



Draft Mid-City Ideas Report - Parks and Trails

March 19, 2026

Parks and Recreation Board Meeting | Item 201

AGENDA

- Project Overview
- Draft Ideas Report – Parks and Trails
- Next Steps
- Feedback & Q+A



Mid-City Planning Area & Neighborhoods

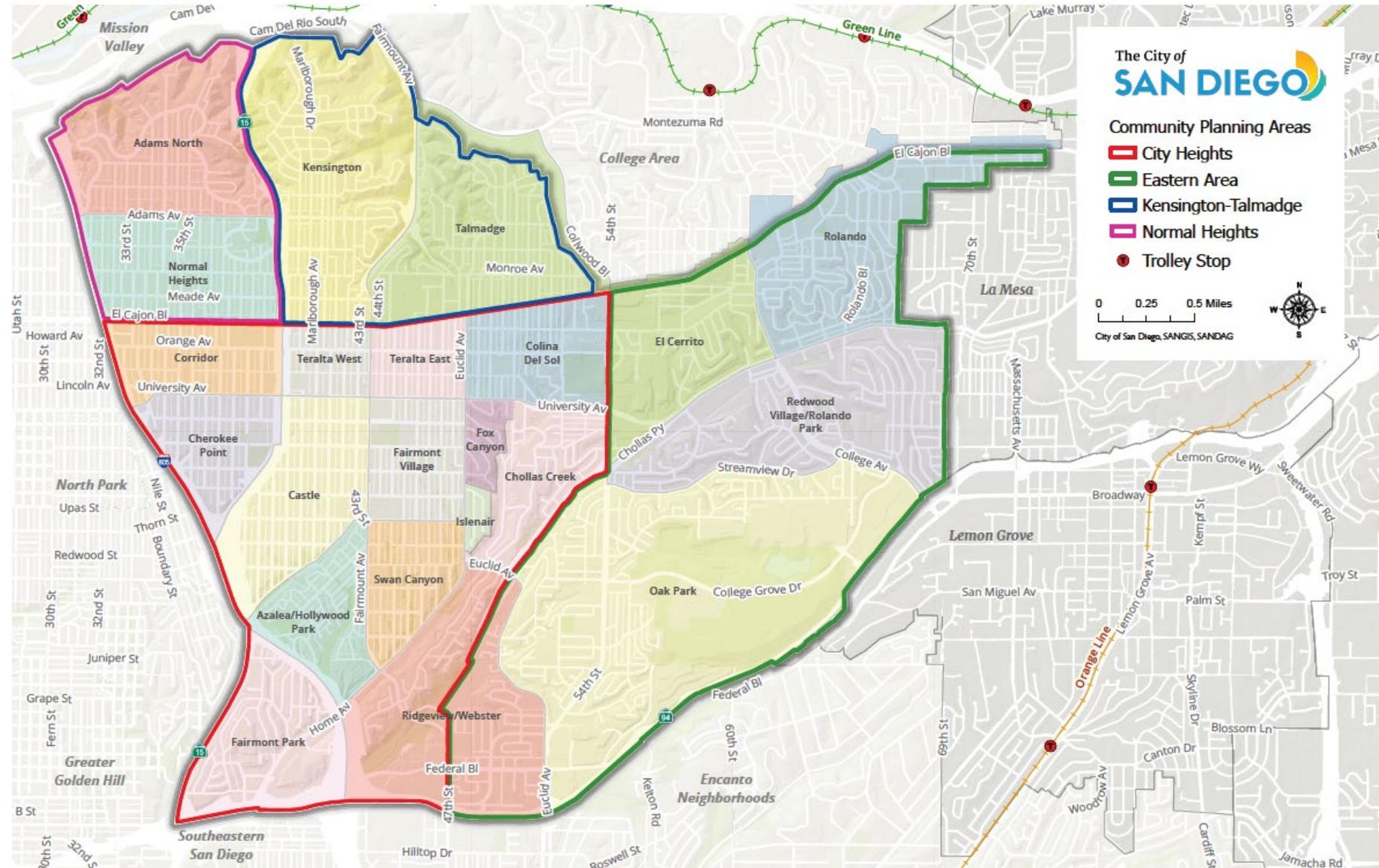
Mid-City Communities

- City Heights
- Eastern Area
- Kensington-Talmadge
- Normal Heights

Mid-City Snapshot*

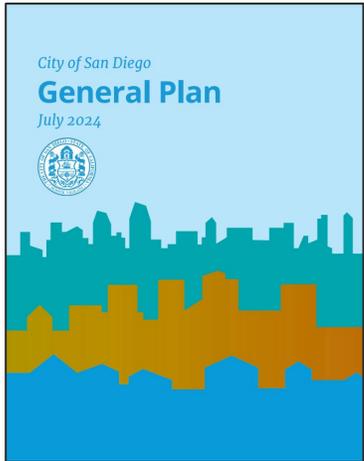
- 8,052 acres
- 135,172 people
- 53,279 homes
- 21,000 jobs
- 24,500 parcels
- 10% of the city population resides in Mid-City
- 7,083 Recreational Value Points

