people of the same age in previous generations. Many studies have been published in recent years showing the value of

preventative care in delaying age-related physical and mental decline. The mature adult community will likely be seeking age-appropriate activities and facilities that help them maintain physical and mental flexibility and strength. An important aspect of preserving mental health is maintaining social ties and continuing social interaction. Older adults often become more isolated as friends and family pass away. A heightened emphasis on programs that provide social and continued learning opportunities for mature adults may be warranted as this population increases.

This increasing need for mature adult facilities and programs may partially be met by retrofitting existing parks with par courses and other active adult fitness equipment, constructing additional trails, and expanding adult recreation programs. Additional community center facilities may be needed to meet the increasing recreational program demand.

Figure 4 – Age Group Projections for El Dorado County



Source: State of California, Department of Finance, *Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 2000-2050*, Sacramento, CA, 2008.

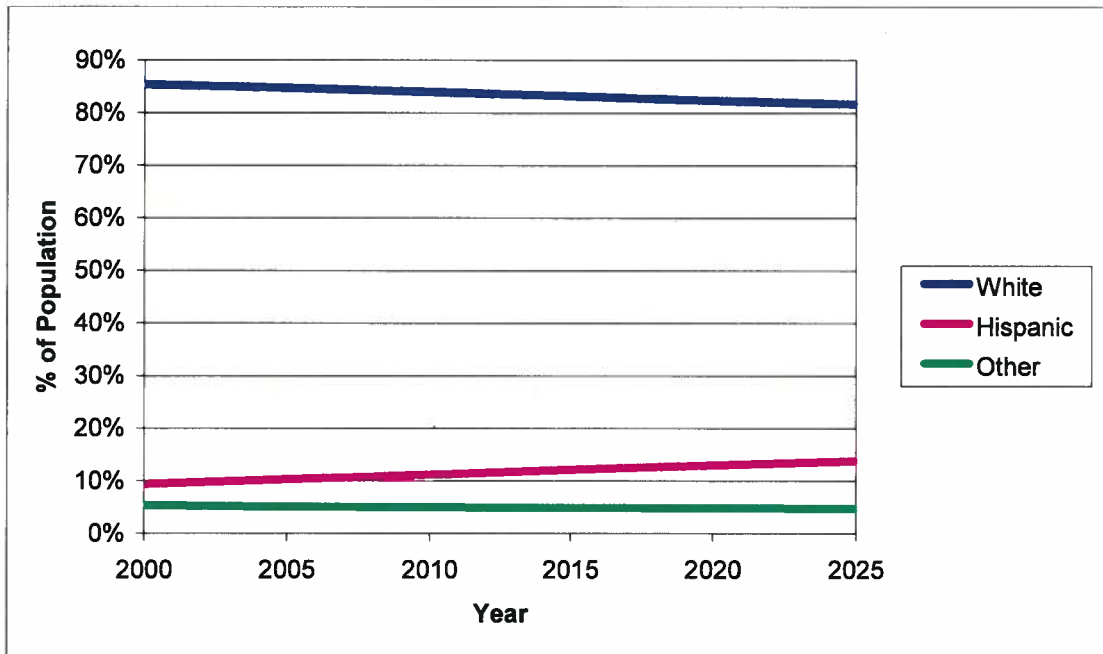
Race and Ethnicity

In addition to age, cultural experiences often associated with race and ethnicity can influence recreation preferences. For example, attitudes about nature, favorite sports and hobbies, and family activities are often a reflection of one’s cultural influences. Figure 5 shows Department of Finance race/ethnicity projections for El Dorado County from 2000 through 2025. As can be seen, El Dorado County is primarily white; however, the proportion of white to other races has been decreasing slightly from 2000 to 2008, and that trend is

expected to continue at a steady rate through 2025. Hispanic/Latino is the next highest percentage ethnic group, having increased from under 10 percent in 2000 to just over 10 percent in 2008. That trend is expected to continue throughout the planning period, reaching around 13 to 15 percent by 2025. Other ethnic groups are a small proportion of the population and are not expected to increase significantly over the next 15 years.

This information is useful for park and recreation planning purposes because it suggests that the City may need to consider multi-cultural preferences when designing new parks and facilities, retrofitting existing facilities and developing programs. For example, large group facilities may be desired by cultures that emphasize multi-generational families, while other cultures may prefer facilities designed for small-group or individual recreation. As cultural demographics change, the City of Placerville and El Dorado County should make efforts to include various cultural groups in park and program planning.

Figure 5 – Race/Ethnicity Projections for El Dorado County



Source: State of California, Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 2000-2050, Sacramento, CA, 2008.

...to estimate a steady state through 2027. However, I don't know the exact impact...
 ...for the year 2027. I don't know the exact impact...
 ...for the year 2027. I don't know the exact impact...

The information for the park and recreation planning process for 2027 is...
 ...for the year 2027. I don't know the exact impact...
 ...for the year 2027. I don't know the exact impact...

This page intentionally left blank.

Figure 2 - Total Facility Footprint for El Dorado County



Source: State of California, Department of Planning and Community Development, 2000-2027. Sacramento, CA 2022.

5 Community Needs and Preferences

The preferences of the residents of the plan area are critical in developing a master plan for future park and recreation development that meets the needs of the community. Three methods were utilized in this project to determine users' visions for the plan area parks and recreation. A written survey, which focused on park and recreation program users, was made available in both written and web format. A separate telephone survey was conducted to gauge overall community attitudes about parks and recreation among a representative sampling of plan area residents. Finally, two public workshops were conducted to introduce the planning effort and solicit feedback.



Parks Master Plan Community Meeting at Town Hall

5.1 Written/Web Survey

A variety of methods were used to distribute the written/web survey. It was included as an insert to City water bills; posted on the City and County web sites; made available at the County Library, Town Hall, recreation classes, and the Aquatic Center; and distributed at community meetings. A total of 161 responses were received. Participants were asked questions in six categories. These were: 1) overall park and recreation experience satisfaction, 2) park development and funding, 3) individual park evaluations, 4) recreation program experience, 5) additional park facilities, and 6) personal information. Personal information was collected for statistical purposes only. A copy of the survey and a full summary of the results are included in Appendix A.

Table 10 shows the results of the questions asked about overall satisfaction with plan area parks and programs. Responses to all questions were positive, which suggests there are currently no major areas of dissatisfaction among those who responded to the survey. Questions related to recreation programs received a somewhat higher level of approval than those related to parks. The least positive responses concerned the quality and variety of facilities at the parks, and especially the number of parks. Respondents felt somewhat more positive about park locations, maintenance, and safety.

Table 10 – Overall Park and Recreation Experience

Survey Statement	Score ¹
1. The variety of facilities at the parks meets your recreational needs.	2.99
2. You are satisfied with the quality of the facilities in the parks.	2.97
3. The parks are conveniently located for you.	3.09
4. There are enough parks to meet your needs.	2.74
5. The parks are well-maintained.	3.01
6. It is safe for young people to play in the parks.	3.07
7. You know where to get information about recreation programs provided by the City of Placerville.	3.43
8 You are satisfied with the variety of recreation programs offered by the City of Placerville.	3.08
9. The City's recreation programs are offered at locations that are convenient for you.	3.17
10. The City's recreation programs are offered at times that are convenient for you.	3.07

¹ Scoring from 4 (Strongly Agree) to 1 (Strongly Disagree)

The second part of the survey focused on park development and funding. About three-quarters of respondents agreed that the City and County should continue to utilize their general fund resources and existing assessments to pay for parks. Slightly more (77 percent) agreed that developers should pay to cover the cost of new parks for new developments. An overwhelming majority (92 percent) favored the City and County aggressively pursuing funding through grants and contributions. About one-half of respondents (47 percent) would consider paying a new assessment or tax specifically for parks if they had the opportunity to approve the amount prior to implementation. Of those who did not agree with this statement, 25 percent were in opposition while 28 percent were unsure.

Questions relating to park visitation indicate that the parks are well-used (Table 11). Lion's Park was the most heavily used, with 78 percent of respondents reporting they visit the park either often (34 percent) or occasionally (44 percent). Gold Bug Park and Henningsen-Lotus Park were visited by about 65 percent of respondents. However, Gold Bug appears to be visited by many people, though not frequently (58 percent of respondents had visited occasionally). Moderate usage was reported for Rotary Park (50 percent) and Lumsden Park (38 percent) consistent with the smaller size and fewer improvements found at these parks. Orchard Hill Park, a very small neighborhood park, was visited by 8 percent of respondents.

Table 11 – Park Visitation

	% of Respondents Who Visit this Park
City of Placerville Parks	
Lions Park	78%
Gold Bug Park	65%
Benham Park	62%
Rotary Park	50%
Lumsden Park	38%
Orchard Hill Park	8%
EI Dorado County Parks	
Henningsen-Lotus Park	65%
Joe's Skate Park	25%

Very few people noted concerns about park conditions (Table 12). The majority of respondents who did note concerns were mostly concerned with safety after dark, except for Lions Park, where condition of the facilities was a greater concern. This not surprising, considering the age of the park improvements and the heavy use the park receives. Concern over daytime safety was noted at Joe's Skate Park and to a lesser extent at Lumsden Park. The Skate Park is currently only open on Saturdays. This concern may relate to a perceived lack of oversight at the park on the other days of the week, or to concerns about the degree of supervision when the park is open. Safety concerns about Lumsden Park may relate to its relatively secluded location, the proximity of the play area to the road, and/or the relative seclusion of the pond area. Respondents also noted some minor concern over cleanliness at Lions Park, Lumsden Park, and the Skate Park.

Table 12 – Respondent Concerns about Park Conditions

	Concern Expressed			
	Condition of Facilities	Daytime Safety	Safety After Dark	Cleanliness
City of Placerville Parks				
Gold Bug Park	1%	3%	8%	1%
Benham Park	2%	4%	12%	4%
Rotary Park	4%	2%	6%	2%
Lions Park	14%	2%	9%	7%
Lumsden Park	6%	6%	13%	7%
Orchard Hill Park	2%	1%	3%	1%
EI Dorado County Parks				
Henningsen-Lotus Park	1%	2%	6%	1%
Joe's Skate Park	4%	9%	13%	6%

When asked to rate the importance of recreational programs among various age groups, all age groups showed solid support (Figure 6). In fact, the age groups that ranked lowest were still considered of high importance by at least one-half of respondents. These were adults aged 26 to 50 (50 percent) and preschool children (52 percent). The age groups with the highest ratings were teenagers by a wide margin (84 percent) followed by children (73 percent). These results suggest the need for after-school programs for children, and structured activities more oriented to teenagers. Programs for teenagers may be perceived as especially important in more rural areas where there are relatively few social gathering places or opportunities for this age group. Also, many teens cannot drive or don't have access to cars and are thus restricted to local or campus events for entertainment.

Among adults, programs for young adults aged 19 to 25 were considered highly important by 68 percent of respondents followed by 59 percent for seniors older than 70, and 58 percent for mature adults aged 51 to 70. As mentioned above, adults aged 26 to 50 had the lowest ranking (50 percent). The demand for young adult programs is possibly attributable to the same lack of social opportunities in rural areas that contributes to the need for teen programs. The demand for mature adult and senior programs is significant especially when combined with the number of respondents who ranked these programs as being of moderate importance. While these programs may not be the primary focus of the community today, there seems to be an appreciation that demand will be increasing as these people make up a larger percentage of the population in the future.

