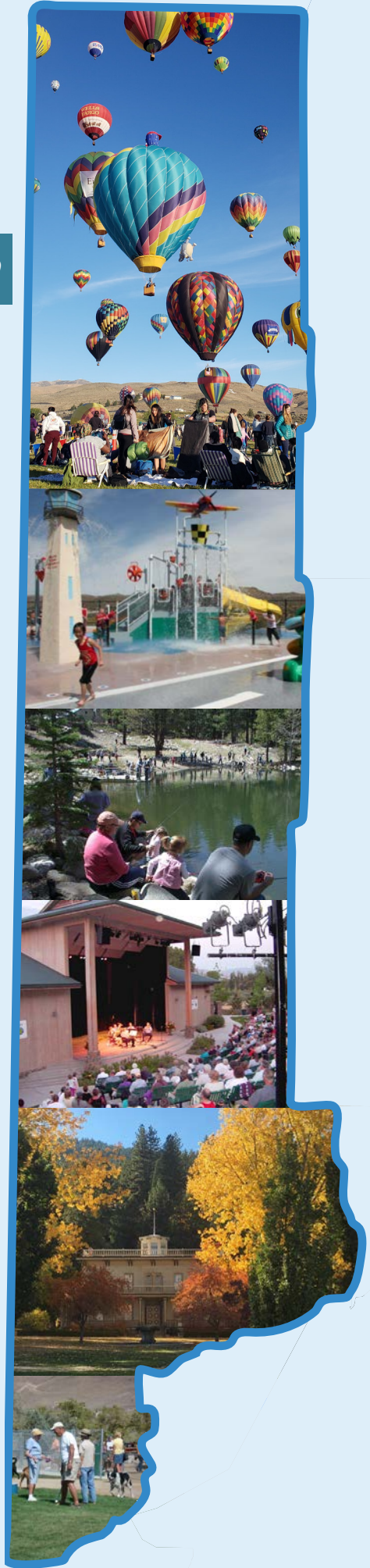


WASHOE COUNTY REGIONAL PARKS & OPEN SPACE Master Plan

SEPTEMBER 2019



Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space Master Plan

Adopted by the Board of County Commissioners
September XX, 2019

Prepared For:
Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space
Washoe County



Prepared By:



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WASHOE COUNTY PARKS MASTER PLAN

Moving Forward

SEPTEMBER 2019



WHERE PARKS ARE TODAY

4.9 MILLION+
VISITORS ANNUALLY

QUALITY OF LIFE

Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space (Parks) is responsible for managing over 13,000 acres of parks, trails and open space including some of the most popular parks in the area. These resources take advantage of the County's natural wonders and provide the region with an economic benefit that attracts new visitors while providing a quality of life that is treasured by a majority of the residents making this area a unique place to work and live.



PARKS MISSION...

"To provide exceptional parks, open space and recreational opportunities while preserving our natural, historical and cultural resources."

Park Type	Neighborhood and Community Parks	Regional Parks	Special Use Parks	Open Space & Trails	Totals
Locations	39	10	7	69	119
Acres	435 ±	2,694 ±	982 ±	9,113 ±	13,224 ±

CHALLENGES



RESETING AFTER THE RECESSION

Since the Great Recession, Parks have learned how to cope with the new budget levels. Parks has been able to keep facilities open by maintaining them at a minimum level. Moving forward, to accomplish the goals of the master plan, Parks needs to discover new funding sources that will allow them to continue the mission into the future. This is a national phenomenon that continues to impact the status of Parks.



RESPONDING TO THE POPULATION

Washoe County's population continues to increase creating a rise in park visitation and a surge in demand for new parks, trails and open space. This puts additional pressure on existing facilities, potentially exceeding their capacities and impacting the resources making maintenance unsustainable.



GETTING BACK ON TRACK

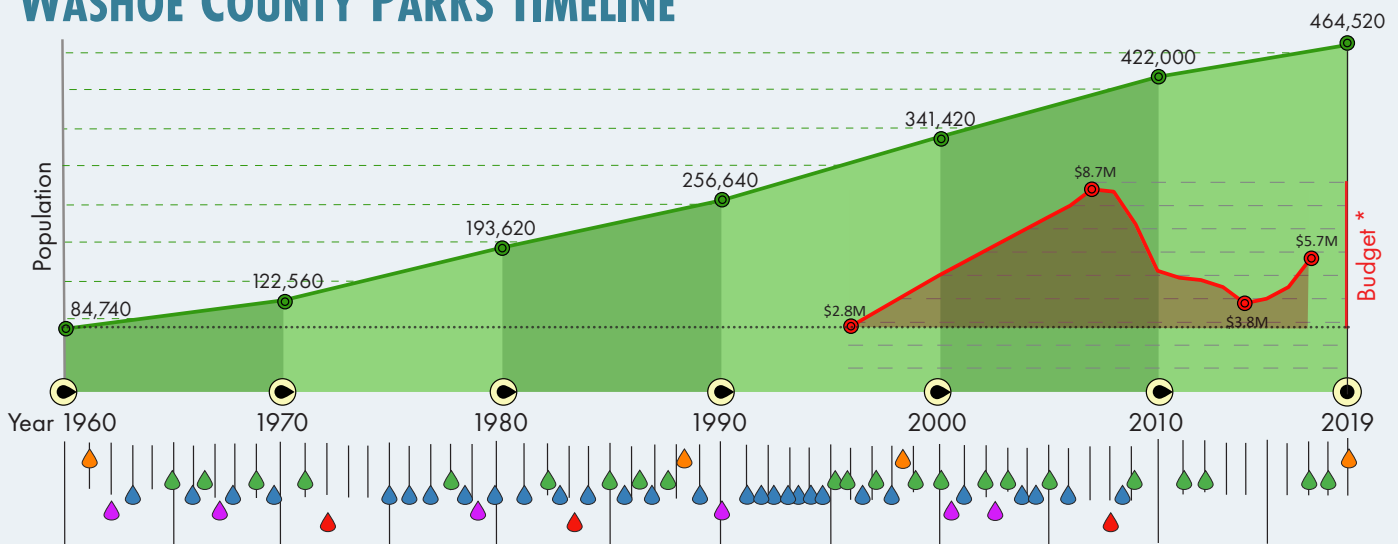
Parks has a rich history of acquiring land for the preservation of open space and the construction of parks and trails. Over the years there have been a total of 29 major land acquisitions and the construction of 22 parks. These were often helped by the passage of bonds through strong support of the voters for a total of 6 bonds over the last 60 years. Two of these bonds (SQ-1 and WC-1) brought in \$172.5 million dollars between bonds and leveraged funds.



IDENTIFYING THE RESIDENTS' NEEDS

The physical size of Washoe County means the landscapes and natural resources vary throughout. Some are unique to a specific region and may need to be managed differently than other parts of the county. Furthermore, recreation needs also vary depending on the region. Therefore, the master plan created planning areas that would allow Parks to analyze and identify opportunities specific to each region.

WASHOE COUNTY PARKS TIMELINE



▲ - WC Park Master Plan
 ▲ - Park Construction
 ▲ - Park Acquisition
 ▲ - Park Bond Issue Passed by Voters
 ▲ - Reduction to WC Parks Budget
 *Budget shown from 1996 - 2017 Population from the Nevada State Demographer





GOALS GOING FORWARD

CLOSING THE FUNDING GAP

Based on National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) metrics for dollars spent per person and using the budget prior to the 2008 budget cuts, there has been a \$48 million-dollar gap in spending. This has led to a backlog of maintenance and capital improvement projects. If this trend continues for another 20 years this gap could grow by another \$94 million-dollars, creating a \$142 million-dollar gap over a 30-year period.

PARKS BUDGET BASED ON POPULATION

CURRENT	NRPA STANDARDS
\$ 5.7 MILLION	\$ 10.1 MILLION
* Based on \$21.70 per resident per year	

RESETTING STAFF LEVELS

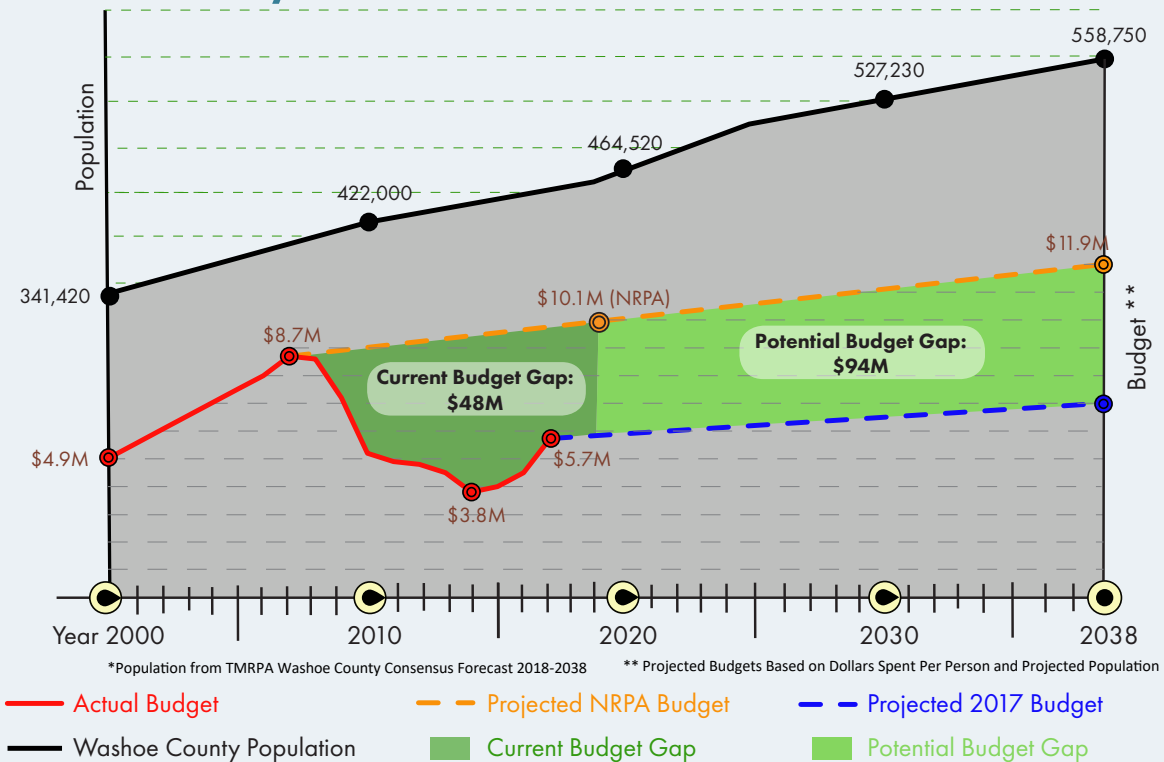
Based on the existing and projected population, Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) staffing levels are well below the national standards. Based on projected population Parks staff needs to nearly triple over the next 20 years.

PARKS FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTEs) ON STAFF FOR EVERY 10,000 RESIDENTS

CURRENT	NRPA STANDARDS
0.9 FTEs	3.9 FTEs



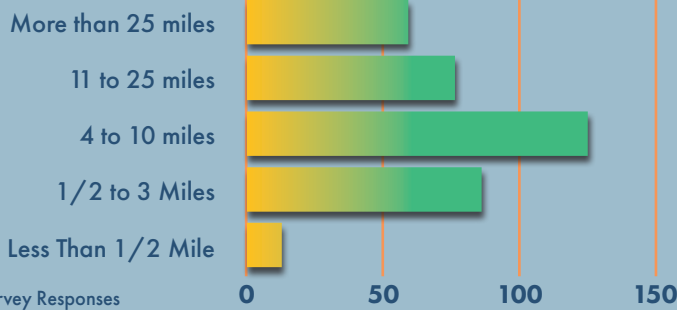
PROJECTION OF 2007/2017 BUDGETS BASED ON DOLLARS SPENT PER PERSON



* Washoe County parks budget does not include City of Reno or City of Sparks

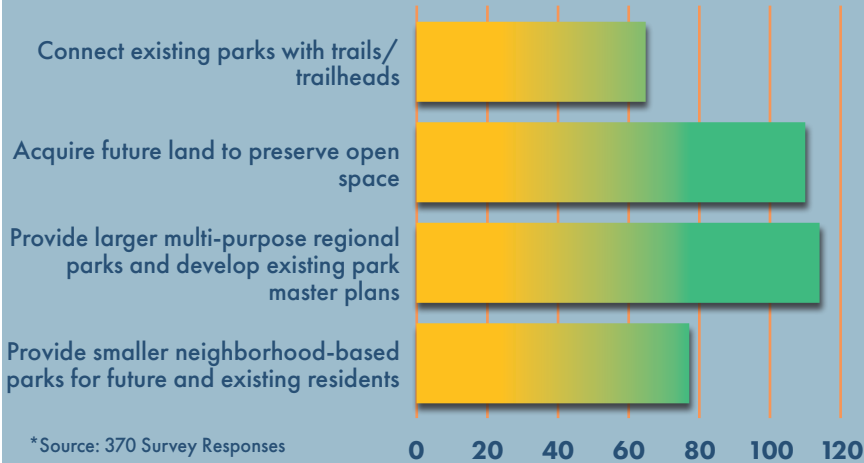


HOW FAR ARE WASHOE COUNTY RESIDENTS WILLING TO TRAVEL FOR THE PARK FACILITIES THAT MOST INTEREST THEM?



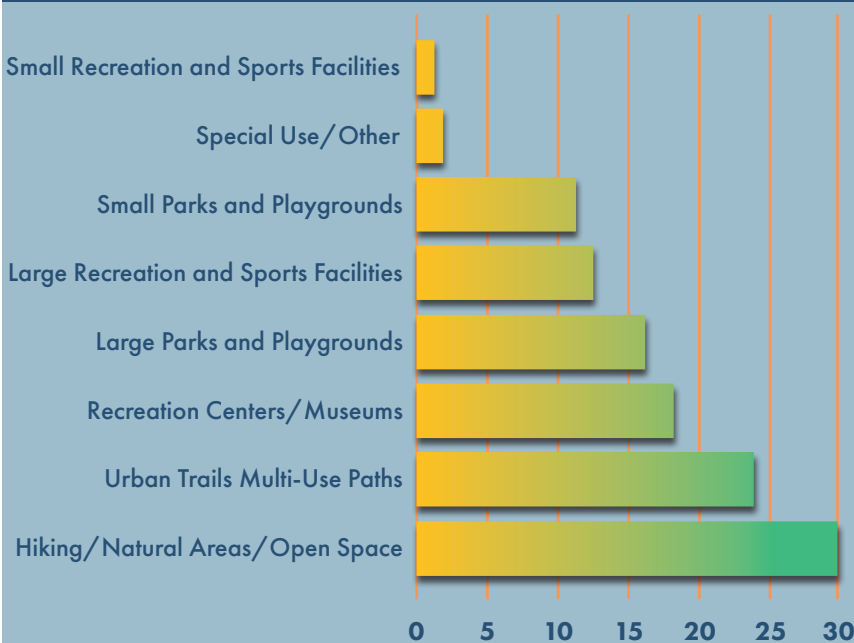
*Source: 370 Survey Responses

WHERE WOULD WASHOE COUNTY RESIDENTS LIKE TO SEE THE BIGGEST FOCUS OF RESOURCES?



*Source: 370 Survey Responses

WHICH FACILITIES DO WASHOE COUNTY RESIDENTS USE MOST?



*Source: 113 Public Outreach Meeting Responses; public was asked to choose three top choices

TAKEAWAYS



RESIDENTS WANT REGIONAL PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

Extensive outreach from the public and stakeholders' group found that most residents wanted to see a focus of resources on regional parks. This is due to the willingness of most residents to travel far distances to get to a regional park. This is true because regional parks often have a variety of facilities that interest residents most which typically include sports facilities, playgrounds, recreation/community centers, aquatic facilities, dog parks, and natural and urban trails/trailheads.

FUTURE GROWTH SHOULD BE CONSIDERED

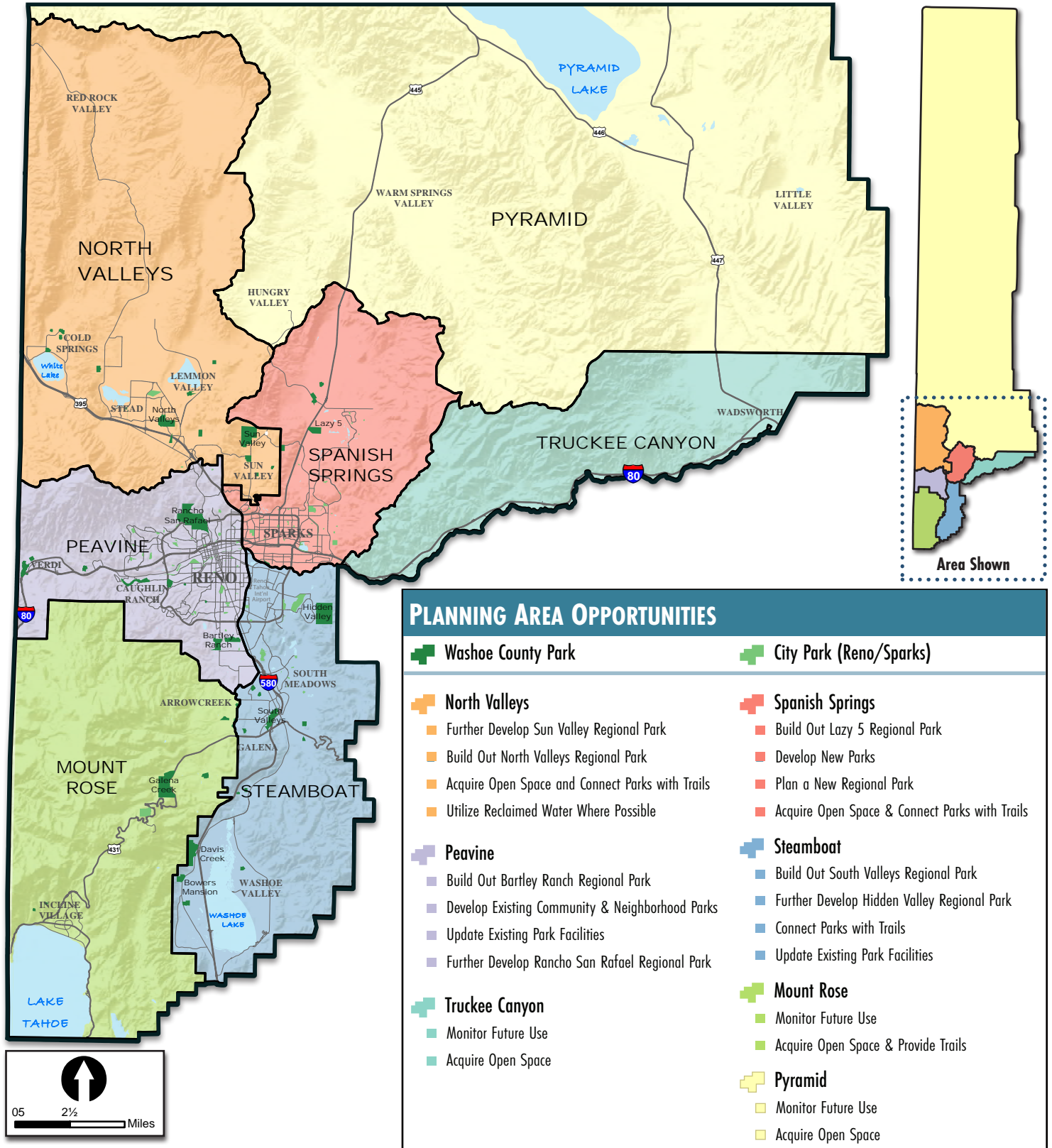
Future growth is not only tied to funding new parks, it also shows how much an area could grow over the next 20 years. Monitoring future growth and understanding the current needs of a region would be beneficial to Parks and allow them to more accurately plan for new parks, trails and open space.



PLANNING AREAS

INTRODUCTION TO PLANNING AREAS

The planning area boundaries identified in this master plan were developed to help Parks better analyze and identify priorities and opportunities specific to the different neighborhoods found throughout Washoe County. Although residents may recreate in parks, greenways/open space, trails and trailheads outside of the planning area in which they live, the majority of their recreation adventures will likely occur in the planning area boundaries where they reside.



SOLUTIONS AND DRIVING CHANGE

SHORT-TERM

DEVELOP A PROJECT LIST INCLUDING COSTS

Further assessments need to be completed to determine what projects have priority based on the opportunities identified within each planning area. These lists can be used to determine staff levels required to maintain the project and to associate dollar amounts that can be used to secure funding. These assessments include:

- ✓ Strategize Acquisition & Priority Projects for State Conservation Bond
- ✓ Complete a Service Plan Study
- ✓ Further Develop the Capital and Infrastructure Preservation Program



MID-TERM

SEEK ALTERNATIVE FUNDING

Current funding levels are not sufficient to sustain Parks and provide the opportunities identified within the master plan. In order to provide the public with the level of service established in the past, alternative and sustainable funding sources should be pursued including:

- ✓ Develop Facilities and Programs That Generate Revenue
- ✓ Educate Policy Makers About the Benefits of Funding Recreation
- ✓ Conduct Feasibility Study for a Regional Park District
- ✓ Reconfigure the Residential Construction Tax (RCT) Districts



LONG-TERM

RESTRUCTURE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF CURRENT AND FUTURE LEGISLATION

Recent legislation related to recreation, including the creation of the Division of Outdoor Recreation, has been created to provide new opportunities. These are beginning to acknowledge the economic benefits of parks, trails and open space. Parks should capitalize on these by:

- ✓ Rebalance and Distribute Capital Expenditures
- ✓ Foster Partnerships That Promote Economic Vitality Through Recreation
- ✓ Target Legislative Updates Supporting Diverse and Lasting Funding for Parks, Trails and Open Space



Chapter 1

Washoe County Parks Past and Present



Washoe County Parks Past and Present

Washoe County Parks' Role

Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space (Parks) has provided the community with recreational facilities for nearly 60 years. Over this period the economies, visitors and residents of the area have changed, impacting the land patterns and diversity of the community. Each change has brought with it a new set of opportunities and challenges. Through it all Parks have remained focused on the mission created decades ago.

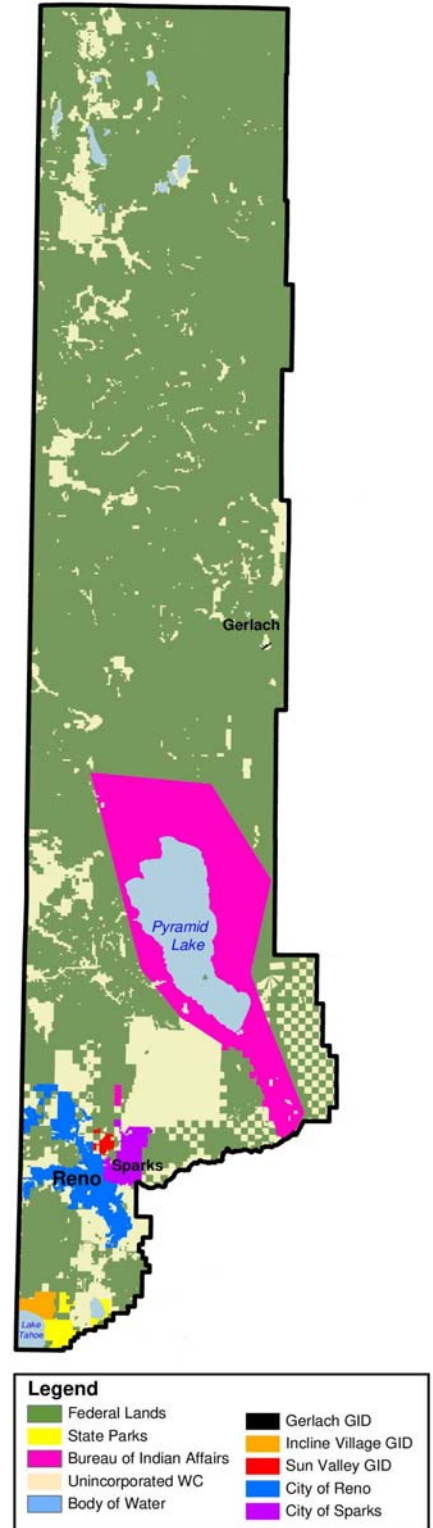
Our Mission...

To provide exceptional parks, open space and recreational opportunities while preserving our natural, historical and cultural resources.

It has been possible to continue this mission by recognizing and planning for the opportunities and challenges associated with a growing and ever-changing region. The Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space Master Plan, referred to as 'master plan' throughout this document, sets the groundwork to develop a flexible plan that will meet the short-term and long-term recreational needs of the community for today and throughout the next twenty years.

Entities and Partnerships

Washoe County spans approximately 10,500 square miles. Within this vast area lies other cities, jurisdictions and improvement districts with their own recreation facilities, trails and open space. Through the years Parks has developed relationships and partnerships with other jurisdictions and non-profits to provide the residents with more recreation opportunities. These include, but are not limited to: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), US Forest Service (USFS), Nevada State Parks, Washoe Tribe, Pyramid Paiute Tribe, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency (TMRPA), Gerlach General Improvement District (GGID), Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID), Sun Valley General Improvement District (SVGID), City of Reno, and City of Sparks. Along with these organizations several non-profits have also developed great partnerships with Parks including but not limited to: Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful (KTMB), Nevada Land Trust, Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation, One Truckee River, Tahoe Pyramid Trail, The Nature Conservancy and the Great Basin Institute.



Map 1: Washoe County Jurisdictions

Washoe County Parks' History

Washoe County is home to many natural landscapes from the alpine forests that surround the shores of Lake Tahoe to the high desert foothills and playas around Pyramid Lake. A majority of the population lies between these two lakes along the Truckee River within the Truckee Meadows. The significance of the Truckee River to the community not only lies in its value as a primary water source but its enrichment of the region as a recreational asset and a beloved natural resource that has been enjoyed by a variety of visitors and residents for centuries.

Although many of these resources are now protected as public land, it wasn't until the mid-twentieth century, that these resources started to get formal protection. During a period of rapid urbanization, Deer Park within the City of Sparks (est. 1903) and Idlewild Park within the City of Reno (est. 1926) were created. Years later, building upon the idea of re-creating the natural landscape, several Washoe County residents had a greater vision. These residents wanted to protect and preserve native vegetation, natural features, and the watershed, as well as create large regional parks and trails that would allow residents the enjoyment of the outdoors while protecting the county's resources threatened by encroaching development.



Figure 1 (left): Picnic at Bower's Mansion (~1900s); although not a park during this time period, Bower's Mansion was purchased by Washoe County and now operates as a regional park. Passive recreation like fishing (right) has continued to be a popular activity along the Truckee River (Source: Images of America - Washoe County, p 111, 113)

Founding Washoe County Parks Commission Chairman Tom Cooke, and former Nevada Supreme Court Justice, the Honorable Cliff Young Sr. recognized that a majority of the land unique to this area was privately held. They realized that much of the forested lands to the west in the Carson Range and Sierra Nevada mountains were held by large timber companies or private landowners and that the ranch lands bordering the mountains would someday be developed, limiting access to the surrounding forests. They saw the value in preserving these natural areas and wanted to protect them for future generations. With this idea in mind, Cooke and Young worked to create the Washoe County Parks Department and established the Washoe County Parks Commission, setting the tone for how Washoe County would develop and manage parks and open space in the early 1960s.

Chapter 1: Washoe County Parks Past and Present

The first county park planner was hired by the Board of County Commissioners with the goal to establish Cooke's vision of creating a long-range planning document and to establish a department that could acquire property from private landholders to be preserved as open space and to develop regional parks and trails for recreation.¹ The first Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space Plan (Appendix A) was completed in 1961. In the following year, 1962, a one million-dollar bond was approved by voters to implement the 18-year plan.² Shortly afterward, park and open space acquisition began and a park director position was established. This plan and subsequent plans led to several integral property exchanges with timber companies and other large private landholders that would continue from the 1970s through the early 2000s. Much of the land that was acquired at this time was through partnerships with the US Forest Service (USFS), and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). From this plan, Washoe County and its citizens became major influencers supporting these agencies to move forward and acquire much of the land along the Sierra front.

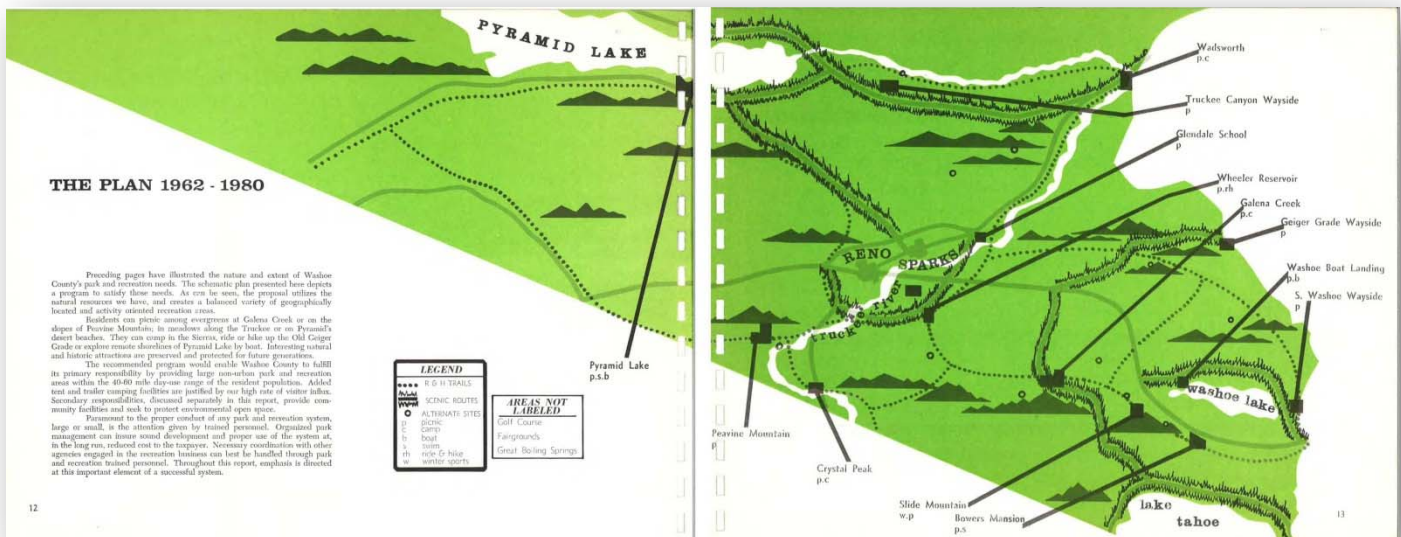


Figure 2: In 1962 the County was focused on providing camping facilities that were within a day's drive to capture visitors in an attempt to prolong their stay when visiting the Reno/Sparks area (Source: Master Plan Study No. 7 – Washoe County p 12-13).

When Cooke and Young looked at the Sierras in the 1960s the majority of forested lands were private and open for development. Today, the majority of the land near the Sierras is protected and just a few small inholdings remain. Since the adoption of the first plan Parks have worked in partnership with federal agencies and sought voter approved bond issues to protect open space and establish some of the most widely used regional parks.³

The primary goals of the first master plan were to provide a framework for protecting open space, developing regional parks and trails for an increasing number of visitors and residents. A second master plan was adopted in 1988. The purpose of this master plan was to continue the work of preserving open space, to focus an increasing amount of resources into regional parks, and to establish an extensive network of trails. The aim was to provide access to federal lands and to link all of the county's regional parks and open space through an extensive trail system.

¹ "Washoe County Park Planner Given Contract", Reno Evening Gazette Nov 20, 1960 p. 9

² "County Group Decides to Buy Land for Park" Reno Evening Gazette Dec 10, 1963 p. 9

³ "Commission Moves to Set Park Director Standards", Reno Evening Gazette Sep 10, 1963 p. 8

Ten years later, in 1998 the plan was updated to include a focus on the growing need for regional sports complexes and to consolidate maintenance services to concentrate more on regional parks, trails, open space and natural resource management. This endeavor was a response to an increasing number of smaller parks created during this time period. Parks, through a separate study, found it was not financially sustainable to continue providing small parks dotted throughout the county due to significant amount of time spent traveling large distances to these individual small parks. In addition, these small parks were often in areas where parcels were large and less dense, indicating that residents were already driving rather than walking to their neighborhood park. At this time, it was determined that smaller parks, under 5 acres, would be discouraged or better served by private homeowner association maintenance agreements. Parks' role shifted focus on to open space, trails, regional parks, natural resource management and neighborhood parks that were centrally located and at least 15-25 acres in size.

1960s: WC Supported Thousands of Acres of Land Acquisitions

- **Land Exchanges Partnering with US Forest Service & Bureau of Land Management** (Timber Company Properties)
- **Buyouts with Federal Partners** (Galena Destination Resort Properties)
- **Congressional Bills with Federal Partners** (Redfield Properties)

In 2011, in response to budget cuts spurred by the recession, the Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space Department was incorporated into the Community Services Department (CSD) and continues to operate as a part of this department today.

In keeping with the spirit of the first master plan written over 60 years ago, this updated 2019 master plan, seeks to maintain the goals of the previous master plans by continuing Parks' history of providing regional recreational facilities for the residents and visitors while at the same time protecting the cultural and natural resources that make the area unique. This master plan outlines goals and objectives to guide the department over the next 20 years.

The Focus of the Parks Master Plans Over the Years

- 1962** - Acquiring Open Space and Regional Parks
- 1988** - Providing Park Connectivity Through a Trails Network
- 1998** - Sports Complexes, Refocus on Regional Parks & Open Space & Natural Resource Mgmt.
- 2019** - Regional Parks, Trails, Open Space & Natural Resource Mgmt.

Understanding How Funding Has Been Critical to Success

This master plan sets the direction for the next twenty years, but funding is a key component to plan implementation. The acquisition and construction of new parks, trails and open space has received strong community support in the past, as evidenced by the history of publicly supported and voter approved bond issues. However, there are a number of other funding sources that Parks utilizes to acquire land, construct and maintain parks, trails, and open space.

Operations and Maintenance Budget

Just as critical to the operation of Parks is the maintenance and operations budget to sustain the facilities constructed and the lands acquired. While funding of new parks or acquisition of open space is challenging, perhaps the biggest obstacle has been determining how to recalibrate after the budget cuts from the recent recession, which cut the operations and maintenance budgets for Parks by half in 2008. The recovery of the budget has been slow and still stands at 65% of what it was prior to the recession, although the population has continued to increase. To maintain and improve facilities over time funding is needed to support the dedicated staff that makes all parks enjoyable, clean, and safe.

General Funding

The county general fund typically allocates an annual dollar amount to Parks for both operations and capital infrastructure preservation. General fund dollars are competitive with multiple county programs such as law enforcement, fire, health, and social services and varies based on the county's annual budgeting process influenced by the economic wellbeing of the county. Historically, funding for Parks has been a small percentage of the overall general funds available. It should be recognized that there is a structural problem within the existing property tax that impacts the revenue received by the county for the general fund this then impacts the county's ability to fund services such as parks.

Infrastructure Preservation Fund dollars are also used for maintenance or replacement of park capital amenities, such as sidewalk or pavement repairs, re-striping of courts, or replacement of picnic shelters etc. These capital projects are generally less than \$100,000. The infrastructure preservation accounts were instituted in the 1990s in the county budget to capture some long-term capital depreciation costs of facilities. The Infrastructure Preservation Fund has never covered the total capital depreciation nor has it covered the larger capital replacement of items such as a total resurfacing of large parking lots, roads, etc. These larger items have in the past been covered by bonds, or other county funding sources.

The Infrastructure Preservation Funding is based on the available general fund budget and has therefore ranged from \$0-\$465,000. During periods of economic hardship, like the budget cuts during the Great Recession in 2008, there was no general funding available to Parks for approximately five years. Today the Infrastructure Preservation Fund is \$465,000 annually. However, a five-year period of no funding during the recession has left an additional backlog of repairs that Parks has only recently been able to start addressing.

Bonds and Leveraging

Some of the biggest land acquisitions, park renovations and park construction projects have been the result of the voter's support and the commitment by Parks staff to leverage the bonds through

Chapter 1: Washoe County Parks Past and Present

matching grants and partnerships with state and federal agencies. For example, Washoe County Question 1 bond (WC-1) in 2000 was widely supported and passed by voters. As a result, Parks have been able to leverage the money provided by the public and increase the value added nearly \$90.8 million dollars (Appendix B). In addition to Washoe County bonds, there have been two voter approved statewide bond issues, one in 1990 and one in 2002. The state bond issues have focused on state resources, but have provided some local funding for acquisition of open space, parks and trails that have state or regional significance. The 2002 State Question 1 bond (SQ-1) brought \$15 million dollars to the Truckee River and to the Lake Tahoe Shared Use Path (see *Figure 3*).

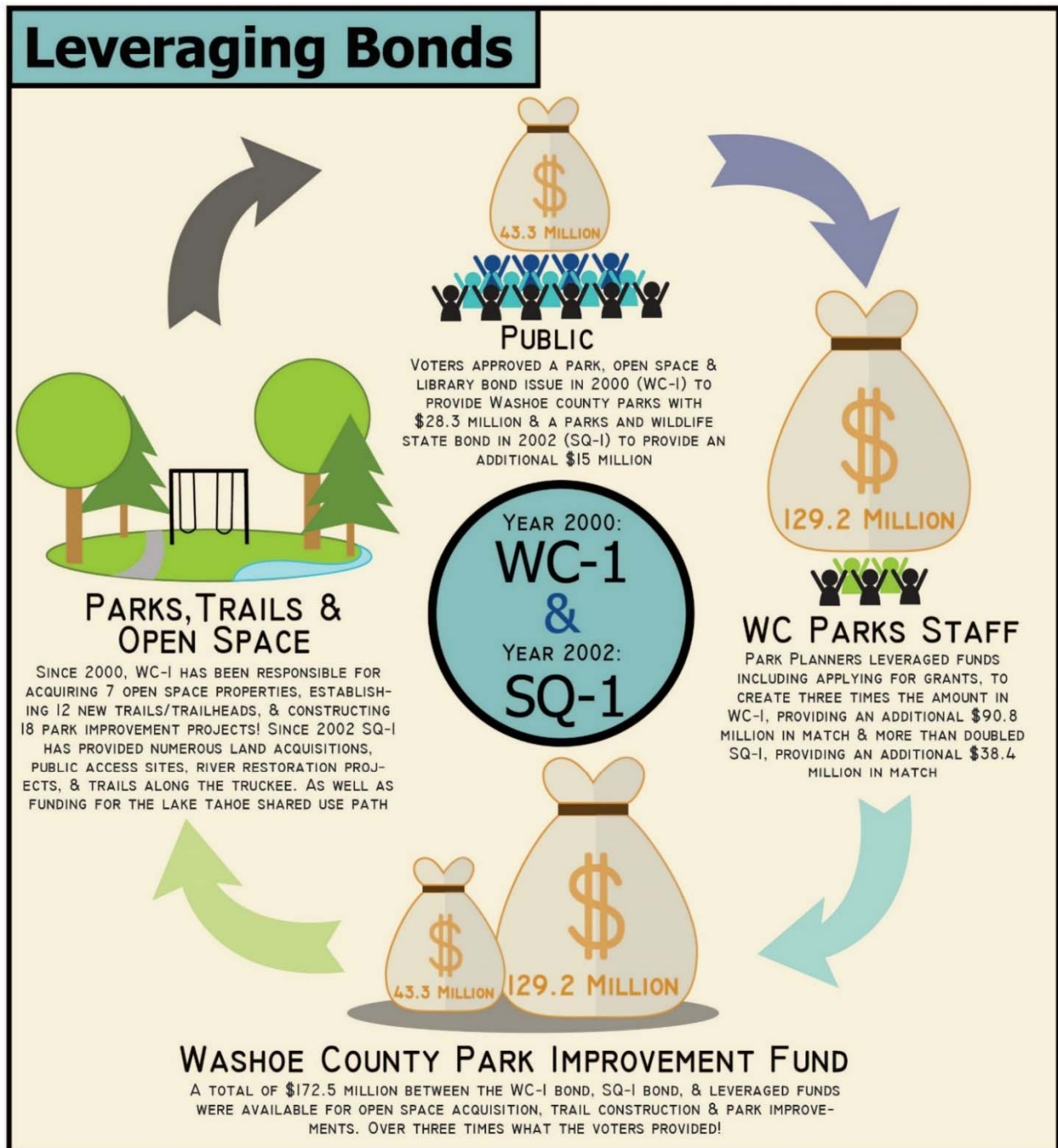


Figure 3: Leveraging Bonds: 2000 WC-1 and 2002 SQ-1

Chapter 1: Washoe County Parks Past and Present

Parks staff maximized the funds by matching over \$38.4 million for land acquisition, river restoration, trails and public access to the Truckee River and the Lake Tahoe Shared Use Path. This could not have been done without Parks' continued commitment to its residents and visitors to the region. Parks have been integral in leveraging funds from the most recent bond issues. This has been accomplished by forging partnerships and by matching funds through grants, private foundations, corporate gifts, private non-profit fundraising and volunteer labor. Although the public generally supports new park construction and acquisition, the voter approved bonds have been sporadic, representing only a portion of the total capital budget needs. Furthermore, new park construction cannot be supported if funding for maintenance and staff is not available to support new facilities.

Residential Construction Tax

Nevada State Law enables counties and cities to collect a Residential Construction Tax (RCT) for newly constructed dwelling units. The tax is 1% of the construction value but is capped at \$1,000. Generally, in Washoe County this means that the maximum tax of \$1,000 is paid for each new dwelling unit. This tax is to provide funding for the acquisition, design and construction of new parks and facilities to serve the new homes. Although this funding source is important, it is often not enough to acquire and/or construct a new neighborhood park and there are a number of restrictions on the RCT limiting the use of the funds. Per state law, these funds cannot be spent on the maintenance to existing facilities, or to construct larger regional/community parks, community centers, or trails or trailheads. These funds are intended to be for the construction of new neighborhood parks. This can conflict with many rural residents' desire to have other outdoor recreational amenities other than a neighborhood park, such as trails connecting their neighborhoods to federal lands. Furthermore, RCT funds can only be allocated within the district they are created in, further limiting where in the county the money can be spent. These two limitations create districts throughout Washoe County with an abundance or lack of RCT funds.

In addition to these limitations, the RCT funds are only apportioned to Parks when the new dwelling units are constructed within unincorporated Washoe County, outside of city limits. This appointment structure can be an issue when a new development is located in the City of Reno or Sparks but surrounds an underdeveloped county-owned park. In some cases, staff has been successful in working with the cities to jointly develop new neighborhood amenities on county park land, but it is not guaranteed. Parcels within the Sphere of Influence (SOI) are currently in unincorporated county but will eventually become the City of Reno or Sparks jurisdiction through a process called annexation. In the past, once a property is annexed by the cities the relinquishment of county owned neighborhood parks to the cities has not occurred, creating an island of unincorporated county. This creates long-term maintenance issues for Parks since staff has to take time to travel to small parks within the City of Reno or Sparks' jurisdictions (see *Map 1*).

Current Funds Leave Parks Understaffed & Struggling to Maintain

Although it has been over ten years since the Great Recession, the budget has not recovered to pre-recession levels. The recovery of the budget has been slow. In 2007, the budget was \$8.7 million dollars. In 2017, ten years later, the budget was at \$5.7 million dollars. Despite the lack of funding the population has increased by approximately 47,000 people generating an even greater need for new facilities within the area. Since the recession, Parks staff has been limited to maintaining existing parks and facilities to keep them open with no capacity to provide new facilities or update existing (see *Figure 4, Washoe County Parks Timeline*). To understand the current Parks' operating budget, national comparisons can act as a metric to determine how funding compares on a national level.

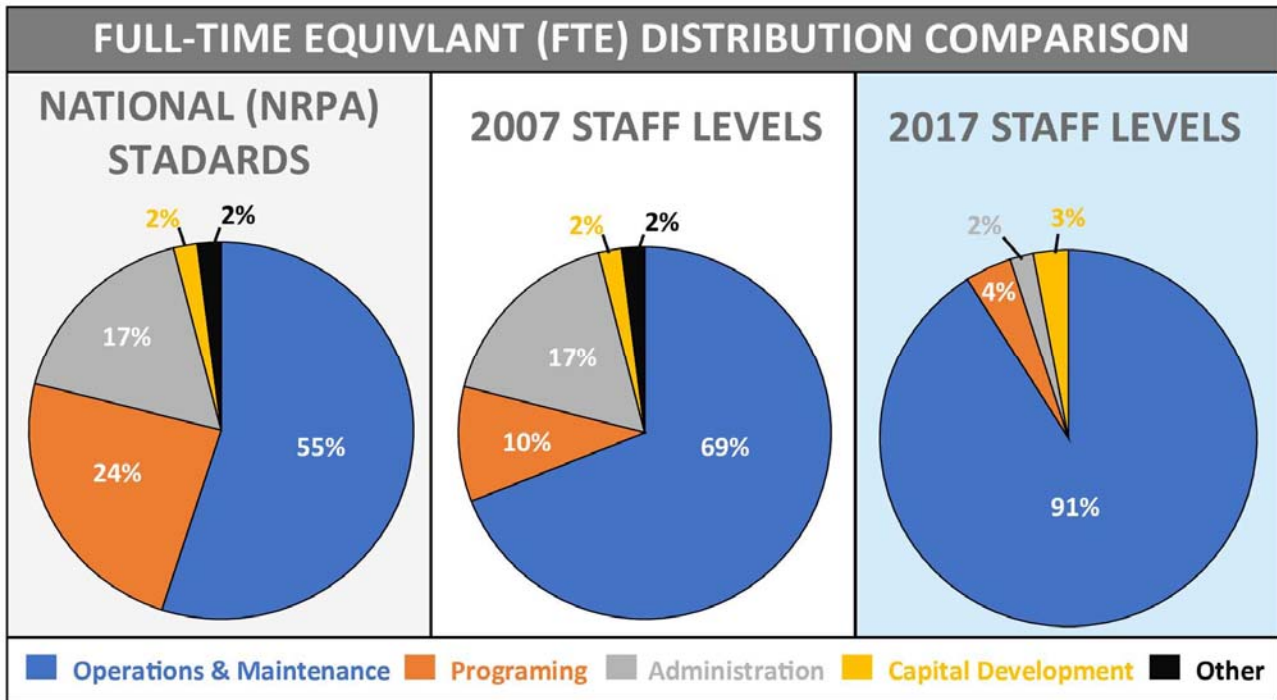
Comparing Pre & Post-Recession Budgets per Resident		
Year	2007	2017
Annual Budget	\$8.7 Million	\$5.7 Million
Population	413,215	460,587
Operating Expenditures per Resident	\$21.05	\$12.37

Using the National Recreation & Park Association (NRPA) 2018 Agency Performance Review, the following comparisons can be made. This information is provided as a metric for Parks; however, it is recognized that the budget is difficult to compare knowing that the residents are served by multiple recreation agencies.

Based on the size of Washoe County, the typical park and recreation agency has 3.9 Full-Time Equivalent (FTEs) on staff for every 10,000 residents, for a jurisdiction of 250,000 residents with fewer than 500 people per square mile. Parks is currently at 0.9 FTE's with 40 full time and 17 seasonal employees, well below the typical agency. This shows that Parks is severely understaffed when looking at the population they are serving. There are factors that impact the ability to have exact comparisons between Parks and the national standards. One factor is that Parks serves the entire region and the distance traveled between parks by maintenance staff impacts the number of personnel necessary to maintain facilities.

Full-Time Equivalent (FTEs) on Staff for Every 10,000 Residents	
Washoe County Parks:	Typical Park Agency:
0.9	3.9

Another way to look at FTE's comparisons would be to look at how the typical agency distributes FTE's within the agency. This comparison shows that even ten years after the recession Parks staff is still operating at staffing levels that only allow time for maintaining existing facilities at a minimum level. A majority of the staff that has been lost since 2008 made up programming, administration and seasonal staff. This staff included a director, assistant director, operations superintendent, two (2) park planners, two (2) maintenance staff, a public information officer and over 200 seasonal employees. As the population continues to increase without the addition of any new staff, Parks are struggling to continue to maintain the current parks.



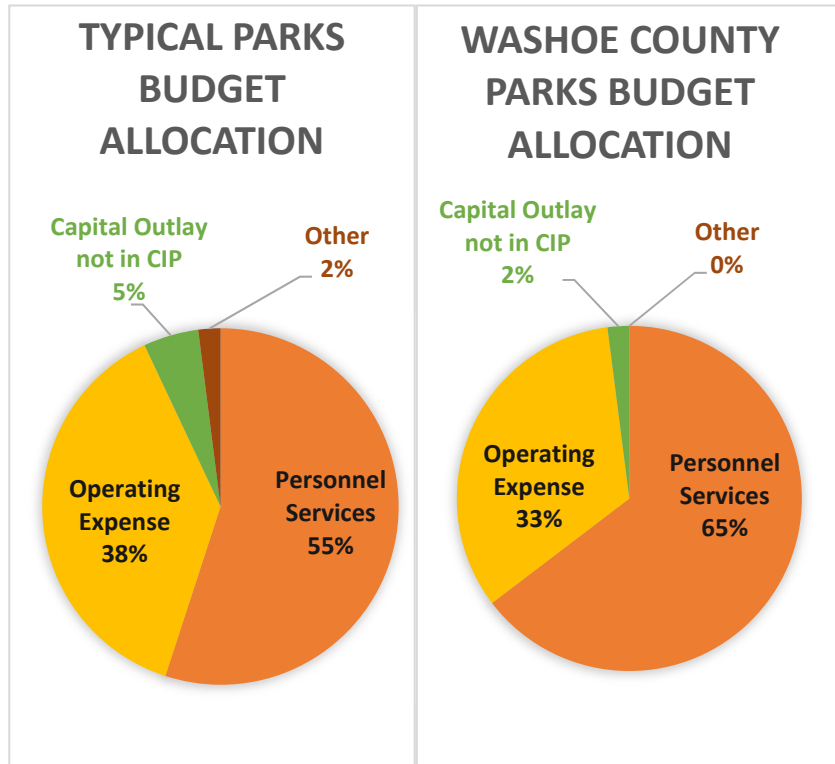
Graph 1: FTE National Standards (NRPA), 2nd graph based on 2007 staff levels. 3rd graph based on 2017 staff levels.

