
NAVAJO COMMUNITY PLAN

Prepared by the
NAVAJO COMMUNITY PLANNERS
and
THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

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NAVAJO COMMUNITY PLAN AMENDMENTS

The following amendments have been incorporated into this February 2008 posting of this plan:

Amendment	Date Adopted by City Council	Resolution Number
Navajo Community Plan adopted	December 7, 1982	R-257606
Grantville Amendment- updates existing conditions, provides design guidelines, and establishes supplemental development regulations	April 4, 1989	R-273164
The Circulation and Public Transportation Element was added	August 5, 2002	R-296956
Centerpoint at Grantville	May 15, 2007	R-302636
Archstone at Mission Gorge	November 18, 2008	R-304443
Pasatiempo	February 6, 2012	R-307260
Shawnee – Riverbend	October 2, 2012	R-307718
Village at Zion	February 26, 2013	R-308010
San Diego River Park Subdistrict	May 20, 2013	R-308199
<u>Mission Trails Regional Park Master Plan</u>		

PARKS AND RECREATION

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Considerable progress, both in terms of acquisition and development, has occurred since the 1973 Community Plan to fulfill this community's overall park needs. To date, the City has acquired seven neighborhood park sites and three community park sites, and has constructed a community swimming pool.



In addition, this community lies adjacent to the City's largest resource-based park (Mission Trails Regional Park-- approximately ~~6,200~~9,700 acres). The master plan for this Regional Park envisions both passive and active uses which will increase this community's recreational potential.

The Navajo community also contains a section of the San Diego River Park. The San Diego River Park Master Plan envisions restoring the health of the river and habitat as well as providing active and passive uses to increase the Navajo community's recreation needs. See the San Diego River Subdistrict section of this plan.

Upon the completion of development of these park sites, this community should be adequately provided with park and recreation facilities sufficient to satisfy the General Plan Guidelines and Standards for the City of San Diego.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Ideally, neighborhood parks serve a population of 3,500 to 5,000 persons living within a one-half mile distance. Such parks typically include a play area, multipurpose courts, tiny tots play areas, and picnic facilities. Based on General Plan Guidelines and Standards, neighborhood parks should contain at least five usable acres when located adjacent to an elementary school and ten usable acres when not located adjacent to an elementary school.



OPEN SPACE PARKS

Park Service District #371

Pasatiempo Open Space Park

This 5.2-acre site, located on Pasatiempo Avenue, is proposed for limited development as a passive open space park, including picnic facilities, to take advantage of the panoramic view offered at the park site. The active play field needs of this neighborhood will be met by Lake Murray Community Park.

Park Service District #381

Adobe Falls Open Park

In addition to the Princess Del Cerro Neighborhood Park, this PSD contains the four-acre Adobe Falls Open Space Park located at the foot of Adobe Falls Road between Waring Road and College Avenue. This site could provide public access to the San Diego State University land, which together with the City-owned parcel makes up Historical Site No. 80-Adobe Falls.

Navajo Canyon Open Space Park

This park service district also contains the Navajo Canyon Open Space Park containing 143.61 acres. However, if the recommendation for a future street through this canyon (see **Circulation Element**) were to be implemented, a substantial reduction in the given acreage of this open space would result.

RESOURCE-BASED PARKS

Resource-based parks are defined in the General Plan as serving regional residents and/or visitor populations. These parks are located at sites of distinctive scenic, natural, historical or cultural features. Developed amenities should not impair the distinctive features or resources within these parks. These parks typically provide habitat and resource protection. The current status of Resource-based parks is described below.

Mission Trails Regional Park

The Mission Trails Regional Park is approximately ~~6,200~~9,700 acres and is located in the Navajo, Tierrasanta and East Elliot community plan areas. The majority of this park is contained in the Navajo Community and provides hiking, biking, and equestrian trails. A Visitor and Interpretive Center is located off of Father Junipero Serra Trail. The development of this park is guided by the Mission Trails Regional Park Master Plan.

San Diego River Park

The San Diego River Park is located along the San Diego River on private and public land. Recommendations within the San Diego River Park Master Plan provide for increasing the

RESOURCE-BASED PARKS

- Acquire Adobe Falls Open Space Park as soon as possible.
- Develop Mission Trails Regional Park in accordance with the Mission Trails Regional Park Master Plan. The portions of the Master Plan applicable to the Navajo Community Plan cover the following three major geographical areas: Lake Murray, Cowles Mountain and Mission Gorge. (NOTE: Old Mission Dam Historical Park is located in the East Fortuna Mountain geographic area.)
- Develop the San Diego River Park in accordance with the San Diego River Park Subdistrict of this plan and the San Diego River Park Master Plan.

Lake Murray

- Strengthen the role of Lake Murray and its shoreline as an active, water-oriented recreational complex. This entails: (1) expanding the scope and quality of water-related facilities; (2) protecting the lake environment; and (3) transforming the surrounding area into naturally defined spaces for picnicking, playing and other day uses.



- Retain the Navajo Golf Course in perpetuity for recreational use by the public.

Cowles Mountain

- Due to the importance of Cowles Mountain as an open space backdrop for urban San Diego, limit uses to low-intensity daytime activities. Examples include hiking, bicycling and horseback riding, picnicking, photography and nature study.
- Restore the environmental quality of Cowles Mountain by revegetation (in native plant species) and protection from erosion.
- Support research projects, outdoor classroom activities, and citizen science initiatives by staff and students at Grossmont College and other school districts. ~~Establish a wildlife monitoring program led by Grossmont College.~~ This is an educational cultural resource that should be made available to other school districts for nature study.
- Any new communication facility on Cowles Mountain should blend with the surrounding area and not be located at the top.
- Protect views of and from Cowles Mountain by implementing development controls on urban development in its vicinity in accordance with the Mission Trails District Design

Mission Gorge

- Concentrate intensive uses in the southern part of the Mission Gorge geographic area. The following facilities are planned for this area: park administrative headquarters, visitor center, day camp, park concessions, amphitheater, and a maintenance storage complex.
- Limit uses in the remainder of Mission Gorge to such low-intensity daytime activities as hiking, biking, horseback riding, rock climbing and nature study.

Old Mission Dam (Padre Dam) Historical Site

- ~~Develop a historical/cultural center, botanical garden~~Multi-use Staging Area facility north of Old Mission Dam.~~and equestrian facility north of Old Mission Dam.~~
- Preserve and maintain the Old Mission Dam through periodic removal of siltation.
- Construct a permanent restroom facility at the Old Mission Dam staging area.
- ~~Continue development of the Old Mission Dam Historical Site including landscaping, renovation of the dam, picnic facilities and parking areas.~~
- It is recommended that ~~nature and equestrian~~multi-use trails ~~are located in open space preserves on Cowles Mountain~~connecting the park with other recreational facilities in the area. One such trail would traverse Mission Gorge, starting in Mission Valley and terminating in the Cleveland National Forest in the vicinity of El Capitan Reservoir, as part of the San Diego River Pathway that is identified in the San Diego River Park Master Plan. ~~Lush vegetation along the river helps to make this an ideal hiking and horseback riding trail.~~ The river should be kept ~~cleaned~~ of litter and refuse as part of ~~any open space maintenance program~~the Mission Trails Regional Park Natural Resource Management Plan. This route should be scheduled for implementation in sections because of the problems of obtaining easements through the U. S. Army Admiral Baker Field and the danger of a path through the sand and gravel extraction areas.

