Parks and Recreation Blueprint: Edits incorporated into document following the Public Review Draft (February 2021)

Page Number	Plan Revisions
Before TOC	Add preamble (see end of this document)
TOC	"Figure 2-11: Pienie Tables and BBQ"
2	<i>VISION</i> The Parks and Recreation Plan and General Plan Element Update will serve as a blueprint, guiding the City in priority setting and resource allocation to achieve the Parks and Recreation Department's mission. to inspire happiness by creating community through people, parks, programs and open space.
2	Add a statement on the page below the vision statement: "The City owns and maintains approximately 4,050 acres of natural preserves and open space properties (2021). The Conservation and Open Space Element of the General Plan sets programs and policies for the City's Open Space.
7	Under "Evaluate Recreation Programs and Services" sixth line "classes; aquatics; open space preservation trail maintenance, and educational opportunities"
9	Under " <i>The Value of Parks</i> ": " <u>At the time of adoption of this Blueprint (2021)</u> , San Luis Obispo's Parks and Recreation Department defines as its mission 'to inspire happiness by creating community through people, parks, programs and open space." <u>The Conservation and Open Space Element of the General Plan sets programs and policies for the City's Open Space, a notable change in the City's General Plan since the adoption of the <u>2001 Parks & Recreation Plan</u>. An earlier version of the mission statement—from the 2001 Parks & Recreation Plan—touches on a few other important ideas: how parks contribute to the city's character and beauty, are good for the environment, and promote health."</u>
13	Overarching Philosophy, first paragraph: "The Plan Update considers the Parks and Recreation Department's Mission Statement, to Inspire Happiness by creating Community through People, Parks, Programs, and Open Space, and identify parks and recreation as an essential service for the community of San Luis Obispo. <u>The Conservation and Open Space Element</u> <u>of the General Plan sets programs and policies for the City's Open Space.</u> The Update should support and facilitate this"
28	<i>In paragraph under sub-heading "Neighborhood Parks":</i> "Basic elements typically include a turf playfield, playground equipment, and landscaped picnic/ seating area."

Edits are indicated as follows: deletions with strike through and additions underlined.

Page Number	Plan Revisions
28	Put in bold font the last sentence of the first paragraph: " <u>Finally, as of 2021, San</u> <u>Luis Obispo owns and manages 13 Open Spaces and recreational trails covering</u> <u>nearly 4,050 acres. These Open Spaces are not the subject of the Plan."</u>
32	Sub-heading and paragraphs below: "Playgrounds and Pienie Gathering Areas The city has approximately 189 pienie tables distributed among 16 parks. SLO's parks have nine group pienie gathering areas, including two each at Laguna Lake and Santa Rosa parks and one each at French, Johnson, Meadow, and Sinsheimer parks and one at Laguna Lake Golf Course."
34	"Figure 2-11 Picnic Tables and BBQ" [also delete the word "Picnic" from the legend]
42	<i>last paragraph, last sentence:</i> "Existing and planned trail and bike networks are shown on Figures 2-16 and 2-17 2- <u>17 and 2-18."</u>
46	Second paragraph under the sub-heading "Findings": "Meanwhile, horseshoe pits, pienie tables and drinking fountains were found to be in the worst condition: only 60 percent of drinking fountains, 66 percent of pienie tables, and 25 percent of horseshoe pits were rated 3, with nearly two- thirds of horseshoe pits given a rating of 1."
46	Second bullet under the subheading "Findings": "+ Park furnishings (benches, pienie tables, trash cans, drinking fountains) are in need of replacement or repair in most parks, especially in Vista Lago Park, French Park and Johnson Park."
48	first paragraph under "Margarita Area Specific Plan": "Neighborhood Park, Greenway and Sports Fields: The Margarita Area Specific Plan (MASP) meets the City's park land standard by providing a 10- acre Neighborhood Park and a 16-acre improved sports field site. The Neighborhood Park will include trees, benches, picnic tables and small cooking stands, children's play equipment, game courts, a restroom, and play fields. Greenways are primarily for cycling and walking paths within linear, landscaped open areas. The Sports Fields will accommodate active recreational use and will include onsite parking. No plans have been received to date for future development of this area of the MASP. Therefore , this Plan assumes there is an outstanding need for parkland in the MASP area."