Attendance from current park counts show that the regional parks and events alone draw in 4.9 million visitors annually with only 40 full-time staff members. The amount of visitation along with the current number of FTE’s only allow Parks staff to be able to maintain the parks at a minimum level, keeping them open. Unfortunately, this leaves no capacity to maintain new parks/facilities or allow staff the ability to address the backlog of maintenance projects that have accumulated over the years. Furthermore, the current lack of administration and programming staff leaves Parks with very few resources to plan and develop any new parks or park facilities. Again, this data is provided as a metric for Parks and further reflects the financial impact of the Great Recession with the focus strictly on maintaining facilities.

Regional Parks & Events Alone Bring in 4.9 Million Visitors Annually With Only 40 Full-Time Parks Employees on Staff.

According to NRPA, the typical park and recreation agency in jurisdictions with operations similar to Parks (more than 250,000 population and with fewer than 500 people per square mile), typically have a median annual operating expense of \$44.01 on a per capita basis. This is about \$3.66 per month for every resident in the jurisdiction served by the agency. Parks has an annual operating expense of \$12.37 on a per capita basis or about \$1.06 per month. A factor influencing this comparison is the need to add the cities’ operating expenditures and the need to adjust the density which according to NRPA’s study; the denser the population served by the agency(s) the higher the per capita operating expense. The typical park and recreation agency’s annual operating expenses of \$78.26 per capita would be a more likely comparison with the two cities added.

When comparing how the overall expenses of the budget are allocated to that of a typical budget the funds are fairly consistently spread throughout the department. However, this is not a comparison of the amount of dollars spent on Parks. As described above, funding for Parks has its limitations and is often inconsistent, as Parks are considered discretionary and are constantly competing with other mandatory county departments. To get a better understanding of the amount required for the budget, a comparison of the amount of money in the budget compared to the population is a good indicator.



Graph 2: Budget Comparison

Using the expenditures per capita metric from 2007, the current annual budget should be around \$10.1 million dollars based on the 2019 population (464,523 residents). This budget would be reflective of the budget if the recession did not impact the Parks so severely. Furthermore, staffing levels based on the 3.9 FTE rate for a typical park agency would mean Parks needs approximately 181 FTE employees well below the current 57 FTE employees. It has been over ten years since the first cuts to the budget and Parks is still slow to recover the funding and the staff.

Where Parks Should be Based on 2019 Population		
	Current	NRPA Standards
Budget	\$5.7 Million	\$10.1 Million
Employees (FTE)	57	181

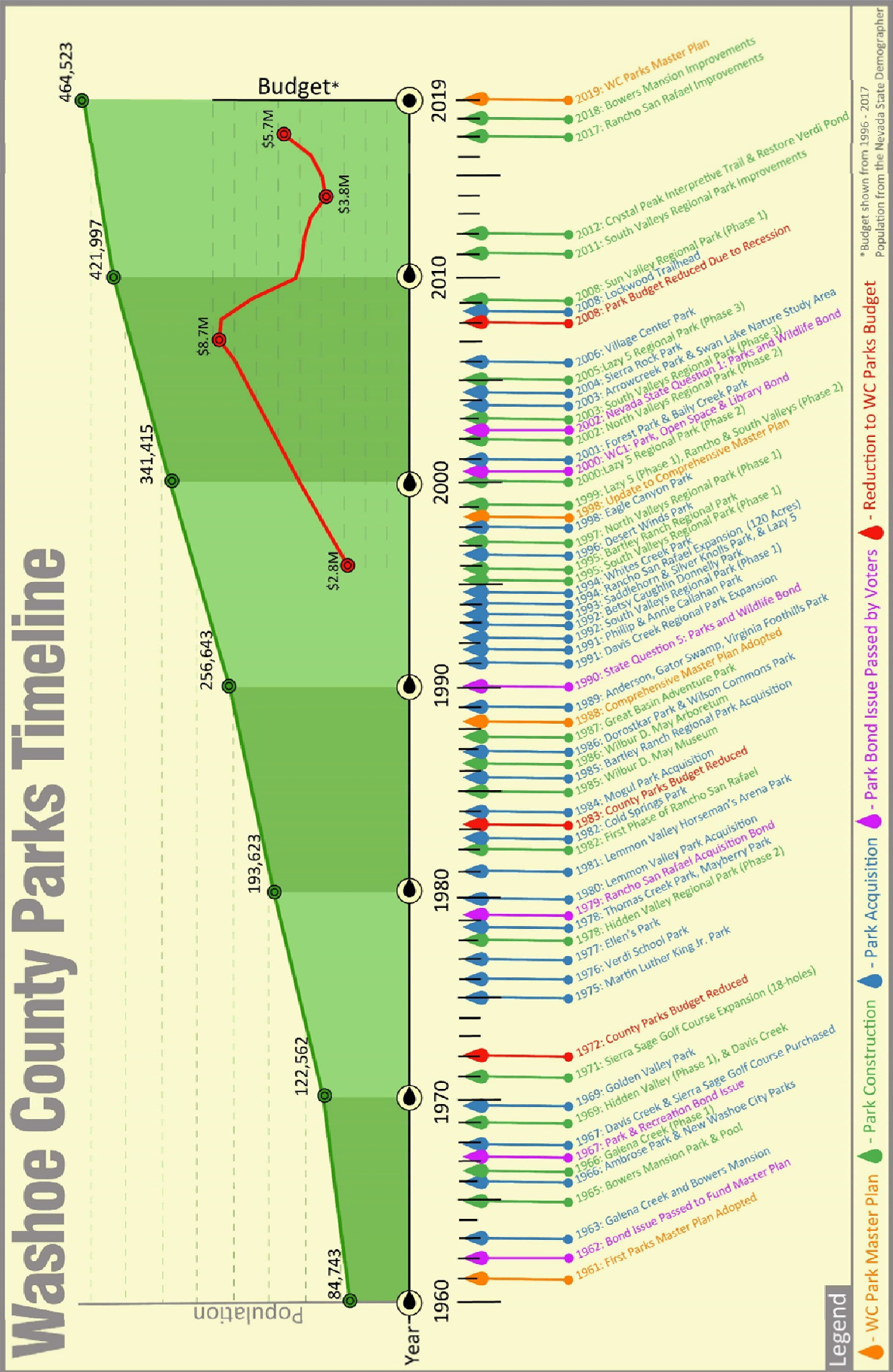


Figure 4: Washoe County Parks Timeline

Continuing Trends

Washoe County’s population has continued to increase since the 1960s when Parks was first established. According to the state demographer, this trend will continue through the next 20 years when the population is expected to grow by approximately 100,000 and will reach 558,746 by the year 2038. Throughout its history, Parks has used its budget and funding sources to continue the vision established by Cooke to preserve open space and provide regional park services and trail connectivity to the residents and visitors of the area. This service includes the addition of new regional parks, neighborhood parks, trails and the preservation of open space for the growing population. Most of the major open space and park acquisitions and construction of regional park facilities have followed bond issues passed by the voters of Washoe County or the State of Nevada.

Unfortunately, this progress was significantly slowed following the 2008 budget cuts due to the lack of funding and the inability to maintain new facilities while the population continues to increase, causing a greater need for new park facilities. New housing developments are finding a way to provide parks to the residents without the assistance of the county. Many new parks that have been constructed since the recession are usually built, owned and maintained by a homeowner’s association (HOA). Although not a new method this has become increasingly common as these trends have continued over the past ten years.

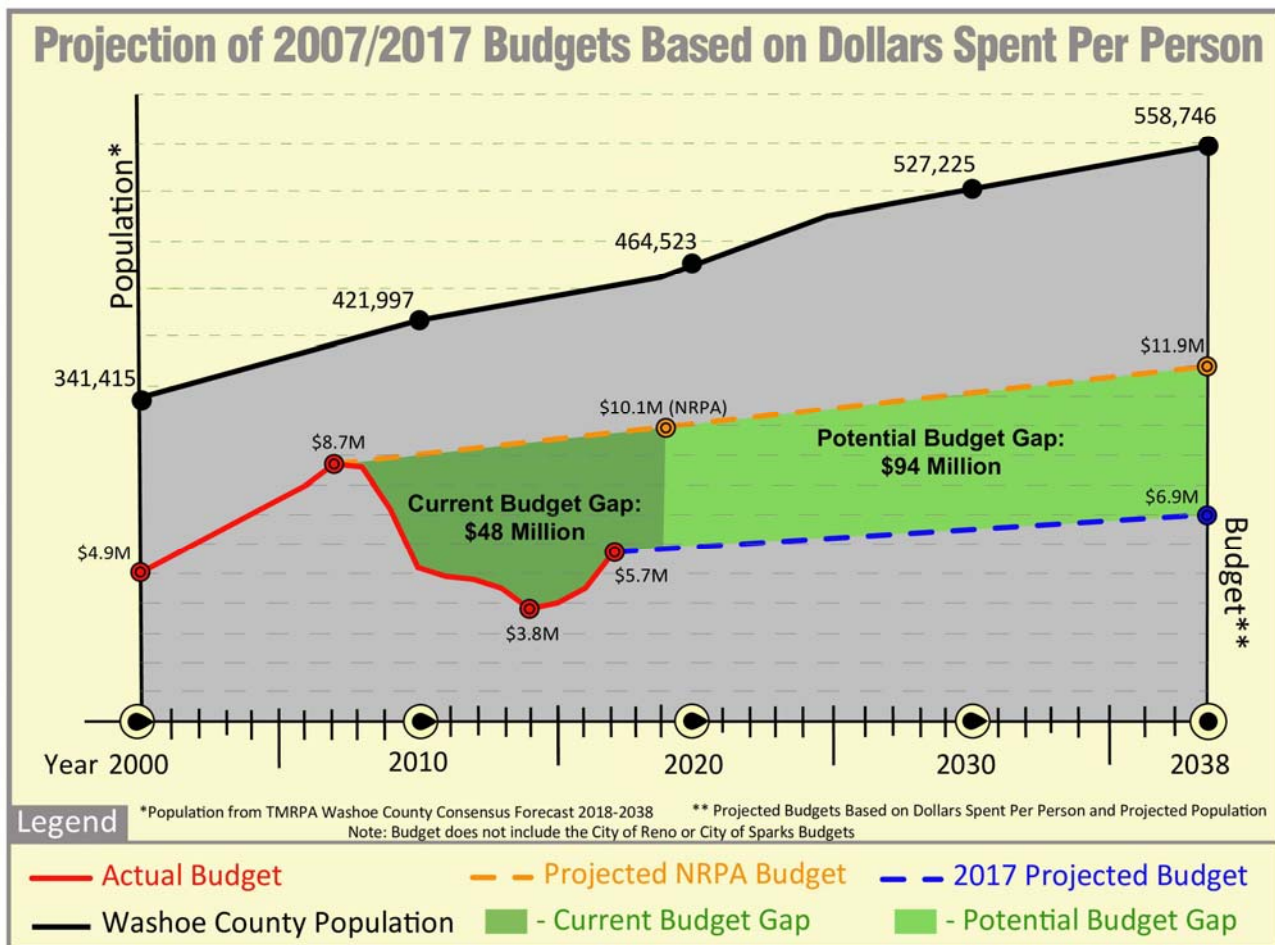


Figure 5: Potential funding gap based the budget per person in 2007 compared to 2017.

Chapter 1: Washoe County Parks Past and Present

Even more concerning is the current projection of Parks. Using the expenditures per capita metric from 2017, the projected annual budget would be around \$6.9 million dollars based on the 2038 projected population (558,746 residents). Furthermore, staffing levels based on the 3.9 FTE rate for a typical park agency would mean Parks needs approximately 218 FTE employees. This projection would not even be able to meet the current demands of the population. This has created a gap of approximately \$48 million dollars between the projected budget based on pre-recession levels and the actual budget over the last ten years. If this continues over the next 20 years, it is anticipated that this gap can grow by \$94 million, creating a budget gap over \$142 million dollars over a 30-year period.

Washoe County Parks and Open Space Inventory

A complete inventory of existing parks and facilities was completed by Parks in 2010. The goal of this inventory was to record existing park facilities prior to developing recommendations for improvement in the master plan. This inventory includes the location, existing amenities, acreage, and opportunities for development for each Washoe County park. This inventory should continue to be updated to help future analysis to identify potentially underserved residents.

Table 1: Washoe County Parks Inventory (Source: Washoe County GIS)					
Park Type	Neighborhood and Community Parks	Regional Parks	Special Use Parks	Open Space, Trailheads & Trails	Totals
Locations	39	10	7	69	119
Acres	435±	2,694±	982±	9,113±	13,224±

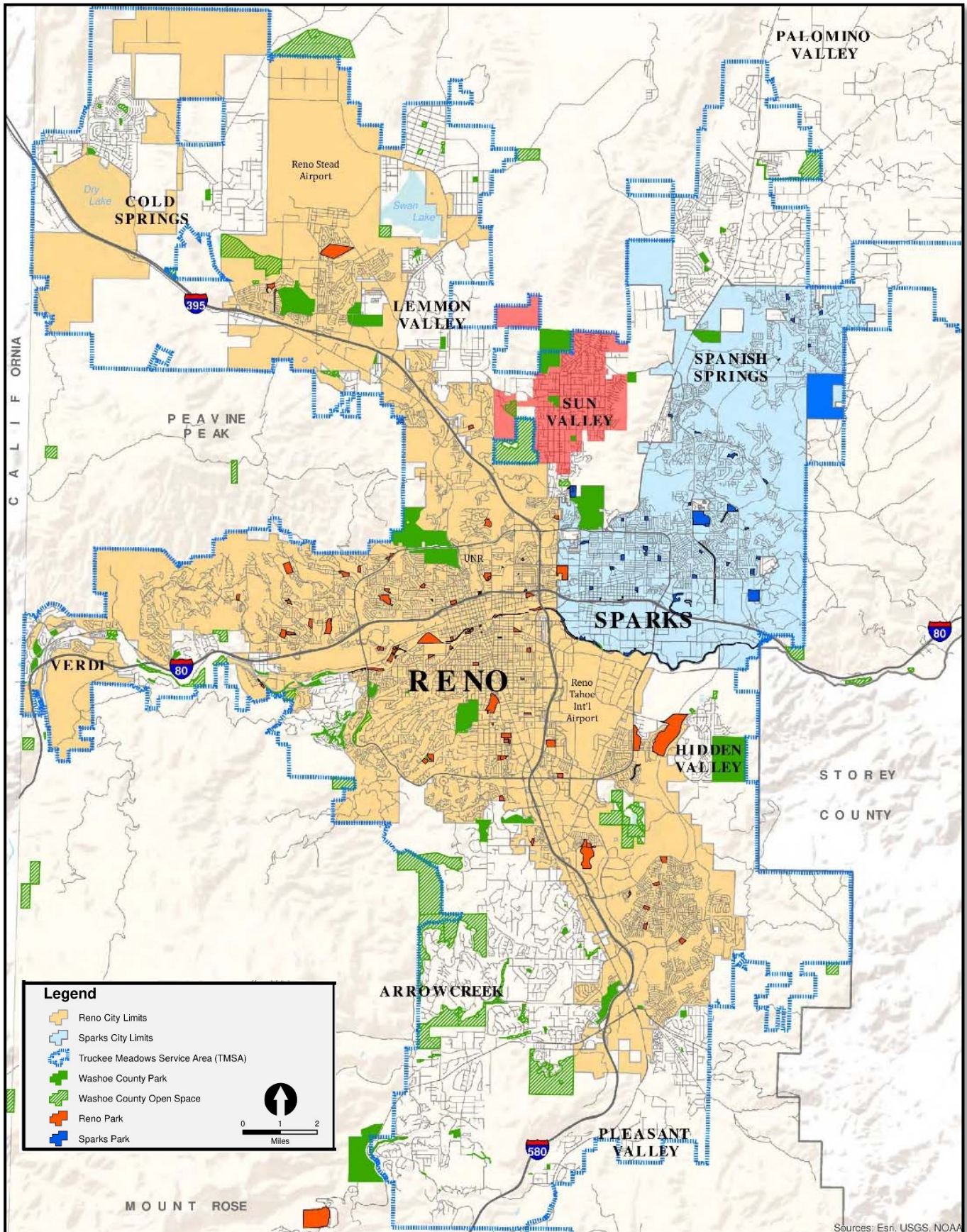
Park Ownership

When a resident decides to visit a park, they generally base their decision on several factors, ranging from location to the types of facilities within the park. In most cases a resident will not base their decision on which jurisdiction owns and operates the park. Therefore, when crafting this master plan, all neighborhood, community, and regional parks within Washoe County were considered. This includes parks owned and operated by the following jurisdictions: Washoe County, City of Reno, City of Sparks, Sun Valley General Improvement District, Incline Village General Improvement District, Gerlach General Improvement District, and all parks owned by HOA's.



Map 2: Parks by ownership within Washoe County, including IVGID in orange (left) & GGID in black (right).

Chapter 1: Washoe County Parks Past and Present



Map 3: Parks by ownership within the Truckee Meadows Service Area including the City of Reno and Sparks and the SVGID.

Park Types

There are generally three types of parks: Neighborhood Park, Community Park, and Regional Park. The different types are typically based on several factors including size, service area, and the facilities within each park. Not all of Washoe County's ten regional parks are the size listed in *Figure 6*. However, they are intended to serve the greater region and provide the facilities that are typically associated with a regional park.

A fourth type of park is commonly referred to as a "Pocket Park", and characterizes parks that are generally under five acres and are typically seen within the city limits. For the purposes of this master plan, any Washoe County park under 15 acres would be considered a neighborhood park. Large special use parks such as the Regional Shooting Facility, and the Washoe County Golf Course are only dedicated to a single recreation activity and are therefore considered a Special Use Park.

Park Facilities

A park facility is an amenity that is included within a park. Park facilities are usually associated with park types. For example, a neighborhood park typically has smaller facilities such as playgrounds, picnic tables, and basketball courts, while larger parks, such as community and regional parks, can incorporate larger facilities, such as sports complexes, event space, community centers, and pools to name a few (refer to *Figure 6*).

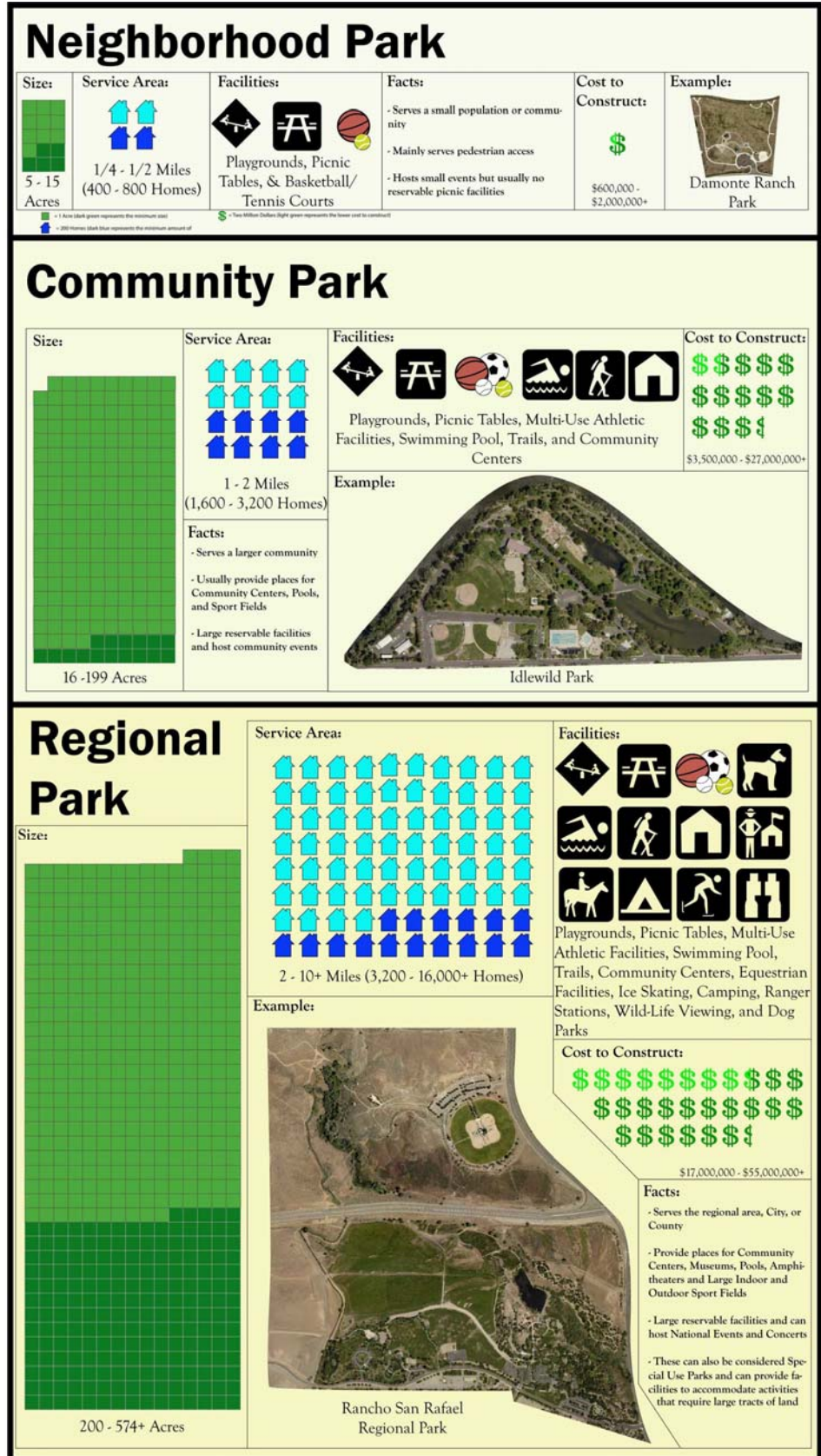


Figure 6: Park types based on the National Parks and Recreation Standards.

Park Specific Master Plans

Parks staff have developed specific master plans for all regional parks and a number of community and neighborhood parks. Over the decades these specific master plans were developed through a public process and have already been approved by county officials. These specific plans include details such as the types of facilities to be constructed within each park as well as how these phases will be developed. This master plan will not replace these plans. Instead, this document will act as a guide to help fund, update and develop the existing park specific master plans. The individual park specific master plans can be viewed on the Community Services Department website. (www.washoecounty.us/parks/planning_and_development/master_plans)

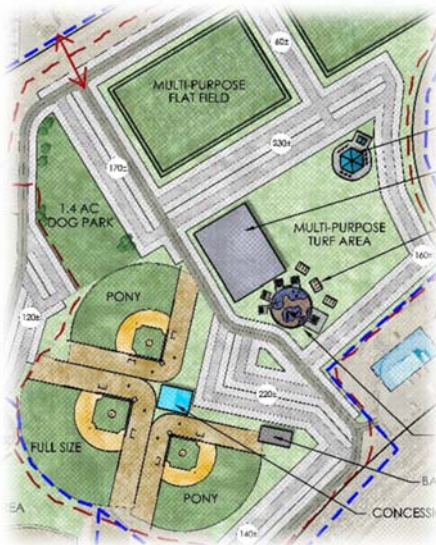


Figure 7: South Valleys Regional Park Master Plan Example.

Complementary Plans

This master plan is intended to work in harmony with other community plans within Washoe County or other jurisdictions. This plan is intended to combine all of the planning documents that are available for parks, open space and trails with the intention of giving Parks a focused direction moving forward. While this plan focuses on the general direction of the parks department, it will rely on other plans that have been developed throughout the region to provide a more focused direction and provide policies specific to that particular planning effort.



Figure 8: Complementary plans specific to this master plan.

Chapter 2

Plan Development Process



Plan Development Process

Developing the Community Profile

To establish a better understanding of the existing community a thorough analysis of Washoe County was conducted. This included analyzing datasets gathered by federal and local governmental agencies using Geographic Information Systems (GIS). This process was able to highlight characteristics within the community and to map where they existed within the region. This was helpful in identifying how specific characteristics are unique or similar to other neighborhoods and areas within the county. The characteristics specific to each neighborhood and region make up the community profile and help to determine the planning areas outlined in Chapter 4.

Demographics

When developing a master plan, it is important to understand the existing demographics within the area to identify how the area can best be served. The most recent United States census data, supplemented by the American Community Survey (ACS) 2018, update was analyzed which established a starting point for determining community trends in Washoe County. Since 1970, Washoe County's population has grown consistently and is expected to continue to grow over the next 20 years. As the population expands, the demographics are expected to change. These demographics should be analyzed throughout the life of this master plan to ensure that the current demographics are consistent with the most current census data (see Appendix C, *GIS Data Sources*).



Examples of various maps created when developing the community profile

Potentially Underserved Areas

The distance from a park to a residence is one method for analyzing how well a community is being serviced by park facilities. The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) Metrics uses a distance based on the type of park to determine if a neighborhood is 'underserved'. Based on these standards, an underserved community is any existing resident who is not within a 1-mile radius of a neighborhood or community park, or not within a 2-mile radius of a regional park.

Although the underserved neighborhoods highlighted in the planning areas of Chapter 4 are considered underserved based on NRPA Metrics, passive recreation facilities, such as trails and trailheads, were not accounted for. Furthermore, an area adjacent to a park can be considered 'potentially underserved' if the park does not have active recreation facilities such as playgrounds or sports facilities. It should also be noted that since the NRPA Metrics only apply to urban areas, no underserved residents were considered outside of the Truckee Meadows Service Area (TMSA) because these areas are considered rural. Any potentially underserved area identified in this master plan needs further analysis and public outreach by Parks staff to determine if they are truly underserved.

Land Use

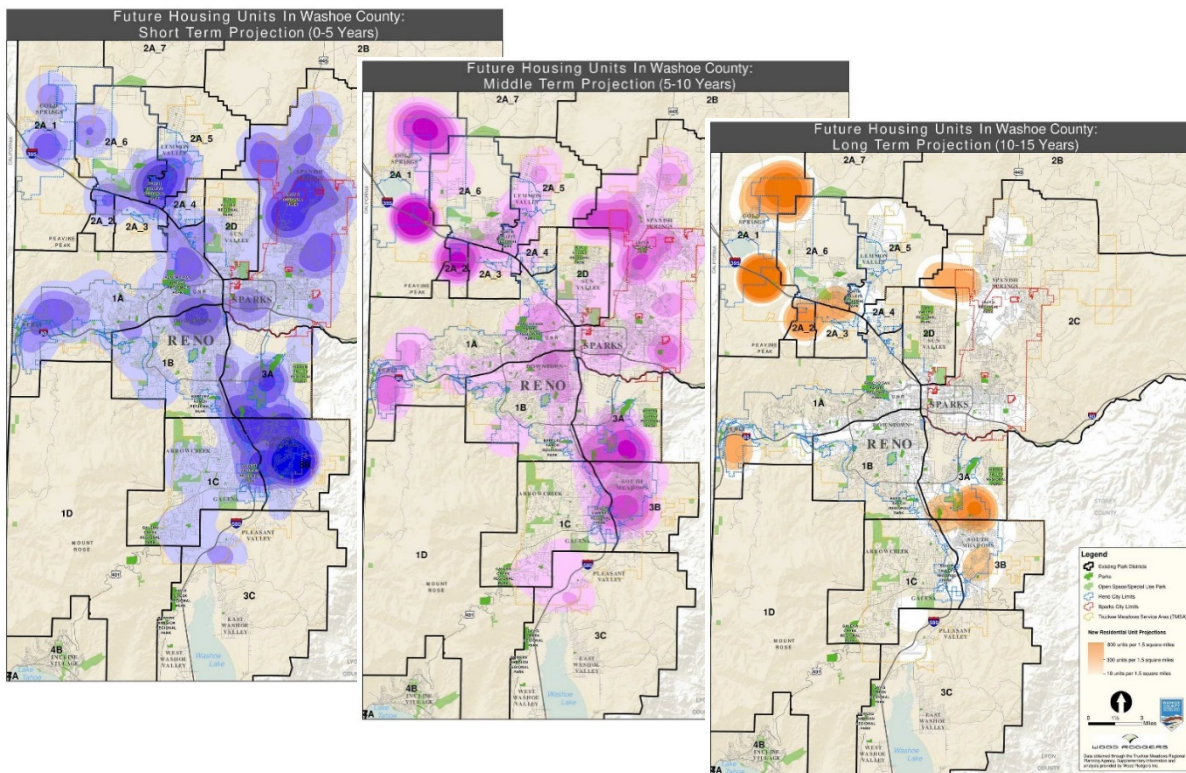


Bailey Creek Park Land Use

Land use and regulatory zoning were analyzed to determine areas that might require more services or have an abundance of resources based on the built environment. These included lot size, residential and commercial uses and other factors such as special planning areas, city limits, federal lands, and land jurisdiction. Land jurisdiction included unincorporated Washoe County, the City of Reno and Sparks, SVGID, GGID and IVGID limits. Land use and zoning can have a major influence when determining what type of park or park facility would be appropriate for an area.

Future Growth

To help determine areas for future park demand, data was gathered that showed all approved housing units within Washoe County as of June 2018. This data was obtained from the Regional Housing Study conducted by Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency (TMRPA). The data was then further analyzed to include a timing element which predicted the most likely time the approved developments would be constructed. This timeline was based on several factors, including local knowledge, feasibility, access to infrastructure, and current market conditions. The developments were then broken down into three-time frames: short-term, 0 to 5 years (2018-2023); mid-term, 5-10 years (2023-2028); and long-term, 10 or more years (2028-2038); (See Map 4).



Map 4: Projected growth for the short-term (left), mid-term (middle), and long-term (right), based on approved dwelling units as of June 2018 and with analysis provided by Wood Rodgers, Inc and feedback from the Washoe County Master Plan Stakeholders group (source: Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency Housing Study – June 2018).

Community Profile Characteristics:

- ✓ **Demographics (age, income, race, etc.)**
- ✓ **Potentially Underserved Parcels (proximity to parks)**
- ✓ **Land Use (residential, commercial, open space, etc.)**
- ✓ **Future Growth (future approved dwelling units)**

Public Input

Extensive collaboration between Parks and the community has guided the plan development process throughout. Development of a park inventory and identification of the community profile constituted the first phase of this process, providing necessary background information regarding the existing conditions of parks. With this information, preliminary recommendations for shaping this master plan were created and presented to stakeholders and the public to solicit feedback. Information provided has been thoroughly informed by public guidance through community outreach meetings, an online survey, and the input of a dedicated stakeholder group. This chapter outlines the engagement activities that have been used to develop a shared vision of the future for Parks.

Stakeholder Meetings

Several meetings were organized between Parks staff and representatives of community, agencies, and relevant private and non-profit groups to facilitate the development of the master plan. The first meeting in February 2018 provided this stakeholder group with an overview of park ownership, park types, and information on existing Residential Construction Tax (RCT) districts. Based on the community profile established through the analysis described above, proposed boundaries for consolidated districts were presented to the stakeholders during this meeting to solicit feedback. The consolidated districts were proposed to allow greater flexibility in leveraging RCT funds. Comments and concerns included:

- **Interest in developing a master plan independently from funding**
- **Parks should focus a majority of their efforts on regional parks and let neighborhood parks be constructed within the cities**
- **A long-term goal should be the development of a stand-alone Parks Department to oversee all city and county owned parks**
- **A need to analyze the influence of growth and development on existing and future park capacity**

A second stakeholder meeting in September 2018 was completed after the public outreach process. At the meeting the results of the public outreach meetings and survey data were presented. The growth projection maps shown in *Map 4* of this master plan were also displayed projecting the

Chapter 2: Plan Development Process

development time frame of the known developments in the region. The stakeholders then used this knowledge to provide additional input into establishing the planning area boundaries and worked with staff to outline possible opportunities and constraints for each planning area. Comments from the second meeting included:

- **Planning areas should take into consideration the Washoe County Master Plan Planning Area boundaries, RCT Districts, and the Truckee Meadows Service Area.**
- **The planning areas should be generally concentrated around the population in the North Valleys, Spanish Springs, South Valleys, and Verdi Area.**
- **Planning areas boundaries should consider passive/natural recreation areas as well as parks.**

For a detailed record of the stakeholder's meetings see Appendix D attached to this document.

Community Outreach Meetings

Four public meetings were held in April 2018 at different locations within the county, including Spanish Springs, North Valleys, Rancho San Rafael, and South Valleys. The public meetings were centered around three questions:

- 1. Where do you live and what two places do you most frequently recreate?**
- 2. What type of park do you most frequently use?**
- 3. What are the top 3 facilities you use most?**



Public meeting at Bartley Ranch Regional park.

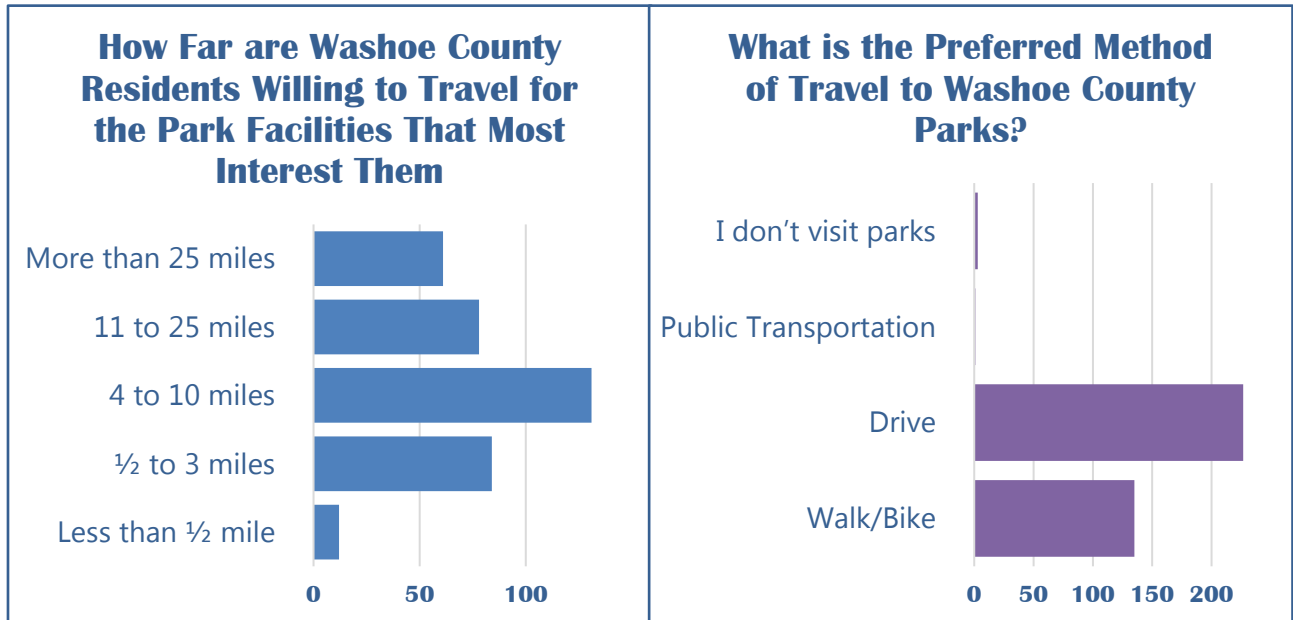
Meeting attendees indicated that they primarily recreated in the same planning area as their residence. However, they are also willing to travel farther distances to certain park facilities and regional parks. The most popular park facilities are generally located within regional parks (e.g. large playgrounds, recreation centers, museums, athletic fields, hiking/urban trails). Regional and community parks were the most used park types while neighborhood parks were used the least. Additional comments from the public attendees included interests in restoring park funding to pre-recession levels, creating additional dog parks, and providing additional amenities at existing trailheads. Results from this public meeting are provided in Appendix E.

Online Survey

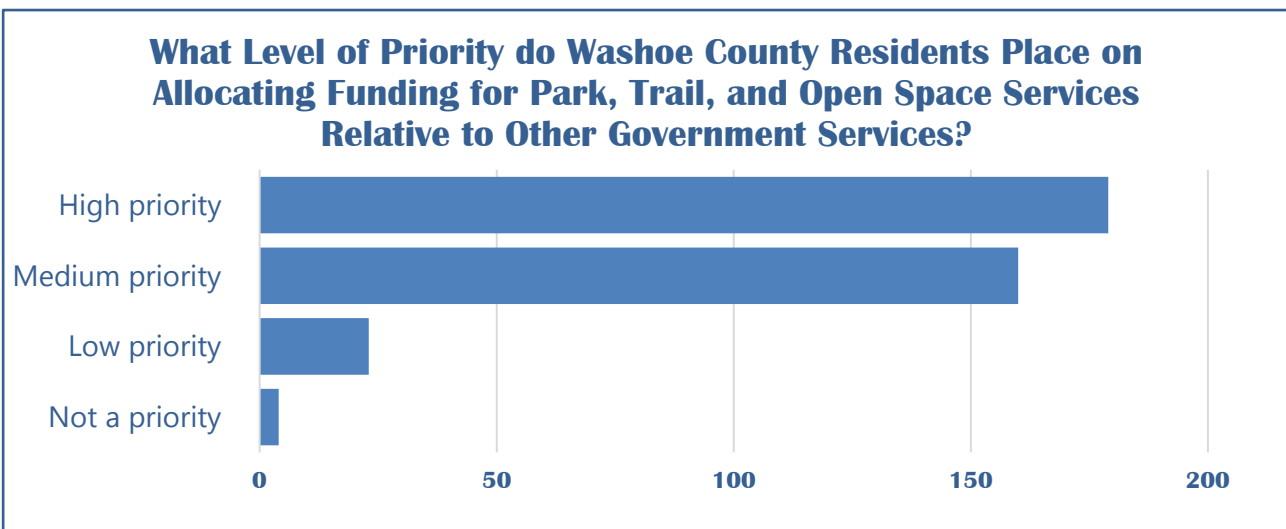
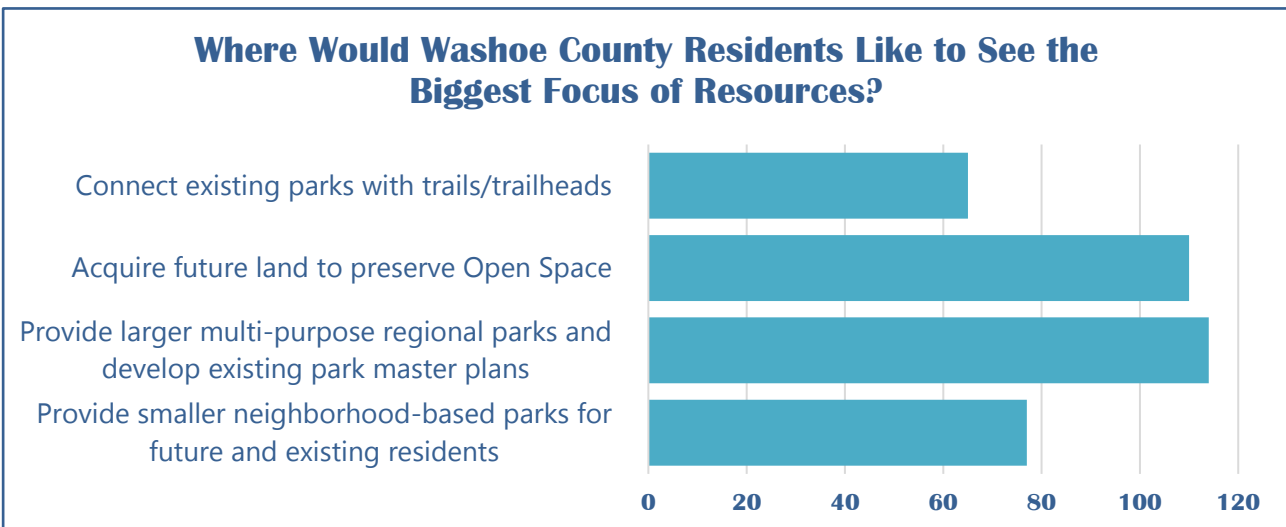
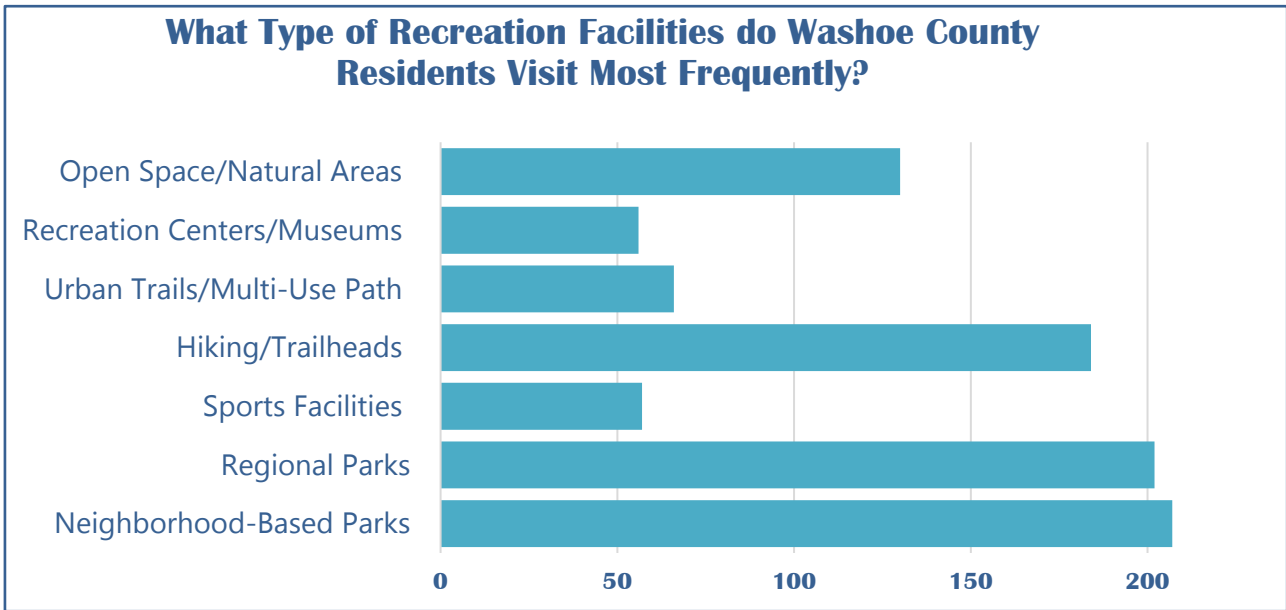
The survey was launched in conjunction with the public meetings. Notices were posted on the Washoe County website, sent out through email, passed out at parks and sporting events, and posted on social media and the local news stations. The survey was posted online between April 9th and May 11th 2018. The survey was intended to take approximately five minutes and totaled ten questions. The questions were targeted to understand how far residents traveled to parks, what types of parks and facilities they used most, and what types of parks and park facilities they were most interested in using in the future. A total of 370 complete survey responses were collected. A copy of the entire questionnaire is included in Appendix E.



Figure 9: Word Cloud, developed using “additional comments or questions” portion of survey. Source: www.wordclouds.com



Graphs 3: Responses to Question 8 and Question 9, (Total Responses: 370, “No Answer” not included in graphs)



Graphs 4: Responses to Question 7, Question 4, and Question 5 on the online survey (Question 7 & 4 both totaled 370 responses, "No Answer" not included in graphs; Question 5 asked respondents to choose their top three facilities).

Results of the survey concluded:

- **Majority of the respondents were frequent users of parks**
- **Park funding was a medium to high priority over other government services**
- **Most drove to the park (62%)**
- **Nearly all of the respondents (72%), said that they were willing to travel four miles or farther to get to a park that had facilities that interested them the most**

Comments and concerns written in the open-ended comments section revealed a wide range of interests. Several recurring comments were noted including interests in creating more dog parks, preserving open space, developing adopted regional park specific master plans and including pool facilities within future park planning efforts (see the *Word Cloud* in *Figure 9*). It should be noted that even though most survey respondents said that allocating funding for parks is a medium to high priority, this may not be indicative of residents in the county at large due to the limitations of distribution of the survey, as most of the respondents were frequent users of parks.

Parks Commission Presentations/Meetings

An Open Space and Regional Parks Commission meeting included this master plan as an agenda item on November 29th, 2018. This meeting provided feedback and guidance for the master plan from the commissioners. The Open Space and Regional Parks Commission meeting on July 2, 2019 the Final Draft of this document was provided and a workshop to record comments and input were recorded. These comments have been incorporated into this document. The second version of the final master plan, including the comments from the previous Open Space and Regional Parks Commission Meeting was presented on September 3, 2019.

Summary of Public Input

- ✓ **The funding of parks services should be a high priority**
- ✓ **Future funding should focus on the development of large regional parks and acquiring open space for preservation**
- ✓ **As the areas grows, plan new park and open space acquisition based on future development in terms of short-term (0-5 years), mid-term (5-10 years), and long-term (10+ years)**
- ✓ **Establish planning areas separate from funding sources**
- ✓ **Look for opportunities to include neighborhood facilities within regional parks**
- ✓ **Developers continue to build, maintain and own new parks through HOAs due to the inability of Parks to maintain new facilities**

Chapter 3

Goals, Objectives and Strategies



Goals, Objectives and Strategies

Purpose

This chapter contains the goals, objectives and strategies that are meant to guide this master plan from conception into reality. Although numbers are associated with each, this is intended to be used as a reference. No goal or objective has priority over another and no goal is dependent upon the last. These goals were updated from the *Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space 2007-2010 Strategic Plan* (Appendix F). These are the overarching principles and policies that govern Parks' decisions helping to shape current and future priorities, and ultimately, provide a framework for implementing the Plan. Chapter 4 will explore the degree to which each of the planning areas adhere to the objectives described below. Based on that analysis, the gaps and opportunities specific to each of the planning areas will be described in an effort to identify high, medium, and low priorities both now and in the future.



Washoe Valley and the Virginia Range, View from Slide Mountain Trailhead

Goal 1: Provide, enhance, and support regional recreational opportunities that increase the quality of life for Washoe County residents

Objective 1.A: Preserve and enhance existing regional parks

Strategy 1.A.1: Provide regional parks with a multitude of facilities that will serve a diverse range of recreational needs for residents within the region, including city and county residents, of all ages and abilities

Strategy 1.A.2: Monitor the use of older parks and recreation facilities to determine if expansion or a retrofit of these facilities can best serve demands

Objective 1.B: Identify and acquire lands to be preserved for regional or community parks, special use facilities, trail systems, and open space purposes

Strategy 1.B.1: Use the adopted Washoe County Parks Master Plan Area Maps in conjunction with the Washoe County Open Space & Natural Resource Management Plan as a guide to determine where new regional parks, special use facilities, trails/trailheads, and open space should be located

Chapter 3: Goals, Objectives and Strategies

Strategy 1.B.2: Acquire open space where beneficial to residents

Strategy 1.B.3: Identify, monitor, and analyze “underserved” residents as identified in the master plan, and provide recreational facilities based on their needs

Strategy 1.B.4: Encourage individuals, private foundations, and/or private developers to give donations of land, gifts, and/or cash for construction of public recreation facilities

Strategy 1.B.5: During the development review process, request public access easements or dedications in areas where recreational opportunities have been identified

Strategy 1.B.6: During the development review process, require public access easements from subdivisions that are adjacent to public lands

Objective 1.C: Encourage a multi-purpose regional trail system to connect residents to regional parks, neighborhood parks, special use facilities, and open space

Strategy 1.C.1: Identify areas for future connections and work with land developers to provide connectivity to all future and existing parks, trails, and open space through dedications, easements or donations

Strategy 1.C.2: Work with local government agencies to identify areas of collaboration when connecting trails

Strategy 1.C.3: Plan to connect existing and planned urban bike lanes and paths with the regional trail system

Strategy 1.C.4: Identify a major regional trail or corridor system that connects major peaks and ranges in southern Washoe County

Strategy 1.C.5: Collaborate with other agencies to implement the Truckee Meadows Trails Plan

Strategy 1.C.6: Support completion of the outstanding segments of the Tahoe Pyramid Trail



Sarcodes commonly called, “snow plant” or “snow flower”; Davis Creek Regional Park

Goal 2: Develop and update community supported short-term and long-term priorities specific to each park planning area

Objective 2.A: Continually update each planning area' priorities as they become relevant

Strategy 2.A.1: Develop and manage Washoe County's parks inventory, including the condition of each park and facility

Strategy 2.A.2: Use the regional parks and special use facilities regional standards as a guide for planning the type and amount of facilities needed for Washoe County

Strategy 2.A.3: Monitor future development and identify areas of opportunity

Strategy 2.A.4: Assess existing facilities and identify and plan for future costs

Strategy 2.A.5: Encourage partnerships with community organizations to meet current community needs

Objective 2.B: Develop and update a master plan specific to each regional park

Strategy 2.B.1: Create a master plan specific to each regional park and update all park master plans and regional park master plans every 10-20 years

Strategy 2.B.2: Encourage opportunities that will help fund/develop existing regional park master plans

Strategy 2.B.3: Work with land managers to leverage existing funding sources for update of planning documents



Live music at Davis Creek Regional Park

Goal 3: Support and encourage implementation of each priority to meet the needs of the community

Objective 3.A: Collaborate with other departments, agencies, organizations and private developers to meet the identified priorities

Strategy 3.A.1: Continue involvement with Nevada Land Trust, Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful, and other related organizations

Strategy 3.A.2: Work with outside partners to develop trail connectivity and acquisitions needed for future trails

Strategy 3.A.3: Work with Washoe County and land owners for easements, dedications, acquisitions property sales, etc.

