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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Town of Sunnyvale and MHS Planning & Design, LLC would like to thank the residents of Sunnyvale, Town Staff, and Community Leaders for their time and input in the development of the Parks, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan 2021:

**Mayor & Town Council**
Saji George - Mayor  
Ryan Finch - Place 1, Mayor Pro Tem  
Kevin Clark - Place 2  
Mark Egan - Place 3  
Mark Eldridge - Place 4  
Larry Allen - Place 5  
Jonathan Freeman - Place 6

**Town Staff**
Susan Guthrie - Town Manager  
Charles Goff - Assistant Town Manager  
Burton Barr - Director of Economic Development  
John Douthit - Parks Director

**4B Development Corporation**
Erik Wyse - President  
Sarah Bradford, Treasurer  
Niki Anthony  
Terri Shatter  
Tina Chase  
K. Paul Cash  
Kris Nair

Special thanks to all residents of Sunnyvale.
RESOLUTION NO. 21-23A

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SUNNYVALE, TEXAS, TO AFFIRM AND ADOPT THE 2021 PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN FOR THE TOWN OF SUNNYVALE.

WHEREAS, the Sunnyvale 4B Development Corporation (hereinafter referred to as the “Sunnyvale 4B”) is a Type B Community development corporation, created pursuant to Chapter 505 of the Texas Local Government Code, as amended; and

WHEREAS, Section 501.073(a) of the Texas Local Government Code requires the Town Council of the Town of Sunnyvale, Texas, to approve all programs and expenditures of the Sunnyvale 4B EDC, and accordingly the adoption of the plan is not effective until Town Council has approved the document; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council and Sunnyvale 4B EDC, in compliance with the laws of the State of Texas and the ordinances of the Town of Sunnyvale, Texas, has determined that community input in conjunction with the parks master plan project will promote economic and community development for the benefit of the citizens of the Town of Sunnyvale; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council and Sunnyvale 4B EDC of the Town of Sunnyvale, Texas, finds and recommends formal adoption of the 2021 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan, and affirms that this plan will assist, guide, and recommend current and future park and recreation planning projects in the future.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SUNNYVALE, TEXAS, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That the foregoing recitals are hereby found to be true and correct findings of the Town of Sunnyvale, Texas, and are fully incorporated into the body of this Resolution.

Section 2. That the Town Council and Sunnyvale 4B EDC of the Town of Sunnyvale, Texas, finds and determines that the 2021 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan is necessary to assist with promoting economic and community development, and quality of life improvements for the benefit of the citizens of the Town of Sunnyvale.

Section 3. That this Resolution shall become effective from and after its passage by the Town Council of the Town of Sunnyvale, Texas.


Saji George
Mayor

ATTEST:

Rachel Ramsey
Town Secretary
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CHAPTER 1

Executive Summary
SUNNYVALE PARKS MASTER PLAN

The 2015 Parks, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan ended in 2020, therefore the Town of Sunnyvale initiated a new parks master planning process. The Parks, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan process began in 2020 when the Town of Sunnyvale contracted with MHS Planning & Design to develop a new parks plan to better suit the changing and growing needs of the community. This document will provide direction and guidance to the Parks Department and other Town departments in the implementation and construction of parks and recreation projects. This Master Plan covers a ten-year time frame from 2021 to 2031, with a recommendation to conduct a plan update in 2026. Many recommendations within this plan build upon the existing park framework in the Town, while also bringing visionary and exciting ideas to the growing community.

The Town of Sunnyvale Parks, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan 2021-2031 provides a review of the existing parks, trails and open space conditions. The plan provides an overview of the community input process and public input results, establishes park system goals and objectives, classifies current and future park system facilities, and reviews the existing park inventory and level of service. In 2021, a comparative analysis of the Town of Sunnyvale to surrounding communities and the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) standards was developed. These sections emphasize the quality and current conditions of the park system, which allows the Town to identify the current and future community needs, develop system priorities, and establish an implementation schedule.

The community, Town Council, 4B Board, and Town Staff were involved in each major step of the planning process. They provided the local insight needed to produce a successful document to assist in guiding local decision makers through 2031. The Town of Sunnyvale is committed to understanding the needs of the residents to develop a quality Parks Master Plan that represents the needs of the community. The Town collected data from residents through several different avenues. The Town of Sunnyvale developed a statistically valid, online survey and mailed 2,140 postcards informing residents about the survey. A total of 627 survey responses were completed and submitted to the Town; a 29% response rate. In addition to gathering public input through the survey, the Town conducted six focus group meetings to better understand these specific group needs within the Town of Sunnyvale’s parks and open space system.

Existing and future parks projects were developed based on the citizen survey results, focus group input, Town Council, 4B Board members, and Town Staff. Taking into account existing inventory, available resources, and professional opinion, the parks projects and overall Master Plan focus on the importance and need to develop existing park land and consider strategic park land acquisition to increase the amount of usable park acreage in the Town limits. Citizens were provided the opportunity to review and comment on the draft plan prior to the Town Council’s approval. This Parks Master Plan was presented to the 4B Development Corporation and Town Council to verify that the Town of Sunnyvale Parks, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan reflects the community’s needs and priorities.
SUNNYVALE PARKS SYSTEM - AT A GLANCE

5.18% OF TOWN LAND IS DEVELOPED PARKLAND

625.90 Total Park Acres
12.23 Trail Miles
8 Public Parks & 10 Private HOA Parks

1 Baseball Field
1 Basketball Court
2 Exercise Station Trails
3 Pavilions
30 Picnic Areas

2 Playgrounds
2 Ponds
6 Soccer Fields
2 Tennis Courts

7,200 Residents
$380,400 Median Household Value
$132,488 Median Household Income
91.4% Owner-Occupied Homeownership Rate

21% OF RESIDENTS LIVE WITHIN A 10-MINUTE WALK TO A PARK

19.39 TOWN PARKS + HOA PROPERTIES PARK ACRES PER 1,000 RESIDENTS
MASTER PLAN GOALS & FOCUS AREAS

Parks and Recreation Goal: To create a high-quality parks and recreational system for the residents of Sunnyvale, promote a balanced and healthy lifestyle, and maintain the unique and small-town feel of the community.

Open Space Goal: To identify, protect, and conserve natural open spaces for the preservation of plant and animal habitats and sensitive ecosystems, the reduction of floodplain development, and the provision of unstructured recreational activities.

Trails & Greenways Goal: To focus on expanding the trails and sidewalk system through meaningful connections and nodes by providing safe access to key destinations such as schools, neighborhoods, parks, commercial areas, and sports fields.

Design Development Goal: To design high-quality, first-class public spaces that align with Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles and are built with sustainable materials to last to their expected lifetime use.

Maintenance Goal: To provide high-quality, technical, and consistent maintenance to ensure a safe and aesthetically pleasing park system through strategic and proactive planning.

The Parks Master Plan focuses on nine different areas and provides greater detail about their recommendations and needs. The nine focus areas include:

- **NEW PARKS:** Barnes Bridge Property, Glazer Property & Long Creek Crossing Property
- **EXISTING PARKS:** Jobson Park, Robert Vineyard Park, Samuell Farm North & New Hope Parks, Town Center Park
- **TRAILS & GREENWAYS**
- **NATURAL OPEN SPACE**
- **ATHLETIC FACILITIES**
- **INDOOR RECREATION**
- **RECREATION PROGRAMMING**
- **GENERAL COMMUNITY**
- **MAINTENANCE & DESIGN**
The Parks System Facility Priorities are listed below in priority order. Although some elements are ranked higher than others, it is important to note that all the listed opportunities are important and needed throughout the community. The list is prioritized based on the public input received from the citizen survey, focus group meetings, recommendations from Town Council, and the professional consultant’s opinion. The following list is intended to be a guide for development of existing and future parks.

1. Multi-Purpose Trails & Nature Trails
2. **Site Amenities:** Benches, Tables, Water Fountains, Grills, Bike Racks, Lights, etc.
3. Playgrounds
4. Sprayground / Splash Pad
5. **Lakefront Development:** Boat/Kayak Launches, Fishing Piers, Boardwalks, etc.
6. Practice & Game Quality Sports Fields
7. Natural Open Spaces & Outdoor Education Elements
8. Picnic Areas / Pavilions
9. Multi-Use Indoor Recreation Center
10. Dog Park
11. Sand Volleyball Courts
12. Amphitheater
13. Disc Golf Course
14. Skate Park
15. Mountain Bike / BMX Course
IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

The following schedule presents projects and action items that are based on the needs, recommendations, and priorities found in more detail throughout the plan. The purpose of the implementation schedule is to provide a framework to assist with future park and community development planning in the Town. An estimated project cost has been provided for each project to help the Town budget accordingly for the future. The implementation schedule is intended to be a flexible guide for the development of parks and facilities over the next ten years. The Parks Master Plan is a living document, meaning the Town should evaluate and change the order of implementation if necessary or take advantage of any unforeseen opportunities that may arise that are not identified in this schedule. When reviewing this document and budgeting into the future, it is important to note that land acquisition, design, engineering, and personnel staffing are not included in the estimated cost.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROJECT</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>COST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conduct Recreation Center &amp; Library Feasibility Study</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop Glazer Property</td>
<td>2021 - 2022</td>
<td>Varies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Station</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barn</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-purpose &amp; nature trails</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural areas &amp; open spaces</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic areas / pavilions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site amenities (benches, tables, shade canopies, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop Trails &amp; Bikeways Master Plan</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>$20,000 - $30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consider Viability of Establishing Town Recreation Division</td>
<td>2023 - 2024</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhance &amp; Expand Jobson Park</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>$300,000 - $400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports practice fields (ball diamonds, football, soccer, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playground</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic areas / pavilions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-purpose walking trails</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site amenities (benches, tables, shade canopies, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop Barnes Bridge Property</td>
<td>2024 - 2025</td>
<td>$3,000,000 - $4,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-purpose walking trails</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boat ramp</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing piers &amp; boardwalks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport paddle launch (kayak, paddle board, canoe, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sand volleyball courts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic area / pavilions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amphitheater</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playground</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site amenities (benches, tables, shade canopies, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROJECT</td>
<td>YEAR</td>
<td>COST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop Samuell Farm North Park</td>
<td>2026 - 2027</td>
<td>$2,500,000 - $3,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consider development of a multi-purpose sports complex*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disc golf*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playground</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-purpose &amp; nature trails</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skate park*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural open spaces</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site amenities (benches, tables, shade canopies, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhance Robert Vineyard Park</td>
<td>2027</td>
<td>$350,000 - $500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regrade soccer fields (fix drainage)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restroom</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-purpose walking trails</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playground</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-purpose sports court</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site amenities (benches, tables, shade canopies, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhance Town Center Park</td>
<td>2028</td>
<td>$550,000 - $750,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-purpose sports court</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretive signage</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native landscaping</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Splash pad</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site lighting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site amenities (benches, tables, shade canopies, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhance Samuell New Hope Park</td>
<td>2029</td>
<td>$400,000 - $600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-purpose &amp; nature trails</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretive signage</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic areas / pavilions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain bike trails</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog park*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural open spaces</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butterfly garden</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site amenities (benches, tables, shade canopies, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design &amp; Construct Recreation Center &amp; Library (Pending Feasibility Study Results)</td>
<td>2030 - 2031</td>
<td>Varies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire Properties for Parkland &amp; Require HOA Developments to Develop Neighborhood Parks</td>
<td>On-Going</td>
<td>Varies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construct Trails Throughout the Town</td>
<td>On-Going</td>
<td>$250,000 - $325,000 per mile</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*These items are recommended for construction within the Town of Sunnyvale parks system. Their final location is to be determined and can move to a different project depending on the community’s need.
CHAPTER 2

Introduction
Town of Sunnyvale Overview

VISION
Sunnyvale is a unique, rural community with small town values that provides a high quality of life with safe neighborhoods appealing places to recreate and quality businesses and municipal services.

