

CHAPTER 5 PARKS AND RECREATION

INTRODUCTION

The provision of parks throughout the city has long been an integral element of the community's planning and development. Parks are critical amenities, providing both opportunities for respite from the built environment and places for outdoor recreation and community gathering and celebration. Public recreational facilities and programs also help bind the community and contribute to Napa's reputation as a desirable place to live. They provide an opportunity for safe and supervised recreation for youth as well as opportunities for ongoing recreation and enjoyment for adults. To serve the diverse population of the Napa community, recreational activities span a wide range from soccer to dance, basketball to music, golf to painting. A variety of programmatic needs must be considered in

Major Parks and Recreation Objectives

- *Extensive and diverse opportunities for passive and active recreational activities*
- *A comprehensive, multi-use trail system*
- *Integration of natural open space and historic resources into the park and open space system*
- *Provide a broad range of recreation and leisure programs for all sectors of Napa's population*

recreational facilities and program planning. This chapter describes the City's standards and policies for development and maintenance of parks, recreational facilities, trails, and arts and cultural activities. It is divided into the following topical sections:

- Parks and Recreation Facilities
- Parks and Recreation Funding
- Open Space and Natural Resources
- Recreation Programs
- Trails- General
- Napa River Trail
- Arts and Cultural Activities

Appendix F of this document is an "Open Space Action Program" which consolidates the policies and programs from throughout the General Plan that address Open Space.

PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

Park Facilities

The City of Napa's park system currently (1995) totals 753 acres, of which 287 acres are improved for active recreation and 466 acres are minimally improved for passive uses or remain unimproved. City parks are generally classified into three types: citywide, community, and neighborhood. In addition, there are mini-parks and civic areas that also contribute to the city's park and recreation areas. These facilities are defined as follows:

Citywide Facilities

Include parks, open space areas, and trails, and include active recreation and/or open space areas which are of significance to the entire community. Can include active and passive recreational facilities.

Existing citywide facilities include Alston, J.F. Kennedy, Westwood Hills, and Timberhill Parks. The planned Napa River trail and proposed Stanly Park would also be citywide facilities.

Community Parks

Include active recreational facilities such as ballfields and community centers; intended to be a recreational focus for a "community" of many neighborhoods.

Napa has four community parks totaling 40.6 acres, including Century Oaks, Fuller, Garfield, and Las Flores Parks.

Neighborhood Parks

Provide informal general use play areas for an immediate neighborhood. Generally include a children's playground with play structures and a small level grass area for sports and games.

The City has 22 neighborhood parks located throughout the city, totaling 66.5 acres.

Mini Parks

Small parks primarily used as neighborhood play areas.

Napa has 11 mini-parks throughout the city accounting for less than 3 acres

Civic Areas

Plazas, landscaped areas, and other publicly-owned "civic" areas, especially in the downtown area.

Napa has four civic areas, including China Point Park, Parkway Plaza, Pearl Street Park, and Veterans Memorial Park.

In addition, City residents use other park and recreational resources within driving distance of the City, including City reservoirs (Lake Hennessey and Milliken Reservoir), County recreational areas (Cuttings Wharf Boat Launch Facility, Yountville Ecological Preserve, Skyline Wilderness Park, Solano Avenue Bike Rest Stop), and State and federal facilities (Rector Reservoir, Sugarloaf Ridge State Park, Bothe-Napa Valley State Park, Robert Louis Stevenson State Park, and Lake Berryessa). The Napa River Marsh, primarily federal lands, is also an open space resource for Napa residents.

The existing park system is illustrated in Figure 5-1.

Recreational Facilities and Activities

Public recreational facilities in Napa are provided by three public agencies: the City of Napa, the Napa Valley Unified School District (NVUSD), and Napa Valley College. Many private organizations and businesses also provide recreational activities.

Recreational facilities include the following:

- Swimming pools
- Youth baseball fields
- Softball fields
- Football/soccer fields
- Tennis courts
- Basketball courts
- Volleyball courts
- Track
- Play apparatus
- Golf
- Boat facilities
- Horse facilities

The City provides programs at four City facilities: Las Flores Recreation Center, Senior Center, Pelusi Recreation Building, Fuller Park building (preschool programs and Headstart)

This chapter provides the policies which will guide the maintenance and expansion of Napa's parks and recreational facilities to meet the current and expected needs of the Napa community

Future Park Needs

Future parks and recreational facilities' needs have been determined by future growth projections, identification of currently under-served areas, and community desires as determined by surveys and public meetings. Future park needs have been based on the service area standards and growth projections within the Rural Urban Limit (RUL) through 2020.

To identify community park needs, the City was divided into quadrants (see Figure 5-2), with a major park within each quadrant. This indicated that a new community park

is needed east of the Napa River. In addition, central Napa (Quadrant 2) may require additional community park facilities, as the historic character and other constraints may prevent this park from being developed to provide many of the functions of a community park. This could be met by developing a new park site, either jointly with the school district at Silverado Middle School or with surplus property at Napa State Hospital. Alternately, Shurtleff Park could be expanded to include community-serving facilities with joint use at adjacent Phillips School.

