

3.15 PARKS AND RECREATION

3.15.1 INTRODUCTION

This section identifies existing parks and recreational facilities within the City of Lake Elsinore and provides an analysis of potential impacts to parks and recreation facilities that could result from the implementation of the proposed project. Mitigation measures to reduce the significance of impacts are recommended, as necessary.

3.15.2 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The information contained in this Environmental Setting section is primarily from information contained in the City of Lake Elsinore General Plan Background Reports (see Chapter 10 – Community Services and Utilities) and the City's Parks and Recreation Master Plan. This document is attached as Appendix B to this PEIR.

PARK CLASSIFICATIONS

The City of Lake Elsinore provides the following types of recreational facilities for its residents and visitors:

1. Pocket Parks – Parks of this nature are typically less than one (1) acre in size and developed in conjunction with specific plans. Linear Park is an example of a pocket park.
2. Neighborhood Parks (1 – 10 acres) – These facilities are typically population based to serve the immediate and surrounding residents which is usually 3,500 –5,000 persons within a one-half (1/2) to three quarter (3/4) mile radius. Neighborhood parks may adjoin school sites where possible to encourage joint-use. Typical amenities usually found in a neighborhood park include play areas, turf, multi-purpose courts, and picnic facilities. Tuscany Hills Park and Yarborough Park are examples of neighborhood parks.
3. Community Parks (11 – 40 acres) – These parks are designed to serve 15,000 –20,000 residents within a one and one-half mile (1 ½) service radius as well as visitors to the area and are utilized for active and passive recreation. The actual size and development usually depends on the specific resource involved, available land, anticipated use, and location. Typical amenities include lighted sports fields and courts, picnic facilities, play areas, restrooms, and off-street parking. McVicker Canyon Park and Lakepoint Park are examples of community parks.
4. Regional Parks (25 – 100 acres) – Regional parks offer a broad range of amenities to attract the greatest range of users from within and beyond the City limits. Amenities can include open space, bodies of water, structures (such as museums and nature centers), and trails. Their typical service radius typically corresponds to a one (1) hour drive.

5. Recreational Facilities – The City also provides recreational facilities that can service either local residents or visitors. These facilities range from passive landscaped areas, hang-gliding, hiking trails, and community centers. These facilities also feature special programs, activities, and classes that help make up the City of Lake Elsinore's public recreation system. Examples of recreation facilities include Lake Community Center, the Senior Activity Center, and the Cultural Center.

CURRENT PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Lake Elsinore

The dominant parkland in the City is Lake Elsinore. Lake Elsinore is the largest natural freshwater lake in southern California with 3,000 surface acres and over 14 miles of shoreline. Formerly called the “Lake Elsinore State Recreation Area”, the State transferred the lake and its adjoining recreation areas to the City in 1993 upon the condition that the property be used for public park and recreation purposes in perpetuity.

A variety of recreation uses are permitted at Lake Elsinore including boating, jet skiing, waterskiing, wake boarding, and kayaking. The Lake Elsinore recreation area also includes public beaches with picnic and shade features, parking, a three mile levee for hiking, nature watching and fishing (some areas restricted), and a tournament channel for professional ski instruction and club and pro competitions. On the northwest side of the lake is the 86-acre Lake Elsinore Recreational Area Campground which includes approximately 71 acres of developed land.

Parks and Recreation Facilities

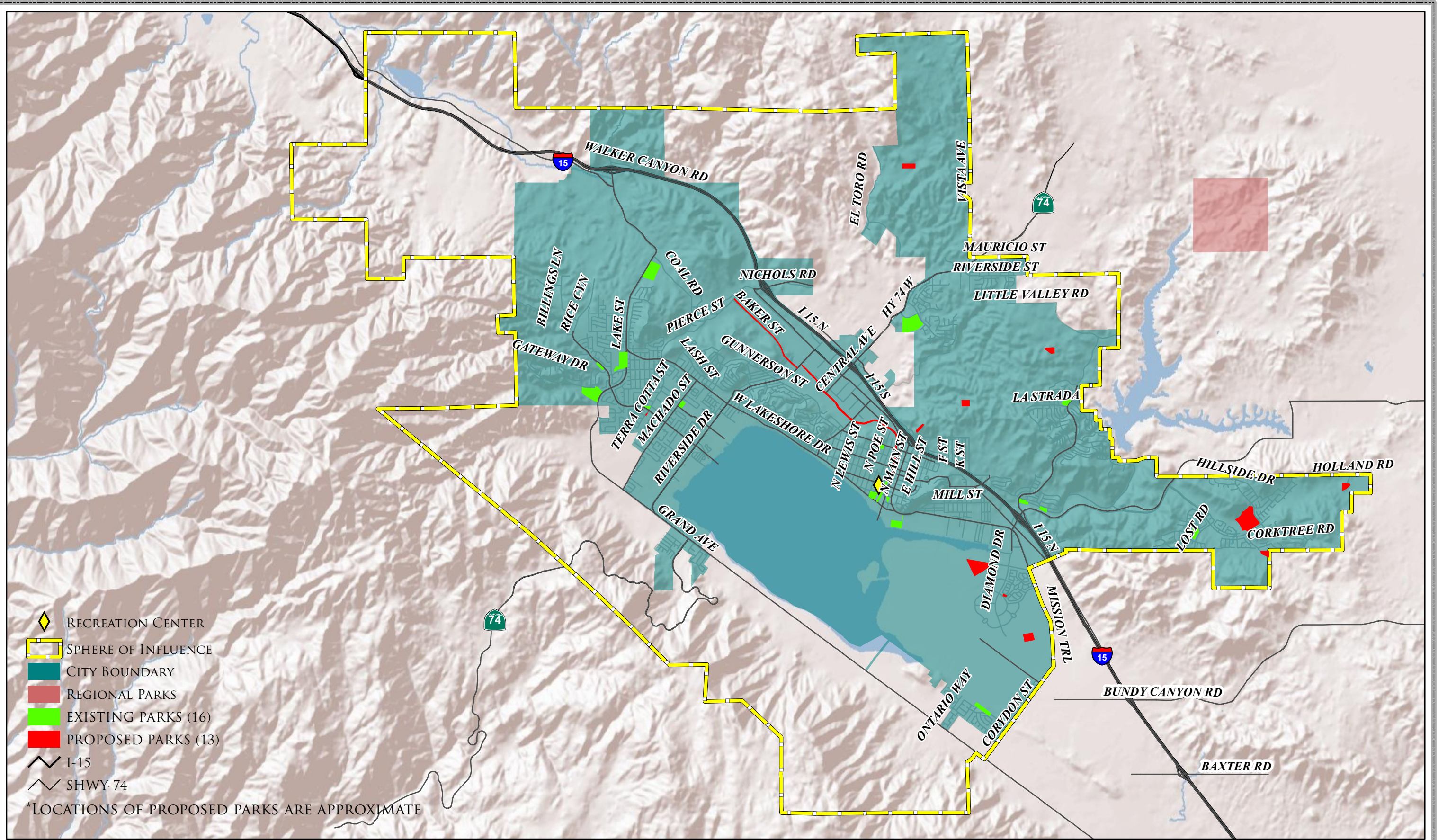
Currently, there are approximately 559 acres of developed parks and open space within the City and SOI. There are 16 existing park facilities (approximately 125.1 acres) and four recreational facilities totaling 21,000 square feet (see **Table 3.15-1, Existing Parks and Recreation Facilities**) in the City of Lake Elsinore, with 12 additional parks and three recreational facilities slated for future development, as shown in **Figure 3.15-1, Parks**. Each park has a set of features with a variety of passive and active recreation. These features include fields for baseball, softball, football, and soccer as well as play equipment, beach areas, picnic areas, barbecue facilities, drinking fountains, tennis courts, skateboarding and skating arenas, and grass for passive recreation. There are 3,000 sports league participants who use the sports fields throughout the City.