MISSION
Servant leaders delivering exceptional services to create a desirable and unique community to call home.

FOUNDATIONAL VALUES

- SERVANT LEADERSHIP
- ETHICAL & RESPONSIBLE
- EXCELLENCE IN EXECUTION WITH THE END IN MIND
- PRUDENT FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT
PARKS DEPARTMENT

The Parks Department strives to improve the quality of life for Sunnyvale residents and visitors by providing exceptional park and recreational opportunities. The Parks Department performs landscape management, park maintenance and improvements as well as other similar services throughout the Town’s park system. The continued efforts of these services lead to safe and attractive places for public recreational opportunities.
Sunnyvale Community Profile

Major themes about what makes Sunnyvale a great place to live were discussed during the public engagement process. Major themes included the rural and small town feel, reputation of Sunnyvale ISD, and the close proximity to the Metroplex. Sunnyvale is a unique community where the residents can enjoy the benefits of a small town but also take advantage of the thriving Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex less than a 20 minute drive away. Residents can enjoy the rural landscape, large residential lots, and future access to Lake Ray Hubbard. Highway 80 and Belt Line Road provide major corridors for ease of access and transportation while creating future development for retail, commercial, and industrial sites. The community is proud to support Sunnyvale ISD where everyone is a Sunnyvale Raider.

$380,400  
Median Value of Owner-Occupied Households

$132,488  
Median Household Income

TOP 3 ASSETS:

- Small Town, Rural Living
- High Reputation of Schools
- Proximity to Dallas Metroplex

HOMEOWNERSHIP RATE

- Owner-Occupied - 91.4%
- Renter-Occupied - 8.6%

Data from: Sunnyvale town, Texas - US Census Bureau -
POPULATION BY RACE

- White - 61.6%
- Asian - 23.1%
- African American - 9.3%
- American Indian - 0.7%
- Two or More - 4.6%
- Other - 0.7%

POPULATION BY ETHNICITY

- Hispanic - 12.1%
- Not Hispanic - 87.9%

POPULATION BY AGE

- Under 5 - 4.0%
- 5 to 19 - 26.5%
- 20 to 44 - 25.9%
- 45 to 64 - 33.0%
- 65+ - 10.5%

POPULATION ESTIMATES

- 2021: 7,098
- 2026: 8,347
- 2031: 9,676


Population Trend: 3.0% Compound Annually
Reference: Water, Wastewater & Roadway Impact Fee Study 2020
CHAPTER 3

Existing Parks & Recreation System
Parks Classification

The following table provides information regarding the existing and future park system, including the type of park facility classifications, the service area of the park, average size in acres, range of the population it serves, typical facilities found within the park type, and the average development costs of the park, in 2021 dollars. The park classifications found in this plan include, mini park, neighborhood park, community park, regional park, special use facility, linear park, and preserved open space. The service area of parks are determined differently depending on the classification and the capacity of the facility. The service area is the geographic zone of influence of individual parks. The service area of park types can vary from 1/4 mile to over 10 miles. Typically, the size of mini parks are between 1/2-acre to 4 acres and regional parks can have up to 200 to 1,000 acres.

The population served by park facilities is determined on carrying capacity, amenities, and the service area. Ideally, every resident in the Town of Sunnyvale should be within a reasonable 10-minute walk of a park. The facilities listed within each classification are recommended amenities based on historical use, available land, existing facilities, programming opportunities, and funding availability. Development costs are to be used as a guide for budgeting purposes. The costs will vary greatly depending on amenities, existing infrastructure, and size of the property.

The park classification system for the Town is divided into seven major categories, each serving a specific purpose. The Town of Sunnyvale’s Park Classification and Inventory is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Service Area</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Population Served</th>
<th>Typical Facilities</th>
<th>Development Cost*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mini Park</td>
<td>1/4 mile</td>
<td>1/2 - 4 acres</td>
<td>500 - 2,500</td>
<td>Landscaping, drinking fountains, sidewalks &amp; benches</td>
<td>$75,000 - 125,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood Park</td>
<td>1/2 mile</td>
<td>5 - 10 acres</td>
<td>1,000 - 2,500</td>
<td>Playground, picnic areas, pavilion, play courts, play fields, multi-use trails, natural open space, landscaping &amp; parking</td>
<td>$135,000 - 185,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Park</td>
<td>2 miles</td>
<td>30 - 150 acres</td>
<td>5,000 to Entire Community</td>
<td>Tennis courts, sports fields, playground, sprayground, picnic areas, pavilions, walking/jogging trails, swimming pools, open space, landscaping, recreation centers, restrooms &amp; parking</td>
<td>$100,000 - 200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Park</td>
<td>10 miles</td>
<td>200 - 1,000 acres</td>
<td>Entire Urban Area</td>
<td>Sports fields, tennis courts, swimming complexes, lakes, hike/bike trails, bridle paths, golf courses, campgrounds, nature areas, play structures, restrooms &amp; parking</td>
<td>$3,500,000 &amp; Up (Total Development)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Use Facility</td>
<td>Varies</td>
<td>Determined by Primary User</td>
<td>Dependent on Primary Use</td>
<td>Concentration of one or two of the following: baseball/softball complex, soccer fields, tennis centers, sports stadiums, golf courses, performing arts parks, boat ramps, amphitheaters &amp; ornamental gardens</td>
<td>Varies on Primary Use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linear Park</td>
<td>Varies</td>
<td>Varies</td>
<td>5,000 to Entire Community</td>
<td>Landscaping, multi-purpose trails, benches, information kiosks, exercise equipment &amp; drinking fountains</td>
<td>$225,000 - 750,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preserved Open Space</td>
<td>Varies</td>
<td>Determined by Resource</td>
<td>Entire Community</td>
<td>Nature trails, multi-purpose trails, benches, picnic areas, wildlife viewing stations, educational components, information kiosks, interpretive signs, exercise equipment &amp; drinking fountains</td>
<td>Varies on Primary Use</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Development costs are in 2021 dollars and will vary based on specific projects.*
MINI / POCKET PARK

Small and fully-functional parks typically used to address unique or limited recreational needs. These parks may be associated with school or HOA facilities.

Limited facilities may include playgrounds, landscaping, drinking fountains, open lawn areas, trash cans, lighting, bike racks, paths, and benches. Parking is usually not included in the design.

Size of the park may range between 1/2- to 4-acres and serves 500 to 2,500 residents (1/4-mile service area).

Location: Helen C. Emory Park - Dallas, TX

Location: Douglas Park - Garland, TX

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

The basic unit of the park system that serves as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. These parks are developed for both active and passive activities and fulfill neighborhood-specific recreational needs. These parks should be within close and safe walking and/or biking distance to the neighborhoods they are serving. HOA's private park facilities may fill the neighborhood park need in the Town of Sunnyvale.

Facilities may include, but not limited to playgrounds, picnic areas, pavilions, sports courts and/or fields, open lawn areas, trails, landscaping, shade structures, drinking fountains, charcoal grills, trash cans, lighting, bike racks, and benches. Small parking lots or on-street parking is usually provided.

Size of the park may range between 5- to 10-acres and serves 1,000 to 2,500 residents (1/2-mile service area).

Location: Jobson Park - Sunnyvale, TX

Location: Robert Vineyard Park - Sunnyvale, TX
COMMUNITY PARK

Larger in size and providing a broader list of amenities than neighborhood parks, these parks focus on meeting the recreational needs of several neighborhoods and large areas of the community. They can also preserve landscapes and open spaces and be programmed for both active and passive recreational opportunities. These parks can serve the need of neighborhood parks if they are within a 10-minute walk of the neighborhoods.

Facilities may include, but not limited to swimming pools, spraygrounds/splash pads, recreation centers, playgrounds, picnic areas, pavilions, sports courts and/or fields, open lawn areas, trails, landscaping, shade structures, restrooms, drinking fountains, BBQ grills, trash cans, dog waste stations, lighting, bike racks, and benches. Parking lots or on-street parking is provided.

Size of the park may range between 30- to 150-acres and serves 5,000 residents to the entire community (2-mile service area).
REGIONAL PARK

Larger than Community Parks, these areas serve populations beyond the Town limits, feature multiple recreational amenities, can preserve natural areas, and provide various facilities for passive and active recreation. These parks are destination-oriented with specialty features such as a dog park, sports fields, indoor recreation center, aquatic facilities, extensive trail network, and nature preservation.

Facilities may include sports fields and/or courts, lakes, aquatic features, campgrounds, golf courses, playgrounds, picnic areas, pavilions, open lawn areas, trails, landscaping, shade structures, restrooms, drinking fountains, charcoal grills, trash cans, dog waste stations, lighting, bike racks, and benches. Parking lots or on-street parking is provided.

Size of the park may range between 200- to 1,000-acres and serves the entire community (10-mile service area).

Location: White Rock Lake Park - Dallas, TX

Location: Memorial Park - Houston, TX

SPECIAL USE PARK

Designated to serve a specific purpose depending on the function such as a plaza, riverfront, an aquatic facility, sports complex, fitness equipment, skate park, civic building, and historic property. Facilities could include a concentration of baseball/softball fields, soccer fields, tennis courts, sports stadium, boat ramp, golf course, performing arts center, ornamental garden, and amphitheater.

The size of the park, population served, and service area depends on the primary use.

Location: Spirit Park - Allen, TX

Location: The Trails at Squabble Creek - Rockwall, TX
LINEAR PARK

Also known as Greenways, Linear Parks serve many functions by tying other parks, residential and commercial areas, and schools together. These parks may be built in the floodplain along creeks, in utility or drainage corridors, along public easements, or next to road rights-of-ways. This park classification can create long, linear trail networks and provide active recreational and alternative transportation opportunities. These corridors can preserve natural areas, open spaces, and sensitive ecosystems.

Along the trail network, amenities may include playgrounds, fitness equipment, picnic areas, pavilions, benches, interpretive signage, bike repair stations, restrooms, shade structures, trash cans, and drinking fountains. Parking lots or on-street parking may be provided at trailheads.

The size of the park and service area depends on the length of the Linear Park. This classification typically serves 5,000 residents to the entire community.

Location: Katy Trail - Dallas, TX
Location: Buffalo Bayou Park - Houston, TX

PRESERVED OPEN SPACE

These areas have limited developed spaces and their primary use is for the preservation and conservation of natural resources, open spaces, and visual aesthetics/buffering. This open space is used primarily for passive recreation, has few structures, and limited impervious surfacing.

Facilities may include walking trails, nature trails, interpretive signage, picnic areas, gardens, outdoor education components, benches, wildlife viewing stations, and open grass areas.

The size of the park and service area depends on the primary natural resource. This classification typically serves the entire community.

Location: Cedar Ridge Preserve - Dallas, TX
Location: Trinity River Audubon Center - Dallas, TX
Existing Parks Inventory & Maps

The existing parks in Sunnyvale are classified in the table shown below. The type of park, total and developed acreage, and available amenities are documented in the table. The graphics on this page provide a summary of the amenities and facilities the Town and private Homeowners Associations (HOAs) offer. HOAs provide specialized services to specific planned developments and charge its members a fee for the services. One service charge is the provision and maintenance of common areas such as parks, pools, amenity centers, club houses, etc. Sunnyvale has multiple master planned developments that provide these services. Many of the HOA recreational areas have walking trails but lack basic recreational amenities such as playgrounds, benches, and picnic areas. The Town currently relies on HOAs to provide neighborhood parks and their supporting recreational amenities. The Town should encourage future private developers to include neighborhood parks in residential developments.