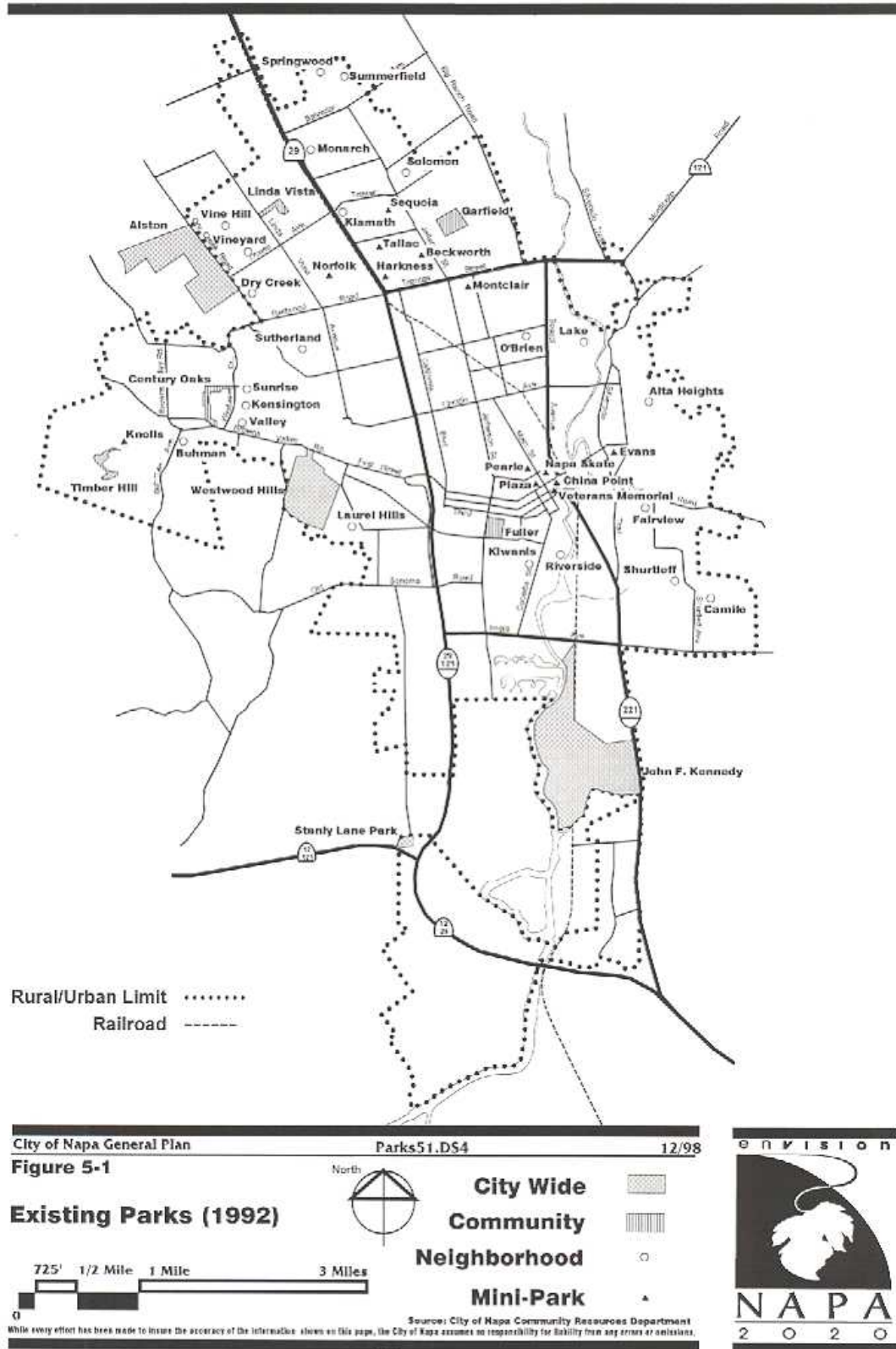
Existing residential areas with deficient neighborhood park access are listed below and shown on Figure 5-3. With limited vacant land available for new parks, the City may need to purchase or lease surplus school sites or establish joint use agreements on school property to help meet neighborhood park needs in these underserved neighborhoods. Possible school facilities for these purposes are identified.

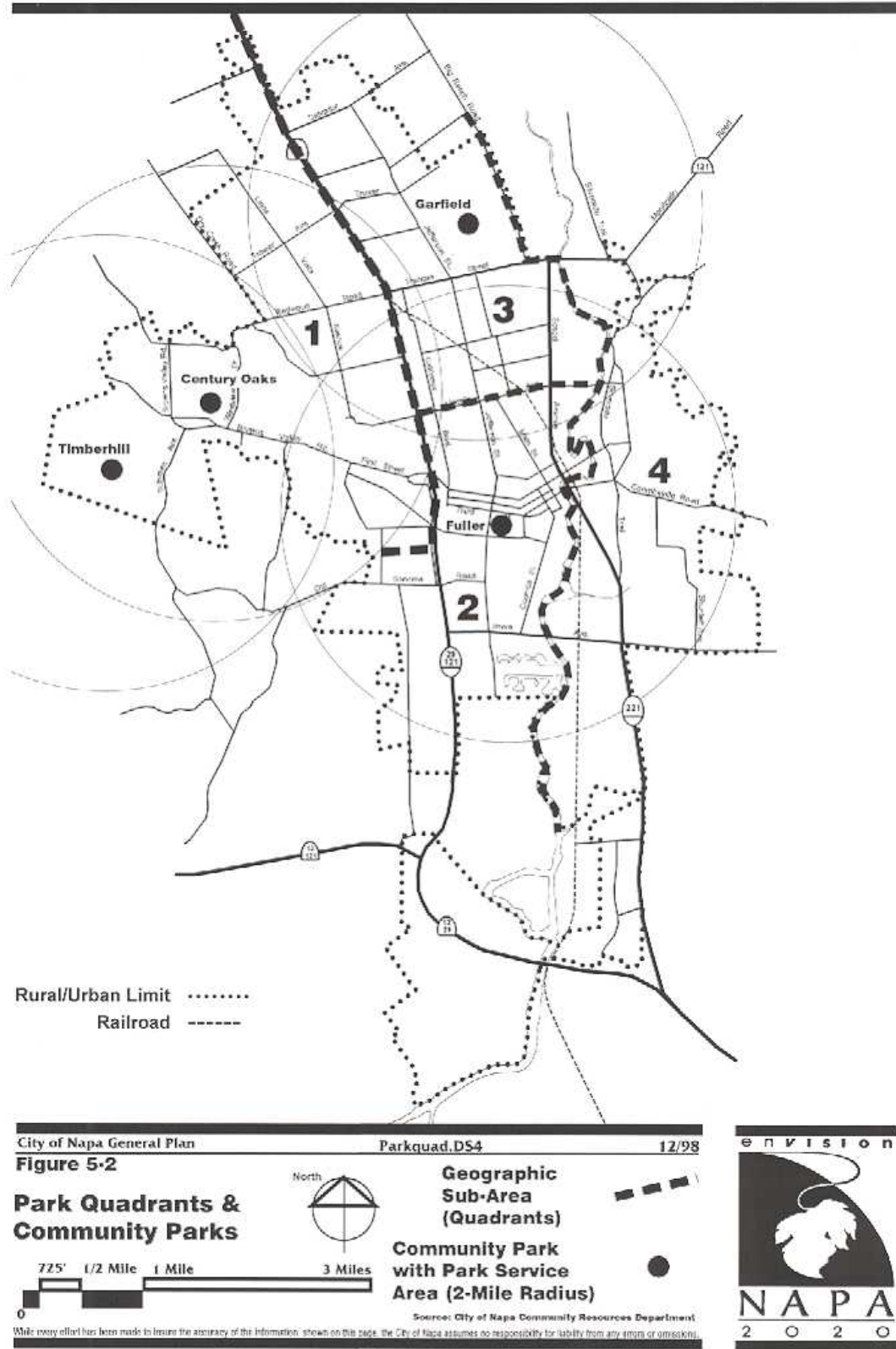
- Near Highway 29 south of Trancas Street. West Park Elementary School
- A portion of the Central Planning Area bounded by Highway 29, Napa Creek, and the railroad: Lincoln Elementary School or D.T. Davis School
- Southwest corner of the city: Ridgeview Middle School or Snow Elementary School, or acquire vacant land in this area as it develops.

A public workshop in October 1990 identified five major issues to be addressed:

- The Napa River as a major potential recreational resource
- The development of facilities for family- and youth-oriented recreation
- The efficient use of limited community resources through joint use agreements with other public entities and coordination among user groups
- Better utilization of community/regional parks
- The need for environmentally sensitive park development and operations

This section establishes the standards for future park planning in Napa. The precise location of some future parks will be determined by the City based on new development and land acquisition.





GOAL To develop a system of well-maintained and fully improved local and citywide serving parks and recreation facilities which meet the needs of the residents of Napa.

PR-1

POLICIES

PR-1.1 The City shall provide 12 acres of active and passive parkland per 1,000 residents. This total figure includes citywide, community, neighborhood, and other special park sites and recreational amenities incorporated into the public parks and recreational open space system.

