7. Parks and Public Facilities

Goals

- A connected network of recreational facilities that places parks, trails and enjoyable public spaces within a 10-minute walk/roll or a 20-minute bike ride for all community members.
- Equitable access to parks and recreation for people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds.
- Recreational opportunities are enhanced by increased availability and variety of public spaces that support play, interaction and socialization.
- Public lands and facilities are optimized to increase recreational access and community benefits.
- Connect parks, trails and natural areas with pedestrian paths, bikeways, and transit access to enhance connectivity and accessibility.
- Inclusive, safe and resilient environments that support and enhance community livability.
- Cultural expressions and social connections in public spaces strengthen community identity.

Vision

The Community Plan envisions public parks and facilities as assets that maximize their benefit to the community.

Introduction

The Parks and Public Facilities chapter addresses public recreation, services and facilities. It also addresses health and safety issues. Additional discussion and policies are in the Land Use and Economic Prosperity chapter. The Community Plan helps guide future development and infrastructure investments to support recreation, learning and social interaction in Mid-City.

Parks and Recreational Facilities

Parks serve Mid-City's recreational needs through different types of public parks. The General Plan and Parks Master Plan identify the different types of public parks and recreational facilities. Parks may also include recreation centers, aquatic complexes and multi-purpose fields. Mid-City has many types of parks established and planned as shown in Figure 7-1.

Developed Regional Parks

Regional parks are important recreational amenities within the City. Developed regional parks have distinctive scenic, natural, historical or cultural features with developed amenities for recreation. These parks can host citywide events and have regionally serving facilities, such as pump

tracks, skate parks, large, organized gathering spaces, cultural infrastructure, track spaces, and other similar facilities. They can also offer facilities for walking, swimming, family gatherings, and other individual recreation for nearby communities.

Existing Developed Regional Parks:

- Chollas Lake Regional Park – The east portion around the lake is a Developed Regional Park.

Community Parks

Community parks can serve a population within one or more communities, typically accessible by bicycle, public transit, and walking/rolling and provide parking spaces. They can offer specialized facilities, including recreation centers, aquatic and sports complexes, multi-purpose sports fields, skate parks, dog parks and cultural facilities, and features in Neighborhood Parks.

Existing Community Parks:

- Colina Del Sol Community Park
- Officer Jeremy Henwood Memorial Community Park
- North Chollas Community Park – The western area, where the playground is, is a community park.
- South Chollas Community Park
- Adams Avenue Community Park

Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks can serve a population within a half-mile radius, typically accessible by bicycle, public transit, and walking/rolling, and can offer features that include seating, shade structures, picnic areas, play areas, gathering spaces, exercise equipment, multi-purpose courts and turf areas, pathways, and amenities like restrooms.

Existing Neighborhood Parks:

- Azalea Neighborhood Park
- Charles Lewis III Memorial Neighborhood Park
- Cherokee Point Neighborhood Park
- Hollywood Neighborhood Park
- Park De La Cruz Neighborhood Park
- Sunshine Berardini Field Neighborhood Park
- Teralta Neighborhood Park
- Wabash Neighborhood Park
- Wightman Street Neighborhood Park
- Dr. Bertha O Pendleton (Clay) Neighborhood Park
- Oak Neighborhood Park
- Kensington Neighborhood Park
- Ward Canyon Neighborhood Park

Mini Parks

Mini parks are small spaces, typically one to three acres, that provide readily accessible recreational opportunities for nearby residential areas and can offer features such as picnic areas, play areas, exercise equipment, turf, gathering spaces, walkways, and landscaping that support both flexible and active recreation.

Existing Mini Parks:

- Central Avenue Mini Park

- City Heights Square Mini Park
- McCain & Carter Mini Park
- Terrace Drive Mini Park
- North Mountain View Mini Park
- Kenmore Terrace Mini Park

Pocket Parks & Plazas

Typically, less than one acre, pocket parks provide recreational opportunities to sites that are otherwise too small or irregularly shaped for larger, traditional park layouts. They can fit into diverse community settings, creating convenient places for play and relaxation. Pocket parks also activate their surroundings by encouraging social interaction with gathering spaces. Plazas are like mini and pocket parks, except they are primarily hardscape.

Major Parks

Major parks are the largest population-based park type and can serve one or more communities. It can offer specialized facilities and recreation programs that can accommodate larger populations, along with community cultural, commercial and entertainment facilities.

Parks in Villages and Commercial Corridors

Development of larger sites within villages and along commercial corridors has the potential to provide publicly accessible mini-parks, pocket parks or plazas. These spaces may remain privately owned or be dedicated as public parks. Park amenities can range from open green spaces or children's play areas. Amenities offering public access and recreational opportunities that meet the criteria of the Parks Master Plan can be eligible for park credits.