**N - Neighborhood Park**  
**C - Community Park**  
**S - Special Use Facility**

### TOWN-OWNED PARKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Total Acres</th>
<th>Developed Acres</th>
<th>Amenities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Barnes Bridge Property</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>4.21</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Glazer Property</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>32.77</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jobson Park</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>15.98</td>
<td>6.00</td>
<td>X X X X X X</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Long Creek Crossing Property</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>3.84</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Robert Vineyard Park</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>4.09</td>
<td>4.09</td>
<td>X X X X X X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Samuell Farm North Park*</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>236.90</td>
<td>21.00</td>
<td>X X X X X X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Samuell New Hope Park*</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>120.50</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Town Center Park</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>39.71</td>
<td>16.50</td>
<td>X X X X X X X X X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total:** Town-Owned Total 458.00  50.59

### HOA PARKS (PRIVATE)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Total Acres</th>
<th>Developed Acres</th>
<th>Amenities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Creekside</td>
<td>17.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Deer Creek</td>
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<td>1.11</td>
<td>X X</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Glenwick</td>
<td>15.27</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Homestead</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Meadow Lake</td>
<td>9.69</td>
<td>8.10</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>St. James</td>
<td>4.16</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Stone Canyon</td>
<td>17.71</td>
<td>16.06</td>
<td>X X X X X</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Stoney Creek</td>
<td>54.66</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Tanner Creek</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>The Falls</td>
<td>13.14</td>
<td>2.16</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total:** HOA Total 167.90  89.00

**Total:** Town & HOA Total 625.90  139.59

*Samuell Farm North Park and Samuell New Hope Park are owned and leased from the City of Dallas.*
Chapter 3 - Existing Parks & Recreation System

EXISTING PARKS MAP

- Town Limits
- Streets
- Railroad Tracks
- Existing Trails
- Neighborhood Parks
- Community Parks
- Special Use Facilities
- HOA Parks
- Town Parks
- HOA Parks
- Floodplain
- Lakes & Ponds

Lakes: LAKE RAY HUBBARD

Key Points:
1. Long Creek
2. N Mesquite Creek
3. Duck Creek
4. US Hwy 80
5. Collins Rd
6. E Scyene Rd
7. Jobson Rd
8. Town East Rd
9. Beltline Rd
10. Barnes Bridge Rd
11. 0’ 4000’ 2000’
Overall Town-Wide Parks Map

- TOWN LIMITS
- STREETS
- RAILROAD TRACKS
- EXISTING TRAILS

- TOWN PARKS
- HOA PARKS
- FLOODPLAIN
- LAKES & PONDS

- 1/2 MILE TOWN PARK SERVICE AREA
- 1/2 MILE HOA PARK SERVICE AREA
- 2 MILE SERVICE AREA
Chapter 3 - Existing Parks & Recreation System

Parks, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan
Individual Park Aerials

The following park aerials show the individual Town and leased parks in Sunnyvale. The pages highlight each Town park, its address, classification, total and developed acreage, and amenities on site. These pages provide a detailed summary of Sunnyvale's parks system.

"Parks are for coming together & fostering a sense of community.

- Sunnyvale Resident"
Barnes Bridge Property
5300 Barnes Bridge Road
SPECIAL USE FACILITY
Total Acres - 4.21
Developed Acres - 0.00

Site Amenities
- Waterfront Access
- Undeveloped
Glazer Property
350 Jobson Road
SPECIAL USE FACILITY
Total Acres - 32.77
Developed Acres - 3.00

Site Amenities
- Horse Barn
- Horses
- Pond
- Undeveloped
Jobson Park
335 Jobson Road
NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
Total Acres - 15.98
Developed Acres - 6.00

Site Amenities
- 1/4-Mile Hike & Bike Trail
- Bleachers
- Charcoal Grills
- Open Space
- Parking
- Picnic Areas
- Soccer Field
- Water Fountains
- Youth Baseball Field
Long Creek Crossing Property
164 S Collins Road
NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
Total Acres - 3.84
Developed Acres - 0.00

Site Amenities
• Undeveloped
Robert Vineyard Park
403 Tower Place
NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
Total Acres - 4.09
Developed Acres - 4.09

Site Amenities
- 1/4-Mile Hike & Bike Trail
- Bleachers
- Charcoal Grills
- Parking
- Picnic Areas
- Soccer Fields (6)
- Water Fountains
Samuell Farm North Park
960 Tripp Road
COMMUNITY PARK - LEASED FROM THE CITY OF DALLAS
Total Acres - 236.90
Developed Acres - 21.00

Site Amenities
- 1/2-Mile Hike & Bike Trail
- Benches
- Charcoal Grills
- Exercise Stations
- Parking
- Picnic Areas
- Pond
- Water Fountains
Samuell New Hope Park
100 E Town East Boulevard
COMMUNITY PARK - LEASED FROM THE CITY OF DALLAS
Total Acres - 120.50
Developed Acres - 0.00

Site Amenities
• Undeveloped
Site Amenities

• 3/4-Mile Hike & Bike Trail
• Benches
• Charcoal Grills
• Exercise Stations
• Multi-Purpose Court

• Parking
• Pavilions (3)
• Picnic Areas
• Playground (2)
• Pond

• Restroom
• Shade Structure
• Tennis Courts (2)
Chapter 3 - Existing Parks & Recreation System
Level of Service Analysis

Level of Service is a measurement of usable park acres per 1,000 residents within the corporate Town limits. The purpose for the Level of Service information is for Town officials and residents of Sunnyvale to better understand the importance of the parks system within the Town. The Level of Service helps support essential decisions by government officials regarding parks, trails, open space and recreational facilities in the future. This analysis can help support investment decisions related to land acquisition, facility improvements and population changes over time.

The Level of Service for parks and open spaces are based on usable parkland, therefore, undeveloped, unusable parkland, private recreational facilities, and public schools are not typically factored into the Level of Service calculation. While these private recreational spaces such as Homeowner Associations (HOAs) parks and outdoor public school play areas are valuable for the community, these facilities are not owned or maintained by the Town. To calculate Sunnyvale’s Level of Service, the land leased by the City of Dallas (Samuell Farm North & Samuell New Hope) was included. A separate Level of Service calculation did include the HOA parks since the Town of Sunnyvale has historically required new residential development to provide privately owned parks that are accessible by the public in lieu of parkland dedication. Since the Town of Sunnyvale implemented a strategic and instrumental policy decision requiring developers to provide neighborhood parks for residential subdivisions, there is a reduced need for the Town’s Parks Department to develop and maintain public neighborhood parks. Due to this policy decision and role of HOA parks in Sunnyvale’s parks system, Sunnyvale’s Level of Service is calculated with the Town-owned and HOA-owned park properties. The combined Level of Service, with Town-owned, HOA-owned, and the Samuell leased properties, will be referenced and compared to benchmark communities.

To determine the 2031 Recommended Level of Service, the Town and consultant referenced the NRPA Standard of 10.1 acres per 1,000 residents and the surrounding benchmark communities Level of Services. The NRPA Standard is a national benchmark to give park and recreation agencies a starting point for establishing long-term benchmarks. Currently in 2021, Sunnyvale is above the recommendation of 10.1 acres per 1,000 residents.

During the development of the 2021-2031 Parks Master Plan, it is important to consider where Sunnyvale was in 2015, during the previous Parks Master Plan, and how the population changes have affected the Town’s Level of Service. In 2015, the Town’s population was 5,280 residents. Since then, the Town has increased by 1,920 residents. This population increase will decrease the Town’s Level of Service if parks are not continually being acquired and/or developed into new recreational spaces. The purpose of comparing these spatial levels and determining how many park and open space acres per 1,000 residents is available, is to ensure that sufficient area is allotted for all the outdoor recreation needs of a community. These comparisons and trends over time give Sunnyvale the ability to plan ahead and track their progress in providing outdoor and indoor recreation spaces. It is important to track these numbers and changes over time so the Town can identify and acquire parkland before available land is developed.
While there are National guidelines and standards published by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), these guidelines are not a “one size fits all” approach. They are to be used as a starting point for park planning and then adjusted to meet the local desires and needs of each community. Through public input, Town Staff meetings, Town Council, 4B Board, and the consultant’s professional opinion the following needs assessment is custom-tailored for Sunnyvale and the projected growth of the community. The Level of Service analysis is accomplished through three methods: Spatial, Access to Parkland, and Facility.

**Spatial:** Determines the quality of parkland needs and is expressed as a ratio of developed park acreage to population. This defines the distribution of developed parks throughout Sunnyvale.

**Access to Parkland:** Geographically determines Sunnyvale residents’ ease of access to parks, while also mapping where parkland is needed to increase accessibility.

**Facility:** Determines the number of facilities needed to serve specific recreation desires throughout the community. These facility standards are typically expressed as a ratio of one facility per population size.
To create a recommended standard for the Level of Service Analysis, MHS Planning compared Sunnyvale to surrounding communities and the NRPA standard. The NRPA standard of 10.1 acres per 1,000 residents is meant to be a recommended guide, not a specific rule. The benchmarking and Level of Service comparisons can be found on pages 46 and 47. Each community will set their own community-specific standard based on previous trends and neighboring communities. Sunnyvale is responsible for determining their own balance of quantity versus quality parks system. It is important to continue monitoring the Level of Service that best suits Sunnyvale based on future population projections, available land, and high-quality parks. Sunnyvale, with HOAs, current Level of Service is 19.39 acres per 1,000 residents, which is higher than the benchmark communities and the NRPA national standard.

By 2031, it is recommended for Sunnyvale to maintain at least a Level of Service of 10.1 per 1,000 acres. The Town is currently above this recommendation. To maintain a high Level of Service and sustain the 10.1 acres per 1,000 residents, the Town will need to continue developing parkland and maintaining existing parks.
Looking to 2031, Sunnyvale will need to continue to develop existing quality parks and consider acquiring additional park properties to meet the demand and growth of the Town. If the Town does not develop additional parks before 2031, the Level of Service would decrease from 19.39 to 14.43 acres per 1,000 residents.

**2031 TOWN + HOA LEVEL OF SERVICE**
**WITHOUT ADDITIONAL PARKLAND**

14.43 acres per 1,000 residents
Total Developed Acres: 139.59 acres
Total Population: 9,676
Benchmarking Communities

Benchmarking is a form of assessing the Town's needs and comparing its parks and recreation system to similar communities. It is important to compare Sunnyvale to other agencies to determine the success and needed improvements relative to the surrounding towns and comparable communities across Texas. A list of benchmark agencies were identified based on proximity to Sunnyvale and comparable parks departments. These agencies were compared across multiple descriptors such as population, number of parks, total and developed park acres, Level of Service, parkland as a percentage of Town land, and operational budget.

### Benchmarking Communities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community</th>
<th>2021 Population</th>
<th># Town-Owned Parks (+HOA Parks)</th>
<th>Total Park Acres (Town + HOA)</th>
<th>Developed Park Acres (Town + HOA)</th>
<th>Level of Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunnyvale</td>
<td>7,200</td>
<td>8+10</td>
<td>547.00</td>
<td>139.59</td>
<td>19.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fate</td>
<td>12,787</td>
<td>3+6</td>
<td>58.09</td>
<td>58.09</td>
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<td>Forney</td>
<td>21,459</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>242.35</td>
<td>124.83</td>
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<td>Melissa</td>
<td>9,487</td>
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<td>238.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Murphy</td>
<td>20,612</td>
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<td>285.30</td>
<td>118.64</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ovilla</td>
<td>3,903</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>14.40</td>
<td>7.70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prosper</td>
<td>22,517</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>372.20</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richland Hills*</td>
<td>8,200</td>
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<td>Royse City</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>146.30</td>
<td>146.30</td>
<td>8.70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Identified by NRPA Park Metrics as a comparable Parks & Recreation Department.
**Significant findings when comparing Sunnyvale to benchmark communities:**

- Sunnyvale offers an average number of parks to its residents.
- Sunnyvale ranks 5th out of 11 for the total developed Town+HOA park acreage.
- Sunnyvale ranks 2nd out of 11 with 5.18% of Town+HOA-owned land designated as developed parkland.
- Sunnyvale ranks 8th out of 11 with a Parks Department operating budget of $661,100.00.
Recreation Programs & Events

The Town of Sunnyvale, local organizations, and other agencies host community-wide programs and events throughout the year. The Parks Department may support these events by assisting with set-up, clean up, logistics, grounds maintenance, and by providing lighting. Below are some of programs and events hosted by the Town and local organizations.