*SANDAG Estimate 2024; LEHD 2022; City of San Diego



Update to the Mid-City Communities Plan

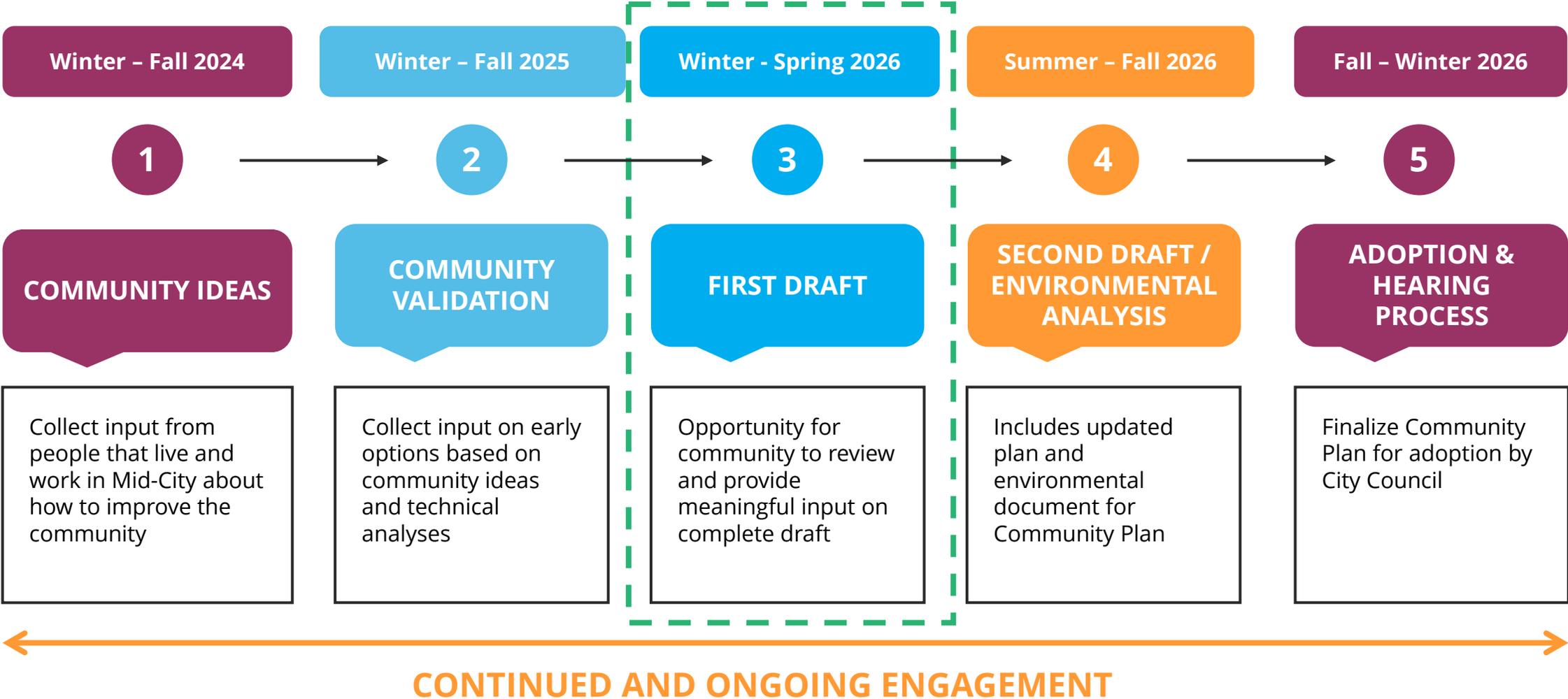
The City is updating the Community Plan to help shape the future of Mid-City area for the next 20 to 30 years. The current plan was last adopted in 1998.



- The Mid-City Communities Plan is part of General Plan – the City’s guide to long-term growth – and consistent with the City’s Climate Action Plan.
- The update is a 30-year vision for land use, mobility, urban design, public facilities and services, natural resources, historic and cultural resources, and economic development.

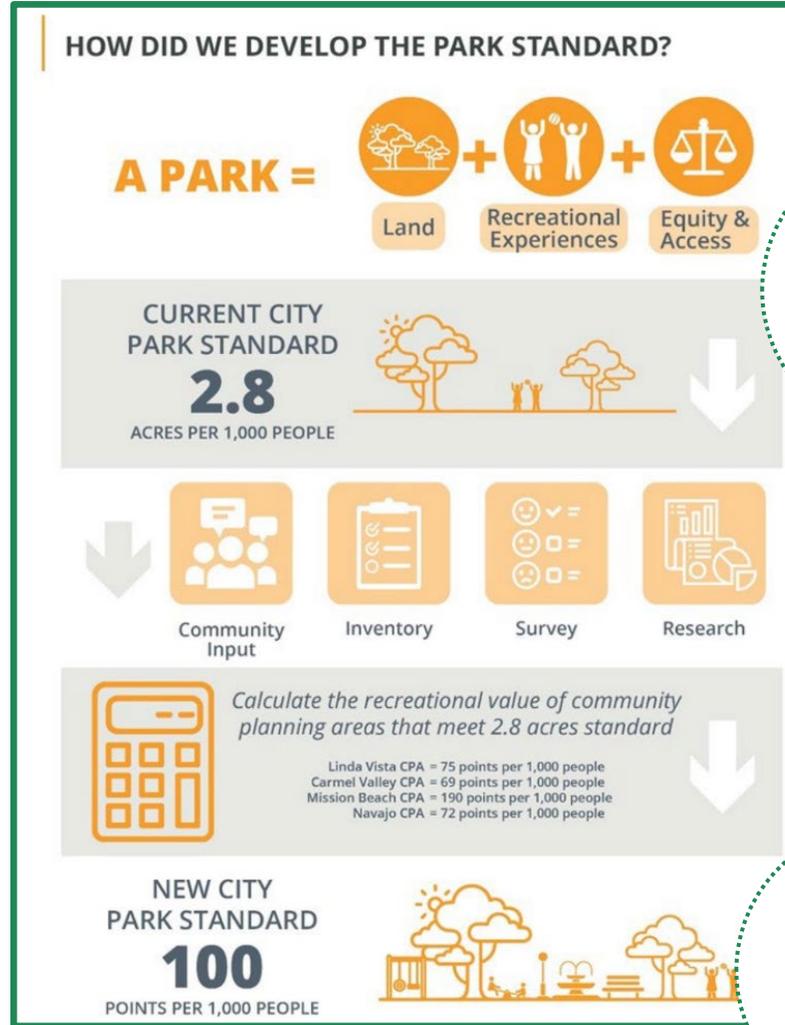
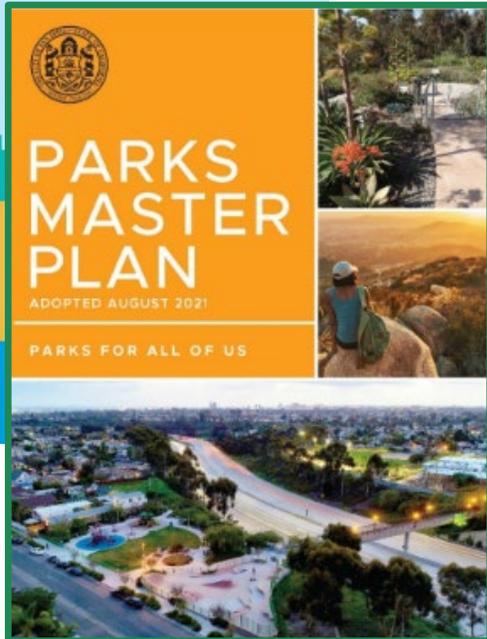
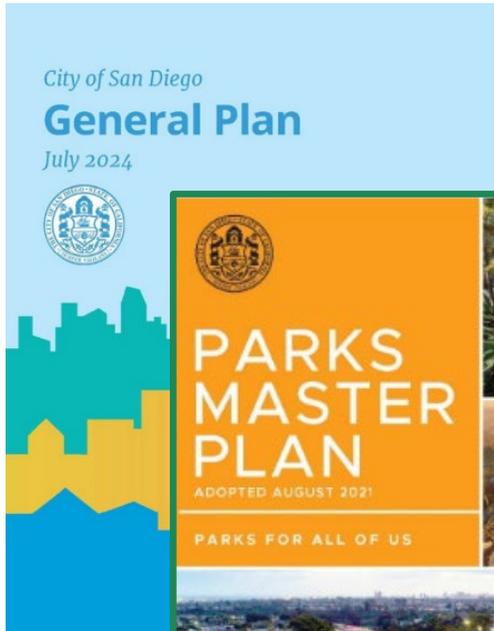
- 1 Address Regional Growth & Housing Needs
- 2 Understand Community Needs & Enhance Quality of Life
- 3 Evaluate Infrastructure Demand
- 4 Reduce Environmental Impact