Linear Parks

Linear parks along streets can provide an inviting pedestrian environment with flexible or active recreation spaces adjacent to a street way or a linear feature. They can be continuous or multiple recreational spaces linked by a pedestrian and/or multi-use path.

Overlooks and Trailhead Parks

Overlooks and trailhead parks allow people to enjoy views and learn about natural resources. Interpretive and wayfinding signs at overlooks and at trailhead pocket parks can educate people on the unique natural history and value of open spaces. Refer to the Sustainability, Equity, Resilience and Conservation chapter.

Joint-Use Parks & Facilities

Joint-use parks and recreation facilities provide active and flexible recreational opportunities for schoolchildren when school is in session and for the public when school is not. Joint-use agreements with the San Diego Unified School District, other organizations and private development allow for the shared use of recreation facilities and resources.

These joint-use agreements can provide more parkland and additional recreational opportunities where there is limited available land for new parks. Each joint-use site is unique and offers different opportunities and programs, which can

include turfed multi-purpose fields, walking tracks, paved hardcourts, exercise equipment, group seating, playground equipment, and off-street parking.

As enrollment patterns shift across the City, there is an opportunity to thoughtfully explore how schools with available capacity can expand recreational access for the public, while preserving their long-term potential to serve future community needs. Collaborative arrangements, such as partnerships with non-public entities, can be explored to maximize benefits and provide quality recreational spaces for community members.

Existing Joint-use Parks and Facilities:

- Edison Elementary School Joint Use
- Fay Elementary School Joint Use
- Cherokee Point Elementary School Joint Use
- Clark Middle School Joint Use
- Ibarra Elementary School Joint Use
- Joyner Elementary School Joint Use
- Rosa Parks Elementary School Joint Use
- Rowan Elementary School Joint Use
- Wilson Middle School Joint Use
- Mann Middle School Joint Use
- Pendleton (Clay) Elementary School Joint Use
- Rolando Park Elementary School Joint Use
- Franklin Elementary School Joint Use
- Adams Elementary School Joint Use
- Normal Heights Elementary School Joint Use

Open Space Parks

Open space parks help to protect plants, animals and watersheds that contribute to biological diversity within the city. They can also include trails. The preservation of plants and trees within these parks helps moderate climate change effects. Refer to the Sustainability, Equity, Resilience and Conservation chapter for more information. Uses within Open Space Parks are limited to those compatible with their primary purposes. For Open Space Parks within the Multi-Habitat Planning Area preserves, uses must be consistent with the Multi-Habitat Planning Area. Interpretive signs featured at open space parks and along trails can educate the public on the unique natural history and scenic value, as well as inform the community about native plants and animals.

Regional Resource-based Parks

Regional resource-based parks are located at, or centered on, notable natural or culturally significant features (preserves, canyons, habitats, and historic sites) and are intended to serve the citywide population, as well as visitors. In addition to serving the citywide population, portions of regional parks are designed to serve the needs of the local population. Resource-based regional parks have areas of habitat and resource protection, with compatible recreation. Regional Resource-based Parks may also contain smaller park types, such as pocket parks or mini-parks, within their boundaries.

Recreation Centers

Recreation centers may include gyms, indoor courts, multi-purpose rooms, and community-serving facilities for events and activities.

Aquatics Complexes

Aquatics complexes have swimming pools and support facilities.

Parks Master Plan Standards

Population-based parks serve the needs of Mid-City, which could attain a projected population of 227,000 people. Existing and planned parks, recreational centers, and aquatic complexes to help meet the recreational needs of the population are shown in Table 7-1 and Figure 7-1. The recreational value points summary of existing and planned parks is shown in Appendix X: Park and Recreation Inventory.

Parks

The Parks Master Plan standard of 100 Recreation Value Based points per 1,000 community members results in the need for approximately 22,700 Recreation Value Points based on the projected population of 227,000 people at full community buildout. The Community Plan identifies opportunities for parks over the planning horizon. The Community Plan identifies approximately 11,870.75 existing and planned Recreation Value Points, as shown in Table 7-1. New development and other future park opportunities could provide an additional 10,830 Recreational Value Points to ensure public benefit is provided as Mid-City grows.

Recreation Center

To meet the Parks Master Plan recreation center standard of 17,000 square feet per 25,000 residents, Mid-City's projected population results in a need for approximately 154,360 square feet of recreation center building space at full community buildout. The need is the equivalent of 9 recreation centers, sized at approximately 17,000 square feet each.