Citywide Facilities

PR-1.2 Citywide parks, open space areas and trails shall include both active and passive recreational amenities of significance to the whole city. The target standard for provision of citywide parkland shall be 6 to 10 acres per 1,000 residents. The service area of citywide sites includes the entire city and citywide facilities may be located in any part of the city. Sites in this category will typically be in excess of 50 acres, although some are less than 50 acres. Citywide facilities should include parking areas and restrooms. Citywide facilities are further defined as follows:

- a. **Citywide Parks** include major active recreation facilities such as ballfields, or specialized facilities such as boat launches. Citywide parks should include provision for group activities including group picnic areas.
- b. **Citywide Open Space Areas** provide opportunities for passive activities such as hiking and picnicking.
- c. **Citywide Trails** provide connections within the City, and to regional trails. Citywide trails include the Napa River and Salvador Channel Trails.

PR-1.3 The City shall prepare master plans for citywide parks to address special needs. Master plans should provide for recreational facilities and open space as well as parking and access needs. Wherever feasible, primary vehicle access shall be from major streets (i.e., arterials and collectors).

Community Parks

PR-1.4 The City shall provide at least one community park in each identified quadrant of the city. The target standard for provision of community parkland shall be between 1.2 and 1.5 acres per 1,000 residents. The service area for community parks is a 1½ to 2-mile radius catchment, although community park facilities will attract and serve residents throughout the city. Community parks shall generally be in excess of 15 acres but may range from 5 to 50 acres in extent.

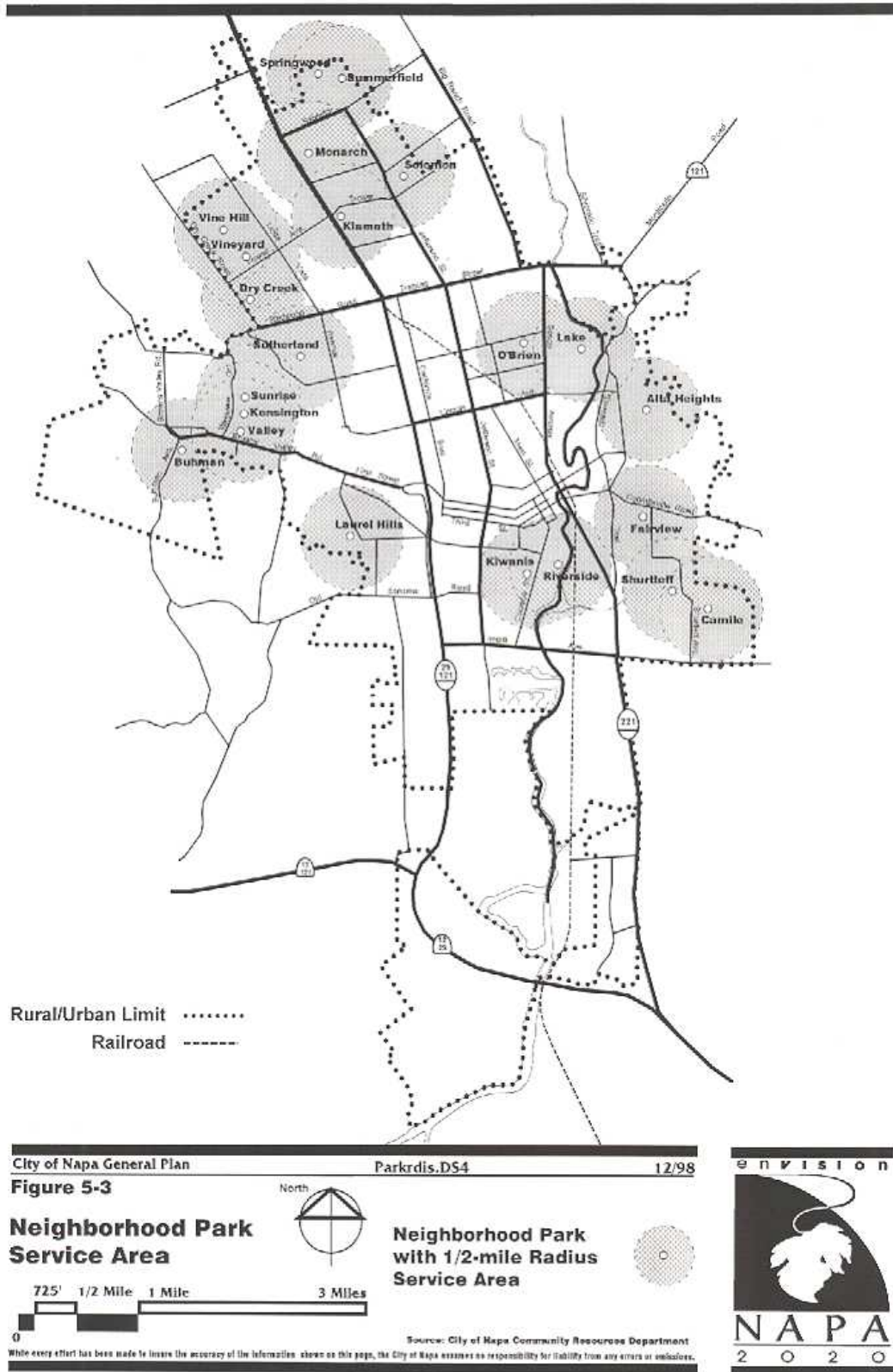
The primary function of community parks is as a place where the residents of a number of contiguous neighborhoods can gather for recreational and social activities. Community parks should include community centers, provision for group activities, and provision for indoor and/or outdoor recreational and athletic activities including scheduled sports practices, games and events. Community parks may also include natural areas for passive recreation. Community parks shall include on-site parking areas (with the possible exception of Fuller Park) and restrooms.

PR-1.5 The City shall improve community park service in the area currently under-served east of the Napa River (Quadrant 4) by acquiring a new site, by expanding an existing park, or through a joint use agreement with the NVUSD.

PR-1.6 Because Fuller Community Park may not accommodate active use facilities, the City shall improve the provision of active recreation facilities in Quadrant 4 by acquiring a new park site, by expanding an existing park, or through a joint use agreement with the NVUSD.

PR-1.7 The City shall develop new master plans for existing or proposed community parks which are undeveloped or underdeveloped, including Garfield Park. Master plans should provide for recreational facilities, as well as parking and access needs of parks. Wherever feasible, primary vehicle access shall be from major streets (i.e., arterials and collectors).

PR-1.8 Whenever feasible, the City shall locate community facilities (such as tennis courts, swimming pools, athletic fields, and community centers) in community parks. Where site constraints at a particular community park limit facility development, the City shall locate community facilities in the same quadrant as the park.



