



Recreation

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Introduction

Parks and open space provide opportunities for recreation, relief from urbanization and enjoyment of the community's natural features. Recreation opportunities identified with this plan include the acquisition and development of new parks within the community, recreation improvements within Balboa Park and canyon trails. The Recreation Element includes goals and recommendations addressing the following topic areas: Parks and Recreation Facilities, Preservation, Accessibility, and Open Space Lands and Resource-based Parks. These goals and recommendations, along with the broader goals and policies of the General Plan and the Balboa Park East Mesa Precise Plan (BPEMPP), provide a comprehensive parks strategy intended to accommodate the community at full community development.

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In addition to soliciting public input through various community meetings, in August of 2011, the City commissioned a Park and Recreation Needs Assessment for the Golden Hill, North Park and Uptown communities. The assessment was conducted by an independent research consultant to determine how and where people currently recreate, their priorities and preferences for future recreational uses and facilities within their communities, as well as, consideration of Balboa Park as a recreational resource. The assessment consisted of an objective, statistically-valid, random telephone survey. The survey results are considered representative of the broad and demographically-diverse communities' recreational use patterns and opinions. The survey results are contained in a report presented to each community and were used to develop the recreation policies and recommendations of this community plan (refer to Appendix A, Park and Recreation Needs Assessment).

RECREATION ELEMENT GOALS

Parks & Recreation Facilities

- To create a sustainable park and recreation system that meets the needs of Golden Hill residents and visitors which serves a variety of users, such as children, the elderly population, persons with disabilities, and the underserved teenage population.
- To provide parks and recreation facilities that keep pace with the Golden Hill Community population growth through timely acquisition of available land and development of new facilities.
- To increase the quantity and quality of recreation facilities in Golden Hill through the promotion of alternative methods, such as park equivalencies, where development of typical facilities and infrastructure may be limited by land constraints.

Preservation

- To preserve, protect and enhance the integrity and quality of existing parks, open space, and recreation programs in the Golden Hill Community.
- To create a sustainable park and recreation system that meets the needs of Golden Hill residents by using 'green' technology and sustainable practices in all new and retrofitted projects.
- To preserve, protect and manage the natural, cultural, and historic resources that serve as recreation facilities in the Golden Hill Community.

Accessibility

- Enhance recreation facilities in Golden Hill by optimizing pedestrian, bicycle, public transit, automobile, and alternative modes of travel.
- Design all new recreation facilities for an inter-connected park and open space system that is integrated into and accessible to Golden Hill Community residents.
- Retrofit all existing park and recreational facilities to meet the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to accommodate persons with all disabilities as funding becomes available.
- Provide a balance of recreational facilities in the Golden Hill Community that are available for programmed and non-programmed uses.
- Create comprehensive pedestrian and bicycle connections between parks and open space lands within the Golden Hill Community, as well as to surrounding communities.

Open Space Lands & Resource-based Parks

- Provide an open space and resource-based park system in the Golden Hill Community that provides for the preservation and management of significant natural and man-made resources.
- Protect the natural terrain and drainage systems of Golden Hill's open space lands and resource-based parks to preserve the natural habitat and cultural resources.
- Provide a system of pedestrian paths and bikeways linking population-based parks with resource-based parks and open space lands within the Golden Hill Community.

7.1 Parks & Recreation Facilities

PARKS & RECREATION FACILITIES STANDARDS

The City General Plan Recreation Element describes three categories of parks within the City of San Diego: Open Space Lands, Resource-based Parks, and Population-based Parks (refer to Section RE-4, Open Space Lands and Resource-Based Parks for descriptions). Population-based parks and recreation facilities are typically located within close proximity to residents and are intended to serve the daily recreational needs of the neighborhoods and community. The General Plan standard is to provide a minimum of 2.8 useable acres of public park land per 1,000 residents.

There are six categories of population-based parks:

- Major park;
- Community park;
- Neighborhood park;
- Mini-park;
- Pocket park or plaza; and
- Special activity park.

A recreation center, typically 17,000 square feet in size, should be provided for every 25,000 residents, and an aquatic complex should be provided for every 50,000 residents. The General Plan Recreation Element, Table RE-2, Parks Guidelines, provides the descriptions and minimum standards for these park and recreation facilities.