Page Number	Plan Revisions
50	Header:
	"Parks and Urban Open Spaces Public Areas in the Downtown Concept Plan"
71	second paragraph under sub-heading "Events in Parks":
	"Concerts and other ideas for music in parks were by far the most popular type of event based on workshop feedback. Other top event categories were food trucks and events, sports tournaments and events, movies, arts events and fairs, cultural festivals, and community picnics <u>gatherings</u> and barbeques, among others (see Table 5-3 Ideas for Events in Parks)."
74	Park Improvement Priorities Workshop, Your Neighborhood:
	"Participants were asked to state their priorities for park improvements in their neighborhood, from a list of options. Of these options, "safer access" was the highest priority, followed by walking paths, neighborhood events, and dog park. " <u>Approximately 110 participants provided responses at this workshop station, and</u> <u>the average ranking for each priority is identified in Figure 3-1.</u> "
74	first paragraph under sub-heading "Community Parks":
	"For Laguna Lake Park, we asked participants to rank a list of 11 potential improvements. The most popular: a bike pump track, an adventure playground, a botanical garden, a walking path, an outdoor learning area, and additional pienic gathering/seating areas. Approximately 100 participants provided responses at this workshop station, and the average ranking for each priority is identified in Figure 3-2.""
74	Figure 3-2:
	"Additional picnic gathering areas"
75	Park Improvement Priorities Workshop, Fields and Facilities:
	"Participants were asked to rank four potential improvements to the SLO Swim Center. Of these, extended hours for recreation swim and for lap swim were the highest ranked. <u>Approximately 85 participants provided responses at this workshop station</u> , and the average ranking for each priority is identified in Figure 3-5."
76	last paragraph fourth sentence:
	"The amenities that should be the City's highest priorities are: swimming pools, open space trails, park trails, passive enjoyment of open space conservation areas (where environmentally permissible", shaded play areas, dog parks, and nature park/botanical gardens.
84	<i>Table 4-2 Park Amenity Standards:</i> Replace "bike pump track" with " <u>bike/roller</u> pump track"

Page Number	Plan Revisions
84	Table 4-2 Park Amenity Standards:
	"Group Pienie Gathering Areas"
84	Table 4-2 Park Amenity Standards, do not identify a second golf course.
84	Update <i>Table 4-2 Park Amenity Standards</i> by deleting "Meets Standard/Needs Exist" column and replacing it with the number of additional amenities needed to serve the future daytime population. Edit footnote by identifying the future daytime population:
	"Assumes 2035 daytime population of 88,300"
86	Policy 1.6 Park Amenities Per Area Standard (see edits below):
	"The City shall seek to provide the six identified sub-areas of San Luis Obispo a common set of recreational amenities within accessible walking distance <u>of</u> <u>neighborhoods located amongst the six identified sub-areas</u> including:
	Basketball Courts (Lighted/Non-Lighted)
	Pickleball Courts (Lighted/Non-Lighted)
	Tennis Court (Lighted/Non-Lighted)
	Sand Volleyball Courts
	Roller Sports Court or Facility
	• Turf Fields (Diamond, Rectangular, Lighted/Nonlighted)
	• Dog Parks
	• Outdoor Gathering and Picnic Areas for small and medium-sized groups (Shaded/Unshaded), including neighborhood-based gathering areas (i.e. gazebo/stage)
	• Playgrounds (Shaded/Unshaded), inclusive of both natural and engineered shade
	Amenities should be considered for multi-use, and be all-inclusive and all- ability.
	See Figure 4-2 for sub-areas."
86	1.6 Park Amenities Per Area Standard, eighth bullet:
	"Outdoor Gathering and Pienie Areas for small and medium-sized groups (Shaded/ Unshaded), including neighborhood-based gathering areas (i.e., gazebo/stage)"