In addition to parks, the City of Lake Elsinore is home to the Lake Community Center and a Senior Activity Center. Both centers are very active and feature a large number of programs. There are more than 40 recreational classes at the Lake Community Center, ranging from art to gymnastics, acting, dancing, music, martial arts, dog obedience, and more. More than 1,000 people per week currently use the Lake Community Center. The Senior Activity Center hosts more than 3,500 seniors every month and features clubs, health services, legal services, leisure activities, and a daily nutrition program.

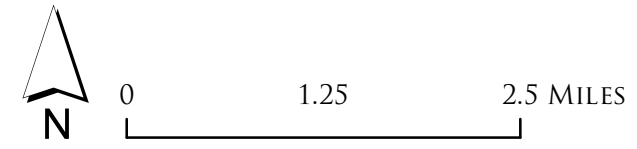
Table 3.15-1, Existing Parks and Recreation Facilities

CITY OF LAKE ELSINORE PARKS & RECREATION FACILITIES		COMMUNITY CENTER	GYM/AUDITORIUM	RESTROOM	CONCESSION	PARKING	BASEBALL	FOOTBALL/SOCCER	BASKETBALL	VOLLEYBALL	TENNIS	MULTI-PURPOSE ROOMS	HORSESHOE COURT	SPORTSLIGHT	PLAY EQUIPMENT	DRINKING FOUNTAIN	PICNIC AREAS	PICNIC SHELTERS	BARBECUES	PEDESTRIAN WALK
1	Alberhill Park																			
2	Channel Walk																			
3	City Park																			
4	Creeside Park																			
5	Lake Point Park																			
6	Lincoln Street Park																			
7	Linear Park																			
8	Machado Park																			
9	McVicker Canyon Park & Skate Park																			
10	Oak Tree Park																			
11	Rosetta Canyon Community Park & Dog Park																			
12	Serenity Park																			
13	Summerhill Park																			
14	Summerlake Park																			
15	Swick & Matich Park																			
16	Tuscany Hills Park																			
17	Yarborough Park																			
A	Boys & Girls Clubhouse Alberhill Park																			
B	Cultural Center																			
C	Lake Community Center																			
D	Senior Activity Center																			
E	Youth Opportunity Center																			

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SOURCES: CITY OF LAKE ELSINORE, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE



CITY OF LAKE ELSINORE
PARKS
FIGURE 3.15-1

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Open space for outdoor recreation includes areas of outstanding scenic, historic, and cultural value; areas particularly suited for park and recreational purposes, including access to lakeshores, beaches, rivers, and streams; and areas that serve as links between major recreational and open space reservations, including utility easements, banks of rivers and streams, trails, and scenic highway corridors. The Open Space designation is intended for public and private areas of permanent open space, including state and local parks, Bureau of Land Management lands, the Cleveland National Forest, and golf courses. Open space on land that contains endangered species and habitat may be designated for permanent preservation under the MSHCP. Land on steep slopes is difficult to develop and therefore likely to remain as permanent open space. Land within the floodplain of local drainages, including Lake Elsinore and Temescal Creek, could be designated as open space. There are approximately 31,303 acres of vacant land within the City and SOI. Some vacant land is considered open space if it is currently undeveloped but slated for development.