• **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING:** There's no better way to get in the holiday spirit than by joining the Town of Sunnyvale for the lighting of Town Hall and the Town's Christmas Tree! Held the first Friday in December, this is a perfect opportunity to get that photo with Santa. All ages are welcome at this family-friendly community event, which includes music from the Sunnyvale Sixth Grade Choir and a visit from Santa.

• **ANNUAL TRASH-OFF & RECYCLING EVENT:** Held annually to allow residents to clear out the clutter. The Town provides large dumpsters and recycling bins and Town Staff work hard to help residents discard any unwanted bulk trash and recycling.

• **ANNUAL TURKEY TROT:** The Town hosted its first annual "Fast and Furriest Turkey Trot" in 2019. Runners can participate in a 5K or a one-mile run. Proceeds benefit the Sunnyvale Animal Shelter.

• **HALLOWEEN DRIVE THRU:** The Town hosted a Covid-friendly Halloween event that allowed residents to participate in a decorated drive-thru trick-or-trick experience.

• **NATIONAL NIGHT OUT:** The Town hosted its first ever National Night Out event in 2018, at Town Center Park. A great opportunity to have some fun, get to know your neighbors, and interact with the community’s first responders.

• **SPRING (EASTER) EVENT:** The Town hosted a Covid-friendly drive-thru event for residents to enjoy a photo opportunity with the Easter bunny.

• **SUNNYFEST:** Sparks fly at the Town of Sunnyvale’s annual Independence celebration in Town Center Park the Friday before July 4th. This traditional, patriotic event is always held on a Friday evening and is free and open to the entire community. With food, live music, and plenty of activities for kids; this event is great way to celebrate!

• **SUNNYVALE RAIDERS YOUTH SPORTS ASSOCIATION:** SRYSA is the primary volunteer organization for youth sports. The organization schedules weekday practices, coordinates the use of practice facilities with Sunnyvale ISD, and manages team rosters.
The best part about Sunnyvale is the people who live in Sunnyvale.

- Sunnyvale Resident
CHAPTER 4

Community Input
Focus Group Findings

To better understand the needs of the residents and invested groups within the community, focus group meetings were conducted. A total of eight meetings were conducted from December 2020 to January 2021 to discuss the Sunnyvale Parks System. It was important to meet with the groups below to understand the perceptions of the existing parks system, existing partnerships, desires, and priorities of each stakeholder. A summary of the highlights and community needs are provided.

FOCUS GROUP MEETING PARTICIPANTS & GROUPS

- Town Council
- 4B Development Corporation
- Sunnyvale Raiders Youth Sports Association
- Sunnyvale Downtown Committee
- Sunnyvale Independent School District
- Homeowner Association Leadership

The participation of the above groups assured diverse input across the Town of Sunnyvale throughout the development of the Parks Master Plan. The meetings and public input will help assist future improvements that will enrich the quality of life in the Town of Sunnyvale.

EXPECTATIONS OF THE MASTER PLAN

- Guiding document for Town Council, the Parks Department, and all residents.
- Important to prioritize projects and have an implementable timeline.
- Focus on quality of life opportunities.
- Strategic road map to make future funding decisions.
- Consensus on major themes with milestones.
WHY SUNNYVALE IS A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE

- It is a community that feels like family, everybody knows everyone.
- Small-town and rural feel with large open spaces.
- Great school system and everyone is a Sunnyvale Raider.
- Town Center Park is a great community asset.
- Close proximity to Dallas while remaining a small-town with a rural feel.

STRENGTHS OF THE PARKS SYSTEM

- Trails are popular throughout the community.
- Well maintained facilities.
- There is something for everyone and all age groups.
- An emphasis on a high-quality of life.
- Parks are dispersed within housing developments and most neighborhoods have their own HOA park.

AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT FOR THE PARKS SYSTEM

- Lack of one cohesive vision for the growth and development of Sunnyvale.
- Lack of trail connectivity linking neighborhoods, schools, and parks.
- Lack of key facilities such as playgrounds, pavilions, field lighting, and restrooms.
- Town recreational facilities should be evenly distributed across the entire Town.

GREATEST FACILITY & PROGRAMMING NEEDS

- Trail Connectivity
- Youth Baseball & Soccer Fields
- Additional Support Facilities: Parking, Restrooms, Lighting, etc.
- Town Recreation Center (Partnership between Town & ISD or Private Facility)
- Swimming Pool
- Multi-Purpose Facilities
RECREATION CENTER & LIBRARY SUBCOMMITTEE

The Mayor and City Council have formed a subcommittee to evaluate the feasibility of constructing a recreation/community life center. The Town conducted a meeting with the Recreation Center & Library Subcommittee to discuss potential future plans and consider a variety of amenities to be included in a recreation center, if it is deemed the Town needs such a facility. The subcommittee will visit similar centers in the greater Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, determine the Town’s capacity to manage and support a facility, and help determine which amenities may be included. Below are the major themes that were discussed during the meeting in April 2021.

- The subcommittee discussed having three entities within the Community Life Center: a recreation center, a library, and an outdoor recreation area.

- The following amenities were discussed as options for a RECREATION/COMMUNITY CENTER:
  - Library
  - Cardio & Weight Gym
  - Walking Track
  - Racquetball Court
  - Activity Rooms (group exercise, dance, martial arts, meeting rooms, arts & crafts, etc.)
  - Computer & Gaming Room
  - Gymnasium with Multi-Use Courts
  - Climbing Wall
  - Theater / Concert Hall
  - Bowling Alley
  - Art / Museum Room
  - Locker Rooms
  - Restrooms
  - Administrative Offices
  - Pro Shop (Public-Private Partnership)
  - Day Care
  - Nurse / EMS Station
  - Common Area with Information Desk and Seating
  - Concession Stand
  - Commercial Kitchen
  - Storage Space
• The following amenities were discussed as options for an **OUTDOOR RECREATION AREA**:
  • Walking Trails
  • Playgrounds
  • Multi-Use Sports Courts (basketball, volleyball, tennis, futsal, etc.)
  • Batting Cages
  • Sand Volleyball
  • Pavilions with Picnic Areas
  • Skate Park
  • Disc Golf
  • Yard Games (cornhole, washers, horse shoe pits, etc.)
  • Dog Park
  • Amphitheater
  • Outdoor Art Space
  • Farmers Market Space
  • Community Garden
  • Greenhouse
  • Adventure / Outdoor Education Space
  • DFW Park & Ride
  • Restrooms
  • Concession Stand

• The following amenities were discussed as options for an **AQUATICS CENTER**:
  • Indoor Swimming Pool
  • Outdoor Lap Pool
  • Pool for Toddlers
  • Splash Pads
  • Lazy River
  • Water Slides
  • Concession Stand
  • Pavilions with Picnic Areas
  • Restrooms and Outdoors Shower
  • Locker Rooms
  • Nurse / EMS Station
  • Life Guard Office with Break Room
 Resident Survey Findings

The comprehensive resident survey distributed to the citizens of Sunnyvale was completed by the National Service Research (NSR) as part of the Parks Master Plan. The purpose of the survey was to hear resident’s comments, recommendations, and feedback about the current and future park system. This survey is used to supplement the needs assessment and provide a citizen-driven process for the Parks Master Plan. NSR worked closely with MHS Planning & Design and the Town of Sunnyvale staff throughout the research process. The survey was posted on the Town of Sunnyvale’s website and various other social media outlets. The Town mailed 2,140 postcards to inform residents about the survey opportunity. The online survey was available from August to September 2020. A total of 627 survey responses were received, a 29% response rate. The margin of error of this sample size at a 95% confidence level is plus or minus 4.1%.

“We want a strategic road map for Sunnyvale to follow moving forward to make future funding decisions.”

- Sunnyvale Resident
Awareness of Parks, Recreation Facilities & Programs

Q. How do you find out about parks, recreation facilities, and recreation programs in Sunnyvale?

Results: 41% find out about parks and recreation opportunities through the Town’s website, 23% through Facebook/social media and 22% find out through park and recreation flyers. The primary other answers were driving around, word of mouth, and park signs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Town of Sunnyvale Website</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Media</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks &amp; Recreation Dept Flyers</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emails from the Town</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School District Publications</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Sports Associations</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Role of Parks, Recreation & Open Space

Q. Is the role of parks, recreation, and open space in Sunnyvale today, as compared to 10 years ago is more important, the same importance, or less important to you and your household members?

Results: 70% of respondents feel parks, recreation, and open spaces in Sunnyvale are more important today compared to 10 years ago.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Importance</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More Important</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Same Importance</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less Important</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Frequency of Use of Facilities

Q. Within the past year, how often have you or someone from your household visited or used these facilities in Town of Sunnyvale?

Results: Trails and parks are the most frequently used facilities in Sunnyvale. 57% use parks and 51% use trails at least monthly or more. About one-third use playgrounds monthly or more.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>At Least Weekly</th>
<th>At Least Monthly</th>
<th>At Least Quarterly</th>
<th>Twice a Year or Less</th>
<th>Never</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trails</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playgrounds</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletic Fields</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pavilions/Picnic Areas</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Used twice a year or more?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parks</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playgrounds</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pavilions/Picnic Tables</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletic Fields</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Quantity of Park & Recreation Opportunities

Q. How would you rate the quantity of parks and recreational opportunities in the Town of Sunnyvale?

Results: More than half of respondents (67%) rated the quantity of parks and recreation opportunities as excellent or good. One in five reported the quantity is somewhat unsatisfactory.

Quality of Facilities

Q. Within the past three years, do you feel the quality of each of these park and recreation facilities in the Town has improved, stayed the same or declined?

Results: Respondents feel that trails and athletic fields are the most improved, yet 12% reported athletic fields have declined in quality.
Recreation Program Interest

Q. Which of these programs would you or your household members (of any age) be most interested in participating?

Results: The programs of interest are presented in the chart. There is high interest in many recreation programs and events.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program of Interest</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farmer's Market</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biking</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fitness Classes / Events</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swim Lessons</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health / Wellness Classes</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Programs / Camps</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Programs</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Crafts</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Races (5Ks, 10Ks, etc.)</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Programs</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Gardening</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music / Dance</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen Programs / Camps</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sand Volleyball</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Sports Leagues</td>
<td>22%</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program of Interest</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseball</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent / Child Programs</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disc Golf</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archery Range</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool / Toddler Programs</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pilates</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gymnastics</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature Interpretive Programs</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zumba</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel Programs</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pickle Ball</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Racquetball</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horseshoes</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Chorus</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cricket</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None / Not Interested</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Most Needed Facilities

Q. The Sunnyvale Parks and Recreation Department is establishing priorities to direct future departmental actions. How important is it for Sunnyvale to add the facilities listed below?

The respondent ranked the facilities based on priority from first, second, and third most important facilities or amenities. A mean score was calculated based on the responses. The percentage below is the mean score converted into a percentage based out of four.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trails &amp; Connectivity</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Amenities</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lighting</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Spaces</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation Center</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Events in Parks</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sprayground / Splash Pad</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing Pier</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playgrounds</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benches</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-Purpose Fields</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practice Sports Fields</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature Center / Preserve</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog Park</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Garden</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Bike / BMX Course</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pavilions</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic Area</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amphitheater</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife / Plant Education Area</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disc Golf</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skate Park</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Funding Support

Q. How strongly do you support each option to fund new parks and facilities and/or additions to existing parks and facilities?