Figure 6 – Program Importance by Age Group

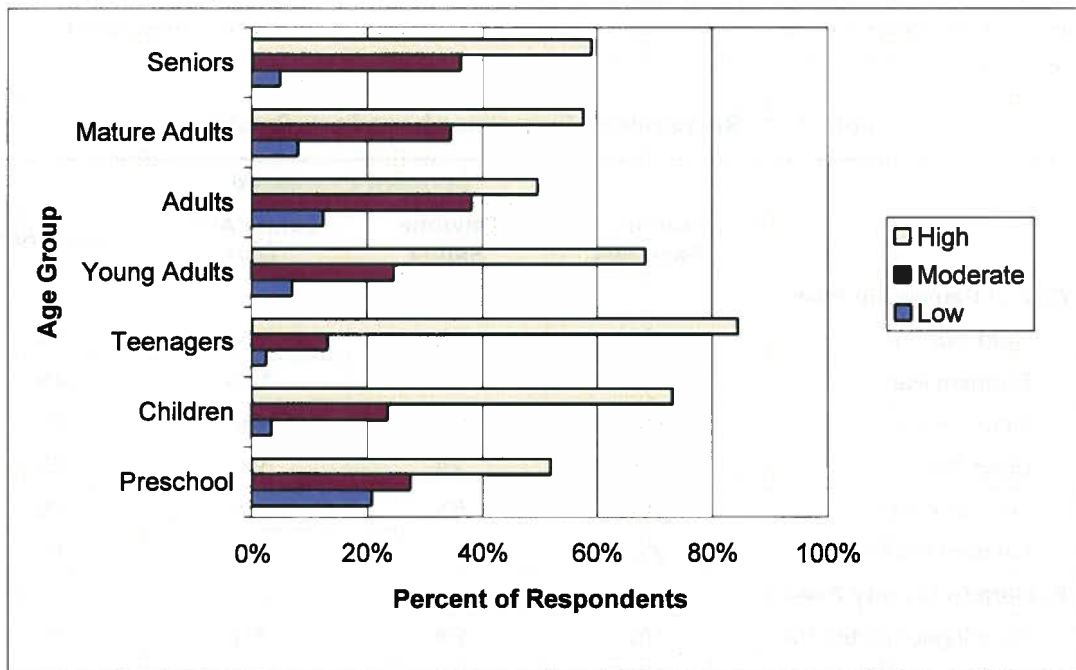
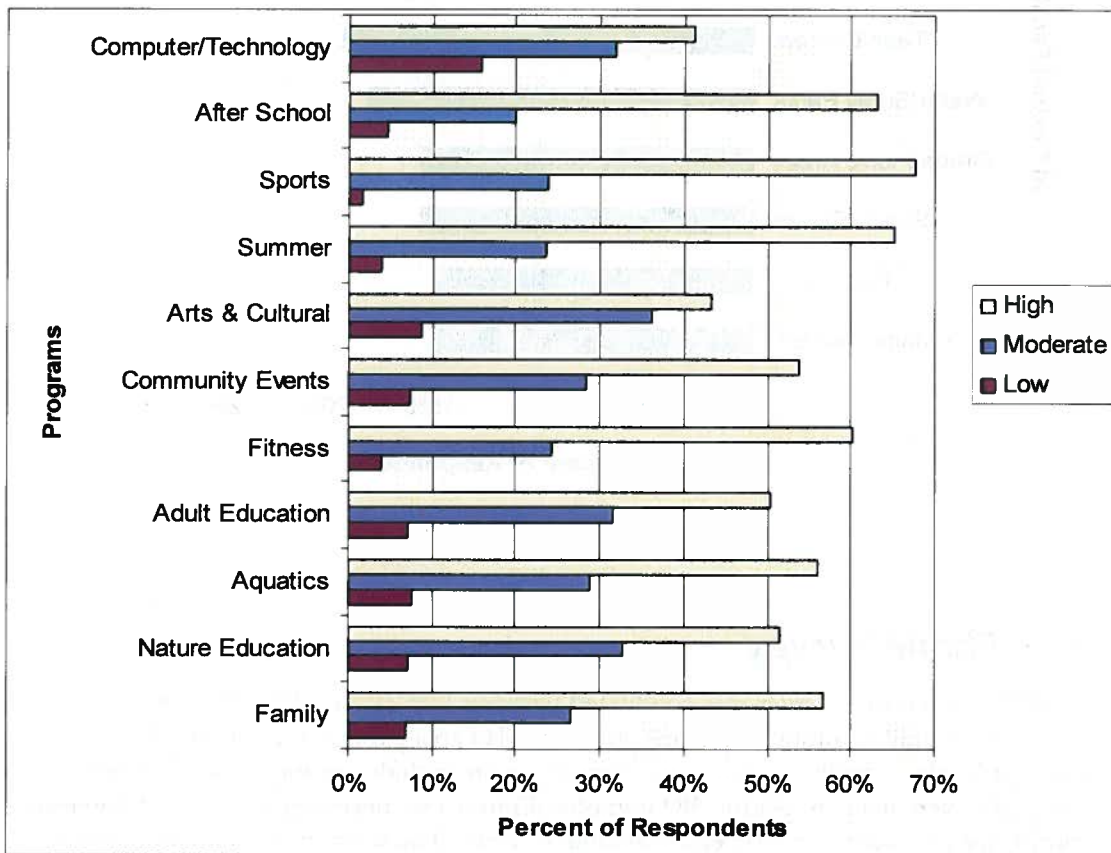


Figure 7 shows how respondents ranked the relative priority of program areas. While there was strong support for all program areas, sports (individual and team), after school programs, summer programs, and fitness rated the highest, and arts and culture and technology programs the lowest. These ratings loosely follow the attendance records over the past three years, in which fitness and sports programs received high attendance, and relatively few people signed up for arts and crafts programs. This may also be a reflection of the availability of these types of programs through other venues such as continuing education courses and schools.

Figure 7 – Importance by Program Area

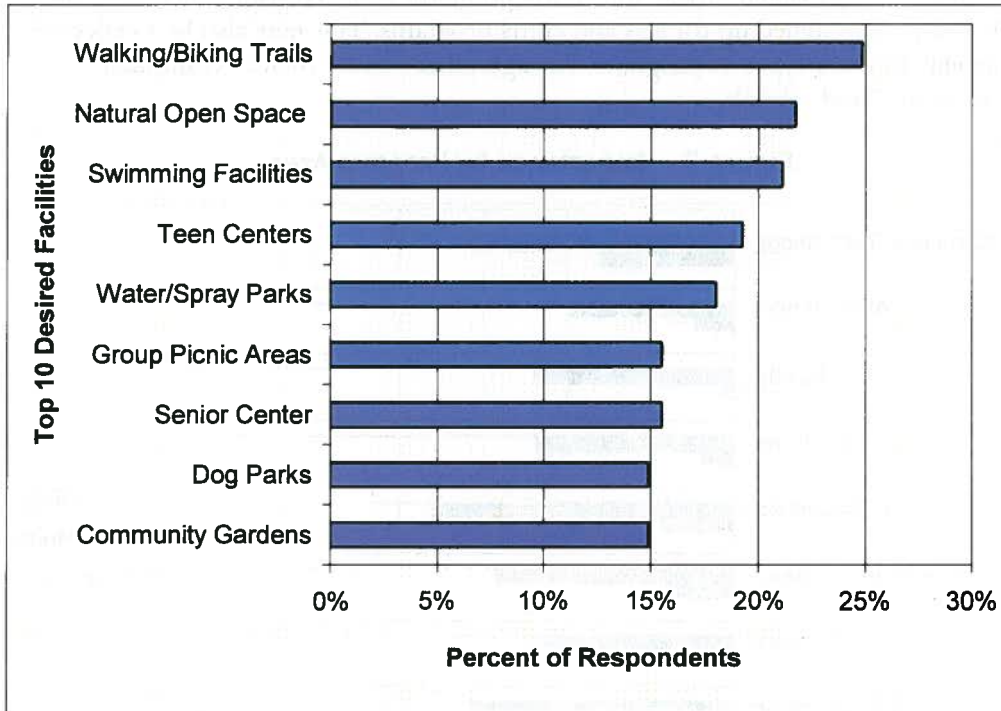


When asked what additional park facilities were desired, the most commonly selected facilities were walking and biking trails, followed by natural open space areas, swimming facilities, and teen centers (Figure 8). Water/spray parks, group picnic areas, senior centers, dog parks, and community centers were also rated highly.

Survey respondents covered a fairly diverse group of individuals. 64 percent of respondents were female. Ages spanned from under 10 to over 66, with the majority being in the 31 to 50 age bracket. Most respondents had children in their home, ranging in age from under 5 to 18 years old, with the greatest number of respondents having children between the ages of 6 and 10. Most participants (49 percent) were from Placerville. Other areas represented were

Diamond Springs (14 percent), Pollock Pines (9 percent), Coloma-Lotus (9 percent), and other areas (19 percent).

Figure 8 – Additional Park Facilities



5.2 Phone Survey

A randomized phone survey was conducted between July 21st and July 27th, 2008, to determine overall community attitudes towards plan area parks and programs. Only individuals who actually resided in the plan area were included in the survey. Approximately 3,700 calls were made to get the 384 completed interviews necessary to attain a 95 percent confidence level with a ± 5.0 percent margin of error. The full survey text is included in Appendix B.

The phone survey questions addressed the following topics.

- Overall satisfaction with parks and recreation programs in the Placerville area
- Frequency of park use in a typical year
- Participation in recreation programs or special events in the past three years
- Satisfaction with the recreation programs and special events
- Attitudes towards various park funding strategies

The majority of interviewees were satisfied with the recreation programs and parks available in the plan area, with responses that were even slightly more positive than for the written survey (Table 13). The phone survey results showed equally positive results between parks and programs, with the most favorable response being for the quality of park maintenance.

Table 13 – Overall Satisfaction with Parks and Programs

Survey Statement	Score ¹
1. The variety of facilities at the parks meet your recreational needs.	3.1
2. You are satisfied with the quality of the facilities in the parks.	3.3
3. The parks are conveniently located for you.	3.3
4. There are enough parks to meet your needs.	3.3
5. The parks are well-maintained.	3.5
6. It is safe for young people to play in the parks.	3.2
7. You know where to get information about recreation programs provided by the City of Placerville.	3.3
8. You are satisfied with the variety of recreation programs offered by the City of Placerville.	3.2
9. The City's recreation programs are offered at locations that are convenient for you.	3.1
10. The City's recreation programs are offered at times that are convenient for you.	3.2

¹ Scoring from 4 (Strongly Agree) to 1 (Strongly Disagree)

Park visitation was similar to the written survey in that Gold Bug Park, Henningsen-Lotus Park, and Lions Park were the most popular parks. Nearly half of all respondents had visited these three parks in a typical year. For all parks, the percentage of interviewees who typically visit the park was lower than in the written survey. This is to be expected, since the phone survey reflects the experience of the entire plan area and the written survey is more indicative of the people who are routinely using the parks and programs. Nevertheless, all parks except Orchard Hill Park and Joe's Skate Park had meaningful levels of visitation especially considering that the phone survey results predict visitation habits for the entire plan area population. Low visitation to Orchard Hill Park is consistent with its limited size and improvements. Low visitation to the Skate Park reflects the specialized nature of the facility and the very limited operating hours.

Table 14 – Park Visitation

	% of Respondents Who Visit this Park
City of Placerville Parks	
Gold Bug Park	50%
Lions Park	47%
Benham Park	39%
Rotary Park	31%
Lumsden Park	26%
Orchard Hill Park	4%
El Dorado County Parks	
Henningsen-Lotus Park	48%
Joe's Skate Park	6%

Eighty to ninety percent of interviewees agreed that developers should pay for new parks, and that the City and County should strongly pursue grants and contributions, as well as continuing to use existing assessments and general fund allocations to pay for parks. A surprisingly high number (60 percent) of interviewees would be willing to consider a new assessment to fund parks, if they had the opportunity to approve the amount before it was implemented. This level of support is substantially higher than the response to the same question on the written survey (47 percent), which indicates support for such a strategy is not limited to the people who are using parks the most. This suggests that residents recognize the overall benefits of parks for the community, even if their personal use is infrequent.

The phone survey showed that 36 percent of plan area residents had participated in City recreation programs. The vast majority of program participants reported being either very satisfied (63 percent) or somewhat satisfied (34 percent). This suggests that the City is doing an excellent job of identifying popular programs and staffing them with quality instructors.

The majority (47 percent) of interviewees were from Placerville, 24 percent from Pollock Pines, 8 percent from Diamond Springs, 6 percent from Coloma-Lotus, and 15 percent from other areas or declined to state. About one-third of those interviewed had children under 19 in their home, and 62 percent of those families had two or more children. The largest groups of respondents were aged 45 to 54 and 55 to 64. Those aged 45 and older represented a significant majority (71 percent); those aged 55 and older represented almost half (46 percent).

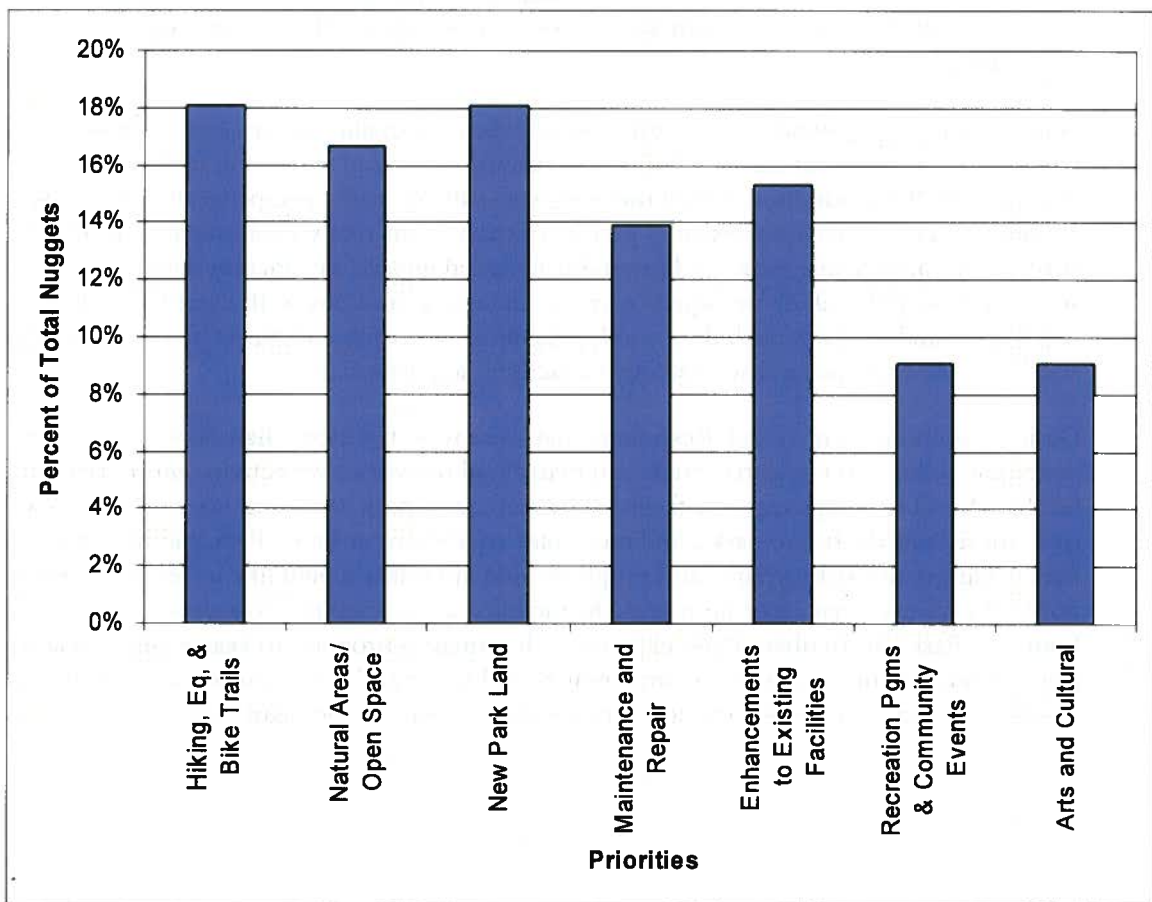
5.3 Public Workshops

Two public meetings were held on Tuesday, August 19, 2008 and Wednesday, August 20, 2008. Sixteen people attended the first meeting, and 21 people attended the second. All areas were represented in the workshops, with 57 percent of the attendees coming from Placerville, 27 percent from Diamond Springs, 5 percent from Coloma-Lotus, 3 percent from Pollock-Pines, and 8 percent from outside the plan area.