EXISTING AND FUTURE POPULATION – BASED PARKS & RECREATION FACILITIES

At full community development, the projected population for the Golden Hill community is 22,085. Therefore, according to General Plan Guidelines for population-based parks, the community should be served by a minimum of 61.84 useable acres of park land at full community development. Additionally, the projected population warrants approximately one recreation center equivalent to approximately 15,000 square feet in size, and approximately one-half of an aquatic complex.

As of 2015, there are no existing population-based parks or recreation facilities within the community. Opportunities for additional park land and recreation facilities are anticipated to come primarily through redevelopment of private and public properties and through the application of park equivalencies. While the City’s primary goal is to obtain land for population-based parks, where vacant land is limited, unavailable or is cost-prohibitive, the General Plan allows for the application of park equivalencies to be determined by the community and City staff through a set of guidelines.



General Plan Guidelines

Parks: 22,085 people divided by 1,000 = 22.09 x 2.8 acres = 61.84 acres of population-based parks

Recreation Center:(17,000 square feet) serves population of 25,000: 22,085 people divided by 25,000 people = 0.88 Recreation Center

Aquatic Complex: serves population of 50,000: 22,085 people divided by 50,000 people = 0.44 Aquatic Complex



A children’s play area is one of the park amenities within Golden Hill Community Park.

Facilities that may be considered as population-based park equivalencies include the following.

- Joint use facilities;
- Trails through open space;
- Portions of resource-based parks;
- Privately-owned, publicly-used parks;
- Non-traditional parks, such as roof top or indoor recreation facilities; and
- Facility or building expansion or upgrades.

The Golden Hill community is an urbanized community where park equivalencies are appropriate for satisfying some of the community’s population-based needs. The community and City staff identified and evaluated population-based park and recreation opportunities, as well as potential park equivalency sites, for their recreational value, uses and functions, public accessibility, consistency with General Plan policies and guidelines, and other land use policy documents (e.g., Balboa Park Master Plan and Balboa Park East Mesa Precise Plan [BPEMPP]).

Creation of joint use facilities within the Golden Hill Community schools were considered and determined to be infeasible or in the foreseeable future due to constrained sites. However, joint use should be pursued in the future if school sites are expanded or redeveloped, which frees up land that could be utilized for recreational purposes.

A variety of sites and facilities within and adjacent to the Golden Hill Community do, or could, serve as population-based parks or park equivalencies. Table 7-1 summarizes the existing and proposed parks and equivalencies that have been selected to serve the community's park and recreation needs. The table also includes recommendations contained in the BPEMPP for the Neighborhood Edge as well as recommendations generated by the community and City staff for facilities outside of Balboa Park.

The community plan identifies new park land and park equivalency sites to meet most of the community's population-based park requirements. The plan identifies potential projects that will provide all of the recreation center space and the aquatics complex facilities required to serve the community at the plan horizon. These represent significant achievements towards implementing the community's recreation goals. The city will work with community members to seek future opportunities for provision of parks and recreation facilities. In addition to the inclusion of these projects in the Golden Hill Impact Fees Study, identification of potential donations, grants and other funding sources for project implementation will be an ongoing effort.

Figure 7-1 depicts the approximate locations of existing and proposed open space, parks, recreation facilities and park equivalencies. Note: Identification of private property as a potential park site does not preclude permitted development per the designated land use or underlying zone.



Bud Kearns Aquatic Complex, within Balboa Park, is to be expanded to serve both Golden Hill and North Park communities.



Golden Hill Recreation Center to be expanded to provide additional multi-purpose rooms or other community serving facilities.