Aquatic Complex

An aquatic complex serves a population of 50,000. To meet the Parks Master Plan standard, an aquatic complex per 50,000 residents results in a need for approximately 4 aquatic complexes at full community buildout.

Figure 7-1
Parks and Trails

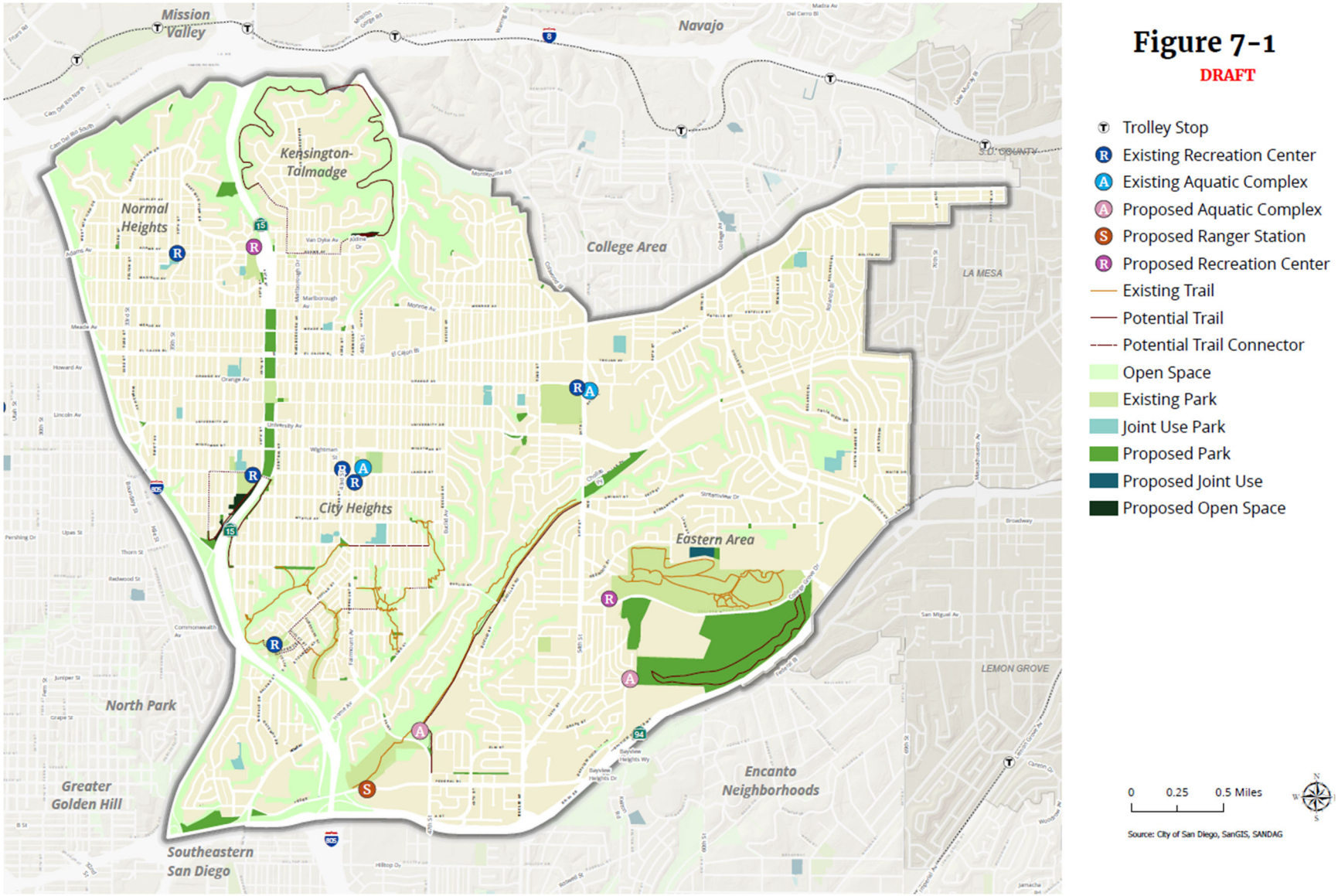


Table 7-1
Mid-City Communities' Recreation Summary

Statistics – 2025 population	
Total Population, 2025:	138,000
Recreation Value Points Goal, 100 points per thousand	13,800
Existing Recreation Value Points	6,198.5
Recreation Center Goal (Square Feet)	93,840
Existing Recreation Center (Square Feet)	82,672
Aquatic Complexes Goal	2.8
Existing Aquatic Complexes	2
2055 Population, Projected Build-Out	
Projected 2055 population:	227,000
Recreation Value Points Goal, 100 points per thousand	22,700
Existing Recreation Value Points	6,198.5
Planned Additional Recreation Value Points	5,672.25
Existing + Planned Recreation Value Points Subtotal	11,870.75
Potential New Development + Future Park Opportunities	10,829.25
Existing + Planned + Potential Recreation Value Points Total	22,700
Recreation Center Goal (Square Feet)	154,360
Planned Recreation Center (Square Feet)	154,360
Aquatic Complexes Goal	4
Existing + Planned Aquatic Complexes	4