The meetings began with a slide-show presentation, followed by two activities in which participants voted for their favored programs and facilities. In the first exercise, attendees provided input on how limited resources should be allocated for parks and programs. Each was given four “gold nuggets” and asked to distribute them among seven pans representing different park and recreation priority areas. Park and recreation priority areas included new park land; enhancement to existing facilities; trails; natural areas/open space; arts/cultural facilities; maintenance; recreation programs; and a catch-all category for other priorities.

Combined results of the gold panning exercise from both workshops are shown in Figure 9. Hiking, equestrian and biking trails and new park land received the most votes. Natural open space areas were also popular. Arts and Cultural programs/events and recreation programs and community events scored the lowest. Given results of the surveys and comments provided in the workshops, this is more of a reflection of how successful existing programs and events already are, rather than a lack of interest or support for such services.

Figure 9 – Panning Exercise Results



In the second activity, called “Spot On,” participants placed colored dots next to desired programs and facilities. In both activities, attendees were allowed to vote multiple times for a single category.



Workshop participants provide input on programs

In the “Spot On” exercise, teen events, drama/theater programs, gardening classes, and swim lessons received more than 14 spots. Collectively, aquatics programs and sports programs also scored high. Additionally, art programs, after school and pre-school programs, senior programs, cooking classes and tai-chi/yoga received more than 10 spots. Facilities that were rated most desirable included trails, habitat and creek restoration, aquatic facilities, a disc golf course, a dog park, and access to creeks. Other facilities receiving more than 10 spots included water/spray play areas, drinking fountains, a

community garden, restrooms, other-equestrian facilities, basketball courts, and other/miscellaneous.

Finally, during a visioning exercise, attendees broke into smaller groups and responded to three questions: 1) What did they like about existing parks and recreation facilities and programs, 2) What additions would they desire to existing parks and programs, and 3) What changes would they make to existing parks? Primary items that were noted as positive attributes in the existing parks and programs included general satisfaction with existing parks and programs, particularly the aquatics, trails, skate park, and disc golf; variety and diversity of program and facilities, including youth programs; availability of sports programs, fields and camps; and the general accessibility of facilities and programs.

Desired additions were varied. Responses that were repeated more than once included more pedestrian, bike, and equestrian trails and better trail network connectivity; more parks, both neighborhood and large regional facilities; more passive park areas and open space; a dog park; more land for future parks; and more play equipment at Lions Park and Joe’s Skate Park. Changes to existing parks and programs that attendees would like to see also ranged widely. Responses that came up repeatedly included addressing the homeless issues at Lumsden Park and Benham Park; expanding the aquatics program to year-round; updating playgrounds; lighting the tennis courts; year-round water and restroom access at Lions Park; increased security; and new facilities to reduce the overuse of Benham Park.

6 Planning Standards

One purpose of this Master Plan is to define a consistent vision for the quality and quantity of park and recreation resources, also called the level of service (LOS). The level of service includes consideration of how many parks are required in the plan area, where they should be located, and the types of facilities they should include to best meet the projected need for parks and recreation services. Specific planning standards established in this Master Plan include:

- Park Classifications
- Park Service Area
- Acres per 1,000 Population
- Facilities per 1,000 Population
- Non-vehicular Access
- Trails and Paths
- Park Site Characteristics
- Standard Park Improvements

The standards are designed to provide flexibility in how the future park resources develop, while still setting a threshold for the level of service those resources are expected to provide. As new parks or park improvements are developed in the Planning Area, consideration will be given to these standards to determine if the proposed action is consistent with the City's defined level of service for parks and recreation.

It is important to remember that, in most cases, the standards apply to the citywide system of parks and recreation facilities, rather than to any one park alone. These standards are meant to be used collectively to direct the future design and location of parks and improvements so the overall quality of recreation resources throughout the City stays high.

6.1 Park Classifications

It is important to standardize classifications for park facilities so that future planning and development efforts use consistent terminology and there is a common understanding about how each park type serves the plan area. The City of Placerville General Plan designates parks as mini-park, neighborhood, and community parks. The El Dorado County General Plan directs the County to provide adequate recreational opportunities and facilities including developed regional and community parks, trails, and resource-based recreation areas (Goal 9.1).



Lumsden Park Play Area

While the City’s General Plan does not specifically define what constitutes a mini or neighborhood park, the County’s General Plan defines a neighborhood park as “City- or County-owned land intended to serve the recreational needs of people living or working within one-half mile radius of the park.” It further defines a community park as “Land with full public access intended to provide recreation opportunities beyond those supplied by neighborhood parks,” and a regional park as “a park typically 150-500 acres in size and serving the recreational needs of residents and visitors to an entire region, focusing on activities and natural features not included in most other types of parks, and often based upon a specific scenic or recreational activity.” The following definitions describe the four park types currently found in the plan area.

Mini-Parks

Mini-parks are usually two acres or smaller and provide very limited facilities. Mini-parks are often the by-product of other planning decisions or site limitations. They may result from the establishment of public landscaping around monuments, when protected natural resources limit development of a small parcel, or when the development pattern results in a small residual piece of property.

Because they have so few improvements, mini-parks provide few recreation opportunities. Successful mini-parks are generally found in very limited circumstances. A neighborhood with many children and a centrally located site that has good visibility and is within easy walking distance may be a good location for this type of park. However, in areas where mini-parks have little visitation, often due to location and/or lack of facilities, vandalism can be a serious problem. In such cases, mini-parks can become a magnet for undesirable activity which discourages legitimate uses of the park. The per acre cost of maintaining a mini-park is also much higher than for a larger park. For these reasons, the City and County should limit the number of mini-parks in future development in favor neighborhood parks. If any additional mini-parks are considered, they will need to be carefully evaluated to ensure that proposed improvements and maintenance costs are acceptable.



Rotary Park

Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks are typically from 4 to 8 acres in size, depending on proximity to schools and the density of the neighborhoods they serve. The minimum size of a neighborhood park is usually set at 4 acres to maximize the efficiency of maintenance and provide design flexibility. A neighborhood park usually includes a combination of picnic areas, play structures, paths, tennis courts, basketball

courts, and/or sports fields, and is intended to be used by all age groups. Rotary Park, Lumsden Park, and Orchard Hill Park function as neighborhood parks within the City of

Placerville. Orchard Park may be considered a neighborhood park even though it is less than 4 acres because it includes basketball courts and a larger picnic area than a typical mini-park.

Community Parks

Community parks are typically from 8 to 40 acres in size and may include the same basic amenities found at neighborhood parks, along with more specialized facilities such as a swimming pool, nature areas, sports field complexes, a skate park, gymnasiums, community centers, and/or meeting rooms. These specialized facilities are intended to serve the larger community. When community parks include the basic neighborhood park amenities, they often also serve as the neighborhood park for residents living nearby. Lions Park, Benham Park with the Placerville Aquatic Center, Henningsen-Lotus Park, and Joe’s Skate Park are considered community parks. Even though Benham Park and Joe’s Skate Park are both very small, they provide specialized facilities that serve the larger community.

Regional Parks

A regional park is generally larger than a community park and may include amenities found in both neighborhood and community parks. It will generally also include additional specialized facilities or a unique combination of facilities that will attract usage from the surrounding region. Regional parks within the plan area include Gold Bug Park, due to its historic nature; Chili Bar because of its use as a river put-in location; and Cronan Ranch, because of its extensive trail network and unique scenic qualities.

6.2 Service Area

The City of Placerville General Plan does not include information on service areas for parks. The El Dorado County General Plan lists the service area for neighborhood parks as ½ mile, the typical distance the average person is willing to walk or bike to a facility. Community parks, being larger than neighborhood parks and containing more facilities, draw from a larger area. Most people are willing to drive a short distance, up to 2 miles, to reach a community park. Certainly, people within the plan area often drive further than 2 miles to visit Lions or Benham Parks, given the dispersed nature of the communities surrounding Placerville, but a 2 mile radius is the desired travel distance for community parks.

No service area is established for regional parks. Because of the nature of a regional park, people are willing to drive much further to experience its unique resources; however, the local community may also use a regional park like a community and/or neighborhood park depending on the type of facilities it includes.

The current service areas for existing and planned parks within the study area are shown in Figure 10. As can be seen, Placerville, eastern Pollock Pines and northern Coloma-Lotus are within 2 miles of an existing or



Lions Park Picnic Area

proposed community park. Residents in the southern half of the Coloma-Lotus area, Camino, and most of Diamond Springs are outside of the 2 mile service areas, many of them significantly so. These areas are good candidates for future park land acquisition, depending on the rate of new development and where it occurs.

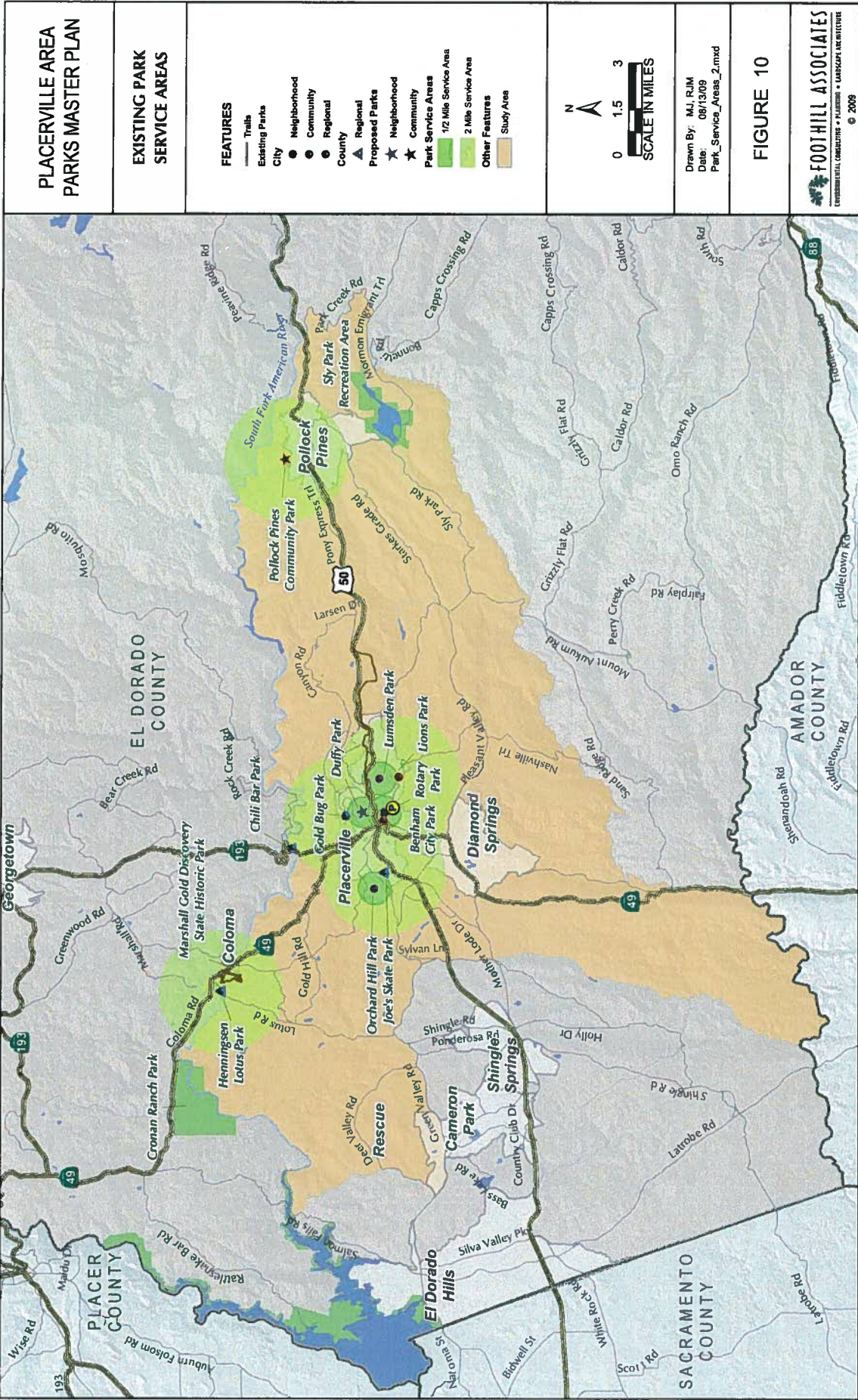
Neighborhood parks are absent throughout the plan area except in the City of Placerville. While the County General Plan acknowledges the need for neighborhood parks, it provides little direction about the population thresholds or other criteria that would warrant development of these types of parks in the semi-rural parts of the County. The same areas that lack access to community parks also lack access to neighborhood parks. The County is currently developing a parks and trail master plan that will examine these issues more closely and provide recommendations for how to address the deficit of parks in the unincorporated parts of the plan area.