Neighborhood Parks

- PR-1.9. The City shall provide neighborhood parks throughout the residential areas of Napa. Neighborhood parks should function as informal general use play areas intended primarily to serve the immediate neighborhood. The service area of neighborhood parks shall include an area of a ½ mile radius, where there are no significant barriers to access. The target standard for provision of neighborhood parkland shall be between 1.2 and 1.5 acres per 1,000 residents. Neighborhood parks shall meet the following guidelines:
- a. Neighborhood parks should be in excess of 5 acres but may range from 2 to 10 acres. (Some existing neighborhood park sites cover a smaller acreage). Neighborhood park service may also be provided by citywide or community parks, or located on schools or other property where appropriate joint-use agreements exist.
 - b. Whenever feasible, neighborhood parks should include a children's playground incorporating play structures for preschool age children, as well as play structures for school age children, unless such school age play structures are provided on school property in close proximity to the park area. Neighborhood parks should also include seating near to the play areas, a picnic area, and a small level grass play area for sports and games. Natural areas designated for passive recreation uses can be included.
 - c. Neighborhood parks may include active recreation facilities available for organized youth recreation activities. Sites should facilitate youth sports and limit impacts on any adjacent residential area; positive factors include: location adjacent to schools, off-street or ample on-street parking and/or large level acreage with minimal obstructions. Portable restrooms should be provided during the sports season. Appropriate neighborhood parks to facilitate youth sports will be designated on an annual basis only.
- PR-1.10 The City shall improve neighborhood park service in areas currently under-served by acquiring a new site, or by expanding an existing park, or through a joint use agreement with the NVUSD. Primary areas which need improved service include:
- a. Pueblo Planning Area (near Hwy 29)
 - b. Central Napa Planning Area
 - c. Beard Planning Area
 - d. Westwood Planning Area
- PR-1.11 The City shall anticipate the need for additional parkland by seeking land for neighborhood parks in under-served areas with significant growth potential, such as the Westwood Planning Area.

Mini-Parks

- PR-1.12 Due to the high cost of developing and maintaining very small parks, the City shall generally not accept new mini-parks of less than two acres into the park system unless they include specialized recreation facilities or unique resources. However, the City shall continue to operate and maintain existing mini-parks.
- PR-1.13 The City shall review existing mini-parks to determine if any are surplus. Criteria to be considered in evaluating whether to retain mini-parks are the unique characteristics of the park, the availability of recreation facilities in the vicinity, the quality of existing improvements in the park, and accessibility and degree of utilization.

Other Recreational Facilities

- PR-1.14 The City shall include civic spaces as part of the park and recreational open space system. These shall include small public plazas and other accessible landscaped and/or hardscaped areas.
- PR-1.15 The City shall respect and plan for the protection of distinctive natural and historical resources and sensitive habitats within the parks and open space system through the use of appropriate site planning, design, and management strategies.
- PR-1.16 Whenever feasible, the City shall encourage access to parks, open space areas, and trails for all segments of the population, including the disabled. Site and improvement plans for parks and trails shall address access for the disabled whenever feasible. City bus routes should connect to citywide and community parks whenever feasible.

Provision of Facilities

- PR-1.17 The City shall address parkland needs when areas are annexed to the city or converted from other land uses to primarily residential use.
- PR-1.18 The City shall coordinate with the Napa Valley Unified School District, Napa Valley College, the County, and other agencies to meet park and recreation facility needs of city residents. Park development on another public agency's property under lease to the City should be available to the public during normal park operation hours. However, parks and facilities developed on a school property under a lease can be available to the public on a basis that accommodates school hours of operation.
- PR-1.19 When the City sponsors improvements to another agency's property for the purposes of public recreation a lease or joint-use agreement will be in place which reflects the level of funds invested and the public's interest prior to such expenditure of City tax dollars. Appropriate maintenance requirements and responsibilities will also be addressed in these agreements.
- PR-1.20 The City shall establish a long-term planning effort to develop, as feasible, joint use facilities that serve identified existing and future community active recreation needs including:
 - a. The addition of two public pools;
 - b. The development of two additional regulation youth baseball fields by 1997, and ultimately six to eight additional regulation youth fields;
 - c. The addition of three soccer game fields, and other practice fields, through the conversion or joint use of existing recreation fields;
 - d. The addition of four tennis courts on City parkland, and improvement of existing courts at Silverado Middle School;
 - e. The addition of indoor gym space, for basketball and other court games.

Recreational Facilities and Activities

- PR-1.21 The City shall locate active recreation facilities with consideration of the need for parking, restroom facilities, vehicular and pedestrian access. Consideration shall also be given to potential residential neighborhood impacts due to noise, light and traffic.
- PR-1.22 The City shall locate citywide active recreation facilities at citywide and community parks, including Kennedy Park and portions of Alston Park.

- PR-1.23 The City shall utilize suitable neighborhood parks for organized youth recreation activities.
- PR-1.24 The City shall locate lighted facilities with careful consideration for neighborhood concerns regarding light and noise. Lighted facilities may be located in Kennedy Park and other citywide or community parks. Certain school sites, such as Silverado Middle School and Ridgeview Middle School, may be suitable for lighted facilities. Lighted tennis courts may be acceptable at designated neighborhood parks. In all cases lighted facilities will only be considered where it is determined that the increase in the night time noise environment for nearby residents would not exceed five decibels. Light fixtures shall be designed to ensure minimum off-site light and glare impacts.

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS

- PR-1.A The City shall prepare a new site master plan for Alston Park which addresses active recreation facilities needs and open space concerns, including development of a trail system and potential connections to regional trail networks.
 - Responsibility: Community Resources Department
 - Time Frame: FY 99-03
- PR-1.B The City shall continue to implement the site master plan for Kennedy Park (adopted 12/97) which addresses major active recreation facilities needs and river access.
 - Responsibility: Community Resources Department
 - Time Frame: Ongoing
- PR-1.C The City shall prepare a master plan/resource management plan for Westwood Hills Park which addresses trail development and vegetation management.
 - Responsibility: Community Resources Department
 - Time Frame: FY 03-05
- PR-1.D The City shall prepare a master plan for Timberhill Park which addresses development of a trail system and possible connections to regional trail networks.
 - Responsibility: Community Resources Department

Time Frame: FY 05-07

PR-1.E The City shall conduct a review of existing mini-parks to determine if any are surplus.
 Responsibility: Community Resources Department
 Time Frame: FY 03-05

PR-2.2 The City shall acquire vacant school sites through the terms of the Naylor Act (or otherwise if appropriate) to provide park facilities in areas identified as deficient or areas where future parks may be required.

PR-1.F The City shall annually designate parks for organized youth recreation activities. To limit impacts on adjacent residential areas, the City shall consider the following criteria in its selection of parks:

PR-2.3 The City shall maintain a capital improvements program for parks and recreation facilities and shall periodically revise the program to reflect improvements, funding availability and changing recreational needs.

- a. Location (e.g., adjacent to schools);
- b. Availability of off-street or ample on-street parking; and
- c. The availability of large level acreage with minimal obstructions.
- d. Portable restrooms shall be provided during the sports season at these parks.

PR-2.4 The City shall continue to collect development impact fees under the City's Park Dedication (Quimby) Ordinance. The City shall consider increasing the requirements for dedication or in-lieu fees under the Quimby Ordinance from three acres to five acres per 1,000 population.