Parks Opportunity Strategy

Due to the limited vacant land available for new parks in Mid-City, the Community Plan includes the following additional strategies to expand recreational opportunities:

Small and Non-Traditional Spaces

To meet the need for more recreational spaces, the Community Plan identifies small and non-traditional areas as potential opportunities for additional public parks, including excess or eligible rights-of-way, ends of streets and smaller undeveloped lots.

Partnerships and Funding Opportunities

The Community Plan identifies small and non-traditional spaces as additional opportunities to seek partnerships and funding opportunities to creatively activate these spaces and address the community's recreational needs.

Parks in Villages

Development of villages and along commercial corridors has the potential to create publicly accessible mini-parks, pocket parks or plazas. The Community Enhancement Overlay Zone requires new developments in these areas to include publicly accessible space and recreational amenities, as addressed in the Implementation chapter.

Access to Parks and Recreational Facilities

Ensuring equitable access to parks and recreation facilities is a central goal of the Parks Master Plan, which calls for prioritizing park investments in areas with limited recreational opportunities.

10-20-30-40-Minute Access

The Parks Master Plan sets a 10-20-30-40-minute access and activation goal, which aims to ensure that all community members can reach a safe, enjoyable park or recreation facility within a 10-minute walk or roll, a 20-minute bike ride, or a 30-minute transit ride, where they can engage in at least 40 minutes of activity.

All Ages and Abilities

Public parks and recreation facilities should be designed to be accessible to people of all ages and abilities within close walking/rolling distance, balancing programmed and non-programmed activities. Facilities constructed, retrofitted, or upgraded should meet the needs of all people, in accordance with the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act guidelines.

Resource-Sensitive Park Design

Parks adjacent to natural open spaces provide opportunities for scenic overlooks and trailheads to trails within the open space areas. Well-defined entryways and low-impact design features can help to protect and preserve parks adjacent to the open space areas, including the Multi-Habitat Planning Area, as addressed in the Sustainability, Equity, Resilience and Conservation chapter.

Planned Parks and Recreational Facilities

The Community Plan identifies enhancements to existing parks to increase their recreational value and the potential for new park opportunities through the acquisition of land, the reuse of City-owned land, or new developments, as shown in Figure 7-1 and Appendix X.

Civic infrastructure, including parks and public libraries, serve communities most effectively as a connected system. Future parks should be sited and recreational spaces programmed in close proximity to libraries and other community amenities, prioritizing locations that are walkable, bikeable, or easily accessible by transit.

South Chollas Lake Park

This park would be built on the former South Chollas Landfill, a portion of which now serves as a City operations yard. The operations yard is shown as an institutional polygon on Figure 7-1, and South Chollas Lake Park surrounds the yard. South Chollas Lake Park would include the opportunity for play areas, walking paths, open turf, a community gathering space and picnic areas, and an aquatic complex, which would be located outside of the landfill footprint. This approach maximizes green space, providing a balance of active and passive recreation.

Chollas Triangle Neighborhood Park

Chollas Triangle Neighborhood Park would replace Chollas Parkway between 54th Street and University Avenue. It would have play areas, walking paths, open turf, a community gathering space and picnic areas.

Teralta Neighborhood Park Expansion

Teralta Park could be expanded with additional freeway lids over State Route 15 between Monroe Avenue and Landis Street, reconnecting the Teralta neighborhood.

Sunshine Berardini Neighborhood Park

Sunshine Berardini Neighborhood Park could include an aquatic complex at the far north corner of the park in addition to the existing ballfields. Additional improvements could include a trail along Chollas Creek, new ballfields, walking paths, playgrounds, and scenic overlooks.

Eugene Place Pocket Park

A pocket park at the end of Eugene Place could include an overlook to the adjacent open space area with the potential for trailheads, seating, a shade structure, and signage improvements.

Postage Stamp Point Place Pocket Park

The existing informal Postage Stamp Point Place community space within the public right-of-way could be transformed into a pocket park with shade structures, educational signage, nature play and a fitness circuit.