Page Number	Plan Revisions
88	 Policy 1.15: "1.15 Sustainable Transportation Access. Support implementation of the Active Transportation Plan and provision of sustainable access to parks and recreational facilities including, but not limited to Sinsheimer Park area, Laguna Lake Park, and Meadow Park, and interconnected paths citywide. Bicycle parking should be provided in parks, recreational facilities, and community centers, and include facilities for standard, electric, and cargo bicycles."
88	 Policy 1.16 Shaded Play Areas. "1.16 Shaded Play Areas. In addition to shading play areas—a high priority for the community—trees and shade structures can also contribute to distinctive identity and sustainability. Existing play areas will be assessed for need, and enhancements to both play equipment and shade will be scheduled. The City should strive for provide shaded play areas within a short walk (1/2-mile) of all residents: this should be a core feature of all parks, including mini-parks."
90	<i>first paragraph under 2.1 Meeting Demand for Facilities and Amenities:</i> "The City shall develop facilities and amenities to meet community needs. High priorities identified in the statistically-valid survey conducted for the Plan Update include swimming pools; park trails; shaded play areas; dog parks; and a nature park/botanical garden. Medium priorities included adventure areas; outdoor exercise fitness areas; indoor exercise facility; splash pads; environmental education center; playgrounds; a community center; a sports complex; covered pienic gathering areas and BBQ pits; and lighted tennis courts."
90	 2.4 Laguna Lake Park: "2.4 Laguna Lake Park. Laguna Lake Park has untapped potential, and may be able to accommodate additional recreational facilities, events, and enhancements that support enjoyment of the water and the open space natural preserve where environmentally permissible. These should be detailed through a Plan process. See Chapter 5 for more detail."

Page Number	Plan Revisions
90/91	2.6 Accessing and Evaluating the Golf Course:
	"Continue to manage the golf course for its primary use while exploring opportunities for broader community use, potentially including a fully immersed golfing experience including mini-golf, disc golf, and foot golf, a walking loop, community space, redevelopment of the pro-shop, as well as more revenue capture opportunities. Consider alternative programming such as community use of the golf course for gatherings and picnics for specified days and hours."
93	2.12 Inclusive and Accessible Parks, add bullet:
	Encourage inclusion through posted rules and etiquette, and continue to emphasize these characteristics as requirements in all City-sponsored programs.
94	Policy 3.1 Access by Foot and Bike:
	"Policy 3.1 Access by Foot, and Bike, and Roll"
	New parks and facilities should be located centrally to their service population, integrated with their community context, and easily accessed on foot, and by bike, and roll"
95/96	3.8 Tree Selection (edit as noted below):
	"Parks are places for grand trees that cast shade and provide long-term value. Many attributes are considered when selecting trees for parks, including habitat value, benefit to pollinators, and natural or native and cultural influences.
	The City shall prepare a tree inventory all of our parks to determine their population, species diversity, age, condition and maintenance needs. This information will inform future planting, maintenance needs and budgets.
	The City shall prepare a master tree list for future climate conditions, including drought tolerant, low allergen, high carbon sequestering trees with after life uses. Trees should also be selected for future climate conditions. and for maximum carbon sequestration.
	Human allergies are another factor to consider, especially around special needs populations or in balance with other trees that may have higher biogenic emissions. Examples of low- and moderately-rated trees from a list of low- allergen trees developed by Cal Poly include Crape myrtle (Lagerstroemia indica), Paradox walnut (Juglans x paradox), Evergreen ash (Fraxinus uhdei), Camphor tree, Allee Chinese elm (Ulmus parvifolia 'Allee'), and Catalina ironwood (Lyonothamnus floribundus subsp. Aspleniifolius).