Responsibility: Community Resources Department
 Time Frame: Annually

PR-2.5 The City shall continue to divide the city into quadrants for purposes of fee collection. Fees shall be collected in the respective quadrants and are applied to neighborhood parks within the quadrant or to citywide and community parks.

PR-1.G The City shall review its park facilities to determine whether a separate "open space" designation is appropriate for certain parks in order to ensure that they will continue to provide opportunities for passive activities with little or no facility development.

PR-2.6 The City shall investigate the potential for establishing an impact fee for industrial and/or commercial development.

Responsibility: Community Resources Department, City Council
 Time Frame: FY 03-05

PR-2.7 The City shall investigate the use of Mello-Roos community facilities districts in new areas of the city to fund acquisition, development, operation, and maintenance of park facilities.

PARKS AND RECREATION FUNDING

The City provides for development, improvement, and maintenance of parks and recreational facilities in Napa. The City also pursues joint use of facilities with the school district. Policies in this section seek to promote a broad range of funding for public parks and recreational facilities. Funding for trails is also discussed in later sections of this chapter.

PR-2.8 The City shall solicit donations from private individuals, nonprofit organizations, and business interests to assist in the financing of parks and recreation facilities. Among the means to maintain or consider are the following:

- a. The Foundation for Napa Recreation as a vehicle for the collection and administration of donations.
- b. Direct citizen investment in park facilities through sponsorship programs such as "adopt-a-park" or "plant-a-tree."
- c. A program for volunteer help in developing/maintaining park facilities.

GOAL To provide an adequate and diverse source for developing and maintaining parks and recreational facilities.
PR-2

POLICIES

PR-2.1 The City shall identify and utilize equitable and realistic methods of financing and/or implementing acquisition, improvement, operation and maintenance of public parks and recreation facilities, and related open spaces.

PR-2.9 The City shall, where appropriate, operate recreation opportunities on a concession or land lease basis, with revenues to be used primarily for facility maintenance. The City shall periodically review any lease contracts and concessionaire agreements to ensure arrangements are performing at rates similar to current practice elsewhere.

- PR-2.10 The City shall monitor federal, state, local, and nonprofit parks and recreation funding sources. The City shall continue to pursue appropriate grant funding.
- PR-2.11 The City shall continue to use and consider new cost-effective means of operating and maintaining parks and recreation facilities such as shared financing with other public entities, use of energy efficient technology and water conservation, and by preparing a maintenance impact analysis for new facilities.
- PR-2.12 The City shall use development agreements and/or special recreation fees (such as that used for the Linda Vista Community Center) to help finance facility improvements.
- PR-2.13 The City shall consider the use of bond financing to assist in the implementation of the parks and recreation improvements program.
- PR-2.14 The City shall consider the use of tax increment financing for park or civic space improvements within the redevelopment area. Where possible, the City shall tie civic space improvements to adjacent redevelopment projects.
- PR-2.15 Where civic spaces are located so as to provide benefit to adjacent commercial properties, the City shall consider use of benefit assessments for their improvement and long-term maintenance.

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS

- PR-2.A The City shall review and revise the Capital Improvements Program to reflect park improvements, funding availability, and changing recreational needs.

 Responsibility: Community Resources Department
 Time Frame: Ongoing
- PR-2.B The City shall investigate increasing the requirements for dedication or in-lieu fees under the Quimby Ordinance from three acres to five acres per 1,000 population. The City shall annually update the fee to reflect acquisition and improvement costs.

 Responsibility: Community Resources Department
 Time Frame: FY 99-03
- PR-2.C The City shall update Park Development Fees to reflect changes in costs of acquiring and

improving parkland.

Responsibility: Community Resources Department
 Time Frame: FY 99-03

PR-2.D The City shall investigate, and if determined feasible, the City shall consider establishing a park and/or a recreation impact fee for industrial and commercial development.

Responsibility: Community Resources Department
 Time Frame: FY 99-03

OPEN SPACE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The City of Napa has several major physical features which have influenced its development in the past and are important components of the community’s character and identity. These physical features can be integrated into the city’s park and open space system.

The Napa River is one of the most important natural features in Napa, and later sections discuss a trail along the river. The use of the river for recreational purposes must also be balanced with the need for future floodway improvements and the river’s importance as habitat. Stream corridors are similar to the River in that they provide a special opportunity to provide lineal trails and other recreational amenities, but also include sensitive plant and animal habitats. The opportunity remains along such undeveloped corridors as the Salvador Channel and portions of other streams throughout Napa to provide additional hiking and recreation trails for residents of the community.

The open agricultural lands of the valley are also an opportunity because of their visual beauty and open character. Hiking and bicycling are important recreational activities partially because of the agricultural environment.

Other important natural environments are largely located outside of the city limits, but provide important nearby recreational opportunities for Napa residents. Two important features are the nearby marshlands and the City’s reservoirs.

In addition to these natural features, in a community with as rich a history and culture as Napa, parks can provide opportunities for interpretation of cultural heritage while preserving significant artifacts. The park system may serve in certain locations to reveal the City’s natural and cultural history and its role in the Napa Valley.

GOAL PR-3 To develop and maintain an open space and parks system which protects and reinforces the natural and historic character of the city and region, and which is consistent with conservation goals.

POLICIES

- PR-3.1 The City shall consider the Napa River and tributaries as a primary natural corridor that forms an organizing spine for the open space system within and extending beyond the City.
- PR-3.2 The City shall evaluate the future recreation potential for Lake Hennessey and Milliken Reservoir and associated watershed lands, recognizing that protection of water supply is a primary concern.
- PR-3.3 The City shall recognize the contribution of natural and historic features to enriching park form and function, by providing contextual elements and permitting a diversity of passive park uses, including environmental education, hiking, nature observation and historical interpretation.
- PR-3.4 Where appropriate, the City shall locate new parks, trails, and overlooks adjacent to areas that are protected from development for reasons of resource protection, safety provision, or historic preservation, including areas along the Napa River and Salvador Channel, its tributaries, and on the hillsides, to provide contiguous open space areas, extend resource protection, and increase perceived or actual extent of publicly accessible area.
- PR-3.5 Where appropriate, the City shall adapt historic structures which the City wishes to preserve for recreation and/or community service needs.
- PR-3.6 The City shall work with local historians to investigate the potential for establishment of a programmatic trail linking significant historic sites in the city.
- PR-3.7 The City shall establish with the County, State, or regional authorities, a collaborative long-term planning strategy regarding open space preservation and associated recreation opportunities.
- PR-3.8 The City shall promote access to publicly-owned natural areas beyond the city, such as the Napa River marshlands, Skyline Park, and watershed areas where possible, via existing and proposed trail segments, to extend the passive open space recreational

opportunities for Napa residents.

- PR-3.9 Recognizing that the Napa Valley is internationally renown for its picturesque vineyards, the City shall promote public access (such as trail access) to areas outside the city with views of vineyards and other farmlands, where such access will not impact agricultural production.
- PR-3.10 The City shall address conservation of sensitive natural and cultural resources in specific and detailed development and implementation plans for parks and trails; ensure compliance at all times with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and other regulatory requirements.
- PR-3.11 The City shall address resource conservation in park development, operations and maintenance, especially with respect to water conservation.