FIGURE 7-1: PARKS, RECREATION FACILITIES, AND OPEN SPACE

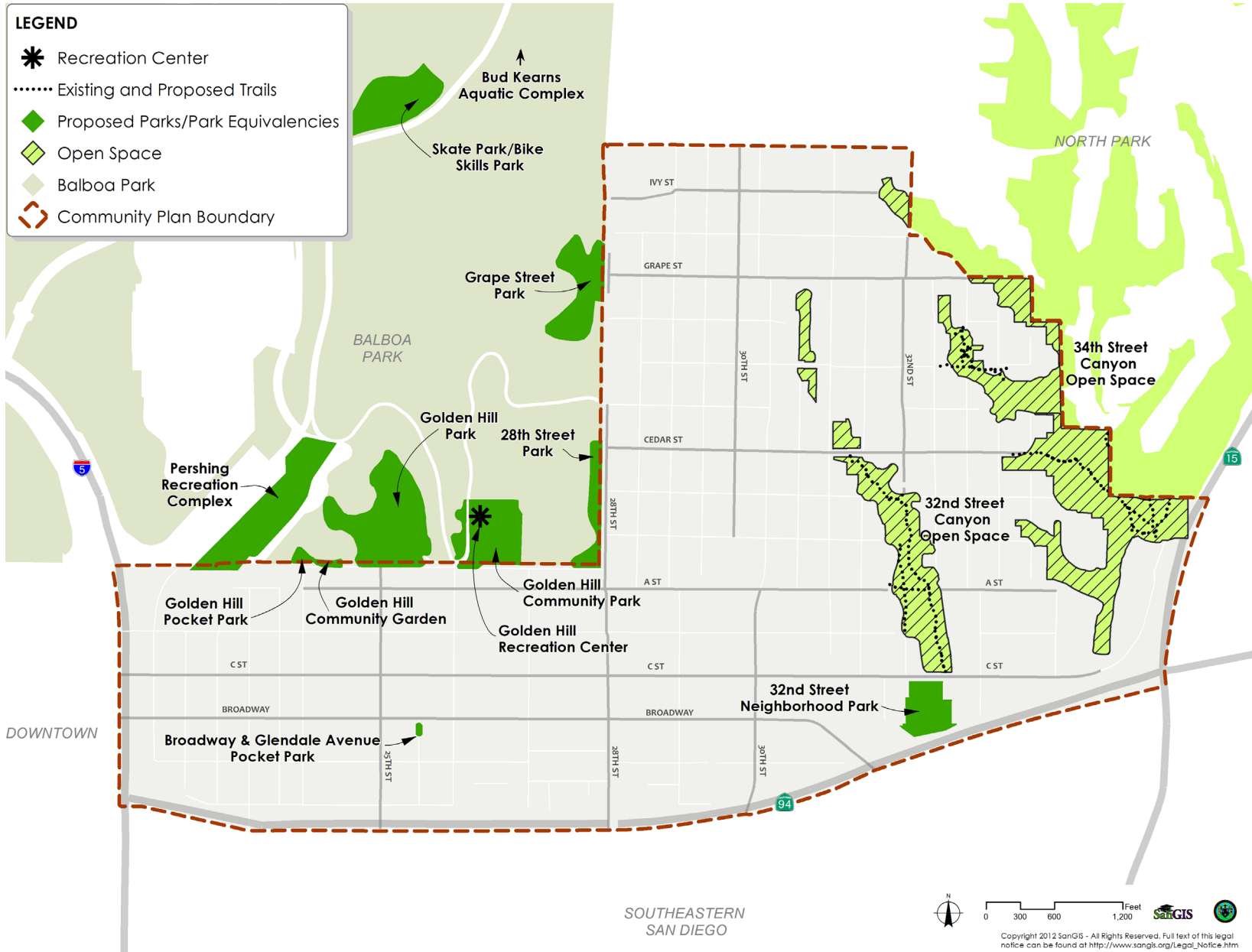


TABLE 7-1: POPULATION-BASED PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES INVENTORY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