Strategy 3.A.4: Seek partnerships with local businesses/local government agencies to further develop existing regional parks, trails, and open space

Strategy 3.A.5: Create sponsorships and partnerships with local businesses for opportunities to meet the identified needs of the planning areas

Objective 3.B: Sustain and enhance effective interagency and interjurisdictional partnerships to address the planning, development, operation, and maintenance of regional recreational resources

Strategy 3.B.1: Maintain existing and establish new partnerships with other government agencies and non-profits to provide more facilities and manage existing facilities

Strategy 3.B.2: Collaborate with other agencies to meet the community's aquatics needs

Strategy 3.B.3: Coordinate regional parks, special use facilities, and trails/open space planning based on future development and work with landowners and local government agencies to further develop regional facilities



Hiking in Galena Creek Regional Park

Goal 4: Maintain and manage existing parks and seek diverse and flexible funding sources to ensure the community’s needs are met

Objective 4.A: Maintain or increase existing funding levels and co-ordinate efforts with the Washoe County Capital Improvement Program (CIP), augment where required to meet growth demands

Strategy 4.A.1: Track legislative issues impacting parks, trails and open space

Strategy 4.A.2: Examine and, if appropriate, propose model legislation to be used for community park financing

Strategy 4.A.3: Continue to pursue external revenue sources such as grants and donations

Strategy 4.A.4: Develop ordinances establishing alternative programs such as tax incentives, land banking, transfer of development rights, and holding zones to promote land dedications, gifts and/or donations

Strategy 4.A.5: Propose and use alternative methods such as private park service provision, and other methods that are deemed appropriate for funding the acquisition, development, operation and maintenance of community parks

Strategy 4.A.6: Leverage existing funding through grants, partnerships, and donations, when feasible



Dragon Lights; Rancho San Rafael Regional Park

Goal 5: Protect and enhance recreational, cultural and natural resources

Objective 5.A: Integrate recreation goals with cultural and natural resource management

Strategy 5.A.1: Use this Plan in conjunction with Washoe County's Regional Open Space and Natural Resource Management Plan to identify Parks Department priorities

Strategy 5.A.2: Integrate interpretation and environmental education into the trail system to inform users about the region's cultural heritage, natural resources and wildlife

Strategy 5.A.3: Evaluate the appropriate levels of recreation to ensure that natural resources are sustained

Strategy 5.A.4: Ensure that natural and cultural resource impacts are mitigated to the greatest extent feasible when developing new recreation facilities or amenities

Strategy 5.A.5: Acquire lands that can meet both recreation and natural resource objectives



Splash Park; North Valleys Regional Park

Chapter 4

Planning Area Profiles, Priorities and Opportunities



Planning Area Profiles, Priorities & Opportunities

Introduction to Planning Areas

The planning area boundaries identified in this master plan were developed to help Parks analyze and identify priorities and opportunities specific to the different neighborhoods found throughout Washoe County. Although residents may recreate in parks, greenways/open space, trails and trailheads outside of the planning area in which they live, the majority of their recreation adventures will likely occur in the planning area boundaries where they reside.

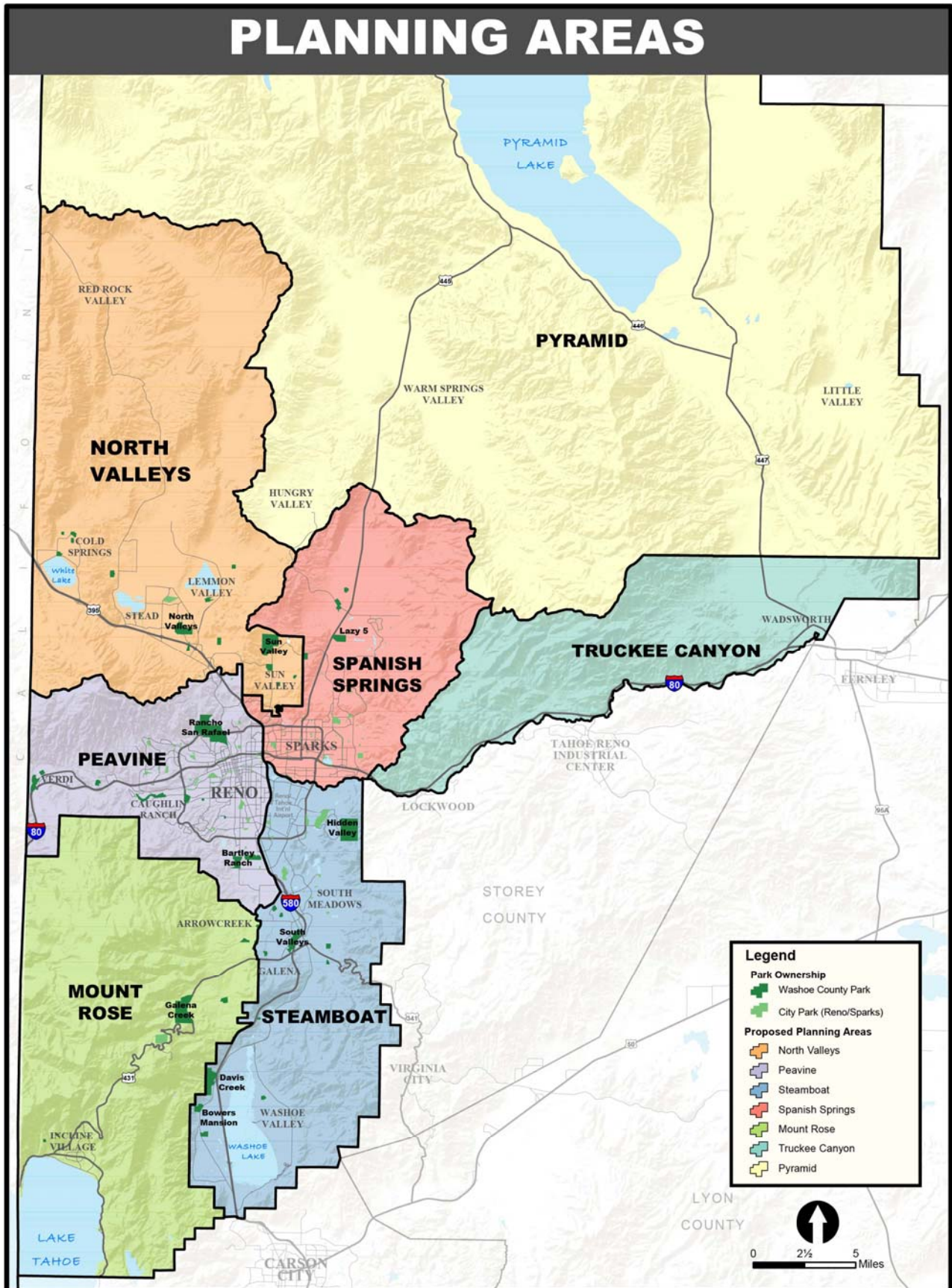
Planning Area Boundary Parameters	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Public feedback✓ Washoe County Master Plan planning area boundaries✓ RCT District boundaries✓ Park locations and travel times	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Existing residential neighborhoods✓ Land use designations✓ Future housing developments✓ Similarities in demographics

Planning Area Profiles

Each planning area has a unique set of features and demographics. Once the planning area boundaries were established via the parameters listed above, several datasets were analyzed to determine each planning area's specific characteristics, such as population, land jurisdiction, park types, and recreation facilities. This analysis helped to identify the challenges and opportunities particular to each planning area and were used to build planning area profiles.

Planning Area Priorities and Opportunities

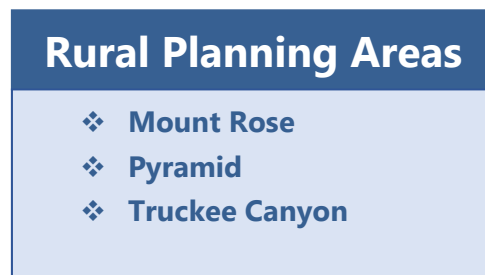
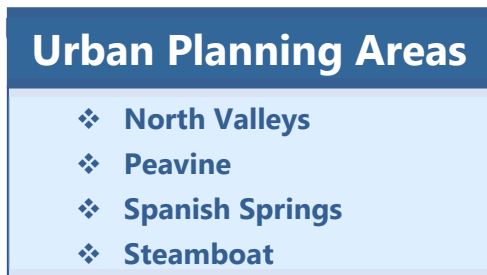
Each profile identifies that area's gaps, which can include anything that generally relates to lack of parks, inadequate park facilities, undeveloped parkland, missing trail connections, etc. Based on these gaps, priorities were developed to determine where and how Parks should focus its resources. Specific goals and objectives are provided for each priority, along with strategies to implement those goals. This section fits into the framework outlined in Chapter 3 of the master plan. The priorities and opportunities should be updated throughout the life of this master plan.



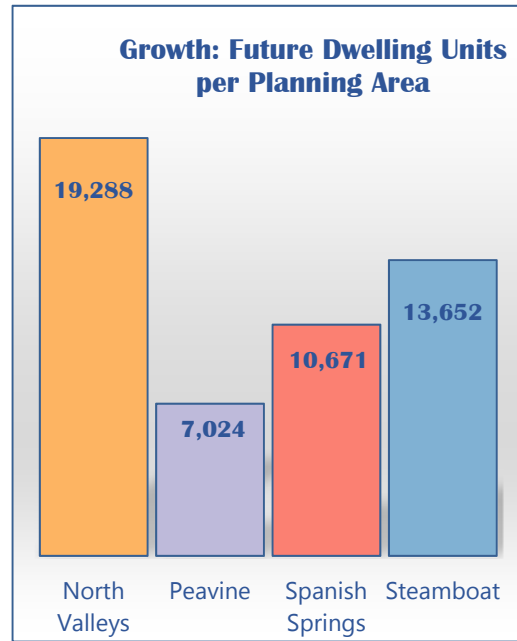
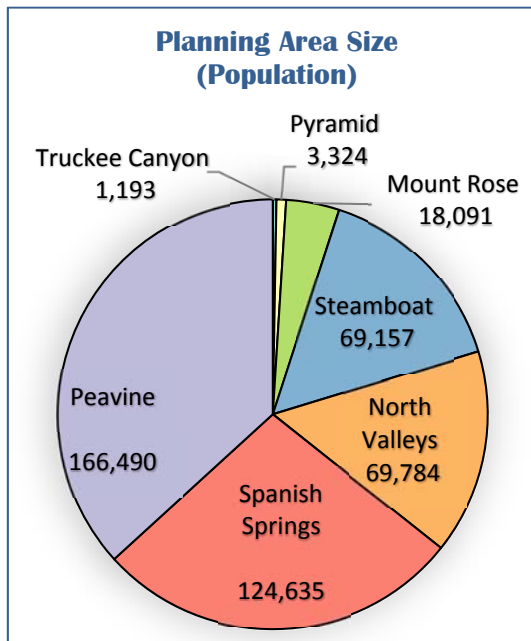
Map 5: The seven planning areas; Pyramid Planning Area includes all of northern Washoe to the Oregon border.

Urban and Rural Planning Areas

A majority of the population in Washoe County is concentrated within the City of Reno, the City of Sparks, and the portions of the unincorporated county adjacent to city limits. This concentration of people is located within the Truckee Meadows Service Area (TMSA), the areas served by municipal services, including water, sewer and parks. The availability of services means that most people, along with almost all of the neighborhood, community and regional parks are located within the TMSA. Furthermore, these areas are expected to see the majority of the growth within Washoe County over the next twenty years. Most of the TMSA lies within the boundaries of four planning areas, known as the urban planning areas.



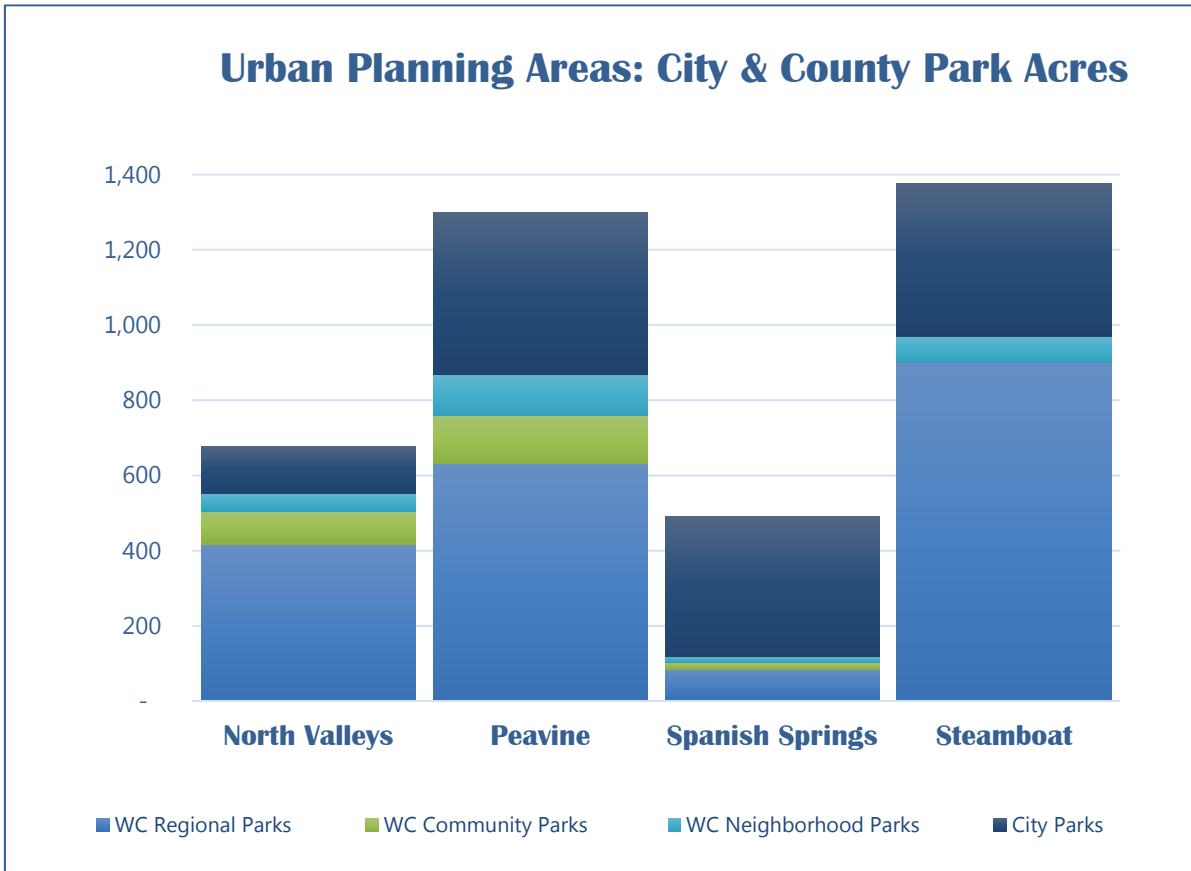
Outside of the TMSA, land use densities decrease drastically and most residents reside on large lot properties, which are typically serviced by private wells and septic tanks. While some parts of the rural planning areas may still contain pockets of urban neighborhoods with services similar to those found within the TMSA, most parts of these areas lack municipal services, including park facilities, due to lower population densities.



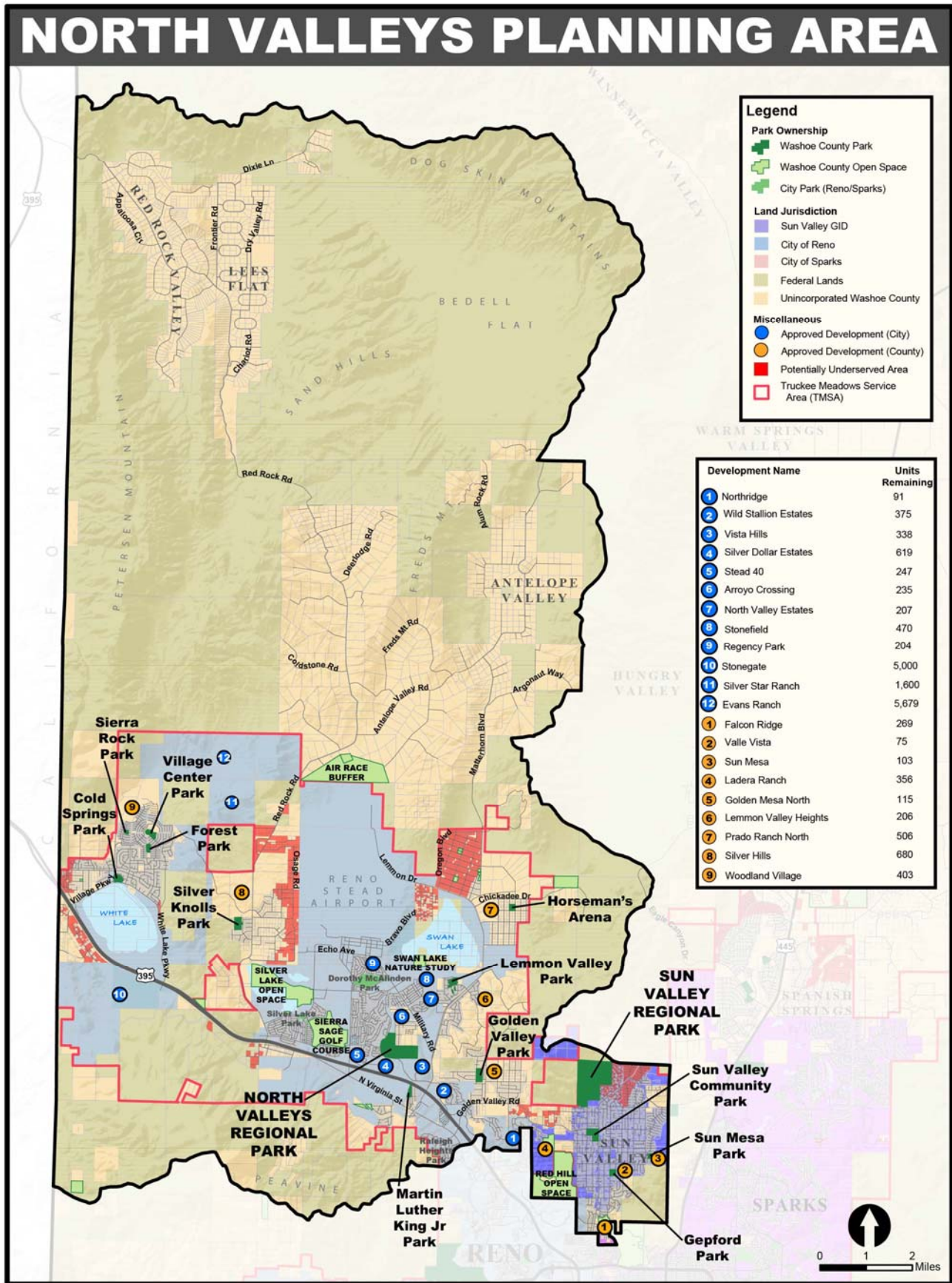
Graph 5 (left): Planning area size by population; the urban planning areas have the highest populations.

Graph 6 (right): Planning area with number of approved units. Planning areas not shown have less than 1,000 units approved (Source: Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency –June 2018).

Comparing Planning Areas						
Planning Area	Current Population	Future Units	Number of County Parks	Number of City Parks	Total Park Acres	Park Acres per 1,000 Persons
North Valleys	69,784	19,288	16	5	980	14
Peavine	166,490	7,024	12	60	1,462	9
Spanish Springs	124,635	10,671	6	46	490	4
Steamboat	69,157	13,652	11	15	1,378	20
Mount Rose	18,091	794	5	13	1,227	68
Pyramid	3,324	36	1	-	29	9
Truckee Canyon	1,193	-	1	-	530	444



Graph 7: Spanish Springs Planning Area has the least number of parks of all of the urban planning areas (Data source: Washoe County Geographic Information Systems Park Data).

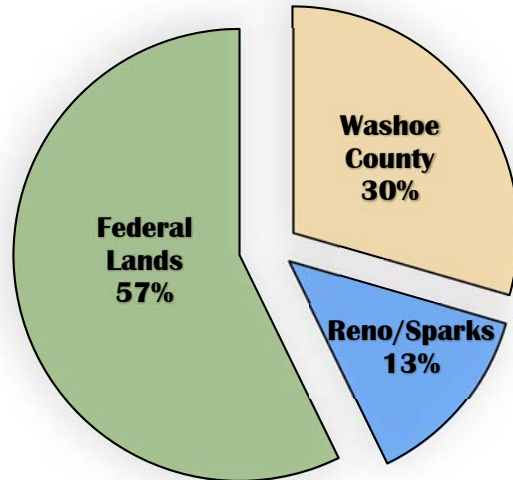


Map 6: North Valleys Planning Area including portions of northwest Reno and Sun Valley including the Sun Valley GID.

North Valleys Planning Area Profile

The North Valleys planning area includes Sun Valley, Golden Valley, Lemmon Valley and Cold Springs to the south, with Antelope Valley and Red Rock Valley to the north. The total population is 69,784 with a median age of 31.1 years. Most of the density is concentrated in the south of the planning area and this area has the highest need for park services. Although a majority of the population is within the City of Reno limits, Washoe County provides nearly eighty-seven percent of the 980 acres of parks. These parks include various neighborhood and community parks along with two regional parks including North Valley’s Regional Park and Sun Valley Regional Park. Although these parks are owned and operated by Washoe County, Sun Valley Regional Park is adjacent to properties that are within the jurisdiction of the Sun Valley General Improvement District (SVGID) and used by the citizens of Sun Valley. Similarly, North Valleys Regional Park is surrounded by the City of Reno and is heavily used by citizens of both the City and unincorporated Washoe County. Other recreational facilities include Silver Sage Golf Course, open space, such as the Peavine Mountain managed by the United States Forest Service, and other natural features such as Whites Lake, Swan Lake and Silver Lake (refer to Map 6).

North Valleys Land Jurisdiction



Graph 8: North Valleys Land Jurisdiction (Data source: Washoe County GIS).

North Valleys Facts:

- ✓ **Highest projected future growth**
- ✓ **Median age 31.1 years (youngest)**
- ✓ **Most growth within the city limits around county regional parks**
- ✓ **Majority of the parks are owned and maintained by the County**
- ✓ **Sun Valley GID operates the parks within Sun Valley**

Despite all of the facilities provided within the planning area, several existing Washoe County neighborhoods have been identified as potentially underserved. The North Valleys Planning Area has the most approved housing units with a total of twenty-one approved subdivisions that are anticipated to be constructed over the next twenty years. A majority of the units (78%) will be constructed within the City of Reno limits, (see Graph 7).

Chapter 4: Planning Areas Profiles and Implementation

The northern portion of the planning area (outside of the TMSA) is rural and includes Antelope Valley and Red Rock Valley. Open space and outdoor recreational opportunities are important to the community character in these areas, while park facilities are less important. Current and past equestrian and livestock activities also contribute to the rural character of these neighborhoods taking advantage of the open space parcels, which are primarily owned and managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

North Valley's Parks
Regional Parks:
North Valleys Regional Park
Sun Valley Regional Park
Community Parks:
Sun Valley Community Park
Golden Valley Park
Silver Knolls Park
Neighborhood Parks:
Sierra Rock Park
Sun Mesa Park
Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park
Forest Park
Lemmon Valley Horseman's Arena
Gepford Park
Lemmon Valley Park
Village Center Park
Cold Springs Park
Special Use Parks:
Swan Lake Nature Study Area
Sierra Sage Golf Course
Regional Archery Facility

North Valleys Priorities and Opportunities

Address Possible Underserved Areas (Goal 1 & 2)

Parcels considered “underserved” by NRPA Metrics are highlighted throughout the planning area. Study these areas further to determine facilities that can best serve specific neighborhoods. Work with future development to determine the best path forward.

Further Develop Sun Valley Regional Park (Goal 1, 2, 3, & 4)

Although the Sun Valley Regional Park is a county park the neighboring residents generally live within the jurisdiction of the SVGID and the City of Reno. Work with the City of Reno and SVGID entities to further implement/update/develop the Sun Valley Regional Park Specific Master Plan to meet and address the needs of the surrounding community.

Plan for Future Parks (Goal 1 & 2)

North Valleys has the highest potential for growth with an estimated 19,288 new housing units planned over the next twenty years. Although a majority of the future units will be developed within the City of Reno limits, those residents will likely be major users of the Parks’ facilities. Work with developers and the City of Reno to ensure that current and future residents are properly served.

Buildout North Valleys Regional Park (Goal 1)

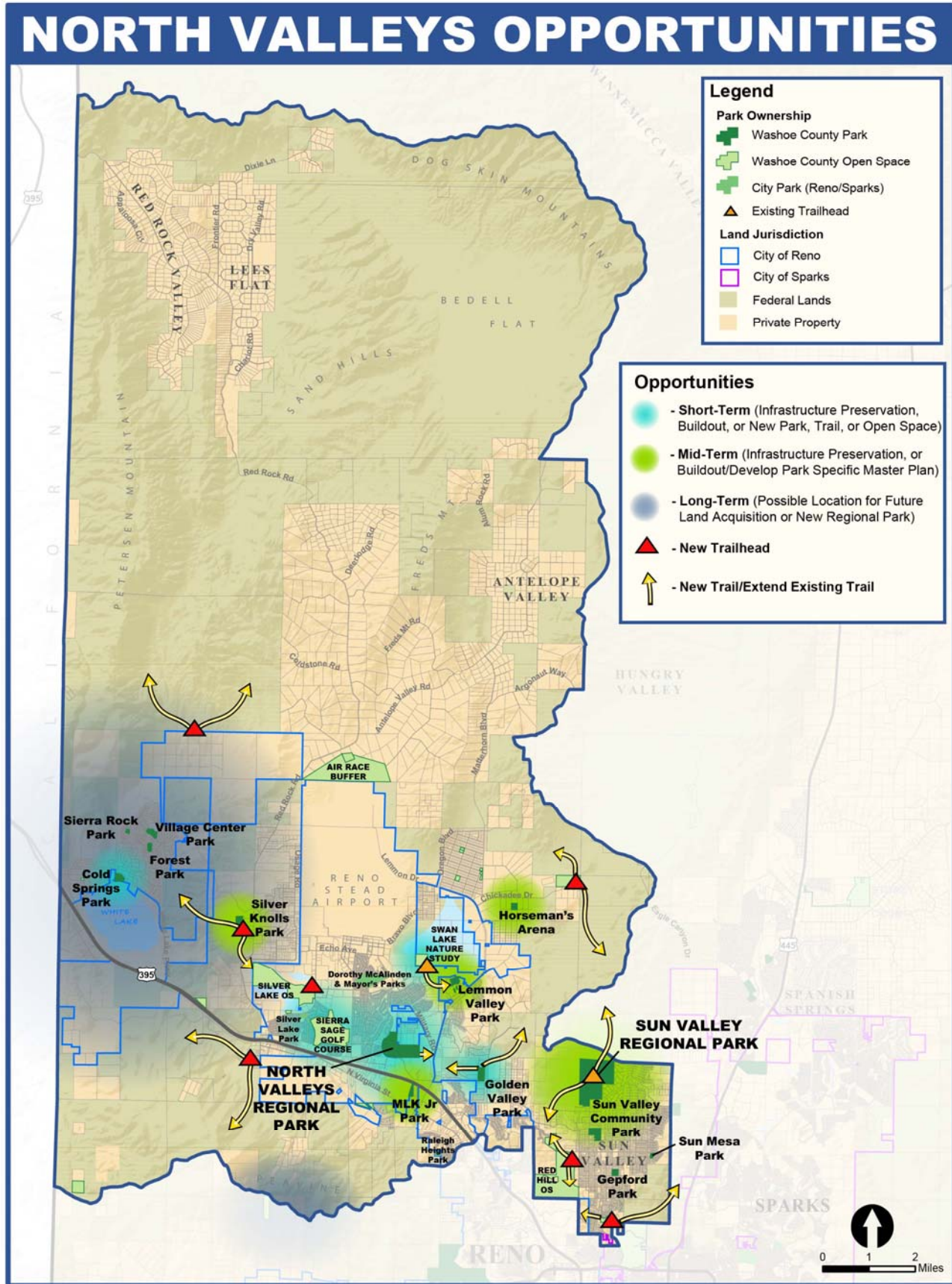
Work toward expanding existing parks and replacing aging facilities. Currently, the North Valleys Planning Area has 304 acres of Washoe County parks that can be further developed with new facilities without acquiring new land. Leverage existing funds to further develop these parks.

Acquire Open Space and Connect Parks with Trails (Goal 1)

Use the Washoe County Open Space & Natural Resource Management Plan as a guide to determine locations for areas to be acquired for open space. Look for opportunities to provide access to federal lands via trailheads, extend trails networks to connect to existing trails, parks and open space.

Utilize Reclaimed Water Where Possible (Goal 3 & 4)

The North Valleys has a high potential to increase the use of reclaimed water to irrigate fields and other recreation facilities. Work with developers, the City of Reno, Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) and other partners where possible to increase the infrastructure and use of this valuable resource.

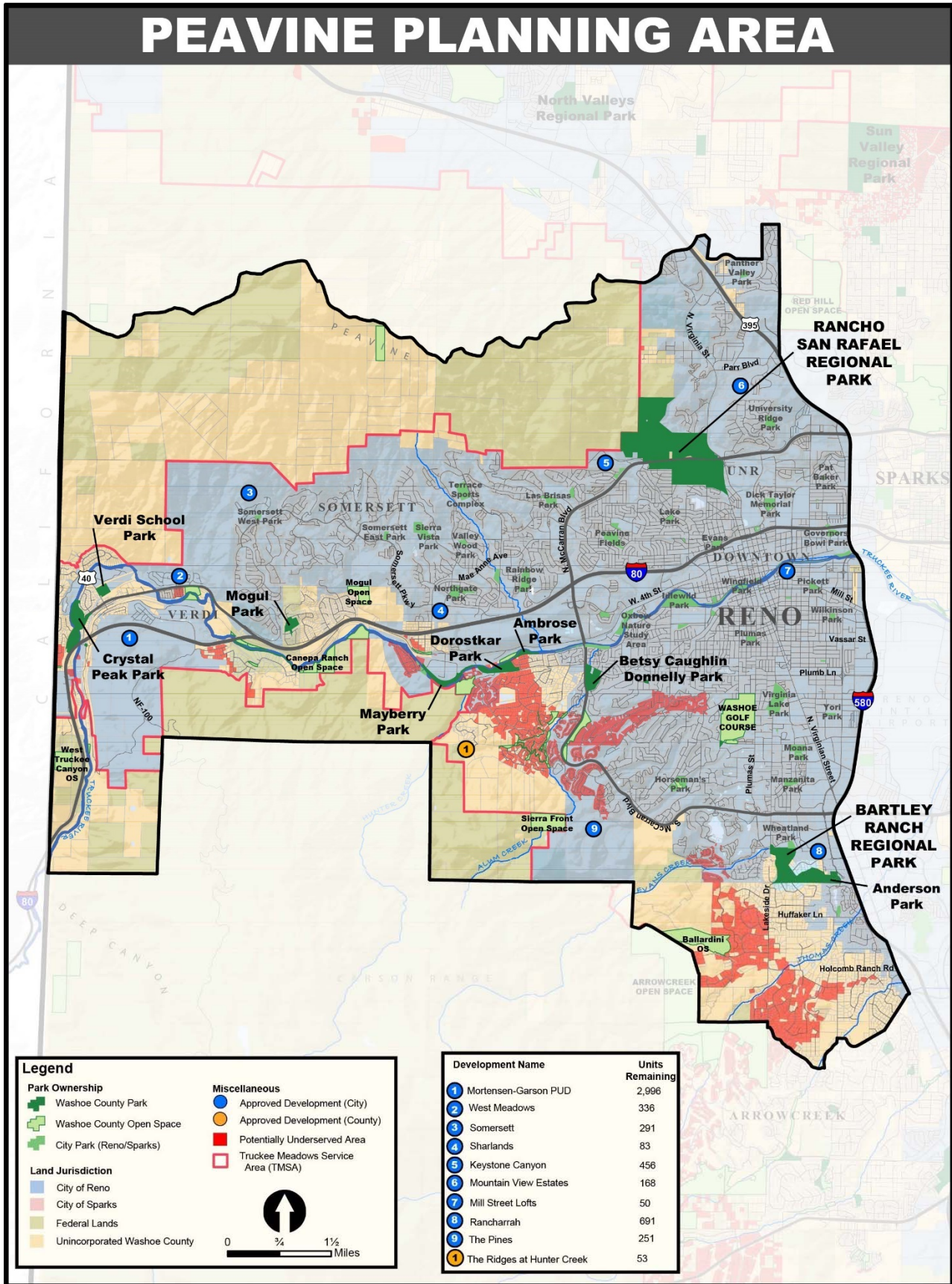


Map 7: North Valleys Planning Opportunities, refer to Priorities and Opportunities.

Chapter 4: Planning Areas Profiles and Implementation



North Valleys Regional Park

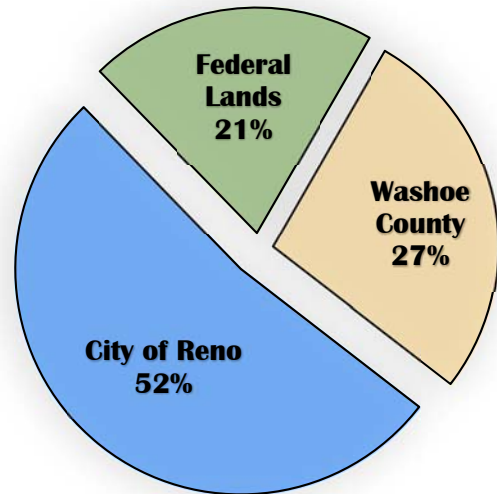


Map 8: Peavine is the most developed planning area and home to Rancho San Rafael and Bartley Ranch Regional Park

Peavine Planning Area Profile

The Peavine Planning Area includes the southern portion of the Peavine Mountain USFS property and a majority of the City of Reno’s jurisdiction lies within this area. Approximately one quarter of the planning area is under the jurisdiction of unincorporated Washoe County. This planning area is the smallest in size but has the largest population with 166,490 residents and a median age of 38.9 years. This combination leads to more intense land uses compared to the other planning areas. Much of the eastern portion of this planning area has been developed and includes the urban core of downtown Reno and related suburban neighborhoods. Farther from downtown, the area transitions into less dense residential neighborhoods with areas of open space farthest from Interstate 80 (I-80).

Peavine Land Jurisdiction



Graph 9: Peavine Land Jurisdiction (Data source: Washoe County GIS).

Features of the Peavine Planning Area are diverse, ranging from high rise, urban buildings in the downtown core to a mix of suburban and rural neighborhoods in Verdi and Bartley Ranch. The density found in the city creates a greater need for park facilities. A strong mix of neighborhood and community parks are provided within the City of Reno. Parks also serve this area well, including Rancho San Rafael and Bartley Ranch Regional Park. Rancho San Rafael Regional Park is the largest park in the county. Its large turf fields provide the perfect location for several annual events that attract crowds from all over the region. To the south, Bartley Ranch Regional Park preserves the historic feel of the agricultural and equestrian nature of the southern portion of the planning area and the amphitheater hosts smaller community events and concerts throughout the year. Crystal Peak Park, although a community park, plays an important role in providing the Verdi community with a wide range of facilities commonly associated with a regional park (see *Map 8*).

Peavine Facts:

- ✓ **Lowest projected future growth**
- ✓ **Median age 38.9 years**
- ✓ **Highest population (166,490)**
- ✓ **Least amount of unincorporated County available**
- ✓ **Home to Rancho San Rafael and Bartley Ranch Regional Parks**

Natural passive recreational opportunities within the area include the Peavine Mountain Range in the northern portion, providing access to trails within the Peavine Mountain USFS land. Additional hiking opportunities include the USFS property located to the southwest, which is home to several popular hiking trails including the Hunter Creek Trail and other trails that lead to the Mount Rose Planning Area and the Mount Rose Wilderness.

The Truckee River is another notable natural recreational feature, bisecting this planning area and extending west from Verdi through downtown Reno to the east. Numerous passive and active recreational opportunities are available along the Truckee River, including trails and several community parks owned by the City of Reno, such as Wingfield Park, Idlewild Park and the Oxbow Nature Study Area.

Of the four urban planning areas, the Peavine Planning Area has the least amount of projected growth with a majority of the development taking place within the City of Reno limits. Only 53 new units have been approved within unincorporated Washoe County. Although there are numerous existing neighborhood and community parks throughout the planning area, there are several areas that have been identified as potentially underserved (refer to *Map 8*). The Caughlin Ranch neighborhood is surrounded by neighborhood parks including Mayberry and Dorostkar Park. However, these parks have no park facilities and are mainly used for passive recreation.

Peavine Parks
Regional Parks:
Rancho San Rafael Regional Park
Bartley Ranch Regional Park
Community Parks:
Anderson Park
Crystal Peak Park
Dorostkar Park
Neighborhood Parks:
Ambrose Park
Audrey Harris Park
Betsy Caughlin Donnelly Park
Mayberry Park
Mogul Park
Rivermount Park
Verdi School Park
Special Use Parks:
Washoe Golf Course
Washoe Tennis Complex

Peavine Priorities and Opportunities

Buildout Bartley Ranch Regional Park (Goal 1 & 2)

Although a portion of the park has been developed, a large area is available for other facilities. Work with the City of Reno and future developers around the area to update and fully implement the Bartley Ranch Regional Park Specific Master Plan.

Develop Existing Community & Neighborhood Parks (Goal 1 & 2)

Parks owns approximately 869 acres of parks within the planning area. However, only approximately 189 acres (22%) of these parks are developed. Large neighborhoods in the area of Mayberry and McCarran are identified as potentially underserved areas despite being adjacent to a number of undeveloped parks. Evaluate these areas and determine whether additional park facilities are necessary to meet the needs of these neighborhoods.

Explore the Feasibility of a New Regional Park (Goal 1 & 2)

Although a majority of the population is within the downtown core, a new regional park may be needed, especially in the western portion where the population continues to grow. Work with developers and local governments to identify a location for a possible future regional park, preferably within the Verdi area.

Update/Maintain Existing Park Facilities (Goal 4)

This planning area contains some of the oldest parks and park facilities of all the planning areas. Proper maintenance and upgrades should be performed on the parks to guarantee the same level of service is maintained or improved.

Further Develop Rancho San Rafael Regional Park (Goal 1, 2, 3, & 4)

Rancho San Rafael Regional Park is one of the most heavily used parks and the most well known in the area. Because it is home to a large number of year-round attractions, it hosts people not only from the planning area but from all over northern Nevada. Work with local governments and other agencies to update the Rancho San Rafael Regional Park Specific Master Plan.

Acquire Open Space & Connect Parks With Trails (Goal 1 & 2)

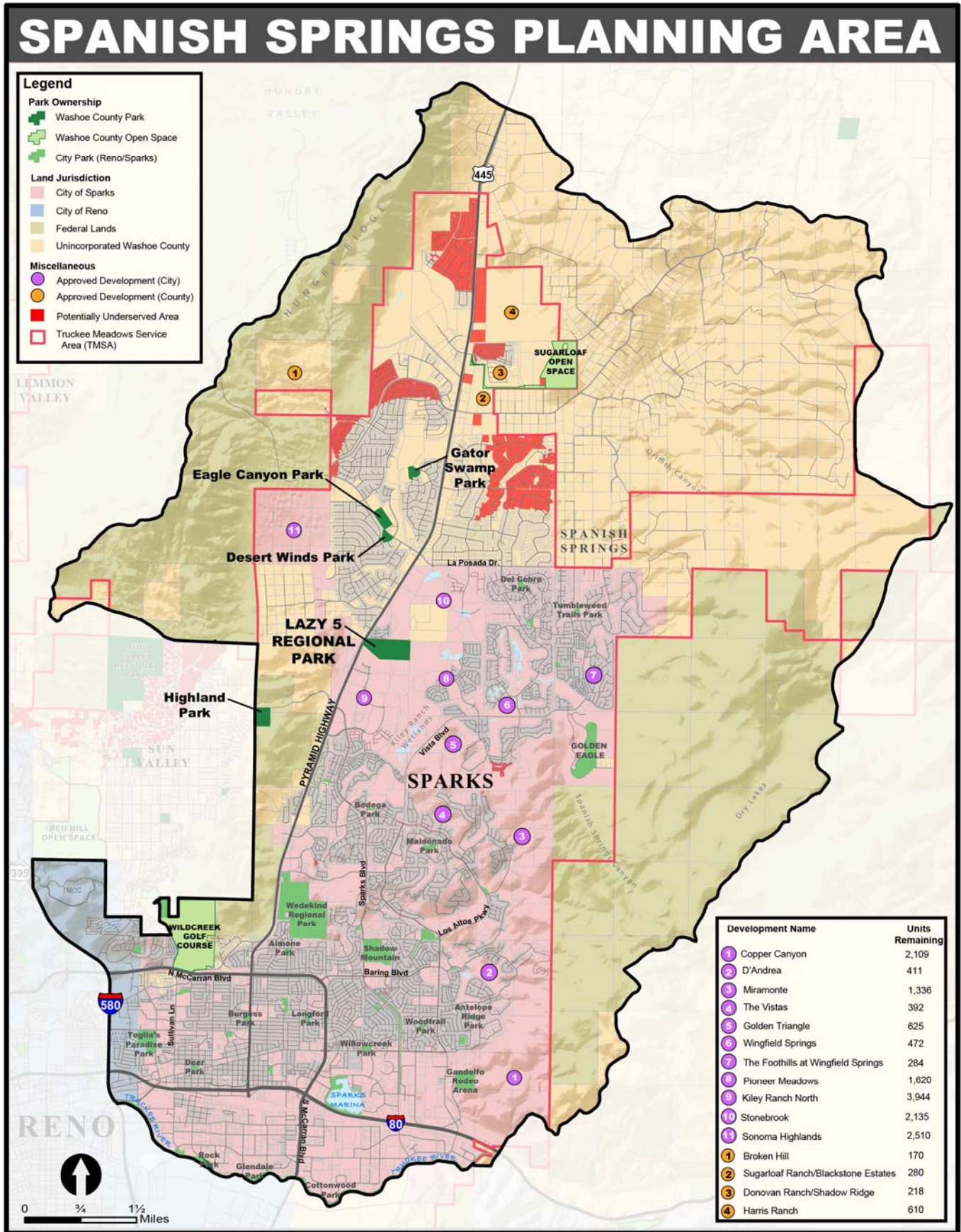
Use the Washoe County Open Space & Natural Resource Management Plan and the Truckee Meadows Regional Trails Maps as guides to determine locations for areas to be acquired and/or dedicated for open space. Look for opportunities to provide access to federal lands via trailheads, extend trails networks to connect to existing trails, parks and open space.

Utilize Reclaimed Water Where Possible (Goal 3 & 4)

Although the reclaimed water infrastructure in this area is not as well established as the other planning areas seek opportunities where feasible. Collaborate with developers, the City of Reno, Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) and other partners to increase the infrastructure and use of this valuable resource.



The Great Reno Balloon Race; Rancho San Rafael Regional Park

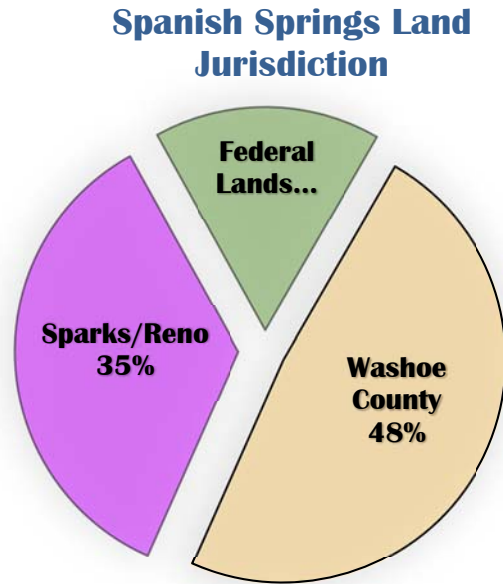


Map 10: Spanish Springs Planning Area has a large area of Unincorporated Washoe County

Spanish Springs Planning Area Profile

The Spanish Springs Planning Area is the second most populated planning area with a population of 124,635 residents and a median age of 38.1 years. Land jurisdictions split between the City of Sparks, the City of Reno, and areas of federal lands leaving approximately half of the planning area within the jurisdiction of unincorporated Washoe County. The area can be characterized by distinct urban and suburban cores along Pyramid Highway and downtown Sparks, gradually transitioning to lower density, and rural land patterns to the northeast. Sparks is largely suburban, extending from an urban and industrial core historically tied to the railroad.

Important passive recreational features include access to trails within the nearby mountain ranges that surround the northeast Truckee Meadows, as well as within the wetlands found in the lower elevations around Kiley Ranch. The wetlands eventually lead to the Truckee River which borders the southern perimeter of the planning area and provides an abundance of passive and active recreational opportunities. Evidence of past and present livestock, agriculture and aggregate mining activities are still a heavy influence within the area, especially to the north in the more rural neighborhoods which are home to many equestrian enthusiasts. Active recreational facilities include community and neighborhood parks with several more notable facilities, such as Lazy 5 Regional Park, Wildcreek Golf Course, Golden Eagle Sports Complex, Sparks Marina, and the Truckee River Water Park.



Graph 10: Spanish Springs Land Jurisdiction (Data source: Washoe County GIS).

Spanish Springs Facts:

- ✓ **490 acres of parks (lowest)**
- ✓ **Second highest pop. (124,635)**
- ✓ **Median Age 38.1 years**
- ✓ **Most amount of unincorporated county available**
- ✓ **Only one regional park (Lazy 5)**
- ✓ **88% of future development within the City of Sparks limits**

Despite the Spanish Springs Planning Area having the second largest population, it has the least number of parks per acre of any of the urban planning areas. In fact, there is only one regional park within the entire planning area, Lazy 5 Regional Park. Furthermore, based on existing approved units, there is the potential to add approximately 10,600 units over the next twenty years. Washoe County will see little of the tax revenue generated by these new homes because the majority of this development (88%) is located within the City of Sparks limits (refer to *Map 10*).

Chapter 4: Planning Areas Profiles and Implementation

Several existing neighborhoods located within unincorporated Washoe County in the north of the planning area have been identified as potentially underserved. Within this area, three developments (Sugar Loaf Ranch, Donovan Ranch, and Harris Ranch) have been approved and are anticipated to be developed over the next twenty years.

Spanish Springs Parks
Regional Parks:
Lazy 5 Regional Park
Community Parks:
Eagle Canyon Park
Neighborhood Parks:
Desert Winds Park
Gator Swamp Park
Highland Ranch Park
Special Use Parks:
Wildcreek Golf Course

Spanish Springs Priorities and Opportunities

Buildout Lazy 5 Regional Park (Goal 1, 2, 3 & 4)

Only twelve of the eighty-five acres of the park have been developed. This is the only regional park in a planning area that is strongly lacking parks. Work with the City of Sparks and future developers around the area to update and implement the full buildout of the Lazy 5 Regional Park Specific Master Plan.

Address Potentially Underserved Areas & Develop New Parks (Goal 1 & 2)

The Spanish Springs Planning Area is the second most populated and Washoe County owns 119 acres of parks, by far the least amount in any urban planning area. Furthermore, a large portion of the existing population to the north is considered “underserved” by national park standards. Study these areas further to determine what facilities can best serve these neighborhoods.

Plan a New Regional Park (Goal 1 & 2)

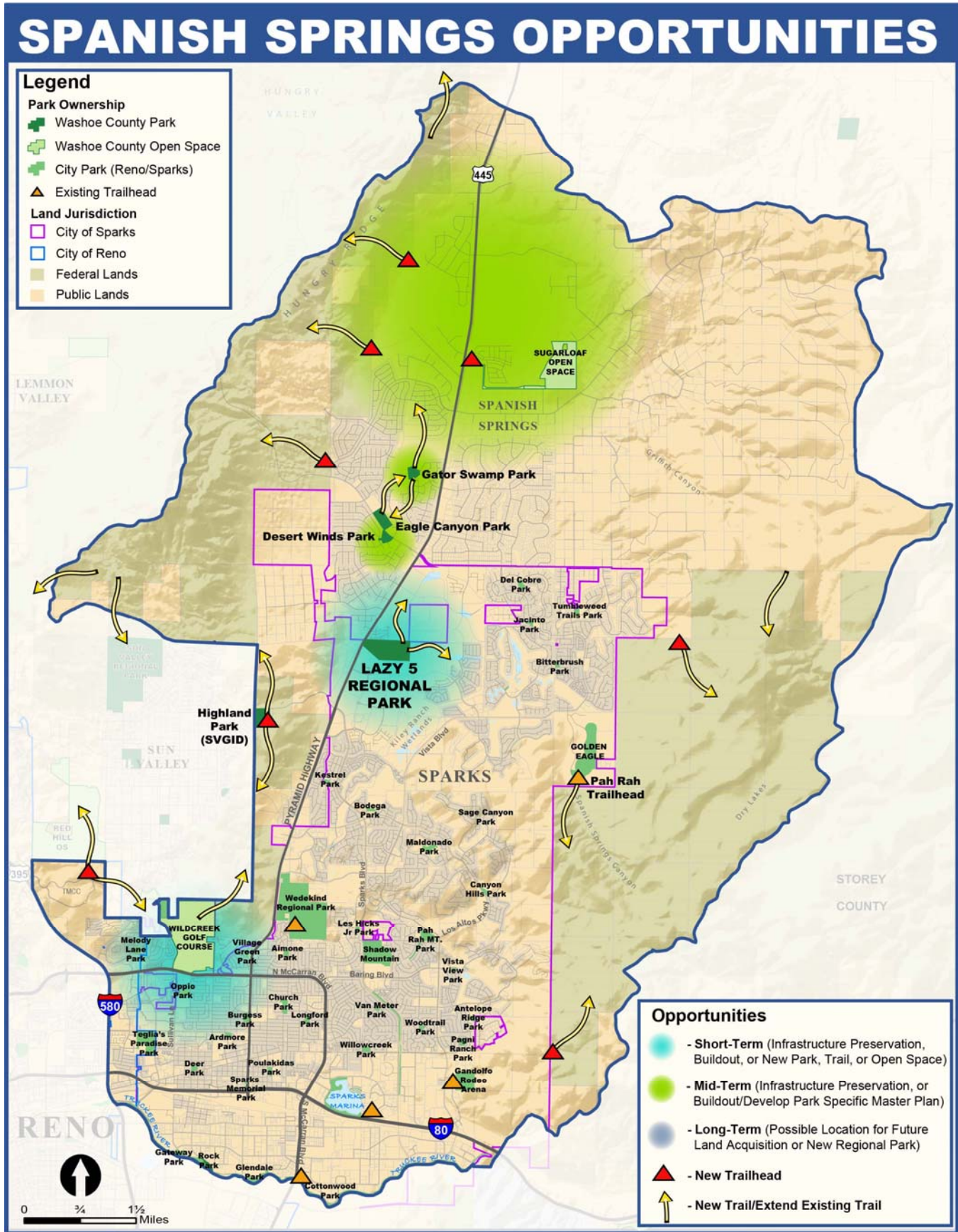
Nearly 125,000 people live within the planning area, all of which are served by one regional park. With an estimated 10,600 units expected to be built within the next twenty years, work with developers and local governments to identify a location for a second regional park in the northern portion of the planning area, preferably north of Calle de La Plata Road.