6.3 Acres per 1,000 Population

As development within the planning area continues to bring in new residents, new park land will need to be acquired to meet the growing demand for recreational facilities. The amount of park land needed to meet the recreational needs of residents and visitors is defined by County and City policies. As discussed in Section 2.3, both the City of Placerville and El Dorado County include information in their general plans about the number of acres of park land that should be available to meet demand. The City has established a standard of 5 acres/1,000 population of useable park land for neighborhood and community parks. The County calls for 1.5 acres of regional parks, 1.5 acres of community parks, and 2 acres of neighborhood parks for a total of 5 acres/1,000 population.

Table 15 presents the analysis of existing park land compared to these guidelines. The City of Placerville has sufficient active use park land to meet the General Plan standard, with additional passive use acreage at Gold Bug Park. The County has nearly enough land in regional parks to meet that standard with less than a 1-acre deficit. With development of the Pollock Pines Community Park the County will also meet the community park acreage standard. However, there is a considerable deficit of neighborhood parks (nearly 105 acres) in the unincorporated parts of the plan area.

The numbers in Table 15 do not take into account the joint-use agreements currently in place with the school districts; however, school land covered under joint-use agreements is generally not included in the calculation of park acreage provided by the City or County, because the property is owned by the school districts and may one day be converted to classroom or building space, depending on the districts' needs.



<p>PLACERVILLE AREA PARK AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN</p>	
<p>FIGURE 3A</p>	
<p>PLACERVILLE AREA PARK AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN</p>	
<p>PLACERVILLE AREA PARK AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN</p>	
<p>PLACERVILLE AREA PARK AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN</p>	
<p>PLACERVILLE AREA PARK AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN</p>	
<p>PLACERVILLE AREA PARK AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN</p>	
<p>PLACERVILLE AREA PARK AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN</p>	
<p>PLACERVILLE AREA PARK AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN</p>	
<p>PLACERVILLE AREA PARK AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN</p>	
<p>PLACERVILLE AREA PARK AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN</p>	
<p>PLACERVILLE AREA PARK AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN</p>	
<p>PLACERVILLE AREA PARK AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN</p>	

This page intentionally left blank.

Table 15 – Park Acreage Needs

	Population	
	City of Placerville	Unincorporated County
Current (2008)	10,350	52,380
Existing Parks		
City of Placerville		
Active Use (Lions, Rotary, Orchard Hill, Lumsden, Benham Parks)	35.3	
Active Use Gold Bug (30%)	18.5	
Passive Use Gold Bug (70%)	43.1	
Existing Acres (total)	96.8	
Total Active Use	53.8	
Active Park Land ac/1,000	5.2	
El Dorado County		
Neighborhood Parks		0.0
Community Parks		52.0
Regional Parks		77.7
Existing Acres (total)		129.7
Neighborhood Parks (ac/1,000)		0.0
Community Parks (ac/1,000)		1.0
Regional Parks (ac/1,000)		1.5
Standards		
City of Placerville		
Active Park Land Standard (ac/1,000)	5.0	
El Dorado County		
Neighborhood (ac/1,000)		2.0
Community (ac/1,000)		1.5
Regional (ac/1,100)		1.5
Needed to Meet Standard		
City of Placerville		
Active Park Land	51.8	
(Deficit) or Surplus	2.0	
El Dorado County		
Neighborhood (2.0 ac/1,000)		104.8
(Deficit) or Surplus		(104.8)
Community (1.5 ac/1,000)		78.6
(Deficit) or Surplus		(26.6)
Regional (1.5 ac/1,000)		78.6
(Deficit) or Surplus		(0.9)

6.4 Facilities per 1,000 Population

Facility standards describe how many people can reasonably be served by a facility and are used to help determine if additional facilities are needed. These standards are based on comparisons with other cities, existing facility usage, and community demand for certain facilities. Table 16 shows the current number of common recreation facilities along with the facility standard and projections of how many facilities will be needed by the end of the planning period. For the purposes of this analysis, it is assumed that the joint use school facilities will be available to the City in perpetuity. Recreation facilities for which there are long-term joint use agreements are included in the existing facilities assessment, but their value is prorated 25% to reflect the restrictions on use during school hours and events.

Table 16 – Facilities Standards by Population

Facility Type	Current Facilities	Current Population per Facility	School Facilities		Proposed Standard		Current Facilities Needed
			Joint Use ¹	Non-Joint Use	Population per Facility	Number of Facilities	
Playground	7	8,961		multiple	1 per park	N/A	0
Tennis Court	2	31,365	1.5		6,000	10	7
Outdoor Basketball Court	1.5	41,820		multiple	6,000	10	9
Baseball Field	0	N/A	0.5		25,000	3	2
Softball Field	3	20,910	0.5		7,000	9	5
Little League Baseball Field	2	31,365		multiple many non-standard	7,000	9	7
Soccer or Multi-use Field	7	8,961		multiple many non-standard	6,000	10	3
Football Field	0	N/A	0.25		30,000	2	2
Swimming Pool	1	62,730	0.25		45,000	1	0
Gymnasium	0	N/A	0.75	multiple	20,000	3	2
Clubhouse or Multipurpose Room	2	31,365			15,000	4	2
Community Center	0	N/A			30,000	2	2
Group Picnic Area	3	20,910			8,000	8	5
Skateboard Park	1	62,730			45,000	1	0
Disc Golf Course	1	62,730			45,000	1	0
Amphitheater	0	N/A	0.25		45,000	1	1
Dog Park	0	N/A			50,000	1	1

¹ Number shown is 25% of total facilities to reflect limited availability

As can be seen from Table 16, while the City of Placerville generally has sufficient facilities to meet the needs of its residents, a significant deficiency exists within the larger plan area. This lack of facilities places a greater demand on the facilities provided by Placerville parks, resulting in the overused condition of many of the local parks. This situation parallels the park acreage needs presented in Table 15, indicating that as additional park land is acquired by the County to meet the regional need, amenities created at new parks will help to relieve the pressure on the City's facilities.

Within the City, sufficient playground equipment exists to meet the standard of one playground per park; however, a diversity of age-appropriate play structures for both toddlers and older children is lacking at some parks. If/when play equipment is upgraded or modernized in the future, structures that appeal to a wider range of ages may be more appropriate than more traditional equipment. Gold Bug Park and Joe's Skate Park lack play equipment. Given the uses of Gold Bug Park, a play structure would not be appropriate unless a portion of the park was redesigned to accommodate uses. Joe's Skate Park caters to a specialized group of users who typically are not looking for the experiences provided by standard play equipment. While some community meeting attendees expressed a desire for play equipment at Joe's Skate Park, possibly to increase the visitation by adults with younger children and thus improve supervision of the park, standard play equipment should not be required due to space limitations and the specialized nature of the venue.



Informal use of schools by local sports leagues and private individuals is currently helping to address the deficiency in outdoor basketball, soccer, football and baseball fields. For example, the Sierra Gold Soccer League utilized fields at Indian Creek, Pioneer Park, Pleasant Valley, and Herbert Green schools in their 2008 season. However, there is no certainty from year-to-year about costs or availability of the fields for these leagues. School grounds and outdoor facilities are also open on weekends for the use of private individuals if not occupied by local sports leagues. For example, on a typical weekend when the weather is pleasant, it is common to see the basketball courts at Gold Oak Elementary School used by children on bicycles, roller blades, and skateboards as well as playing basketball. Children are often playing on the play equipment; and the fields are often utilized by picnickers and people playing with their dogs. Continued informal use of school resources depends largely upon school needs and future school expansion, and therefore is not highly reliable.

The need for one or more community centers to serve the larger area was echoed in the public meetings and felt in the current high demand for Town Hall. To some extent, this need is being filled through joint-use of private facilities such as Foothill Taekwondo and the Placerville Performing Arts Center. Unfortunately, such shared agreements are subject to the fortunes of those businesses. In 2008, for instance, the Placerville Performing Arts Center and Stage Right Studio, both of which the City was using for classes, closed their doors. Fortunately for the City, Placerville Performing Arts Center has reopened under new ownership and has expressed a desire to continue to offer dance classes through the Recreation Department. However, these events underscore the need for a community center that can function as a guaranteed venue for City programs. A community center would typically include a gymnasium and clubhouse/multipurpose room, filling a need for both of these types of facilities within the plan area.

Planned development of Duffy Park in Placerville and Pollock Pines Community Park will add an amphitheater, multi-use fields, outdoor volleyball, outdoor basketball, play areas, a multipurpose room/clubhouse, picnic facilities and horseshoe pits.

6.5 Non-Vehicular Access

All parks except for Orchard Hill are on existing or proposed Class II or Class III bike routes.¹⁰ Orchard Hill is within approximately 0.1 mile of a proposed Class II route, accessible through a local neighborhood. Gold Bug and Lions Parks are on proposed Class II routes. Benham, Rotary and Lumsden Parks are on proposed Class III trails. Consideration should be given to upgrading those routes to provide Class II access to these parks to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety.

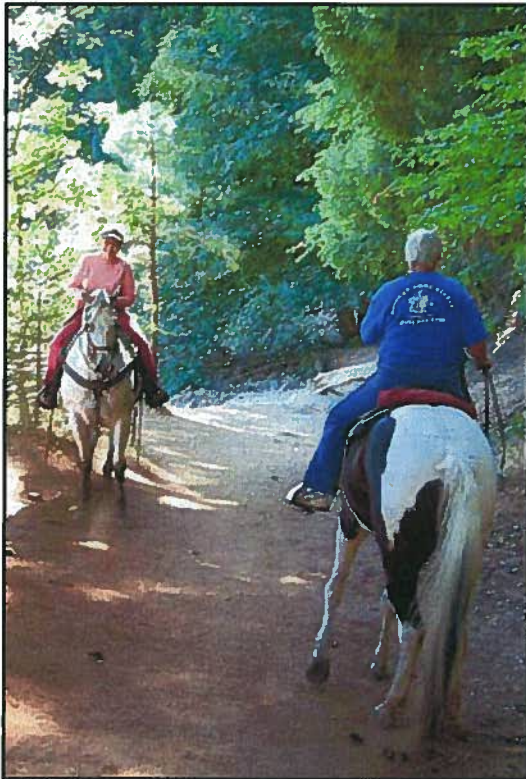
All new neighborhood parks should be on an existing or proposed Class I bike trail or Class II bike route. Neighborhoods that include parks on Class II bike routes should have sidewalks connecting homes to the park. This standard is intended to facilitate safe pedestrian and bicycle access to parks and to make it feasible for children to visit neighborhood parks without being driven there. Improved non-vehicular access will also reduce the need for parking lots, help prevent overflow parking into neighborhoods, and reduce traffic congestion and associated air pollution.

6.6 Paths and Trails

Access to paths and trails was one of the most commonly mentioned resources the community expressed a desire for during this planning process. There are three major types of paths and trails that have recreation value in the plan area: paths in parks, Class I bicycle/pedestrian trails, and multi-use unpaved open space trails.

¹⁰ El Dorado County Transportation Commission. 2005. *City of Placerville Non-Motorized Transportation Plan*.

Each new neighborhood and community park should include ADA accessible paved paths within the park suitable for walking, skating, young children on bicycles, and other such uses. Neither Rotary Park nor Lions Park has such improvements, but there is adequate space in both parks to create such paths. Lumsden Park has an informal unpaved trail in part of the park and around the pond that could also be improved to meet this standard. Benham Park and Orchard Hill Park are so small that they don't have space for such an improvement.



Equestrians enjoy the trails at Sly Park

Plan area residents currently have relatively good access to many multi-use unpaved trails at regional facilities such as Gold Bug Park, Cronan Ranch, Marshall Gold Discovery Park, Sly Park Recreation Area, and in the Eldorado National Forest. As new development occurs, there will be further opportunities to secure easements for trail access in public recreational open space areas through development agreements. It will be important for the City and County to pursue these opportunities to provide residents with unpaved trails as the plan area becomes more densely developed. The extent of such trails within any one development project will be dictated by the size and configuration of the particular site, public safety considerations, and natural resource constraints. Therefore, a quantitative standard is not relevant for this type of facility.

Paved Class I trails are non-vehicular off-street routes which provide both a recreation and transportation resource.

Class II bike routes on on-street lanes with striping, and Class III routes are on-street and signed for bike travel but not striped. As part of the City and County transportation infrastructure, planning for Class 1 trails is handled through cooperative efforts of local and regional transportation planning agencies. Placerville currently has approximately 2 miles of paved bicycle and pedestrian trail within the City limits as part of the El Dorado Trail, which extends east of the City an additional 2.5 miles as a paved trail and 2 miles as an unpaved trail. The future vision of this trail is for it to be paved as a Class 1 bike path to Bedford Avenue in the City of Placerville. From Bedford Avenue, the City of Placerville Non-Motorized Transportation Plan proposes an on-street Class III bike route on Main Street to Lower Main at Forni Road, where there is a proposed Class I bike path that will provide a connection to Ray Lawyer Drive. El Dorado County recently completed a 2.7 mile section of Class I bike path between Forni Road within the City of Placerville and Missouri Flat Road in the community of Diamond Springs. The ultimate vision for the El Dorado Trail is

to continue westward and provide a connection to the trails in Folsom at the Sacramento-El Dorado County line.