PARKS/RECREATION FACILITIES	2015 USEABLE ACREAGE	FUTURE USEABLE ACREAGE	PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES LOCATIONS AND DESCRIPTIONS	PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES RECOMMENDATIONS
<i>Major Parks - None</i>				
<i>Community Parks - None</i>				
<i>Neighborhood Parks</i>				
32 nd Street Neighborhood Park		3.81	Proposed neighborhood park located on 7 parcels of privately-owned property, between C Street and Broadway. The City Public Utilities Dept. may acquire the site for a groundwater production facility which could be incorporated into active and passive recreational facilities	Acquire, design and construct passive recreational facilities, such as open turf areas, walkways, security lighting, site furniture, signage, public art and landscaping. If City Public Utilities Dept. acquires land coordinate active and passive recreational facilities on site.
<i>Mini Parks - None</i>				
<i>Pocket Parks/Plazas</i>				
Broadway and Glendale Avenue Pocket Park		0.08	Proposed pocket park located on undeveloped street right-of-way to accommodate passive recreational uses.	Vacate street right-of-way, acquire land, design and construct passive recreation, such as walkways, security lighting, site furniture, signage, public art and landscaping.
<i>Special Activity Parks - None</i>				
<i>Recreation Centers</i>				
Golden Hill Recreation Center (within Balboa Park)	N/A	N/A	Existing 10,035 sq. ft. community-oriented recreation facility located in Golden Hill Community Park with existing amenities including an indoor gymnasium, a meeting room, kitchen and community clubhouse.	Expand recreation center to 15,052 sq. ft. by adding 5,017 sq. ft. in one or more building structures on site.
<i>Aquatic Complexes</i>				
Bud Kearns Aquatic Complex (within the Morley Field area of Balboa Park)	N/A	N/A	Existing aquatic complex located in North Park on Upas Street, with an existing pool and support facilities that are undersized and outdated, not accessible to physically disabled residents, and operational costs are excessive due to water leakage through cracks in the pool. (Shared between the Golden Hill and North Park Communities)	Replace existing public pool facilities with expanded state-of-the-art aquatic complex to serve the Golden Hill and North Park Communities' aquatic needs. Renovate and expand existing pool house and provide universal access and water amenities, such as children's wading pool, therapeutic pool facilities.



POPULATION-BASED PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES INVENTORY AND RECOMMENDATIONS (CONTINUED)

PARK EQUIVALENCY	2015 USEABLE ACREAGE	FUTURE USEABLE ACREAGE	PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES LOCATIONS AND DESCRIPTIONS	PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES RECOMMENDATIONS
<i>Joint Use Facilities - None</i>				
<i>Trails: Useable acres credit for trails was determined by multiplying the linear footage of trail by 24'-0" width and divided by one acre in square feet (43,560)</i>				
32 nd Street Canyon Open Space Trails		1.98	Proposed trail amenities along existing trails located in the 32 nd Street Canyon Open Space.	Design and construct trail amenities along existing trails (3,604 lineal feet) such as trailheads, kiosk, way-finding maps, interpretive signs, protective fencing, native landscaping, trash and recycling containers, benches and overlooks, where needed and appropriate for the trail type as determined by City.
34 th Street Canyon Open Space Trails		2.69	Proposed new trail segment and trail amenities along existing trails located in the 34 th Street Canyon Street Open Space.	Design and construct 142' lineal feet of new trails and trail amenities along existing trails (4,754 lineal feet), such as trailheads, kiosk, wayfinding maps, interpretive signs, protective fencing, native landscaping, trash and recycling containers, benches and overlooks, where needed and appropriate for the trail type as determined by City.
<i>Portion of Resource-Based Parks</i>				
28 th Street Park (within Balboa Park)		3.05	Proposed park equivalency located on 28 th Street, with existing park amenities that include a children's play area, picnic tables, benches, lawn areas, and a comfort station.	Design and construct an additional 2.62 acres of passive recreation by expanding the children's play area, providing additional picnic tables and benches, and upgrading/replacing the comfort station.
Golden Hill Community Garden (within Balboa Park)		0.28	Proposed park equivalency located on Russ Blvd. with an existing, approximately 5,000 square foot community garden area; operated and maintained by a not-for-profit entity.	Design and construct an additional 7,500 sq. ft. area and provide site amenities for gardeners and community visitors, alike, such as additional gardening plots, potting shed, communal gathering or stage area, shade structure, passive seating/picnicking, site furniture, fencing, security lighting, and public art.
Golden Hill Community Park (within Balboa Park)		7.26	Proposed park equivalency located on 26 th Street with existing park amenities that include a multi-purpose lighted sports field which supports youth and adult softball and baseball, two outdoor basketball courts, one handball court, passive lawn areas with picnic facilities, a comfort station and a children's play area.	Design and construct expanded recreational and support facilities, including approximately 1.0 acre of additional parking, and security lighting, to accommodate future uses and special community events.