Process & Timeline





Guiding Documents





Draft Goals

Parks, Public Facilities & Open Space

- **Create a connected network of recreational facilities**
- **Provide equitable access to parks and recreation**
- **Expand recreational opportunities**
- **Optimize public lands and facilities**
- **Protect natural resources**





Draft Goals

Parks, Public Facilities & Open Space

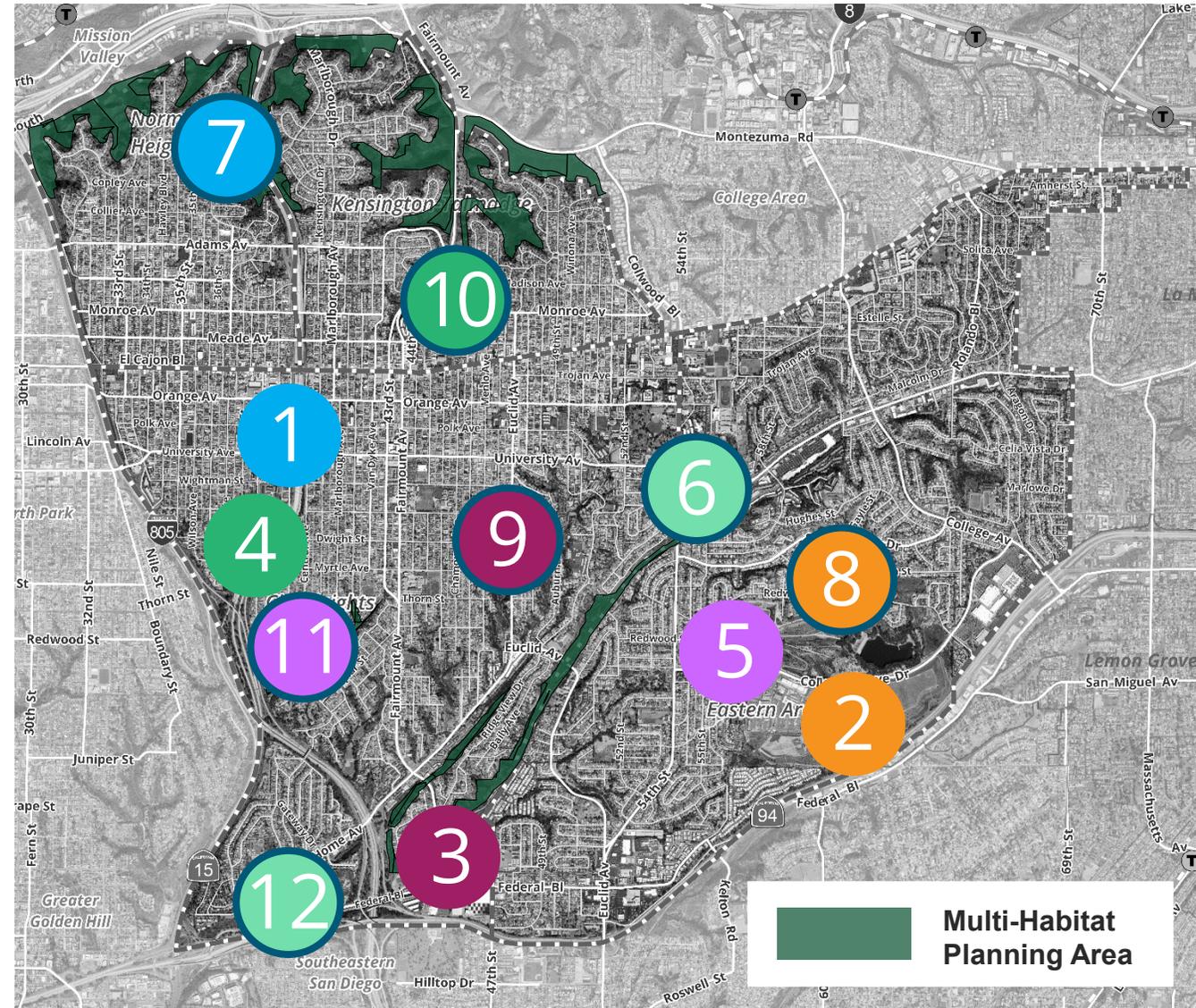
- **An integrated open space network**
- **Advance sustainability and climate resilience**
- **Create inclusive, safe and resilient environments**
- **Strengthen cultural expressions and social connections in public spaces**