Acquire Open Space & Connect Parks with Trails (Goal 1)

Use the Washoe County Open Space & Natural Resource Management Plan and the Truckee Meadows Regional Trails Maps as guides to determine locations for areas to be acquired and/or dedicated for open space and work toward connecting trails to parks.

Utilize Reclaimed Water Where Possible (Goal 3 & 4)

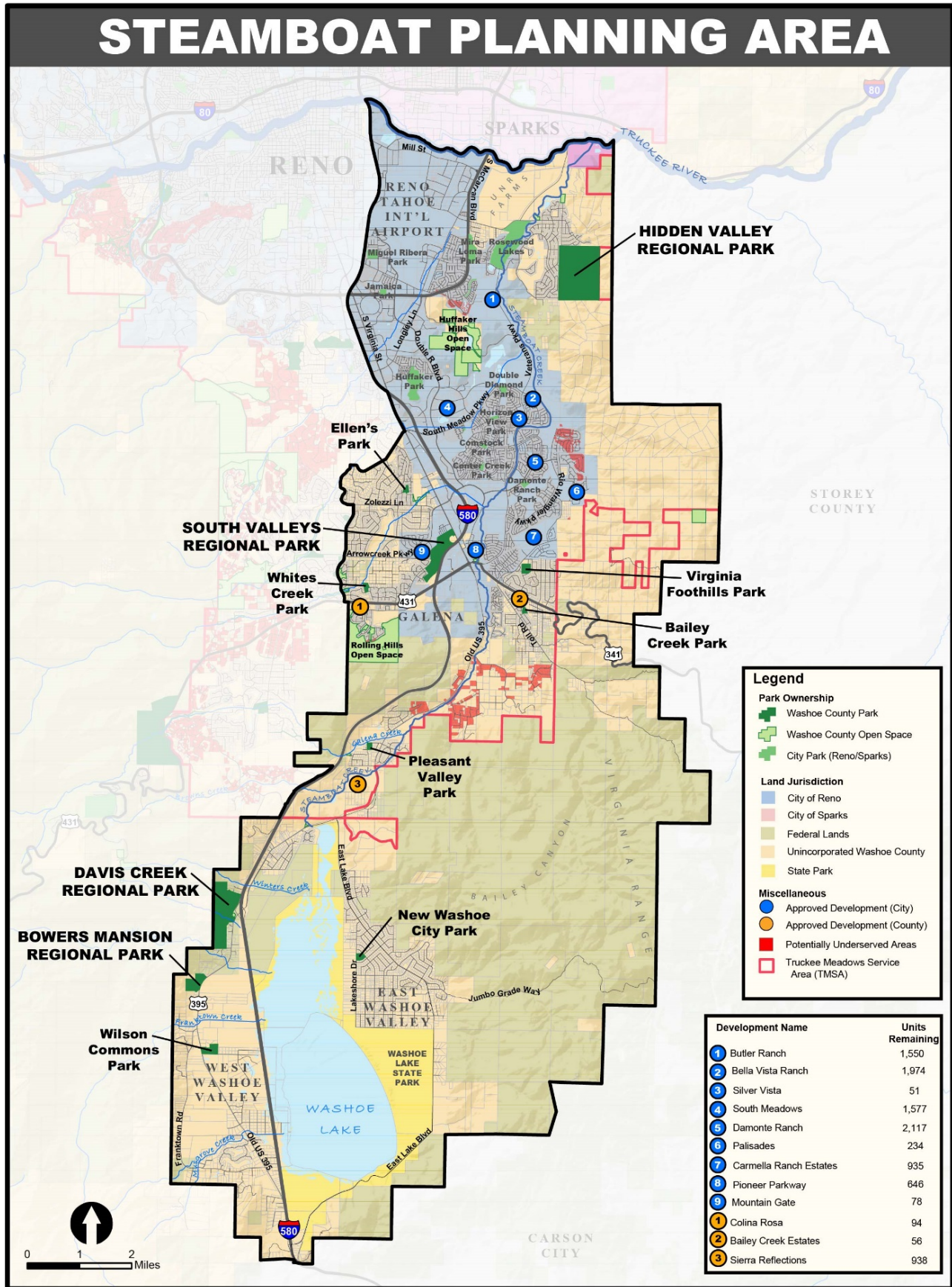
Spanish Springs has a high potential to increase the use of reclaimed water to irrigate fields and other recreation facilities. Work with developers, the City of Sparks, Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) and other partners where possible to increase the infrastructure and use of this valuable resource.



Map 11: Spanish Springs Opportunities, Refer to Spanish Springs Priorities and Opportunities



Concert in the Park, Lazy 5 Regional Park

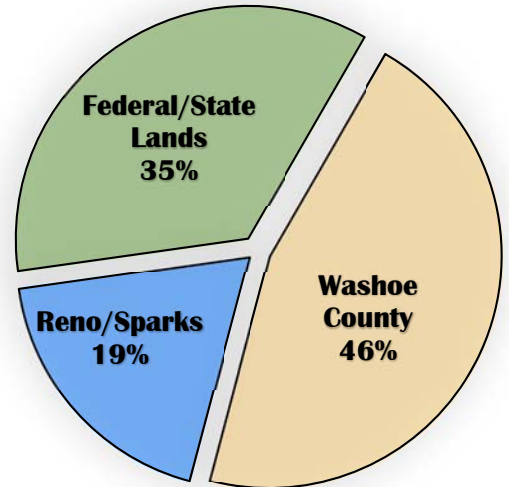


Map 12: Steamboat Planning Area

Steamboat Planning Area Profile

Steamboat Planning Area is bisected by Steamboat Creek, which begins at the southernmost portion of the planning area in Washoe Lake and meanders north through the southwest Truckee Meadows eventually flowing into the Truckee River. The Truckee River forms the northern boundary of the planning area. The area is a mix of federal/state lands, the City of Reno, and a small portion of the City of Sparks, leaving approximately 39,500 acres of unincorporated Washoe County. The Steamboat Planning Area has the least amount of population between the four urban planning areas, with a population of 69,157 and a median age of 39.1 years. This number is expected to grow in the coming years with an additional 13,652 units that have already been approved (refer to *Map 12*). Of those future units, only 1,088 units (8%) are being constructed within unincorporated Washoe County.

Steamboat Land Jurisdiction



Graph 11: Steamboat Land Jurisdiction (Data source: Washoe County GIS).

The northernmost section has the highest density and includes the Reno-Tahoe International Airport, large commercial and industrial developments, and high density residential that transitions to more suburban and rural residential moving south, away from city limits. The Hidden Valley, Saddlehorn, Field Creek, Virginia Foothills, and New Washoe City neighborhoods are more suburban and are located within unincorporated Washoe County. Pleasant Valley and East/West Washoe Valley neighborhoods are the more rural neighborhoods within the planning area.

Steamboat Facts:

- ✓ **Highest number of parks per person (20 acres/1,000 people)**
- ✓ **Median age 39.1 years (highest)**
- ✓ **Nearly half of planning area is unincorporated county**
- ✓ **Hidden Valley is the second largest regional park**
- ✓ **13,652 future dwelling units, 92% will be within city limits**

The southern portion can be characterized as rural, with agricultural uses and open space along Interstate 580 (I-580) near Washoe Lake. Washoe Lake is a notable water feature in this planning area and contains a state park along its borders. The state park is adjacent to the BLM Virginia Range, which is a popular area for off-road use and hiking opportunities. The western portion of Washoe Valley is home to Bowers Mansion and Davis Creek Regional Park at the foot of Slide Mountain and the Mount Rose Planning Area.

Chapter 4: Planning Areas Profiles and Implementation

Other natural features include two publicly accessible creeks, Whites Creek and Thomas Creek, which provide hiking opportunities to the west. An extensive network of paved trails located throughout the City of Reno provides pedestrian access along the wetlands within the south valleys area. Further north, Huffaker Hills and Hidden Valley provide additional access to hiking and open space. The Truckee River borders the northern boundary of the planning area and includes a paved path along the river connecting to downtown Reno.

Parks serving this area include four Washoe County regional parks: Hidden Valley, South Valleys, Davis Creek and Bowers Mansion Regional Park. Bowers Mansion is a cultural/historical destination operated by Parks, and is listed on the national and state registers of historic places. With the plentiful recreational opportunities and approximately 969 acres of existing Washoe County parks, this planning area could serve as a model for the rest of the urban planning areas.

Steamboat Parks
Regional Parks:
Bowers Mansion Regional Park
Davis Creek Regional Park
Hidden Valley Regional Park
South Valleys Regional Park
Neighborhood Parks:
Bailey Creek Park
Ellen's Park
New Washoe City Park
Pleasant Valley Park
Virginia Foothills Park
Whites Creek Park
Wilson Commons Park

Steamboat Priorities and Opportunities

Buildout South Valleys Regional Park (Goal 3 & 4)

Leverage existing funds and work with the City of Reno and future developers to construct the remaining undeveloped portion of the South Valleys Regional Park in accordance with the South Valleys Regional Park Specific Master Plan.

Further Develop Hidden Valley Regional Park (Goal 1, 2, 3 & 4)

Although it currently serves the existing population, future development planned within the city limits could create a shortage of park facilities to satisfy the recreational needs of the growing community. Furthermore, South Valleys Regional Park is almost completely developed and a growing need for another regional park is ever increasing. Hidden Valley is the second largest regional park in the county in size, but only 65 of the 480 acres are developed. An estimated 140 acres of the park have the potential to be developed and could provide facilities, such as multi-purpose flat fields for a regional sporting complex. Although existing access may be an issue, work can be done with local agencies and future developers to update and implement the Hidden Valley Regional Park Specific Master Plan, and look for alternative ways to access the park.

Connect Parks with Trails (Goal 1)

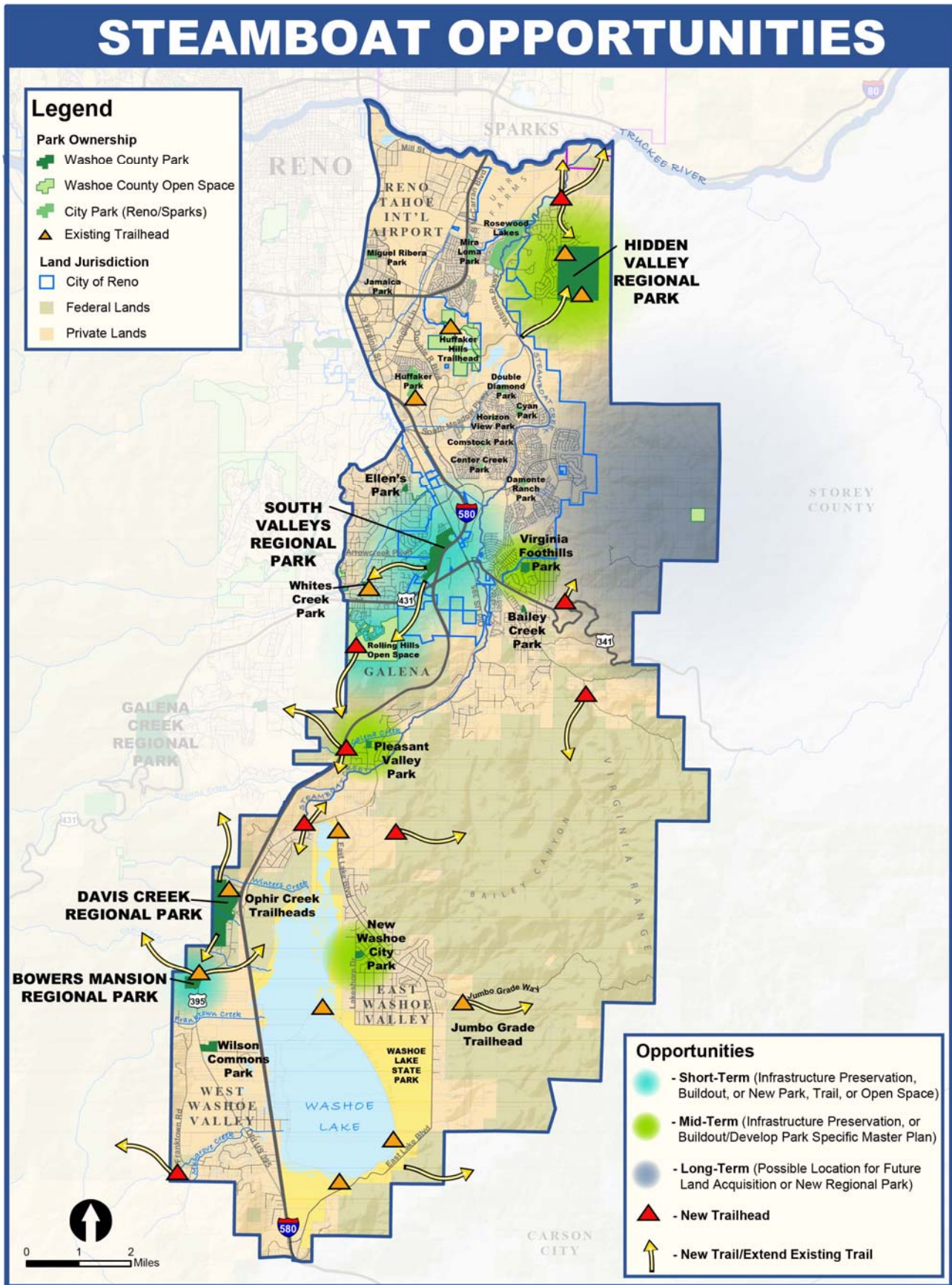
New development within the area has created a large network of multi-use paths. Work with local agencies and future developers to continue this progress as well as to connect existing and new trails to park facilities.

Maintain & Update Existing Park Facilities (Goal 1 & 3)

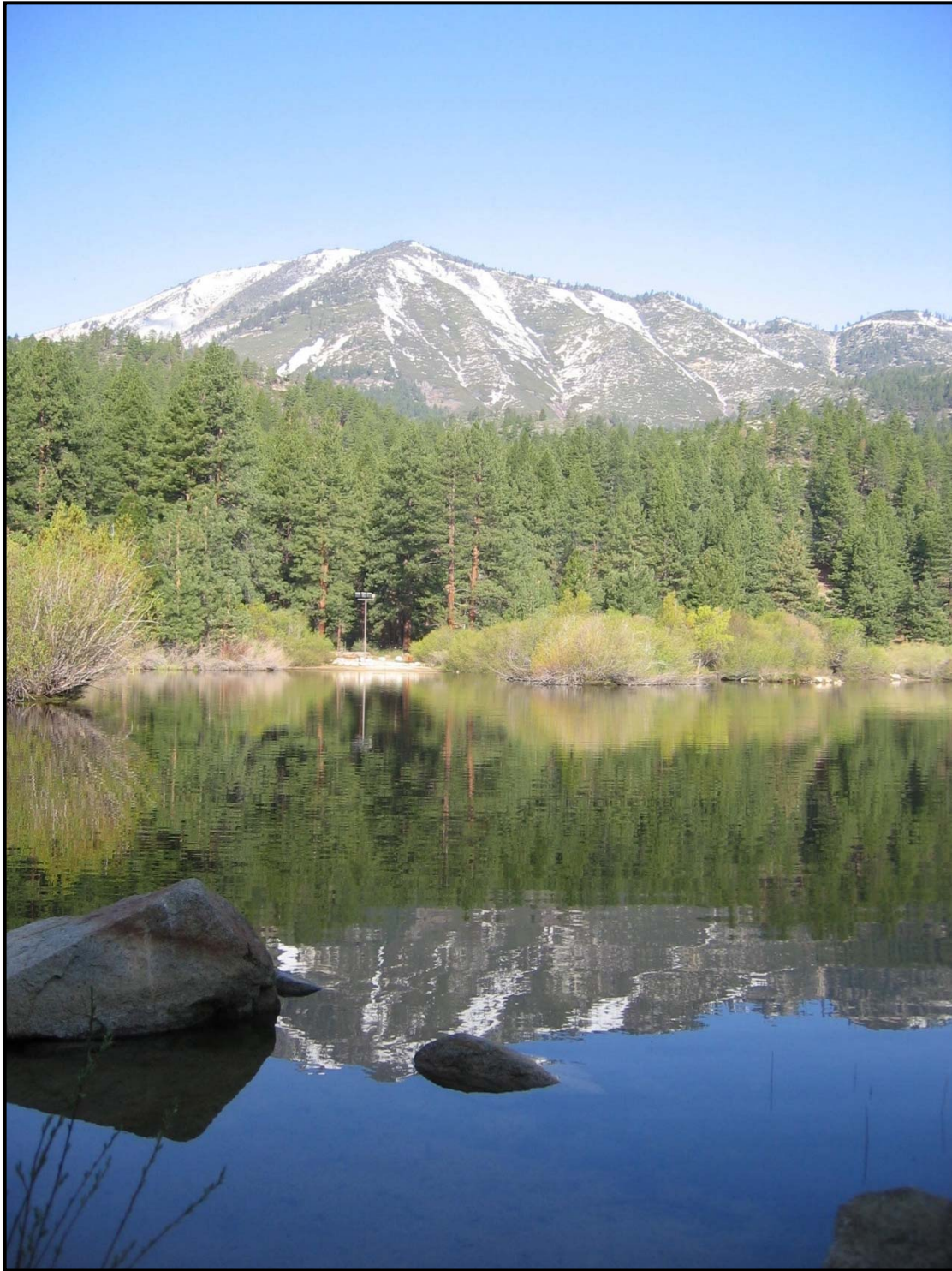
Although parks like Davis Creek Regional Park and Bowers Mansion Regional Park are located in areas that are considered rural, they are still widely used by the community. Work with the community to guarantee these facilities are maintained and updated to meet the needs of the residents.

Utilize Reclaimed Water Where Possible (Goal 3 & 4)

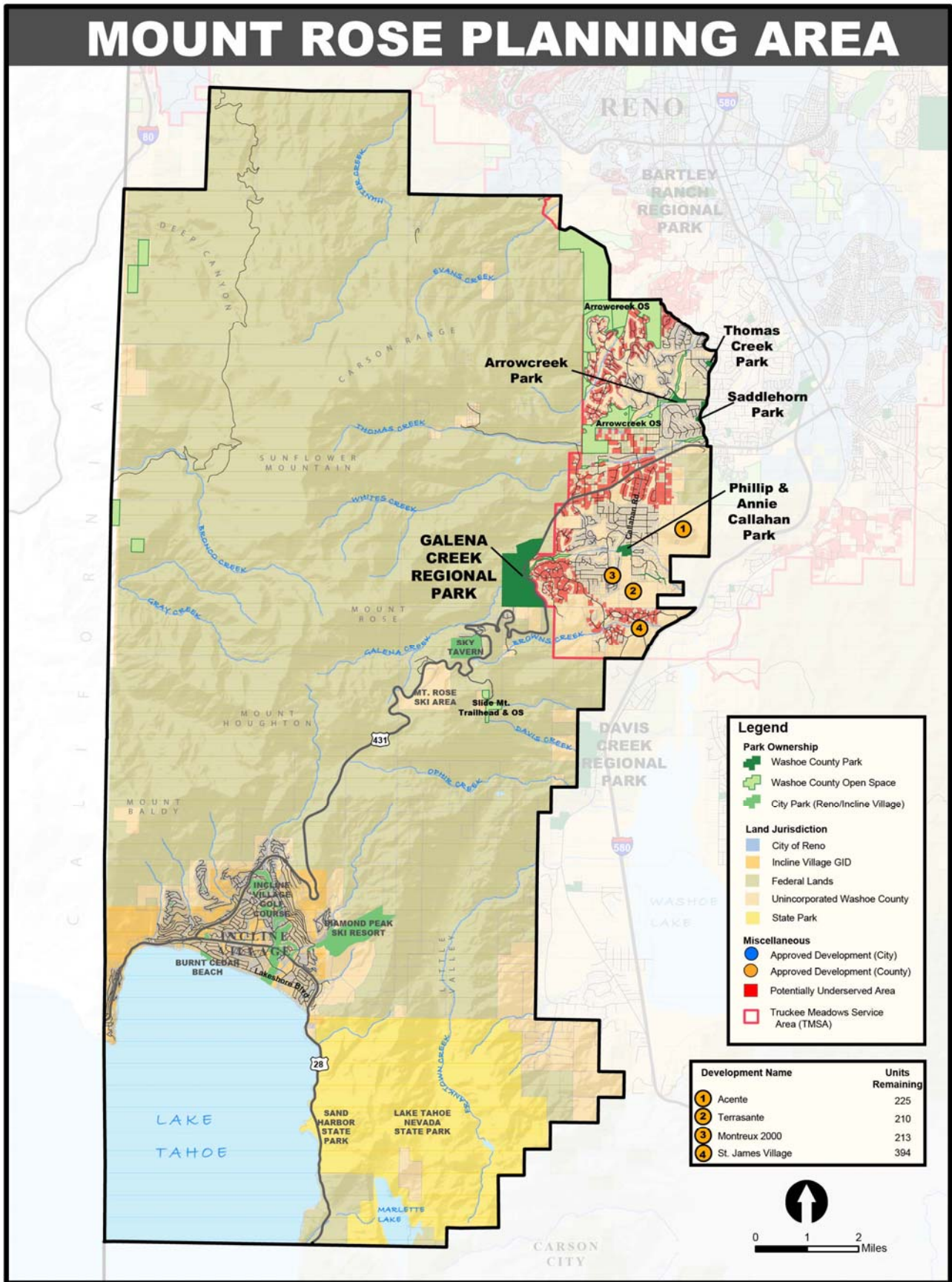
The South Valleys has a high potential to increase the use of reclaimed water for the irrigation of fields and other recreation facilities. Work with developers, the City of Reno, Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) and other partners where possible to increase the infrastructure and use of this valuable resource.



Map 13: Steamboat Opportunities, Refer to Steamboat Priorities and Opportunities



Davis Creek Regional Park

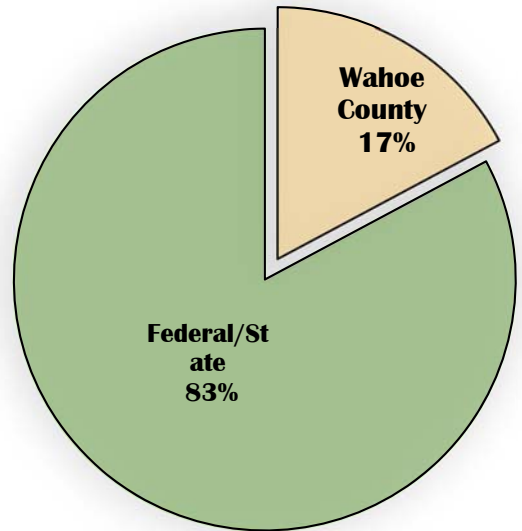


Map 14: Mount Rose Planning Area

Mount Rose Planning Area Profile

The Mount Rose Planning Area is the most populated of the rural planning areas with a population of 18,091 and includes Arrowcreek, Montreux, and St. James Village neighborhoods in the western portion and Incline Village in the Lake Tahoe basin. A majority of the recreational attractions in this area are passive and include access to federal lands for hiking in the Mount Rose Wilderness, Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park, and the various beaches along the shores of Lake Tahoe, such as Sand Harbor and the East Shore Trail. All of the parks within the Incline Village area, including Diamond Peak Ski Resort and the Incline Village Golf Course, are operated and maintained by IVGID. Washoe County facilities include Galena Creek Regional Park and four neighborhood parks located in the foothills of Mount Rose.

Mount Rose Land Jurisdiction



Graph 12: Mount Rose Land Jurisdiction (Data source: Washoe County GIS).

Mount Rose Priorities and Opportunities

Monitor Future Growth (Goal 1)

The area is expected to see slow growth with approximately 1,042 units anticipated to be constructed over the next twenty years. These areas should be monitored as development continues to increase to guarantee recreational needs are met.

Evaluate Potentially Underserved Areas (Goals 1 & 2)

Although many residents within the area are considered underserved by national park standards, a wide range of passive recreational opportunities currently serve the residents. Evaluate these neighborhoods to determine if any facilities need to be constructed.

Mount Rose Parks

Regional Parks:

Galena Creek Regional Park

Community Parks:

Phillip & Annie Callahan Park

Neighborhood Parks:

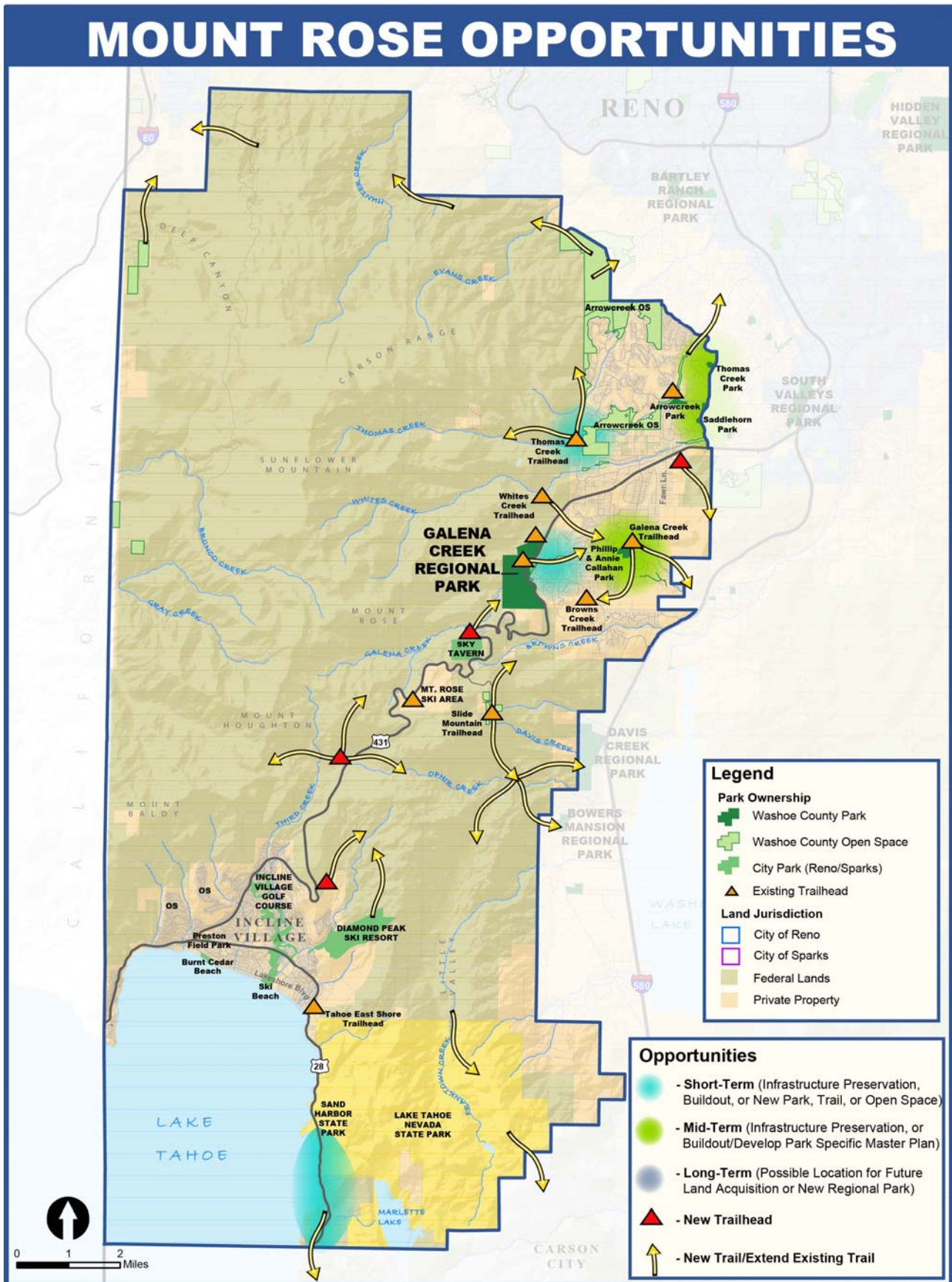
Arrowcreek Park

Saddlehorn Park

Thomas Creek Park



Galena Creek Regional Park



Map 15: Mount Rose Opportunities Map

Chapter 4: Planning Areas Profiles and Implementation



East Shore Trail, Incline Village to Sand Harbor (Photo: Tahoe Transportation District, TTD)



Map 16: Pyramid & Truckee Canyon Planning Areas

Pyramid Planning Area Profile

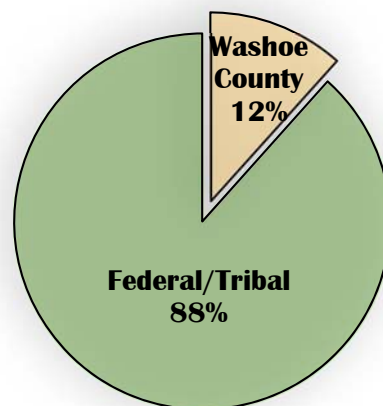
This is the largest of the planning areas by size, taking up nearly eighty-six percent of Washoe County but its home to only 3,324 residents, making it the most rural of the planning areas. It is home to the Regional Shooting Facility in Warm Springs and two parks located within the town of Gerlach, which has the Gerlach GID and is responsible for maintaining and operating the Gerlach parks. All other recreational facilities within this planning area are considered passive recreation. Future development will most likely be limited to large lot residential and the need for park facilities is minimal for the foreseeable future. However, with previous approved projects such as Spring Mountain, a large development proposed within the City of Reno located near Tule Peak Open Space, this can change quickly.

Pyramid Priorities and Opportunities

Monitor Future Growth (Goal 1)

This area should be monitored for future proposed development to guarantee the recreational needs of the community are still met.

Pyramid Land Jurisdiction



Graph 13: Pyramid Land Jurisdiction (Source: Washoe County GIS)

Pyramid Parks
Neighborhood Parks:
Gerlach Community Park
Gerlach Water Tower Park
Special Use Park:
Regional Shooting Facility

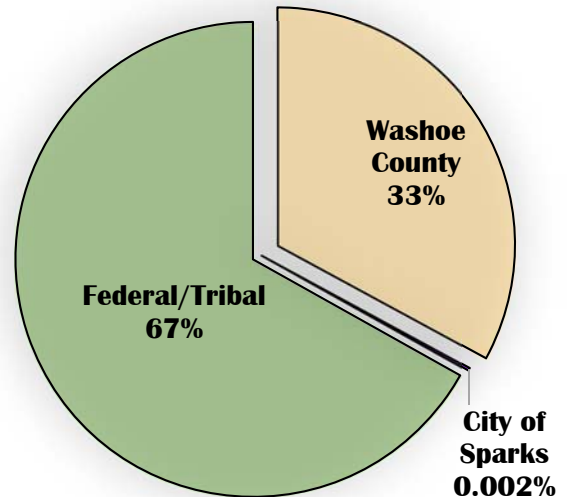
Truckee Parks
Special Use Park:
Lockwood Trailhead

Truckee Canyon Planning Area Profile

Truckee Canyon is located along I-80 with the southern boundary following the Truckee River. Although there is open space, the Lockwood Trailhead is the only Washoe County park facility located within the planning area. Despite this, the Truckee River provides a great opportunity for passive recreation and the surrounding hills could provide great hiking and off-road opportunities within the BLM land located in the foothills.

The town of Wadsworth currently holds a majority of the population within this planning area totaling 1,193 residents. This area was separated from the Pyramid Planning Area due to the high potential for growth over the next twenty years resulting from development along I-80 at the Tahoe-Reno Industrial Center. The increased potential for future development within this planning area would most likely be concentrated within the town of Wadsworth which presently has no park facilities.

Truckee Canyon Land Jurisdiction



Graph 14: Truckee Canyon Land Jurisdiction (Data source: Washoe County GIS).

Truckee Canyon Priorities and Opportunities

Monitor Future Growth (Goal 1)

This area should be monitored to ensure the recreational needs of the area are met as the region develops.



The Truckee River at the Lockwood Trailhead

Chapter 5

Plan Implementation, Strategies and Summary



Plan Implementation, Strategies & Summary

Plan Implementation and Strategies

In order for Parks to implement the goals, objectives, and strategies within the master plan and to return the budget back to pre-recession levels Parks must establish diverse and viable long-term funding solutions. This will provide the resources needed to implement the master plan and to grow the staffing levels required to meet existing and future demand for the operations and maintenance program as well as the capital and infrastructure program. There are several implementation strategies Parks should pursue to help ensure that a sustainable funding source exists while continuing to build upon the successes of the past by leveraging existing funds. The following strategies should be encouraged and implemented and are broken down into Short-Term (0-5 years), Mid-Term (5-10 years) and Long-Term (10+ years).

Program Implementation

Short-Term Strategies

- ✓ **Strategize Acquisition & Priority Projects for State Conservation Bond**
- ✓ **Complete a Service Plan Study**
- ✓ **Further Develop the Capital & Infrastructure Preservation Program**

Mid-Term Strategies

- ✓ **Develop Facilities & Programs That Generate Revenue**
- ✓ **Educate Policy Makers of the Benefits of Funding Recreation**
- ✓ **Conduct Feasibility Study for a Regional Park District**
- ✓ **Reconfigure the Residential Construction Tax (RCT) Districts**

Long-Term Strategies

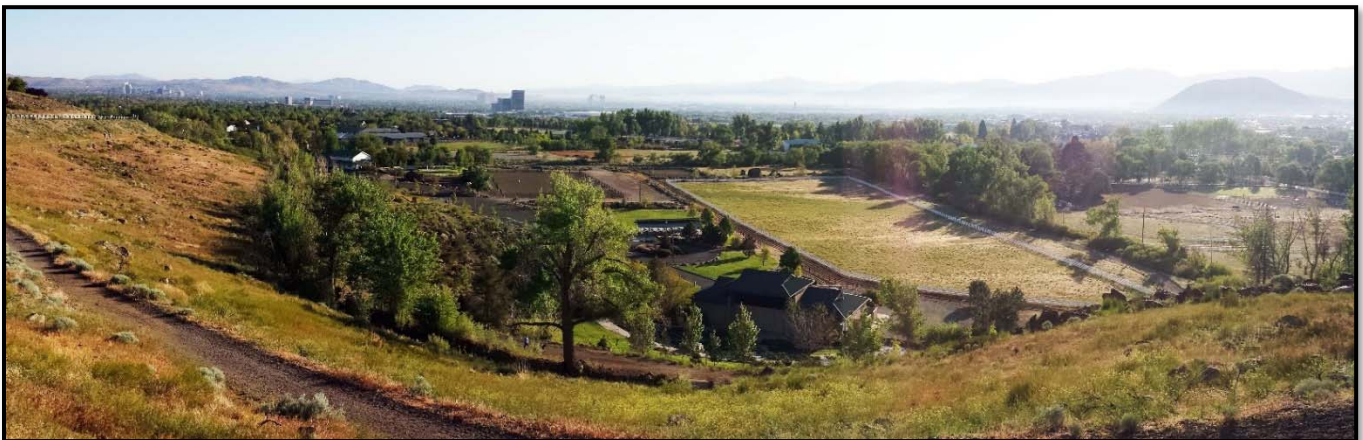
- ✓ **Rebalance and Distribute Capital Expenditures**
- ✓ **Foster Partnerships That Promote Economic Vitality Through Recreation**
- ✓ **Target Legislative Updates Supporting Diverse & Lasting Funding for Parks, Trails & Open Space**

Planning Area Implementation

Priorities & Opportunities	Short-Term	Mid-Term	Long-Term
North Valleys Planning Area			
Address Possible Underserved Areas	X		
Further Develop Sun Valley Regional Park		X	
Plan for Future Parks	X	X	X
Buildout North Valleys Regional Park	X		
Acquire Open Space & Connect Parks With Trails	X	X	X
Utilize Reclaimed Water Where Possible	X	X	X
Peavine Planning Area			
Buildout Bartley Ranch Regional Park		X	
Develop Existing Community & Neighborhood Parks	X	X	
Explore the Feasibility of a New Regional Park			X
Update/Maintain Existing Park Facilities		X	
Further Develop Rancho San Rafael Regional Park	X		
Acquire Open Space & Connect Parks With Trails			X
Utilize Reclaimed Water Where Possible	X	X	X
Spanish Springs Planning Area			
Buildout Lazy 5 Regional Park	X		
Address Potentially Underserved Areas & Develop New Parks	X	X	
Plan a New Regional Park		X	
Acquire Open Space & Connect Park With Trails	X	X	X
Utilize Reclaimed Water Where Possible	X	X	X
Steamboat Planning Area			
Buildout South Valleys Regional Park	X		
Further Develop Hidden Valley Regional Park		X	
Connect Parks with Trails		X	X
Maintain & Update Existing Park Facilities		X	X
Utilize Reclaimed Water Where Possible	X	X	X
Mount Rose Planning Area			
Monitor Future Growth		X	X
Evaluate Potentially Underserved Areas	X		
Pyramid Planning Area			
Monitor Future Growth	X	X	X
Truckee Canyon Planning Area			
Monitor Future Growth	X	X	X

Key Benchmarks for Targeting Planning Area Priorities & Opportunities

- ✓ Continue Parks' efforts to acquire lands along the Truckee River and its watershed that protect or enhance the river corridor for recreation, wildlife and for water quality.
- ✓ Continue the strategy for neighborhood parks that are to be maintained by Washoe County shall only be those that are 15-25 acres in size that can serve the county's larger residential land use patterns and neighborhood service area.
- ✓ Target 1 mile of trail per 1,000 residents seeking to provide trails that connect communities to U.S. Forest Service and BLM lands, to their local open space areas, regional parks and neighborhood parks. Continue the goal of creating a larger system of interconnected rim trails around communities and to promote health and wellness through walking and hiking. Work to adopt the Truckee Meadows Trail plan and assure that it interconnects existing and planned trails in planning areas. Once adopted by Parks include trails in future updates of the planning areas and update trail standards for consistency.
- ✓ Seek to attain or exceed the NRPA median level of annual operating expenditures for developed park land \$3,515/acre.
- ✓ Update park specific master plans and review the amenities to meet today's needs. For example; rentable group picnic areas, splash parks, regional sports complexes or a reconfiguration of campsites where appropriate. Target amenities that will provide additional revenue to meet a 21% level of revenue to expenditure in a parks budget.
- ✓ Work with Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) and Community Development on any updates of bicycle and pedestrian facilities to assure connectivity of parks and local schools.
- ✓ Continue to seek alternate locations and potentially acquisition of regional park lands that can be utilized for special events that will relieve pressure on Rancho San Rafael.
- ✓ Work regionally with the 3 main sewer purveyors to encourage the application of treated/reclaimed water where possible on park land for flat sports fields or for the development of wetland areas within parks or open spaces.



Bartley Ranch Regional Park

Short-Term Program Strategies:

Strategize Acquisition & Priority Projects for State Conservation Bond

In 2019 the Nevada Legislature passed Nevada Assembly Bill 84 (AB84). This bill is known as the State Conservation Bond and provides bonds to protect natural and cultural resources throughout the State of Nevada. Analyze potential properties for acquisition within Washoe County that take advantage of this bill.

Complete a Service Plan Study

In Chapter 1 this master plan pointed to a number of NRPA comparisons of other similar parks and recreation departments that were also hit by the Great Recession. In reality, the gap in funding for Parks is likely even larger for what is necessary to operate a sustainable program. The only way to truly assess the gap in funding for the operations, maintenance, infrastructure preservation and capital needs is to complete a Service Plan study. This study would assist Parks in determining how to recalibrate and fund parks, trails open space and natural resource management to the level the community desires and deserve.

The existing and future government funding may not yield any significant new dollars to be allocated toward parks and recreation to meet the demand for parks, trails, open space. A Service Plan would provide a thorough needs assessment including:

- ✓ An analysis of the fiscal needs to determine the ability and capacity of the existing and future resources to meet capital, operations and maintenance programs
- ✓ Identify an appropriate and sustainable financial structure and financing alternatives for the county
- ✓ Perform a more detailed demographic and economic analysis to assess trends and impacts on the proposed service levels
- ✓ Identify long-term operational strategies, including potential intergovernmental agreements or contracts, to provide a sustainable operation into the future

Further Develop the Capital & Infrastructure Preservation Program

The Parks staff, working with the Open Space and Regional Parks Commission, and the community should continue to review and update the Infrastructure Preservation (IP) list (projects under \$100,000) and Capital Improvement Project (CIP) list (projects over \$100,000). Parks staff keeps a CIP and IP list of projects that need to be completed within a 5-year period. This list should be expanded to include projects that should be completed on a 5-year, 10-year, and 15-year period. These lists should include dollar amounts with each project. Since projects listed on the IP list are usually paid through the general fund, and projects listed on the CIP list can receive money from the general fund or through alternative sources the dollar amount of each project is important. If no general funds are available, Parks could continue to seek alternative funding sources. The document is a useful tool when readily available, and can be referenced should opportunities present themselves such as private donors looking for a project or during legislative sessions where costs of projects are needed to be identified in order to get funding.



Dragon Lights Festival; Rancho San Rafael Regional Park

Mid-Term Program Strategies:

Develop Facilities & Programs That Generate Revenue

NRPA notes that the typical park and recreation agency generates \$850,000 in non-tax revenue on an annual basis. Although this amount can vary greatly based on agency size, services and facilities offered by the agency. Parks generates nearly \$1 million which is 18% of its operating budget. A target for agencies serving area such as Washoe County would be 21% of its budget (difference of nearly \$200,000). Currently, Parks is not focused on typical recreation programming which often brings in a higher revenue streams such as recreation classes or before and after school programs, but they do have other programs such as event rentals and splash pads. In order to close this gap, Parks could balance developing more facilities that would bring in additional revenue with those that do not produce revenue. This could be done over time by targeting the development of facilities/programs that generate revenue while meeting the primary mission of the regional parks, trails and open space program. It is recognized that it will be difficult with existing staffing levels and service and supplies budget to handle new facilities or programs without a corresponding approach to fixing the structural inadequacy of the operating budget. As noted in Chapter 1, finding solutions to long-term funding of the operation and maintenance of Parks is critical and directly impacts funding of future capital needs.

Educate Policy Makers of the Benefits of Funding Recreation

Recent NRPA studies have shown consistently solid support for public parks and recreation. Nine in ten respondents agreed that parks and recreation is an important service provided by their local government. This level is comparable to public safety, education and transportation nationally. Three-quarters of the respondents indicated they would support their local governments increasing their financial contribution to their local parks and recreation agencies. This data is reflected in the public

Chapter 5: Plan Implementation, Strategies & Summary

survey associated with this master plan and outlined in Chapter 2. However, the support of public parks and their funding is a bit more modest among government officials according to a NRPA commissioned study. It indicated that 99% of the elected and appointed government officials responding agree that their communities' benefit from public parks, but they only see parks and recreation as a moderately important local government service. Consequently, they consider parks and recreation as the most discretionary line item in their budgets, (2018 NRPA Agency Performance Review- Park and Recreation Agency Performance Benchmarks).

Here in Nevada, NRPA indicates the impact of local park and recreation agency spending on our states economies is \$1.4 billion in economic activity generating over 11,000 jobs. There are additional economic benefits such as visitor spending, economic development, health and wellness, conservation and resiliency through protection of land and property values. Nationwide the impact of recreation on the economy is now being tracked federally and in the 2019 Nevada State Legislature AB 486 which was signed by the Governor, establishes a Division of Outdoor Recreation. Parks staff should continue to speak to the economic benefits of parks, trails, and open space and educate the elected officials to help them to understand the economic benefits of a well-funded Parks department what it can bring to the region.



Sunrise; Sun Valley Regional Park

Conduct Feasibility Study for a Regional Park District

It will become increasingly difficult for any one of the three agencies to handle the growth pressures and provide a median level of service for parks, trails and open space. As Parks falls further behind and the population continues to increase, public demand will put pressure on Parks to provide more than they have in the last ten years. Therefore, Parks should seek answers now on how recreation will be funded and to what levels in the future. In 2017 State legislation was passed that makes it possible to create a park district to serve the region. If a parks district were to be established voters could approve funding source(s) that would provide a stable long-term funding for capital programs, operations and maintenance of facilities. A regional park district could potentially benefit all citizens by providing sustainable parks, trails, open space, recreation and conservation opportunities. Parks staff in collaboration with the cities and community members should explore the benefits and feasibility of creating a regional park district.

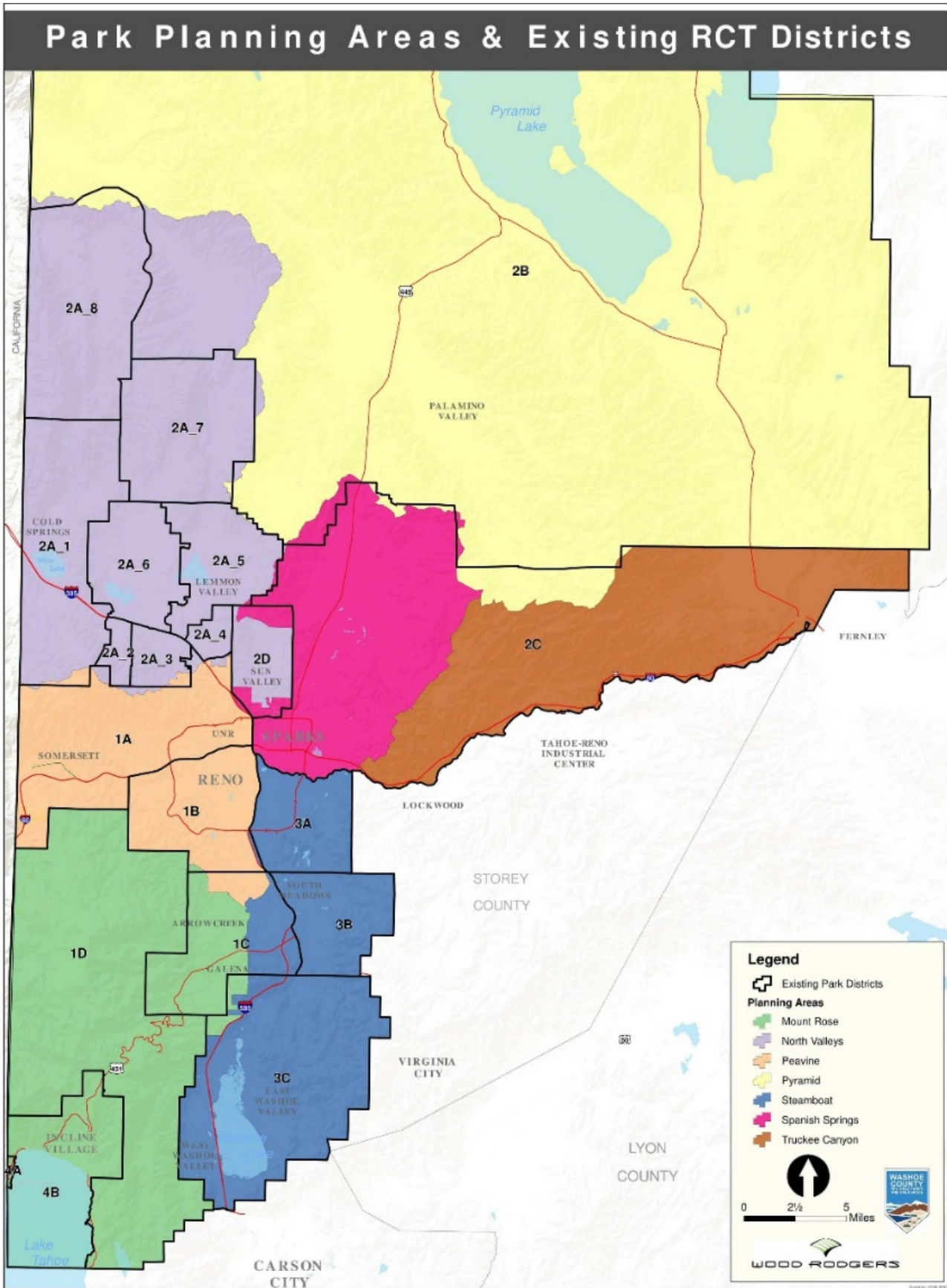


Sun Valley Regional Park (Photo: Chainz for Brainz)

Reconfigure the RCT Districts

The Residential Construction Tax (RCT) was created to establish funding for new neighborhood parks with the construction of new dwelling units. However, as discussed in Chapter 1 the funds generated through RCT have limitations. To reduce the limitation the RCT districts were collapsed in the 1990s from 46 districts to 4 districts with 19 sub-districts. Since then, the Reno and Sparks City Limits have expanded further reducing the size of the current districts. Reconfiguring the RCT Districts will allow Parks greater flexibility.

Parks staff should prepare the necessary county code changes along with the financial reports for each district to reconfigure the RCT districts to match the planning area boundaries established in this master plan. Once this initial work has been completed the Board of County Commissions would then need to approve the new districts and make the necessary county code changes. Although it is a cumbersome task, having the districts reflect the planning areas would give Parks greater flexibility with the funds. The current RCT districts to be consolidated to the boundaries of the seven planning areas with the exception of the existing Gerlach General Improvement District (GGID), Sun Valley General Improvement District (SVGID), and Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID).