Carver Elementary Joint Use & 60th Street Mini Park

A mini park at Carver Elementary would require collaboration and an agreement with the San Diego Unified School District to provide a shared publicly accessible field and walking path outside of school hours. A mini park at the south end of 60th Street could include seating, a shade structure and picnic and play areas.

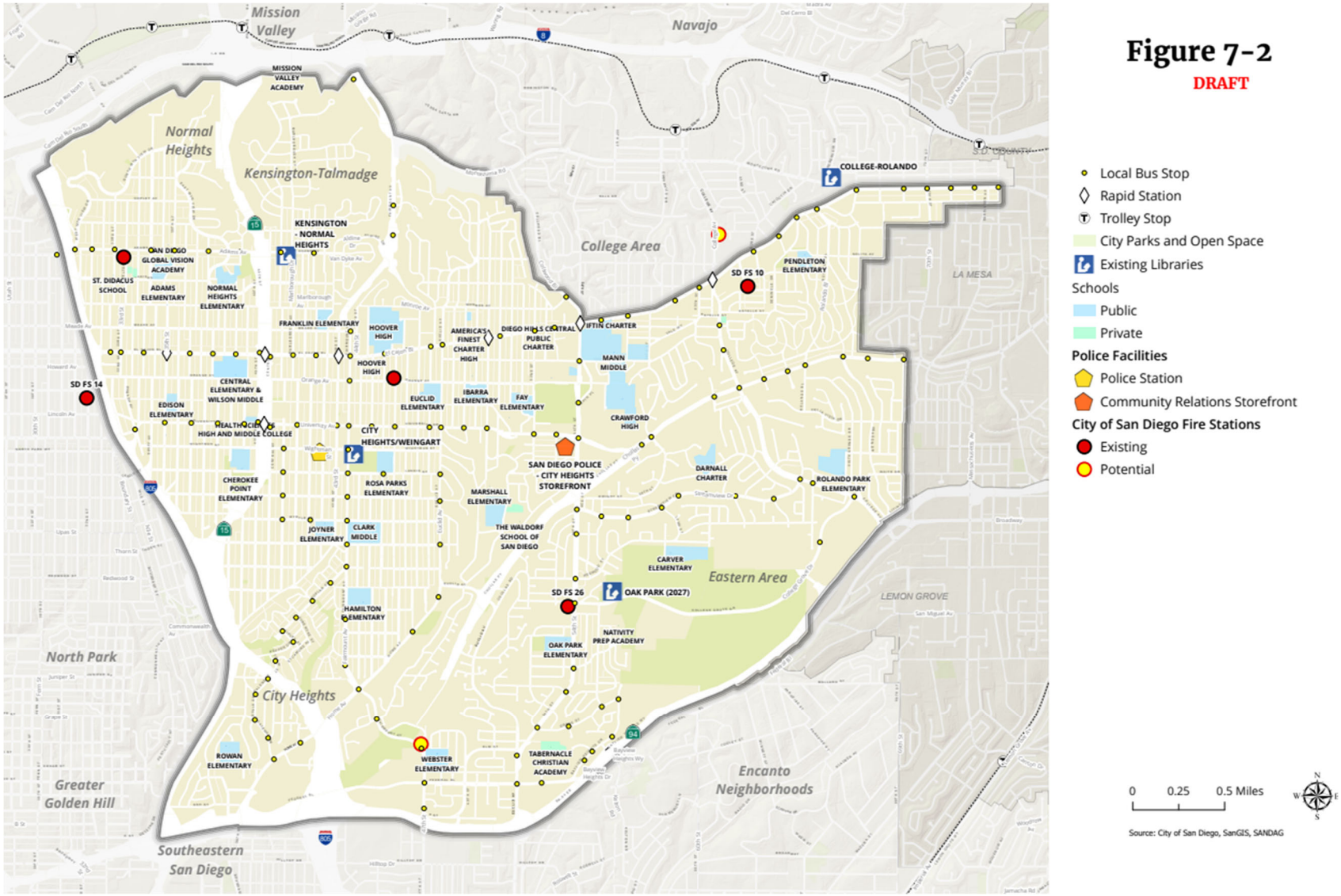
Community Enhancement Overlay Zone and Additional Recreation Access

The Community Enhancement Overlay Zone aims to expand parks and public spaces by requiring new developments to include publicly accessible open areas and recreational amenities in exchange for increased development allowances. Public spaces such as podiums, plazas, and greenways or paseos improve connectivity and provide daily opportunities for recreation and gatherings within walking distance of homes and workplaces in urban areas. The Community Enhancement Overlay Zone promotes development that establishes accessible, high-quality public spaces and recreation facilities for current and future community members, helping to create a walkable urban environment.

