



City Council Memorandum

City of Arts & Innovation

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DATE: FEBRUARY 4, 2020

FROM: PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT WARDS: ALL

SUBJECT: COMPREHENSIVE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES MASTER PLAN

ISSUE:

Adopt the Comprehensive Parks, Recreation and Community Services Master Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council adopt the Comprehensive Parks, Recreation and Community Services Master Plan.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

On November 13, 2019, the Community Services and Youth Committee met with Chair Conder, Vice Chair Adams, and Member Perry present to receive an update on the Parks Master Plan project. Following discussion and without formal motion, the Committee unanimously received an update on the Parks Master Plan project.

BACKGROUND:

The existing Park Master Plan was completed in 2003 and is recommended to be updated every ten years. Since 2003, the City's population has grown, neighborhood demographics have changed, and the park system achieved significant improvements during the Renaissance. A new Comprehensive Park Master Plan is needed to provide a clear vision, action plan, and financial strategy for creating one of "America's Most Livable Communities" that reflects the needs of the community and equitably serves the residents of Riverside.

On February 24, 2015, the City of Riverside adopted the Riverside 2.0 Strategic Plan, which included the strategic goal of updating the Park Master Plan and Recreation Needs Assessment.

On July 25, 2017, City Council approved an agreement with RJM Design Group (RJM) to complete a comprehensive Parks, Recreation and Community Services Master Plan (The Plan). The Plan scope of services included the following tasks:

1. Recreation Programs, Services and Park Facility Inventory - provide an inventory and assessment of existing programs, services, and facilities;
2. Community Needs Survey – provide a demographic analysis, including trends, recreation patterns, community workshops (each ward, stakeholders, sports groups, youth, seniors etc.), a community-wide, statistically valid phone survey, and online questionnaire;
3. Comparative Analysis, Recreational Needs Assessment and Recommendations – evaluate and identify recreational needs specific to Riverside, required to serve the community with projections to 2030. Identify underserved neighborhoods, service gaps, and prioritize site-specific projects, acquisitions and services, in a list format that considers funding, phasing, and community priorities;
4. Capital Improvement Plan – develop a plan outlining park infrastructure improvement required to implement the Comprehensive Park Master Plan recommendations;
5. Operations and Maintenance Plan – develop a maintenance management plan for the facilities maintained by the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department;
6. Park Land Acquisition and Development Policies Manual – provide a manual with updated policies, General Plan updates, and development impact fees needed to meet long-range recreation service objectives;
7. Financial Strategy Plan – identify the financial needs and priorities, and recommend funding mechanisms as well as cost recovery strategies needed to implement the proposed Comprehensive Park Master Plan; and
8. Facility ADA Study – Conduct an analysis of existing park facilities to identify existing accessibility compliance/conditions, corrective action, cost and priorities.

In 2018, RJM completed a park inventory, analysis, and extensive community outreach effort. The community outreach effort included 18 stakeholder interviews, five focus groups, seven community workshops, a sports organization questionnaire, 633 responses in the ESRI online survey, and input from 900 residents through a telephone survey.

DISCUSSION

RJM used community input, as well as an analysis of services and needs to prepare the draft Comprehensive Park Master Plan Update. The Plan includes recommendations for park facilities programs, long-term maintenance, and General Plan Policy Updates through 2030.

The draft Park Master Plan was also presented to, and was well received by, the Park and Recreation Commission on October 21, 2019, the Community Services and Youth Committee on November 13, 2019, and the Planning Commission on November 14, 2019.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with the adoption of The Plan. Any costs associated with the recommended actions in The Plan would go through a separate approval process for supplemental appropriations or incorporated into the development of the City's budget.

Prepared by: Adolfo Cruz, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director
Certified as to
availability of funds: Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer
Approved by: Rafael Guzman, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachment:

1. Comprehensive Park Master Plan - https://www.riversideca.gov/park_rec/planning-projects/parks-master-plan-vision-2030
2. Presentation