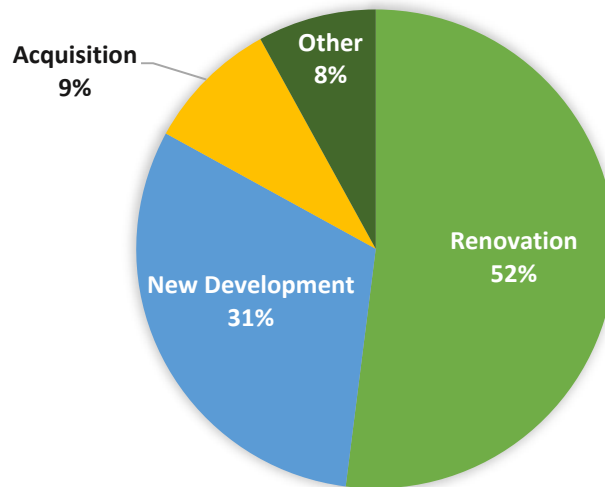
Map 17: The seven planning areas and the existing RCT Districts.

Long-Term Program Strategies:

Rebalance and Distribute Capital Expenditures

Once stable funding sources are secured and staffing levels are at an adequate level to support the needs of the existing community, Parks need to recalibrate for future growth. It is suggested that they consider the targets for Capital Expenditures based on NRPA standards which are as follows:

PROPOSED PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF CAPITAL EXPENDITURES



Graph 15: NRPA recommended distribution of CE.

Foster Partnerships That Promote Economic Vitality Through Recreation

- ✓ Seek or continue partnerships that further the implementation of regionally significant plans that provide a large economic benefit to the region:
 - SR 28 National Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan (Tahoe East Shore Trail)
 - Mt. Rose Highway Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan
 - Washoe Valley's Scenic Corridor Plan
- ✓ Encourage a partnership with either the Trust for Public Lands and/or the National Recreation and Parks Association to assess the region's economic impact and benefits of parks, trails, and open space for the region
- ✓ Collaborate with the cities to realign ownership of existing neighborhood parks that are within cities to allow access to RCT funds for future improvement of their neighborhood service area
- ✓ Develop/continue partnerships with the Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada (EDAWN), the Reno-Sparks Convention & Visitors Authority (RSCVA), and potentially the State's new Outdoor Recreation Commission to tell the story of our outdoor recreation,

Chapter 5: Plan Implementation, Strategies & Summary

healthy lifestyles and the benefits of our region's parks, trails and open space to enhance their work bringing new business or visitors to the region

- ✓ Develop/continue partnerships with non-profits such as Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful (KTMB), Nevada Land Trust, and the Great Basin Institute that contribute to community involvement and volunteer programs

Target Legislative Updates Supporting Diverse & Lasting Funding for Parks, Trails & Open Space

- ✓ Review and update Chapter 95 governing parks concurrently with review an update of existing policies regarding parks and natural resource management to capture emerging issues regarding preservation of stream areas, trail connectivity, requests for easements or disposal of lands, national scenic byway corridors, and urban interface issues
- ✓ Pursue legislative changes to RCT to include a clearer definition of appropriate expenditures and to expand the use of funds to be included in regional parks and trails/trailheads
- ✓ Encourage the further development of specific policies to guide the acquisition, planning, development and implementation of parks, trails, open space and natural resource management



Davis Creek Regional Park

Summary

Parks has a unique opportunity to provide the leadership in developing a new strategy for the future of parks, trails and open space in the region. The vision established in the early 1960s was to protect the open space from development and to provide Washoe County residents with recreational opportunities through regional parks, trails and open space. Public outreach associated with this master plan has established that this vision is more alive today than it was nearly 60 years ago. Through the history of the parks department and with the support of the public and elected officials

Chapter 5: Plan Implementation, Strategies & Summary

this vision has become a reality and it's through the support of the community and the dedication of Parks staff that this vision is alive today.

The Parks staff has had success in building partnerships at the federal, state and local levels. They have had tremendous success in leveraging public dollars to provide some of the most sought-after recreational opportunities in the region. Parks and events alone draw in 4.9 million visitors annually. The visitation is regional, national and international. The parks, trails, and open space are a main drive in the region's economy fueling the desire for business and their employees to live here.

Throughout the planning process a reoccurring thread to recalibrate has become clear as Parks is emerging from the impacts of the Great Recession. The challenges have been significant yet the growing population is seeking parks and recreation opportunities in greater numbers. It is the purpose of this master plan to continue the vision established nearly 60 years ago and to carry it forward for the next 20 years. This master plan is not a static plan. It was created with the intention of being updated as priorities within the planning areas shift as the community continues to grow. This master plan should be re-evaluated every three to five years to ensure the opportunities and strategies are still relevant. Together with the support of the Board of County Commissioners, the Washoe County Parks and Open Space and Regional Parks Commission, the community and with the leadership of Parks staff; the goals, strategies and opportunities presented in this master plan can be accomplished. This master plan will allow Parks to adequately acquire, construct, operate, and maintain the existing and future parks for all Washoe County residents and visitors to enjoy, for this generation and the ones to come.



Bowers Mansion Regional Park

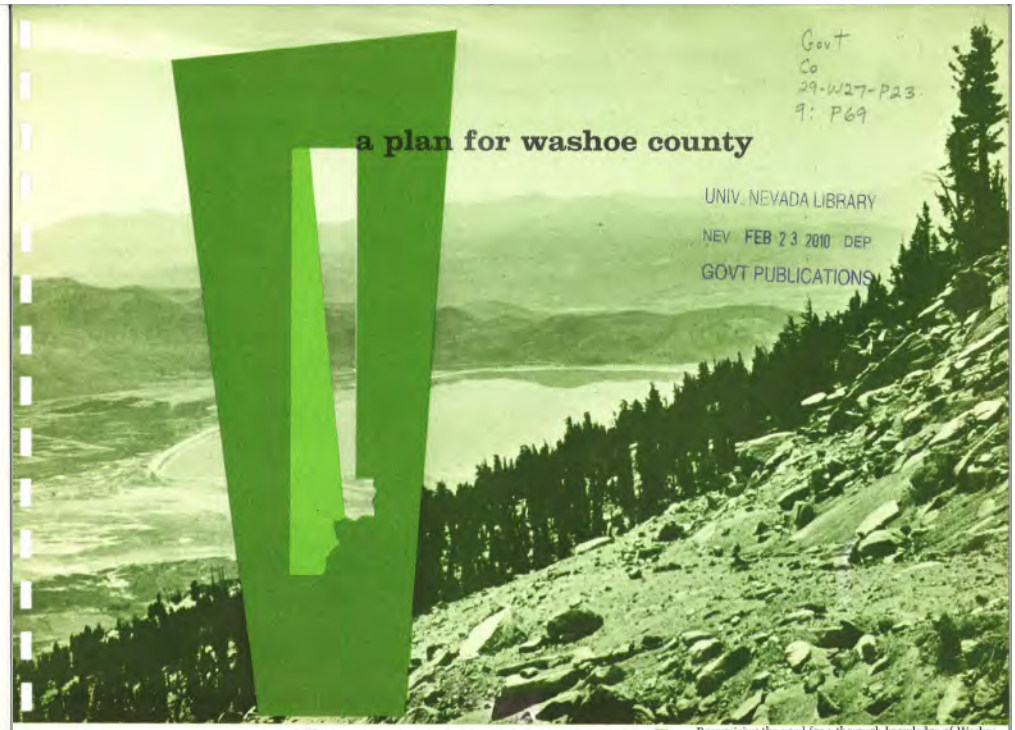


Appendix A

1961 Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space Plan

PARKS
OPEN SPACE
RECREATION

WASHOE COUNTY



MASTER PLAN STUDY NO. 7 / **PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE FOR WASHOE COUNTY.**

Recognizing the need for a thorough knowledge of Washoe County's Park and Recreation situation the Washoe County Commissioners, in conjunction with the Park Commission, sanctioned this report in April, 1961.

park commission

Thomas Cooke, Chairman
Lillie B. Chmiedinst, Secretary
Clifton Young
Richard B. Rowley
Rev. Felix A. Manley
Roger Taglia
Lina B. Tularski
Mitchell J. Serven, Park Planner

board of county commissioners

Michael Mirabelli, Chairman
J. C. McKenzie
Howard McKissick
Robert Clarkson
Richard Stroeter
C. B. Kinnison, County Manager

Virgil Smith, Chairman
Harry Lemmon, Vice-Chairman
J. J. Sbragia, Secretary-Treasurer
Carl Bogart
Mel Hancock
Leo Sauer
John Gleason
D. E. Mattson
James Byars
Arnold Pitts
Phil Hursh
Wayne McLeod
Richard J. Allen, Director of Planning

planning commission

WASHOE COUNTY PARK COMMISSION

April 5, 1962

Board of County Commissioners
Washoe County, Nevada

Pursuant to those duties of the Washoe County Park Commission enumerated in a resolution of the Board of County Commissioners dated May 8, 1961, we respectfully submit a long range plan for parks, recreation and open space for Washoe County.

A booming population, increasing leisure and competition for land and decreasing open space, will, if we fail to meet the challenge now, surely deprive us of areas needed for recreational use.

Because a long range park and recreation plan is vitally important to County residents we urgently recommend immediate publication of this report so that the people of Washoe County may fully understand the recreation situation. We further recommend that steps be taken now to make this program a reality and that over the years it receive continuing aid and support, so that Washoe County can have a park system that will truly provide inspiration, use and enjoyment to residents and visitors alike.

We wish to commend the County Commissioners for their far-sighted authorization of this survey, the first and only one to be prepared by a county in the State of Nevada.

We also commend the efforts of Richard J. Allen, Director of the Regional Planning Commission, and Mitchell J. Serven, our Park Planner, whose guidance and direction have made this report possible.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Cooke
Chairman,
Washoe County Park Commission

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"At minimum we will decide during the 1960s whether our water, soil, forest, wildlife and public parkland resources will be adequate to meet the needs of the future. By our action, or inaction, we will determine whether our children will know the green and pleasant land which was our legacy".
 STEWART L. UHRLI,
 Secretary of the Interior,
 LIFE - Dec., 1961



THE RESOURCE

Residents of Washoe County can prize a unique and varied reservoir of recreation resources. The landscape provides unequalled alpine scenery to the west, pastoral bottom lands in the valleys, and desert ranges and plateaus to the east and north. In the southern part of the county all three elements are linked by the Truckee River, cascading through Ponderosa pine, red fir and aspen of the Sierras, meandering through the fertile Truckee Meadows, thence flowing to the east and north on a desert journey to Pyramid Lake.

North of Pyramid silent ranges stretch more than a hundred miles to the Oregon border. Old lake beds and marine terraces are prominent features. Desert vegetation prevails, although at higher elevations scattered juniper and mahogany dot the sagebrush and groves of aspen can be found wherever there is water. "North Washoe" is one of the more spacious parts of Nevada; its solitude is enjoyed by rancher, fisherman and hunter; its historic lure is eagerly explored by amateur and professional

historians of the Old West.

Isn't it enough that such space is available for those seeking it? Why a concern to provide park and recreation areas?

The needs of a recreation-minded public cannot be satisfied by space alone. Organized, carefully developed facilities are necessary, and those portions of Washoe's vastness fitted for such use are limited.

Sites possessing developable water, trees, and usable slopes are rare. Accessibility can pose a problem, especially in Truckee Meadows where concentrated population heightens the need for park and recreation facilities. Rapid expansion of urban areas, increased private development and new highway programs have combined to consume land at a surprising rate, and will continue to do so.

Too little has been done to protect significant recreation resources. The critical shortage of publicly owned recreation areas at Lake Tahoe illustrates this negligence. A short time ago there appeared little need for concern. Today only a few miles of undeveloped shoreline remain and those areas previously used freely by the public are now developed or made inaccessible by private efforts.

Washoe County has reserved some areas for future park use. However, these are few in number and poorly distributed to serve the varied needs of our people. Existing park areas have not been planned in a manner which encourages proper use or promotes sound development, and the absence of an organized program is apparent. If we are to protect and make maximum use of our recreation resources, as well as provide for the increased demands of future population, we must create a better balanced and better organized county park system. This report is designed to provide such a system.



THE BENEFITS



Social

Communities with an investment in park and recreation facilities enjoy social benefits which are becoming more and more important in America's city culture. Accelerated population growth and urbanization exist in Washoe County, too, and will become even more manifest in the future. Incidence of crime, juvenile delinquency, and mental illness, all adjuncts of population explosion, can be reduced by adequate park and recreation areas. With the transient population Washoe County attracts, such problems are abnormal and any efforts which tend to minimize them must be encouraged. A well balanced park and recreation system can play a vital part in the social health and welfare of Washoe County.



Economic

Economic benefits can accrue to areas possessing well planned and administered recreation and park systems. Measurable financial return occurs in decreased governmental spending for police and welfare agencies when wholesome outlets for recreation energies are available.

Values of land near parks and recreation facilities tend to be higher and more stable. Officials of Union County, New Jersey, found over a 17 year period that assessed values of land adjacent to park areas increased twelve times as much as average properties.

Dedication for park purposes of San Simeon, William Randolph Hearst's estate in San Luis Obispo County, California, removed \$842,000 from the tax rolls, but within a year private investment in tourist accommodations jumped the county's valuations \$729,000.

Expenditures for recreation equipment and services contribute to the economy of an area having facilities in or near it. These economic gains are reflected in employment of sales or service personnel, business and property taxes, and tax revenues received for goods and services provided to recreationists.

Other such instances can be cited - in spite of arguments to the contrary, it is an established fact that substantial financial advantages can come from park and recreation facilities.

Visitor Spending

During 1960 fifteen and a half million out of state visitors spent 534 million dollars in Nevada and made tourism our number one industry. An average stay amounted to 2.2 days, in contrast to Washington's 4.9 days and Oregon's 4.8 days. Five and a half millions of these visitors came to or passed through Washoe County. If the stay of those visitors interested in camping had been extended one day a 2 million dollar increase in gross tourist revenue for the year would have been realized. No camping areas were available. . . .

This report makes special provisions for non-resident use of county facilities.

PARK AND RECREATION NEEDS

Proper consideration of a plan to provide for the recreation needs of Washoe County involves a determination of what these needs are. The facilities emphasized and reviewed here and on the following

pages are the most important segments of a balanced county park and recreation system. Pursuit of a sound park program in Washoe County during the next two decades should focus major attention on providing these facilities.

Extent of need has been determined by application of established standards to existing and expected County population. Adjustments have been made to gear these results to our particular Washoe County situation.

family picnic

It is sometimes easy to overlook the importance of family picnic areas since no pressure groups demand them; however, family oriented facilities form the backbone of a balanced park system.

Picnic units should be planned and developed to meet the needs of a family group of four to five persons, with adequate parking, cooking and sanitary facilities. Eight units per acre is a recommended standard. The design of picnic areas should permit shifting of units from time to time to avoid soil compaction and damage to trees and other vegetation.

Bowers Mansion, Washoe County's only developed picnic area, exhibits shortcomings from a design, development and maintenance standpoint. More than 50 family units are crowded into approximately one acre. Barbecue pits are unshielded and sanitary facilities are far below reasonable standards.

Unit: one table plus sanitary, cooking and parking.



group picnic

Organized groups rank second in need for picnic facilities. Often group picnics are necessary to other recreation activities such as swimming, boating, hiking or sightseeing.

Group picnic grounds are planned to accommodate 200 persons on each acre with an additional one-third acre for parking. Cooking and sanitary facilities are provided as well as an adequate supply of nearby water. Since they have a tendency to become noisy, such areas are best located some distance from more passive recreation sites.

Washoe County presently provides no developed group picnic facilities although large organized groups often make use of Bower's Mansion.

Unit: 25 tables plus sanitary, cooking and 50 parking spaces.



	1960	1970	1980
WASHOE COUNTY	84,741	140,070	235,570
RENO	51,470	90,050	157,590
SPARKS	16,618	29,110	50,950

More People



family camping

175,000 resident and visitor campers per year find no publicly owned camp grounds in Washoe County. Developed tent and trailer facilities are urgently needed; uncontrolled camping, especially in the Sierras, poses fire control and sanitary problems.

Proper camping facilities insure privacy and provide basic cooking and sanitary needs. Regulation is necessary to prevent vandalism and insure equitable opportunity. An established ratio of three tent camping units to one trailer unit needs modification in Washoe County because of tourist impact and the local popularity of trailers. Heavy visitor use justifies increased camping charges.

Unit: one tent or trailer space, one table plus water, electricity, sanitary, cooking area and parking.



More Leisure

In the early 1900's miners and ranchers of Washoe County worked a six day, sixty hour work week. The average for today's population is less than forty hours and most of us enjoy two to three weeks of annual vacation.

By 1980, a twenty-eight to thirty-two hour, four day week, with annual vacations of a month or more will be common. At the same time, earlier retirements and continued mechanization of household chores will result in increased leisure for other segments of our population.

These factors, combined with increased life span and better health predicted by medical authorities, add up to more leisure time. Undoubtedly large portions of this leisure will be spent in outdoor recreation pursuits.

group camping

Recreation authorities expect the need for organized group camps to increase materially in the next decade. As our metropolitan area grows more local organizations will use group camping facilities.

Group camps, normally for children, supply well rounded programs including vigorous physical activities and quiet creative opportunities. An enjoyable out-of-door environment is an important factor in their location.

Well designed units provide adequate water, sanitation and cooking facilities for about 50 persons. Maximum utilization of campgrounds can be encouraged by careful programming. A seven day stay by any one group is a standard limit.

Unit: 7 acres, plus sanitary, cooking and water for 50 persons and 25 parking spaces.



Per capita income in Washoe County amounted to \$2,955 in 1959, compared with an average of \$2,419 for the Far Western States. All indications point to a doubling of personal income in the United States during the next twenty years - a trend that will be reflected in Washoe County. Recreation authorities agree that such increases direct larger proportionate amounts into recreation channels. A stepped-up demand for recreational facilities of all sorts follows.

More Income

winter sports

Measured in size, our supply of skiing and snow play areas is more than ample for present and anticipated demand. More than 880 acres are set aside at Silver Mountain; however, careful analysis of snow conditions and user tastes, coupled with sound management is needed to produce maximum benefit for winter sport enthusiasts.

Concession agreements with private enterprise are common operating practice in publicly owned ski areas, but it is imperative that such operations be carefully supervised.

Unit: one acre of skiable slope.



riding and hiking

Riding and hiking already enjoy an important place in Washoe County's recreation picture. Horsemen and hiker groups have been active for years; horsemen have provided many of their own facilities. However, existing isolated strips of dedicated trails are inadequate today and will become more so as developments utilize more vacant land.

A permanent system of primary trails with interconnecting links permitting long or short rides or hikes is necessary. Secondary trails satisfy demand emanating from residential areas. Access points with equestrian assembly areas and parking space are part of a comprehensive system.



swimming

Among outdoor recreation activities, shoreline swimming is second only to recreation travel in popularity. Sunbathing and beach play, activities normally associated with swimming, require space and therefore proper public beaches extend at least 600 feet back from the shoreline. Access and parking are important and special provisions for sanitary facilities and trash removal are a must if areas are to remain clean and usable.

Future swimming areas in Washoe County may be limited by the availability of usable shoreline. High land values at Lake Tahoe preclude County acquisition of tracts and problems exist in public use of Pyramid Lake.

Unit: 25 feet of shoreline plus sanitary facilities and parking.



More Travel

"Pleasure vehicles" registered in Washoe County increased over 150 per cent between 1946 and 1960. A continuation of this trend would indicate more than 110,000 vehicles in the county by 1980. Residents will drive a staggering 635 million miles seeking outdoor recreation in that year.

More non-resident use of county park facilities can be expected as increased mobility sponsors greater competition for use of local park and recreation areas. Better highways and more efficient autos open new areas to the recreation seeker and a superior county park will draw visitors from an ever widening circle. Increased mobility adds materially to the need for recreation facilities.

boating

Since World War II boating has grown faster than any other recreation activity. Water skiing has been a major factor in increased demand for boat launching sites.

Tahoe, Pyramid and Big Washoe lakes provide us with in-county boating opportunities. In such case properly developed facilities are critically needed.

Four access areas, accommodating 125 trailered boats each and having adequate parking and service facilities would serve present needs. At Pyramid Lake, where on some summer Sundays more than 250 boats are launched, proposed developments would provide safe launching ramps and badly needed sanitary units.



Unit: Launching facilities for 125 trailered boats plus parking and sanitary units.

THE PLAN 1962 - 1980

Preceding pages have illustrated the nature and extent of Washoe County's park and recreation needs. The schematic plan presented here depicts a program to satisfy these needs. As can be seen, the proposal utilizes the natural resources we have, and creates a balanced variety of geographically located and activity oriented recreation zones.

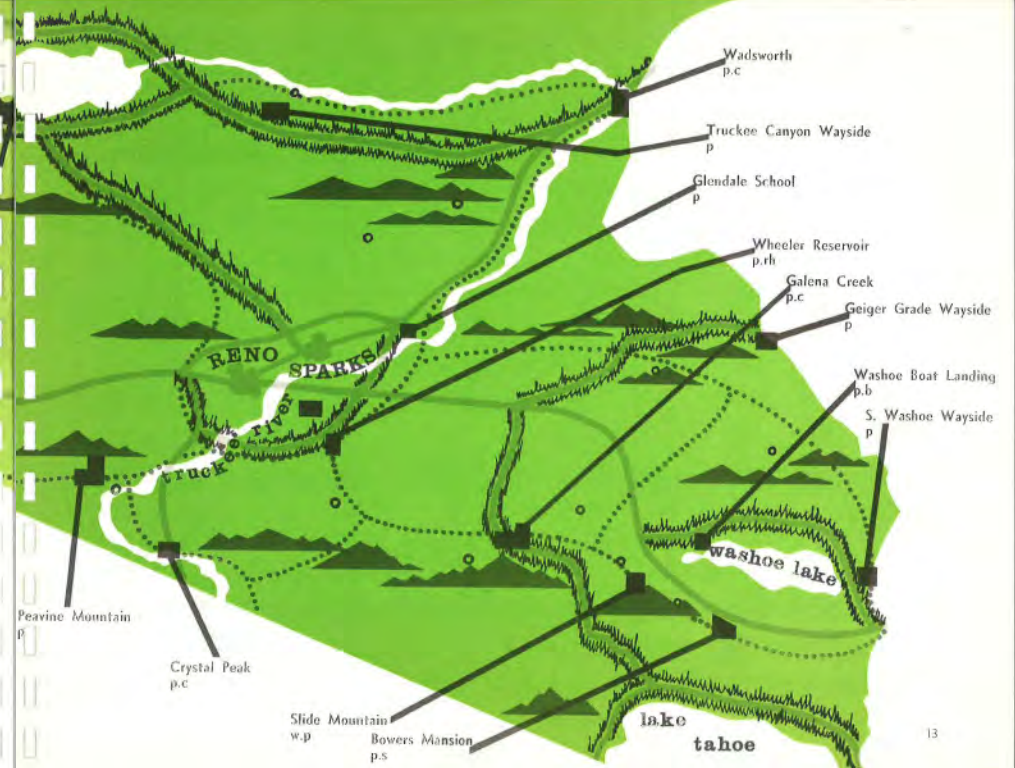
Residents can picnic among evergreens at Galena Creek or on the slopes of Peavine Mountain; in meadows along the Truckee or on Pyramid's forest beaches. They can camp in the Sierras, ride or hike up the Old Geiger Grade or explore remote shorelines of Pyramid Lake by boat. Interesting natural and historic attractions are preserved and protected for future generations.

The recommended program would enable Washoe County to fulfill its primary responsibility by providing large non-urban park and recreation areas within the 40-60 mile day-use range of the resident population. Added tent and trailer camping facilities are justified by our high rate of visitor influx. Secondary responsibilities, discussed separately in this report, provide community facilities and seek to protect environmental open space.

Paramount to the proper conduct of any park and recreation system, large or small, is the attention given by trained personnel. Organized park management can insure sound development and proper use of the system at, in the long run, reduced cost to the taxpayer. Necessary coordination with other agencies engaged in the recreation business can best be handled through park and recreation trained personnel. Throughout this report, emphasis is directed at this important element of a successful system.

LEGEND	
—	R & H TRAILS
—	SCENIC ROUTES
○	ALTERNATE SITES
p	picnic
c	camp
b	boat
s	swim
rh	ride & hike
w	winter sports

AREAS NOT LABELED	
—	Golf Course
—	Fairgrounds
—	Great Boiling Springs



PROGRAM SCHEDULE

- Riding and Hiking Center
- Tennis Addition
- BLM Funds
- \$1,000,000 60 Year Bond Issue
- Bond - Exposed Population
- \$200,000 Bond Issue 1965, 68, 1973, 77

• Interpretative Program, Exhibiting, Services and Concessions added in Computing Total Costs and Annual Costs.

	INTENDED USE				STATUS (in acres)		COSTS				
	PIC.	CAMP	SWIM	BOAT	OWN	PERMIT	TO BE ACQD	LAND ACQUIS.	ROADS & TRAILS	CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	
BOWERS MANSION					Sightsee	46				\$38,800.00	
GALENA CREEK					Archery	400			\$25,000.00	75,700.00	
CRYSTAL PEAK					Community	7	43	\$215,000.00		32,000.00	
PYRAMID LAKE					Sightsee		150			87,000.00	
SLIDE MOUNTAIN					Winter Sports	170	560				
W. C. GOLF COURSE					Golf & Tennis	190					
W. LAKE BOAT LANDING					Sightsee		8	4,000.00			
GREAT BOILING SPRINGS					Community	10				14,000.00	
WHEELER RESERVOIR					Community a	100		400,000.00			
GLENDALE SCHOOL					Sightsee	24		72,000.00			
RIDING & HIKING TRAILS					R & H		24 mi.				
1962 - 65 TOTALS						715	710	185	\$691,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$253,800.00

WADSWORTH					Community	160	50	\$100,000.00	\$12,500.00	\$61,500.00	
PEAVINE MOUNTAIN					Sightsee		320	16,000.00	100,000.00	98,400.00	
WILDERNESS CAMP #1					Hunter		200 c	500.00		1,200.00	
COMPOSITE EXISTING					All	900	710		95,000.00	367,500.00	
RIDING & HIKING TRAILS (added)					R & H		36 mi.				
1965 - 70 TOTALS						1060	710	570	\$116,500.00	\$212,500.00	\$528,600.00

GEIGER GRADE WYSD					Sightsee		20	\$10,000.00	\$12,500.00	\$12,000.00	
WASHOE VALLEY WYSD					Sightsee		10	5,000.00		4,000.00	
TRUCKEE CANYON WYSD					Sightsee		10			4,000.00	
WILDERNESS CAMP #2					Hunter		200	500.00	5,000.00	1,200.00	
WILDERNESS CAMP #3					Hunter		200	500.00	5,000.00	1,200.00	
COMPOSITE EXSTG					All	1630	710	160 b	12,000.00	200,000.00	
R & H TRAILS					R & H		58 mi.			501,600.00	
1970 - 80 TOTALS						1630	720	590	\$28,000.00	\$222,500.00	\$524,000.00

TOTAL COSTS	AVERAGE ANNUAL COSTS PERIOD SUMMARY	
\$ 38,800.00	OPERATION & MAINTENANCE	\$ 64,000.00
107,000.00	LESS: PARK REVENUE	12,500.00
247,000.00		
87,000.00	NET OPERATING COST	\$ 51,500.00
4,000.00	PLUS: DEBT SERVICE g	20,000.00 d
14,000.00		
400,000.00	TOTAL	\$ 71,500.00
72,000.00		
\$969,800.00	ANNUAL COST PER CAPITA	.75 e

\$174,000.00	OPERATION & MAINTENANCE	\$100,800.00
214,400.00	LESS: PARK REVENUE	40,500.00
6,700.00	NET OPERATING COST	\$ 60,300.00
462,500.00	PLUS: DEBT SERVICE g	\$157,900.00 f
	TOTAL	\$157,900.00
\$487,600.00	ANNUAL COST PER CAPITA	\$1.29 e

\$34,500.00	OPERATION & MAINTENANCE	\$161,700.00
9,000.00	LESS: PARK REVENUE	69,500.00
4,000.00	NET OPERATING COST	\$ 92,200.00
6,700.00	PLUS: DEBT SERVICE g	152,500.00 f
6,700.00		
713,600.00	TOTAL	\$244,700.00
\$774,500.00	ANNUAL COST PER CAPITA	\$1.305 e



Open Space
Land and space permeate every aspect of recreation. Apart from those areas actually necessary for organized recreation, the idea of open space itself is important in the sense of the recreation of a people. Some have said that open space - open space - is Nevada's great wealth of the future, in view of predicted population increases in the West, especially California. Our local scene - open space has played a vital role in the formation of Washoe County as the attractive place we know today. Pleasant pastoral vistas, white-fenced pastures, guarded cottonwoods and stately poplars all make it a desirable place in which to live. Not every community can boast of an asset like the Truckee River - with its stately banks, cascading rapids and quiet pools.

Paradoxically, subdivisions and other developments made possible by population growth tend to destroy the attractiveness which lure new citizens.

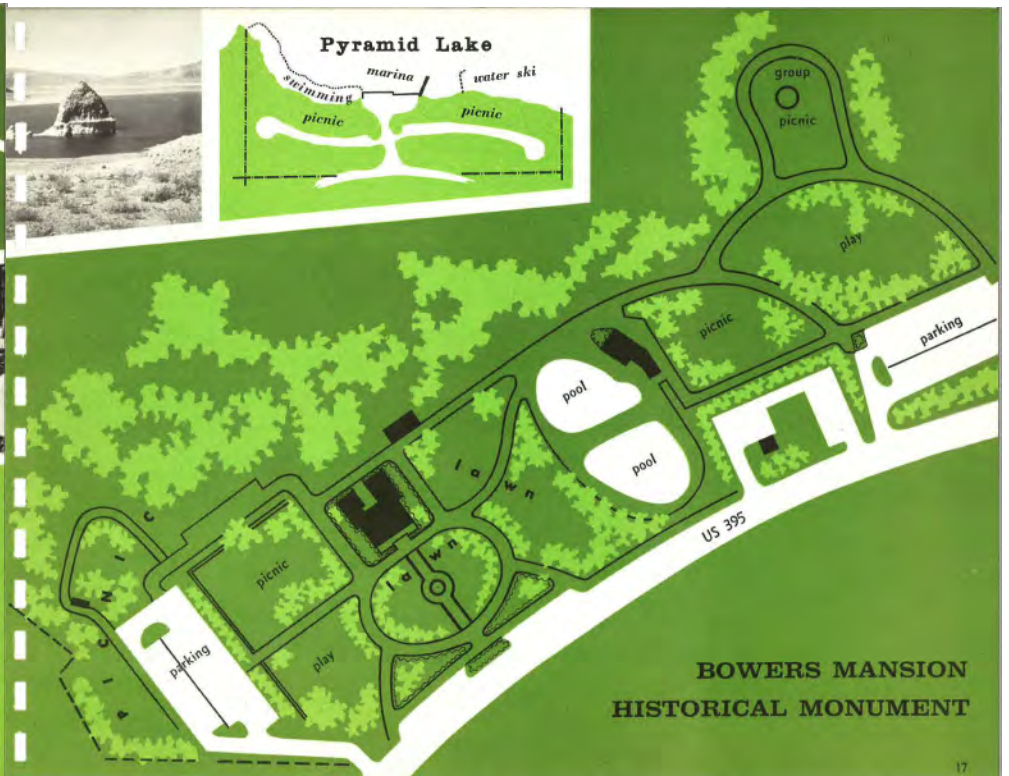
Parallel situations exist elsewhere and possible solutions have been explored. Zoning, the purchase of development rights, and tax concessions have all been utilized in attempts to keep open space open - none with remarkable success. Our purpose here is to point out the situation and urge that it deserve serious consideration by all who wish to preserve this valuable resource.

note
Development plans on these pages indicate basic needs can be satisfied and are contingent upon engineering data.

Frontbridge for guided tours of State Fish Hatchery (under cooperation agreement)



CRYSTAL PEAK REGIONAL PARK



BOWERS MANSION HISTORICAL MONUMENT



administration

Possible forms of an administrative organization include the following:

1. **A REGIONAL PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION**
A single, county-wide Commission serving municipal as well as county needs would eliminate duplication of administrative costs, service equipment, etc., and permit more productive use of funds by taking advantage of the broader financial base.
2. **A COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION**
A county park and recreation commission could utilize the existing park commission as a foundation. Of advantage, is its varied membership, representative of various activity and interest groups in the community. Recent surveys indicate predominate use of this type of organization elsewhere in the county.
3. **A COUNTY PARK DEPARTMENT**
Parks and recreation as a department of County Government is a successful solution in some areas, although authorities contend that such departments can be susceptible to pressure from groups interested in specific activities. It is possible that such a department can work in Washoe County's situation.
4. **THE FAIR AND RECREATION BOARD**
The Washoe County Fair and Recreation Board has the authority necessary to administer a park and recreation program. However, the Board's primary function - providing a Convention Hall-Auditorium - will undoubtedly occupy its attention for some time to come.

IMPORTANCE OF STAFFING
Washoe County needs people who know the park and recreation business. Park personnel must be qualified by interest, education and experience for this very specialized task. A park system can be no better than those who plan, build and operate it.

In a large measure, shortcomings in the Washoe County system can be traced to a lack of continuing park and recreation administration. Responsibility has been divided among various county departments, none of which are primarily interested in park and recreation matters. Much commendable work has been done but much more could be accomplished under a structure utilizing trained and experienced personnel.

Steps must be taken to institute a proper administrative framework which can provide continuing supervision in planning, development, operation and maintenance of the proposed system. Whatever the form of structure, it should be supported to:

1. Establish park and recreation policy.
2. Regulate the use of facilities.
3. Prepare, submit, and support budget requests.
4. Administer appropriated funds.
5. Employ a qualified staff.

It should also have sufficient stature to effectively coordinate with other park and recreation agencies.

financing

In authorizing this report, the Board of County Commissioners emphasized a desire for a reasonable program geared to the County's ability to pay. A proper determination of this "ability to pay" could be keyed to what has been spent in the past, to expenditures of other counties of a similar size and nature, or to what citizens would wish to pay for needed facilities.

Information on park and recreation expenditures in Washoe County during past years indicates, generally, an inconsistent, hit and miss approach to the problem. Efforts appear to meander along year after year on minimum appropriations, interspersed occasionally with a major endeavor, such as the purchase of Bowers' Mansion, improvement of Ardmore Park, provision of launching facilities at Pyramid Lake or some other project resulting from heavy pressure.

Research into yearly park and recreation spending in fifteen western counties comparable to Washoe County in population shows a low of \$3.35, a high of \$4.43, and an average expenditure of \$1.31 per capita. While park and recreation items in Washoe County budgets are non-existent or hazy, such records as are available hint that approximately \$29 per resident was spent in the category during 1960. Between 1956 and 1960 the Washoe County system remained static; the fifteen counties checked spent \$2,868,556 on improvements or new facilities during this time period.

It became evident during the preparation of this report that the park and recreation needs and demands of the people provide a more valid approach than "ability to pay", especially in view of the inadequacy of the present system which has been built on an "ability to pay" basis. Needless to say, claims of many sorts are placed on public funds and the query "where will the money come from," is often heard.

Two important categories of park and recreation expenditures are acquisition and capital outlay, and operation and maintenance. Suggested means of finance include: (1) For acquisition and capital

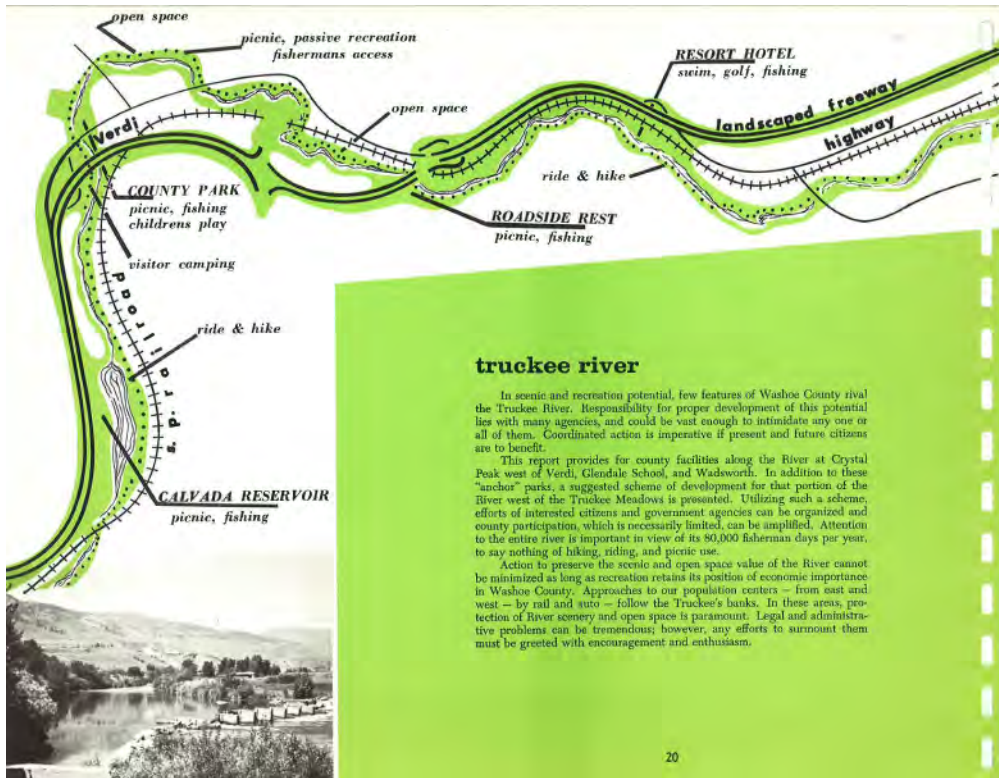
improvement: obligation and revenue bonds, special tax levies; tax concessions, State and Federal aid, grants and gifts, (2) For operation and maintenance: a system of realistic user fees (perhaps adjusted toward the high side in view of potential visitor use), concession agreements and consistent budget appropriations.

Recognition of the dilemma is noted in the following excerpt from "Outdoor Recreation In America", a report to the President and to Congress issued in January, 1962:

"The needs can be met. They do not involve abstruse problems that depend upon some intellectual or scientific breakthrough for their solution. The tools exist. Virtually every concept that seems new has been foreshadowed in the bold efforts of former years. There are difficult problems, but the same kind of problems have been surmounted before, and they can be again."

"Obviously money will be needed. While this is true of most public programs, it seems to be particularly true of outdoor recreation. Public expenditures in this field have increased in recent years, notably in several States, but in general they have not kept pace with the demand. The prospect for the coming years is that expenditures will have to be increased substantially just to keep up with increases in population; the demand for outdoor recreation will grow faster yet."





truckee river

In scenic and recreation potential, few features of Washoe County rival the Truckee River. Responsibility for proper development of this potential lies with many agencies, and could be vast enough to intimidate any one or all of them. Coordinated action is imperative if present and future citizens are to benefit.

This report provides for county facilities along the River at Crystal Peak west of Verdi, Glendale School, and Wadsworth. In addition to these "anchor" parks, a suggested scheme of development for that portion of the River west of the Truckee Meadows is presented. Utilizing such a scheme, efforts of interested citizens and government agencies can be organized and county participation, which is necessarily limited, can be amplified. Attention to the entire river is important in view of its 80,000 fisherman days per year. Action to preserve the scenic and open space value of the River cannot be minimized as long as recreation retains its position of economic importance in Washoe County. Approaches to our population centers — from east and west — by rail and auto — follow the Truckee's banks. In these areas, protection of River scenery and open space is paramount. Legal and administrative problems can be tremendous; however, any efforts to surmount them must be greeted with encouragement and enthusiasm.

20

related considerations

Most of the following elements are concerned with particular facets of recreation, while they form a part of an overall program, it is necessary to evaluate the importance of each in the light of the program as a whole and its purpose to provide recreation for all the County's people.

Washoe County is currently involved in various aspects of recreation through agreements for use of County property, leases with government agencies for recreation facilities and other such arrangements. In many of these cases, lack of proper administrative control in the past has resulted in inadequate agreements, all of these deserve review with particular attention to definitions of responsibility and privilege.

Neighborhood Recreational Areas

Secondary County responsibility includes consideration of neighborhood facilities — those typified by Harris Park in Sun Valley, Rivermont Park south-west of Reno, Ambrose Park west of Reno, and various sites set aside during subdivision development in Lemmon and Washoe Valleys. Such areas are designed to provide for the recreation needs of people, especially children, in nearby neighborhoods. Some of these sites will eventually be annexed into Reno or Sparks; others will remain under county jurisdiction for some time. Common to all of them is the neighborhood aspect of their intended use as contrasted to general use by all residents and taxpayers of the county.

The following suggestions are offered relative to development of these and other similar areas likely to come under county jurisdiction:

(1) Possible extension of minimum expenditures through special assessment districts. Responsibility for providing the facility falls on the user under this arrangement.

(2) Combined use of school facilities. The similarities of recreational programs and activities offered in schools and parks suggests that a combination of both functions on a single site can be advantageous. The County School Board has investigated such proposals and views them with approval. Joint acquisition, construction, maintenance and operation can produce tax dollar savings, since the single site can be smaller than two separate sites. Additional savings accrue through site acquisition prior to development of the neighborhood. Those same criteria which dictate school location are applicable to recreation areas — especially central siting within the neighborhood expected to be served. Continued and more extensive use of this procedure in the future is strongly urged.

(3) Per lot assessment (or land in lieu of assessment) levied against developers and prorated to lot sale price. This again would serve to place responsibility on the user.

Fairgrounds

Washoe County Fairgrounds are operated by the County on a lease basis with the State of Nevada, with thirty-nine years remaining on the lease. County fairs, as a reflection of community achievement, are shifting from agricultural to cultural emphasis. A careful re-design of the facility would be compatible with this national trend and at the same time produce an installation geared to multiple use by other segments of the population. Such manifold utilization would warrant expenditure of funds necessary to accomplish re-design and re-development. Proper design can eliminate obvious handicaps to surrounding property. An advantage lies in the fact that land is here available — no initial outlays for property are necessary.

While hunting methods are now being employed by user groups and the Washoe County Public Works Commission, the eventual operation of the Fair Grounds by the Fair and Recreation Board deserves consideration; this group is empowered by law to undertake such effort and could logically assume this responsibility.

Junior Baseball

Youngsters baseball programs have achieved tremendous success in recent years and credit is due to the dedicated efforts of individuals involved. County responsibility in this direction perhaps lies in provision of such facilities in Gerlach, Wadsworth, Sun Valley, and other outlying communities. In the Truckee Meadows area placement of junior baseball diamonds can best be on a community level, utilizing criteria similar to those applied to the location of junior high schools. Careful design of such areas can result in savings from joint use of lighting and fencing, maintenance and operation, and reduction of accessory sanitary and parking requirements.



scenic protection

Recreational travel leads all other forms of recreation activity in terms of time spent and number of persons engaged in it. This, of course, includes all travel for recreational purposes — sightseeing and travel necessary to arrive at recreation areas — as well as enjoyment of the countryside while on trips for non-recreational reasons. Action to preserve and protect the natural beauty of our landscape is necessary and a system of scenic roads and waysides is included as an integral part of Washoe County's Park System. Some of these roads already exist — others will be built in the future — and all can become part of a balanced county wide system of scenic routes.

These roads, none of which are major transportation routes, are recommended for appropriate signing and protection of aesthetic, historic and scenic values.

Scenic waysides serve to emphasize some specific feature or historic event. Picnic, cooking and sanitary facilities are provided as well as adequate shade and parking space. Waysides include approximately ten acres of land and are located at intervals within the system. Outstanding views can be protected by scenic easements and billboard regulation.

interpretation

Opportunities to tell interesting and educational stories of historic or scientific occurrences are manifold in Washoe County. A program of interpretation of these sites is an inexpensive and effective means to increase enjoyment and understanding of our resources. Steps have already been taken by the Board of Commissioners to appropriately mark significant historic locations.

The Truckee River, presently the route of Interstate Highway 80, has been the traditional gateway to California's hundreds of pioneer groups, including

the tragic Donner Party trudged along its banks, in time they were followed by the transcontinental railroad and Lincoln Highway. The whole inspiring and informative story of western migration and settlement could be told at an appropriate location along the river, perhaps as a feature of Crystal Peak Park.

Washoe County's geographic location on the western edge of the Great Basin, provides occasion for further significant interpretation. The splendor of the Sierras, indications of prehistoric lakes, bubbling hot springs, and other geologic features present fascinating and absorbing stories. The lives of those seeking recreation through sightseeing and study can be enriched by proper interpretation of these sites.

The proposed park system envisions a program of interpretation, including erection of monuments describing historic events and explaining natural features.



21

related efforts

United States Forest Service

In Washoe County, some 24,031 acres of forest, range and recreation land are administered by the Forest Service. Utilizing the multiple use concept maximum public benefit from forest resources is a prime objective and recently announced plans for a development in the Mount Rose area will provide 200 picnic and camping sites. Proposals within this report have been coordinated with efforts of the Forest Service.

United States Bureau of Land Management

The Bureau of Land Management administers 2,495,500 acres of public domain in Washoe County. Lands having recreation potential can be sold or leased at surprisingly low rates under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act. Prerequisite to such sale or lease is presentation of a reasonable plan and program of development.

In the southern portion of the county BLM lands having recreation significance are rare. It is possible that a further and more complete evaluation of available land could produce sites of value to the County program.

Nevada State Park System

Nevada's park efforts, dormant for almost a decade, have been revitalized by the present State Park Commission. A young and ambitious program designed to provide Nevadans with a sound park system is now in its formative stages.

A commission report lists immediate park proposals at Fynnmaid Lake and High Rock Canyon in Washoe County. Early development of these units can supplement the County program, especially by providing overnight facilities. Aid from the State in solving technical problems is also a valuable asset.

Nevada Fish and Game Commission

Recreation pressures have forced the Fish and Game Commission to provide installations normally supplied by park agencies, despite the Commission's primary function in the management and regulation of fish and game. This report recommends relief of these pressures at Fynnmaid Lake and the Truckee River. Additionally, continued cooperation and coordination with the Fish and Game Commission is urged.

Private Enterprise

Recreation offers many opportunities to private enterprise and cognizance of this fact has underlain the preparation of this report. Authorities today accept the premise that private capital can best satisfy certain recreation needs and county competition with reasonable private effort is discouraged. It is urged that every consideration be given to the concession method of operating county facilities — subject, of course, to careful protection of taxpayers interest. In this regard, painstaking preparation and continuing scrutiny of concession agreements is recommended.

Tennis

It is possible to view the provision of tennis courts as an urban responsibility except for outlying communities in the county. Facilities do exist on county property at the golf course where the need for detailed site planning is apparent. The evident demand for more courts is not measurable since no attendance or use data is available. It is suggested that any county expenditure in this direction be on the basis of fact related to attendance and demand. Siting criteria indicates a community approach similar to that used in the location of junior high schools.

Rifle Range

The existing range in the southeastern part of Lemmon Valley has become dangerous and inadequate because of population growth and development. Replacement will be difficult; the use demands a large parcel of level ground carefully located in relation to existing and potential surroundings. Installation costs run high and total use is relatively small when compared with other recreational needs of the community. To provide such a facility, cooperation between police, military and other user groups or agencies is recommended.

Horsemen's Park

Facilities at Horsemen's Park southwest of Reno have been installed by the Washoe Horsemen's Association on property owned by the County. The site is small and difficult to develop; it could never be a satisfactory center for horse shows or fairs. Subdivisions actively during recent years has moved closer to the park and could limit its use by horsemen in the future. Recommendations in this report include provision for replacement at Wheeler Reservoir plus consideration of adequate riding trails. Combined use of all such facilities by liver groups is urged.

PARK COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

Step by step recommendations set forth below are intended to provide guidelines for setting in motion the program presented within this report.

Recommendations—for immediate action:

- I. Employ a Park Administrator-Planner having a degree in recreation, or related profession, and a minimum of seven years education and/or experience in the park and recreation field; recreation funds can be used for the first year's salary.
- II. Provide maximum recreation opportunity for County residents by making more effective use of existing park units, personnel and funds.
- III. Renegotiate establishment of a county operated recreation area at Satecliffe on Pyramid Lake.
- IV. Begin now to prepare detailed engineering and use data essential to a park development program.

Recommendations—for continuing action:

- I. Weigh the value of statute revisions which would enable Washoe County to create a Park and Recreation Commission. Such a Commission would administer, plan, develop, operate and maintain a continuing park program, and have authority to establish policy, regulate park use, employ a staff, and expend appropriated funds.
- II. Explore the merits of establishing Fair and Recreation Board responsibility for development, operation and maintenance of the Washoe County Fair and Rodeo Grounds. Structure of this group relative to the administration of a Convention Hall-Auditorium could lend itself to efficient operation of such a specialized recreation facility.
- III. Budget increased County funds for outdoor recreation on a consistent and continuing basis.
- IV. Evaluate the use of general obligation or revenue bonds to finance a land acquisition and capital improvements program for parks.
- V. Assert positive governmental leadership by aiding and supporting a progressive park and recreation program, such a program to insure maximum use and enjoyment of Washoe County's recreation resources by all people, resident and visitor alike.