Park Opportunities

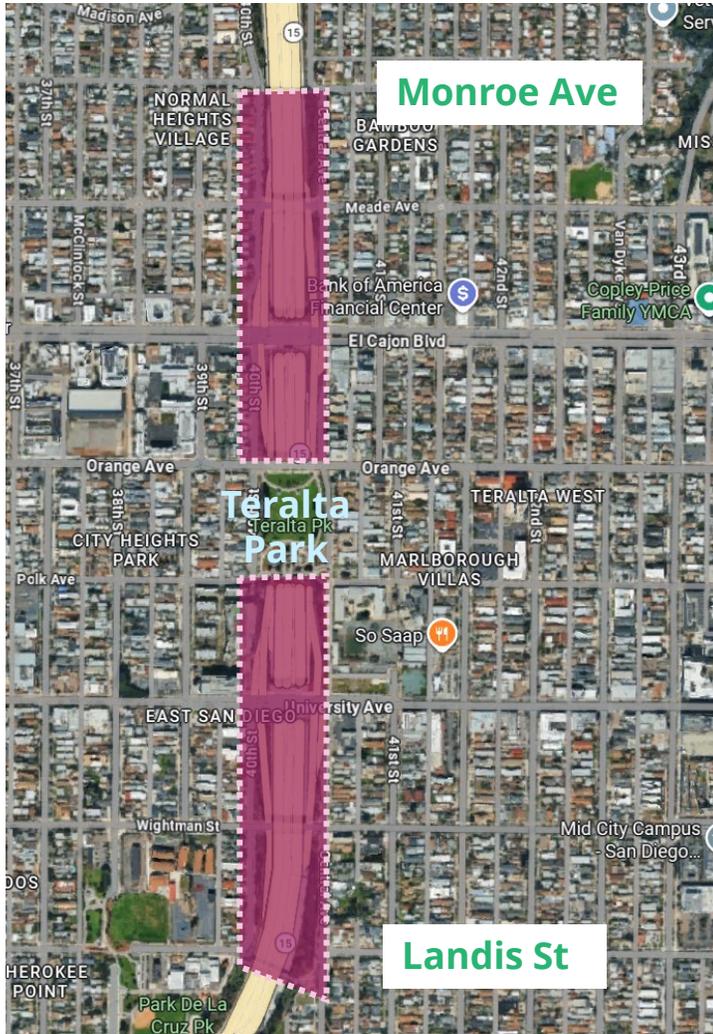
- 1 Teralta Community Park Expansion
- 2 South Chollas Lake Regional Park
- 3 Sunshine Berardini Park*
- 4 Postage Stamp Pocket Park
- 5 North Chollas Community Park*
- 6 Chollas Triangle Park*
- 7 Eugene Place Pocket Park
- 8 Carver Elementary Joint Use* & 60th Street Pocket Park
- 9 Olivia Canyon Trailhead Pocket Park
- 10 Monroe Avenue Pocket Park
- 11 Manzanita Canyon Pocket Park
- 12 Federal Boulevard Pocket Park*

*Active Projects



Existing Park Opportunity

1 Teralta Community Park Expansion



The expansion of the existing Teralta Community Park would create additional freeway lids to accommodate the construction of additional park space.



Play Area



Community Garden



Splash Pad



Picnic Area



Sports/Fitness Area



Flexible Community Spaces



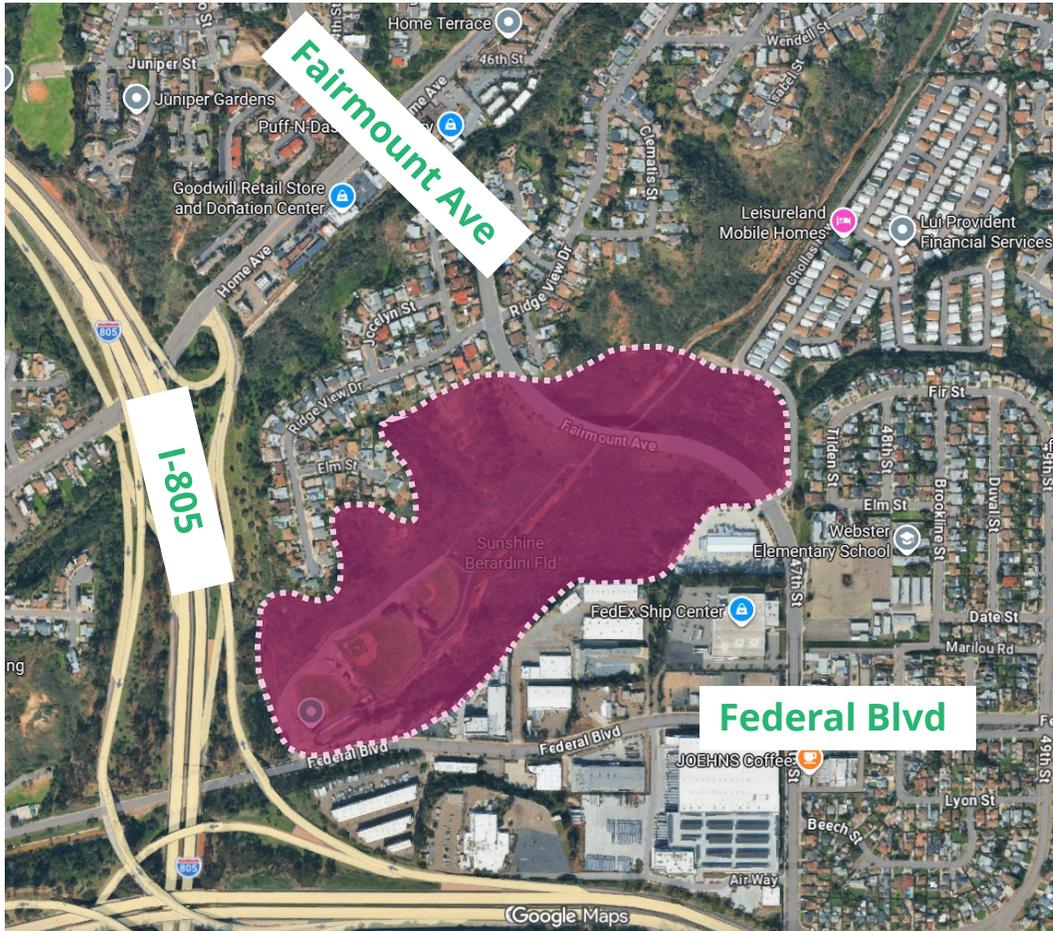
Open Lawn



Walking Path

Existing Park Opportunity

3 Sunshine Berardini Park



Improvements are currently being explored. The site presents opportunities for new or improved ballfields, walking paths, and landscape enhancements.



Play Area



Nature Explore



Sports/Fitness Area



Flexible Community Spaces



Walking Path



Aquatic Complex

Existing Park Opportunities

4 Postage Stamp Pocket Park



Proposing to formalize the existing community space known as Postage Stamp Point into a pocket park supporting neighborhood-scale recreation.