3.15.3 REGULATORY SETTING

STATE REGULATIONS

Quimby Act

In 1975, the State of California adopted California Government Code §66477 et seq., commonly referred to as the “Quimby Act”. This Act authorizes cities and counties to pass ordinances requiring that, as a condition to the approval of a tentative map or parcel map, developers set aside land, donate conservation easements, or pay fees for park improvements. The goal of the Quimby Act was to require developers to help mitigate the impacts of property improvements. The fees must be paid and land conveyed directly to the local public agencies that provide park and recreation services communitywide. Revenues generated through the Quimby Act cannot be used for the operation and maintenance of park facilities.

In 1982, the Act was substantially amended. The amended Act requires agencies to show a reasonable relationship between the public need for the recreation facility or park land and the type of development project upon which the fee is imposed. The Quimby Act provides for a parkland dedication/fee of three acres of park area per 1,000 persons residing within a subdivision, unless the jurisdiction has calculated that the amount of existing neighborhood and community park area exceeds that limit; in which case the jurisdiction may adopt the calculated amount as a higher standard not to exceed five acres per 1,000 persons.

LOCAL REGULATIONS

Riverside County General Plan

The Riverside County General Plan was adopted October 7, 2003. The County General Plan covers the entire unincorporated portion of the County and is augmented by 19 Area Plans. The Elsinore Area Plan (which includes the City and the nearby City of Canyon Lake) includes a multi-purpose trails system that connects various neighborhoods within the area plan with

the recreational resources of the Cleveland National Forest and the regional trail system. **Figure 3.4-12, Elsinore Area Trails and Bikeway System**, located in Section 3.4 (Transportation and Circulation) of this PEIR, illustrates the Elsinore area trails and bikeway system.

City of Lake Elsinore, Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2008-2030

The City's Parks and Recreation Master Plan was adopted July 14, 2009. The Master Plan guides the provision of park facilities within the City. It identifies the City of Lake Elsinore's park, recreation, and trail needs, makes recommendations to meet these needs and proposes an action plan, including funding strategies, to help facilitate the implementation of recommendations. The Master Plan also provides a framework for renovation and developments of park improvements and establishes a parkland standard requirement of five acres of usable park land per 1,000 persons. Tables 4.1 and 4.2 of the Master Plan set forth recreational facility standards for different facility types. These standards are listed in **Table 3.15-2, City of Lake Elsinore Projected Recreational Facility Standards**.

Table 3.15-2, City of Lake Elsinore Projected Recreational Facility Standards

FACILITY TYPE	STANDARD PER POPULATION
Softball Field	
Organized Youth	1 per 7,300
Organized Adult	1 per 5,500
Baseball Field	
Little League	1 per 5,300
Adult	1 per 8,000
Multi-Purpose Fields	1 per 5,000
Picnic Table	1 per 1,000
Picnic Shelter	1 per 5,000
Tot Lot/Playground	1 per 5,000
Swimming Pool	1 per 50,000
Tennis Court	1 per 10,000
Basketball Court	1 per 30,000
Volleyball Court – Sand	1 per 10,000
Racquetball Court	1 per 10,000
Exercise Court	1 per 10,000
Horseshoe Pit	1 per 5,000
Handball Court	1 per 10,000
Parking – on site	1 acre per 5,000
Restroom Facilities	1 per 4,000
Classrooms	1 per 5,000
Sources: Table 4.1 and Table 4.2, City of Lake Elsinore Parks and Recreation Master Plan	

Lake Elsinore Municipal Code (LEMC) – Title 8, Chapter 8.40

Chapter 8.40 (Parks and Beaches) of the Lake Elsinore Municipal Code establishes the hours of operation of all City parks and beaches. It also sets for regulations and/or prohibitions regarding alcohol, vehicles, dogs, golf, open fires, firearms and archery, littering, swimming, boat and jet ski launching and fishing. This chapter also establishes an annual pass program and a private property boat launch program.

Lake Elsinore Municipal Code (LEMC) – Title 9, Chapter 9.96

Chapter 9.96 (Regulating the Use of Certain Portions of Lake Elsinore) of the Lake Elsinore Municipal Code was enacted to govern the use and equipment and matters related thereto, of boats and vessels on Lake Elsinore and to protect the public from hazards created by underwater obstacles in certain portions of the lake. This chapter includes provisions regarding traffic patterns on the lake, ski tow rope length, sailboat usage, boat speed limits and boat lengths. It also establishes limits on motorboat noise and air limits for operating vessels.

Lake Elsinore Municipal Code (LEMC) – Title 16, Chapter 16.12 and Chapter 16.34

Title 16 of the Lake Elsinore Municipal Code sets for rules, regulations and specifications to control the division of land within the City. Section 16.12.050 of this Chapter addresses deals with park and recreation facilities and states that the “land divider shall either dedicate land or pay a fee in lieu thereof, or a combination of the tow, at the option of the City, for park or recreational ordinance.” Section 16.34.060 in Chapter 16.34 (Required Improvements) requires that prior to the issuance of a building permit, the applicant pay fees for the purposes set forth in that section. Paragraph D of Section 16.34.060 describes the City’s Park Capital Improvement Fund and states that “For the purpose of purchasing the land and developing and maintaining the City park system, the City Council shall have the option to request dedication for park purposes or in lieu thereof, request that the applicant pay a fee in accordance with the resolution setting said fee.”

3.15.4 GENERAL PLAN GOALS AND POLICIES

The City of Lake Elsinore General Plan Update addresses Parks and Recreation in Chapter 2.0 (Community Form) and in various District Plans. The goals, policies and implementation programs related to parks and recreation are listed in **Table 3.15-3, General Plan Parks and Recreation Goals, Policies and Implementation Programs** and **Table 3.15-4, District Plan Parks and Recreation Goals, Policies and Implementation Programs**.