Appreciation

This report and proposal have benefited from the continuing aid and cooperation of many interested individuals, groups, and Federal, State and local agencies. Special appreciation is extended to Mrs. Betty Facciola of the Regional Planning Commission staff for typing and editing the final draft of this report.

art & design: ART ASSOCIATES OF RE
printing: A. CARLISLE & CO. OF NEVA





Appendix B

2000 Bond Matching Summary Spreadsheet

2000 Regional Parks, Open Space and Trails Bond

Project Status Summary

As of December 31, 2017

	WC1 Original	WC-1 Total	Total		
	Bond Budget	Expense	Grants Others	Comment	Status
Open Space					
Ballardini Ranch Acq & Trailhead/Trails			\$3,161,302.42	SNPLMA 121.26 ac	Trailhead complete, connector trails in progress
		\$3,077,750		WC-1 93.27 ac.	Complete, 2017-18
			\$1,116,200	SNPLMA Trailhead	
		\$604,882		WC-1 Trailhead Ph-1	
		\$250,000		WC-1 Loop Trail	
Ballardini Sub Total	\$4,000,000	\$3,932,632	\$4,277,502		
Casey/Bowers/Davis Land		\$1,643,021	\$50,589,286	SNPLMA 1,000 ac	Complete, 2006
				Casey Donation 17 ac	
				Trailhead 1-2 ac	
Casey/Bowers/Davis Land Sub Total	\$1,922,500	\$1,643,021	\$50,589,286		
Historic Galena School	\$300,000	\$301,975	\$315,400	SQ-1 Bond & In-kind labor	Complete, 2006
Huffaker Hills Land Acquisition	\$1,100,000	\$276,491	\$0		Complete, 2003
Truckee River Land/Bike Path		\$2,252,460		WC-1 Canepa 120ac.	Complete
		\$202,210	\$202,214	SQ-1 Carcione #1 22.26 ac	Complete
		\$421,841	\$421,836	SQ-1 River Bend 13.32 ac	Complete
		\$220,000	\$220,000	SQ-1 Carcione #2	Complete
		\$55,611		Wc-1 Parcel Due Dil & App	
				TMWA Smith Ranch 40ac	Complete
Truckee River Land/Bike Path Sub Total	\$4,000,000	\$3,152,122	\$844,050		
Canepa Ranch-Truckee River 110ac Sale to USFS			\$1,524,968	Cash back to Bond Fund	Complete
Bullcreek Trailhead Land	\$0	\$0	\$0		@ 10-20 acres at Verdi area at Bull Creek
North Valley Open Space	\$0	\$0	\$0	WC this linked NVRP up hill over to LV	Access in Lemmon Valley/Stead area
Peavine Access Acq.	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$0		Complete 2011-portion former Northgate Golf
Virginia Lake Property Acq.	\$0	\$0	\$0		Pasture area adjacent to dog park
Washoe Canyon Trial/Land		\$77,500	\$77,500	SQ-1 Stone 1.6 ac	Complete 2008 & 2009
			\$289,000	SQ-1 O'Brien ?ac	Eric look up acreage Pleasant Valley Galena Cr
			\$289,000	RCT O'Brien	
Washoe Canyon Trial/Land Sub Total	\$77,500	\$77,500	\$655,500		
Total Open Space	\$11,800,000	\$9,783,741	\$58,206,706		
Trails					
	WC-1	WC-1 Total	Grants	Commen	
Huffaker Hills Trailhead	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$152,200	RTP & \$15,750 in-kind labor	Ph 1 Complete 2004, Ph. 2-A=allocation is grant match-kiosk, paved parking, signage, sade str.
Hunter Creek Trailhead (M.D.Thompson)	\$600,000	\$473,568	\$0		Ph. 1 Complete 2010- allocation for Ph 2-landscape & ped. Bridge
Jumbo Grade Trailhead	\$157,500	\$57,297	\$65,157	RTP & \$4,680 in kind labor	Complete, 2004
Keystone & Rancho San Rafael Trails		\$188,446		WC-1 Bond savings	Complete, 2004
			\$45,150	RTP Grant	
Keystone & Rancho San Rafael Trails Sub Total	\$120,000	\$188,446	\$45,150		
Mt. Rose Summit Trail		\$53,878			Complete, 2007
			\$498,000	TEA-21	
			\$153,000	USFS Cap Fund	
Mt. Rose Summit Trail Sub Total	\$54,740	\$53,878	\$651,000		
Thomas Creek Canyon Trailhead	\$181,000	\$181,000	\$48,000		Complete, 2003
Washoe Valley Bike Trail Phase I	\$175,000	\$36,857	\$0		Deactivated project-not feasible unless NDOT allows on Dike

Whites Creek Trailhead	\$266,000	\$203,625	\$58,000		Complete, 2003
Urban Trails-Reno	\$442,000	\$442,000	\$83,807		Complete, 2004
Alum Creek Trail	\$0	\$31,500			Connector trail from Donnoley Park to Mayberry Drive
Browns Creek Trail	\$0	\$15,000	\$15,000	St. James/USFS/Agreement	Complete entirely with grant funding and in-kind match
Galena to Davis Trail	\$0	\$32,000			Complete connector trail Ophir Creek to Davis Creek Park operated USFS
Hunter Lake Access	\$0	\$271,500		In progress with USFS Match	Easement access & improvements at Hunter Lake Road
Incline-Sand Harbor Bike Path	\$0	\$1,400,000	\$21,000,000	NDOT/TTD Match finalizing KME	In progress, TTD project
Peavine Trailhead	\$0	\$117,500			Completed Horizon Hills area, partner with USFS
Tahoe Rim Trail	\$0				Completed with other partnerships
Windy Hill Bike Trail	\$0				Dirt path connects to Davis Lane around Windy Hill
Total Trails	\$2,121,240	\$3,871,495	\$22,118,314		
Park Projects					
Anderson/Bartley Phase II		\$875,000		Park Improvements	Complete, 2003
			\$237,000	GF Trailhead other amenities	
			\$210,000	SQ-1 Jesch 3.12 ac	
Anderson/Bartley Phase II Sub Total	\$1,080,000	\$1,085,000	\$662,000		
Crystal Peak Interpretive Center	\$400,000	\$344,008	\$0		Complete 2012 Allocation to complete pond landscaping and road.
Galena Children's Camp We-Ch-Me		\$500,000			Complete, 2006
			\$297,674	GF & Water Resources	
			\$1,350,000	Property Sale proceeds	
			\$30,000	Private Donations	
			\$415,000	LWCF	
			\$165,000	NHSPO	
Galena Children's Camp We-Ch-Me Sub Total	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$2,257,674		
Galena Visitor Center (formerly Campground)		\$1,000,000			Complete, 2009
			\$768,000	USFS Capital Improvement Fund	
			\$253,148	RTP	
			\$74,256	National Scenic Byway	
			\$76,000	TEA-21	
			\$15,000	Cash match to TEA-21	
			\$222,171	Non-cash contribution USFS	
			\$100,000	Non-cash contribution WC	
Galena Visitor Center Sub Total	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,508,575		\$1,562,003
Lazy 5 Reg. Park Phase II		\$1,625,500			Complete, 2005
			\$164,397		
			\$127,981		
			\$6,075		
Lazy 5 Reg. Park Phase II Sub Total	\$1,625,500	\$1,625,500	\$298,453		
Lemmon Valley Marsh Interpretive Cntr.	\$120,000	\$120,000	\$180,352	Alturas Mitigation Funds	Complete 2006
Mira Loma Regional Skate Park		\$500,000			Complete, 2002
			\$140,000	Associated Gen Contractors	
			\$100,000	City of Reno	
			\$360,000	Res. Con. Tax/Private Donors	
Mira Loma Regional Skate Park Sub Total	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$600,000	City of Reno	Complete
No. Valleys Sports Phase II		\$1,554,625			Complete, 2004
			\$271,492	Alturas Mitigation Funds	
			\$20,733	County GF	
			\$91,818	Bond Interest Earning	
			\$1,042,145	Convert Treated Wtr/Wtr Rts Proceeds	
No. Valleys Sports Phase II Sub Total	\$1,554,625	\$1,554,625	\$1,426,188		
Northwest/Terrace Sports Complex		\$2,000,000			Complete ,2004
			\$500,000	Res. Con. Tax	
			\$975,991	City of Reno	

Northwest/Terrace Sport Complex Sub Total	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$1,475,991		
Rancho Park Improvements		\$ 194,730.89		Overflow Parking & main parking imp.	Complete, 2005
		\$1,200,000		Irrigation system renovation	
		\$111,378		Arboretum Greenhouse	
			\$150,000	GF Arboretum Greenhouse	
			\$30,000	Private Donations	
Rancho Park Improvements Sub Total	\$250,000	\$1,506,109	\$180,000		
Sky Tavern Ski Lift	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0		Complete, 2002
So. Vlys. Sports Complex Phase II		\$1,868,300			Complete, 2003
			\$629,637	Res Con Tax	
So. Vlys. Sports Complex Phase II Sub Total	\$1,868,300	\$1,868,300	\$629,637		
Spanish Springs Canyon Reg. Park		\$1,830,850			Complete 2011
			\$150,000	LWCF	
			\$160,000	SQ-1	
		\$300,000		Golden Eagle Little League Parking	
Sp Sprs Cnyn Reg. Pk (Golden Eagle) Sub Total	\$1,830,850	\$2,130,850	\$310,000		
Sun Vly Reg. Park		\$531,875			Complete, 2009
			\$125,000	SQ-1	
			\$166,000	Reg Trans Comm	
			\$100,000	RTP	
Sun Vly Reg. Park Sub Total	\$531,875	\$531,875	\$391,000		Complete
Panther Valley Park		\$500,000			Complete, 2003
			\$250,000	Alturas Mitigation Funds	
			\$237,412	City of Reno	
Panther Valley Park Sub Total	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$487,412		
University Ridge Park	\$300,000	\$425,000	\$125,000	Alturas Mitigation Funds	Complete, 2004
Paradise Park	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$5,889	City of Reno	Complete, 2004
Bowers Improvements (pave south lot)	\$0	\$600,000			Complete
Rancho Ballfields	\$0				Add add'l baseball and soccer fields
Rancho/Arboretum Center (greenhouse)	\$0			Under Rancho San Rafael	Complete, 2017
Rancho Irrigation Ph. 2	\$0			Under Rancho San Rafael	Complete, 2018
Westside Community Center	\$0				Sparks community center near Oppio Park
Total Parks	\$14,361,150	\$16,591,267	\$10,538,171		
Grand total-all categories	\$28,282,390	\$30,246,503	\$90,863,191	\$121,109,694	
	Original Bond Parks	With interest earned	Direct an Indirect	Total Funds with Leveraging	



Appendix C

References and GIS Data Sources

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National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA). *2019 NRPA Agency Performance Review, Park and Recreation Agency Performance Benchmarks*. 2019.

Reno Evening Gazette Nov 20, 1960 p. 9, *Washoe County Park Planner Given Contract*.

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Truckee Meadow Regional Planning Agency (TMRPA). *Washoe County Consensus Forecast 2018-2038*. 2018.

GIS Data

TMRPA. 2018. TMRPA Geographic Information Systems. Open Source Data. *Approved Future Units Viewer*. Retrieved from; <https://tmrpa.org/tmrpa-maps>

Washoe County. All parcel data, city and county boundaries, federal lands, land use, parks, and roads were provided by the Washoe County Geographic Information Systems Department. *Washoe County GIS – Open Data*. 2018. Retrieved from; <https://explore-washoe.opendata.arcgis.com>

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Appendix D

List of Stakeholders and Summary of Stakeholder Meetings

MEETING SUMMARY

To: Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space

From: Eric Hasty, Planner – Wood Rodgers, Inc.

Date: February 20, 2018

Re: **WC Regional Parks Master Plan Stakeholder Meeting February 15, 2018**

Overview

On February 15, 2018 a Stakeholders meeting was led by parks staff, Cheryl Surface and Dennis Troy; and assisted by Wood Rodgers Staff, Derek Kirkland and Eric Hasty. The Stakeholders group consisted of the following individuals:

- Jesse Haw; Haw Co. Properties
- Bobbie Merrigan; Ryder Homes
- Karen Mullen
- Michael Barne; Stonegate & Ascente Developments
- Matt Webber; Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation
- Linda Nelson, Nevada Land Trust
- Eric Crump, Washoe County
- Julee Conway, Citygate Associates
- Lindsey Panton, Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful

The group was presented with information that included an overview of parks ownership and park types, the Residential Construction Tax districts and the limitations, as well as the opportunities that would be created by consolidating the districts. The consolidation of the districts is an attempt to develop planning districts to identify common goals as part of the Master Plan. Part of the presentation included several examples of newly proposed districts as well as overlays that showed current underserved areas, future approved housing developments, and future areas of potential development within Washoe County. Feedback from the Stakeholders was encouraged throughout the presentation.

Comments

Comments and concerns were captured throughout the meeting and a general summary of the comments are as follows:

History of the Districts:

- In 1988 the original 46 districts were consolidated into the existing 20 districts
- The North Valleys districts (2A_1 thru 2A_8) did not want to be included in the consolidation and are the reason why they are so fragmented today
- The districts were based on hydrographic basins as a result of water issues, they wanted the water used for parks to stay within the district the park was located in

Overall Master Plan Comments and Goals:

- The Master Plan should be developed independently of the RCT funding. Revising the NRS regarding RCT funding district changes, amounts and how it can be spent should be considered to support the Master Plan itself.
 - It was also noted that this would be a goal and would happen after the Master Plan was adopted. The Master Plan should address the current situation and allow for and promote future changes.
- Need to add new legislation in Master Plan
 - Park Special Assessment Districts are an option now
- Long term goal to achieve a Regional Parks Department that oversees all City and County owned parks within the County
- Anticipate future growth (20+ years into the future) to continue to acquire future land acquisitions at low rates
- A reoccurring comment was that some type of timeline for buildout needed to be added to the current overlays (1-5 years, 5-10 years, etc.)
 - Have a graphic that lists the developments and the number of units they plan on developing on a timeline (# houses in 1-5 years, # of houses in 5-10 years, etc.)
- Offer increase in density for developments that donate land for future parks
- Look for opportunities to create partnerships with other public entities (UNR Farms)
- Develop criteria for goals, objectives and strategies
- Economic impacts of parks should be considered/noted in the Master Plan.
- Need a Map that shows the overall County and city, both existing and planned, parks are located and the type of park (Regional vs Community) and by Jurisdiction.
 - Open Space, trails, and other regional amenities (i.e. historical) should also be mapped with overall parks
 - Identify which jurisdiction is responsible for each park, and what the park serves
- What defines an underserved area? If only using national standards and distance that is not enough. Level of service? NRPA, what are community goals (Maybe this is a question for public meeting???)
 - Need to visit this internally and maybe come up with some other factors to include, and run them by the Stakeholders at the next meeting
- Create a gap analysis of existing parks
- An evaluation of each regional park and build out timelines
- Plan where facilities need to be, not based on funding (RCT). Let the districts develop from there.
- Smaller parks can serve as Community and Regional Parks, classification based on acreage not always correct
 - How do we define Neighborhood vs Community Vs Regional other than by acreage?
 - Developers do marketing and what residents want is not always in line with what City or County requires.
 - Residents want parks until they have to pay for them, would rather have regional parks with trails that connect to their communities
- Information to determine future facility needs
- Look at the natural resource plan

- Include the Sphere of Influence in the maps
- Have two buckets for impact fees
 - Portion goes to new community being built
 - Portion goes to regional level
- County should partner with developers for new facilities:
 - Example: Washoe County has 13,000 acres of open space, some near development

Consolidating the Districts

- Consider the most logical travel routes people take and what parks they would most likely use
- Limit the number of planning districts to 1-2 with a prioritized list of projects by timing of development
 - Concerns of how politics could impact a larger district and the funding associated
- A large consensus came from the idea of a complete consolidation of the districts (with the exception of the GID's) with the assumption that some parameters or priorities for spending the funds are established
- Development community is supportive of consolidation until the discussion of using RCT for existing underserved areas to fill a deficiency occurs. The RCT funds are generated for new communities, not existing underserved. (RCT is not used to fill deficiencies is the short)
 - The Long message: RCT, even in a consolidation effort, is providing a benefit for the new community. RCT is not enough to pay for a new park, so RCT on a regional level helps leverage money that benefits both new and existing communities well beyond what RCT covers.
- The term Regionalization Vs Consolidation might be a better direction?
- List how much money is stranded within the current districts

Conclusion

The meeting concluded that the group is in support of consolidating the districts in a way that will increase the flexibility of the Parks Department to leverage funds to provide park amenities that reflect the wants and desires of the community. The feedback provided by a majority of the Stakeholders supported Washoe County's vision of a more robust focus on regional parks, as well as a desire to have the RCT funding contribute to a more regional level of service. Stakeholders did emphasize that the County should have a prioritized list of park improvements based on timing of new developments.

The feedback received from the group when critiquing the proposed consolidation of the planning districts highlighted the need to focus efforts to develop a set of parameters/data sources and include an element of time for new development in developing the Master Plan. These parameters/data should then be analyzed to develop the planning districts, regardless of existing RCT districts. The Stakeholders Meeting highlighted that the existing RCT districts contribute only a small portion to the overall funding source and are simply one of the many factors that needs to be considered when developing the planning districts. Furthermore, the group suggested that the constraint of RCT districts can be eliminated with the full consolidation of the districts. This would help drive Washoe County to develop a Master Plan that would create planning areas that identify clear goals based on a thorough analysis of the regional community.



Appendix E

Summary of Public Outreach and Results of Online Survey



Public Outreach and Online Survey Summary Report

To: Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space

From: Eric Hasty, Planner – Wood Rodgers, Inc.

Date: June 12, 2018

Re: **WC Regional Parks and Open Space Master Plan Public Outreach Meetings April 9-12, 2018 and Online Survey April 9 – May11, 2018**

Overview

Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space is currently in the process of developing a Master Plan. As part of this process the public's input was sought to help determine the direction of the Parks Department. Four public meetings were held from April 9th thru the 12th at different locations around the County, and an online survey was available from April 9th to May 11th. Overall 407 responses were recorded (42 people attended the public meetings and the online survey received 365 complete responses). The following is a summary of the public meetings as well as the survey.

Public Meetings

Boards with graphics and maps were brought to the public meetings and four stations were set-up to ask the following questions:

- Station 1: Where do you live and what two places do you most frequently recreate?
- Station 2: What type of park do you most frequently use?
- Station 3: What are the top 3 facilities you use most?
- Station 4: Additional comments.

Overall, the results of the public meeting showed that a majority of the participants recreated in the same general area of where they lived but did travel farther distances to visit Regional Parks. The most popular park type is Regional Parks and Open Space. The most popular facility types include Hiking/Trailheads or Open Space. The other most popular facilities (Urban Trails, Recreation Centers/Museums, and Large Parks and Playgrounds) are generally found within a Regional Park. It should also be noted that Open Space and Hiking/Trailheads area commonly associated with Regional Parks within Washoe County. A digitized version of the boards and comments can be found in Attachments A and B included in this report.

Public Meeting Summary:

- Most residents recreate in the general area of where they live with the exception of traveling to Regional Parks.
- The most popular park types were Regional Parks (55%) and Community Parks (26%); Neighborhood Parks were the least popular (19%).
- The top four facilities included Hiking/Natural Areas/Open Space (26%), Urban Trails/Multi-Use Paths (20%), Recreation Centers/Museums (16%), and Large Parks and Playgrounds (14%).
- A total of 11 comments were recorded and had a range of specific requests. Some of the common themes included:
 - Residents were interested in seeing the funding to Washoe County Parks increase to pre-recession levels,
 - Comments on adding dog parks and dog bags at trailheads, and
 - Residents were interested in seeing additional amenities at existing trailheads

Online Survey

The online survey generated 365 responses over the period of approximately one month. A majority of the responses (56%) were directly accessed from Facebook, the rest were accessed from residents going directly to the polling website, most likely from the business cards Park Staff passed out to members of the public (36%), and from the KTVN News website (8%). The surveys purpose was to understand:

- How far residents travel to use facilities,
- What facilities residents value most,
- How far residents are willing to travel to find the facilities they value most,
- What facilities residents want the County to prioritize, and
- How much value the residents place on park facilities.

A majority of the responses came from the South Meadows (32.5%), Sparks/Spanish Springs (15.8%), Midtown Area (15.6%), and North Valleys (5.8%) (see Zip Code Map in Appendix D of this report). At the end of the survey participants were asked to leave additional comments; 181 (nearly half of the participants) left comments. A word cloud was created to help highlight some of the most popular topics that were addressed and is attached in Appendix E of this report. A majority of the comments were related to the amount of growth and housing development proposed for the region, and wanted to see Washoe County Parks and Open Space acquire new land that can be dedicated as Open Space to help preserve some of the land for recreation purposes. A summary of the responses are as follows:

- Almost all respondents (92.9%) believed that funding parks was a medium to high priority over other government services
- A majority of residents are willing to travel to visit their favorite facility with 35.9% willing to travel 4-10 miles and 37.8% willing to travel more than 10 miles
- A majority of the residents believe that future funding should either be invested in Regional Parks (39.4%) or Open Space (30.1%)
- Parks and Playgrounds were the most popular facility used, (22.9% preferring smaller Neighborhood Parks and 22.5% preferring Regional Parks), Hiking/Trailheads is the second most popular facility used (20.4%)



- Most respondents were frequent users of parks and a majority take their personal vehicles or walk and bike to the parks

A full summary of the survey results and comments received are attached.

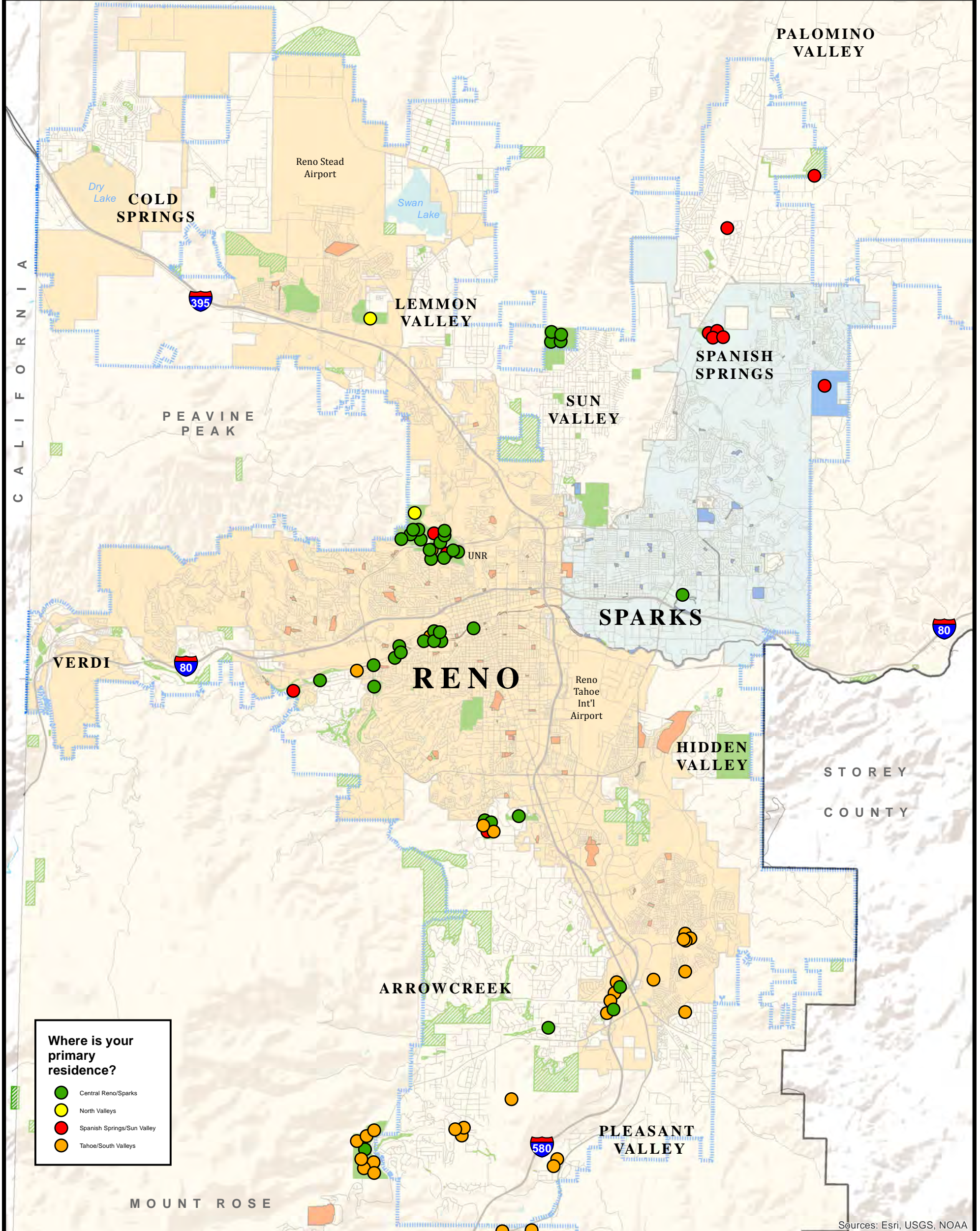
Attachments

- **Appendix A – Public Meeting Boards (Digital)**
- **Appendix B – Public Meeting Comments**
- **Appendix C – Online Survey**
- **Appendix D – Zip Code Response Map**
- **Appendix E – Survey Comments Word Cloud**
- **Appendix F – Preliminary Survey Results Report**

Appendix A

Public Meeting Boards (Digital)

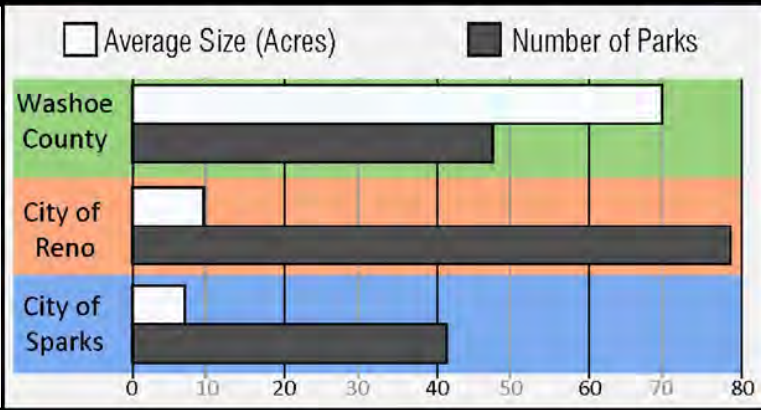
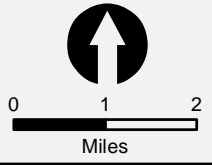
Washoe County Regional Parks & Open Space: City and County Parks by Owner



Sources: Esri, USGS, NOAA

Legend

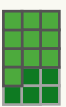




- Reno City Limits
- Sparks City Limits
- Truckee Meadows Service Area (TMSA)
- Washoe County Park
- Washoe County Open Space
- Reno Park
- Sparks Park

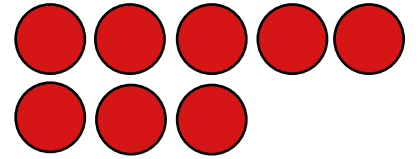


Park Types

Which One Do You Use Most?

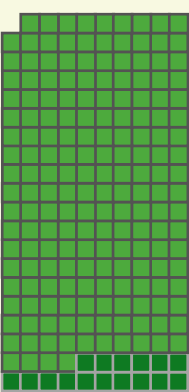
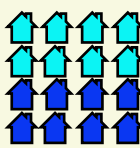



Neighborhood Park

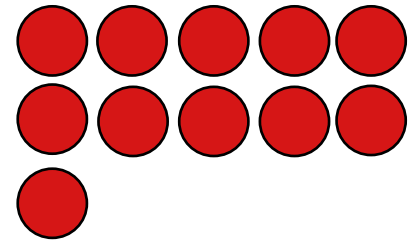
Size:  5 - 15 Acres <small>- 1 Acre (dark green represents the minimum size)</small>	Service Area:  1/4 - 1/2 Miles (400 - 800 Homes) <small>- 200 Homes (dark blue represents the minimum amount of)</small>	Amenities:  Playgrounds, Picnic Tables, & Basketball/ Tennis Courts	Facts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Serves a small population or community - Mainly serves pedestrian access - Hosts small events but usually no reservable picnic facilities 	Cost to Construct:  \$600,000 - \$2,000,000+	Example:  Damonte Ranch Park
--	--	---	--	--	---



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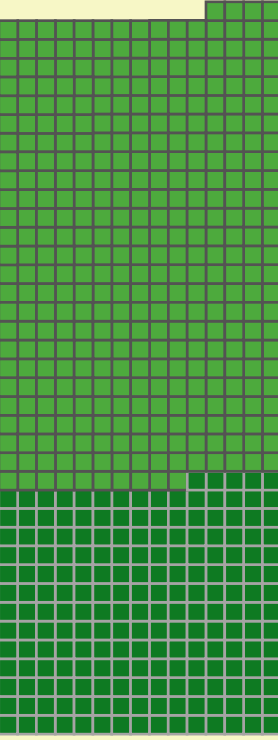
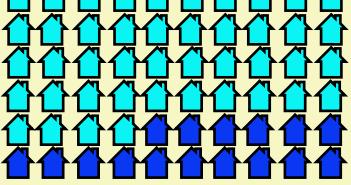


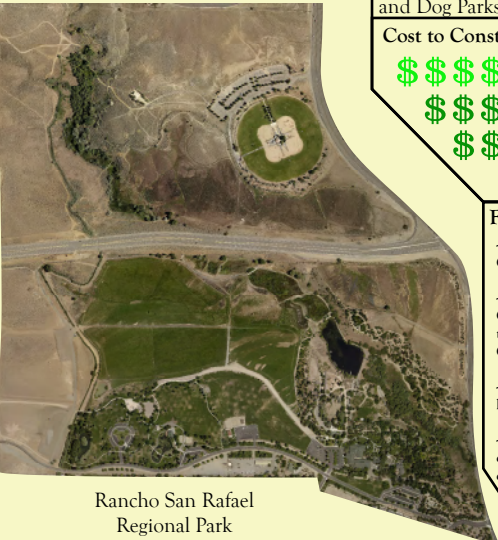
Community Park

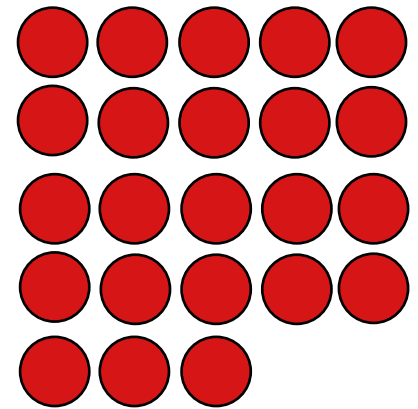
Size:  16 -199 Acres	Service Area:  1 - 2 Miles (1,600 - 3,200 Homes)	Amenities:  Playgrounds, Picnic Tables, Multi-Use Athletic Facilities,Swimming Pool, Trails, and Community Centers	Cost to Construct:  \$3,500,000 - \$27,000,000+
Facts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Serves a larger community - Usually provide places for Community Centers, Pools, and Sport Fields - Large reservable facilities and host community events 		Example:  Idlewild Park	



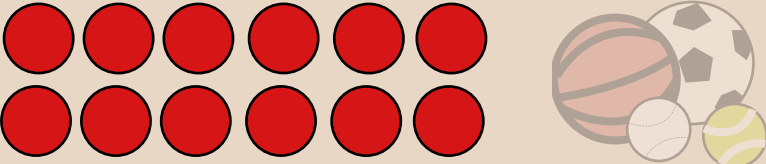

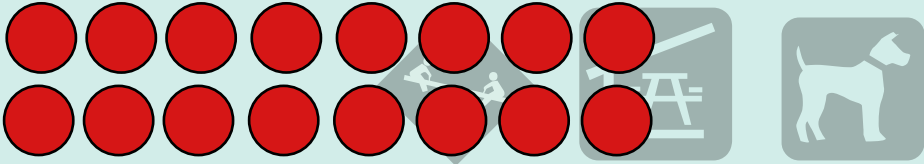
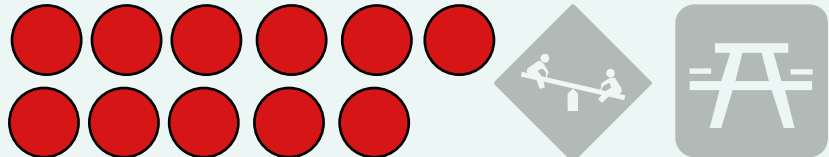
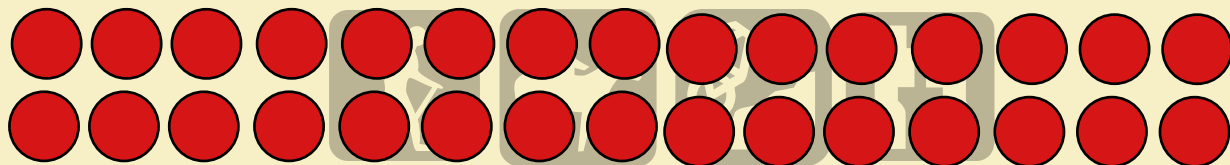
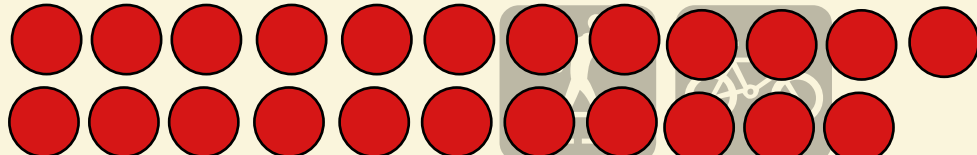
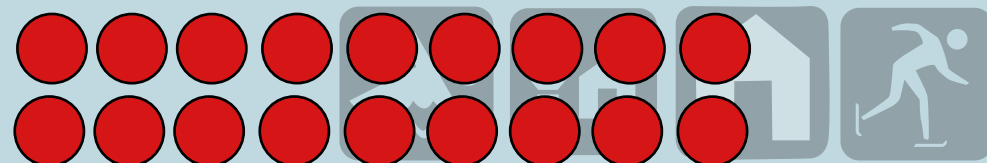

11

Regional Park

Size:  200 - 574+ Acres	Service Area:  2 - 10+ Miles (3,200 - 16,000+ Homes)	Amenities:  Playgrounds, Picnic Tables, Multi-Use Athletic Facilities, Swimming Pool, Trails, Community Centers, Equestrian Facilities, Ice Skating,Camping, Ranger Stations, Wild-Life Viewing, and Dog Parks	Cost to Construct:  \$17,000,000 - \$55,000,000+
Example:  Rancho San Rafael Regional Park		Facts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Serves the regional area, City, or County - Provide places for Community Centers, Museums, Pools, Amphitheaters and Large Indoor and Outdoor Sport Fields - Large reservable facilities and can host National Events and Concerts - These can also be considered Special Use Parks and can provide facilities to accommodate activities that require large tracts of land 	



23

Facility Types	Which THREE Facilities Do You Use Most?
<p>LARGE RECREATION AND SPORTS FACILITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Baseball/Softball Fields - Multi-Purpose Fields (soccer, football, lacrosse, etc.) - Disc Golf Courses - BMX/Mountain Bike Park/Pump Track - Skate Parks 	 <p style="text-align: right;">12</p>
<p>SMALL RECREATION AND SPORTS FACILITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Small Sports Courts (e.g. tennis, basketball, pickle-ball) - Bocce Ball or Horseshoe Pits - Outdoor Fitness Equipment 	 <p style="text-align: right;">1</p>
<p>LARGE PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Playgrounds in Large Multi-Purpose Parks That Serve a Region - Large Group Picnic Shelters and Facilities (Rentable) - Large Open Turf Areas (2+ Acres) - Off Leash Dog Parks 	 <p style="text-align: right;">16</p>
<p>SMALL PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Playgrounds in Smaller Neighborhood-Based Parks - Individual and Small Picnic Shelters and Facilities (Non-Rentable) - Small Open Turf Areas (1-2 Acres) 	 <p style="text-align: right;">11</p>
<p>HIKING/NATURAL AREAS/OPEN SPACE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Natural Trails/Trailheads (Non-Paved Hiking Trails with Access to Open Space and Other Natural Areas) - Natural Areas/Open Space 	 <p style="text-align: right;">30</p>
<p>URBAN TRAILS/MULTI-USE PATHS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Walking/Bike Paths and Trailheads (Wide Paved/Gravel Shared Use Trails Throughout the Built Environment) - Paved Trails Connecting Parks and Other Recreational Facilities 	 <p style="text-align: right;">23</p>
<p>RECREATION CENTERS/MUSEUMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recreation Center Including: Indoor Pools, Fitness Equipment and Exercise Facilities, Indoor Sports Courts, etc. - Museums and Arboretums/Gardens - Large Cultural/Environmental Interpretive and Education Centers 	 <p style="text-align: right;">18</p>
<p>SPECIAL USE/OTHER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Facilities I Use Are Not Listed Above 	 <p style="text-align: right;">2</p>

Appendix B

Public Meeting Comments

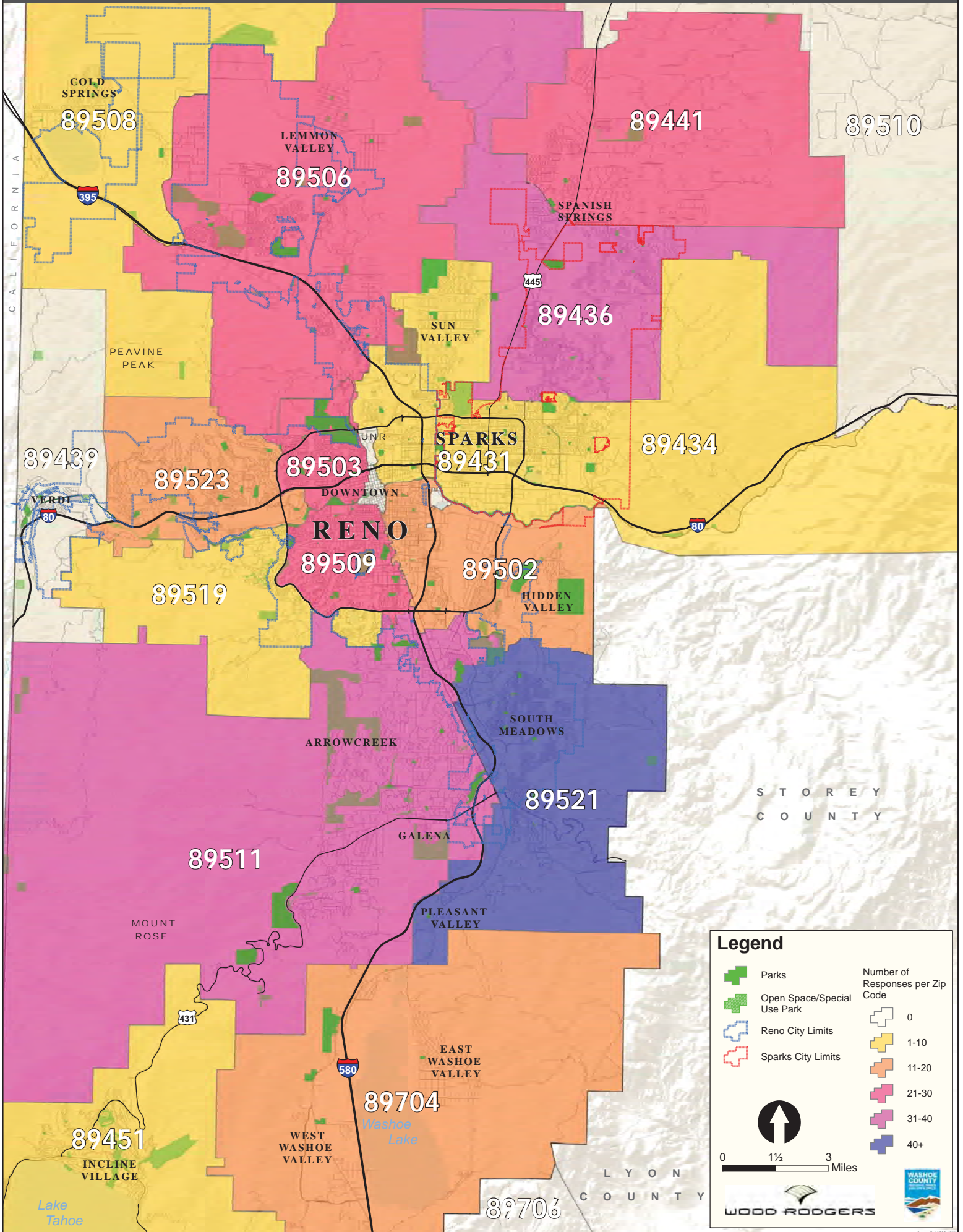
Washoe County Parks Master Plan Public Comments April 9-12, 2018

- “We bought our house June 2003 in Spanish Springs off of Silent Sparrow with the understanding that a park would be built there. It still is not built but the majority of the people out in the area still want it. Please keep the park in the plans. The 14.01-acre portion of APN 532-020-12.”
- “Really like, a bit of shade, a fountain, and a bathroom at the trailheads!”
- “Would like to see some form of light defectors at the softball fields at Ranch San Rafael. There is major light pollution 6 months out of the year, 5-6 days/week, 6 pm – midnight at the softball fields. The County would never allow this much light pollution in a commercial development. This should be a part of any recreational development also.”
- “Restore County Parks budgets and staff – cut deeply during the recession. Focus existing and future funding on lands and resource management at existing parks. Require developers to fund ‘new’ parks around new developments. Also, focus limited funding on regional parks and trails implement Master Plans for Regional Parks and trails/trailheads.”
- “Link trails focused on west and northern trailheads bring county resource experts back in parks recreate the parks department and fund at levels commensurate with projected growth, for planning purposes the public needs land ownership status maps.”
- “Bike/hike/horse trail Sparks to Storey Co. along Truckee River!”
- “Dog park at South Valley Regional Park or designated off leash area.”
- “Yes – agree – high use of dogs on trails/fields sign increased housing built – apartments requiring area to exercise dogs.”
- “You didn’t show any of the Washoe Valley Parks – Bowers, Davis Creek, Wilson Commons.”
- “Children can hardly play in front of their own homes. Please require neighborhood parks for the health of the children. Studies show the physical, mental, financial value of parks in relationship to wellbeing, health and reputation of community. I see very little open space on map – very disturbing – visitors and residents need/want access to outdoor parks, recreation.”
- “Provide better access to the BLM Land via trailheads on south side of town.”

Appendix C

Zip Code Response Map

WC Parks Survey Responses By Zip Code



Appendix D

Survey Comments Word Cloud

Appendix E

Preliminary Survey Results Report

Quick statistics

Survey 444571 'Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space Master Plan Survey'

Results

Survey 444571

Number of records in this query:	365
Total records in survey:	365
Percentage of total:	100.00%

Quick statistics

Survey 444571 'Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space Master Plan Survey'

Field summary for qzip

What is the ZIP code of your current residence?

Calculation	Result
Count	365
Sum	32513584.0000000000
Standard deviation	6052.27
Average	89078.31
Minimum	7351.0000000000
1st quartile (Q1)	89450.5
2nd quartile (Median)	89509
3rd quartile (Q3)	89521
Maximum	96161.0000000000

Null values are ignored in calculations

Q1 and Q3 calculated using minitab method

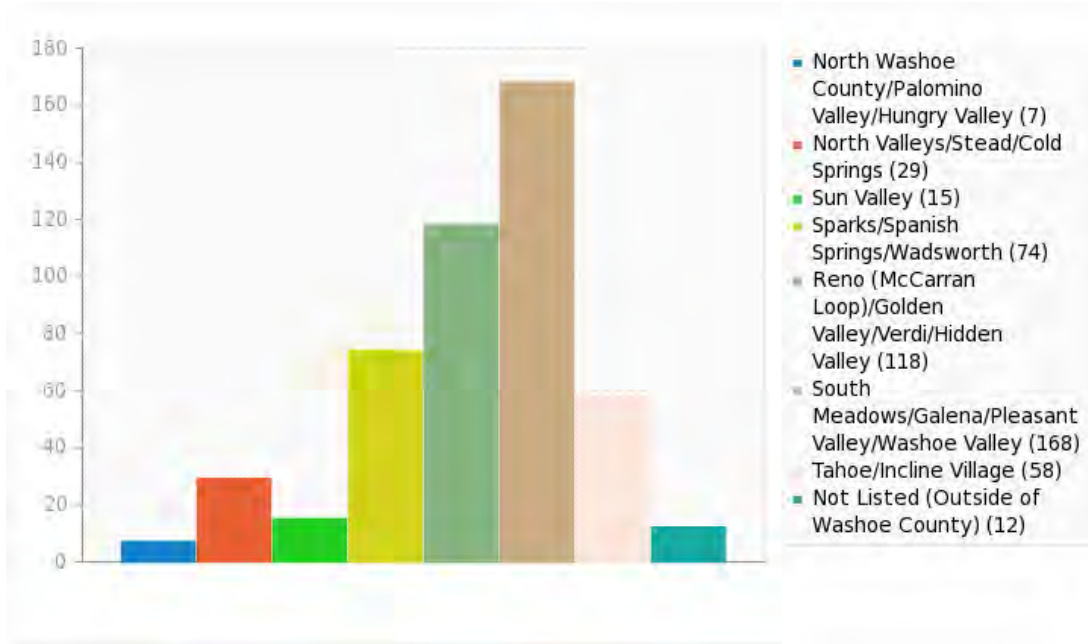
Field summary for QREC

Please indicate the general area where you primarily recreate

Answer	Count	Percentage
North Washoe County/Palomino Valley/Hungry Valley (SQ001)	7	1.92%
North Valleys/Stead/Cold Springs (SQ002)	29	7.95%
Sun Valley (SQ003)	15	4.11%
Sparks/Spanish Springs/Wadsworth (SQ004)	74	20.27%
Reno (McCarran Loop)/Golden Valley/Verdi/Hidden Valley (SQ005)	118	32.33%
South Meadows/Galena/Pleasant Valley/Washoe Valley (SQ006)	168	46.03%
Tahoe/Incline Village (SQ007)	58	15.89%
Not Listed (Outside of Washoe County) (SQ008)	12	3.29%

Field summary for QREC

Please indicate the general area where you primarily recreate



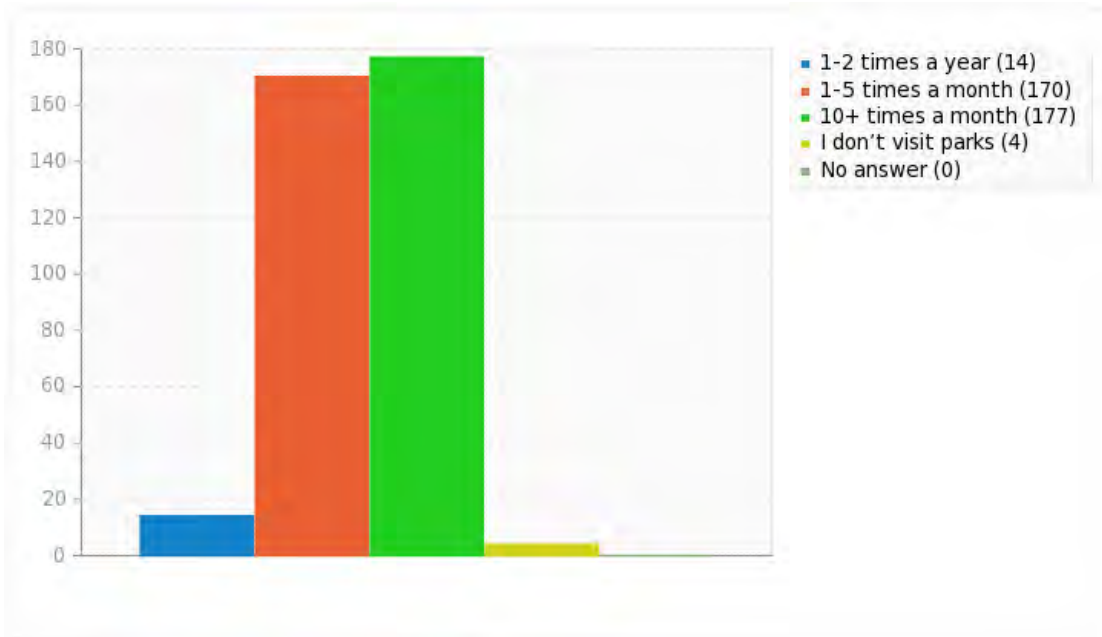
Field summary for q03

On average how often do you or members of your household visit a park?

Answer	Count	Percentage
1-2 times a year (A1)	14	3.84%
1-5 times a month (A2)	170	46.58%
10+ times a month (A3)	177	48.49%
I don't visit parks (A4)	4	1.10%
No answer	0	0.00%

Field summary for q03

On average how often do you or members of your household visit a park?



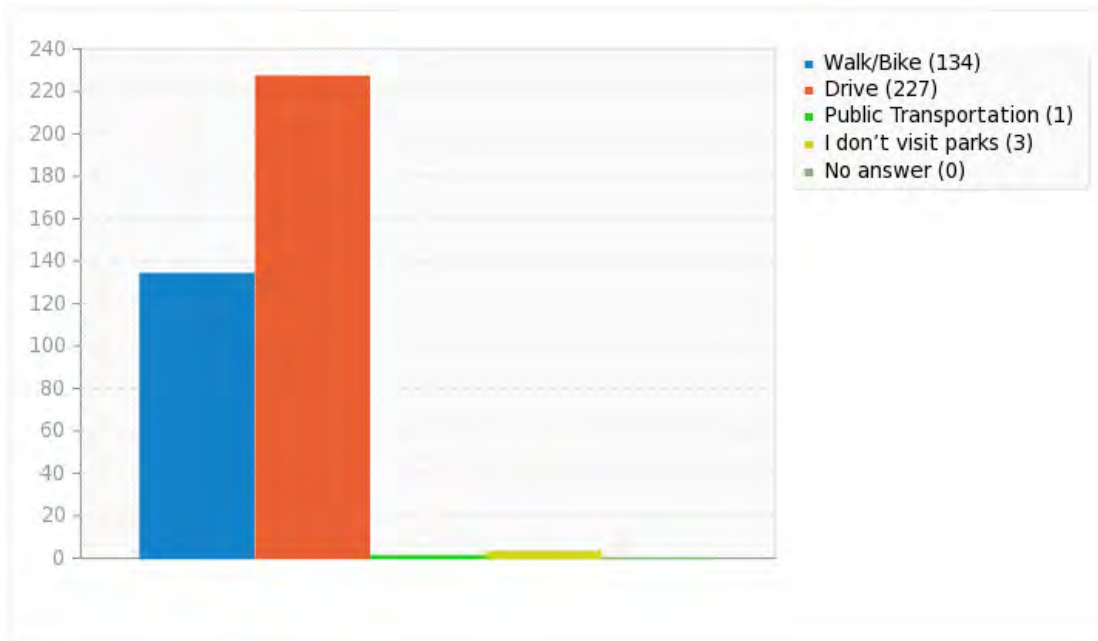
Field summary for q04

What is your preferred method to travel to the parks that you visit?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Walk/Bike (A1)	134	36.71%
Drive (A2)	227	62.19%
Public Transportation (A3)	1	0.27%
I don't visit parks (A4)	3	0.82%
No answer	0	0.00%

Field summary for q04

What is your preferred method to travel to the parks that you visit?