Public Facilities & Services

A framework of public facilities and services is an essential component of a vibrant community. Libraries and schools are vital for a community, while police and fire and rescue services and facilities are essential for public safety. Other government agencies also provide public facilities and services in the community. The Community Plan provides guidance for these new and enhanced facilities. Existing public facilities serving Mid-City are shown in Figure 7-2.

Figure 7-2
Public Facilities and Services



Fire and Police

Fire

Emergency medical responses are supplemented by an ambulance service that is contracted separately by the City.

Mid-City is served by six fire stations:

- Station 10 is in Rolando and has one engine, one truck and one brush rig.
- Station 14 is in North Park and has one engine, one truck and one brush rig.
- Station 17 is in the Teralta East Neighborhood in City Heights and has one engine.
- Station 18 is in Normal Heights and has one engine and one medic unit.
- Station 26 is in Oak Park and has one engine and one medic unit.

A potential future fire station is being explored along Fairmount Avenue near 47th Street in City Heights, that could contain a fire engine. Mid-City is also serviced by existing and potential fire stations located outside of the planning area, however, additional resources may be needed to maintain adequate fire services in Mid-City. Resources could include constructing new facilities, expanding existing stations, and associated staffing needs or other operational strategies to help to provide long-term guidance over the next 30 years to meet fire safety needs. Technical analyses are conducted periodically to look for additional opportunities for new fire stations depending on future needs.

Police

Most Mid-City neighborhoods are served by the Mid-City Division of the San Diego Police Department, except for Oak Park, Ridgeview, and Webster, which are served by the Southeastern Division.

Schools and Childcare

Schools

The San Diego Unified School District serves students from pre-kindergarten to twelfth grade. Charter schools are publicly funded and authorized and monitored by the San Diego Unified School District, but operate independently of the School District. Private schools are also located in the community.

Mid-City is served by the following public schools, as shown in Figure 7-2:

Elementary Schools

- Adams Elementary
- Carver Elementary
- Central Elementary
- Cherokee Point Elementary
- Edison Elementary
- Euclid Elementary
- Fay Elementary

- Franklin Elementary
- Ibarra Elementary
- Joyner Elementary
- Marshall Elementary
- Normal Heights Elementary
- Oak Park Elementary
- Pendleton Elementary
- Rolando Park Elementary
- Rosa Parks Elementary
- Rowan Elementary
- Webster Elementary

Middle Schools

- Clark Middle
- Mann Middle
- Wilson Middle

High Schools

- Crawford High
- Hoover High

Charter Schools

- City Heights Preparatory Charter
- Darnall Charter
- Diego Hills Central Public Charter
- Iftin Charter
- Health Sciences High and Middle College
- San Diego Global Vision Academy

The existing public schools are sized appropriately for the portion of the student population that chooses to enroll locally. The location, timing and type of new public education facilities are determined by the San Diego Unified School District based on existing and future student enrollment.

Childcare

A variety of childcare and preschool options exist throughout Mid-City, including daycare centers, home-based daycares and faith-based centers. Other community resources and private facilities exist for daycares including at the Copley-Price Family YMCA.

Libraries

The Community Plan aims to expand accessibility to the library to maximize its value to the community. The branch libraries provide books, periodicals, and community services as a civic use serving Mid-City as well as nearby communities. They also provide access to public internet, meeting rooms, education, employment opportunities, and community information. The libraries provide locations for after-school and summer programs for children.

- Mid-City is served by the following public branch libraries:
  - Kensington-Normal Heights Branch Library on Adams Avenue,

- City Heights/Weingart Branch Library on Fairmount Avenue,
- Oak Park Branch Library on 54th Street
- College-Rolando Library on Montezuma Road

The Library Master Plan provides a long-range vision and strategy for the modernization and investment of the City library system, addressing the need for community meeting rooms, modern information technology, and activity spaces, as well as needed building repairs and upgrades.

Healthcare Services

Expanding health care facilities in Mid-City that provide a variety of services will lessen the need for community members to seek essential care outside the community. Clinics and urgent care centers within Mid-City would improve access to regular health services for community members, employees, and people from neighboring communities.

Other Public Facilities

Public Utility Services

The City provides water and wastewater services. The City also maintains and operates street lighting to enhance nighttime visibility, pedestrian and vehicle safety, and neighborhood security. San Diego Gas and Electric provides electric and gas service.