Table 3.15-3, General Plan Parks and Recreation Goals, Policies and Implementation Programs

GENERAL PLAN GOALS, POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS	
Chapter 2.0 – Community Form (Section 2.3 – Land Use)	
Goal 1	Create a diverse and integrated balance of residential, commercial, industrial, recreational, public and open space land uses.
Policy 1.1	Promote innovative site design, and encourage the preservation of unique natural features, such as steep slopes, watercourses, canyons, ridgelines, rock formations, and open space with recreational opportunities.
Goal 2	Establish and maintain the City as a year-round recreation destination.
Policy 2.1	Encourage recreational uses including parks, beaches, marinas, and a multipurpose trail within the City’s rights of way.
Policy 2.2	Consider the feasibility and encourage if feasible the development of a new pier near the end of Main Street to connect the lake with the Downtown area.
Policy 2.3	Consider the feasibility of development of geothermal resources such as a spa or bathhouse establishment in the Downtown area.
Policy 2.4	Continue to evaluate the provision of public access to the lake and open space areas when making land use decisions.
Policy 2.5	Encourage a pedestrian circulation route around the lake to improve public access to this amenity.
Implementation Program	The City shall support and promote development projects and community activities that encourage recreational use around the lake and maintain opportunities for tourist-oriented recreation within the City limits.
Chapter 2.0 – Community Form (Section 2.7 – Parks and Recreation)	
Goal 8	Maintain an adequate quantity, quality, type, and distribution of parks and recreational facilities throughout the City that serve the current and future needs of residents and visitors.
Policy 8.1	Continue to utilize the City of Lake Elsinore Parks and Recreation Master Plan as a guide for decision-making and implementation of the Parks and Recreation Program.
Policy 8.2	Ensure parkland and recreation facilities support new development through acquisition and/or dedication. Meet the requirement of the Park Capital Improvement Fund, Resolution No. 91-42 and the Quimby Act by acquiring five (5) acres of useable park land per 1,000 population.
Policy 8.3	Explore the use of public-private partnerships, corporate sponsorships, and leasing agreements that provide for additional parks and recreational facilities, and other programs including cooperation with applicable school districts to allow joint use of facilities.
Policy 8.4	Consider the addition of a centralized forum for community activities such as a convention center, amphitheater, cultural arts center, or waterfront promenade.

GENERAL PLAN GOALS, POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS	
Policy 8.5	Continue to develop public beach lands and recreational facilities such as campgrounds, boat launch areas, and water access to the Diamond Stadium, to complement the state and county recreation system.
Policy 8.6	Encourage the development of private recreational facilities within residential and mixed-use developments
Policy 8.7	Ensure that recreation facilities are accessible to the elderly, children, and persons with disabilities as set forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act including increased wheelchair access, height variations on drinking fountains, and any other requirements necessary to serve these individuals.
<u>Implementation Program</u>	The City shall utilize the development review process to examine existing and future needs for park facilities and programs to ensure adequate quantity, quality, type and distribution.
Goal 9	Establish a primary trail network for equestrians and hikers.
Policy 9.1	Encourage public and private systems that interface with other existing and proposed trails (i.e., bikeways) assuring links with the City, County of Riverside, and state recreational facilities.
<u>Implementation Program</u>	The City shall implement strategies for the Trails Master Plan when feasible.

Table 3.15-4, District Plan Parks and Recreation Goals, Policies and Implementation Programs

DISTRICT PLAN	DISTRICT PLAN GOALS, POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS
Alberhill	<p>Goal 5 Encourage a wide variety of open space and recreational opportunities that are integrated within adopted master planned communities and future developments.</p> <p>AH 5.1 Encourage the creation of an extensive system of open space and preservation lands throughout the Alberhill District to ensure a healthy balance between development and the natural environment.</p> <p>AH 5.2 Support joint-use with the Lake Elsinore Union School District for the use of recreational programs.</p> <p>AH 5.3 Pedestrian and hiking trails shall be considered to link neighborhoods and surrounding open space, recreation areas, and MSHCP preservation areas.</p> <p><u>Implementation Program</u> As part of the project review and MSHCP processes the City shall assess open space and recreational opportunities in order to achieve a healthy balance of land uses within the Alberhill District.</p>
Ballpark	Goal 4 Promote the stadium, “Dream Extreme” sports activities, and other recreational opportunities in the Ballpark District and provide linkages to the

DISTRICT PLAN	DISTRICT PLAN GOALS, POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS
	<p>Lake and other park and recreation amenities.</p> <p>BP 4.1 Encourage strong connections between usable recreational networks and facilities within the Ballpark District and surrounding City communities.</p> <p>BP 4.2 Encourage recreational uses and attractions that contribute to a comprehensive network of pedestrian trails, providing access from the Ballpark District to Diamond Stadium, the lake, the Lake Edge parkway and other nearby recreational facilities.</p> <p><u>Implementation Program</u> The City shall utilize the development review process to promote the land uses identified in the Diamond Specific Plan, and its regional trail connections, its public plazas, open spaces, and orientation toward the Stadium and Lake. □</p>
Business District	<p>Goal 5 Connect the pedestrian/bikeway corridors along the major roadways within the Business District to the Channel Walk project.</p> <p>BD 5.1 Support the completion of the Channel Walk project</p> <p>BD 5.2 Encourage expanded open space areas, bike lanes, and sidewalks along major corridors within the Business District.</p> <p><u>Implementation Program</u> Through the development review and CEQA processes, ensure that pedestrian and bikeway corridors are connected and access the Channel Walk project.</p>
Country Club Heights	<p>Goal 5 Provide an active open space and recreational system, which preserves natural features by connecting the Country Club Heights District to usable recreational networks within the City. Maximize recreational opportunities, maximize key view sheds, Maintain hillsides, and preserve the integrity of the Temescal Wash wetlands and drainage areas.</p> <p>CCH 5.1 Through the project and CEQA processes develop a comprehensive pedestrian trails network that both provides access from the Country Club Heights District to the lake and Historic Downtown District as well as provides a linkage to those areas from the Alberhill District.</p> <p>CCH 5.2 Consider the development of a minimum of one park at a key scenic view shed site to provide an opportunity to feature the views of the lake.</p> <p><u>Implementation Program</u> The City shall utilize the development review and CEQA processes to promote the objectives of the Country Club Heights District.</p>
East Lake	<p>Goal 1 Integrate the future residential and commercial development with the recreational and open space land use framework to create a cohesive master planned community.</p> <p>EL 1.3 Through the project and CEQA processes provide a variety of recreational opportunities in concert with the City's image as a recreational "Dream Extreme" destination.</p>