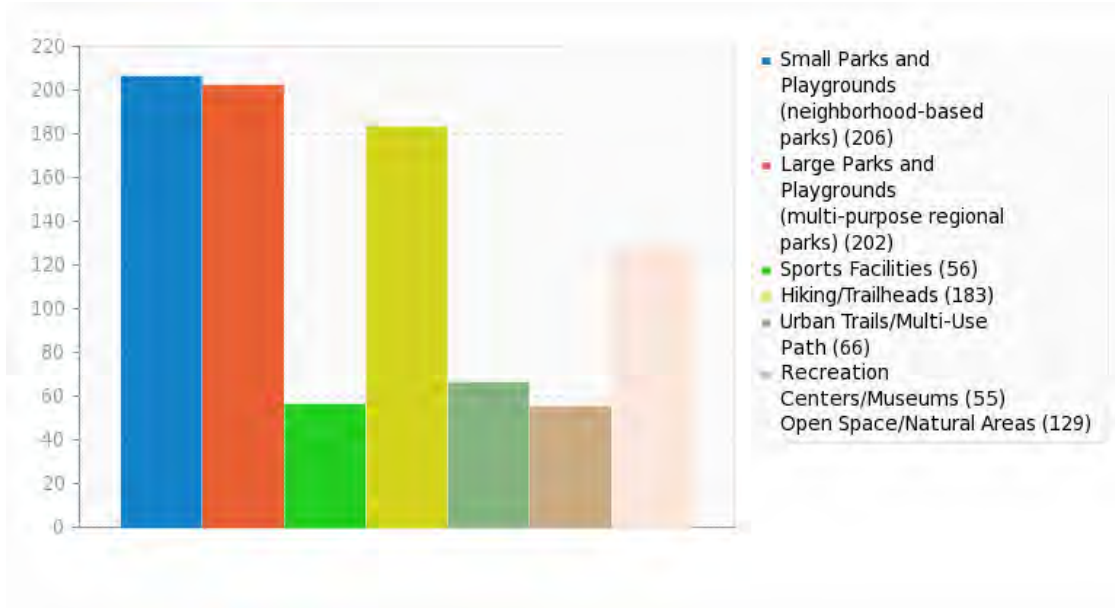
Field summary for q05

What type of recreation facilities do you or your household visit most frequently? Small Park Examples (5 to 15 Acres): Damonte Ranch Park Pelican Park Gator Swamp Park Thomas Creek Park Eagle Canyon Park Regional Park Examples (16 to 575 Acres): North Valleys Regional Park Lazy 5 Regional Park South Valleys Regional Park Idlewild Park

Answer	Count	Percentage
Small Parks and Playgrounds (neighborhood-based parks) (SQ001)	206	56.44%
Large Parks and Playgrounds (multi-purpose regional parks) (SQ002)	202	55.34%
Sports Facilities (SQ003)	56	15.34%
Hiking/Trailheads (SQ004)	183	50.14%
Urban Trails/Multi-Use Path (SQ005)	66	18.08%
Recreation Centers/Museums (SQ006)	55	15.07%
Open Space/Natural Areas (SQ007)	129	35.34%

Field summary for q05

What type of recreation facilities do you or your household visit most frequently? Small Park Examples (5 to 15 Acres): Damonte Ranch Park Pelican Park Gator Swamp Park Thomas Creek Park Eagle Canyon Park Regional Park Examples (16 to 575 Acres): North Valleys Regional Park Lazy 5 Regional Park South Valleys Regional Park Idlewild Park



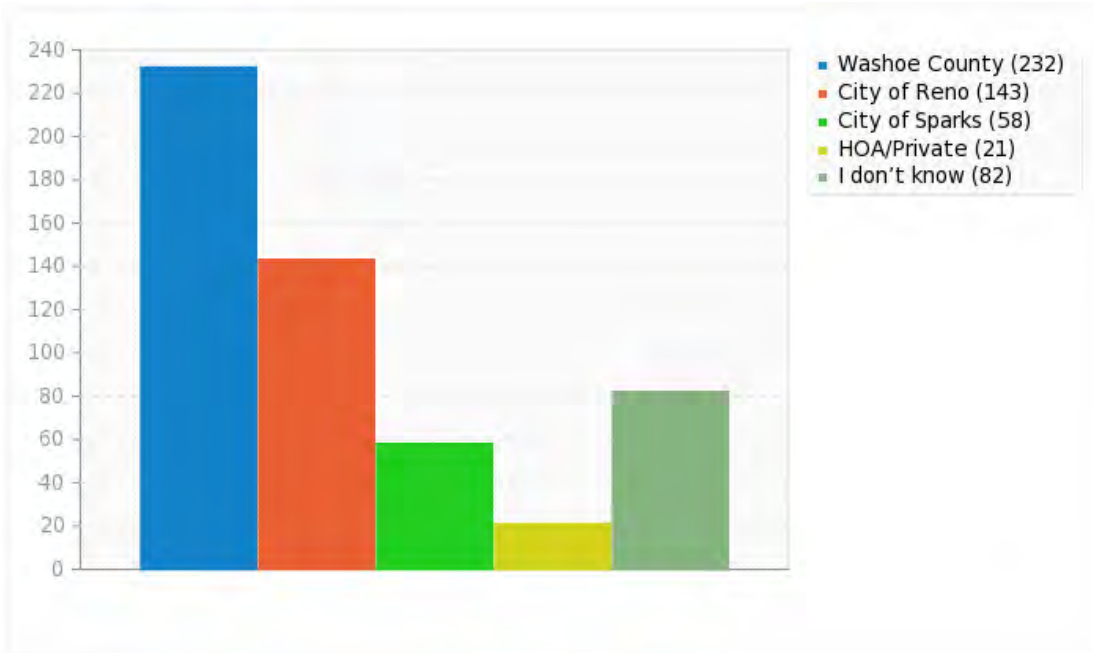
Field summary for q06

What entity operates and/or maintains the park facility you use most often? (check all that apply)

Answer	Count	Percentage
Washoe County (SQ001)	232	63.56%
City of Reno (SQ002)	143	39.18%
City of Sparks (SQ003)	58	15.89%
HOA/Private (SQ004)	21	5.75%
I don't know (SQ005)	82	22.47%

Field summary for q06

What entity operates and/or maintains the park facility you use most often? (check all that apply)



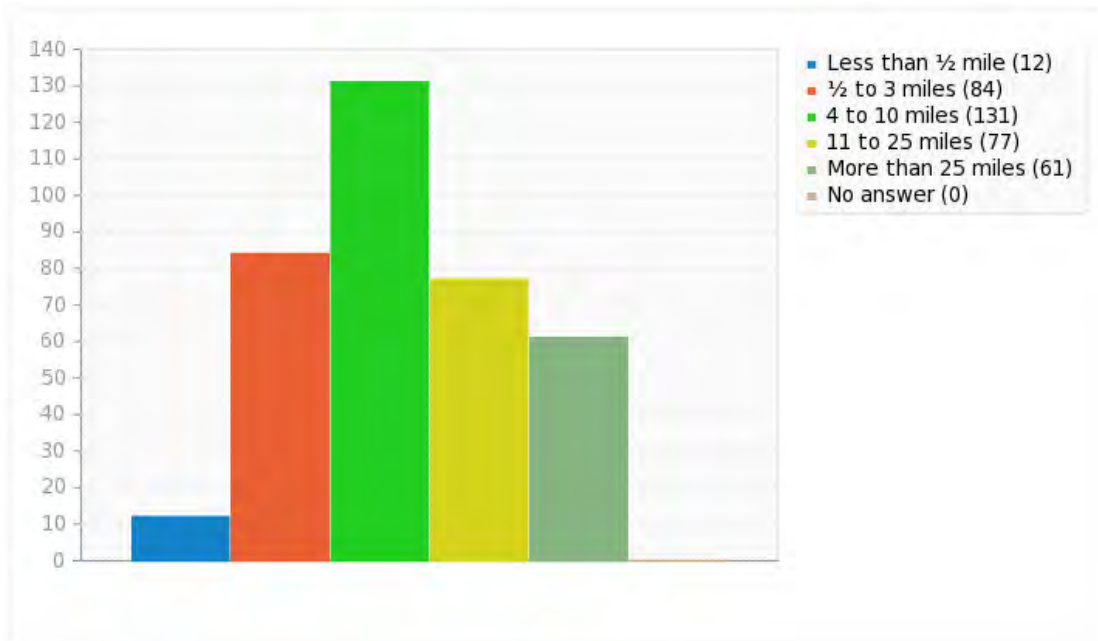
Field summary for q07

How far are you or members of your household willing to travel for the park facilities that most interest you

Answer	Count	Percentage
Less than ½ mile (A1)	12	3.29%
½ to 3 miles (A2)	84	23.01%
4 to 10 miles (A3)	131	35.89%
11 to 25 miles (A4)	77	21.10%
More than 25 miles (A5)	61	16.71%
No answer	0	0.00%

Field summary for q07

How far are you or members of your household willing to travel for the park facilities that most interest you



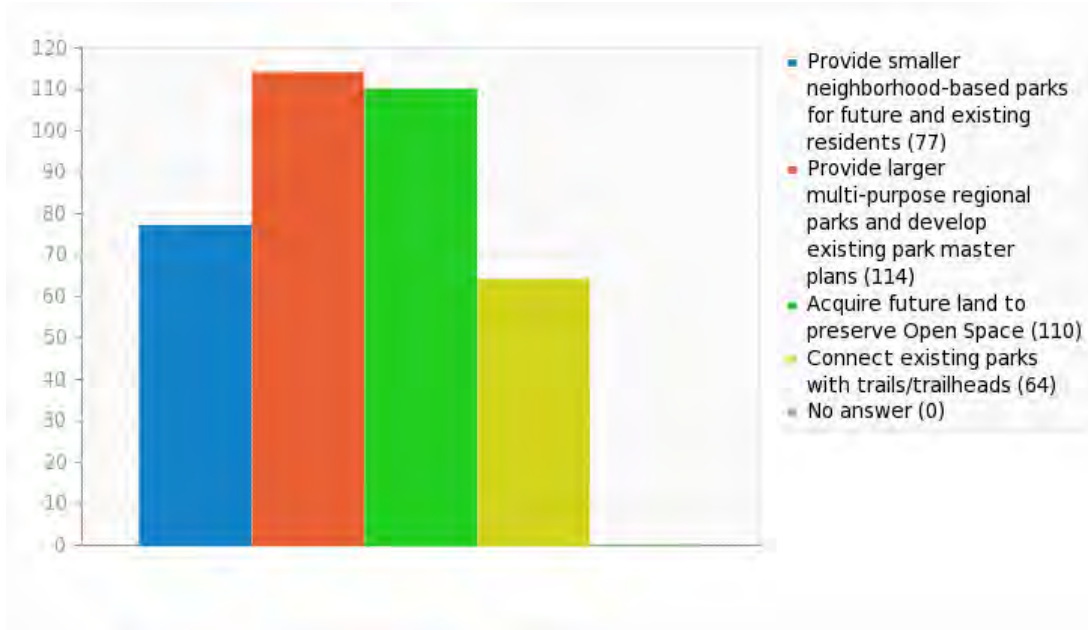
Field summary for q08

While Washoe County Parks strives to provide a mix of different recreation opportunities, resources are limited, where would you like to see to the biggest focus of resources?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Provide smaller neighborhood-based parks for future and existing residents (A1)	77	21.10%
Provide larger multi-purpose regional parks and develop existing park master plans (A2)	114	31.23%
Acquire future land to preserve Open Space (A3)	110	30.14%
Connect existing parks with trails/trailheads (A4)	64	17.53%
No answer	0	0.00%

Field summary for q08

While Washoe County Parks strives to provide a mix of different recreation opportunities, resources are limited, where would you like to see to the biggest focus of resources?



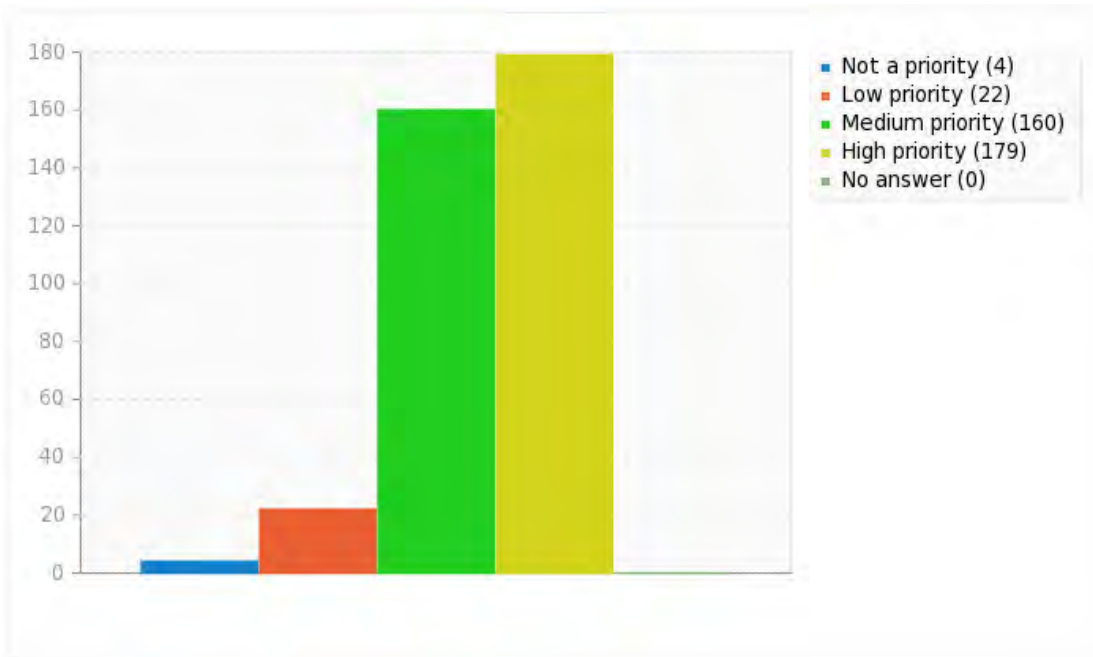
Field summary for q09

What level of priority do you personally place on allocating funding for park, trail, and open space services relative to other government services?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Not a priority (A1)	4	1.10%
Low priority (A2)	22	6.03%
Medium priority (A3)	160	43.84%
High priority (A4)	179	49.04%
No answer	0	0.00%

Field summary for q09

What level of priority do you personally place on allocating funding for park, trail, and open space services relative to other government services?



Field summary for qcomments

Do you have any additional comments or questions for the Washoe County Staff? You may leave your email address if you'd like us to get back to you.

Answer	Count	Percentage
Answer	180	49.32%
No answer	185	50.68%

ID	Response
9	I applaud Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space Department. My family loves biking hiking and exploring the parks.
11	I support the public parks in our region. It is important for everyone to have access to parks.
14	We need more residential parks in Spanish spring
18	Park upkeep is as important as having them built. Safe/working equipment, sufficient mulch, free of trash (especially drug/cigarette/alcohol related), free of graffiti, etc.
23	It would be awesome for Washoe County to further collaborate with the Forest Svc, BLM, City, State Parks and trail organizations to develop more THs and trails all around the County. Thanks!
24	we need parks and trails out in Spanish Springs, we also need paths and trails.
25	Need a dog park, off leash style. Owners can meet and greet. Something for people without children.
27	We need a park/parks in our neighborhood. Our neighborhood has no where to recreate. There is a huge open lot off Calle de la Plata that would be a great space for our community. Please build a park. carolinadealba1@yahoo.com
28	Please build the park on Talking Sparrow Dr. We have no parks in our neighborhood and really need them. Please consider using the empty lot on Talking Sparrow it's a great location and really needed!
29	None
30	Improve maintenance of current parks and prohibit dogs at non dog parks. Too much dog poop.
31	Open spaces in washoe county are very important to me. Having access to open/natural areas increases the desirability of the county and is a big part of why I love living here. As the population/subarbs grow I would like us to maintain many open/natural areas for the residents to enjoy.
35	I would love to see a park on Talking Sparrow! We live in the neighborhood and would love to have a park within walking distance to visit often.
36	Please put a part on Talking Sparrow road off of Calla De La Plata. :)
41	I would love to get a dog park with a water feature out in Spanish Springs. Also you don't have Gerlach, Nevada on your list I visit up there occasionally and would love to see more services available.
43	More dog parks! We need one in South Reno.
44	Sugar loaf peak area should be developed more.
46	The parks in Reno are not maintained and are falling apart. It's shameful. I love this city but it's sad to see effort only being spent on the parks in the upscale neighborhoods, while parks in lower income neighborhoods are ignored. If I want to take my kids to a nice, well maintained park with available bathrooms I have to take them to Soth Reno to the rich neighborhoods or to East Sparks. These are public funds that should be focused equally through all neighborhoods. And the parks in downtown Reno are a black eye. Those parks send me a message on how little my city cares.
49	Look at Washoe County as a whole. Not just Reno. Next we are a high desert, where does all the water come from to support these parks? Look at the entire picture plus instead of a park I would rather the County hire more deputies or fix the roads.
50	NA
52	With our increasing population, we need more sports facilities for kids and more open space available for parks.
53	We need more flat field space for sports other than soccer. We also need a pool in the south Reno area. I would love to see the south valleys park developed. I would also like to see more beginner/intermediate mountain bike trails
54	I noticed that there are old trees(eg going from Idlewild park to downtown,especially in the

Quick statistics

Survey 444571 'Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space Master Plan Survey'

Truckee river in downtown!!!!!!!!!!!!)that are dead for years and not removed.The banks of the river looks abandond. Eg. look at the River Grill bank-wonderful,outstanding!!!-needs something like that more!!Especially if homeless are removed from the city to the facilities that are being build for them.

It is time to make Reno beautiful with clean parks and streets around!!!

56 Please designate and enforce areas for dog owners to take their pets. It completely destroys a park's atmosphere when dogs are running rampant off leash and pooping everywhere. Eg, Chrissie Caughlin park and walking path (west) towards Mccarran.

57 We'd love to see the master plan implemented at South Valleys. Parking there can be an issue during soccer events keeping us from using the playground. More parking areas with further development would be useful.
Denise@denisecallen.com

61

62 We need more dog parks in south Reno.
Please work quickly to finish Cyan Park.

63 More dog parks, particularly one in the Damonte Ranch area or anywhere in the south Truckee Meadows.

66 Raise my taxes!

68 We need a park/grass/trees/paved path/playground along Steamboat creek behind the KB Home development that was promised to us when we purchased our home. (Veterans Pkwy. & Geiger Grade Area) There are no parks within reasonable walking distance to this neighborhood of a thousand homes. We have the land and it would be easy to build. Thank you for taking the time to ask for feedback.

69 There isn't enough staff to keep the parks clean, safe and in working order. Rancho is a huge park for example and there isn't nearly enough staff and when they hire it's all seasonal staffing. Hire more and hire full time so the best people for the job can be hired and retained..

75 I just moved from Tahoe to Regency on Steamboat Pkwy in December 2017. Love the area. I most frequently walk around the wetlands near here and in the foothills. Beautiful. I grew up here, and , though I miss Tahoe, this area is beautiful, convenient, great weather, and wonderful community feeling.

77 Golden Eagle Park has plenty of land to develop a family indoor/outdoor pool facility to serve community and high school and private swim clubs. Please explore this year round community resource such as Minden and Carson City have. Those cities could provide cost analysis and advice.

Alf Sorenson is too small a facility to host swim meets from out of town. Weekend swim meets bring hotel, dining, and shopping revenue to our area. There are many swim clubs in this region and California that would love to have an additional facility.

80 We need more community parks with recreation facilities (e.g., soccer field, baseball fields, bocce ball courts, basketball courts, etc).

81 We desperately need some type of dog park near the Spanish Springs (Calle De Plata) area. Either a stand alone dog park or just a fenced off area for the pups in an existing park. Someplace to let the pups run free and co mingle with their own. The Marina dog park is just too far away and is the only one that I know of. Ron (culdude2@aol.com)

82 I think that Reno is a situated in a great location in regards to having great natural resources in our backyard. As such, I think that this is where some of the more significant park investments can be made. We have a great extensive trail system and keeping them up to standards should be a high priority for the parks system.

84 Spanish Springs needs a large full service year round rec center. The city of Provo Utah raised funds to build the best one I have ever seen.
<https://www.provo.org/community/recreation-center/> Go to their website and check it out. It is desperately needed.

86

87 There are not enough public pools in south meadows. Would be nice to have one!!

90 Enhancing existing sports complexes would be nice. For example, the MAC in Carson City is a nice facility, that offers many different sports and activities for adults and children.

91 Parks are for city folks, In the North Valley's the open Desert is our park. Complete with wildlife and dangers city dwellers don't have to think about. Any monies collected for parks, would not benefit residents where I live. I see where you are going with this survey. Don't do it.

dahorsemucker@yahoo.com

92 I am in full support of the County's parks & open space recommendation for smoke- and vape-free parks. Additionally, I'd love to see the staff partner with local outdoor organizations, Leave No Trace, or local dog shops for education on appropriate use of parks and trails with dogs. It gets really old walking through a gauntlet of poop bags that people "plan to pick up on

Quick statistics

Survey 444571 'Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space Master Plan Survey'

- their way out" (but usually forget). I think a lot of these people think they're doing a good thing by bagging the poop, but don't realize that if they don't want to carry a stinky bag, no one else wants to walk past it either. It's just people not being considerate of others, but I think they're ignorant to the issue. Dog socialization and leash issues are problems too, so education for all users would be a great resource! powerkristen@yahoo.com
- 95 Several walking/ bicycle paths have been proposed to connect the Washoe Valley recreation areas and these have not been completed. Walking/biking on our public streets and especially Eastlake Blvd is dangerous. Please include these projects in your plan.
- 96 We would love to see more parks in Damonte Ranch with small play structures. Are there any plans to add a play structure in the open space across from the high school next to the wetlands on rio wrangler? We would also be thrilled to see any of our local parks get shade coverings or a splash pad since the summer heat makes the playground extremely hot. Please email me back at nicoleriley1313@gmail.com.
- Thank you!
Nicole Favors
- 100 I've selected connecting trails/trailheads as a high priority, especially regarding larger parks like Galena and Hidden Valley. It is easy to get lost and maintained trails and developed trailheads are safer and more user-friendly, encouraging citizens to really explore and reap the benefits of the outdoors.
- 101 State or federal parks weren't listed, we go to Washoe State park and back land frequently. Primary concern is lack of access to public lands as hillside property is developed.
- 102 Why not focusing on beautification and acquiring land from already existing parks and recreational sports complex. It is sad seeing kids in low income communities playing in old equipment or decolored equipment. I love soccer and I enjoy watching family and friends games; the soccer fields that are mostly use are the ones where hispanic kids play; those fields are kept in poor condition compared with the fields my kids play at. The miguel Rivera park on Neil Rd has more holes that you will ever find at Moana, South Valleys or the fields by McQueen HS. I had seen kiddos tripping so many times because of the holes; not to mention all the mosquito population at Miraloma park. Lets fix our parks and focus on serving youth population better not the location of those parks. By the way the Skate Park at Neil Rd was a great asset. Youth need positive environments, sports accessibility...lets keep them busy with more prosocial activities/sites and bring it to them. Thanks! :)
- 103 I would like to see a dog park on the South Meadows/Damonte Ranch area. As it is now, we have to travel across town to access a dog park.
- Also, I'd like to see a community pool in our part of town so kids can swim.
- 106 We are new to Washoe Valley and have horses. I love riding in the State Park but there are no safe trails to get there easily. Eastlake is a freeway, although the posted speed limit is 35. Many of us riders in the area have to trailer to the park which is less than two miles away. It would be wonderful to have a safe way to access the park from our neighborhoods off Eastlake. Thank you
- 107 A dog park in the northern part of Sparks that is FULLY fenced in would be great. Some of us have dogs that are attracted to small animals at the Marina (geese, squirrels, etc) and decide to go chase after them.
- 111 don't forget horse people in the plans!
- 117 We need a neighborhood park in North west Spanish Springs :)
- 120 I love the parks and open areas in and around reno. My biggest problem is the overwhelming amount of dog waist that litters every park or area you go to. It appears very few people pick up after their dogs. Also the absolute refusal of some dog owners to obey leash laws. It has turned very dangerous to use parks in Washoe County. These situations are out of control in Washoe County , it would be incredible for you to address this before people especially child get hurt
- 121 Please update Thomas Cteek Park! The equipment is so old and unsafe! There's no toddler area and even the equipment for older kids is not in good shape. It has been neglected for the 25 years I have lived here.
- 122 Parks improve my life more than any other thing
- 123 Bathroom, fountain, and a bit of shade at all but the smallest parks please.
- 124 Bathrooms, water and shade at every park and trailhead. Oh and more disc golf!!!
- 125 All the parks should habe bathrooms and recreational sport options for teens
- 126 I'm a disc golfer and really enjoy the three different pages we've been able to have courses put in. I enjoy variety so if in the future the opportunity to put in more in the area comes uo, I'm all for it!
- 127 With the massive construction going up in our area are developers required to include parks and open spaces in their projects?
- 130 Would like to thank reno for tv he disc golf courses that have been installed. Its a lowcost

Quick statistics

Survey 444571 'Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space Master Plan Survey'

- sport.
- 132 Overall I think Washie County and the City of Reno do a good job with our existing parks! I'm an avid disc golfer, ultimate Frisbee player, and hiker so I appreciate having lots of options and the support we get from our local government agencies. I'm always in favor of increased parkland and open spaces. Thanks for everything you do!
- 135 The area that used to be Home Gardens, adjacent to the airport, is a large beautiful area perfect for a large park with potential for pickle ball courts, splash park, climbing walks, zip lines open-air market and possibly even an aviary (thinking like a big city!!)
It seems such a waste to remain undeveloped, particularly with so many mature trees. Surely this has already been considered. I hope!! I understand the concern about geese however there are already humane and effective means to deter them from gathering near the flight path being employed now, so that shouldn't be a deal breaker. This area's location would be an ideal spot for the public to enjoy their city. Thanks!
Logrady@adamsaai.com
- 138 I see the city keeps building on all kinds of open space..its terrible. We need our open space!! Even next to the freeway there are bulldozers ready to make room for more ugly buildings of the same crap we already have! Stop.. wildlife is very important. more parks, Bigger open space!!!
- 139 Would love to see more disc golf courses. Low cost to build, and they leave the space in a natural condition
- 142 The various sand volleyball courts are worthless and dangerous ,due to very little sand . My grand daughter badly injured her knee do to the D. G. Used instead of sand.
- 149 We need more off-leash facilities for our dogs! I frequently travel to Las Vegas and it seems the dog parks are everywhere! Small neighborhoods parks would be most appealing
- 154 We would love a park or community center type place in the back of Spanish Springs. Great community out there!
- 155 Our park system are an astonishingly accurate reflection of our community's overall quality of life. At the end of a long day or a rough week I recover my sanity at one of the disc golf courses. Parks are the most social entity in my hood. As people become more and more digitally connected, and do less and less brick and mortar errands, our parks will become more vital to our community health. Thanks for all you do!
- 156 I appreciate any and all who are involved in the keeping & maintenance as well as thought of future use and hopefully even growth. The knowledge of the area /plants /animals etc. we need more DISC GOLF areas for play! Spanish springs/PYRAMID area. NV LOVE peeps! Thank you for you!!!
- 157 Question #8 is poorly written and cannot be answered. One cannot acquire "future" land.

Since a response to Question #8 is mandatory, my response is: Acquire private land to preserve Open Space for the future.
- 159 I am concerned that the development of parks, trails and open space is not keeping up with the rapid development we are seeing. I think we need to place a high priority on funding to develop these facilities and build out our park master plans plus use funds to purchase lands such as floodplains and wetlands that preserve open space and provide wildlife habitat. Perhaps the marijuana tax money could be used for this purpose or a bond could be passed. Our family and many others like this area due to the close proximity of open space and trails and I think all residents should have a trail within 10 (walking) minutes of their residence for exercise and wellness, interconnected throughout the urban and suburban areas. Our family uses the existing trail network at least 4-5 times per week for exercise. We also need more swimming pools so kids learn to swim for safety and for wellness. I think with the availability of geothermal resources in the South Meadows Regional Park there should be a pool built there. I am a hydrogeologist and am knowledgable about these resources. If you have any questions I can be reached at mhanne@sbcglobal.net
- 162 I really wish we had more open space parks in the Reno area. With the amount of development happening, all the lands in South Reno/Damonte area that I recreated on, is now being developed. It disgusts me to see how little value open space has to the City of Reno and I really hope Washoe Co. is able to acquire more land for open space. With all of the development, we are really setting ourselves up for a nature blind community (never mind a plant blind community) who can't even experience the sagebrush ecosystem within the city limits. Even though Phoenix is a big city, I am really impressed by the number of open space parks and recreation areas they have. Reno needs to follow suit before it is too late. Rancho and Hidden Valley can not be the only two large parks in our area; something needs to be done.
- 163 No
- 165 I'd prefer to see more parks of all sizes in and around our area than complexes and apartments and housing developments. If we don't have parks, we will be surrounded by

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- buildings rather than beauties.
- 173 I do not understand question 8, 3rd choice. "Acquire future lands ..." is meaningless. In order to provide larger multi-purpose regional parks, it is necessary to purchase private lands or seek donations or partnerships. Choice 2 really requires that the county acquire private land. Parks and recreation must, once again, be a full department with a director of Parks and Recreation who works full time with an adequate staff or parks and resource people to fulfill the mission of both maintaining and expanding our existing parks as well as implementing the master plans that have been developed over many years. Advisory commissions for all major parks - not just the parks commission - should be reformed to provide input to the county parks commission. Parks and recreation are an essential service for the entire community. The slashing of budgets for Parks and Recreation has resulted in poor maintenance and no vision or implementation for the future parks. Further, the county has lost its expertise and resource staff who can adequately respond to restoration and rehabilitation. It is long past to put a strong Parks Department back in charge of our outstanding parkland and create a vision and implement good park planning for the future. I was very disappointed with the recent public meetings which seemed to have no real purpose.
- 179 consider keeping park restrooms open year round. City of Reno does this in some places by installing combination locks (for personnel to use) on the outside doors . Apparently, these are opened/locked on a daily basis by personnel, or maybe on timers, so they are locked at nite to prevent misuse of the facilities. But they seem to be open allday. Many county parks are locked up all winter. There are those of us who use these facilities year round thank you for your consideration.
- 187 Why do the government funding spend money on open parks when they can spend some on smaller parks
- 189 Maintenance of parks is a huge improvement to me. Many parks need new turf or wood chips. Many parks also need to be updated.
- 193 Golden Hills neighborhood in Damonte Ranch needs a Park!
- 195 We'd love for the proposed south valleys ice rink to go in along with a swimming pool on the south end of town. It is much needed and we currently drive to carson to participate.
- 196 I would love to see more parks, and rec centers. There are not enough sports facilities to accommodate all of the children playing team sports. This city needs more indoor basketball courts as well. I would love to see parks connected by trails as well.
- 198 I believe Reno is allowing development to overrule the importance of an interconnected park system with preserved open spaces and parks for people to enjoy. Parks can play a larger part beyond just for our enjoyment, they allow water/flood management through ponds (NY Times published a story about this a few months ago). Having an interconnected trail system will allow people access different parts of our city via bike.
- Reno has a growing population and if plans are not made now to protect public space, development will take over. We cannot cry poor. This city cannot cry poor when they have failed to raise property taxes (there are still individuals paying pre-1970 rates) or negotiate with large corporations moving into to provide funding and sponsor parks (Tesla, Amazon, Patagonia, Apple, and many more). In other cities, park structures and open spaces are "sponsored."
- I would love to assist in any way and support Washoe County and the city of Reno in supporting a park system. Thank you! Natalie Christopher natalierchristopher@gmail.com
- 201 We live in the Saddle Ridge community in Damonte Ranch. We are looking for more trailheads/hiking trails at the North end of Rio Wrangler Pkwy. Is this in any future plans? jessica.corbett04@gmail.com
- 203 I live in the North Valleys-Silver Knolls our open space around our Silver Knolls park is used by many. Walkers, Horseback riders, motorcyclist, ATV riders. There is always someone using the dirt roads around our open space-please keep it that way!
- 206 We desperately need a regional park in the South. The North Valleys and Sparks both have great parks and we have nothing. The majority of the development is going on in the South and our taxes are the highest in the Reno Sparks area, yet we are not getting any services in return. Every other state in the country seems to find the money to have the parks and recreation programs and facilities that Reno is desperately lacking. A pool, splash park and other things for children to do would be an amazing addition to South Reno.
- 211 Maybe consider incorporating local art pieces along trails and in parks. So many artists in Reno and it may help enliven tourism. Art attractions make great social media posts and that brings more awareness to the community to use those spaces.
- 215 South Reno is booming with construction and I fear it will ruin the community if it becomes too crowded. There is not building of parks and educational facilities to keep pace with the

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- 217 growth. Please help.
Please utilize the existing Washoe County Open Space and Natural Resource Plan when looking at new developments. Also, all proposed developments should include an open space/trail/park system (ex. Caughlin Ranch, Damonte Ranch). Connectivity between trails and trail systems is also important.
- 219 I'd love to see more shade structures at existing parks for children. I would also love to see more children friendly parks and play areas like a splash park in the south of town.
- 227 Thank you
- 230 I enjoy the smaller parks but we still need open spaces. This is like asking would you like vanilla or chocolate. Well I enjoy all of it but what is best for the community and we are losing green belts and water ways for animals in this area. So tough to choose what I want more can't we have all of it for parks
- 236 I'd love more parks down south near Damonte Ranch area!! With SHADE!!!! Also a public swimming pool
- 241 What happened to the grand plan for south valleys??? We need an aquatic facility & ice rink in the Reno area. As a parent, I'd love to see splash pads in the south
- 243 This survey does not seem to recognize the importance of cooperation w state and federal agencies who manage Rec areas and open spaces.
- I'd encourage future surveys to explore the value of specific types of recreation to assist in parsing out how people recreate this n Washoe Co.
- Thanks, chris
Ctheisen69@yahoo.com
- 248 I wish I didn't have to chose between open land for future use and small neighborhood based parks. Both are so important as our population grows. Overcrowded parks are no fun and open space is such a valuable part of what makes our current landscape so appealing.
- I would also like to see some reinvestment in some of the aging parks. For example, the park in Saddlehorn in Thomas Creek is beautiful with the trees and grass missing at other parks but the defunct volleyball court and ancient playground could use a little reinvestment.
- It would also be great if there was a water park like the one in sparks in south Reno. It's tough to drive two small kids all the way across town not knowing if all the other moms in Reno are doing the same. Old love to see an option in south meadows.
- Last is a plea--- more trees and plants PLEASE. Some of the parks feel like deserts. I know we live in the desert but The parks that have vegetation incorporated and not segregated are great.
- 249 Washoe county is sorely lacking in good quality year round sports facilities. Especially soccer fields & pools.
- 250 Splash pad in south meadows area .
- 257 More dog friendly parks/trails would be great!
- 260 I'd like to see more county employees, ie. park rangers, have the authority to cite people who violate the laws within our county parks. Graffiti, dogs off leash, drug use, parking issues, etc need to be dealt with immediately. People do all kinds of asinine stuff in the parks because they know nobody is around who can do anything about it.
- 261 A dog park in South Reno would solve all of the problems people are having with people wanting to let their dogs off leash and others not. We drive crossed town weekly to the nearest dog park so our pets can socialize with dogs and people. Having a dog park near by is proven to reduce violent dog fights or dog vs human bites because they can learn how to react with other dogs/people at a young age. Please add a dog park to the vastly growing community of South reno
- 262 More dog parks
- 263 Trails are great Rex amenities for our communities. Need bathrooms at trail heads, need to connect more residential areas to parks via trails. Add smaller playground amenities to regional parks. Need splash park like north valleys at south valleys park.
- 264 Would love to have more parks that have different things to do and different structures for the kids.
- 265 Splash park at south valleys park would be awesome
- 269 I think more parks are needed in low income areas close to resident's homes as they can not afford to drive to parks. Easy access from homes to parks is very important for the young, the elderly. The opportunity of easy access is important for the mental and physical health of all residents. When busy or tired or when I had small children I used local parks frequently for exercise and to relieve stress. Sports complexes are important for sports, and those with

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	<p>trails are more valuable such as Golden Eagle Sports Complex/Park/Trails. We hike at parks such as Galena 1-2/week and also snow shoe there. We greatly appreciate the exhibits and educational talks offered at Galena and Idlewild Parks. Youth camps are very important as well as the science programs. Walks for elderly and young from TMPF are very valuable. We use open space 1-2 times per week. We bike to Damonte Ranch Wetlands and use the connecting paths there often. We hate traffic, congestion, and cities. We did not move here to be confined nor denied parks and access to open space.</p>
270	<p>I like well-maintained trails, and clean restrooms. Other than that, development of open spaces should be minimal.</p>
271	<p>It would be great to add flat field space that could be used by Lacrosse, Soccer, and other similar field sports. There is a shortage of quality, lighted facilities that can be used for team sports.</p>
275	<p>When can we expect Washoe County to repair Anderson park?</p>
276	<p>Although acquiring future land for open space is a high priority, providing smaller neighborhood-based parks, and connecting existing parks with trails/trail-heads is important. Although disability conditions often limit my accessibility to parks and trails within the city limits, I travel to more distant, open space and natural areas whenever possible.</p>
277	<p>I would love to see more neighborhood splash pads. Especially free of charge ones. Along with swings.</p>
278	<p>We recently held an event at the Washoe County Regional Shooting Facility for attendees of the Sons of the American Revolution's annual state conference.</p> <p>This was a black powder, musket shooting event, with participants experience levels ranging from beginner to expert; because of this mix, some patience and accommodation for the beginners was required on the range and shooting, with safety considerations first and foremost.</p> <p>Rangemaster Jim Leary, and his assistant, were tolerant and polite, and extremely helpful in assisting all level of shooters in making the musket shoot a success. The outdoor picnic area was useful, and it was great to have running water and restroom facilities on site. The facilities are very appropriate for the attendees' use, and the range is clean, very functional and well run. Thank you for making the range and personnel available for our event, it was great.</p> <p>rogerlinsar@gmail.com</p>
280	<p>Keep up the good work you do!</p>
281	<p>Great work by understaffed Parks crews. I am impressed with the dedication and hard work done by all County parks staff.</p>
282	<p>Parks such as Callahan are used frequently and increasingly so. Burglary and vandalism on the rise...please provide solar powered webcam as a deterrent. Pavement needs replacing. A seasonal structure is already in place for a portable toilet, please place one there. Trailhead access in general is important, these places need to be safe, secure with bathrooms and garbage. The Park Rangers should be commissioned officers. Those of us who use these trailheads/parks are willing to contribute to funding some of these items by way of donation stations.</p>
283	<p>The most popular Washoe County park is Rancho San Rafael, which is not included in this survey. All the parks and trails within the Truckee Meadows are regularly used as a starting point for hiking groups. Trails off Timberline Drive are popular. If lands could be acquired in the Virginia Range and trails developed, they would also be popular. In fact, given the loss of open space to development and its replacement by residents who also want to hike or stroll or picnic, more parks are essential even if they can't be immediately be developed. The budget for parks is still at 2008 levels and needs to be increased. With so few park staff, acquiring outside funds is also difficult.</p>
284	<p>#6 doesn't mention state parks we go to Washoe Lake all the time</p>
287	<p>Please restore funding to pre recession levels. Keep parks from being over developed. Please keep trying to acquire more space before the county is all built out.</p>
292	<p>Love WC parks! Moved here 6 years ago w little kids. So impressed with quality and quantity of parks! Save the open space while it still exists! Azales7@hotmail.com</p>
293	<p>Love WC parks! Moved here 6 years ago w little kids. So impressed with quality and quantity of parks! Save the open space while it still exists! Azales7@hotmail.com</p>
294	<p>Need more places to fish and need a dog park in south Reno/galena area</p>
297	<p>I would really like to see a pool in the North Valleys. There is no local place for the kids to swim without having to travel to North Reno or Sun Valley.</p>

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- 302 I would love to see a disc golf course at Davis Creek. I would camp there midweek.
- 304 I would like to see a disc golf course installed at Davis Creek Regional Park. I would camp there midweek.
Craig Getty
775-762-1956
cdgetty@yahoo.com
- 307 We love Galena, and Tahoe meadows the best
- 308 My family absolutely loves going to parks! We are very thankful for the hard work you all do to maintain them for all of us. I love walking at parks, especially the ones with water features and fountains.
- 309 We belong to a group that would like to have a somewhat local place for up to 100 to camp for Friday and Saturday, and would like to be able to reserve or reserve part of the Archery Park for a day event of medieval archery competition.
- 310 More parks and spaces that aren't poisoned with herbicides and pesticides.
- 313 Please preserve open space and natural areas, and install more educational signage. Thanks for all that you do! :)
- 316 Nothing in the questions about specialty facilities like the Regional Shooting Facility. That facility really needs to be better funded for longer hours and additional staff.
- 317 Update the play areas and paint the structures. Will help a lot.
- 318 It would be nice to have a great state fair or more festivals.
- 320 Had a great experience at the Washoe County shooting range; the gentleman running the range was very professional and helpful with my many questions. I have been to many ranges, including military, in the he past years. This one is the best, hands down!!
- 327 I feel strongly that parks should be a priority - I have been a paying member of TMPF for a few years now. Thank you for all your efforts to provide local and regional park spaces for our families!
- 329 More parks with play structures in midtown or updating parks in area; Idlewild or wingfield play structures. The best parks are a 25 min drive from these central points and the parks in this area are small, old/dirty/broken, or as my 6 year old puts it, boring.
- 332 lets fix the existing parks and soccer fields to better standards
- 333 I live near the Mira Loma Park. We love it. We've been trying to work with the city to use a gated area to make a garden, but they have not been interested, and turn the idea down. It's upsetting. I don't have the resources to run it, but they don't even see it as a worthy endeavor. I'd be interested in talking more with someone. msjamckinney@gmail.com
- 336 South Reno needs a pool or water park/splash pad area for the children. There is nothing within 20-30 minutes!
- 338 The beauty of Nevada must be protected for all citizens
- 340 We would love a closer neighborhood park to our home. Also hiking trails and more walking paths around the community would be amazing. like Stead has. The waling paths to the pond, around the neighborhood, and out to swan lake reservoir. We'd also love a regional swim center like Minden has. The kiddie pool with sprinklers, a heated therapy pool, water slides, the rock wall. That swim center offers great year round swimming but Is SO far from spanish springs. If Washoe county had an indoor swim center like that I think it would be a very popular place for birthdays, swim meets, lessons, and year long fun! Alf does offer indoor swimming but its boring and cold.
- 341 We would live a pool out here in Stead/Lemmon Valley. Perhaps near the current splash pad at north valleys regional park. You guys do great work! We love visiting all the different parks.
- 344 We need more outdoor pools.
We need tennis courts in the neighborhood parks. Especially in the north valleys like Cold springs. We have none. And the kids out here that are tweens have not much to use. Basketball courts and a skate park. But no tennis courts.
The park on the corner of baring and mccarren is an excellent park!
- 345 A manmade lake with facilities and swimming,paddle boats,etc would be nice in stead/cold springs area. Redo the golf course.
- 346 LOVE Truckee Meadows Park Foundation!!!!
- 347 Bathrooms at parks are much appreciated by families. One of the biggest determining factors of which park we will go to is restroom facility availability. We get frustrated that San Rafael park restrooms are seasonal. The park is nice to visit in the winter, until someone needs the restroom and we must leave.
- 351 Feel free to contact me: theresabo87@gmail.com
- 353 It would be GREAT if the soccer fields at Lazy 5 could be kept up to par with those on the south end of town.
- 354 I want more park on different areas because those that exist are ho ready Crowded
- 355 The limited availability of fields for soccer and other flat field sports is completely

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- unreasonable in comparison to other cities. We need to stop talking about adding fields and start building them.
- 356 We would love to see a good aquatic center with an indoor and outdoor pool that's affordable for the community to enjoy. Currently we drive to Carson or even Minden for a decent community pool, which seems crazy!
- 357 We don't need the private ice rink on public land.
We need to work together with non-profit organizations such as SNCA and build public pools on the public lands.
- 359 More funding, Reno and Washoe County is really lacking in the public Parks and recreation and it's terrible we are losing what we do have. Please also add parking lots to Parks, it's terrible to have people parking illegally all over the parks because there is no parking. Also look into the EPIC green ECS system that UNR has on their practice fields for drainage, it's sad the fields are closed so often in the spring because we can't manage our fields.
- 360 I really appreciate the wonderful parks in the area... Dorester, Mt Rose Meadows, Thomas Creek and Whites Creek, San Rafael, Idlewild and the Crooked Mile, Steamboat Ditch Trail, Hunter Creek Trail, Pyramid to Tahoe bike trail, Tahoe Rim Trail, Rock Park, ... We use all these and more every week of the year. Having open spaces is important to us! I volunteer to care for these parks and would gladly pay a higher tax to care for them and acquire more public land! ????
- 363 I greatly appreciate that there Washoe County has some really great parks, trails, open space, and just everything. Thank you!
- 366 Would like to see improvements made to Rancho San Rafael and the Wilbur D May arboretum .
- 368 Are there any plans to update the small playground park right next to the pool at Idlewild Park? Things are messy, overgrown, and broken. It looks like such a great spot for a playground- but isn't kept up well at all. Meganazzi@yahoo.com
- 371 above N.McCarren they're building more houses and this was great open space??! Now it's ruined, plowed, ready for CEMENT..enough is enough!! STOP. Don't want a concrete jungle. How many animals are you killing building all this ?? it's all over N.Virginia. It's a disaster.
- 374 I would personally appreciate and more often use dog friendly spaces, including off-leash dog areas.
- 379 Washoe County does a pretty good job of maintaining their parks with the limited staff and resources they have. Some of the trails could use more maintenance, but I know more staff is needed. Hopefully, the County will provide the funding to make that happen. We love you Washoe County Parks!!
- 380 Washoe County does a pretty good job of maintaining their parks with the limited staff and resources they have. Some of the trails could use more maintenance, but I know more staff is needed. Hopefully, the County will provide the funding to make that happen. We love you Washoe County Parks!!
- 384 More dog friendly parks ! Hehe :)
- 385 Washoe county needs a bike park (like Truckee) that's close for people to use (not north valleys). A pump track, dual slalom, bike jumps. If you've ever been to the Truckee Bike park, it's always packed with kids and adults. We also need an indoor pool. Every surrounding town has an indoor pool with slides! Not us. Let's get on this!!
Jessica
theyurt@gmail.com
- 389 Nature/Outdoors is a high value health benefit for most citizens at a low to no cost for older residents and low income.
- 390 A skate park or something preteen/teen focused in NW Reno McQueen area would be great!
- 393 I'd like to see the current parks maintained and repaired prior to establishing new parks. So many that we go to have broken playground equipment (broken slides, missing swings) or trash laying about. Thank you
Jennifer
Jenmtu97@yahoo.com
- 396 (Might be City if Reno issue) Redo the skate park at Panther Valley to concrete, wood breaks down, also the bike track has a lot of potential but the sagebrush within it hides snakes etc - better maintenance of existing resources is nice - good luck
- 405 Parks are a vital asset to our growing population and communities. More funding and more open spaces are needed!
- 418 Give Raleigh Heights Park some more love. It's had a broken slide for at least a year. Also, my sons would like it VERY MUCH if you'd install a tetherball pole.
- 424 The county spends too much of the tax payer dollars within the unincorporated areas of the county.
- 436 I live on Brook Meadow Lane - next to Galena Park. Within this past year it was nice because they had a "crew" (I believe it was juvenile delinquents) come and do some major trimming

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- and pruning of the parking area/entrance to Galena Creek Trailhead... the problem? They did NOT finish cleaning the debris: downed branches, one very large stump etc... it is a "hazard" to kids playing in and amongst it...
- 438 I would LOVE an aquatic center for Reno. We drive to Minden several times a year to use the Carson Valley Swim Center. I pay for a health club membership for pool access which is not accessible to many other families.
- 439 I would love to see more disability access at the parks ie. Shadow Mountain Park in Sparks. Access to Rest rooms year round. City of Reno seems to have worked this out w/electronic locks in some of their facilities.
- 442 I suggest acquiring a piece of private property on S. Virginia. This land is currently owned by the Willey's. There is a developed trail on it that already leads to the BLM Trail System.
- 443 I suggest acquiring a piece of private land on South Virginia, currently owned by the Willey's. This already has a trail (developed trail) on it that leads to the BLM trail system.
- 444 Love to see better income streams for parks.
- 445 Washoe Co. does a fine job with Parks. Because Open Space is being gobbled up by urban sprawl/development it's important to obtain as much open ground as possible to keep it available to all.
- 446 Have developers pay for neighborhood parks as part of development.
- 447 Hire more people to work in the parks!
- 448 Visited the shooting range. This is an excellent facility run by great people. I try to visit the range 1-2 times a year but it takes me over 3.5hrs to get there. Keep this great facility open to the public.
- 449 Why can't we have a Dog Park in the So. Meadows area. I would think if a study were conducted, that people with dogs use the park at So. Meadows more that the sporting activities there. I see dog people using the parks at all hours of the day, not so with sporting activities. I see many CA. license plates in the parking lot and those folks are not paying taxes to support the park. The park rangers are very understand about this problem. As a tax payer I would like to see a better return for my tax dollars. I have been talking with other dog people who use the park and they complain about more regulations for park use and automobile traffic in the area which decreases the positive aspect of using the parks. Many of these folks I talk with are senior citizens and driving distance is a factor when using the parks due to increase traffic volume in the area and the county as a whole. They want something close to home. If you can't have your dog on the grass at So.Meadows where can you go? How about giving our dogs some of the area in the park? Thank you, Duane Warth drwreno@gmail.com 775 853 2276



Appendix F

Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space 2007-2010 Strategic Plan





2007-2010 Strategic Plan

Programs and facilities managed by the Parks Department help preserve and provide access to many of the region's natural, cultural and historic wonders. More than 50 regional community and special use facilities are available for use while more than 6,000 acres of parks and open space provide outdoor adventures for all ages.