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS

- PR-3.A The City shall work cooperatively with the County to investigate the potential for the establishment of a County Parks and Open Space District.

 Responsibility: Community Resources Department
 Time Frame: FY 03-05

RECREATION PROGRAMS

In addition to the various facilities developed and maintained by the City, the City also runs or supports other organizations in operating recreational activities. These include organized sports teams for children and adults, to recreation classes, and senior activities.

Reflecting the diversity of Napa’s population, recreational programs include a wide range interests and abilities.

GOAL PR-4 To maintain a diverse range of publicly available recreation and leisure programs and community centers which serve the needs of all sectors of Napa's population, including youth, adult, and senior activities.

POLICIES

- PR-4.1 The City shall operate a range of recreational, cultural, and leisure programs on a year-round basis, charging registration fees where applicable to help cover operating costs.

recovering basis whenever feasible.

- PR-4.2 The City shall continue to focus recreation programming efforts on classes and activities for youth, emphasizing classes and activities for preschool and elementary school youth.
- PR-4.3 The City shall seek to increase teen participation in recreation programs. To this end, the City will collaborate with other recreation providers to provide joint programs oriented to teens, expand recreation opportunities associated with the Napa High community swim facility, and involve teens in recreation facility and program planning and development.
- PR-4.4 The City shall facilitate recreation programs participation by individuals with special needs.
- PR-4.5 The City shall provide programs accessible to those with disabilities whenever possible, as mandated by state and federal regulations.
- PR-4.6 The City shall continue to work with appropriate agencies, such as United Cerebral Palsy, to facilitate participation by youth and adults with special needs.
- PR-4.7 The City shall provide for the recreational and social needs of seniors. To this end, the City shall coordinate with representatives of the Senior Commission to ensure provision of a range of seniors' programs at the Senior Center.
- PR-4.8 The City shall continue to support affordable recreation program development and encourage participation by economically disadvantaged youth. The City shall work with social service agencies to provide program subsidies and other incentives for the participation of children of low-income families.
- PR-4.9 The City shall continue to promote public recreation programming by private groups and other institutions, to enable the City to support diverse and varied programming.
- PR-4.10 The City shall continue to foster joint sponsorship of recreation programs and events with other organizations, such as the Foundation for Napa Recreation, United Cerebral Palsy, the Napa Valley Unified School District and the Napa Valley College.
- PR-4.11 The City shall continue to contract with private organizations and individuals to offer instruction and facilities not typically provided by the City. These shall be offered on a cost

- PR-4.12 The City shall continue to support private, nonprofit recreation organizations, such as Little League, in their efforts to provide recreation-related activities in the city.
- PR-4.13 The City shall identify and strive to address recreational needs of ethnic groups. In cooperation with representatives of local ethnic groups, the City shall identify and seek to accommodate any identified special recreation needs.
- PR-4.14 The City shall continue to promote and publicize available programs through a variety of means, including a newsletter.
- PR-4.15 The City shall identify and utilize equitable and realistic methods of financing operation of recreation programs. User fees should be consistent with fees in other similar jurisdictions and reflect the City's policies regarding the provision of public recreation and community service programs. The City shall continue to charge higher fees to nonresidents
- PR-4.16 The City shall, where appropriate, operate recreation opportunities on a concession or land lease basis.
- PR-4.17 The City shall, where appropriate, establish and coordinate a program for volunteer help in operating recreation programs.

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS

- PR-4.A The City shall periodically publish and distribute a newsletter describing recreation programs and facilities and distributed to households and City agencies.

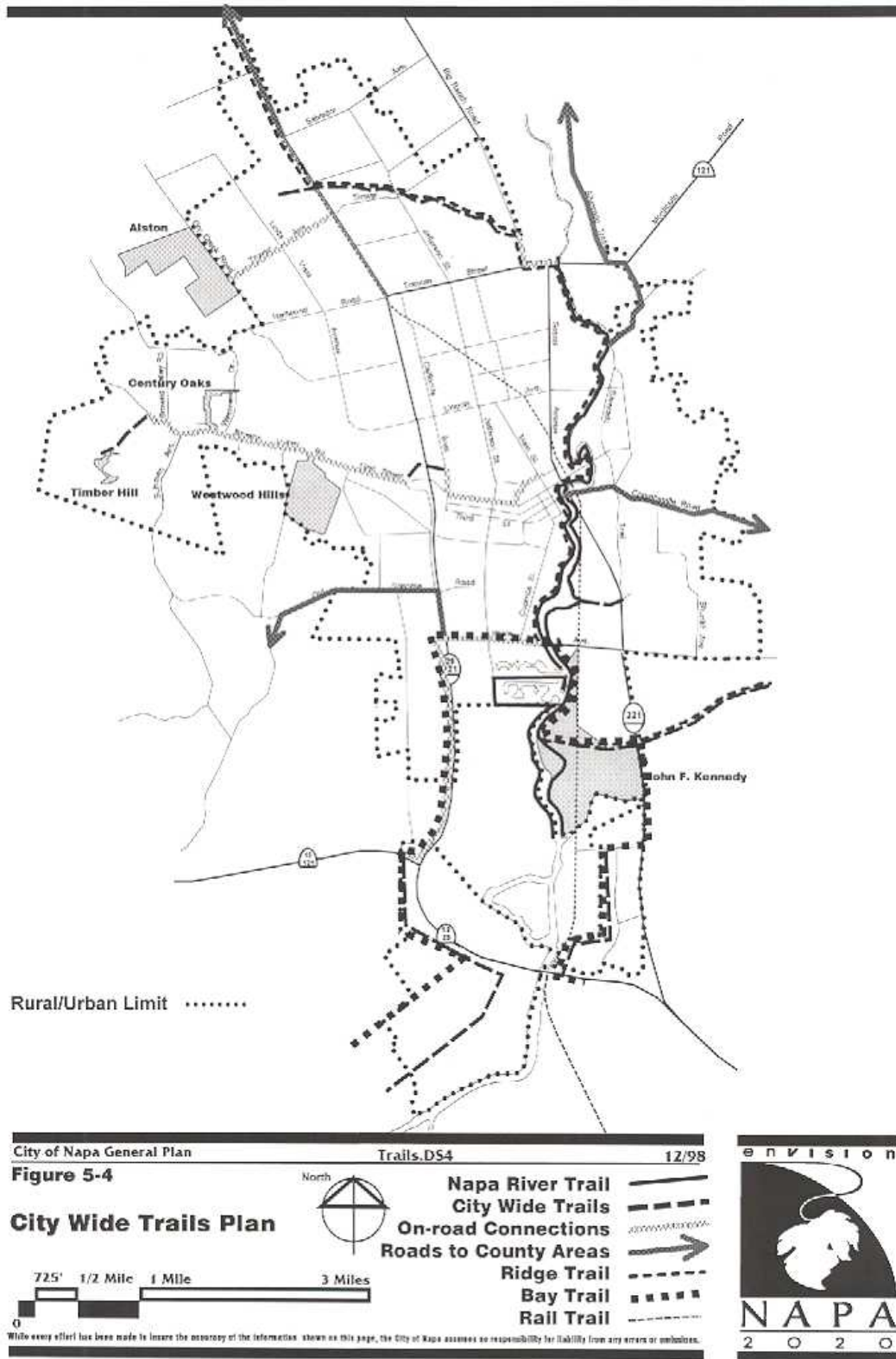
Responsibility: Community Resources Department
Time Frame: Ongoing
- PR-4.B The City shall prepare and adopt an annual programming budget for recreation programs.