DISTRICT PLAN	DISTRICT PLAN GOALS, POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS
	<p>EL 1.4 Through the project and CEQA processes strive to balance the recreational needs of local residents and visitors with the regional and local need for housing.</p> <p>Goal 2a Preserve the open space and recreational character of the area while developing the master planned community according to the goals and objectives of the East Lake Specific Plan and the goals and policies of the East Lake District Plan</p> <p>EL 2.3 Through the project and CEQA processes require development to create bikeway and pedestrian links between the built community and open space and recreational areas to provide direct access from the East Lake District and surrounding community.</p> <p>Goal 3 Enhance pedestrian circulation, particularly between higher density residential and commercial areas, and to active and passive recreational facilities. Develop a trail system that will join parks and recreational areas, schools, and commercial activity centers in the District and link to the surrounding community including the Ballpark District.</p> <p><u>Implementation Program</u> The City shall utilize the development and CEQA review processes to ensure that pedestrian circulation and bikeways are enhanced and linked to the variety of land uses anticipated in this District. Require additional traffic studies if necessary to provide for efficient traffic infrastructure.</p> <p>Goal 4 Provide an open space and recreational network visually and physically integrated to development areas and provide a balance between development and the conservation and preservation of areas with unique environmental or aesthetic value.</p> <p>EL 4.1 Maintain and enhance usable recreational networks throughout the East Lake District by providing connections between such community elements as open space, parks, schools, recreational facilities, and the residential and commercial areas.</p> <p>EL 4.2 Maintain and enhance existing facilities such as the airstrip and motocross that are critical to the continuation of extreme sport activities.</p> <p>EL 4.3 Through the project and CEQA processes require recreational activities oriented to local residents and visitors.</p> <p>EL 4.4 Through the project and CEQA processes require an open space and park system to satisfy the active and passive recreational needs of the community.</p> <p>EL 4.5 The southern shoreline of Lake Elsinore within the East Lake District shall be preserved for public access and enjoyment.</p> <p><u>Implementation Program</u> The City shall utilize the development and CEQA review processes to ensure that there is a balance between development and the preservation of important biological areas, and that there is a balance</p>

DISTRICT PLAN	DISTRICT PLAN GOALS, POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS
	between development and recreational opportunities.
Historic	<p>Goal 5 Support a recreational system that is accessible to the City's residents, employees, and visitors and ensuring a variety of facilities for all ages.</p> <p>HD 5.1 Consider pedestrian linkages between the Channel Walk project and nearby Historic District, commercial businesses, recreational facilities, major corridors, the Lake Edge Parkway, and the lake.</p> <p>HD 5.2 Through the project and CEQA processes expand and support facilities within the various community centers.</p> <p>HD 5.3 Encourage and pursue the development of additional recreational facilities adjacent to new public development such as the future civic center plaza.</p> <p>HD 5.4 Encourage residential development to incorporate common open spaces on-site, such as courtyards and terraces.</p>
Lake Edge	<p>Goal 1a Develop a recreational destination that will bring local residents and visitors to the various recreational and entertainment facilities around the lake.</p> <p>Goal 1b Enhance the accessibility of the recreational designated uses along the lake's shores.</p> <p>LE 1.3 Consider a pedestrian oriented route (multi-purpose trail) along and within Lakeshore Drive and continue to consider a multi-purpose trail that connects to the City Campground.</p> <p>Goal 5 Create recreational opportunities for the City's residents that maximize access to and use of the lake.</p> <p>LE 5.1 Through the project and CEQA processes support Create a continuous multi-purpose trail designed and designated for pedestrian use (the "Lake Edge Parkway"), around the perimeter of the Lake Edge District.</p> <p>LE 5.2 Through the project and CEQA processes establish pedestrian links between the neighboring districts and the multi-purpose trail.</p>
Lake Elsinore Hills	<p>Goal 5 Enhance the natural character of the broad plains, rolling hills, steep slopes, sensitive habitats, and watercourses.</p> <p>LEH 5.1 Encourage the provision of pedestrian routes that connect existing and future developments with open space and recreation uses.</p> <p>LEH 5.2 Support an extensive system of open space and MSHCP conservation areas throughout the Lake Elsinore Hills District to ensure a healthy balance between development and conservation of the area's natural environment.</p> <p>LEH 5.3 Preserve a balanced amount of the Lake Elsinore Hills District's natural landscape of valleys, peaks, rolling hills, watercourses, and sensitive habitats as existing specific plans and additional projects are developed.</p>
Lake View	Goal 6 Support a wide variety of open space and recreational opportunities

