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## POPULATION-BASED PARKS AND RECREATION

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### EXISTING CONDITIONS

Clairemont Mesa is currently served by four community parks, seven neighborhood parks, two turf-ed school-parks and two lighted ball fields on school sites. The total acreage of these facilities is 112 acres. Seven of Clairemont Mesa's park facilities are located adjacent to elementary and junior high schools or former school sites which have been leased to private institutional uses. A number of school playgrounds are open to the public after school hours, which provides additional opportunities for recreation activity. The community parks and neighborhood parks are shown on **Tables 7 and 8**, and **Figure 35**.

In 1986, the ratio of residents to parkland (in acres) was 729:1 (a population base of 81,664) in Clairemont Mesa which adequately met the park and recreational standards of the City's General Plan.\* Parks are evenly distributed throughout the community. They are well maintained and provide restrooms, meeting rooms, picnic benches, parking facilities, playing fields and courts, a community swimming pool and other amenities. However, the Clairemont Park and Recreation Center, Western Hills Neighborhood Park and Mount Etna Neighborhood Park need to improve or expand their facilities, such as providing additional on-street parking and lighted ball fields to meet the needs of the community.

Two community parks, located adjacent to Clairemont Mesa, also serve the planning area. These parks include the Tecolote Park and Recreation Center (10.0 acres) and the Kearny Mesa Community Park (70.7 acres) in Linda Vista and Hickman Field in Kearny Mesa. The Kearny Mesa Park and Recreation Center Swimming Pool also serves the community, as well as the Standley Community Park Swimming Pool in the University community.

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\*The City's Progress Guide and General Plan states that community parks should serve 18,000 to 25,000 residents within approximately a one- and one-half mile radius, and consist of twenty acres of usable parkland or thirteen acres when located adjacent to a junior high school. Neighborhood parks should serve 3,500 to 5,000 residents within approximately a one-half mile radius with ten acres of usable parkland or five acres when located adjacent to an elementary school.

**TABLE 7  
COMMUNITY PARKS IN CLAIREMONT MESA**

<b>Location*</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Size (acres)</b>	<b>Adjacent School Site</b>	<b>Status</b>
1	Cadman Park and Recreation Center	8.4	Cadman Elementary	Developed
2	North Clairemont Park and Recreation Center	14.8	Field Elementary	Developed
3	Olive Grove Park and Recreation Center	9.2	La Fayette Elementary	Partially Developed
4	Clairemont Park and Recreation Center	9.7	Marston Junior High	Developed
<b>Community Parks Subtotal:</b>		<b>42.1</b>		

\*For location of parks, see **Figure 35**.

**TABLE 8  
NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS IN CLAIREMONT MESA**

<b>Location*</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Size (acres)</b>	<b>Adjacent School Site</b>	<b>Status</b>
5	Gershwin	5.5	None	Developed
6	McDowell	3.2	Leased to Association for Retarded Children	Developed
7	Mt. Edna	7.2	Leased to Children's Performing Arts Academy	Developed
8	Mt. Acadia	7.5	Leased to Horizons Christian Fellowship	Developed
9	Lindbergh	7.9	None	Developed
10	East Clairemont Athletic Field	8.7	None	Developed (Youth Fields Only)
11	West Hills	12.8	None	Developed
<b>Neighborhood Parks Subtotal:</b>		<b>52.8</b>		
<b>School-Parks Subtotal:</b>		<b>17.1</b>		
<b>Total Park Area:</b>		<b>112.0</b>		

\*For location of parks, see **Figure 35**.

## **OBJECTIVES FOR POPULATION-BASED PARKS AND RECREATION**

1. Ensure the use of school playgrounds and other recreational facilities for public use after school hours.
2. Continue to upgrade and modernize park and recreational facilities within the community.
3. Increase recreational opportunities in new residential and commercial development.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POPULATION-BASED PARKS**

### 1. Rezoning

Population-based parks should be rezoned to OS-P, a zone designated for population-based parklands (**Figure 38**).

### 2. Maintenance

Population-based parks in Clairemont Mesa should be well maintained to provide adequate public recreational opportunities to the public.

### 3. Park Improvements

A long-term refurbishment program for park facilities should be developed by the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department to ensure adequate park services for future residents in Clairemont Mesa. The program should include: long-term maintenance improvements, equipment costs and project completion dates.

- a. Clairemont Park and Recreation Center should expand their facility to include a gymnasium/auditorium, office space, restrooms, an equipment storage facility and additional off-street parking spaces in order to provide for the recreational needs of the community.
- b. Cadman Park and Recreation Center should have lighted ball fields so the community will be able to utilize the park for night softball, soccer and other activities. The lampposts should not be placed in an area where light will intrude into the residential neighborhood.
- c. Western Hills Neighborhood Park should have restrooms and a storage facility in order to provide for the increase in use of the park.
- d. Mount Etna Neighborhood Park should have a multipurpose field with improved fencing and irrigation in order to provide better year round usage of the park.
- e. East Clairemont athletic field should be redeveloped to meet City standards for the construction of park improvements. Improvements should consist of multipurpose fields, restrooms, a parking lot, landscaping and a community building in order to provide for the recreational needs of the community.

- f. Olive Grove Park and Recreation Center should have a community building in order to provide for the recreational needs of the community.

#### 4. Joint School Uses

The City of San Diego should continue the agreement with the San Diego Unified School District to allow public access onto playgrounds, auditoriums and meeting rooms after school hours.

#### 5. Multipurpose Ball Fields

The City of San Diego should pursue the development of turfed multipurpose ball fields on school sites to increase recreational opportunities within the community. These developments would be similar to the turfed fields at Alcott Elementary School and Cadman Elementary School.

#### 6. Private Recreational Facilities

Residential development projects should be required to provide on-site private recreational facilities in order to prevent overcrowded conditions of park facilities in the future.

- a. Residential development projects subject to discretionary permit review such as a Planned Residential Development permit, should include recreational facilities, such as lawns, recreation rooms, tennis courts and swimming pools.
  - b. Private or public recreational facilities, such as tennis clubs and health spas and shower facilities should be included in commercial development projects, whenever possible.
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