Page Number	Plan Revisions
	Additional care must be taken to determine the appropriate tree for a particular park and planting condition."
97	 4.3 Park Activation: "Parks and facilities should accommodate a variety of potential programming ideas. The Department will activate parks with food truck pods, community pienies gatherings, fitness classes, yoga in the park, and other temporary features as a way to bring new energy to parks and ensure that parks feel welcoming to all."
103	<i>Fourth paragraph:</i> "Next, the chapter defines three types of park improvements, and documents potential improvements opportunities at each park where "visionary" changes are needed. <u>The chapter provides the flexibility to consider identified</u> opportunities and determine the appropriate design and amenities of our City's parks and recreational facilities through focused community outreach and the preparation of comprehensive park-specific plans. The community engagement process will include direct contact with community groups and organizations to further advance diversity, equity, and inclusion at all City parks and facilities."
104	Second paragraph: "Priority and location characteristics for each amenity are also outlined. All <u>identified</u> active recreation amenities would be located within urban areas, and shall <u>would</u> not be located within City Open Space"

Page Number	Plan Revisions
111	Sub-heading and discussion:
	"Outdoor Gathering and Picnic Areas
	Inventory
	Today, SLO has nine group picnic areas, including two each at Santa Rosa and Laguna Lake parks and one each at French, Johnson, Meadow, and Sinsheimer parks and one at Laguna Lake Golf Course. 27 BBQ facilities are present at parks or other facilities, including 12 at Laguna Lake Park, five each at Santa Rosa and Sinsheimer, one each at French, Johnson, Meadow, and Mitchell parks, and one at Jack House Gardens. One group picnic area is planned for the Orcutt Area, while BBQ facilities are planned at future parks at Avila Ranch.
	There are nine informal/multiuse fields located in eight San Luis Obispo parks.
	Additional Need
	Six additional group pienic gathering areas are needed to meet demand today, and eight would still be needed in 2035 in addition to those already planned. This Plan does not set specific standards for BBQ facilities or informal/multiuse fields.
	Access Gaps
	Areas 2 (Central) and 5 (Southwest) do not have group pienic areas, nor are any currently planned. Informal/multiuse fields are also missing in Area 5. Priority
	Consideration of amenities for families and small children and community-
	based park activation are considered near-term (0-5 year) priorities. Outdoor gathering and pienic seating areas will be part of park development at all stages of plan implementation, with a priority for infrastructure to serve medium-sized groups. Unstructured, open areas for play, relaxation, and informal group sports should be incorporated into parks."
113	<i>Figure 5-4, legend, Existing and Planned:</i> "Group Pienie Gathering Areas"

Page Number	Plan Revisions
114	Golf Courses:
	"Additional Need
	San Luis Obispo would need one additional golf course by 2035 to meet standards <u>;</u> however, two golf courses to serve the City is not needed.
	Access Gaps
	Laguna Lake Golf Course is in Area 6 (West). Any future course should be in a different part of the city.
	Priority
	Providing an additional golf course may be considered a long-term (10-20 year) priority, subject to land availability. An additional golf course is not a priority for the <u>City.</u> "
114	Bike/ <u>Roller</u> Pump Tracks: edit sub-heading and all references under "Inventory", "Additional Need", and "Priority"
114	"Bike/ <u>Roller</u> Pump Tracks
	Priority
	A bike/ <u>roller</u> pump track has been identified as a near-term (0-5 year) priority for the City. A second track may be considered a long-term (10-20 year) opportunity. <u>Pump</u> tracks should be located where they can be accessed via bicycle or roll, and along routes to schools."
120	Laguna Lake Park, fourth bullet:
	"+ Some amenities (barbecue, pienic- tables) are in need of repair"
121	<i>Laguna Lake Park, under "Near-Term", fourth bullet:</i> Replace "bike pump track" with " <u>bike/roller</u> pump track"
121	Laguna Lake Park, Planned Improvements, Near-Term, first bullet:
	Near-Term (0 to 5 Years)
	"+ Complete a comprehensive update to the Laguna Lake Plan <u>based on</u> focused community outreach and input to determine the appropriate balance of active and passive uses within the park. Plan will revitalize the connection to the aquatic environment of the lake, identify enhancements to natural aquatic and upland functions; add explore the potential of adding sports fields and other active and <u>informal play</u> uses; add amenities including fencing, shade, and ground treatment to the off-leash dog area; and include facilities to allow the park to better accommodate community events."