POPULATION-BASED PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES INVENTORY AND RECOMMENDATIONS (CONTINUED)

PARK EQUIVALENCY	2015 USEABLE ACREAGE	FUTURE USEABLE ACREAGE	PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES LOCATIONS AND DESCRIPTIONS	PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES RECOMMENDATIONS
Golden Hill Park (within Balboa Park)		12.53	Proposed park equivalency located on Russ Blvd. with existing park amenities that include a loop road with three small individual parking areas, passive multi-purpose turf areas and views to Downtown.	Design and construct additional park amenities to support neighborhood passive recreation; enhance the gateway into the park area with park signage.
Golden Hill Pocket Park (within Balboa Park)		0.61	Proposed park equivalency located adjacent to the Golden Hill Community Garden area.	Design and construct passive recreational uses, such as a children's play area, parking area, security lighting, accessible walkways and landscaping.
Grape Street Park (within Balboa Park)		6.37	Proposed park equivalency located on Grape Street with existing park amenities that include a dog off-leash area, open lawn area, picnic tables, and a comfort station.	Design and construct upgrades to the dog off-leash area such as additional fencing and drinking fountains; provide passive recreation improvements, including children's play area site furniture, security lighting, walkways, landscaping; and upgrade/replace the comfort station.
Pershing Recreation Complex (within Balboa Park)		5.00	Proposed park equivalency located at the corner of Pershing Dr. and 26 th Street. This site is currently used by City Central Operations Station facilities. This facility is a total of 15 acres and will be shared with; North Park; Golden Hill and Uptown.	Design and construct a community park/sports complex with active recreation facilities consistent with the recommendations in the BPEMPP, subsequent to relocation of non-park, City facilities.
Skate Park/Bike Skills Park (within Balboa Park)		10.0	Proposed park equivalency located along Pershing Drive. Facility is a total of 20 acres and will be shared with North Park and Golden Hill.	Design and construct an above-ground skate park and/or Bike Skills/BMX track, and support facilities, such as parking lot and portable restrooms. Amendment of the BPEMPP may be necessary.
<i>Privately-Owned Park Sites - None</i>				
<i>Non-Traditional Park Sites - None</i>				
<i>Facility or Building Expansion or Upgrade - None</i>				



TABLE 7-2: SUMMARY OF EXISTING AND PROPOSED POPULATION-BASED PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

Population-based Parks	Useable Acres
Existing Population-based Parks and Park Equivalencies	0.00 acres
Proposed Population-based Parks and Park Equivalencies	53.66 acres
Total Existing and Proposed Population-based Parks and Equivalencies	53.66 acres
Population-based Park Requirements at full community development	61.84 acres
<i>Population-based park deficit at full community development</i>	<i>8.18 acres</i>
Recreation Center	
Square Feet	
Existing Recreation Center: Golden Hill Recreation Center	10,035 SF
Proposed Recreation Center addition: Golden Hill Recreation Center	5,017 SF
Total Existing and Proposed Recreation Center	15,052 SF
Recreation Center Requirement at full community development	15,052 SF
<i>Recreation Center deficit at full community development</i>	<i>No deficit</i>
Aquatic Complex	
Unit	
Existing Aquatic Complex	0
Proposed Aquatic Complex: Bud Kearns Community Swimming Pool	1.68*
Total Existing and Proposed Aquatic Complex:	1.68*
Aquatic Complex Requirement at full community development	.44*
<i>Aquatic Complex deficit at full community development</i>	<i>No deficit</i>
*Bud Kearns Community Swimming Pool will be shared. Greater Golden Hill requires 0.44, and North Park requires 1.24, aquatic complexes. The proposed, larger facility will satisfy the combined requirements (1.68 aquatic complexes) for both communities.	





28th Street Park will be expanded to include additional park amenities such as picnic tables, exercise course or seating areas.



Grape Street Park, within Balboa Park, to expand the use of the park with new park amenities such as children's play area, picnic areas, or upgrades to the dog off-leash area.