Stormwater

The City maintains a network of drainage facilities, including underground storm drain pipes, culverts, outlet/inlet structures, detention basins, ditches, and channels that convey stormwater flows to protect life and property from potential flooding. Additionally, the City's stormwater system helps protect water quality, and open facilities, such as channels, can support natural resources, including wetland habitat.

Policies

The Community Plan policies identified below supplement and should be read in conjunction with applicable General Plan and Parks Master Plan policies. Applicable General Plan Parks Master Plan policies include, but are not limited to those identified in Table 7-2.

Table 7-2

Relevant General Plan and Parks Master Plan Policies

Theme	Policy
General Plan	
Park Planning	RE-A.2 Refine citywide park and recreation land use policies through community plan updates or other comprehensive planning efforts consistent with the Parks Master Plan to identify potential funding for park and recreation facilities, and to identify potential locations for parks and recreational opportunities that can be easily accessed by walking/rolling, biking, or transit and are centrally located, or provide unique recreational opportunities to community members and visitors.
Park Planning	RE-A.6 In addition to upgrading existing parks, continue to pursue opportunities to develop new parks and acquire new parkland. a. Identify underutilized City lands and public right-of-way's with potential for use as mini-parks, pocket parks, urban plazas, and community gardens. Encourage community participation in development and maintenance of City-owned mini-parks, pocket parks, urban plazas, and community gardens. Pursue acquisition of urban lands, as it becomes available, that could be developed as mini-parks, pocket parks or urban plazas.
Park Standards	RE-A.10 Encourage private development to include recreation facilities, such as children's play areas, rooftop parks and courts, useable public plazas, and mini-parks. (see also Urban Design Policies, UD-B.8 and UD-C.5) a. Consider private recreation facilities when evaluating development park needs when it is clearly identified that the facilities and programs provide a public benefit and are

	bound by easements and agreements that remain in effect in perpetuity according to adopted policies (see also RE-C.6.).
Implementation	RE-A.18 Pursue joint use agreements for recreational facilities on other public agency-owned land to help implement the standards identified in the Parks Master Plan.
Joint Use and Cooperative Partnerships	RE-E.2 Work with local school districts', colleges, and universities to expand development of on-campus joint use recreation facilities including multipurpose courts, parking lots, and multi-purpose athletic fields.
Fire Service & Infrastructure	PF-D.2 Determine fire station needs, location, crew size and timing of implementation as the community grows. a. Use the fire unit development performance measures (based on population density per square mile) shown in Table PF-D.1 to plan for needed facilities. Where more than one square mile is not populated at similar densities, and/or a contiguous area with different density types aggregates into a population cluster area, use the measures provided in Table PF-D.2. b. Reflect needed fire-rescue facilities in community plans and associated facilities financing plans as a part of community plan updates and amendments.
Police	PF-E.7 Maintain service levels to meet demands of continued growth and development, tourism, and other events requiring police services.
Parks Master Plan	
Partnerships	P1: Strengthen partnerships with other agencies, non-profit groups, community partners, and the private sector to expand opportunities for joint use of space and facilities, recreational programming, equitable access, and overall parks system well-being.
Parks and Programming	PP1: Increase recreational opportunities throughout the City by: a. Investing in existing parks to expand and extend services and amenities available to residents and visitors. b. Acquiring new land for parks and other recreational facilities and ensuring that at least 20% of a community's park standard is satisfied through land acquisition.

	c. Repurposing rights-of-way to serve as active transportation connections, with recreational amenities, shade trees, and features that encourage walking and bicycling in the right-of-way. d. Encouraging and incentivizing the dedication of new park space in areas where new parks are most needed and will be most used. e. Increasing access to regional recreational resources, including the beaches and shorelines, Mission Bay Park, National Historic Landmarks, Balboa Park, Mission Trails Regional Park, and the City's network of trails in open space and canyon areas.
Parks and Programming	PP4: Provide flexible, innovative park spaces, including neighborhood and community parks, mini parks, pocket parks, public plazas, green streets, linear parks, trailhead parks and temporary activated spaces, to meet the City's existing and future recreation needs.
Parks and Programming	PP10: To ensure the City adheres to its conservation commitments, all proposals for new or revised access, trails, and active uses in resource/open space parklands must comply with all applicable limitations, such as the MSCP consistency findings, Environmentally Sensitive Land regulations, Natural Resource Management Plans, etc. before being formally proposed for City evaluation and funding (see policies CSR25 and RP5).
Parks and Programming	PP11: Promote access to nature and stewardship of open spaces through native plant gardens, habitat restoration and recreation in canyons and other city parklands.
Parks and Programming	PP14: Increase recreational programming in existing public spaces and parks by: a. Partnering with local non-profit organizations; b. Allowing non-profit organizations to use public spaces and parks to generate revenue, where the revenue is used to invest in the park space and programming with those spaces. c. Providing reduced cost or no cost permits to non-profit organizations for programming and events within parks and recreation centers which benefit disadvantaged communities.
Activation	AV1: Enhance safety and enjoyability in parks by incorporating the strategies of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design during the design process. See Appendix F of the Consultant's Guide to Park Design and Development.