Neither the City nor County currently have standards that quantify how many miles of trails and what types of trails should be available to the community. The El Dorado County General Plan does contain a number of policies related to trails within the County. In particular, policy 9.1.2.1 identified the El Dorado Trail as well as trails connecting regional parks, as the County's primary responsibility for trail establishment and maintenance. Therefore, the County is currently developing a park and trails master plan that will more fully examine the integration between park sites as nodes or staging areas along the Class 1 and other regional trail networks.

6.7 Park Site Characteristics

Not all types of land are appropriate for improved park uses. Lands that are to be dedicated for development as active parks must have a location and physical characteristics that are suitable for the intended uses. The following guidelines will be used to evaluate the suitability of proposed land to be dedicated for active use parks.

- ❑ The service area standards determine how far park users can reasonably be expected to travel to access the park. Land that is to be dedicated for a neighborhood park should generally be within ½ mile of the population it will serve. Community park land should be within 2 miles of the intended user population except in rural areas where population density may necessitate increasing this distance.
- ❑ Proposed park land should have access to appropriate infrastructure such as roads, water, sewer, and power.
- ❑ The types of land uses surrounding the potential park site should be considered. Land adjacent to an existing or proposed school site is desirable because it offers future joint use opportunities. Land that provides opportunities to connect to trails or bikeways is also desirable. If a proposed park site is adjacent to land uses that are incompatible with the proposed park use, the land may not be suitable.
- ❑ The types of improvements that are typically developed in an active use park include, but are not limited to: playgrounds, sports fields, hard surface courts, meeting rooms, paths, and gymnasiums. The size of a site, as well as its topography, geology, presence of water courses, and any other physical constraints must be suitable for these and any other intended uses.
- ❑ The site should be no less than 4 acres for a neighborhood park and no less than 8 acres for a community park.
- ❑ Land that is constrained by the presence of special status species, jurisdictional wetlands, cultural/historical resources, or other protected resources may not be suitable, depending on how much of the site is constrained and the extent of the constraint. In situations where the resources may offer meaningful interpretive

opportunities, provide additional passive recreation opportunities, and/or would not be damaged by the proposed uses, the presence of these resources would not necessarily make a site unsuitable for active park uses.

- ❑ A site may be deemed unsuitable for park land dedication if previous uses have resulted in the presence of hazardous materials, excessive erosion, unstable ground, or any other condition that cannot be corrected without excessive remediation costs. If such conditions can be remediated to the satisfaction of the City/County, at no cost or an acceptable cost to the City/County, the land may be considered suitable.
- ❑ The City/County reserves the right to make the final determination on the suitability of a proposed park land dedication for both active and recreational open space uses because individual site conditions are unique and cannot fully be anticipated in these guidelines. The City/County may also determine what portion of a proposed site is suitable.

6.8 Standard Park Improvements

The standard minimum improvements at all neighborhood parks developed in the future by the City, County, or as turn-key projects by other parties should be similar to those present at the existing park so that the overall quality of park resources throughout the plan area is consistent. Neighborhood parks shall include the following minimum improvements:

- ❑ Turf
- ❑ Landscaping
- ❑ Irrigation
- ❑ Parking ((ADA accessible)
- ❑ Restrooms (ADA accessible)
- ❑ Play structures
- ❑ Site furnishings such as drinking fountains, trash cans, and benches (ADA accessible)
- ❑ Paths (ADA accessible)
- ❑ Covered picnic tables (ADA accessible)
- ❑ Sports fields and/or courts or other improvements as determined by the City or County and as guided by needs identified in this Master Plan

Community and regional parks may or may not include these same improvements depending on the purpose of the park.

This page intentionally left blank.

7 Strategies and Recommendations

Strategies and recommendations for future development and operation of plan area parks and recreation programs are described in this chapter of the Master Plan. These strategies and recommendations are based on the analysis of existing facilities and programs compared to the various service objectives defined in the planning standards, as well as the input received from the City and County staff, Parks and Recreation commissioners, the community workshops, and surveys. The strategies address the following areas:

- Improvements to Existing Parks
- New Park Development
- Trails
- Programs
- Administration

For each specific strategy, a relative priority has been established to assist with development of a 10-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Short term projects are recommended for completion within three years, while longer term projects are recommended for implementation in years four to ten. Future projects are intended to be implemented in more than ten years, or as revenues allow. Higher priority is assigned to projects that 1) are required for public health, safety, and regulatory compliance; 2) provide a large benefit for a relatively low cost; 3) must be completed before others projects can be done; 4) address significant imbalances in the level of service provided to certain groups of residents; or 5) protect existing infrastructure investment through repairs or preventive maintenance. For capital projects, an estimated cost has been provided in 2009 dollars based on costs for similar goods and services in the region.

7.1 Improvements to Existing Parks/Facilities

The parks managed by the City of Placerville are for the most part built-out with little room for new facilities. However, they are in need of some significant upgrades and renovations (Table 17). These recommendations include capital improvements to existing parks that are in excess of ordinary maintenance. While there is a significant shortage of certain types of recreation facilities within the plan area, such as sports fields and picnic areas, due to the deficit of neighborhood parks in the unincorporated areas, most of these facilities will have to be built into the design of new parks.

Benham Park

The capital improvements recommended for Benham Park primarily address accessibility and safety issues. These include traffic calming features on Benham Street to improve pedestrian safety and an ADA-accessible ramp to the basketball court. Interior renovations to Scout Hall to improve accessibility and modernize the facility are also needed. Other

security related improvements include a low retaining wall, revegetation, and fence behind the park to stabilize the slope and keep children from playing on it, and providing a boulder climbing structure in the play area as a safer alternative. Motion sensors and cameras for the Placerville Aquatic Center will enhance security at that facility particularly during hours of non-operation. Other minor recommended improvements intended to improve the functionality and appearance of the park include a new sidewalk between Scout Hall and the Charter School, additional benches in the tot lot, and renovating the Scout Hall planters.

Rotary Park

Various improvements are recommended at Rotary Park to improve accessibility, capacity, and functionality. These include a concrete ramp providing ADA-compliant access to the lower level, and upgrades to existing restrooms. Parking lot renovations including retaining walls and drainage are needed to address current erosion issues. Replacing the picnic tables and barbecues and adding new shade shelters are recommended to increase capacity and potential for rentals. Renovation of outfield grading and irrigation are also needed to address drainage issues that limit field availability.

Lions Park

Recommended capital projects at Lions Park address a variety of issues. Drainage through the site is problematic at certain times of the year due to runoff from the surrounding area and grading problems on the two ballfields. This limits the availability of the fields. Minor grading of the fields and redirecting surface flows to swales with perforated pipe is recommended to address this situation. The ballfield irrigation systems should also be upgraded to provide more even coverage which would improve the turf condition and enhance water efficiency. Adding covered dugouts and permanent foul ball poles would also enhance the functionality of the ballfields to a level of improvement typical for more contemporary construction.

While ADA accessibility to the disc golf course is not practical, a concrete walkway could greatly enhance ADA access to other park amenities. The old restroom structure currently serving as a storage building for some maintenance equipment needs to be renovated or replaced to adequately accommodate all the equipment needed to maintain the park. This will also help reduce labor costs associated with transporting equipment from a central location.

The north parking lot needs renovations in order to optimize parking space, clearly mark vehicular and pedestrian circulation, address sheet drainage, and incorporate some shade trees. The entrance to the park from Cedar Ravine Road would benefit from reconfiguration to better handle the traffic volumes when park use is heavy, and to improve the line of sight for vehicles exiting the park.

Gold Bug Park

As the City of Placerville's only regional park, Gold Bug Park provides facilities not found at any other city park. The major attractions at the park are centered on its gold mining history and undeveloped natural areas. Expanding park facilities that support interpretation of these themes would increase the potential uses of the park as well as revenues related to these

uses. Renovation of the Meagher House as an ADA-accessible facility suitable for workshops, meetings, and classes would provide an on-site location for programs related to the park. The building could also be leased for community and private events. Development of a small amphitheater at the park would provide similar opportunities. The existing trail network could also be expanded to accommodate more people. New trail segments should include amenities such as benches and directional and interpretive signage

Lumsden Park

Access to Lumsden Park facilities is complicated by the road separating the play area from the park and the unimproved conditions around the pond. A variety of improvements are recommended to address these access issues. These include the addition of an accessible pathway through the improved areas of the park, a pedestrian bridge over the creek, and a disabled accessible ramp from the parking areas to the picnic tables. The picnic tables, barbecues, and restroom should also be updated for ADA accessibility.

Safety around the play area would be improved by reconfiguring the parking area with striping and curb bumpouts, adding crosswalks, and installing low fencing to separate the play area from the parking area.

The pond is a unique feature at Lumsden Park that may potentially be used for watershed management as well as recreation. The hydrology of the surrounding upland areas and the capacity of the pond needs further study to determine what detention uses are possible, in conjunction with passive recreation such as trails and interpretation.

Orchard Hill Park

As the City's newest park, facilities at Orchard Hill Park are in good condition and no major capital improvements are needed at this time. There is a minor erosion problem which should be addressed to prevent further degradation.

El Dorado Trail

The segment of El Dorado Trail within the City limits receives a high level of use year round. Basic repairs and maintenance are necessary to keep it safe and to prevent deterioration. These include vegetation management, resurfacing, and replacement of an existing culvert structure.

Table 17 – Improvements to Existing Parks

City of Placerville	Short-term 0-3 Years	Long-term 4-10 Years
Benham Park		
Traffic Calming		\$31,446
Basketball Court ADA Access		\$2,990
Scout Hall Improvements		\$58,500
Slope Stabilization/Climbing Structure Installation		\$111,150
Placerville Aquatics Center Security System		\$6,500
Other Park Improvements		\$25,480
TOTAL	\$0	\$236,066
Rotary Park		
Access Improvements	\$91,676	
Restroom Facility Enhancements	\$123,500	
Parking Lot Renovation		\$41,521
Picnic Area Enhancements		\$101,660
Little League Outfield Renovation		\$24,904
TOTAL	\$215,176	\$168,085
Lions Park		
Lower Field Irrigation System Rehabilitation	\$47,912	
Park Drainage Improvements	\$117,219	
User Access Improvements		\$39,668
Maintenance Building Replacement/Renovation		\$123,036
North Parking Lot Renovation		\$156,377
West Parking Lot Renovation		\$55,042
Softball Field Dugout Improvements		\$98,929
Foul Ball Pole Replacement		\$18,860
TOTAL	\$165,131	\$491,912
Gold Bug Park		
Meager House Renovation/Restoration		\$373,750
Amphitheater		\$65,000
Trail Expansion Study and Implementation		\$55,848
TOTAL	\$0	\$494,598
Lumsden Park		
Access Improvements	\$123,881	
Restroom Renovation	\$13,000	
Playground Safety	\$27,742	
Fire Safe Plan Development		\$17,940
Pond Enhancement/Detention Basin Study		\$20,800
Picnic Area Enhancements		\$13,520
TOTAL	\$164,623	\$52,260
Orchard Hill Park		
Minor Erosion Control	\$1,300	
TOTAL	\$1,300	\$0
El Dorado Trail		
Trail Repair/Renovation	\$37,113	
Culvert Repair	\$91,000	
TOTAL	\$128,113	\$0
GRAND TOTAL	\$674,343	\$1,442,921

7.2 New Park Development

There are two new parks planned for development in the plan area. El Dorado County is currently in the process of preparing construction drawings for the 27-acre Pollock Pines Community Park. The construction date is yet to be established due to funding limitations. The City of Placerville also anticipates development of the 1.5-acre Duffy Park sometime in the future as part of a development agreement.

Even once these parks are built there will continue to be a considerable shortage of parks, and associated facilities in the unincorporated parts of the plan area to serve the existing population. Based on the facility standards discussed in Chapter 6, an estimate of some of the facilities that will still be needed is shown in Table 18.

Table 18 – Facilities Needed Following Construction of Proposed Parks

Facility Type	Facilities Needed per Proposed Standard
Tennis Court	7
Outdoor Basketball Court	7
Baseball Field	2
Softball Field	5
Little League Baseball Field	7
Soccer or Multi-use Field	1
Football Field	2
Gymnasium	2
Clubhouse or Multipurpose Room	1
Community Center	2
Group Picnic Area	4
Dog Park	1

Priority areas for new parks include the unincorporated areas immediately around Placerville, Diamond Springs, and the Camino-Pollock Pines corridor based on the relatively higher population densities in these areas. It is unlikely that El Dorado County will have the resources to acquire and develop parks in these areas in the near future. Innovative ways to meet the demand for recreation resources will need to be explored including expanded joint-use of school facilities and public-private partnerships. The County will also need to complete more detailed analysis of these areas with respect to the rest of the County to establish relative priority for park development. These and other related issues will be addressed by the County in a separate parks and trails master plan currently underway.

Strategy NP-1: Encourage completion of the El Dorado County Parks and Trails Master Plan in coordination with this plan to develop strategies to address the existing deficit of parks in the unincorporated area.

In order to maintain the level of park acreage in the City, and prevent the deficit from growing in the unincorporated areas, both jurisdictions should continue to require park land

dedication or fees in-lieu along with recreation impact fees for new residential development in order to fund acquisition and development of new parks to serve new residents. These fees in-lieu and impact fees must be set at a realistic level to fund a level of improvements that is consistent with the facility standards of this Master Plan.

Strategy NP-2: Formalize City and County development approval procedures to provide adequate review of proposed park improvements to make sure they are consistent with this Master Plan in terms of the quality of land, and type and quantity of improvements. Use this process to coordinate locations for new facilities to best serve the community.

7.3 Paths and Trails

Community input to this Master Plan consistently emphasized enhanced access to natural areas and a desire for more walking and biking opportunities. The following capital planning strategies will help address these concerns.