POLICIES

- RE-1.1** Pursue the land acquisition, design and construction of new public parks and recreation facilities with a special effort to locate them in park deficient areas of the community. Seek opportunities to increase park land through urban infill and redevelopment proposals and acquisition of available private property.
- RE-1.2** Pursue park equivalencies as opportunities arise, and as identified in Table 7-1, Population-Based Parks and Recreation Facilities Inventory and Recommendations.
- RE-1.3** Encourage new private development proposals to include recreational facilities within the project site to serve existing, as well as new residents, in areas of the community where there are land constraints. Provision of park and recreation amenities should be considered on rooftops of buildings and parking structures, and/or on the ground level or within new buildings.
- RE-1.4** Active or passive recreation should be incorporated into the buildings, or the surrounding exterior, where space allows. As public agency land or buildings are redeveloped.

- RE-1.5** Increase recreational opportunities by acquiring and developing land through street/alley rights-of-way vacations (paper streets), where appropriate and legally defensible, to provide for park and recreation uses.
- RE-1.6** Encourage development of pocket parks and plazas within residential/mixed use developments, and clustered with other public facilities.
- RE-1.7** Promote safety by providing park designs that incorporate the City's 'Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design' (CPTED) measures (refer to General Plan Policy UD-A.17).
- RE-1.8** Implement recommendations contained in the Balboa Park East Mesa Precise Plan (BPEMPP) which specifically serve the existing and future park needs of the community as follows:
 - A.** Provide improvements at park entries: Grape St. at 28th St., Date St. at 28th St., 25th St. at Russ Blvd., and 26th St. at Russ Blvd.
 - B.** Reconstruct/restore the historic stone fountain located at the head of the southwestern canyon adjacent to Golden



Hill Park to its original character; accommodate the use of reclaimed water, when available.

- C. Create a neighborhood-oriented gateway feature at the entrance to Golden Hill Park, near the intersection of Russ Blvd. and 25th Street. Improvements may include a small plaza, water feature, public art, etc.
- D. Provide interpretative, way-finding and regulatory signage for orientation to park users at view points and park entries.
- E. Provide a pedestrian sidewalk along Golf Course Drive connecting the Golden Hill Recreation Center to the Balboa Park Golf Course Clubhouse and the park entry at the corner of Date St. and 28th St.
- F. Reorganize parking at the Golden Hill Recreation Center to provide a total of 140 spaces; remove parking along Russ Blvd. and convert 64 park spaces on the west side of Golf Course Drive to temporary, overflow parking only.
- G. Plant new trees to replenish those reaching maturity within the Neighborhood Edge adjacent to the Golden Hill Community, including date palms reminiscent of the Victorian era, as well as Savannah and Garden representative species.
- H. Replenish oak tree plantings within the Memorial Oak Grove and establish native perennial grasses and wildflowers within open areas in the grove.
- I. Provide adequate security lighting along sidewalks, pathways and within parking areas.
- J. Replace the Bud Kearns Community Swimming Pool with an aquatic complex sized to accommodate both the North Park and Golden Hill Communities' needs, including a new pool house which is solar heated or heated by methane gas from the Arizona Landfill collection system.
- K. Design and construct the proposed Pershing Recreation Complex to serve the North Park, Greater Golden Hill and Uptown Communities.

RE-1.9 Expand the Golden Hill Recreation Center to approximately 15,052 square feet by enclosing underutilized exterior space, adding a second floor and/or constructing/expanding a secondary building on south side of the existing multipurpose field to accommodate the recreation needs of existing and future residents at full community development.

RE-1.10 Design and construct a skate park/bike skills park within the former Arizona Landfill, if feasible, or elsewhere within the community at a location to be determined.

RE-1.11 Pursue lease agreements with public agencies (e.g., San Diego Unified School District, Caltrans, etc.) to incorporate active or passive recreation into existing buildings or surrounding grounds, where non-programmed space is available and appropriate for public use.

RE-1.12 Pursue a lease agreement with Caltrans for the development of a freeway lid to be improved with park facilities over SR-94 in the vicinity of 24th – 26th Streets.



The Golden Hill Community Garden located on Russ Boulevard, within Balboa Park, is to be expanded incorporating amenities such as a stage/gathering area, picnic facilities, potting shed, security lighting and public art.