Page Number	Plan Revisions
121	Laguna Lake Park, Planned Improvements, Near-Term, add bullet:
	<u>"+ Amenities should be considered for multi-use, and be all-inclusive and all-ability."</u>
122	Meadow Park and Meadow Park Center
	Change "Mid-Term (5 to 10 years)" to "Near-Term (0 to 5 years)"
122	Meadow Park and Meadow Park Center, Planned Improvements, first bullet:
	"+ Complete a comprehensive Plan. Plan should expand field use by extensive programming and/or installing synthetic turf (softball and soccer); reconfigure multiuse fields; improve walking paths and fitness equipment within Exposition Park (located adjacent to Meadow Park); expand the playground footprint and add an enclosed tot lot; incorporate a dog park; consider this site for a second aquatics/pool facility; reprogram and rebuild areas around the Meadow Park Center as part of that facility improvement planning such as outdoor shade structures <u>and tables</u> for <u>pienie community</u> rental, platforms for classes, parking lot redesign to create shared space/mini plazas for special events. Incorporate a teen, senior, or multi-generational center into the park. The park-specific Plan should also address use and long-term maintenance of the shared paths within the park."
122	Meadow Park and Meadow Park Center, Planned Improvements, second bullet: "+ Implement Phase 1 of comprehensive Plan. This should include
	reprogramming and rebuild areas around the Meadow Park Center. <u>Amenities</u> <u>should be considered for multi-use</u> , and be all-inclusive and all-ability."
123	Sinsheimer Park, under "Near-Term", first and second bullets: Replace "bike pump track" with " <u>bike/roller</u> pump track"
123	Sinsheimer Park, Planned Improvements, Near-Term (0 to 5 Years):
	Add bullet:
	<u>"+ Address Sinsheimer Park area connectivity, including inclusive non-vehicular</u> access both to the Sinsheimer Park area and through the park. Provide for an inclusive and accessible paved trail connecting the Railroad Safety Trail to Sinsheimer Park."
123	Sinsheimer Park, Planned Improvements, Near-Term, add bullet:
	$\frac{"+ \text{ Amenities should be considered for multi-use, and be all-inclusive and all-}{ability."}$

Page Number	Plan Revisions
125	Mitchell Park, Planned Improvements, Mid-Term, add bullet:
	<u>"+ Amenities should be considered for multi-use, and be all-inclusive and all-ability."</u>
126	Cheng Park, Planned Improvements
	Add the following two bullets:
	"+ Provide Improved cultural expression and educational opportunities
	+ Maintain cultural significance of original design"
128	Ludwick Community Center, second bullet:
	"+ Consider renovation for staff offices, <u>or relocation of staff offices</u> , and/or relocation of the Senior Center inclusive and accessible services and programs for the City's diverse senior population."
130	SLO Senior Center Mid-Term (5 to 10 Years), first bullet:
	"+ Re-envision SLO Senior Center in the context of Mitchell Park through Planning process. Goals will include creating a strong linkage between the park and the center; and considering potential renovation <u>or expansion</u> or replacement of the Senior Center relocation of programs and services to achieve multi-generational use of the facility. <u>The SLO Senior Center building</u> is a historic property, and any improvements shall be consistent with the City's <u>Historic Preservation Ordinance and Historic Preservation Program</u> <u>Guidelines. Increase the City's financial and staff investment in the SLO Senior</u> <u>Center."</u>
130	 SLO Senior Center, Planned Improvements, Long-Term (10 to 20 years) "Long-Term (10 to 20 Years) + Renovate consistent with the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance and Historic Preservation Program Guidelines, and/or relocate or replace services and programs to achieve multi-generational use of facility and accommodate diverse programming. Consider creating an additional accessible center for seniors."
136	Table5-1,MeadowPark+MeadowParkCenter:move "Park Plan" and "Phase I improvements, focused around Meadow ParkCenter" to the "Near-Term (0 -5 Years) column
136	Table5-1,RailroadSafetyTrailrow:Replace "bike pump track" with "bike/roller pump track"
136	Table5-1,SinsheimerParkrow:Replace "bike pump track" with "bike/roller pump track"

Page Number	Plan Revisions
137	<i>Table 5-1, Railroad Safety Trail, under "Near-Term", first and second bullet:</i> Replace "bike pump track" with " <u>bike/roller</u> pump track"
142	<i>Funding Strategy, second paragraph:</i> "The City funding sources for parks and recreation include development impact fees, the general fund, grants, revenues from services provided, and pienic <u>gathering area</u> and facility rentals."