Results: There is strong support for increased park improvement fees from developers and increased user fees.

- **Increased Park Improvement Fees from Developers**: 55% Strongly Support, 23% Mildly Support, 16% Neutral, 3% Mildly Oppose, 3% Strongly Oppose
- **Increased User Fees**: 36% Strongly Support, 32% Mildly Support, 17% Neutral, 8% Mildly Oppose, 8% Strongly Oppose
- **Bonds**: 22% Strongly Support, 28% Mildly Support, 29% Neutral, 10% Mildly Oppose, 12% Strongly Oppose
- **Increased Property Taxes**: 4% Strongly Support, 12% Mildly Support, 12% Neutral, 19% Mildly Oppose, 54% Strongly Oppose

Additional Property Taxes Willing to Pay

Q. How much more per year in additional property taxes would you be willing to pay in order to fund the improvement priorities you have suggested in the survey?

Results: 65% of respondents are willing to pay additional property taxes in order to fund the park improvement priorities. The mean amount they are willing to pay is $125/year.

- More than $200/year: 6%
- Up to $200/year: 14%
- Up to $100/year: 22%
- Up to $75/year: 3%
- Up to $50/year: 19%
- No Increase: 35%
Respondent Demographics

**LENGTH LIVED IN TOWN**

- Less than 2 years: 17%
- 2 to 5 years: 20%
- 6 to 10 years: 23%
- 11 to 20 years: 21%
- Over 20 years: 20%

**HOUSEHOLD SIZE**

- One: 2%
- Two: 29%
- Three: 16%
- Four: 29%
- Five +: 25%

**MEDIAN SIZE 3.65**

**RESPONDENT AGE**

- Under 35: 11%
- 35 to 44: 34%
- 45 to 54: 20%
- 55 to 64: 21%
- 65 & Older: 15%

**MEAN AGE 49.6 YEARS**

**AGE OF KIDS AT HOME**

- 14 to 18: 24%
- 11 to 13: 29%
- 6 to 10: 32%
- Under 5: 23%
- No Kids: 37%

99% of respondents own their home.

1% of respondents rent.
CHAPTER 5

Needs Assessment
Existing & Future System Needs

The Needs Analysis is based on the input from Town Council, Focus Group meetings, a statistically-valid resident survey, Town Staff interviews, and the consultant’s professional opinion. Over the next few pages are the general needs in the overall parks system and detailed needs based on specific categories. This Needs Analysis is the basis for the remainder of the Parks Master Plan. These needs will influence and determine the amenity priorities, recommendations, and implementation schedule. Through the Needs Analysis, Town Staff and residents can identify the strengths and weaknesses of the Parks System.

EXISTING PARK NEEDS

As Sunnyvale continues to develop and grow in population, the Parks Department should consider expanding its capacity through land acquisition, fully developing existing parks, hiring additional staff, and creating a Recreation Division. 70% of the residents of Sunnyvale feel that parks, recreation, and open spaces in Sunnyvale are more important today compared to 10 years ago. It is important for the Town’s parks to reflect the desires and needs of the community. Based on the survey results, 57% of respondents use trails and 51% use parks at least monthly and/or weekly. Throughout the focus group meetings, it was repeatedly stated the Town needs to focus on the development of trails and connectivity throughout the community. Many residents feel the need for more standard park amenities such as playgrounds, benches, shaded picnic areas, pavilions, basketball courts, and safety elements through lighting and protected street crossings. Numerous conversations with local residents lead to the understanding that the Town should conduct a feasibility study for a multipurpose and multi-generational indoor facility. The Town Council has formed a subcommittee to study this concern along with a proposed library building.

Town Center Park is highly utilized with residents regularly using the walking trails, exercise stations, playground, basketball court, and tennis courts. Jobson Park is frequently used for youth baseball but has a lack of basic park amenities for the general population such as play equipment (playgrounds, slides, swings, and climbing structures), permanent restroom, shade structures, sports courts, and benches along the trail. Robert Vineyard Park is typically used for youth soccer practice and lacks basic park amenities and a permanent restroom. Robert Vineyard Park experiences drainage issues and should be regraded.

The two parks leased from the City of Dallas, Samuell Farm North Park and Samuell New Hope Park, have minimal recreational amenities. The Town has historically been hesitant to develop recreational amenities on non-Town-owned land, however, residents are able to enjoy the passive recreational opportunities through the trails, benches, exercise stations, and pond.

The Town of Sunnyvale and Sunnyvale ISD have a strong partnership which allows for the youth athletics program, Sunnyvale Raiders Youth Sports Association (SRYSA), the ability to succeed and offer multiple sports for participation. The Town should continue to foster this relationship.

To improve park safety and accessibility, each playground and supporting element should be routinely evaluated for maintenance, possible structure replacement, and to ensure the structure is compliant with the current safety guidelines established by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). In general, parks and individual elements need to be assessed in terms of accessibility and, if needed, upgraded to the newest ADA standards, established under the Americans with Disabilities Act.
NEW PARK NEEDS

Despite Sunnyvale being land locked, the Town is experiencing rapid population growth. With this growth, the Town should focus on expanding the parks system to maintain the current Level of Service through the acquisition of new land, developing existing parkland, and consider adopting a parkland dedication ordinance that requires developers to dedicate land for parks and/or pay a fee. The Town should proactively plan for the population growth and require park land dedication and development in future residential developments. See page 97 for the Future Parks Map depicting priority locations for parkland expansion.

Amenities at new parks should complement the existing parks system by providing new facilities and constructing additional highly-used, existing amenities. Examples include nature trails, multi-use concrete trails, open field space, pavilions, shaded picnic areas, and multi-purpose courts. The highest priority facilities requested by residents include trails and connectivity (86%), lake amenities (83%), park and trail lighting (75%), open spaces (73%), and a recreation center (72%). Caution should be taken when constructing specific and niche recreational facilities that only serve a select group of users. At this point in the development of Sunnyvale’s Parks System, Town Staff should prioritize the development of general park facilities that serve the majority of the residents.

The Town contracted with a consultant to develop a preliminary design for the Glazer property. This property was purchased by the Town in 2017 and has privately boarded horses. The residents of Sunnyvale strongly support retaining the Glazer property as a passive recreational area to maintain the rural character of the community. The Town is working on the design work for a new barn and fire station. These two community services will share the tract to gain development cost savings (such as sewer installation).

Within the Town of Sunnyvale, including HOA park properties, there is over 480 acres of undeveloped parkland. The Town and future and existing HOAs should work to develop and enhance existing park properties.

When meeting with representatives from Sunnyvale ISD, they mentioned the ISD would be interested in entering into interlocal agreements with the Town for leased land, development costs, and shared-use practice facilities.

As residential development continues to expand within the Town limits, it is imperative for Town Staff to require developers to create parks in HOAs to ensure the Town’s developed park acreage increases at the same rate, or faster, as the population. As park development occurs, the Town needs to design site specific conceptual master plans for each specific project which allows Sunnyvale to develop new parks in systematic phases to ensure projects can be built on schedule and within a reasonable budget. These specific site plans should consider the maintenance requirements needed to support the amenities for their expected lifetime.
TRAIL NEEDS

Throughout the public engagement process, trails and connectivity were the most talked about facility from a need and desire perspective. Sunnyvale residents are passionate about the possibility to have their community connected through multi-purpose hike and bike trails. Residents desire walking and biking trails to connect residential housing developments to parks, natural open spaces, schools, the future downtown area, and other commercial areas. It was discussed that the Town has multiple trails that are highly utilized for recreational purposes but they are not connected to one another and typically do not lead anywhere specific. The Town should continue to plan for future trail opportunities by retrofitting and incorporating trails into the existing system. Citizens voiced concern for stronger and safer walking, running, and biking conditions throughout the Town and parks system. When surveyed, 58% of residents reported they use trails at least monthly. 90% of residents use trails at least twice a year. Trails and connectivity ranked #1 when surveyed about the most needed facilities in the Town of Sunnyvale. This indicates the need for a larger trail system with stronger connections to residences, schools, businesses, and parks.

A priority for the Town of Sunnyvale is to identify high-impact points of connection along subdivisions, schools, and floodplains. This should be addressed in a future Bikeways and Trails Master Plan. A starting point for this project would be the Future Parks Map on page 97 and the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) Regional Veloweb.

To connect existing trails and plan for future trails, the Town should consider building trails in utility/pipeline easements, along road rights-of-ways, and on former railroads. The Town of Sunnyvale is considering the purchase of the Lake Ray Hubbard SES Rail Spur which is +/- 73-acres of abandoned rail line that runs from Scyene Road to Barnes Bridge Road. This abandoned railroad would be turned into a trail corridor and connect to Mesquite on the south side and Garland on the north side to make this a regional connectivity trail system.

Trails should be designed and upgraded to ensure they are fully accessible and can easily be navigated. This can be accomplished through trail signage and wayfinding along the trail system. Trail map signs should be located along the trails that indicate trail connections, distances, and destinations. The Town should consider developing a comprehensive Wayfinding Plan that identifies appropriate locations for signage and provides design standards for all future signs and pavement markings. It is important for the Town to focus on the value of trails within floodplains because they provide a natural barrier to the sensitive ecosystems and can limit harmful development. These linear greenbelts can create safe access to natural open areas and provide alternative transportation routes within Sunnyvale. Multi-purpose trails and soft-surfaced nature trails are not only needed throughout the Town, but they are needed within individual parks for recreational walking and jogging.

“Rails-to-Trails will be beneficial for this community. It’s a step in the right direction.”

- Sunnyvale Resident
NATURAL OPEN SPACE NEEDS

Natural open spaces have always been a priority to the residents of Sunnyvale and continue to be desired within the community. The preservation and availability of open spaces create the rural feel that is wanted by most citizens. 73% of survey respondents rank open spaces as a priority and needed facility within Sunnyvale. As the Town continues to develop and more residents move to the area, the availability of buildable land not in the floodplain, will become more scarce. It is important for Town Staff and the 4B Board to build positive relationships with private landowners and developers to ensure parkland is set aside during the sale and development of single-family residential layouts. Along with the demand for expansion and development, residents desire the need for usable natural open spaces, creek corridors, and wooded environments. Sunnyvale residents are proud about their natural environment and dense tree lines throughout the Town. During the public engagement process, residents voiced concern about the loss of the natural open spaces and destruction of trees due to increased development and population growth.

The Town should prioritize the preservation of the most valuable environmental resources to ensure a healthy environment for flora and fauna to thrive in the future. Areas such as riparian zones, wooded environments, natural open spaces and creek corridors need to be preserved and enhanced when necessary. Many key natural features occur within floodplains which should be a primary focus for recreational opportunities due to the fact that commercial and residential developments are not permitted in these areas. Multi-purpose and natural trails are highly popular and needed along creek corridors.

Natural open spaces should not only be preserved, but should be available for primitive, passive, and active recreational opportunities. The Town has an abundance of natural areas that need conservation along Duck Creek, Long Creek, Mesquite Creek, and Lake Ray Hubbard. These natural spaces are ideal for passive recreation and primitive activities such as walking trails, reading and relaxing, bird watching, wildlife observation, photography, and picnicking. Access to Lake Ray Hubbard would provide opportunities for water craft activities. These natural areas are important to have throughout Sunnyvale because of the habitat diversity they provide, water recharge and filtration abilities, mitigate stormwater, and improve air quality.

There is a citizen-driven project to create a Butterfly Garden in the Town of Sunnyvale. Currently, the project has been proposed within the pipeline easement within Samuell New Hope Park. The Town should consider implementing this project and build additional butterfly and native gardens throughout the Town to increase these native habitats.