Responsibility: Community Resources Department; City Council
Time Frame: Ongoing
- PR-4.C The City shall administer user fee schedules which reflect the costs of providing recreational service.

Responsibility: Community Resources

Department

Time Frame: Ongoing



TRAILS - GENERAL

Several pedestrian trails are located within existing parks. Parks with extensive trail systems include Alston, Kennedy, and Westwood Hills. County-owned Skyline Park also has an extensive system of walking trails.

The City has acquired and partially developed portions of a trail along the Napa River, based on the *Napa River Trail Plan*. This plan is discussed in the next section. Other regional trails currently being planned are described below.

The Bay Trail: A regional hiking and bicycling trail around the perimeter of San Francisco and San Pablo Bays is being planned by the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) as part of a State-sponsored program. When completed, the Bay Trail is envisioned to connect more than 90 parks and publicly-accessible open space areas. Although a route has not been firmly established in Napa, one alternative locates the trail near the Cuttings Wharf area entering Napa on Old Suscol Road through the Stanly Ranch to Stanly Lane and then onto Foster Road where it would connect with Imola, cross the river and proceed through Kennedy Park to the Napa-Vallejo Highway. Connector trails are proposed along Highway 29 and American Canyon Road. Alternatively the trail could use Old Sonoma Road from the Carneros District leading to Imola.

San Francisco Bay Ridge Trail: A Ridge Trail sponsored by the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council, a nonprofit organization encompassing representatives from public and private organizations, is planned as a 400-mile trail along the ridgelines of the hills and mountains surrounding San Francisco Bay. With planning beginning in 1988, the Ridge Trail is intended to follow existing trails where possible, connecting them by using public lands or public access easements. In the North Bay, plans are for the Ridge Trail to run from Sugarloaf Ridge State Park in Sonoma, through Napa County and the city of Napa, then through Skyline Park to Solano County. The exact alignment through Napa County has tentatively been determined to be a loop trail on both the east and west ridges of the Valley.

Trails provide the opportunity for residents and visitors to Napa to explore Napa's resources. This section calls for a trail system to integrate the city's green spaces (e.g., parks, school playgrounds, ball fields, marinas, riparian corridors, landscaped corporate parks, tree-lined parkways and avenues, hospital and other institutional grounds, and public and private commons and open spaces) into a non-vehicular commuter and recreation system. It is intended to provide users with the enjoyment of the natural surroundings as much as possible within an urban setting. This section also promotes the development of proposed regional trails to link Napa with other areas outside the City.

Specific policies and programs related to the Napa River Trail are contained in the next section.

GOAL To develop a comprehensive system of trails for bicycle and pedestrian traffic both within the existing urbanized area and connecting to surrounding County areas.

POLICIES

- PR-5.1 The City shall provide for a trail system that provides connections with open space areas in and outside of the city. In the city, trails should connect Kennedy Park, Westwood Hills Park, Timberhill Park, and Alston Park with the Napa River Trail. Outside the city, trail destinations should include the Napa Marshes, Skyline Park, watershed areas, and views of vineyards and other agricultural lands.
- PR-5.2 Trails shall be located off road, following creeks wherever possible. As trail opportunities are limited, on-road connections should also be included to link the off-road sections of the system. These connections should be included in the *Bicycle Facilities System*. The trail system should consist of the following components. Alignment possibilities are included in Appendix D.
- a. Napa River Trail south: east bank
 - b. River Trail south: west bank
 - c. River Trail north on Salvador Channel to Alston Park with connection to Las Flores Community Center
 - d. Napa River Trail east to Skyline Park
 - e. Napa River Trail to Westwood Hills and Timberhill city parks
 - f. Other creek connections to the Napa River trail
 - g. Connections to surrounding county areas

The Trails Plan is shown in Figure 5-4.

- PR-5.3 The City shall connect City trails with regional trails: the Bay Area Ridge Trail and the Bay Trail.
- PR-5.4 The City shall provide trails to serve the needs of residents, tourists, and workers and visitors to the commercial and industrial areas of the city.
- PR-5.5 The City shall develop trails that are safe for people of all age groups, especially children and those persons with special needs.

- PR-5.6 The City shall provide trails accessible to people of all abilities and conform to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act wherever feasible.
- PR-5.7 In creekside areas, the City shall develop trails outside any riparian setback requirements wherever possible.
- PR-5.8 The City shall design trails to be consistent with the City's *Trail Design Standards* to accessibility, width, surfaces, signage, safety elements, and access appropriate to the proposed use.
- PR-5.9 The City shall seek community support for public trails.
- PR-5.10 The City shall establish a liaison with trails organizations and groups.
- PR-5.11 The City shall support development of a regional trail network for bicycle and pedestrian use.
- PR-5.12 The City shall identify potential linkages along easements and rights of way to publicly accessible open space lands in the Napa vicinity, such as the Napa marsh.
- PR-5.13 The City shall assist, when appropriate, in the identification and acquisition of elements of the regional trail network within the City of Napa.
- PR-5.14 The City shall coordinate trails planning in Napa to ensure integration with the plans of other public and nonprofit agencies.
- PR-5.15 The City shall identify and utilize equitable and realistic methods of financing and/or implementing acquisition, improvement and maintenance of trails.
- PR-5.16 The City shall require new development to dedicate trail alignments and associated improvements as a condition of development approval.
- PR-5.17 The City shall seek federal, state, and private funding for development of trails as part of mitigation efforts associated with roadway improvements.
- PR-5.18 Where trails are joint-use, such as for utility access and along flood control channels, the City may share capital improvement and maintenance costs.
- PR-5.19 The City shall continue to support a Citizens Trail Advisory Subcommittee to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS

- PR-5.A The City shall prepare and adopt trail design guidelines.

Responsibility: Community Resources
Time Frame: FY 99-03

NAPA RIVER TRAIL

In addition to the trails described in the previous section, the Napa River Trail is a proposed trail that would enhance the river as the major spine of Napa and permit greater access to this resource.

The *Napa River Trail Plan*, prepared by the National Park Service in cooperation with the City of Napa and several other agencies, calls for development of a lineal trail corridor along the length of the Napa River. Incorporated into the corridor would be the trail, natural areas, and various recreational facilities including fishing piers and boat launches. The trail is envisioned as a public, multi-use path from Trancas to Kennedy Park and eventually to the Stanly Ranch, with possible links to other trails and parklands. Some portions of the corridor and some facilities (such as the Main Street Landing at Fourth Street) already exist.

The Plan includes a schematic trail plan, a map of physical and cultural resources, existing and proposed recreation activities, land ownership, easements and accessibility, and general design guidelines and an implementation strategy. The plan calls for a trail and river access to be incorporated into any proposed flood control project for the River.