7.2 Preservation

The demand for park and recreation opportunities will continue to grow with the expected future population growth of the community. Undeveloped land for parks is difficult to find making preservation of the existing open space and resource-based parks essential to providing recreation opportunities in this community. Preservation can include improvements to existing facilities to increase their life span, or expand their uses and sustainability. The Golden Hill Community Park and Recreation Center within Balboa Park will continue to serve as the main recreation venue for the community, but with increased demand and usage, the facilities will need to be upgraded and expanded with sustainable and green technology features, to optimize the space to be fully utilized and to provide new recreation amenities that are needed by the community.

Preservation can also include the enhancement of resource-based parks and open space that provides a balance between protecting the natural resources and allowing for a certain level of public recreation use. For the Golden Hill community, this would mean concentrating active recreational use improvements towards larger resource-based parks, such as at Golden Hill Community Park and Recreation Center, and focusing passive use improvements at open space areas, such as 32nd and 34th Streets Canyons open space, portions of which are within the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA). Aside from trails, only passive uses are allowed within the MHPA. Therefore, to protect the natural resources and still add recreation value, interpretive signs should be featured at open space parks to educate the public on the unique natural habitat, scenic value and the history of these places.

POLICIES

- RE-2.1 Preserve, expand and enhance existing park and recreation facilities to increase their life span, and to optimize their uses and sustainability.
- RE-2.2 Expand/upgrade the recreation facilities within Balboa Park adjacent to the Golden Hill community consistent with the BPEMPP recommendations to meet existing and future demand, as described in RE-1.8 and RE-1.9. Use sustainable methods and materials (such as native and low-water using plants), and “green” technology that also respects any historical significance of the area.
- RE-2.3 Enhance the quality of the exterior recreation spaces at the Golden Hill Recreation Center by making all areas fully utilized for recreation purposes.
- RE-2.4 Protect and preserve the 32nd Street and 34th Street Canyons open space areas by providing interpretive signs to educate the public on the unique natural habitats, and historic and scenic qualities.
- RE-2.5 Protect and preserve native species and the unique habitats they depend upon within the open space systems consistent with the MSCP guidelines (refer to Conservation Element, Open Space and Natural Landforms).
- RE-2.6 Provide sufficient human and economic resources to preserve and enhance existing parks and open space areas.



7.3 Accessibility

Accessibility within the Golden Hill community has three main components: 1) all facilities should be located within walking distance of neighborhoods and employment centers; 2) facilities should be accessible to the broadest population possible; and 3) facilities should be open for use by the general public with a balance between programmed and non-programmed activities.

All parks and recreation facilities are planned to be linked by a network of existing and proposed transit routes, bikeways and pedestrian paths. For a discussion of future accessibility and linkages to parks and open space see the Mobility Element.

All new and existing parks and recreation facilities are required to meet ADA guidelines when they are constructed or retrofitted for improvements or upgrades. This could include adding accessible pedestrian ramps, providing paved pathways at acceptable gradients that lead from a public street sidewalk or parking area to a children's play area or other park destination (referred to as the "path of travel"), remodeling of restrooms and building interiors, and providing interpretive signage along a nature trail.

Accessibility also means the availability of active and passive recreation to all community residents. The Golden Hill Community Park is programmed to allow organized sport leagues use of the facilities at specific times while making the facilities available at other times for unstructured play and impromptu users. The schedule is adjusted each year to make sure a balance is provided for community residents. When special uses are designed into parks, such as dog off-leash areas or community gardens, these areas should also include amenities, such as pathways, benches, exercise stations, or picnic tables on the perimeter that could accommodate more than one type of user and enhance the recreational and leisure experience. Special uses, such as dog off-leash areas and community gardens, would be required to undergo a City approval process prior to facility design.



A pedestrian pathway along Golf Course Drive, viewed from 28th Street, is planned to connect the Golden Hill Recreation Center to 28th Street.

POLICIES

- RE-3.1 Upgrade the Golden Hill Recreation Center to meet ADA Guidelines while respecting any historic architectural significance and attributes.
- RE-3.2 Provide bus stops or accessible parking at all park and recreation facilities within the Golden Hill Community.
- RE-3.3 Implement recommendations contained in the BPEMPP which specifically improve the existing and future accessibility to and from recreation facilities and venues and the Golden Hill Community, particularly as follows:
 - RE-3.4 Construct a pedestrian/bicycle bridge across the canyon north of Grape Street Park.
 - RE-3.5 Construct a pedestrian/bicycle bridge across the canyon north of Date Street.