“There’s a desire to use our open spaces, to expand the trails, and make improvements to encourage people to get people outside.”

- Sunnyvale Resident
ATHLETIC FACILITY NEEDS

Although athletic programming is not provided by the Town of Sunnyvale, there are youth athletic leagues offered through the volunteer organization Sunnyvale Raiders Youth Sports Association (SRYSA). Organized athletics in Sunnyvale have different and specific recreational needs compared to the general public. To better understand the needs of youth athletics, focus group meetings were conducted with SRYSA and Sunnyvale ISD. A playing field/court carrying capacity analysis was developed for each sport to compare the number of existing and future participants to the amount of local fields provided. The focus group meetings were specifically held with the leaders of each organized sport to better understand the needs for each organization. The meetings gave insight into what each group currently uses for games and practices and what additional facilities they desire to continue supporting the youth in Sunnyvale.

It is important to note SRYSA stated they are content with the current facilities offered by the Town and the ISD. Looking to the future, the Town will need to begin investing in more Town-owned or private-partnership facilities to accommodate more players, teams, and sports as the population continues to increase. SRYSA is using Jobson and Vineyard Parks for baseball and soccer, respectively, but is also using the ISD’s facilities for baseball, basketball, cheer, football, and volleyball practices. The ISD and the Town should consider a partnership or inter-local agreement for the future development of sports fields or a sports complex.

SRYSA and the ISD both indicate a preference that the Town take control of the coordination of youth athletic programs. Therefore, the Town could consider developing a Recreation Division within the Park Department to manage and schedule a local youth athletics program.

The general consensus during the public engagement process is the need for a high quality recreational play sports complex. The majority of the focus group participants were in favor of designing a sports complex that can be built and upgraded in phases. The beginning phases would allow for high quality recreational practices and local games which can eventually be upgraded into a tournament-level sports complex. At this time, the priority concern is the need for additional practice and game spaces that are not dependent on the ISD facilities. There is concern about possible noise and light pollution and increased vehicular traffic from a sports complex. These concerns can be mitigated and minimized through proactive planning, road upgrades, new technology, and developing policies to limit field lighting at night.

The carrying capacity analysis compares the number of fields for each organization to the number of teams to ensure each organization has enough space to practice and play recreational games throughout the season. The following tables and descriptions provide information that will assist the Town in determining needs to enhance the recreational opportunities for youth and future adult athletics. Youth sports have been and will continue to be an integral part of the Sunnyvale community.
YOUTH BASEBALL

Youth baseball participation in Sunnyvale has remained the same over the previous years and is projected to grow at a slower rate in the upcoming years. The baseball teams in Sunnyvale use the Town and ISD facilities for weekly practices, but travel to Rockwall and Mesquite for games. The teams play at Jobson Park and the Sunnyvale High School baseball field. Typically each team practices one or two nights a week. Assuming each field has a 10 team carrying capacity per week, the Town and ISD have an adequate number of fields for existing use but will need an additional baseball field by 2026.*

Based on the feedback from SRYSA and Town Staff, the baseball facilities currently used are adequate for existing use. There is support for the construction of a recreational play complex that would allow for more practice facilities and local games. This new complex would reduce the reliance on the ISD for practice spaces, scheduling, and maintenance. Immediate facility needs include field lighting at Jobson, indoor practice spaces, and a focus on recruiting and coaching the younger age divisions.

The following table represents the playing field capacity of the youth baseball fields for both the Spring and Fall seasons based on the number of teams in Sunnyvale.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Groups</th>
<th>Number of Existing Fields 2020</th>
<th>Numbers of Teams 2020</th>
<th>Number of Required Fields 2020</th>
<th>Number of Teams 2026*</th>
<th>Number of Fields 2026*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SPRING</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5U</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6U</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7U</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8U</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9U</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>10U</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11U</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>21</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Groups</th>
<th>Number of Existing Fields 2020</th>
<th>Numbers of Teams 2020</th>
<th>Number of Required Fields 2020</th>
<th>Number of Teams 2026*</th>
<th>Number of Fields 2026*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FALL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5U</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6U</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>10U</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11U</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Youth sport participation rates are projected on a 5-year time frame because participation numbers loose accuracy beyond 5 years. The carrying capacity analysis should be updated and re-evaluated in the 2026 Parks Master Plan update.
YOUTH BASKETBALL

Youth basketball participation in Sunnyvale has slowly increased over the previous years and is projected to grow at a similar rate in the upcoming years. The basketball teams in Sunnyvale use the ISD facilities for weekly practices, but travel to Richardson ISD and SportsPlex for games. The teams utilize Sunnyvale High School, Middle School, Elementary School, and Administration Building gyms for nightly basketball practices. Typically each team practices one or two nights a week. Assuming each gym has a 10 team carrying capacity per week, the Town and ISD have an adequate number of facilities for existing use but will need to have an additional court by 2026.

Based on the feedback from SRYSA and Town Staff, there is support for the construction of an indoor recreation center for multi-purpose and multi-generational use which would allow for more practice facilities. This new center would reduce the reliance on the ISD for practice spaces, scheduling, and maintenance. Immediate facility needs include practice facilities with goals that lower for the kinder through 2nd grade teams, outdoor court lights at the Town Center court, and additional outdoor courts with shade structures, lights, and fans.

The following table represents the gym carrying capacity for both the Boys and Girls basketball seasons based on the number of teams in Sunnyvale.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Groups</th>
<th>Number of Existing Gyms 2020</th>
<th>Numbers of Teams 2020</th>
<th>Number of Required Gyms 2020</th>
<th>Number of Teams 2026*</th>
<th>Number of Gyms 2026*</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinder</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHEER

Youth cheer in Sunnyvale experienced increased participation until Covid-19. There was at least one team per grade, totaling 7 teams with over 110 cheerleaders. Participants ages kinder to 6th grade can sign up to be a member of the program. The cheer teams in Sunnyvale practice in a variety of spaces that are covered or shaded and have some type of soft surfacing whether that be grass, playground surfacing, or mats.

Based on the feedback from SRYSA and Town Staff, the cheer facilities currently used are adequate for existing use. Immediate needs include additional soft surface spaces with shade.
YOUTH FOOTBALL

Youth football participation in Sunnyvale has increased over the previous years and is projected to grow at a similar rate in the upcoming years. The football teams in Sunnyvale use the ISD’s football stadium and local parks for weekly practices. The youth football teams travel to nearby High School stadiums for games. Typically each team practices one or two nights a week.

A total of five to nine teams practice on the 100-yard field at the High School’s stadium and on the Jobson Park field. Based on the feedback from SRYSA and Town Staff, the football facilities in-use are adequate for existing practice but will need to be increased to support future growth. There is support for the construction of a recreational sports complex that would allow for more practice facilities and local games. This new complex would reduce the reliance on the ISD for practice spaces, scheduling, and maintenance. Immediate football facility needs include more designated practice spaces and support to grow the program through recruitment of younger players. Supporting youth athletics and teaching sports at a young age can improve the local talent at the high school level. The following table represents the playing field capacity of the youth football fields based on the number of teams in Sunnyvale.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Groups</th>
<th>Number of Existing Fields 2020</th>
<th>Numbers of Teams 2020</th>
<th>Number of Required Fields 2020</th>
<th>Number of Teams 2026*</th>
<th>Number of Fields 2026*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinder (40-yards)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st (60-yards)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd (80-yards)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd (100-yards)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th (100-yards)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th (100-yards)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th (100-yards)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2</strong></td>
<td><strong>9</strong></td>
<td><strong>1</strong></td>
<td><strong>16</strong></td>
<td><strong>2</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
YOUTH SOCCER

Youth soccer participation in Sunnyvale has increased over the previous years and is projected to continue growing in the upcoming years. The soccer teams in Sunnyvale use Robert Vineyard Park for weekly practices, but travel to Forney and Garland for games. Typically each team practices two nights a week.

Based on the feedback from SRYSA and Town Staff, the soccer facilities currently used are adequate for existing use but will need to be increased to support future growth and host games. There is support for the construction of a recreational sports complex which would allow for more practice facilities and local games. This new complex would reduce the overuse of Robert Vineyard Park and give Town Staff the ability to improve turf maintenance and add diverse amenities to the park. Immediate soccer facility needs include more designated practice spaces, improved grading and drainage at Robert Vineyard Park, and support from the Town through the development of a Recreation Department.

The following table represents the playing field capacity of the youth soccer fields based on the number of teams in Sunnyvale.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Groups</th>
<th>Number of Existing Fields 2020</th>
<th>Numbers of Teams 2020</th>
<th>Number of Required Fields 2020</th>
<th>Number of Teams 2026*</th>
<th>Number of Fields 2026*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Teams</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Groups</th>
<th>Number of Existing Fields 2020</th>
<th>Numbers of Teams 2020</th>
<th>Number of Required Fields 2020</th>
<th>Number of Teams 2026*</th>
<th>Number of Fields 2026*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Teams</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
YOUTH VOLLEYBALL

Youth volleyball participation in Sunnyvale has steadily increased over the previous years and is projected to grow at a similar rate in the coming years. The volleyball teams in Sunnyvale use the ISD gyms for weekly practices, but travel to Rowlett and Mesquite recreation centers and/or schools for games. The teams utilize Sunnyvale High School, Middle School, Elementary School, and Administration Building gyms for weekly volleyball practices. Typically each team practices one or two nights a week. Assuming each gym has a 10 team carrying capacity per week, the Town and ISD have an adequate number of facilities for existing use.

Based on the feedback from SRYSA and Town Staff, there is support for the construction of an indoor recreation center for multi-purpose and multi-generational use which would allow for more practice facilities. This new center would reduce the reliance on the ISD for practice spaces, scheduling, and maintenance. Immediate facility needs include more indoor practice facilities and outdoor sand volleyball courts for off-season play.

The following table represents the gym carrying capacity for volleyball based on the number of teams in Sunnyvale.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Groups</th>
<th>Number of Existing Gyms 2020</th>
<th>Numbers of Teams 2020</th>
<th>Number of Required Gyms 2020</th>
<th>Number of Teams 2026*</th>
<th>Number of Gyms 2026*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8U</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10U</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12U</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INDOOR RECREATION NEEDS

A recurring theme throughout the public engagement sessions was the request for an indoor facility that provides multiple recreational opportunities. Residents desire a multi-generational facility that appeals to all age groups and supports multiple activities. The indoor facility should be community centered that serves the youth, adults, and retirees. This facility should be similar to a YMCA Community Center and less like a field house. Town Council should continue working with a subcommittee to produce a Recreation Center Feasibility Study.

RECREATION PROGRAMMING NEEDS

We want a place that can serve adults and keep them healthy, but also provide for the kids and their needs.

- Sunnyvale Resident

At this time, the Town of Sunnyvale does not have a Recreation Division. While the Town does not provide programming opportunities or classes, they do host special events. See page 50 for an overview of the special events.

It has been requested by residents, special interest groups, and Town Council to evaluate the Town’s ability to create a Recreation Division.

When surveyed about recreation programs, the top programs of interest were farmer’s markets, biking, fitness classes/events, festivals/events, swim lessons, health/wellness classes, fishing, and youth programs/camps. The need for programmed recreational opportunities, whether formal or informal, is needed within the community. The Parks Department can partner with local groups to host events and programs by providing space at parks, set-up, break-down, and trash clean up.
GENERAL COMMUNITY NEEDS

With an anticipation for a growing parks system, there is a demand for support facilities within current and future parks. Support facilities are park amenities that are not specifically recreational-based but instead provide basic, community needs at local parks. These types of amenities are benches, bike racks, drinking fountains/water bottle refill stations, grilling and picnic areas, parking lots, restrooms, shade, and wayfinding. Wayfinding is a process using directional and confirmation signage, trailhead signs with maps, entry gateways, and mile markers to help residents navigate and orient themselves through the physical environment. Wayfinding can enhance a user’s understanding and experience of a space. Shade can be provided through trees or man-made elements such as shade canopies, sails, umbrellas, and pavilions. The perceived need of these support facilities is not necessarily unique to Sunnyvale since many communities across the nation, and especially in the southern states desire more shade within the parks. As the park system continues to develop, it is imperative to incorporate shade into the parks system at playgrounds, sports fields, and along trails.