As new parks and recreational open space areas are established, the City should require the components of the trail standard addressing ADA accessible paved paths in parks and unpaved trails in recreational open space to be integrated into the site plans. Class I trails and paved ADA paths may also be located in recreational open space where site conditions and anticipated usage are appropriate.

Strategy PT-1: Require all new neighborhood and community parks to have ADA accessible paths for pedestrian and compatible uses.

Strategy PT-2: Require development and redevelopment projects that will include recreational open space to provide trail access through the open space to facilitate access and meaningful connections between the open space and adjacent neighborhoods and parks.

Coordination with regional trail partners to establish regional networks and connections to Placerville area parks should continue to be pursued. The City and County transportation planning departments, together with the Sacramento-Placerville Trail Corridor Joint Powers Authority and local trail advocacy group such as Trails Now, should continue to work together to establish alignments, obtain easements, and secure grant funding to facilitate trail implementation.

Strategy PT-3: Actively engage in regional trail planning and development efforts with local and regional partners.



Strategy PT-4: Look for opportunities to include paths and/or Class 1 trails in City-owned property within creek corridors to expand walking and biking options within the regional trail network.

7.4 Programs

While plan area residents are very positive about the diversity and quality of recreation programs offered by the City, demographic trends and input from residents suggest some additional areas of program focus will be needed to keep pace with future demand.



More recreation programming for active adults is likely to be needed as the baby boomer generation ages. This demographic is distinct from traditional seniors in that they have a higher level of physical ability and, in some cases, more disposable income and free time. They are also often very interested in making a contribution back to the community through volunteerism, and in pursuing continuing education and life enrichment.

Strategy P-1: The City should seek input from mature adults and seniors to diversify and expand life enrichment and physical activities specifically for these groups. Such activities may include travel, cultural events, health management, community stewardship, etc.

Recreation programs for teens were also identified as a priority by the community. There is a particular need to provide activities for teens who are not participating in organized school activities and teams. While the City offers a number of programs appropriate for teen participation, public input to this Master Plan suggests that perhaps other types of programs and events are needed.

Strategy P-2: Continue to work with the El Dorado County Youth Commission to get input from teens on program and event preferences, in collaboration with local schools and other youth organizations. In particular, identify ways to involve underserved teens in identifying the types of activities and facilities that would best meet their needs.

Demographic trends for the plan area indicate that cultural diversity is expected to increase as the plan area grows. It will be critical for the City to bring awareness of this trend to all aspects of recreation programming and planning in order to meet the evolving needs and expectations of all residents. This cultural diversity will provide opportunities for new types of programs, events, and festivals that will enrich the recreation experience of the whole community.

Strategy P-3: Integrate measures in all aspects of program development, selection, publicity, and implementation to facilitate the inclusion of residents with diverse cultural backgrounds.

City Recreation staff are encouraged to continue to establish cooperative partnerships with other community groups to implement these strategies in a manner that leverages the diverse knowledge and expertise within the community, at a reasonable cost to participants. Fees for recreation programs are established with the following goals: (1) Make the programs affordable to the community; (2) reach a level of self-sufficiency for each program; and (3) establish fees that are comparable with like programs of agencies in the area. Self-sufficiency is defined as fees that equal the direct costs of operating each program. Direct costs include: all part-time staff, materials, and supplies necessary to offer the program.

7.5 Administration

The following strategies are intended to facilitate the ongoing operation of City parks and programs consistent with the direction established by this Master Plan. The Director of Community Services will have primary responsibility for implementation of these strategies while collaborating with other City staff and elected officials as needed.

An important function of the Community Services Department is to make sure that the current high quality of recreation experience enjoyed by Placerville residents is maintained in the future as new development occurs. It will be important to implement standards to guide this future development before it occurs so that potential developers will know what is expected of them and are able to design projects accordingly. This is ultimately more cost-effective for the City and the developers than reworking plans to achieve conditions that are developed on a project-by-project basis.

Strategy A-1: The City should formally adopt the Level of Service Standards described in this Master Plan (Chapter 6) and encourage El Dorado County to adopt similar standards in the County park planning and review process. Standards are defined for:

- Park Classifications
- 5 Acres of Active Use Park Land/1,000 population
- Trails and Paths
 - walking paths in all parks
 - unpaved trails in all recreational open space
- Park Service Area
 - 1/2 mile neighborhood parks
 - 2 miles community parks
- Non-vehicular Access to Parks
- Park Site Characteristics
- Standard Park Improvements
- Facility Standards/1,000 population

The City's ability to provide quality parks and recreation programs is heavily dependent on having appropriate fiscal policies and processes in place to optimize revenues from a wide variety of sources. The following strategies focus on various aspects of revenue generation as well as cost reduction in order to achieve this objective.

Strategy A-2: Review existing Lighting and Landscape Maintenance District assessment periodically to make sure the level of assessment remains consistent with the cost of services provided.

Strategy A-3: Continue to pursue joint use agreements with the school districts to secure access to recreation facilities and optimize use of public resources and to limit the need for new facility development as feasible.

Strategy A-4: Provide training to staff to enhance grant writing skills to successfully collaborate with regional partners and compete for grant funding.

Strategy A-5: Look for new revenue opportunities from expanded use of existing park facilities and events. Also consider non-traditional revenue generation through ground leases for cell towers, advertising sales, donations, sponsorships, etc.

Strategy A-6: Pursue opportunities to leverage volunteers for appropriate uses that could help offset the need for additional staff, or free up staff for more cost-effective uses. Continue to build on the City's long history of working with community groups such as Rotary and the Lions Club in support of park initiatives.

Strategy A-7: Design all new facilities and facility renovations to include energy and resource cost management strategies, such as low water-use plantings, solar activated safety lights, etc.

This page intentionally left blank.

8 Cost Analysis

8.1 Master Plan Costs

Implementation of the strategies and recommendations for park facilities and recreation programs described by this Master Plan will require substantial financial resources. Because availability of resources is often constrained by the type of proposed expenditure, the Master Plan costs are separated into two categories: capital improvements, and maintenance and operations (M&O).

Capital costs comprise the funding needed to implement the various capital improvements described in this Master Plan. The cost estimates for each capital improvement include both materials and labor and are based on regional pricing for comparable improvements.

Maintenance and operations costs include all the non-capital expenses required to run the City of Placerville Recreation and Parks Department. These expenses include staff salaries, associated benefits, and other maintenance and operation costs.

Section 9 of this Master Plan identifies various funding strategies that are expected to provide the resources required to meet these various costs.

8.2 10-Year Capital Improvement Plan

This Master Plan identifies approximately \$2.1 million worth of facility improvements to be implemented in the City of Placerville parks within the next ten years. The capital costs associated with these projects are shown in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) presented in Table 19. The CIP is coordinated with the proposed phasing of improvements described in Section 7.1. While the phasing plan identifies target dates (for example, within 3 years) by which improvements are to be completed, in general the CIP distributes the total improvement cost over the multiple years during the projects' construction.

In addition to these facilities, other parks will be built as new developments occur within the plan area. Since these new parks will be entirely funded by development impact fees and land dedication or in-lieu fees collected when and if development occurs, neither the costs nor revenues are shown here. It is expected that the types of improvements at these parks will respond to the various facility standards described earlier in this Master Plan.

An effort has been made to spread capital costs evenly across each year in the CIP, recognizing that some projects cannot be spread over multiple years while others can. The CIP costs include a 15 percent mark-up on each project for plans, specification, and estimates (PSE) and a 15 percent contingency. The CIP is intended to be revisited each year and updated to reflect projects that have been completed or rescheduled. CIP costs are expressed in 2009 dollars, and annual adjustments may be needed to account for changes in construction costs.

8.3 10-Year Non-Capital Cost Projections

The single largest non-capital expense for the City of Placerville Recreation and Parks program is staffing. For purposes of the Finance Plan, it is assumed that current full and part time staffing levels will be maintained as significant new park acreage is not anticipated to be developed in the City within the next ten years. An annual 2.5 percent inflation rate has been built into the salary projections for all staff.



In addition to base salaries, increases in staffing also result in associated increases in benefits. Benefits projections were calculated applying the same methodology used for the salary projections and are included in the Personnel Services line item.

Materials and supplies are another significant component of non-capital costs. These expenses include office equipment, furniture, utilities, building and equipment maintenance, advertising and promotions, and concession stand supplies. The projected material and supplies costs have been inflated by an annual rate of 2.5 percent.

Contract Services and miscellaneous Other Expenses are also reflected in the Finance Plan based on an analysis of the prior three years actual budgets for the portion of the Community Service budget that is used for parks and recreation programs.

8.4 Other Costs

Costs beyond those projected for construction, staffing, and operations and maintenance may arise as Master Plan projects are implemented. Such costs would include activities or services that cannot reasonably be estimated until more detailed project development is completed such as specialized facility engineering, permitting, and environmental impact mitigation.

PLACERVILLE AREA PARK AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

Item	Quantity	Unit	Cost	Total
1.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
2.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
3.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
4.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
5.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
6.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
7.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
8.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
9.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
10.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
11.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
12.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
13.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
14.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
15.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
16.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
17.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
18.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
19.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
20.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
21.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
22.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
23.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
24.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
25.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
26.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
27.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
28.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
29.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
30.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
31.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
32.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
33.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
34.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
35.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
36.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
37.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
38.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
39.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
40.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
41.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
42.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
43.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
44.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
45.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
46.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
47.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
48.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
49.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000
50.0000	1	Year	100,000	100,000

This page intentionally left blank.

9 Finance Plan

The proposed Finance Plan evaluates the costs of capital improvements, operations, and maintenance for the City's parks and recreation programs against anticipated revenues and identifies how much, if any, additional revenues will be needed. The Finance Plan (Table 20), like the Capital Improvement Plan, focuses on a 10-year horizon because projections beyond that period are highly speculative.

9.1 Revenues Needed

This Master Plan identifies \$2.1 million in capital improvements for the City of Placerville parks and recreation programs to be implemented within the next 10 years. The corresponding non-capital costs for maintenance, operations, staffing, and benefits will be about \$20.4 million. The result is a total of nearly \$22.5 million needed for the first 10 years of the implementation of this Master Plan.

9.2 Revenue Sources

The City of Placerville Recreation and Parks Department currently derives funding from five primary sources. These are:

- General Fund
- Lighting and Landscape Maintenance District
- Recreation Fees
- Grants
- Development Fees

Historically, the combination of these funding sources has been adequate to develop and maintain parks and operate recreation programs at the current level of service. However, the current economic conditions and their future impact on these various sources are now creating some uncertainty about future revenues for the City. It will be critical for the City to aggressively monitor revenues, adjust fees and assessments, pursue additional revenue sources, and control costs over the next 10 years to preserve the quality of parks and recreation programs in a fiscally responsible manner. A discussion follows for each of these revenue sources and strategies for managing these concerns.

General Fund

The General Fund is the major source of funding for the City parks and recreation programs, and will continue to be so for the foreseeable future, especially since the real estate market is depressed and very limited impact fees from development are accruing to the City. The proposed Finance Plan shows \$11.7 million, or about 52 percent of the total budget, coming from the General Fund during the next 10 years. General Fund revenues are projected to increase by an annual inflation factor of 2.5 percent.

Lighting, Landscape, and Maintenance District

The City currently has two benefit assessment districts: a Lighting, Landscape, and Maintenance District (LLMD) that encompasses the Orchard Hill development and one for the Cottonwood development. Funding from the Orchard Hill LLMD is static and if maintenance costs should exceed the assessment, approval of district property owners would be required to increase the assessment. The Duffey LLMD assessment has been collected by the City for a number of years in anticipation of construction of Duffey Park by the developer. However, since the park has not yet been built, some of these funds have been refunded to property owners while the balance is being held in reserve. The Finance Plan uses the current level of assessment revenues and includes a 2.5 percent annual increase to reflect anticipated increases in the cost of providing services. Revenue from the LLMDs is relatively minor accounting for only about 1 percent of total revenues for parks and recreation programs.



Orchard Hill Park Play Structure

All new developments should be subject to a similar assessment to provide an ongoing source of operational maintenance funding for new park facilities.

Recreation Fees

Recreation fees come from programs fees, facility rentals, and some concession sales. Many of these fees are paid by non-City residents who utilize City programs and facilities. Revenues from these activities comprise about 37 percent of the total annual parks and recreation program budget. They are expected to contribute about \$8.3 million in revenue over the next 10 years. This projection assumes a 2.5 percent annual inflation factor, and is also adjusted for the anticipated annual increase in population.

To increase this amount, the City should consider expanding the list of available facilities. For example, a small fee could be assessed when some of the smaller group picnic areas are reserved. This fee would help cover the administrative costs associated with reservations and opening/closing restrooms.