DISTRICT PLAN	DISTRICT PLAN GOALS, POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS
	<p>that are linked together within the Lake View District through pedestrian paths that connect neighborhoods to open space and recreational facilities, and promote a mixed-use corridor along Riverside Drive with private, public and joint-use recreational facilities.</p> <p>LV 6.1 Through the project and CEQA processes construct a series of pedestrian/bicycle routes connecting all recreational facilities as development occurs.</p> <p>LV 6.2 Encourage the construction of hiking and equestrian trails in the northwestern areas of the Lake View District within the open space corridors and between the Lake View District and the Cleveland National Forest.</p> <p>LV 6.3 Support joint-use recreational programs.</p> <p>LV 6.4 Encourage streetscapes within future residential and commercial development and redevelopment along Riverside Drive and Lakeshore Drive that provide a more pedestrian friendly environment.</p>
North Peak	<p>Goal 5 Provide a strong visual and recreational element within the amended specific plan.</p> <p>NP 5.1 Through the project and CEQA processes provide both active and passive recreation opportunities for residents and visitors to North Peak that are compatible with its topography and natural amenities.</p> <p>NP 5.2 Through the project and CEQA processes maintain the urban wildland interface for the developed areas and the dedicated MSHCP conservation areas.</p>
Riverview	<p>Goal 4 Encourage expansion or new facilities for recreation within the Riverview District to foster a stronger community character and active outdoor activities.</p> <p>RV 4.1 Through the project and CEQA processes provide additional public spaces and recreational facilities for the Riverview District's residents and visitors.</p> <p>RV 4.2 Through the project and CEQA processes link the Riverview District to other recreational activities along the lake and the river.</p> <p>RV 4.3 Pursue a joint-use facility with the Lake Elsinore Unified School District at the Railroad Canyon Elementary School facility.</p> <p>RV 4.4 Through the project and CEQA processes ensure the provision of adequate additional park facilities as new residential development occurs.</p>
Lake View Sphere	<p>Goal 5 Consider a connected system of pedestrian and hiking trails that link residential areas to the Lake View Sphere District's open space areas and the Cleveland National Forest and similar surrounding uses and recreational facilities.</p> <p>LVS 5.1 Support joint-use recreational programs with the Lake Elsinore School</p>

DISTRICT PLAN	DISTRICT PLAN GOALS, POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS
	District.
Lakeland Village Sphere	<p>Goal 5 Expand and connect recreational facilities along the lake and increase open space areas in the southern areas of the Lakeland Village Sphere District.</p> <p>LLVS 5.1 Encourage the revitalization of the southern edge of the lake.</p> <p>LLVS 5.2 Encourage the preservation of the natural topography where possible.</p> <p>LLVS 5.3 Encourage streetscapes along the mixed-corridor sections of Grand Avenue.</p> <p>LLVS 5.4 Support joint-use recreational programs.</p> <p>LLVS 5.5 Support hang gliding and paragliding in the area as a recreational resource and tourism generating activity.</p> <p>LLVS 5.6 Through the project and CEQA processes provide recreational facilities along the southeastern edge of the lake, north of Grand Avenue, with the East Lake District connecting this area to recreation, open space, and MSHCP designated areas to the east.</p> <p>LLVS 5.7 Through the project and CEQA processes provide pedestrian routes along the northwestern border to provide a connection to the Lake Edge District's recreational designated areas along the lake.</p> <p>LLVS 5.8 Through the project and CEQA processes provide pedestrian/hiking trails to open space designated areas within the southern portions of the Lakeland Village Sphere District and to the Cleveland National Forest.</p> <p>LLVS 5.9 Through the project and CEQA processes preserve open space areas at the northwestern and southeastern areas of the Lakeland Village Sphere District.</p>
Meadowbrook Sphere	<p>Goal 5 Provide adequate active open space and recreational opportunities within the Meadowbrook Sphere District as development occurs.</p> <p>MBS 5.1 Through the project and CEQA processes develop a pedestrian/hiking trail system to connect existing and future residential communities with open space uses, recreational facilities, and MSHCP conservation areas. Provide trail signs, maps, and information about the vegetation of these areas.</p> <p>MBS 5.2 Through the project and CEQA processes incorporate additional recreational facilities within new residential developments.</p>
North Central Sphere	<p>Goal 4 Through the project and CEQA processes provide adequate active open space and recreational opportunities within the North Central Sphere District as development occurs.</p> <p>NCS 4.1 Through the project and CEQA processes develop a pedestrian/hiking trail system that connects existing and future residential communities. Open</p>

DISTRICT PLAN	DISTRICT PLAN GOALS, POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS
	<p>space areas within the North Central Sphere District and surrounding areas shall include trail signs, maps, and information about the vegetation of the surrounding areas.</p> <p>NCS 4.2 Pursue a joint-use program with the high school facility located adjacent to Interstate-15.</p>
Northwest Sphere	<p>Goal 4 Provide adequate active and passive open space and recreational opportunities within the Northwest Sphere District as development occurs.</p> <p>NWS 4.1 Through the project and CEQA processes design and develop a pedestrian friendly hiking trail system, which provides connectivity to existing and future residential communities and open space and recreational facilities within the Northwest Sphere District, such as trail signs that incorporate maps and information about the vegetation of the surrounding areas.</p> <p>NWS 4.2 Pursue a joint-use program with the Lake Elsinore School District and the Luiseño Elementary School.</p> <p>NWS 4.3 Through the project and CEQA processes incorporate recreational space into new developments.</p>

3.15.5 SIGNIFICANCE THRESHOLDS

The City of Lake Elsinore has not established local CEQA significance thresholds as described in Section 15064.7 of the State CEQA Guidelines. However, Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines indicates that impacts related to recreation may be considered potentially significant if the project would:

- increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated.
- include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

3.15.6 IMPACT ANALYSIS

This section presents an analysis of proposed project impacts relative to the goals and policies of the GPU. In particular, the policies that pertain to the facilities and services addressed below are presented in the Community Form chapter of the GPU Land Use Plan.