As Sunnyvale begins to grow in population and welcomes new residents, it is important for the Town to remain true to their Vision, Mission, and Foundational Values. Sunnyvale is a unique community because of its residents and rural landscape. To retain its culture and uniqueness, Town Council and Town Staff should focus on quality of life projects that support the Town’s goals. If possible, these projects should be evenly distributed throughout the Town of Sunnyvale so residents can have equitable access to recreational opportunities.

Another community need is for Town Staff and 4B Board to proactively plan for the future by acquiring parkland through land purchases, donations, and dedications. Town Council should consider adopting a Parkland Dedication Ordinance, aside from the Floodway Management Area (FMA), that requires developers to dedicate land for parks and/or pay a fee in lieu of dedicating land. The dedication of parkland allows Town Council to protect the interests of current residents while also managing growth. This ordinance ensures that park facilities will be available when new homeowners purchase their homes and it avoids permitting development without ensuring park infrastructure is in place to support the new demands.

Town Council and Town Staff can be developing positive working relationships with private landowners and developers to establish the dedication of parkland as a priority during the sale and development of land. A future possibility for the parks system expansion is for the Town’s Parks Department to take over ownership and maintenance responsibilities of HOA parks. If the Town maintains control of HOA parks, the HOA would not be responsible for grounds maintenance, safety inspections, and irrigation repairs. HOA parks would then be available for public use regardless if the user is a member of the HOA. Town Council and Town Staff have considered the development of a community vision for a renovated and enhanced downtown. During the planning process for a downtown, Town Staff should actively integrate a trails system connecting the downtown to schools, residential developments, and additional community services.

When preparing for and designing additional facilities, enhancing existing parks, and hosting special events, the Town of Sunnyvale needs to continue providing accessible elements and programs. Through the engagement of persons with disabilities and minority groups Town Staff can continue adapting culturally-sensitive programs and including ADA compliant amenities to parks.
CHAPTER 6

Goals & Objectives
Goals & Objectives

The following goals and objectives are provided to give direction for future community decisions regarding parks, recreation, and open spaces for the Town of Sunnyvale. These goals and objectives build off the existing Parks Mater Plan and take into consideration the feedback and comments from the public input, focus groups, Town Staff, and Town Council.

Parks and Recreation Goal

To create a high-quality parks and recreational system for the residents of Sunnyvale, promote a balanced and healthy lifestyle, and maintain the unique and small-town feel of the community.

Parks and Recreation Objectives

• To ensure all parks and recreational opportunities are available to the residents of Sunnyvale regardless of age, physical or mental ability, race, income or religion.

• To develop and provide public parks throughout the Town that are within a reasonable 10-minute walk to all residents in the community.

• To be proactive in developing existing and leased properties to include a variety of recreational features.

• To provide basic quality amenities such as playgrounds, trails, and pavilions throughout Sunnyvale.

• To construct recreational support facilities such as benches, bike racks, drinking fountains, grilling and picnic areas, parking lots, restrooms, shade, and signage to ensure residents are comfortable and safe at Town parks.

• To acquire parkland through future residential developments using a parkland dedication ordinance and/or budget for future land acquisition.

• To continue building partnerships with public and private organizations for the development and operation of recreational facilities and programs.

• To support youth athletics through partnerships with Sunnyvale ISD, private organizations, and Town-owned facilities.

• To evaluate the Town’s ability to have a Recreation Division.
Open Space Goal

To identify, protect, and conserve natural open spaces for the preservation of plant and animal habitats and sensitive ecosystems, the reduction of floodplain development, and the provision of unstructured recreational activities.

Open Space Objectives

- To minimize development in sensitive plant and animal habitats to minimize adverse effects on valuable ecosystems.
- To protect major tree lines and large trees while increasing Sunnyvale’s native landscape features.
- To provide residents with balanced recreational opportunities in both active and passive environments.
- To be protect and conserve open spaces along Lake Ray Hubbard and the corridors of natural creeks.
Trails & Greenways Goal

To focus on expanding the trails and sidewalk system through meaningful connections and nodes by providing safe access to key destinations such as schools, neighborhoods, parks, commercial areas, and sports fields.

Trails & Greenways Objectives

• To continue constructing trail segments in the community to create an extensive, complete, and connected sidewalk and trails system.

• To identify and incorporate natural features, sensitive habitats, and floodplains into greenways.

• To research the feasibility of developing the trails systems along creeks, utility easements, right-of-ways, and railroads that can link recreational facilities, businesses, neighborhoods, schools, and neighboring communities.

• To improve trail wayfinding through signage pavement markings, gateways, trailheads, and directional maps to improve connectivity and enhance the user experience.

• To provide necessary amenities such as bike racks, benches, rest stations, water fountains and shaded areas to encourage trail usage and enhance the user experience.

• To explore the opportunity to incorporate requirements relating to the dedication of trails for future residential and non-residential developments in a parkland dedication ordinance.

• To continue developing the trails system to connect with neighboring communities.

• To encourage the use of trails and greenways as an alternative transportation option.
Design Development Goal

To design high-quality, first-class public spaces that align with Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles and are built with sustainable materials to last to their expected lifetime use.

Design Development Objectives

- To establish Town-approved park and signage design standards that reflect high quality facilities.
- To ensure park improvements are completed with durable materials, in a timely manner, and lead to low maintenance requirements.
- To prioritize barrier-free designs to ensure all residents have access to facilities.
- To train staff in CPTED principles such as natural surveillance, natural access control, territorial reinforcement, and quality maintenance.
- To design, build, and maintain parks with energy conservation components, sustainable building materials, and green infrastructure.

Maintenance Goal

To provide high-quality, technical, and consistent maintenance to ensure a safe and aesthetically pleasing park system through strategic and proactive planning.

Maintenance Objectives

- To continue maintaining the existing parks system at a high level and increase maintenance capabilities as new facilities are developed.
- To hire and retain qualified personnel with technical skills to provide high-quality maintenance services.
- To research the Town’s ability to partner and contract out low-maintenance and routine tasks.
- To ensure funding availability for future maintenance needs and increased responsibilities.
- To ensure all maintenance vehicles, including trucks, tractors, mowers, edgers, and blowers are on a maintenance schedule to prolong the life of each piece of equipment.
- To create an amenity life-cycle replacement plan that includes projected budget needs.
CHAPTER 7

Priorities & Recommendations
Parks & Recreation Facility Priorities

The Parks and Recreation Facility Priorities are listed below in priority order and should be pursued as amenity priorities within the Town of Sunnyvale. Although some elements are ranked higher than others, it is important to note that all the listed opportunities are important and needed throughout the community. The list is prioritized based on the public input received from the citizen survey, focus group meetings, recommendations from Town Council, and the professional consultant’s opinion. It is important to note the following list is intended to be a guide for development of existing and future parks and amenities over the next ten years. These priorities build off of the 2015 Parks Master Plan recommendations.

1. Multi-Purpose Trails & Nature Trails
2. Site Amenities: Benches, Tables, Water Fountains, Grills, Bike Racks, Lights, etc.
3. Playgrounds
4. Sprayground / Splash Pad
5. Lakefront Development: Boat/Kayak Launches, Fishing Piers, Boardwalks, etc.
6. Practice & Game Quality Sports Fields
7. Natural Open Spaces & Outdoor Education Elements
8. Picnic Areas / Pavilions
9. Multi-Use Indoor Recreation Center
10. Dog Park
11. Sand Volleyball Courts
12. Amphitheater
13. Disc Golf Course
14. Skate Park
15. Mountain Bike / BMX Course
Future Parks System Recommendations

The following recommendations expand on the previous Needs Analysis and list of priorities. These recommendations are based on the citizen survey, focus group meetings, discussions with Town Staff, and the consultants’ professional opinion. Influenced by the Needs Analysis and list of priorities, it is suggested that these recommendations be considered for implementation over the next five to ten years. The following actions should be implemented to ensure the Sunnyvale Parks System continues to meet the recreational needs of the growing community and fit the goals and objectives of this plan and the Town. These recommendations are the foundation of the Implementation Schedule found on pages 100 to 101. The Town Staff and Town Council provided valuable insight about the needs of the community to ensure the following recommendations benefit the Town of Sunnyvale today and into the future.

NEW PARK RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Develop Barnes Bridge Property**
  - Construct a sport paddle launch
  - Construct a boat ramp
  - Construct fishing piers
  - Construct boardwalks
  - Construct a playground
  - Construct multi-purpose trails
  - Install shade structures
  - Install site amenities such as benches, picnic tables, trash bins, etc.
  - Consider the construction of an amphitheater
  - Plan for integration with the future Lakefront District by trails and sidewalks
  - Address security concerns by establishing a safety and security management plan and installing security infrastructure

- **Develop the Glazer property for a new barn and fire station**
  - Construct a fire station
  - Construct a new horse barn
  - Construct multi-purpose trails
  - Construct shaded picnic areas
  - Plant native landscaping
  - Install site amenities such as benches, drinking fountains, trash bins, etc.

- **Acquire parkland through land dedication, donation, and/or purchase to maintain the recommended Level of Service as the population continues to increase**
EXISTING PARK RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Improve Jobson Park**
  - Repave and expand existing concrete walking track
  - Develop remaining vacant parkland (approximately 10.5 acres)
    - Consider the construction of recreational facilities such as a playground, splash pad, sports courts, pavilion, etc.
    - Consider the construction of additional sports practice fields
  - Install shade structures over bleachers
  - Construct pavilions over picnic areas
  - Repave and re-stripe parking lot
  - Construct permanent restrooms
  - Install site amenities such as signage, lighting, benches, picnic tables, trash bins, etc.

- **Improve Robert Vineyard Park**
  - Regrade the soccer fields to remedy drainage concerns
  - Install bleachers with shade structures along sports fields
  - Repair existing concrete walking track
  - Install additional recreational amenities such as a playground, swings, sports court, etc.
  - Construct permanent restrooms
  - Consider the integration of the Fire/Library land in the future
  - Install site amenities such as benches, picnic tables, trash bins, etc.

- **Develop Samuell Farm North Park**
  - Construct multi-purpose sports fields and/or sports complex
  - Install 18-hole disc golf course
  - Construct a skate park
  - Construct a playground
  - Construct multi-purpose walking trails with interpretive signage
  - Plant native landscaping
  - Consider developing a natural play area with nature play elements, sand volleyball courts, wildlife observation stations, and picnic areas
  - Install site amenities such as benches, picnic tables, trash bins, etc.

- **Develop Samuell New Hope Park**
  - Construct multi-purpose walking trails
  - Construct mountain bike / BMX trails
  - Construct a dog park
  - Consider developing a butterfly garden and native plantings area
  - Construct an outdoor education facility for schools, non-profits, and local organizations
  - Install site amenities such as signage, lighting, benches, picnic tables, trash bins, etc.