Parks and Recreational Facilities

7.1. Design parks to maximize comfort and provide a variety of recreation amenities and programming.

- **a.** Consider including special activities with parks (e.g., trailheads, urban watershed parks, skateboard parks, off-leash dog parks, community gardens) on a case-by-case basis.
- **b.** Design public parks for outdoor play, education, physical activity and social interaction centered on children, teens and their caregivers.

7.2. Support the development of multi-level recreation centers that maximize limited land availability, expand indoor recreation opportunities, and integrate complementary uses such as community gathering spaces, fitness facilities, and classrooms to serve a range of users and age groups.

Recreation with Development

7.3. Pursue opportunities to develop mini or pocket parks, plazas, and recreation facilities as part of future developments with visual and physical access from one or more street frontages wherever feasible.

Partnerships and Shared Use

7.4. Pursue lease agreements with private property owners and public agencies to incorporate active or passive recreation into existing buildings or surrounding grounds, where space is available and appropriate for public use.

Public Facilities

7.5. Replace, expand and upgrade public facilities and infrastructure as needed to maintain service levels that address community needs and enhance safety and environmental performance.

7.6. Locate public facilities along transit corridors, villages and nodes to increase accessibility and efficiently deliver services.

7.7. Incorporate sustainable practices in facility upgrades, including material reuse, recycled content, and resource-efficient design, especially in sensitive environments.

7.8. Design public facilities with an expanded urban tree canopy to reduce the heat island effect, reduce stormwater runoff, and improve air quality.

7.9. Incorporate public meeting spaces or cultural facilities for people to gather and participate in programs that increase social cohesion within new public facilities and mixed-use developments, where feasible.

7.10. Consider alternative land uses for institutional uses that close or relocate.

7.11. Provide inclusive, accessible, and well-maintained facilities and programs that meet evolving needs of

diverse users, including youth, teens, and young adults of all abilities.

7.12. Align capital improvement projects with schools and community facilities to strengthen connections and shared benefits.

7.13. Encourage community participation in the planning, design, and improvement of parks and community facilities.

Public Schools

7.14. Pursue joint use agreements to allow the use of school facilities during non-school hours for educational, civic, recreational, arts and cultural purposes.

7.15. Preserve sufficient space for educational needs and coordinate long-term funding, maintenance, and operations to ensure the facilities remain safe and clean for students when planning future joint-use facilities. Coordinate with San Diego Unified School District to explore opportunities to reuse or expand community recreational access.

Police

7.16. Support a close relationship between community groups, Neighborhood Watch Programs, and the Police Department to increase awareness of community policing concerns.

7.17. Incorporate safety features and design strategies, including Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles.

Lighting, Landscaping, and Maintenance

7.18. Support Maintenance Assessment Districts and Business Improvement Districts to install and maintain landscaping, lighting, wayfinding, and gateway signs, and provide additional maintenance services.

7.19. Provide shade trees on the grounds of public facilities.

Trails and Open Space Interface

7.20. Integrate trail connections adjacent to development where permitted, and expand access through recreational easements and strategic land acquisition.

7.21. Establish open space connections for people and wildlife where appropriate, including trailheads for bike and pedestrian access with appropriate, visible and clearly marked entrances.

Libraries

7.22. Consider service improvements at the branch libraries, such as extended hours, expanded book collection, and additional staff to provide special programs.

7.23. Support improvements to the branch libraries to address future needs.

7.24. Explore options for additional parking at the College-Rolando Library, including shared parking agreements and strategies to increase parking along Reservoir Drive and Mohawk Street.

7.25. Maintain and enhance an adequate, accessible, and well-maintained library to support community needs and promote quality of life.

7.26. Support investments in the library branches to make efficient use of this public resource.

Healthcare

7.27. Encourage healthcare facilities to provide a range of services near major transit stops.

Other Public Utilities

7.28. Coordinate with San Diego Gas & Electric to identify and utilize utility easements or underutilized rights-of-way for shared-use paths.

7.29. Prioritize the undergrounding of overhead electrical and communication wires to remove utility pole obstructions from sidewalks in high foot traffic areas, especially in pedestrian districts and corridor route types and along commercial corridors.