Play Area



Rest Area



Fitness Circuit



Native Garden



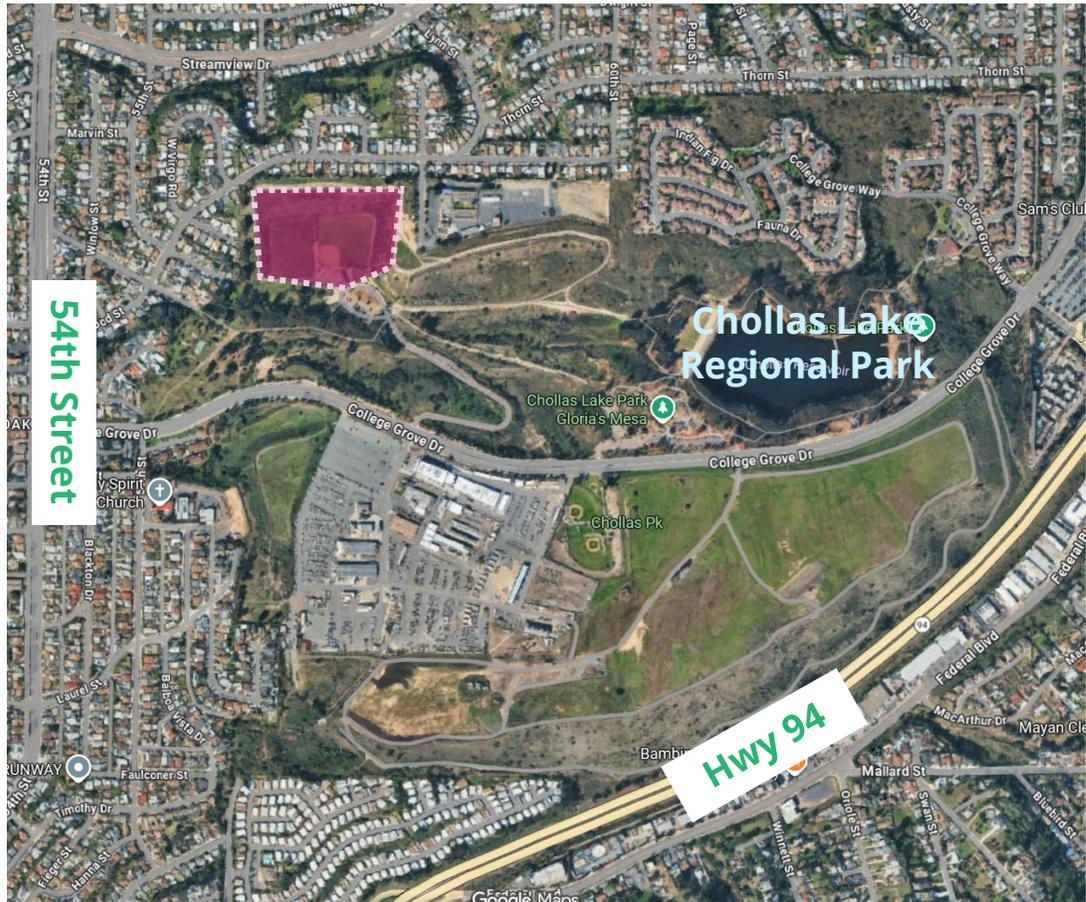
Education Board



Flexible
Community Spaces

Existing Park Opportunity

5 North Chollas Community Park



North Chollas Community Park may include off-leash dog areas, playground expansions, shade structures, fitness equipment, disc golf, native plant gardens, and trail improvements.



Play Area



Open Lawn



Sports/Fitness Area



Dog Park

New Park Opportunities

6 Chollas Triangle Park



Chollas Triangle Park will be a linear park with active, flexible spaces, shade, planting, and amenities.



Play Area



Picnic Area



Multipurpose Turf



Flexible Community Spaces



Sports/Fitness Area



Walking Path

New Park Opportunities

7 Eugene Place Pocket Park



The Eugene Place Pocket Park at the end of the cul-de-sac could allow for flexible recreation and nature play atop a mesa with views.



Play Area



Nature Explore



Native Planting



Flexible Community Spaces



Walking Path

New Park Opportunities

8 Carver Elementary Joint Use & 60th Street Pocket Park



A potential partnership with the San Diego Unified School District to provide a shared publicly accessible field and walking path outside of school hours, alongside a pocket park at the end of 60th street.



Play Area



Community Garden



Multipurpose Turf



Picnic Area



Sports/Fitness Area

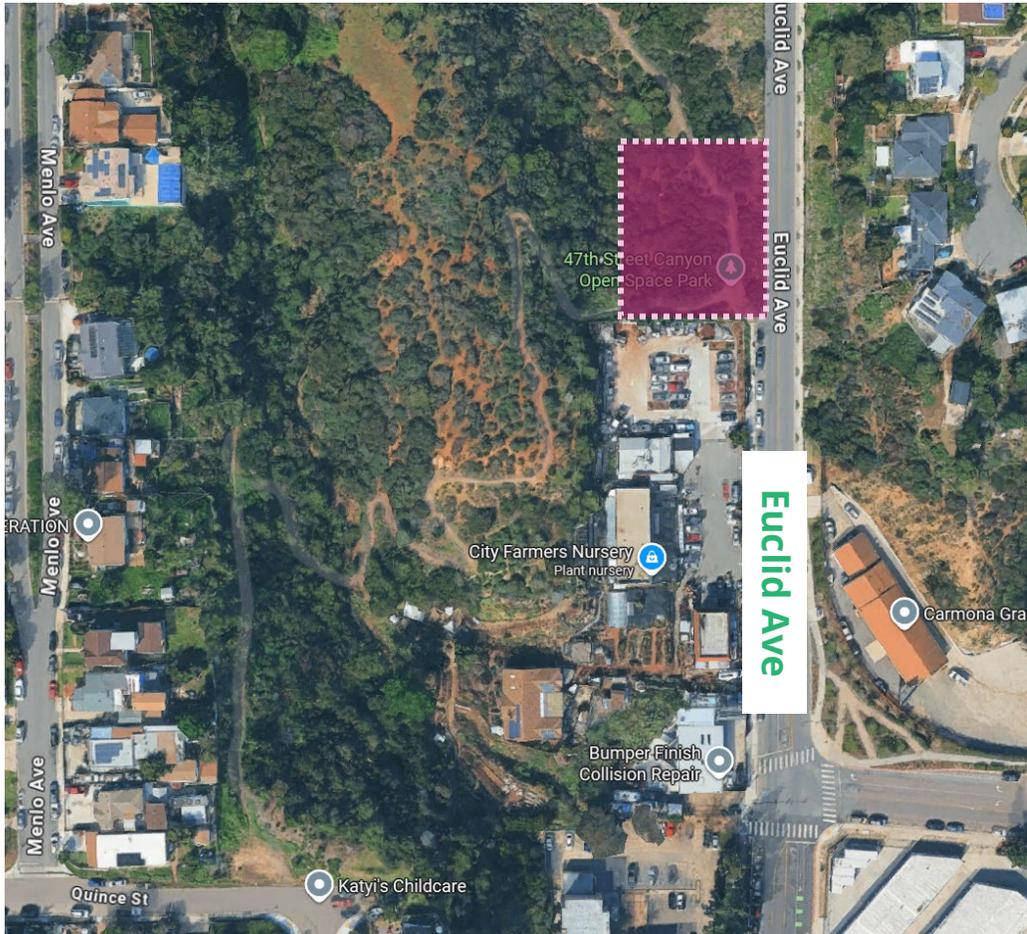


Flexible Community Spaces

New Park Opportunities

9

Olivia Canyon Trailhead Pocket Park



A potential small park space providing improved access to canyon trails near City Farmers Nursery.