Threshold: Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated.

Threshold: Would the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

Analysis

General Plan Update Land Use Plan Goals and Policies

The City of Lake Elsinore’s Parks and Recreation Master Plan establishes the standard of 5 acres of usable park land per 1,000 population. The proposed Land Use Plan would allow for approximately 15,438 acres of permanent open space and recreation and MSHCP Conservation areas. With full buildout of the proposed Land Use Plan, population in the City and SOI would be approximately 318,856 people. The Land Use Plan proposes approximately 1,314 acres of recreational uses and approximately 9,369 acres of open space within the City and SOI. Therefore, in order to meet the standard of 5 acres of usable parkland per 1,000 residents, approximately 1,594 acres of usable parks and recreational open space would be required within the City and SOI. Therefore, when considering only land designated by the proposed Land Use Plan for recreational uses there would be a deficit of 280 acres.

However, as described above, the dominant parkland in the City is Lake Elsinore. Lake Elsinore is the largest natural freshwater lake in southern California with 3,000 surface acres and over 14 miles of shoreline and includes the 86-acre Lake Elsinore Recreational Area Campground. Although not designated as recreational land by the proposed Land Use Plan, this property is and will for perpetuity be used for public park and recreation purposes. Therefore, the proposed project will provide sufficient acreage to meet the projected parks needs of the residents of the City of Lake Elsinore.

The City’s Parks and Recreation Master Plan states that “each recreation and park facility should meet minimum standards of quality and space to effectively perform its intended function.”¹ **Table 3.15-5, City of Lake Elsinore Projected Recreational Facility Needs – General Plan Buildout (2030)**, illustrates the projected park facility requirements needed at full buildout of the proposed Land Use Plan.

¹ City of Lake Elsinore Parks and Recreation Master Plan, page 4-3.

Table 3.15-5, City of Lake Elsinore Projected Recreational Facility Needs – General Plan Buildout (2030)

FACILITY TYPE	STANDARD PER POPULATION	GENERAL PLAN BUILDOUT REQUIREMENT (2030)	EXISTING FACILITIES (2009)	ADDITIONAL FACILITIES NEEDED
Softball Field				
Organized Youth	1 per 7,300	44	3	41
Organized Adult	1 per 5,500	58	6	52
Baseball Field				
Little League	1 per 5,300	60	3	57
Adult	1 per 8,000	40	4	36
Multi-Purpose Fields	1 per 5,000	64	12	52
Picnic Table	1 per 1,000	319	110	209
Picnic Shelter	1 per 5,000	64	8	56
Tot Lot/Playground	1 per 5,000	64	6	58
Swimming Pool ¹	1 per 50,000	6	3	3
Tennis Court	1 per 10,000	32	6	26
Basketball Court	1 per 30,000	11	1	10
Volleyball Court – Sand	1 per 10,000	32	3	29
Racquetball Court	1 per 10,000	32	0	32
Exercise Court	1 per 10,000	32	0	32
Horseshoe Pit	1 per 5,000	64	2	62
Handball Court	1 per 10,000	32	0	32
Parking – on site	1 acre per 5,000	64 acres	3 acres	61 acres
Restroom Facilities	1 per 4,000	80	11	69
Classrooms	1 per 5,000	64	17	47
Sources: Table 4.1 and Table 4.2, City of Lake Elsinore Parks and Recreation Master Plan				
¹ Existing swimming pools located at school facilities.				

It is anticipated that more parkland and facility areas would become available within the City as future residential developments are built as developers would be required to comply with the provisions of Section 16.12.050 and Section 16.34.060 of the City's Municipal Code, which require the dedication of parkland and/or payment of in-lieu fees and the payment of Park Capital Improvement Fund fees, which are used for park and recreation facility improvements.

Additionally, the City has pursued joint use agreements with applicable school districts, which allows the City and the school district to share facilities. The following schools are currently under joint use agreements with the City:

- Machado Park – school district property used for park.
- Summerlake Park – Terra Cotta Middle Schools soccer fields used, maintained, and programmed by city for community use.
- Lakeside High School – Joint use agreement for the use of aquatic facilities.
- Lake Elsinore High School – Joint use agreement for the use of aquatic facilities.
- Summerlake Park – City and School District officials jointly funded a gymnasium at nearby Terra Cotta Middle School. Through a joint-use agreement, the school is able to use the 16,000-square-foot gym for its physical education and athletics programs and the City is able to use it for its sports and recreation programs.

Through the continued use of such joint use agreements, there is the potential that additional recreational facilities and parks may be developed on land that is not currently designated by the proposed project for recreational uses.

The goals and policies pertaining to parks and recreation in the GPU include extensive measures to provide adequate parkland, programs, and recreational facilities and opportunities and establish funding mechanisms to ensure quality recreational services that meet the needs of the population as it grows (see the Community Form chapter, Parks and Recreation section, Goal 8 and associated policies 8.1–8.7 as well as Goal 9 and associated policy 9.1).