- RE-3.6 Provide a continuous, paved sidewalk along Golf Course Drive.
- RE-3.7 Provide Class II bicycle lanes along Golf Course Drive.
- RE-3.8 Construct three separate, paved pedestrian/bicycle paths to link Golden Hill Community with the Pershing Sports Complex.
- RE-3.9 Convert the connector road between 25th and 26th Streets within Balboa Park to pedestrian/bicycle and emergency vehicles access only. Maintain 26th Street as the main entry to Balboa Park and 25th Street as a one-way loop road throughout Golden Hill Park only.
- RE-3.10 Provide a paved sidewalk along Russ Blvd. from Golden Hill Recreation Center west to the paved trails accessing the Pershing Sports Complex.
- RE-3.11 Implement the pedestrian bridge proposed in the BPEMPP to connect the proposed Pershing Recreation Complex with the Inspiration Point area of Balboa Park. This connection would open up other venues for neighborhood-serving recreational uses which are currently difficult to access from east of Pershing Drive within Balboa Park.
- RE-3.12 Provide an information kiosk with a map at key park sites that identifies all parks that serve Golden Hill and how to get to each by walking, biking or public transit.
- RE-3.13 Replace the Bud Kearns Community Swimming Pool with an accessible aquatic complex sized to accommodate both the North Park and Golden Hill communities' needs and multiple user types, including a new pool house, which is solar heated or heated by methane gas from the Arizona Landfill collection system.

7.4 Open Space Lands & Resource-Based Parks

Open space lands are City-owned lands consisting of canyons, mesas, and other natural landforms. This open space is intended to preserve and protect native plants and animals, while providing public access and enjoyment by the use of hiking, biking and equestrian trails (refer to Figure 7-1).

In Golden Hill, there are two open space canyons, 32nd Street Canyon and 34th Street Canyon, which provide low intensity recreational uses, such as hiking and bird watching. Within 32nd Street Canyon there are 3,604 lineal feet of existing trails and in 34th Street there are 4,754 lineal feet of existing trails. Any proposed improvements to the trail systems shall be in compliance with any Natural Resource Management Plans or other governing documents.



32nd Street Canyon Open Space Trail, viewed from Cedar Street, will be enhanced with proposed trail amenities including trail kiosk signs, trash containers, and benches where appropriate.



Resource-based parks are located at sites of distinctive natural or man-made features and serve the citywide population and visitors alike. Balboa Park is an approximately 1,200-acre regional facility contiguous to the southwestern edge of the Golden Hill community, as well as contiguous to the Uptown and North Park communities. Balboa Park contains specialty gardens and horticultural interests, and houses numerous arts, educational, recreational, social and sports organizations, primarily on the Central Mesa.

POLICIES

- RE-4.1 Protect and enhance the natural resources of open space lands by re-vegetating with native plants and utilizing open wood fences, where needed, adjacent to very sensitive areas to provide additional protection while still allowing views into the area.
- RE-4.2 Require all storm water and urban run-off drainage into resource-based parks or open space lands to be filtered or treated before entering the area.
- RE-4.3 Preserve and protect existing open space canyon and trail systems within the Golden Hill Community by limiting public use to authorized trails and providing interpretive signs that educate the public on the biologic and scenic value of the systems.

- RE-4.4 Provide recognizable entrances (trailheads) to the 32nd Street Canyon and 34th Street Canyon open space trails. The trailheads should include a kiosk and way-finding map that shows how the canyons interface with the Golden Hill community.
- RE-4.5 Construct approximately 142 linear feet of new trails located on publicly-owned open space to connect with existing trails within the 34th Street Canyon trail system (actual new trail locations may vary due to environmental constraints). Co-locate trails and utility access roads on publicly-owned open space, wherever possible.
- RE-4.6 Provide interpretive signs at trailheads to 32nd Street and 34th Street Canyons Open Space trail systems to educate users on the sensitive natural and cultural habitats and unique biologic and scenic qualities of these areas.