PREAMBLE

The Parks + Recreation Blueprint for the Future: 2021-2041 (Parks and Recreation Plan and General Plan Element Update) is an essential guide for the future of parks and recreation in the City of San Luis Obispo for the next twenty years. This Blueprint addresses the evolving recreational needs of our community, with a strong focus on advancing and supporting community building, sustainable transportation, carbon neutrality, resiliency in a changing climate, and diversity, equity, and inclusion. The Plan's Guiding Themes permeate through the goals, policies, and opportunities, and include:

Design Excellence	Stewardship and Sustainability	Inclusion and Access	Building Community	Partnerships and Public Engagement	Good Governance
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Key considerations for the enhancement and redevelopment of existing parks and the development of new parkland will be striking a balance between active and passive recreational use, maintaining neighborhood character, ensuring high quality design and maintenance, and optimizing resources and inclusion by providing multi-generational, multi-use, and multi-ability amenities and facilities. Incorporation of innovative universal design and continued conversations with our community will be critical to resolve and prevent any barriers to our community's safe enjoyment of City parks, recreation amenities, public art, and programs. This Blueprint also identifies the need for park activation and building community through site planning and provision of community gathering space and associated infrastructure; supporting and facilitating community events; incorporation of public art and cultural expression; and dynamic programming to address multi-generational and multi-ability needs of our community.

This document is divided into five chapters and includes an Appendix with detailed background information and data supporting identified policies, recommendations, and opportunities. Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 5 comprise the Parks and Recreation Plan and Chapter 4 consists of the Parks and Recreation Element of the General Plan. The Blueprint does not include uses, goals, or policies for Open Space; the Conservation and Open Space Element of the General Plan includes goals, policies, and programs specific to the City's Open Space.

Chapter 1 introduces the planning process and overarching goals of the plan.

Chapter 2 takes a deeper look at San Luis Obispo through demographic analysis and its parks and facilities through a detailed inventory.

<u>Chapter 3 provides a summary of the extensive community engagement conducted over three</u> years during development of the Plan. Chapter 4 provides the detailed policies that flow from five system-wide goals, which include:

- Build Community and Neighborhoods: City Parks and Recreational facilities should build and connect community through inclusive and diverse amenities and programming.
- Meet the Changing Needs of the Community: Leverage regionalism and creatively increase the number of City parks, recreational facilities and amenities, to meet user needs.
- Sustainability: The City's Parks and Recreation facilities will be vibrant, resilient, and sustainable.
- Optimize Resources: Establish, maintain, and operate parks, facilities, and programs in a manner that is cost effective and manageable while engaging the community in a manner that optimizes involvement and support.
- Safety: Provide safe, accessible, inclusive, and well-maintained City parks, recreational facilities, and amenities.

Chapter 5, Implementation, is intended to be aspirational and identifies a range of potential opportunities for each park and facility based on the wants and needs expressed by our community. The Implementation Chapter provides the flexibility to consider identified opportunities and determine the appropriate design and amenities of our City's parks and recreational facilities through focused community outreach and the preparation of comprehensive park-specific plans. The community engagement process will include direct contact with community groups and organizations to further advance diversity, equity, and inclusion at all City parks and facilities.

Fulfillment of this Blueprint will result in increased community connection within neighborhoods, the provision of equitable distribution of amenities throughout the City, the creation of safe, accessible, and inclusive public spaces for all people, and promote community investment in our public recreational spaces.

Figure 4-2 SAN LUIS OBISPO SUB-AREAS AND PARK ACCESS GAPS