**Table 20 - City of Placerville Parks and Recreation
10-Year Finance Plan**

	Base (2008)	YEAR										Total											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10												
Expenses																							
Personal Services	\$ 1,400,198	\$ 1,435,203	\$ 1,471,083	\$ 1,507,860	\$ 1,545,556	\$ 1,584,195	\$ 1,623,800	\$ 1,664,395	\$ 1,706,005	\$ 1,748,655	\$ 1,792,371	\$ 1,839,148	\$ 1,888,985	\$ 1,942,895	\$ 1,999,880	\$ 2,060,940	\$ 2,126,075	\$ 2,195,295	\$ 2,268,700	\$ 2,346,495	\$ 2,428,680	\$ 25,177,233	
Materials and Supplies	\$ 98,775	\$ 101,244	\$ 103,775	\$ 106,370	\$ 109,029	\$ 111,755	\$ 114,549	\$ 117,412	\$ 120,348	\$ 123,356	\$ 126,440	\$ 129,600	\$ 132,833	\$ 136,144	\$ 139,533	\$ 143,000	\$ 146,544	\$ 150,179	\$ 153,899	\$ 157,604	\$ 161,394	\$ 165,267	\$ 1,640,811
Contract Services	\$ 215,150	\$ 220,529	\$ 226,042	\$ 231,693	\$ 237,485	\$ 243,422	\$ 249,508	\$ 255,746	\$ 262,139	\$ 268,693	\$ 275,410	\$ 282,300	\$ 289,363	\$ 296,599	\$ 303,918	\$ 311,420	\$ 319,107	\$ 326,980	\$ 335,039	\$ 343,284	\$ 351,715	\$ 360,432	\$ 3,510,411
Other Expense	\$ 64,825	\$ 66,446	\$ 68,107	\$ 69,809	\$ 71,555	\$ 73,344	\$ 75,177	\$ 77,057	\$ 78,983	\$ 80,958	\$ 82,981	\$ 85,050	\$ 87,164	\$ 89,323	\$ 91,527	\$ 93,776	\$ 96,070	\$ 98,409	\$ 100,793	\$ 103,222	\$ 105,696	\$ 108,215	\$ 1,067,411
Capital Projects	\$ 241,100	\$ 168,855	\$ 168,855	\$ 211,512	\$ 211,512	\$ 247,619	\$ 249,167	\$ 251,234	\$ 228,006	\$ 127,653	\$ 129,029	\$ 127,653	\$ 127,653	\$ 127,653	\$ 127,653	\$ 127,653	\$ 127,653	\$ 127,653	\$ 127,653	\$ 127,653	\$ 127,653	\$ 127,653	\$ 1,276,653
Subtotal	\$ 1,778,948	\$ 2,064,522	\$ 2,037,862	\$ 2,175,137	\$ 2,260,335	\$ 2,312,201	\$ 2,365,844	\$ 2,420,499	\$ 2,476,353	\$ 2,533,410	\$ 2,591,671	\$ 2,651,144	\$ 2,711,837	\$ 2,773,750	\$ 2,836,893	\$ 2,901,276	\$ 2,966,909	\$ 3,033,802	\$ 3,101,955	\$ 3,171,378	\$ 3,242,081	\$ 3,314,074	\$ 33,310,411
Revenues																							
General Fund	\$ 1,023,385	\$ 1,048,969	\$ 1,075,193	\$ 1,102,072	\$ 1,129,625	\$ 1,157,866	\$ 1,186,813	\$ 1,216,483	\$ 1,246,895	\$ 1,278,067	\$ 1,310,019	\$ 1,342,750	\$ 1,376,263	\$ 1,410,566	\$ 1,445,660	\$ 1,481,544	\$ 1,518,228	\$ 1,555,712	\$ 1,593,996	\$ 1,633,080	\$ 1,672,964	\$ 1,713,648	\$ 17,152,004
Orchard Hill / Duffey LLMD	\$ 28,733	\$ 29,451	\$ 30,188	\$ 30,942	\$ 31,716	\$ 32,509	\$ 33,321	\$ 34,155	\$ 35,008	\$ 35,884	\$ 36,781	\$ 37,693	\$ 38,624	\$ 39,574	\$ 40,544	\$ 41,533	\$ 42,541	\$ 43,568	\$ 44,614	\$ 45,680	\$ 46,765	\$ 47,869	\$ 478,733
Recreation Fees	\$ 726,830	\$ 745,001	\$ 763,626	\$ 782,716	\$ 802,284	\$ 822,341	\$ 842,900	\$ 863,972	\$ 885,572	\$ 907,711	\$ 930,404	\$ 953,652	\$ 977,465	\$ 1,001,844	\$ 1,026,789	\$ 1,052,300	\$ 1,078,378	\$ 1,105,024	\$ 1,132,238	\$ 1,159,920	\$ 1,188,171	\$ 1,216,992	\$ 12,150,411
Grants	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 102,500	\$ 105,063	\$ 107,689	\$ 110,381	\$ 113,141	\$ 115,969	\$ 118,869	\$ 121,840	\$ 124,886	\$ 127,999	\$ 131,180	\$ 134,429	\$ 137,747	\$ 141,124	\$ 144,561	\$ 148,059	\$ 151,618	\$ 155,238	\$ 158,919	\$ 162,661	\$ 1,626,661
Other Revenue Sources	\$ 141,101	\$ 141,101	\$ 66,355	\$ 103,823	\$ 137,238	\$ 136,026	\$ 135,265	\$ 135,265	\$ 109,138	\$ 5,813	\$ 4,143	\$ 4,143	\$ 4,143	\$ 4,143	\$ 4,143	\$ 4,143	\$ 4,143	\$ 4,143	\$ 4,143	\$ 4,143	\$ 4,143	\$ 4,143	\$ 41,430
Subtotal	\$ 1,778,948	\$ 2,064,522	\$ 2,037,862	\$ 2,175,137	\$ 2,260,335	\$ 2,312,201	\$ 2,365,844	\$ 2,420,499	\$ 2,476,353	\$ 2,533,410	\$ 2,591,671	\$ 2,651,144	\$ 2,711,837	\$ 2,773,750	\$ 2,836,893	\$ 2,901,276	\$ 2,966,909	\$ 3,033,802	\$ 3,101,955	\$ 3,171,378	\$ 3,242,081	\$ 33,310,411	

This page intentionally left blank.

Category	Item	Quantity	Unit	Cost	Total	Notes
Construction	Site Preparation	100	sq ft	100.00	100.00	
	Grading	500	sq ft	500.00	500.00	
	Drainage	200	sq ft	200.00	200.00	
	Site Work	100	sq ft	100.00	100.00	
Equipment	Excavator	1	hour	100.00	100.00	
	Grader	1	hour	100.00	100.00	
	Tractor	1	hour	100.00	100.00	
	Backhoe	1	hour	100.00	100.00	
Materials	Gravel	1000	cu yd	1000.00	1000.00	
	Fill	500	cu yd	500.00	500.00	
	Drainage Pipe	100	lin ft	100.00	100.00	
	Site Work	100	sq ft	100.00	100.00	
Professional Fees	Design	100	hour	100.00	100.00	
	Construction	100	hour	100.00	100.00	
	Inspection	100	hour	100.00	100.00	
	Permitting	100	hour	100.00	100.00	
Miscellaneous	Permits	1	set	100.00	100.00	
	Signage	100	sq ft	100.00	100.00	
	Site Work	100	sq ft	100.00	100.00	
	Site Work	100	sq ft	100.00	100.00	
TOTAL	Construction				1000.00	
	Equipment				400.00	
	Materials				1000.00	
	Professional Fees				400.00	
TOTAL					2800.00	
					2800.00	
					2800.00	
					2800.00	

PLACERVILLE AREA PARK AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

To generate additional program fee revenues, the City may want to expand programs for mature adults. This is a population that has relatively more leisure time and disposable recreation income than most families or young single adults.

Grants

Grants are a very important source of revenue for park facility development. Most grants are limited to capital uses, but used in this way they help to free up funds for other non-capital expenditures. Given the limited availability of state revenue, it is anticipated that most available grants for the next several years will be for trails and recreational open space. The Finance Plan only assumes that the City will pursue grants for about 4 percent of the total ten year budget, or about \$100,000 annually.

Several approaches may be used to improve the City's chances of securing this level of grant funding, ranging from contract grant writing services to providing additional training to existing staff to help develop grant writing skills.

Development Fees

The City of Placerville requires new residential development to pay a fee towards the costs of acquiring and developing new parks to serve the residents associated with the development. The intent behind this assessment is that the level of park and recreation services for existing residents will be preserved as the City grows. However, the current level of park impact fees fall far short of covering these costs. This fee is currently set at \$1,320 per dwelling unit. Assuming 2.5 people per dwelling unit, this is only \$528 per capita. With park development costs alone running a minimum of \$300,000 per acre of active use park land, and assuming 5 acres per 1,000 residents, a more realistic fee would need to be at least \$1,500 per capita.

Developers are also required to either dedicate land for active park use to preserve the City's 5 acres per 1,000 population standard or pay fees in-lieu of the land dedication. The fees in-lieu must be adequate to purchase the same amount of land that would have been dedicated. At current market rates, an acre of land suitable for active park development in the Placerville area is estimated to cost about \$150,000. Active park land generally has the same characteristics as land suitable for prime residential development: flat topography, access to infrastructure and located near other residential uses. These qualities contribute to the relatively high cost of the land. The cost for land would thus be about \$750 per capita based on the 5 acres per 1,000 population standard.



Rotary Park Ball Field

Combining the land and facility construction fee elements, the composite park fee should be about \$2,250 per capita at a minimum. This equates to \$5,625 per dwelling unit assuming 2.5 residents per dwelling unit, or about a 425 percent increase of the current fee. Increasing the fees charged to new development has become a very controversial subject in recent months with the downturn of the economy and communities trying to encourage new growth as a source of revenue. However, it is important to realize that failure to collect fees that reflect realistic park acquisition and development costs will make it impossible to maintain the level of parks resources the community currently enjoys. Therefore, it is essential for the City of Placerville to adjust the existing development park impact fee to be more inline with current costs. Many communities and parks districts throughout the region have gone through a similar exercise in recent years and now assess fees in the \$5,000 to \$10,000 range. Once the development park impact fee is increased, it must also be reviewed periodically to reflect changes in construction labor and materials costs. The City may also allow developers to provide turn-key parks in lieu of paying fees, provided the park design and location are approved by the City.

The proposed Finance Plan takes a conservative position on revenue expectations and does not include any park impact fee revenues at this time. In the last three years, the City has only collected an average of about \$36,000 in park development fees annually. Since development activity is currently slow, revenue for the next several years is likely to be minimal. When development activity resumes, park impact fee revenues may help offset a portion of the \$1 million identified as deriving from other currently unidentified sources. Revenues from development impact fees are required to be spent on the expenses associated with development of the new parks or improvements at existing parks to expand the capacity of those parks consistent with the Mitigation Fee Act (California Government Code 66001 et seq.) and the Subdivision Map Act (California Government Code Section 66577).

9.3 Other Revenue Considerations

This Finance Plan relies on numerous projections and assumptions about future unknown factors. Because some of the projections may fall short of expectations, the City will need to aggressively pursue the suggestions provided above for maximizing income from each of the identified sources. The City will need to consider several other variables as periodic adjustments to expenses and revenues are required.

Fees Adjustments

The City may, at some point, need to consider more substantial fee increases for facility rentals and programs. Properly managing any such increases will be critical so that they do not discourage facility use or program participation to the extent that residents are unable to realize the important social and physical benefits of these resources. Declining rates of participation because of fee increases may also ultimately result in a net loss in revenues rather than the desired increase.

Other Revenue Sources

In addition to the funding sources already discussed, the City will need about \$1 million in revenues from unidentified sources in order to implement the master plan as proposed. Thus, the City should be evaluating and pursuing non-traditional revenue sources. These sources include such mechanisms as sponsorships, donations, revenue bonds, selling advertising space, and site leases for infrastructure such as cell phone towers. Public-private partnerships for facility development and operation should also be examined. Lastly, the City may wish to consider an assessment specifically for parks and recreation programs at some point in the future when economic conditions improve. Public reaction to a potential park assessment was relatively positive in the surveys conducted as part of this Master Plan analysis, with the condition that the public would have an opportunity to participate in determining the level of assessment and how funds would be used.

The City should also implement periodic adjustments to the level of assessment for the two existing benefit assessment districts so that revenue collected keeps pace with the costs associated with providing the services covered by the assessment. The Finance Plan assumes an annual increase of 2.5 percent; however, this rate may not be adequate depending on future costs of goods and services.

Conversely, the most effective revenue strategy is cost avoidance. The City should continually be looking for opportunities to leverage community volunteerism to offset operational costs, and to factor energy conservation into all new facility designs and renovations to help reduce operational expenses.

The City of Placerville has a long history of community volunteerism on behalf of the development and maintenance of public parks. Over the years, local residents and service clubs have raised considerable amounts of money for park land acquisition, and many improvements enjoyed by current residents were made possible by the labor, services, funding, and materials donated by these individuals. This spirit of community service has played an important role in building the City's park system by supplementing limited public funds to meet the community's need for park resources. It is especially important for the City to actively pursue this ongoing collaboration with groups such as the Lions, Rotary, and Active 20/30 Club during these fiscally challenging times when so many crucial services are competing for the same shrinking pot of resources.

There continue to be many opportunities for citizens to contribute to the City's parks by volunteering their expertise, labor, and services as well as fund raising for the specific park improvements described in this Master Plan.

Other Revenue Sources

In addition to the funding from the state, the local government is also responsible for raising revenue from the local economy. This can be done through a variety of means, including property taxes, sales taxes, and other local levies. The local government is also responsible for managing the state's natural resources, such as forests, parks, and wildlife. This can be done through a variety of means, including the sale of timber, the collection of royalties, and the management of public lands.

This page intentionally left blank.

The local government is also responsible for providing a variety of services to the community, such as police, fire, and public works. These services are funded through a variety of means, including property taxes, sales taxes, and other local levies. The local government is also responsible for managing the state's natural resources, such as forests, parks, and wildlife. This can be done through a variety of means, including the sale of timber, the collection of royalties, and the management of public lands.

The local government is also responsible for providing a variety of services to the community, such as police, fire, and public works. These services are funded through a variety of means, including property taxes, sales taxes, and other local levies. The local government is also responsible for managing the state's natural resources, such as forests, parks, and wildlife. This can be done through a variety of means, including the sale of timber, the collection of royalties, and the management of public lands.