These policies and implementation programs require that the City:

- continue to utilize the City of Lake Elsinore Parks and Recreation Master Plan as a guide for decision-making and implementation of the Parks and Recreation Program,
- meet parkland acreage requirements,
- require accessibility for special needs individuals,
- develop a trails network for equestrians and hikers,
- utilize the development review process to examine existing and future needs for park facilities and programs to ensure adequate quantity, quality, type and distribution,
- require parkland in-lieu or exaction fees or parkland dedication for new developments, and
- explore the use of public-private partnerships, corporate sponsorships, and leasing agreements that provide for additional parks and recreational facilities.
- utilize the development review process to examine existing and future needs for park facilities and programs to ensure adequate quantity, quality, type and distribution.

- include Policies 1.1 and 2.1 of the Community Form chapter, Land Use section because policies pertaining to land use include measures that require open space dedication and encourage development of recreational uses; Policy 2.1 also encourages development of parks around the Lake.

The population increase associated with increased development throughout the City and SOI in accordance with the proposed Land Use Plan would potentially result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the increased use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated.

The goals, policies and implementation programs under the Parks and Recreation section and the Land Use section of the Community Form chapter of the GPU and within the District Plans, as described above in **Table 3.15-3** and **Table 3.15-4**, include measures to reduce impacts on parks, recreation, and open space. Therefore, impacts would be considered less than significant at a programmatic level. However, individual projects implemented pursuant to the proposed project could result in potentially significant impacts associated with community services related to parks and recreation at a project level.

District Plans

The increase in development allowed under the Land Use Plan would require increases in availability and adequacy of parks and other recreational facilities. Each district plan includes goals, policies and implementation programs to address parks, recreation, and open space to ensure adequate facilities, pedestrian connections to recreational and open space areas, and encouragement of joint-use agreements with schools (see **Table 3.15-4**).

Population increase associated with increased development throughout the City and SOI in accordance with the proposed District Plans would potentially result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the increased use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated.

The goals, policies and implementation programs under the Parks and Recreation section and the Land Use section of the Community Form chapter of the GPU and within the District Plans, as described above in **Table 3.15-3** and **Table 3.15-4**, include measures to reduce impacts on parks, recreation, and open space. Therefore, impacts would be considered less than significant at a programmatic level. However, individual projects implemented pursuant to the District Plans could result in potentially significant impacts associated with community services related to parks and recreation at a project level.

3rd Street Annexation

Annexation of the 3rd Street Annexation Area would increase demand for park and recreational facilities. The annexation would potentially result in an adverse physical impacts associated

with the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. The following table describes potential impacts on community services and facilities that may occur with the 3rd Street Annexation.

Table 3.15-6, 3rd Street Annexation Recreation Impacts

SERVICE AND FACILITIES	IMPACT OF ANNEXATION AND MITIGATION	LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE
Parks, Recreation, Open Space	Service provider will change from Riverside County to City of Lake Elsinore. Any park and recreational facilities needed to serve the annexation area will be funded through fees collected by the City prior to the issuance of building permits on all new development within the 3rd Street area.	Significant

The goals and policies in the GPU ensure adequacy and availability of parks and recreation facilities as development allowed by the GPU within the 3rd Street Annexation area occurs. Goals, policies and implementation programs for parks, recreation, and open space are described above in **Table 3.15-3, General Plan Parks and Recreation Goals, Policies and Implementation Programs** and **Table 3.15-4, District Plan Parks and Recreation Goals, Policies and Implementation Programs**.

The annexation of the 3rd Street Annexation Area would potentially result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the increased use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities. Individual projects implemented within the 3rd Street Annexation Area pursuant to the Land Use Plan could result in potentially significant impacts associated with community services related to parks and recreation.

Mitigation Measures

MM Parks and Recreation 1: Individual projects implemented pursuant to the Land Use Plan will be required to demonstrate their avoidance of significant impacts associated with community services related to parks and recreation through implementation of the following:

- Policies under Goals 8 and 9 of the Parks and Recreation section of the Community Form chapter.
- Policies 1.1 and 2.1 of the Community Form chapter, Land Use section.

Level of Significance

The land use designations shown on the proposed Land Use Plan and the goals, policies and implementation programs under the Parks and Recreation section and the Land Use section of the Community Form chapter and the District Plans of the GPU include measures to reduce potential impacts on parks, recreation, and open space. Therefore, with implementation of those goals, policies and implementation programs and mitigation measures MM Parks and

Recreation 1, ~~MM Parks and Recreation 2~~ and ~~MM Parks and Recreation 3~~, potential impacts would be considered less than significant at a programmatic level.

3.15.7 LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE AFTER MITIGATION

With implementation of the policies of the GPU and the above-cited mitigation measures, potential impacts related to parks and recreation within the City and SOI would be mitigated to a less-than-significant level.

3.15.8 REFERENCES

In addition to other reference documents, the following references were used in the preparation of this section of the EIR:

City of Lake Elsinore, *General Plan Background Reports*, prepared by Mooney Jones & Stokes, January 2006. (Appendix B)

City of Lake Elsinore, *Municipal Code* (Available at www.lake-elsinore.org/index.aspx?page=346; accessed June 20, 2011.)

California Department of Parks and Recreation, *Quimby Act 101: An Abbreviated Overview*, May 28, 2002. (Available at <http://www.parks.ca.gov/?pageid=22226>; accessed July 28, 2011.)

City of Lake Elsinore, *Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2008-2030*, (Available at <http://www.lake-elsinore.org/index.aspx?page=199>; accessed July 28, 2011.)

City of Lake Elsinore, *Parks and Recreation Department Web Site*. (Available at <http://www.lake-elsinore.org/index.aspx?page=202>; accessed July 28, 2011.)

City of Lake Elsinore, *Lake and Aquatic Resources Web Site*. (Available at <http://www.lake-elsinore.org/index.aspx?page=172>; accessed July 28, 2011.)

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