Rest Area



Information Board



Flexible
Community Spaces

New Park Opportunities

10 Monroe Avenue Pocket Park



A suggested pocket park on City-owned land to provide flexible recreation opportunities at a neighborhood scale.



Rest Area



Native Garden



Flexible
Community Spaces

New Park Opportunities

11 Manzanita Canyon Pocket Park



A proposed small park within the canyon loop that could complement existing community art and garden space.



Community Garden



Rest Area



Art Display



Native Garden



Flexible Community Spaces

New Park Opportunities

12 Federal Boulevard Pocket Park



A grant-funded active park project being led by GroundWork San Diego on City-owned land south of Federal Boulevard that could provide approximately one acre of active and passive recreation space.



Play Area



Picnic Area



Trail

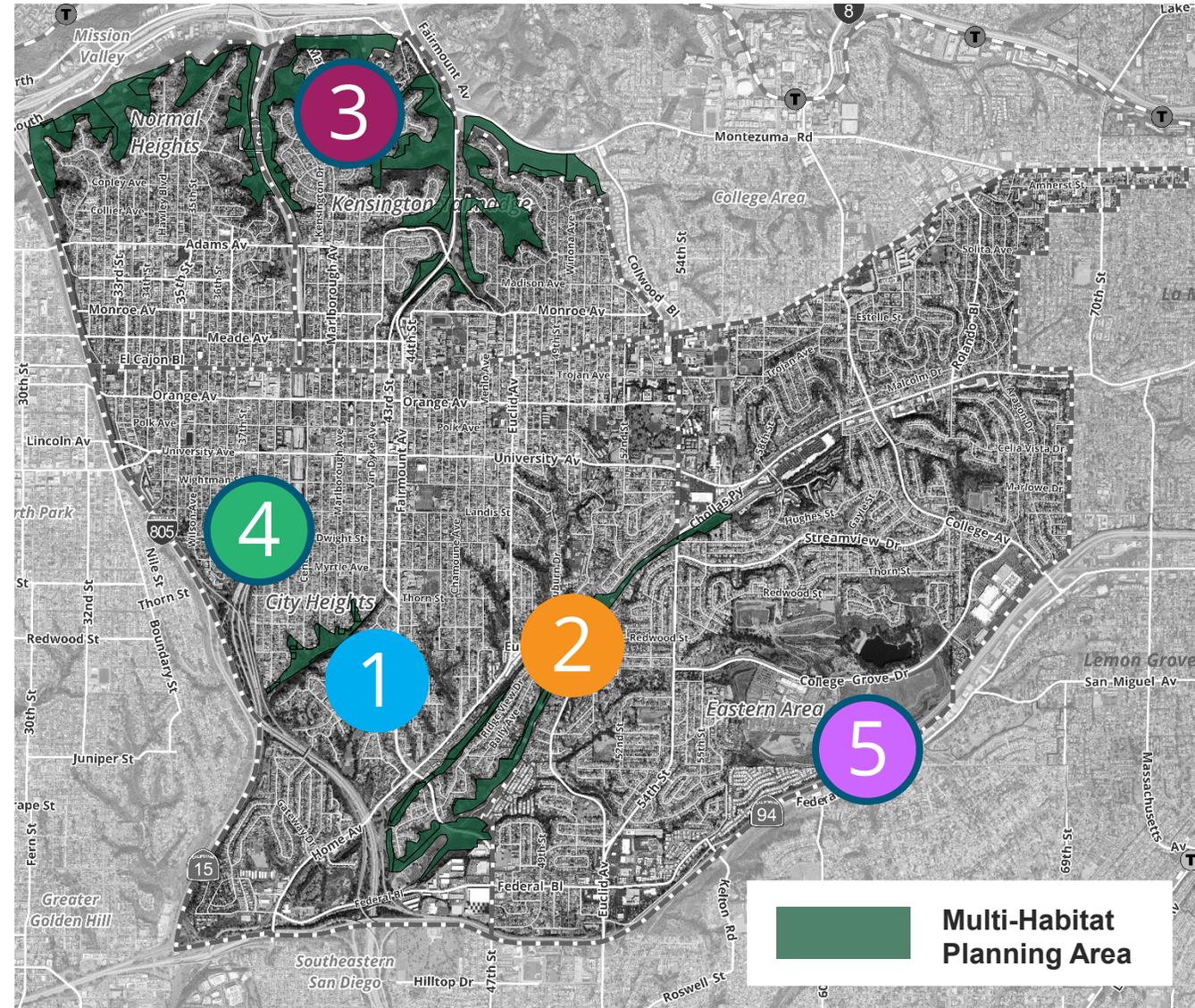


Blue Green Infrastructure

Trail Opportunities

- 1 City Heights Loop
- 2 Oak Park Trail*
- 3 Kensington Loop Trail
- 4 Cherokee Point and Castle Trail
- 5 South Chollas Lake Trails

**Active Projects*



Existing Trail Opportunity

1 City Heights Canyons Loop Trail

These trails, championed by San Diego Canyon Lands, are 3 miles long and may include seating, educational signage, overlooks, and wayfinding.