The local government is also responsible for providing a variety of services to the community, such as police, fire, and public works. These services are funded through a variety of means, including property taxes, sales taxes, and other local levies. The local government is also responsible for managing the state's natural resources, such as forests, parks, and wildlife. This can be done through a variety of means, including the sale of timber, the collection of royalties, and the management of public lands.

The local government is also responsible for providing a variety of services to the community, such as police, fire, and public works. These services are funded through a variety of means, including property taxes, sales taxes, and other local levies. The local government is also responsible for managing the state's natural resources, such as forests, parks, and wildlife. This can be done through a variety of means, including the sale of timber, the collection of royalties, and the management of public lands.

Appendix A - Written Survey

Appendix A - Written Survey

PLACERVILLE AREA

PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN

The following questions are designed to obtain your views on the Parks and Recreation services and facilities in the Placerville area. Your participation in this survey is very important and will help guide future park planning for the Placerville area. Please read each question carefully and check the response that best reflects your views.

A. OVERALL PARK AND RECREATION EXPERIENCE

Please rate how well the following statements reflect your views, in general, on the City of Placerville and County of El Dorado Parks and Recreation facilities and programs.

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
1. The variety of facilities at the parks meets your recreational needs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. You are satisfied with the quality of the facilities in the parks.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. The parks are conveniently located for you.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. There are enough parks to meet your needs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. The parks are well-maintained.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. It is safe for young people to play in the parks.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. You know where to get information about recreation programs provided by the City of Placerville.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. You are satisfied with the variety of recreation programs offered by the city of Placerville.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. The City's recreation programs are offered at locations that are convenient for you.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. The City's recreation programs are offered at times that are convenient for you.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

B. PARK DEVELOPMENT AND FUNDING

Please rate the following statements about how to pay for park and recreation facilities in the Placerville area.

	Agree	Disagree	Not Sure
1. Developers should pay fees to cover the cost of new parks when new residential developments are approved.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. You would consider paying a new assessment or tax specifically for parks as long as you had the opportunity to approve the amount of the assessment or tax before it was implemented.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. The City and County should aggressively pursue grants and contributions to help fund park facilities.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. The City and El Dorado County should continue to use existing assessments and the City and County general funds to pay for parks.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

C. INDIVIDUAL PARK EVALUATION

Please tell us which parks you visit and if you have concerns about park facilities, safety, or cleanliness.

Park Name	I visit this park ...			I have concerns about the following at this park (Check all that apply):			
	Often	Occasionally	Never	Condition of Facilities	Daytime Safety	Safety After Dark	Cleanliness
Gold Bug Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Benham Park or City Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rotary Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lions Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lumsden Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Orchard Hill	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Henningsen Lotus Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pioneer Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joe's Skate Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bradford Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

D. RECREATION PROGRAMS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Have you or has anyone in your household participated in a City of Placerville recreation program in the past three years?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes (continue to question 2)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No (skip question 2)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Don't Know/Not Sure (skip question 2)</p> | <p>2 Were the people in your household who participated in the recreation programs satisfied?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Very Satisfied</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat Satisfied</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Not Very Satisfied</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Not at all Satisfied</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Don't Know/No Opinion</p> |
|---|---|

Please rate the importance of providing future recreational programs and activities in the following age groups and areas.

	High	Moderate	Low	No Opinion		High	Moderate	Low	No Opinion
Preschool, Age 1-4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Young Adults, Age 19-25	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Children, Age 5-12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Adults, Age 26-50	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teenagers, Age 13-18	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mature Adults 51-70	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family Programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Seniors, Age 70+	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nature Education Programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Arts & Cultural Programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aquatics Programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Summer Programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adult Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual & Team Sports	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fitness Programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	After School Programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community Events	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Computer & Technology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

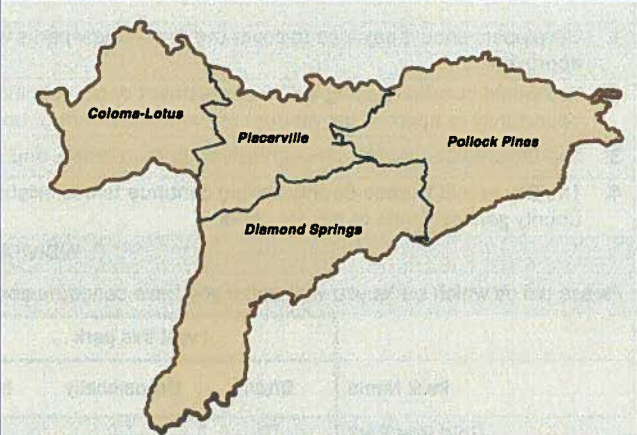
E. ADDITIONAL PARK FACILITIES

What additional park facilities do you think are needed in Placerville to meet the needs of the community? (Please select up to five facilities.)

<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Centers	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Gardens	<input type="checkbox"/> Disc Golf Course	<input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Basketball Courts	<input type="checkbox"/> Soccer Fields
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Meeting Rooms	<input type="checkbox"/> Gymnasiums	<input type="checkbox"/> BMX Bike Track	<input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Volleyball Courts	<input type="checkbox"/> Tennis Courts
<input type="checkbox"/> Teen Centers	<input type="checkbox"/> Skate Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Group Picnic Areas	<input type="checkbox"/> Water/Spray Play Areas	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Open Space
<input type="checkbox"/> Walking and Biking Trails	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Center	<input type="checkbox"/> Children's Play Areas (Ages 6-12)	<input type="checkbox"/> Swimming Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Bocce Ball Courts
<input type="checkbox"/> Amphitheater	<input type="checkbox"/> Dog Parks	<input type="checkbox"/> Tot Lots (Ages 3-5)	<input type="checkbox"/> Baseball Fields	<input type="checkbox"/>

F. TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

Please tell us a little bit about yourself and your household to assist us in planning future services. Please be assured that all responses are confidential and are for statistical purposes only.

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>1. What is your gender?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female</p> | <p>3. Do you have children in your home? (Check all ages that apply.)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 5 or younger</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 6 - 10</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 11 - 15</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 16 - 18</p> |  |
| <p>2. What is your age?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 10 or younger</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 11 - 15</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 16 - 20</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 21 - 30</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 31 - 50</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 51 - 65</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 66 or older</p> | <p>4. Please refer to the map at right, and tell where you live.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Coloma</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Diamond Springs</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Lotus</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Placerville</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pollock Pines</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> | |

THANK YOU!

Please drop this completed survey in box provided or return to one of the following:
 City of Placerville Parks and Recreation Department • 549 Main Street, Placerville, CA 95667
 County of El Dorado Parks Recreation • 3000 Fairlane Court, Suite 1, Placerville, CA 95667

Would you like to join our Master Plan mailing list? If so, please provide either a mailing address or an e-mail address below:

e-mail: _____ Street Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Thank you for taking valuable time to assist us with this most important survey.
 If you have any questions about the survey or the Parks Master Plan process, please visit:
<http://www.cityofplacerville.org/> or contact Steve Youel at (530) 642-5232.

Appendix B - Phone Survey

Appendix B - Phone Survey

Interviewer:	Red Checked by:	Checked by:	Re-checked by:	Corrected by:	Correction Checked by:	Coded by:	Coding Checked by:
--------------	--------------------	-------------	-------------------	------------------	---------------------------	-----------	-----------------------

**JDFR #825
PROGRAMMING**

CITY OF PLACERVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT



RESIDENT SURVEY

Introduction

Hello, this is YOUR FULL NAME calling on behalf of the City of Placerville and El Dorado County Parks and Recreation Departments. We are doing a short survey about parks and recreation services in the Placerville area and would like to include the opinions of your household. (I only need two or three minutes of your time.)

Screening

Q:QA

T:

I would like to interview the youngest male adult aged 18 **or older** who is at home now.

➤IF NO MALE ADULT OR MALE ADULT NOT AVAILABLE, SAY:

Q:QB

T:

Then I would like to interview the youngest female adult aged 18 **or older** who is at home now.

I:

WHEN YOU HAVE ELIGIBLE ADULT, REPEAT INTRODUCTION AS NEEDED AND CONTINUE WITH INTERVIEW.

Q:Q1

T:

First, I am going to read you a list of the parks in Placerville and in the surrounding areas of El Dorado County. As I read each one, please tell me how often you visit that park in a typical year.

	NEVER	1-5 TIMES	6 - 10 TIMES	11-20 TIMES	MORE THAN 20 TIMES
a. Benham Park or City Park	1	2	3	4	5
b. Bradford Park	1	2	3	4	5
c. Gold Bug Park	1	2	3	4	5
d. Henningsen Lotus Park	1	2	3	4	5
e. Joe's Skate Park	1	2	3	4	5
f. Lions Park	1	2	3	4	5
g. Lumsden Park	1	2	3	4	5
h. Orchard Hill	1	2	3	4	5
i. Pioneer Park	1	2	3	4	5
j. Rotary Park	1	2	3	4	5

I:

Q:Q2

T:

Now I am going to read you some statements about parks and recreation services in the City of Placerville and the surrounding areas of El Dorado County. As I read each one, please tell me whether you strongly agree, agree somewhat, disagree somewhat, or strongly disagree. Here's the first statement...

	STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE SOMEWHAT	DISAGREE SOMEWHAT	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DON'T KNOW
11. The variety of facilities at the parks meet your recreational needs	4	3	2	1	5
12. You are satisfied with the quality of the facilities in the parks	4	3	2	1	5
13. The parks are conveniently located for you	4	3	2	1	5
14. There are enough parks to meet your needs	4	3	2	1	5
15. The parks are well-maintained	4	3	2	1	5
16. It is safe for young people to play in the parks	4	3	2	1	5

17. You know where to get information about recreation programs provided by the City of Placerville	4	3	2	1	5
18. You are satisfied with the variety of recreation programs offered by the City of Placerville	4	3	2	1	5
19. The City's recreation programs are offered at locations that are convenient for you	4	3	2	1	5
20. The City's recreation programs are offered at times that are convenient for you	4	3	2	1	5

I:

Q:Q3

T:

Have you or has anyone in your household participated in a City of Placerville recreation program in the past three years?

1 YES (CONTINUE)

2 NO (SKIP TO Q5)

3 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE (SKIP TO Q5)

I:

◀IF YES, ASK:

Q:Q4

T:

Overall, were the people in your household who participated in the recreation programs very, somewhat, not very, or not at all satisfied with the program or programs?

4 VERY SATISFIED

3 SOMEWHAT SATISFIED

2 NOT VERY SATISFIED

1 NOT AT ALL SATISFIED

9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

I:

Q:Q5

T:

Now I am going to read you four statements about how to pay for park and recreation facilities in Placerville and the surrounding areas of El Dorado County. After I have read each one, please tell me whether you agree or disagree with that statement.

	AGREE	DISAGREE	NOT SURE
a. Developers should pay fees to cover the cost of new parks when new residential developments are approved	1	2	9
b. You would consider paying a new assessment or tax specifically for parks as long as you had the opportunity to approve the amount of the assessment or tax before it was implemented	1	2	9
c. The City and County should aggressively pursue grants and contributions to help fund park facilities	1	2	9
d. The City and County should continue to use existing assessments and the City and County general funds to pay for parks	1	2	9

Q:Q6

T:

RECORD GENDER

1 MALE

2 FEMALE

Q:Q7

T:

Now in order to classify your responses along with others, I need to ask a few questions about you. First do you live in Cameron Park, Coloma, Diamond Springs, Lotus, Placerville, Pollock Pines, Shingle Springs, or somewhere else? (And where would that be?)

1 CAMERON PARK

2 COLOMA

3 DIAMOND SPRINGS

4 LOTUS

5 PLACERVILLE

6 POLLOCK PINES

7 SHINGLE SPRINGS

8 SOMEWHERE ELSE: _____

9 REFUSED

Q:Q8

T:

What is your age, please?

999 REFUSED

I:

Q:Q9

T:

Are there any children under the age of 19 living at home with you?

1 YES (CONTINUE)

2 NO (THANK AND TERMINATE)

3 REFUSED (THANK AND TERMINATE)

I:

☛ **IF YES, ASK:**

Q:Q10

T:

And how many children under the age of 19 live in your home?

999 REFUSED (THANK AND TERMINATE)

I:

☛ **IF >0, ASK:**

Q:Q11

T:

How old are these children? RECORD ALL THAT APPLY. MAKE SURE ALL CHILDREN ARE ACCOUNTED FOR. ROUND TO NEAREST YEAR TO CODE IF ONE YEAR OR OLDER.

CHILD 1 ____

CHILD 2 ____

CHILD 3 ____

CHILD 4 ____

CHILD 5 ____

CODE "0" LESS THAN ONE YEAR OLD

999 REFUSED

I:

THANK RESPONDENT!

APPENDIX

INDEX

All these are children under the age of 18 living at home with you.

1 YES (CONTINUE)
2 NO (PLEASE READ INSTRUCTIONS)
3 REFUSED (PLEASE ASK HOUSEHOLD)

4 NOT YET ASK

CHILD 10

And how many of them under the age of 18 years were born?

FOR NEWBORN CHILDREN (AGE YEAR 0)

CHILD 11

CHILD 12

How do you describe the child's sex? (M for male, F for female)
1 MALE (CONTINUE) 2 FEMALE (CONTINUE) 3 OTHER (CONTINUE)

CHILD 13

CHILD 14

CHILD 15

CHILD 16

CHILD 17

CODE 18 (AGE YEAR 18)

END OF INTERVIEW