In addition, the City's 1991 *Napa Urban Waterfront Restoration Plan* (NUWRP) is one element of an overall plan for better access to the Napa River envisioned in the *Napa River Trail Plan*. The NUWRP focuses on proposed public access and trail improvements in the downtown area of the River from near Sixth Street to just north of the Oxbow. It includes trail improvements along the river, fishing and observation piers, and other elements.

GOAL To develop a major public multi-use trail and amenities along the Napa River, while
PR-6 protecting and enhancing the natural resources along the trail corridor.

POLICIES

- PR-6.1 The City shall develop a major public multi-use trail and amenities along the Napa River from Stanly Ranch to Trancas Street and along the Salvador Channel, while protecting and enhancing the natural resources along the trail corridor.

- PR-6.2. The Napa River Trail shall be developed according to design guidelines adopted by the City.
- PR-6.3. Trail development shall be consistent with protection and enhancement of wildlife habitats along the River. The City shall identify potential areas for habitat preservation and enhancement along the river during the preparation of trail design and development plans. The City shall design and locate the multi-use trail to minimize impacts to sensitive habitats and resources wherever possible.
- PR-6.4. The City shall link the Napa River Trail to other trails, parklands and community resources including downtown and river-oriented businesses.
- PR-6.5. The City shall provide trail access points, staging and rest areas, and other amenities, such as boat launches and enhanced fishing areas. Facilities should be designed to meet accessibility standards whenever possible. Facilities should accommodate boat traffic, including some oriented toward commercial/tourist river boating, as well as recreational boating.
- PR-6.6. The City shall establish a continuous trail corridor and sites for trail-related amenities. The City shall pursue various methods for acquiring a trail corridor, including coordinating with other public agencies and utility companies and negotiating with property owners for an easement or fee title for a trail corridor.
- PR-6.7. The City shall work with the Army Corps of Engineers to ensure that the Napa River Trail is incorporated into any flood control project.
- PR-6.8. The City shall conduct appropriate site investigations to identify any contaminated soils and/or groundwater which could affect public health along the proposed trail and staging areas near the River and shall identify mitigation to ensure adequate remediation.
- PR-6.9. The City shall obtain easements and develop the proposed improvements described in the *Napa Urban Waterfront Restoration Plan* whenever feasible.
- PR-6.10. The City shall establish financial strategies for acquiring and developing the Napa River Trail and facilities. These financial strategies may include the following:
- a. Allocate funds for Napa River Trail when appropriate and necessary to use as leverage for additional funding.
 - b. Pursue various grant and funding programs from public and private sources.
 - c. Establish donation program through the Foundation for Napa Recreation.
 - d. Organize special fund raising events.
- PR-6.11. The City shall prioritize and phase trail development, taking into account funding and acquisition opportunities.
- PR-6.12. The City shall identify and pursue feasible demonstration projects.
- PR-6.13. The City shall provide for long-term maintenance, safety and security of the trail.
- PR-6.14. The City shall prepare and adopt a trail sign program to address trail safety and etiquette.
- PR-6.15. The City shall provide adequate access for emergency and maintenance vehicles along the trail.
- PR-6.16. The City shall establish a strong connection between the community and the Napa River and its unique resources.
- PR-6.17. The City shall solicit participation of the business community in trail planning and development.
- PR-6.18. The City shall involve neighborhoods in the process of designing trail segments and amenities.
- PR-6.19. The City shall establish education displays for wildlife habitats, cultural and historic sites.
- PR-6.20. The City shall promote programs within schools which focus on the Napa River.
- PR-6.21. The City shall work with historic and environmental organizations to devise educational programs and events.
- PR-6.22. The City shall establish River Square, between First and Third Streets on the west side of the River, as a central active place of the community.
- PR-6.23. The City shall incorporate historic architectural elements in design of waterfront components, including renovation and reuse of historic structures such as the Hatt Building.

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS

- PR-6.A The City shall establish an ongoing trail inspection and maintenance program.
 Responsibility: Community Resources Department
 Time Frame: FY 03-05
- PR-6.B The City shall establish a volunteer program to assist in trail cleanup and security patrols.
 Responsibility: Community Resources Department
 Time Frame: FY 03-05
- PR-6.C The City shall increase public access to the water at Veterans Park.
 Responsibility: Community Resources Department
 Time Frame: FY 05-07
- PR-6.D The City shall enhance access and development of China Point Park as the northern edge of River Square.
 Responsibility: Community Resources Department
 Time Frame: FY 05-07

ARTS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Arts and cultural activities are generally coordinated by community organizations such as the Napa Valley Arts Council with support from individuals, community businesses, foundations, corporations, and other organizations. These activities take place in both public and private facilities and help to enhance public access to, and awareness of, the arts. In addition, such activities complement, enhance, and enliven both the shopping and work environment, and are particularly important to the future of downtown. The City recognizes that it is important to provide support and incentives for these programs to enrich the quality of life for residents and visitors to the City.

GOAL To recognize the importance of cultural activities as an integral factor in sustaining the community's high quality of life.
PR-7

POLICIES

- PR-7.1 The City shall attempt to increase residents' access to participatory arts and cultural programs.

- PR-7.2 The City shall work with the Napa County Arts Council, Napa Valley Unified School District, and Napa Valley College to develop a systematic program to inform the public about the benefits of the arts in education and cross cultural awareness.
- PR-7.3 The City shall continue to cosponsor programs such as Artists in the Schools along with the Napa Valley Unified School District and Napa Valley Arts Council.
- PR-7.4 The City shall provide assistance to the Napa County Arts Council for its "at risk" youth programs by providing staff time, funding, space availability or other measures to ensure the program's continuing viability.
- PR-7.5 The City shall expand the opportunity for artists to exhibit and perform in public areas.
- PR-7.6 The City shall make free or low cost use of vacant or underused City-owned facilities available to the community's cultural organizations.
- PR-7.7 The City shall participate in annual cultural events (e.g., Napa Wine and Crafts Fair, Friends of the River Festival).
- PR-7.8 The City shall identify areas of the city where concentrations of art galleries, studios, and performance spaces are desirable.
- PR-7.9 The City shall permit live-and-work privileges for artists in areas that have been identified as suitable for concentrations of cultural and artistic activities.
- PR-7.10 The City shall design and construct public improvements that will enhance the aesthetics of pedestrian access to cultural districts.

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS

- PR-7. A The City shall institute an Art in Public Places program in the City's downtown core.
 Responsibility: City Council;
 Cultural Heritage Commission;
 Redevelopment and Economic Development Coordinator
 Time Frame: FY 05-07

PR-7. B The City shall prepare an ordinance to allow for live/work spaces.

Responsibility: City Council;
Planning Department
Time Frame: FY 99-03

PR-7.C The City shall work with the Napa Valley Arts Council to conduct a survey of residents' interest in cultural programs.

Responsibility: Cultural Heritage
Commission;
Redevelopment and
Economic Development
Coordinator
Time Frame: FY 05-07; every five years
thereafter