Trail



Education



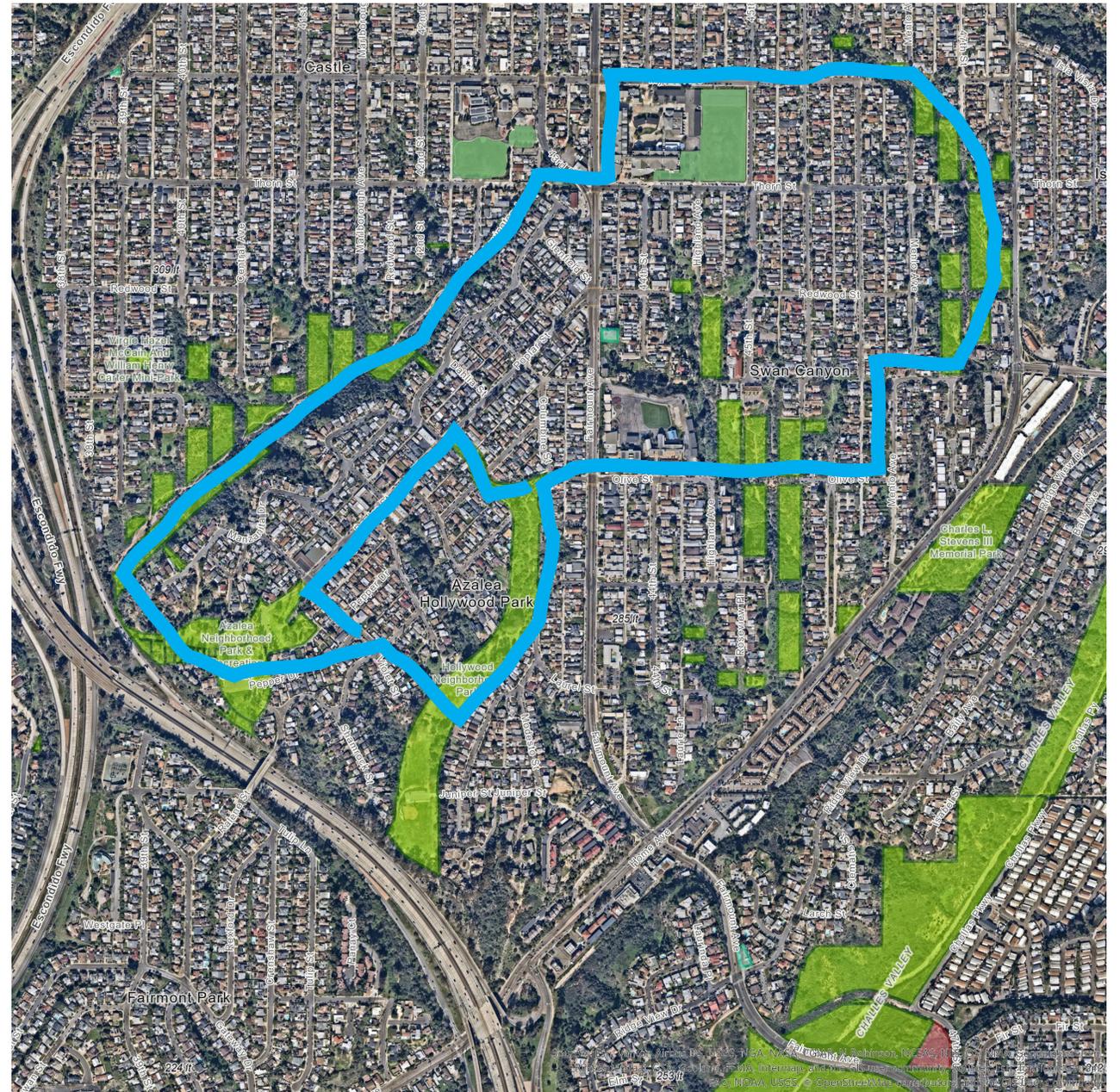
Seating



Overlook



Wayfinding



Existing Trail Opportunity

2 Oak Park Trail – *Design Phase*

A 2.3-mile trail currently in the design phase that will connect the easternmost portion of Sunshine Berardini Park and extend along Chollas Creek to 54th Street.



Trail



Bridge



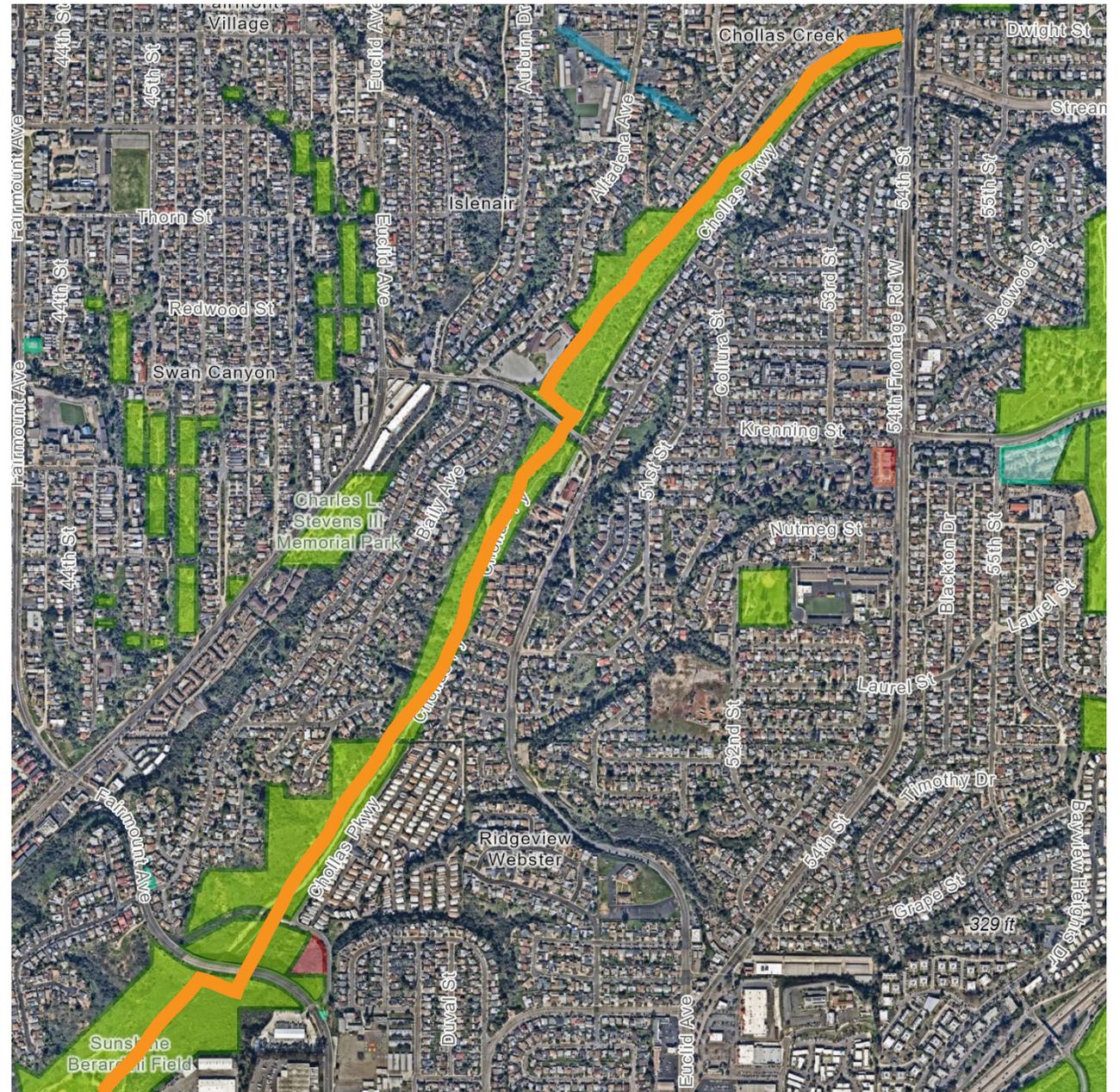
Seating



Trees



Wayfinding



New Trail Opportunity

3 Kensington Loop Trail

Kensington Loop Trail is a 3-mile trail that follows the natural contours of the hillside and may include seating, educational signage, overlooks, and wayfinding.