The mission of the department extends beyond providing parks and recreation. Preservation of open space conserves and enhances the County's natural and historical settings for future generations. These include mountains and deserts, lake front property, stream corridors, trails, and wetland preserves. The community along with local, state and federal governments work together to coordinate the regional planning and development of parks, trails and open space.

Mission Statement

To provide exceptional parks and open space and recreational opportunities while preserving our natural, historical and cultural resources.

Vision Statement

Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space will lead the region in providing world class facilities and unsurpassed services that maximize resources, engage the public and grow with our community's priorities and expectations.

Strategic Priorities

* Preserve and enhance regional parks and open space.

* Develop and update community supported plans.

Provide quality programs to meet the needs of the community.

Provide excellent customer service.

Develop and promote internal and external communications.

Administer the department in a cost effective and operationally efficient manner.

Develop a well balanced team oriented, well-trained workforce.

22,300

Washoe County Parks Department 2007-2010 Strategic Plan with Status Update (11/15/07)

Mission and Vision	Strategic Priorities	Department Goals	Supporting Goals for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 (Divisional Goals)	Status as of 11/15/07		
Mission Statement: To provide exceptional parks and open space and recreational opportunities while preserving our natural, historical and cultural resources. Vision Statement: Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space will lead the region in providing world class facilities and unsurpassed services that maximize resources, engage the public and grow with our community's priorities and expectations.	Preserve and enhance regional parks and open space. (2)	Reduce risk of wildland fire within County Parks & Open Space	Develop wildland fire policy (Planning) (6-30-2008)	●		
			Develop and update community supported plans. (2)	Acquire open space	Develop Funks & Timber Management Plans (Planning) (6-30-2008)	●
					Complete Galena & Davis Creek Parks Feasibility Studies (Operations) (6-30-2008)	●
					Acquire open spaces where beneficial to County residents (ongoing) (Planning)	●
					Continue to provide training opportunities to staff on Urban Forestry Issues (ongoing) (Operations)	●
					Acquire trees and forestry inventory (Operations) (6-30-2008)	●
					Develop and manage Washoe County's parks inventory (Planning) (4-30-2008)	●
					Establish fire and forestry inventory (Operations) (6-30-2008)	●
					Track legislative issues impacting parks, trails and open space (ongoing) (Administration)	●
					Create and update functional policies enabling successful management of the department resources (Administration) (6-30-2008)	●
Complete Open Space/Natural Resource Management Plan (OS/NRMP) (Planning) (6-30-2008)	●					
Continue coordinating with the Tri-County group for So. Nevada Public Land Management Act projects and acquisitions (ongoing) (Planning)	●					
Continue involvement with the Open Space Task Force along with Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful (ongoing) (Planning)	●					
Develop a Regional Trails Committee for prioritizing trail connectivity and acquisitions needed for future trails & trailheads (Planning) (5-31-2007)	●					
Establish a real property division within Washoe County to provide guidelines for assessments, dedications, acquisitions, property sales, etc. (Administration) 7-1-2007	●					
Collaborate with other agencies to assess and meet the community's aquatics needs (Planning) (6-30-2008)	●					
Support the sustainability initiative (ongoing) (Planning)	●					
Develop a "toilet plate" template for interim (1-3) year management plans and long term (3-10) year management plans (Planning) (12-31-2007)	●					
Continually improve programs based on participant input (ongoing) (Operations)	●					
Establish Senior programming (Operations) (6-30-2008)	●					
Maintain existing and establish new partnerships with other government agencies and non-profits to provide more facilities (such as WCSN) (ongoing) (Operations)	●					
Create new sponsorships and partnerships with local businesses (SUNR as outdoor retailers) (ongoing) (Operations)	●					
Provide annual customer service training for all permanent employees (Administration) (6-30-2008)	●					
Conduct a department customer satisfaction survey on an annual basis. Review results and make improvements accordingly (Administration) (6-30-2008)	●					
Continually provide and improve facilities and parks based on participant input (ongoing) (Operations)	●					
Provide excellent customer service (5)	Provide a clean and safe environment at all park and recreation facilities	Continually measure and improve customer satisfaction	Provide annual customer service training for all seasonal employees (Administration) (6-30-2008)	●		
Provide quality programs to meet the needs of the community (5)	Develop Resource Management Plans for all Regional Parks, Golf Courses, Trails & Open Space	Pursue partnerships/sponsorships to enhance programs	Support the sustainability initiative (ongoing) (Planning)	●		
Develop and promote internal and external communications. (6)	Improve inter and intra departmental communications	Develop and promote external communication	Continually manage a progressive interactive website (ongoing) (Marketing) (6-30-2007)	●		
			Increase the distribution of Parks information such as trail maps, program information, guides of service, etc. (ongoing) (Marketing) (4-30-2008)	●		
			Develop and maintain a consistent image and uniform messaging (Marketing) (6-30-2008)	●		
			Develop all collateral materials to be consistent with the image of the department (Marketing) (6-30-2008)	●		

Status Key

- Completed
- In progress
- Not started
- Deferred



Appendix G

Planning Area Maps

NORTH VALLEYS PLANNING AREA

Legend

Park Ownership

- Washoe County Park
- Washoe County Open Space
- City Park (Reno/Sparks)

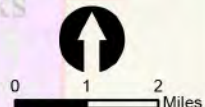
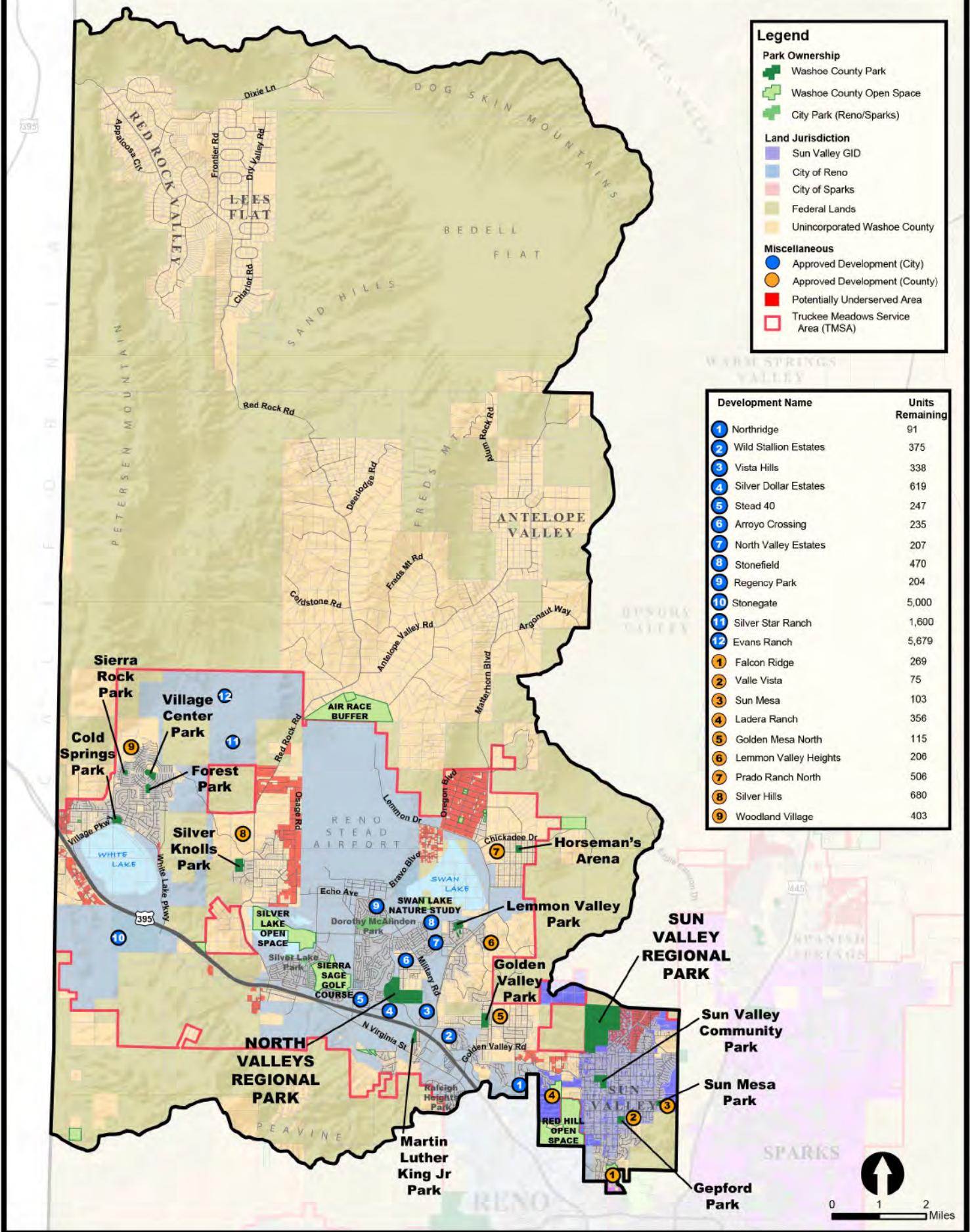
Land Jurisdiction

- Sun Valley GID
- City of Reno
- City of Sparks
- Federal Lands
- Unincorporated Washoe County

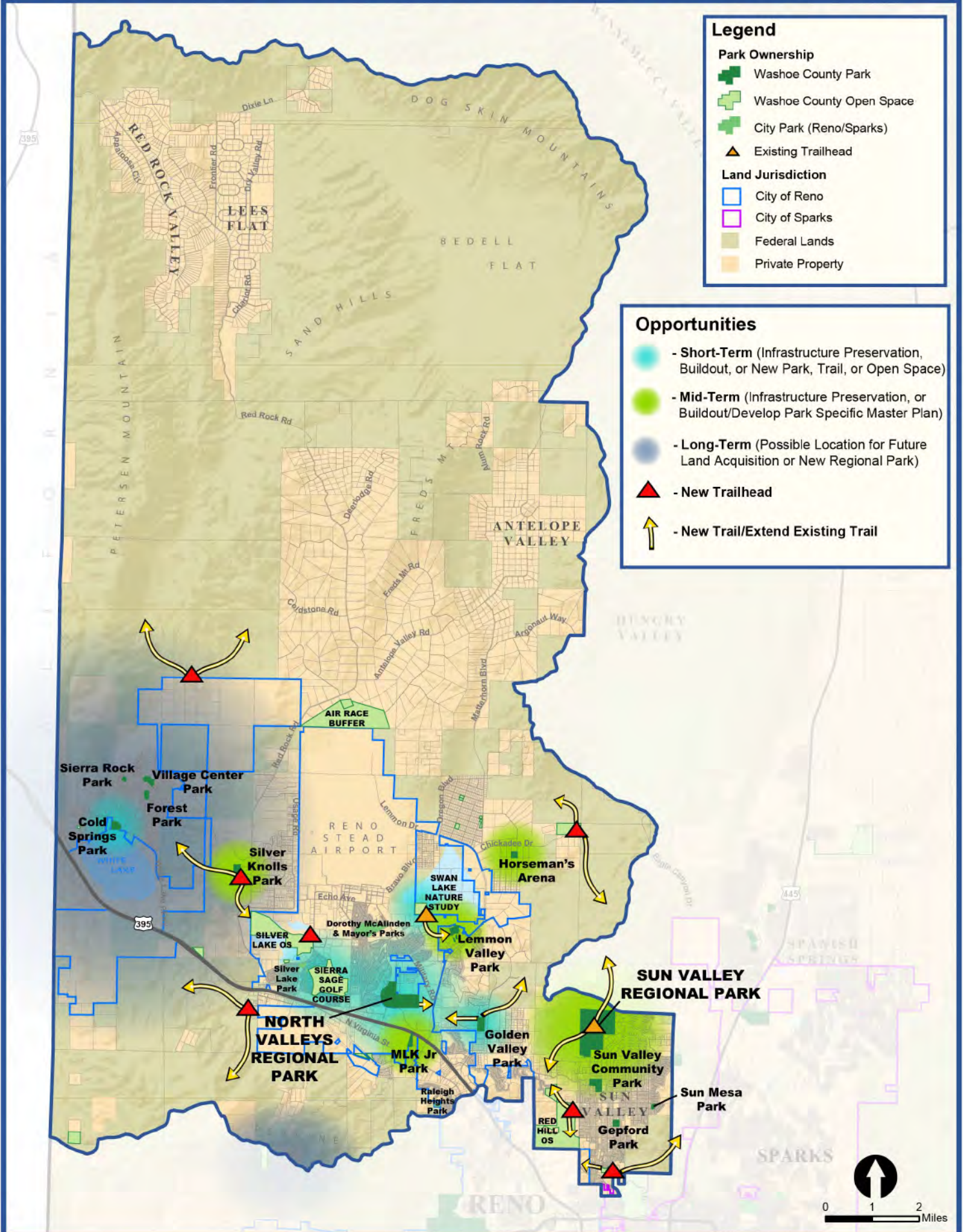
Miscellaneous

- Approved Development (City)
- Approved Development (County)
- Potentially Underserved Area
- Truckee Meadows Service Area (TMSA)

Development Name	Units Remaining
1 Northridge	91
2 Wild Stallion Estates	375
3 Vista Hills	338
4 Silver Dollar Estates	619
5 Stead 40	247
6 Arroyo Crossing	235
7 North Valley Estates	207
8 Stonefield	470
9 Regency Park	204
10 Stonegate	5,000
11 Silver Star Ranch	1,600
12 Evans Ranch	5,679
1 Falcon Ridge	269
2 Valle Vista	75
3 Sun Mesa	103
4 Ladera Ranch	356
5 Golden Mesa North	115
6 Lemmon Valley Heights	206
7 Prado Ranch North	506
8 Silver Hills	680
9 Woodland Village	403



NORTH VALLEYS OPPORTUNITIES



Legend

Park Ownership

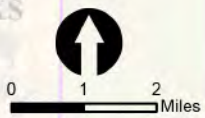
- Washoe County Park
- Washoe County Open Space
- City Park (Reno/Sparks)
- Existing Trailhead

Land Jurisdiction

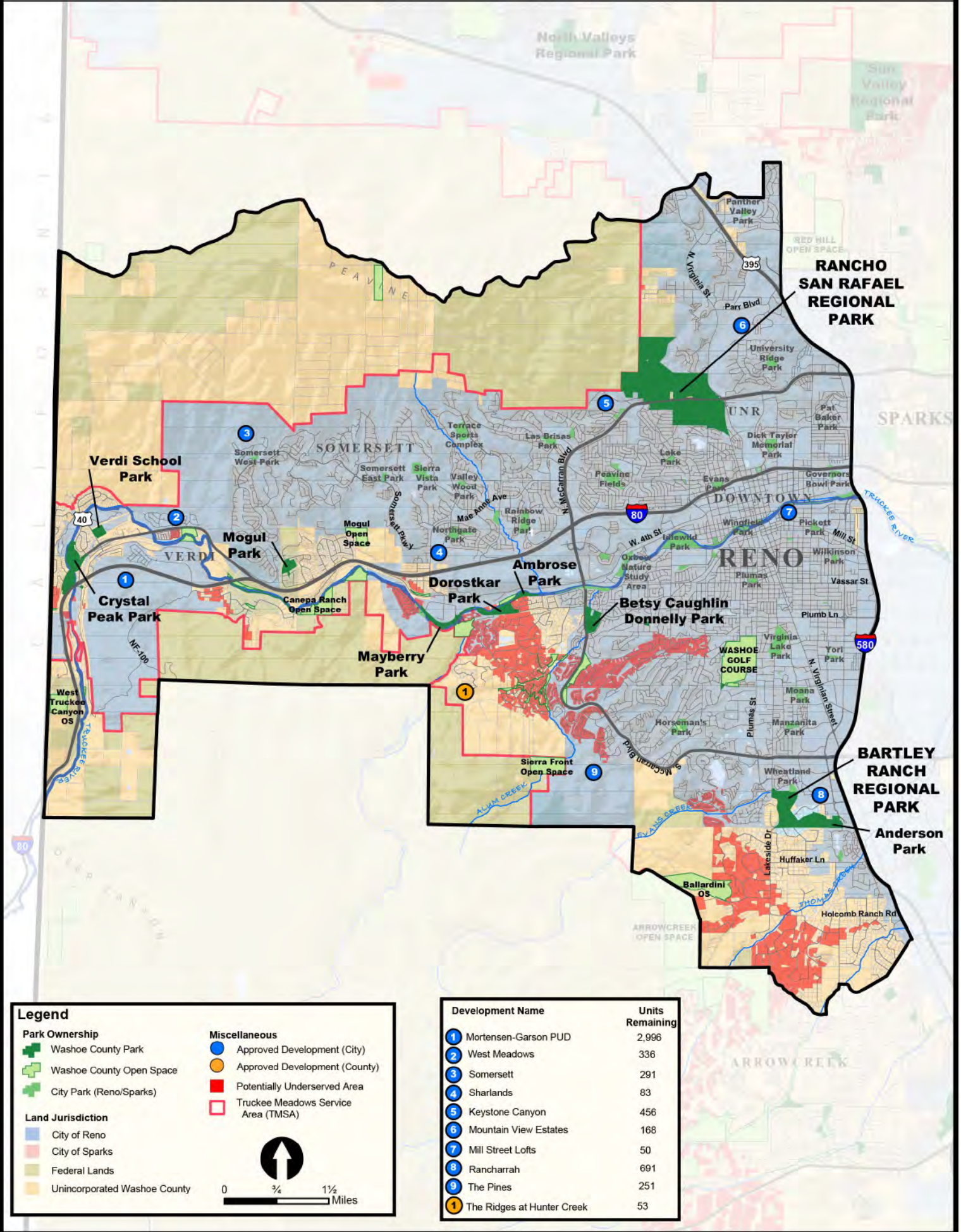
- City of Reno
- City of Sparks
- Federal Lands
- Private Property

Opportunities

- Short-Term (Infrastructure Preservation, Buildout, or New Park, Trail, or Open Space)
- Mid-Term (Infrastructure Preservation, or Buildout/Develop Park Specific Master Plan)
- Long-Term (Possible Location for Future Land Acquisition or New Regional Park)
- New Trailhead
- New Trail/Extend Existing Trail



PEAVINE PLANNING AREA



Legend

Park Ownership

- Washoe County Park
- Washoe County Open Space
- City Park (Reno/Sparks)

Land Jurisdiction

- City of Reno
- City of Sparks
- Federal Lands
- Unincorporated Washoe County

Miscellaneous

- Approved Development (City)
- Approved Development (County)
- Potentially Underserved Area
- Truckee Meadows Service Area (TMSA)

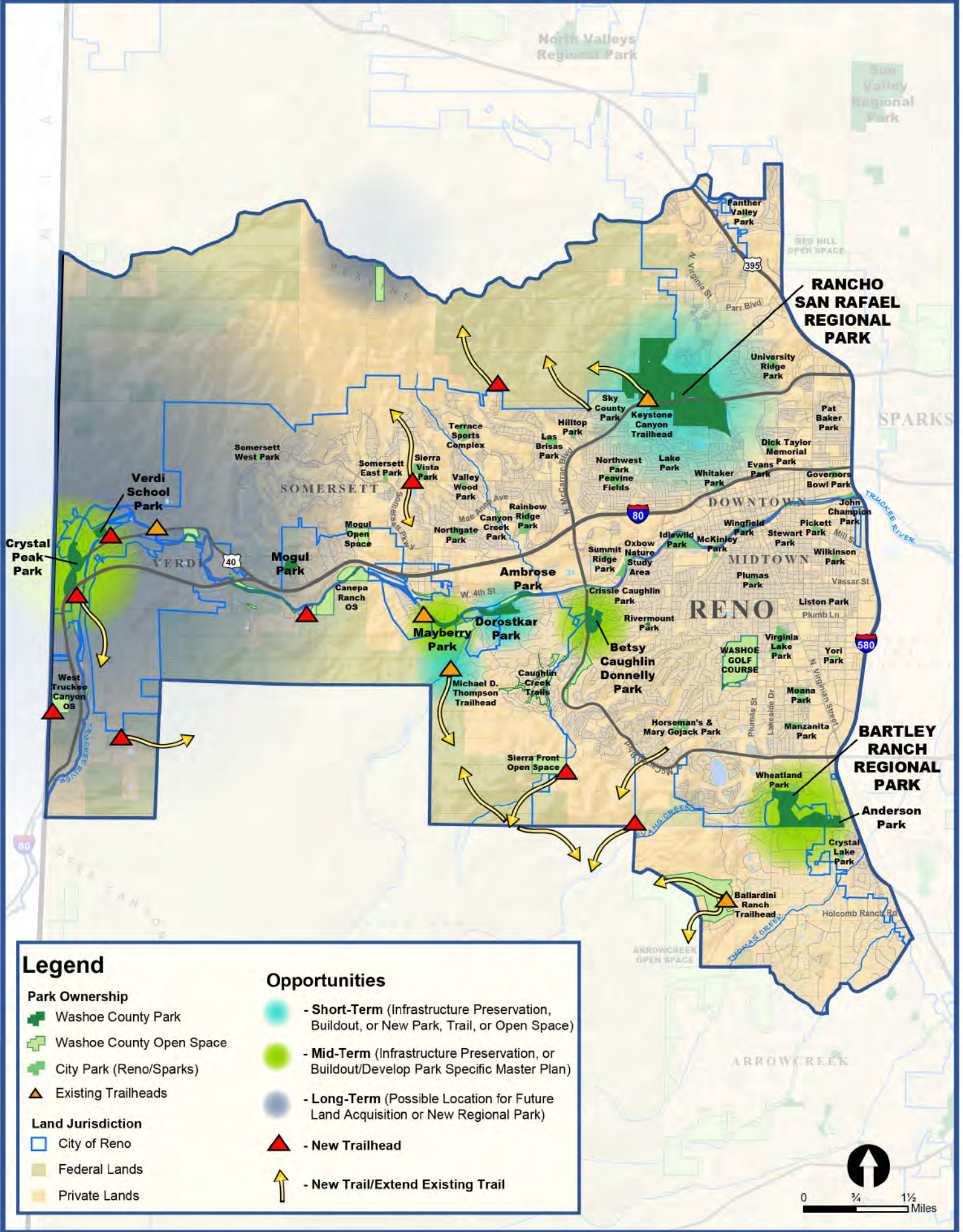


0 $\frac{3}{4}$ 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ Miles

Development Name

Development Name	Units Remaining
1 Mortensen-Garson PUD	2,996
2 West Meadows	336
3 Somerset	291
4 Sharlands	83
5 Keystone Canyon	456
6 Mountain View Estates	168
7 Mill Street Lofts	50
8 Rancharrah	691
9 The Pines	251
1 The Ridges at Hunter Creek	53

PEAVINE OPPORTUNITIES

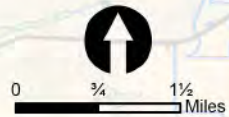


Legend

- Park Ownership**
- Washoe County Park
 - Washoe County Open Space
 - City Park (Reno/Sparks)
 - ▲ Existing Trailheads
- Land Jurisdiction**
- City of Reno
 - Federal Lands
 - Private Lands

Opportunities

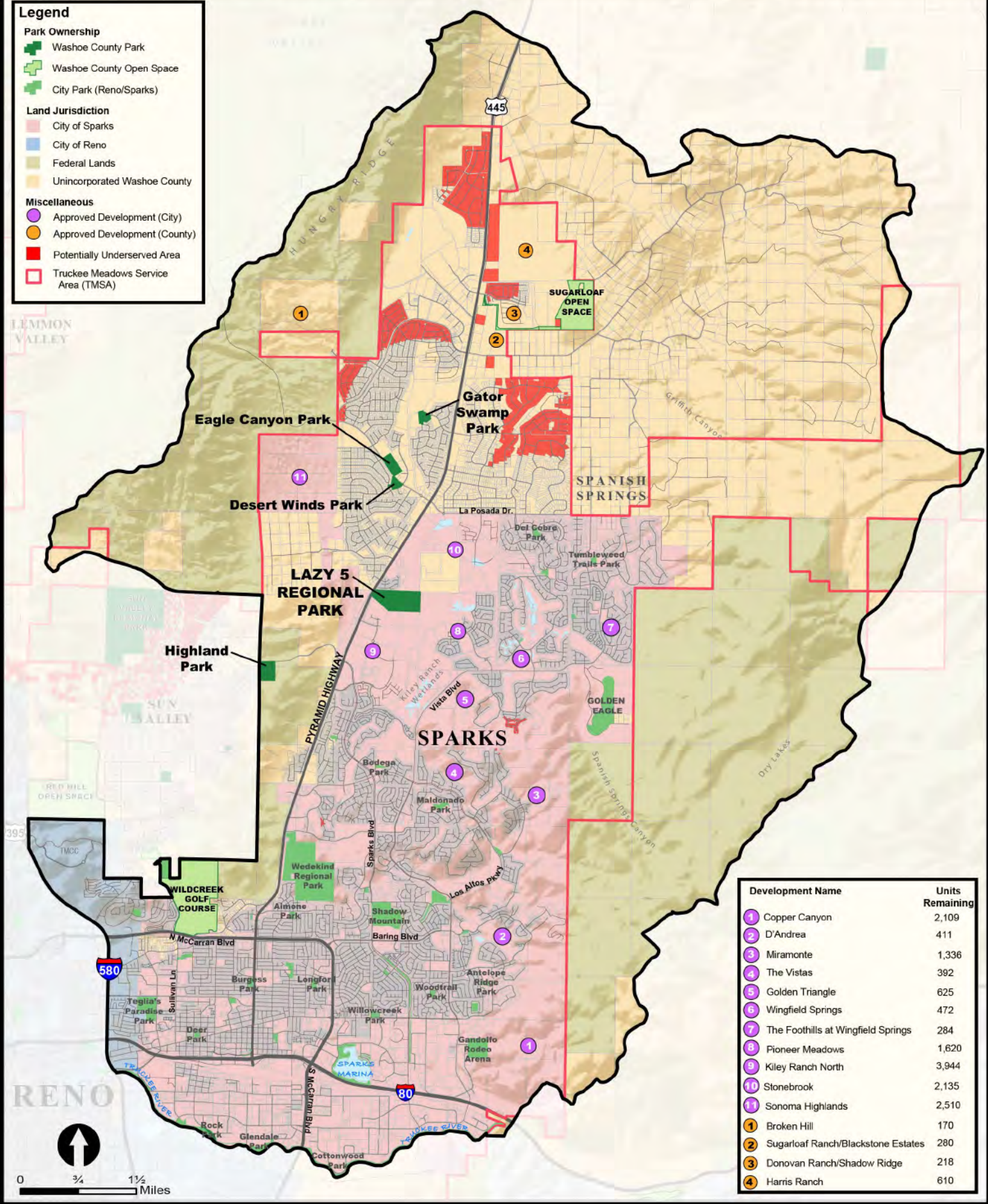
- Short-Term (Infrastructure Preservation, Buildout, or New Park, Trail, or Open Space)
- Mid-Term (Infrastructure Preservation, or Buildout/Develop Park Specific Master Plan)
- Long-Term (Possible Location for Future Land Acquisition or New Regional Park)
- ▲ - New Trailhead
- ↑ - New Trail/Extend Existing Trail



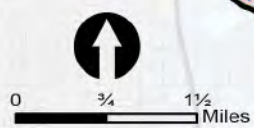
SPANISH SPRINGS PLANNING AREA

Legend

- Park Ownership**
- Washoe County Park
 - Washoe County Open Space
 - City Park (Reno/Sparks)
- Land Jurisdiction**
- City of Sparks
 - City of Reno
 - Federal Lands
 - Unincorporated Washoe County
- Miscellaneous**
- Approved Development (City)
 - Approved Development (County)
 - Potentially Underserved Area
 - Truckee Meadows Service Area (TMSA)



Development Name	Units Remaining
1 Copper Canyon	2,109
2 D'Andrea	411
3 Miramonte	1,336
4 The Vistas	392
5 Golden Triangle	625
6 Wingfield Springs	472
7 The Foothills at Wingfield Springs	284
8 Pioneer Meadows	1,620
9 Kiley Ranch North	3,944
10 Stonebrook	2,135
11 Sonoma Highlands	2,510
1 Broken Hill	170
2 Sugarloaf Ranch/Blackstone Estates	280
3 Donovan Ranch/Shadow Ridge	218
4 Harris Ranch	610



SPANISH SPRINGS OPPORTUNITIES

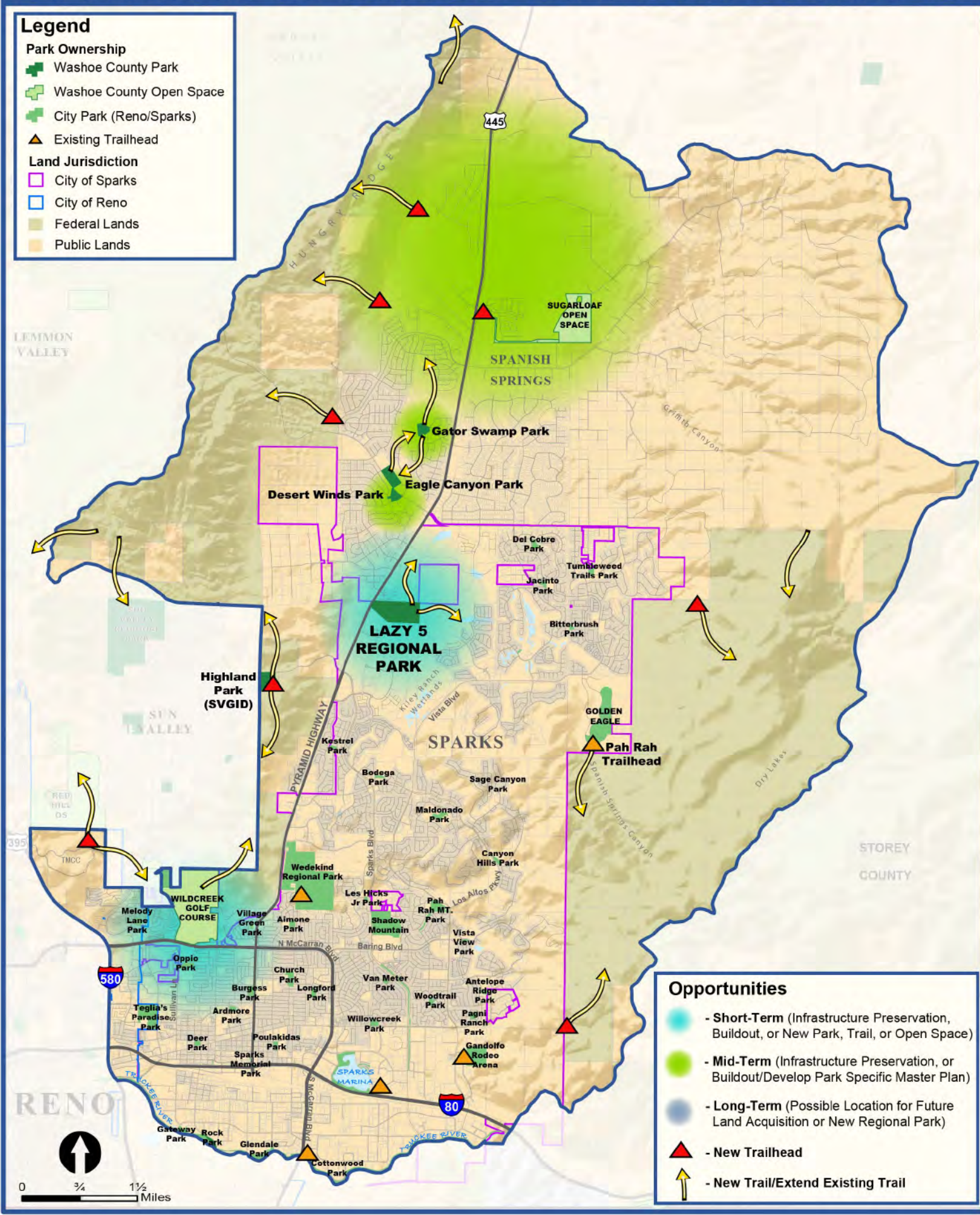
Legend

Park Ownership

- Washoe County Park
- Washoe County Open Space
- City Park (Reno/Sparks)
- Existing Trailhead

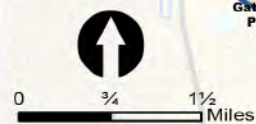
Land Jurisdiction

- City of Sparks
- City of Reno
- Federal Lands
- Public Lands

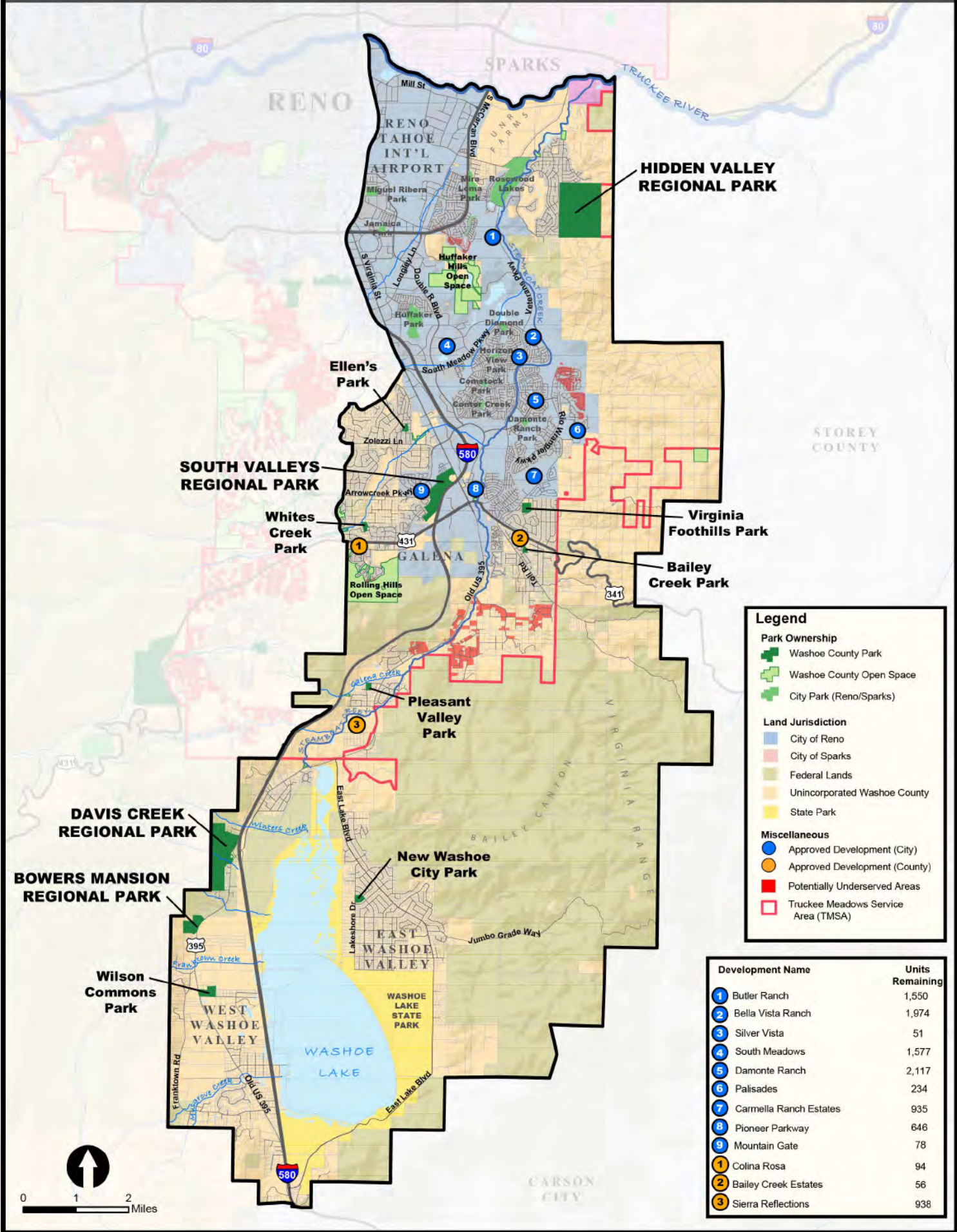


Opportunities

- Short-Term (Infrastructure Preservation, Buildout, or New Park, Trail, or Open Space)
- Mid-Term (Infrastructure Preservation, or Buildout/Develop Park Specific Master Plan)
- Long-Term (Possible Location for Future Land Acquisition or New Regional Park)
- New Trailhead
- New Trail/Extend Existing Trail



STEAMBOAT PLANNING AREA



STEAMBOAT OPPORTUNITIES

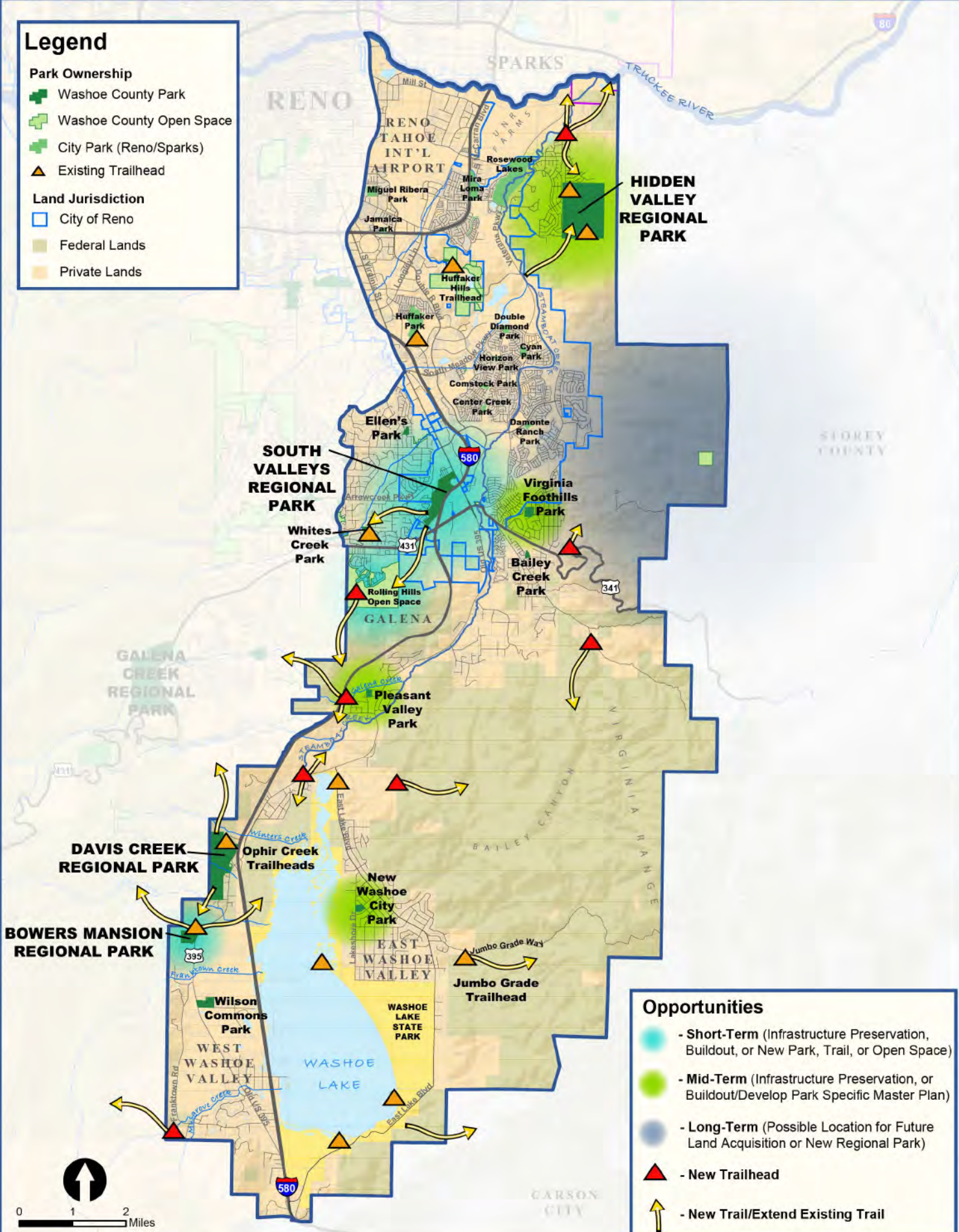
Legend

Park Ownership

- Washoe County Park
- Washoe County Open Space
- City Park (Reno/Sparks)
- ▲ Existing Trailhead

Land Jurisdiction

- City of Reno
- Federal Lands
- Private Lands

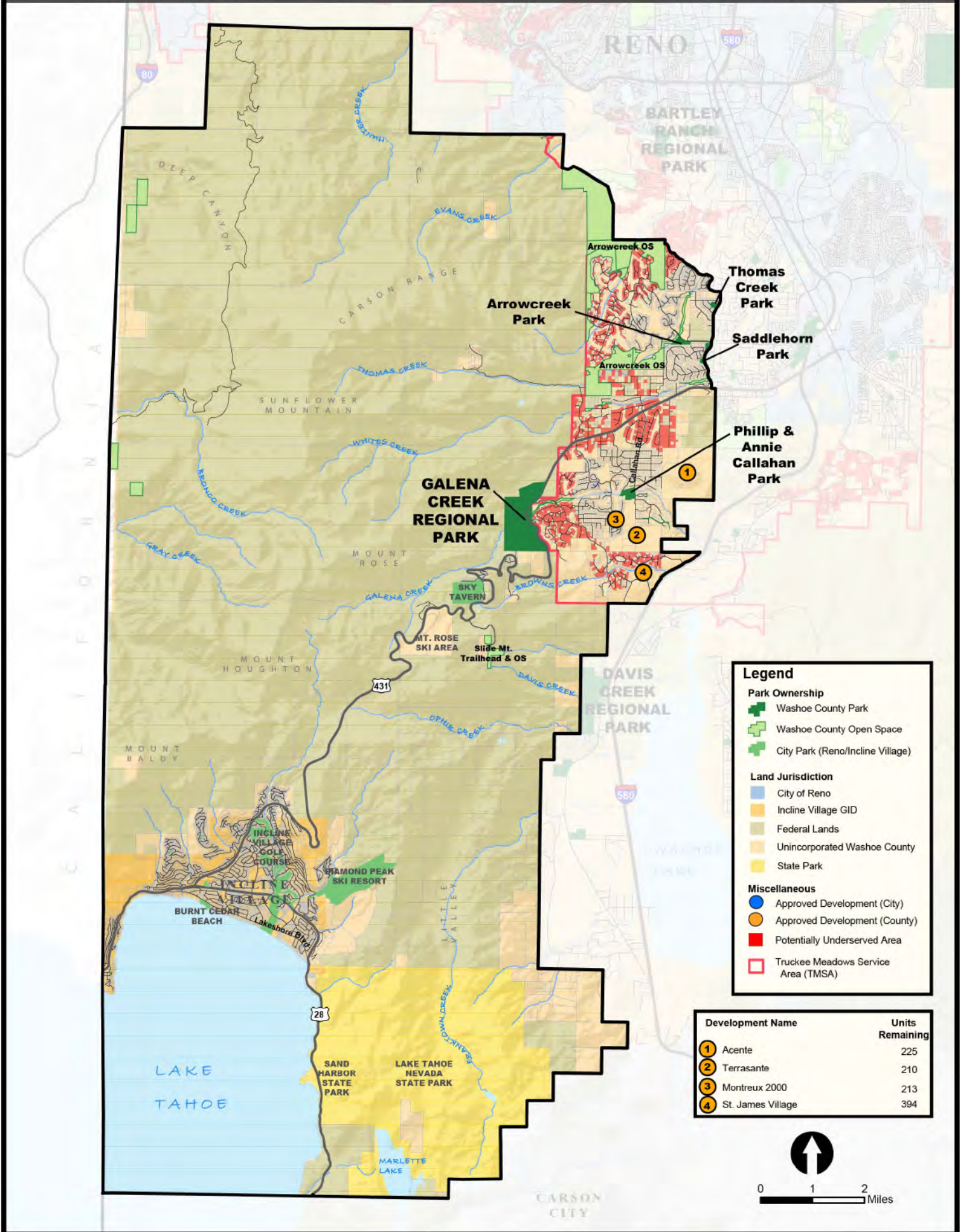


Opportunities

- Short-Term (Infrastructure Preservation, Buildout, or New Park, Trail, or Open Space)
- Mid-Term (Infrastructure Preservation, or Buildout/Develop Park Specific Master Plan)
- Long-Term (Possible Location for Future Land Acquisition or New Regional Park)
- ▲ - New Trailhead
- ↑ - New Trail/Extend Existing Trail



MOUNT ROSE PLANNING AREA



Legend

Park Ownership

- Washoe County Park
- Washoe County Open Space
- City Park (Reno/Incline Village)

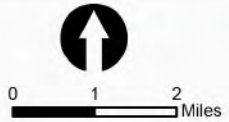
Land Jurisdiction

- City of Reno
- Incline Village GID
- Federal Lands
- Unincorporated Washoe County
- State Park

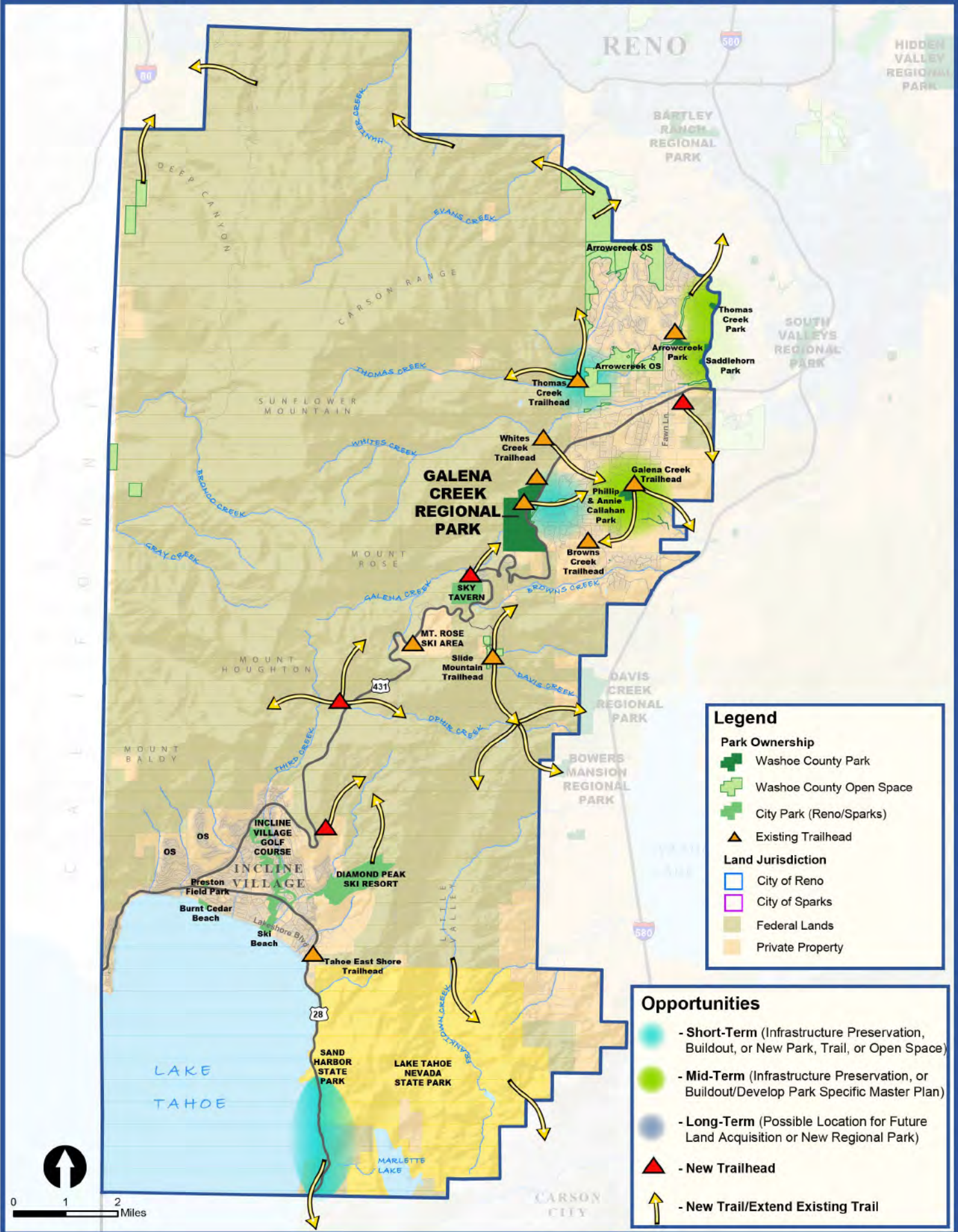
Miscellaneous

- Approved Development (City)
- Approved Development (County)
- Potentially Underserved Area
- Truckee Meadows Service Area (TMSA)

Development Name	Units Remaining
1 Acente	225
2 Terrasante	210
3 Montreux 2000	213
4 St. James Village	394



MOUNT ROSE OPPORTUNITIES



Legend

Park Ownership

- Washoe County Park
- Washoe County Open Space
- City Park (Reno/Sparks)

Existing Trailhead

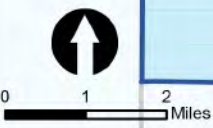
- Existing Trailhead

Land Jurisdiction

- City of Reno
- City of Sparks
- Federal Lands
- Private Property

Opportunities

- Short-Term (Infrastructure Preservation, Buildout, or New Park, Trail, or Open Space)
- Mid-Term (Infrastructure Preservation, or Buildout/Develop Park Specific Master Plan)
- Long-Term (Possible Location for Future Land Acquisition or New Regional Park)
- New Trailhead
- New Trail/Extend Existing Trail



PYRAMID & TRUCKEE CANYON PLANNING AREAS