Trail



Education



Seating



Overlook



Wayfinding



New Trail Opportunity

4 Cherokee Point Loop Trail and Castle Trail

These trails, combined, are 1.75 miles long and may include seating, educational signage, overlooks, exercise equipment and wayfinding.



Trail



Education



Seating



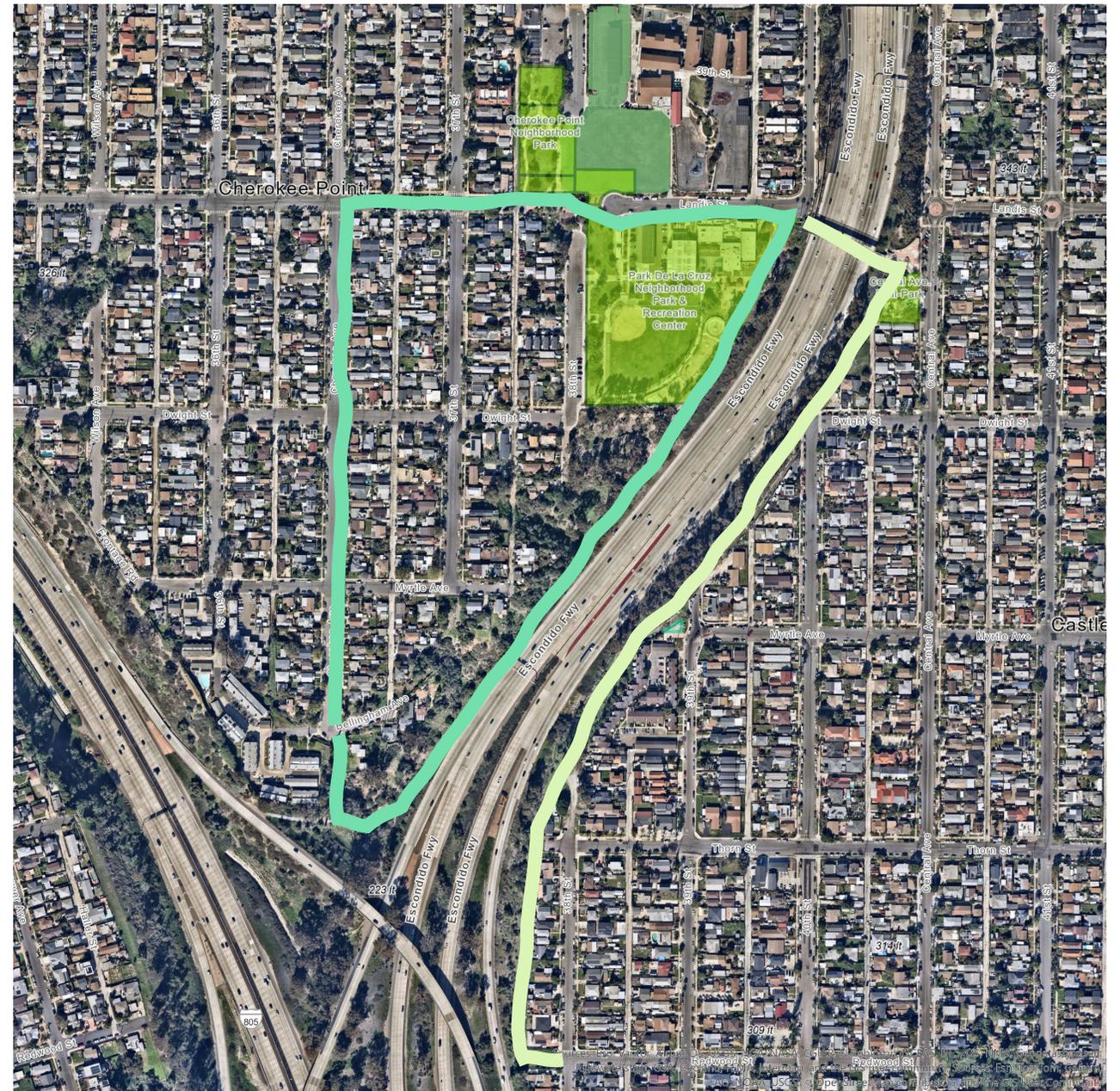
Overlook



Wayfinding



Exercise



New Trail Opportunity

5 South Chollas Lake Trails

These trails, combined, are 2.25 miles long and may include seating, educational signage, exercise equipment, shade structures, and wayfinding.



Trail



Education



Seating



Exercise



Wayfinding



Shade





Key Policies

Parks, Public Facilities & Open Space

Key policies for further exploration in the draft master plan:

- **Pursue land acquisitions and right-of-way easements**
- **Establish open space connections**
- **Encourage developers to incorporate recreational amenities**
- **Preserve, expand and enhance existing recreation centers and aquatic facilities**
- **Facilitate urban gardening**
- **Encourage the development of public parks**
- **Promote wildland fire preparedness**



What We have Heard

- **Ensure every resident has access to a park within walking distance**
- **Support for additional parks and trails**
- **Enhance public safety and maintenance of existing recreational infrastructure**
- **Continue to seek potential park opportunities while carefully evaluating each site's location, constraints and feasibility**
- **Facilitate a well-managed joint-use park program**



Next Steps & How to Stay Involved

- **Visit the Plan Update Website & Sign-Up for Updates @ www.PlanMidCity.org**
- **Draft Community Plan will be presented to the Parks and Recreation Board in the summer.**
- **Participate in the Upcoming Public Engagement Activities:**
 - Mobility Open Houses
 - City Heights Library – 5 to 7 p.m. - March 23, 2026
 - Teen Challenge – 5 to 7 p.m. - March 24, 2026
 - Normal Heights Community Center – 5 to 7 p.m. - March 25, 2026
 - Focus Groups & Pop-Ups – March to June 2026

Email Us

Send additional comments, suggestions or questions to PlanMidCity@SanDiego.gov and a Community Planner will get back to you.



Thank you!
Questions and Feedback?