- **Enhance Town Center Park**
  - Install enhanced landscaping beds and native planting areas
  - Install benches along trails
  - Install interpretive signage and mile markers along trails
  - Install lights at the basketball court
  - Construct a splash pad
  - Consider constructing additional sports court(s), pickleball court(s) and/or sports field(s)
  - Consider constructing additional sports courts/fields with shade structures
TRAIL RECOMMENDATIONS

- Develop a Bikeways & Trails Master Plan
  - Finalize the acquisition of the recreational use of a rails to trails project, Lake Ray Hubbard SES Rail Spur (+/- 73-acres)
  - Utilize the Future Parks & Trails Map on page 97 as the basis for a Bikeways & Trails Master Plan
  - Utilize the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) Regional Veloweb as a starting point for trail and bikeway planning
  - Prioritize meaningful connections between parks, schools, residential areas & local businesses
  - Acquire land or easements to construct trails along creek corridors and other natural features
  - Provide wayfinding along trails through gateway signs, directional signage & mile markers
  - Develop Town-wide design standards for all wayfinding and signage
  - Provide support facilities such as benches, water fountains & shade structures along trails

We need to figure out a way to interconnect the Town through the trails system to schools, houses, and businesses.

- Sunnyvale Resident

NATURAL OPEN SPACE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Preserve and conserve natural open spaces along creek corridors and shore lines, specifically along Lake Ray Hubbard
  - Construct multi-purpose trails along creek corridors
  - Construct wildlife viewing platforms along creek corridors
  - Acquire non-buildable land through land dedication or donation to retain the rural landscape of Sunnyvale

- Enhance the native landscaping throughout Sunnyvale
  - Consider the construction and preservation of butterfly gardens and pocket prairies
  - Maintain portions of the Samuell properties as natural park land
ATHLETIC FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Continue to foster the working partnership for youth athletics with the Town, SRYSA & Sunnyvale ISD

- Consider an interlocal agreement between the Town, Sunnyvale ISD, and/or private entity for leased land and shared-use sports practice facilities
  • Construct a 4-6 field practice sports complex that can be upgraded for game quality play
  • Install irrigation
  • Install field lighting
  • Construct permanent restroom
  • Construct parking lot

- Conduct a sports complex feasibility study
  • Determine the need for a practice and game quality sports complex with field lighting, irrigation, spectator seating with shade structures, concession stand, playground with shade, storage, sidewalks, and parking lot
  • Determine construction and implementation phasing options for cost savings

- Assist SRYSA in promoting and recruiting participants & coaches
  • Consider using the Town’s resources via social media, water bills, emails, mail-outs, etc. to promote SRYSA athletic sports and events

- Consider hosting youth athletic tournaments in the Town of Sunnyvale

INDOOR RECREATION RECOMMENDATIONS

- Conduct a Recreation Center & Library Feasibility Study

- Review the results from the feasibility study
  • Facilities may include indoor and outdoor sports courts, cardio and weight equipment, fitness classes, meeting rooms, childcare facility, health center, walking track (indoor or outdoor), aquatics, etc.
  • Consider a public-private partnership for a multi-generational community center
RECREATION PROGRAMMING RECOMMENDATIONS

- Consider the establishment of a Recreation Division
  • Establish regular programming such as a Farmers Market, a cycling club, fitness classes/events, festivals, health/wellness classes, youth events, etc.
  • Hire additional staff such as a Recreation Supervisor, Recreation Programmer & Recreation Aid
  • Establish partnerships with local organizations to host events and programs
  • As needed, organize a youth sports league

GENERAL COMMUNITY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Consider implementing a Parkland Dedication Ordinance and Park Impact Fee

- Ensure all Town parks have support facilities such as benches, bike racks, drinking fountains/water bottle refill stations, picnic areas, restrooms, shade & signage

- Increase the technology infrastructure at parks by installing surveillance/security cameras, LED and/or solar panel lights on timers & public WiFi capabilities
MAINTENANCE & DESIGN RECOMMENDATIONS

- Develop a Wayfinding & Branding Plan
  - Establish signage design standards with material, color, and font choices
  - Determine signage and pavement marking locations
  - Determine signage system hierarchy
  - Budget for implementation and a life-cycle maintenance plan

- Provide Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) training for Town Staff & implement the design principles in current and future park designs

- Ensure all park facilities and amenities are barrier-free and accessible for all users regardless of ability

- Develop Town-specific design standards that support environmental stewardship by utilizing energy conservation components, sustainable building materials, impermeable surfaces & green infrastructure

- Develop an amenity life-cycle replacement plan with projected budget needs

- Continue to hire, train and retain technical staff to meet the growing maintenance demands

- Contract for routine maintenance services to streamline and reduce overhead costs related to parks maintenance needs

“When you are planning for the future, you should always think about the maintenance and long-term upkeep.”

- Sunnyvale Resident
The Town of Sunnyvale is anticipating population growth over the next ten to twenty years, with a focus on residential, commercial and industrial development. As the population and development increases, it is important the number of developed park acres continues to expand. Repeatedly throughout the public engagement process residents voiced their appreciation and desire for natural open spaces and native trees and landscaping. It is important for the Town to purchase or receive park land through dedications or donations to maintain the rural landscape of Sunnyvale. Although it is necessary to enhance existing parks, it is crucial the Town acquire new land within the Town limits. The current Level of Service in the Town is 19.39 acres of developed parkland per 1,000 residents. The recommended Level of Service in Sunnyvale is 10.1 acres of usable park acres per 1,000 residents. Based on the projected population of 9,676 residents in 2031, the Town has a sufficient amount of parkland to maintain the 10.1 acres of developed parkland per 1,000 residents. It is still recommended for the Town of Sunnyvale to develop existing parkland.

The Town should consider purchasing or receiving donated parkland to maintain the rural surroundings of Sunnyvale. Additionally, by acquiring or encouraging the donation of parkland, the Town can provide a larger and more balanced distribution of developed parks to ensure residents have access to parks within a 10-minute walk of a park. The dark blue stars on the map on the following page suggests areas throughout the Town where future neighborhood parks should be considered. The magenta stars are general locations for a proposed community park. These locations are based on current needs, future developments, land availability, and the Overall Town-Wide Parks Map (see page 30). It is important to note the stars are representational and do not determine specific parcels of land, instead they suggest areas of the community where parks are needed. The Town will need to review each area and coordinate with current landowners on the availability and dedication of land for future parks.

| 1   | Barnes Bridge Property | S             |
| 2   | Glazer Property        | S             |
| 3   | Jobson Park            | N             |
| 4   | Long Creek Crossing Property | N |
| 5   | Robert Vineyard Park   | N             |
| 6   | Samuell Farm North Park* | C             |
| 7   | Samuell New Hope Park* | C             |
| 8   | Town Center Park       | C             |
| 9   | Creekside              | HOA           |
| 10  | Deer Creek             | HOA           |
| 11  | Glenwick               | HOA           |
| 12  | Homestead              | HOA           |
| 13  | Meadow Lake            | HOA           |
| 14  | St. James              | HOA           |
| 15  | Stone Canyon           | HOA           |
| 16  | Stoney Creek           | HOA           |
| 17  | Tanner Creek           | HOA           |
| 18  | The Falls              | HOA           |
| 19  | Proposed Neighborhood Park | N |
| 20  | Proposed Community Park | C |
| 21  | Proposed Neighborhood Park | N |
| 22  | Proposed Special Use Facility (Downtown District) | S |
CHAPTER 8

Implementation Schedule
The following schedule presents projects and action items that are based on the needs, recommendations, and priorities found in this plan. The purpose of the Implementation Schedule is to provide a framework to assist with future park and community development planning in the Town. An estimated project cost has been provided for each project to help the Town budget accordingly for the future. This schedule is intended to be a flexible guide for the development of parks and facilities over the next ten years. The Parks Master Plan is a living document, meaning the Town should evaluate and change the order of implementation if necessary or take advantage of any unforeseen opportunities that may arise that are not identified in this schedule as long as it fits the goals and objectives of this plan. Every five years the Town should evaluate its progress and update the plan to meet future goals. To successfully accomplish these projects, the Town will need a variety of funding sources and take advantage of partnership opportunities. There are various types of Local, State, and Federal funding sources available to develop new parks and renovate existing parks in Sunnyvale. Although not every funding source will be available for every project, it is important to note that more than one funding source may be used per project depending on the scope and size of the project. A list and description of funding sources can be found on page 104 and 105 of this plan. When reviewing this document and budgeting into the future, it is important to note that land acquisition, design, engineering, and personnel staffing are not included in the estimated cost.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROJECT</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>COST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conduct Recreation Center &amp; Library Feasibility Study</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop Glazer Property</td>
<td>2021 - 2022</td>
<td>Varies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Station</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barn</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-purpose &amp; nature trails</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural areas &amp; open spaces</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic areas / pavilions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site amenities (benches, tables, shade canopies, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop Trails &amp; Bikeways Master Plan</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>$20,000 - $30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consider Viability of Establishing Town Recreation Division</td>
<td>2023 - 2024</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhance &amp; Expand Jobson Park</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>$300,000 - $400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports practice fields (ball diamonds, football, soccer, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playground</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic areas / pavilions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-purpose walking trails</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site amenities (benches, tables, shade canopies, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop Barnes Bridge Property</td>
<td>2024 - 2025</td>
<td>$3,000,000 - $4,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Multi-purpose walking trails</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boat ramp</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing piers &amp; boardwalks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport paddle launch (kayak, paddle board, canoe, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sand volleyball courts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic area / pavilions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amphitheater</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playground</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site amenities (benches, tables, shade canopies, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROJECT</td>
<td>YEAR</td>
<td>COST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop Samuell Farm North Park</td>
<td>2026 - 2027</td>
<td>$2,500,000 - $3,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consider development of a multi-purpose sports complex*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disc golf*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playground</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-purpose &amp; nature trails</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skate park*</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural open spaces</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site amenities (benches, tables, shade canopies, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhance Robert Vineyard Park</td>
<td>2027</td>
<td>$350,000 - $500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regrade soccer fields (fix drainage)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restroom</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-purpose walking trails</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playground</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-purpose sports court</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site amenities (benches, tables, shade canopies, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Enhance Town Center Park</td>
<td>2028</td>
<td>$550,000 - $750,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-purpose sports court</td>
<td>2028</td>
<td>$550,000 - $750,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretive signage</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native landscaping</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Splash pad</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site lighting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site amenities (benches, tables, shade canopies, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhance Samuell New Hope Park</td>
<td>2029</td>
<td>$400,000 - $600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-purpose &amp; nature trails</td>
<td>2029</td>
<td>$400,000 - $600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretive signage</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Picnic areas / pavilions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain bike trails</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog park*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural open spaces</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butterfly garden</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site amenities (benches, tables, shade canopies, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design &amp; Construct Recreation Center &amp; Library (Pending Feasibility Study Results)</td>
<td>2030 - 2031</td>
<td>Varies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire Properties for Parkland &amp; Require HOA Developments to Develop Neighborhood Parks</td>
<td>On-Going</td>
<td>Varies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construct Trails Throughout the Town</td>
<td>On-Going</td>
<td>$250,000 - $325,000 per mile</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 9
Funding Mechanisms
The Town of Sunnyvale has a variety of different funding opportunities available that can assist with the funding of the proposed projects in this plan. The funding opportunities have been divided into two categories: locally generated funds and state and federal funds. There may be additional funding available which is not listed within this plan and can be identified through the Finance Department, a financial advisor, financial database, or a general web search.

**LOCALLY GENERATED FUNDS**

**GENERAL FUND**
A pay-as-you-go approach that uses Town funds for smaller projects such as repairs and replacements at existing park facilities.

**GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS (GO BONDS)**
These bonds are issued by the Town following an election in which the voters authorize their issuance for specific stated purposes, as well as the necessary tax increases to support them. These bonds pledge the property or ad valorem taxing power of the Town. GO bonds are debt instruments used by municipalities to raise funds for large-scale and capital improvement projects.

**CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION (CO)**
These certificates have the same basic effect of GO bonds except they do not require an election to authorize their sale and use (unless a referendum is petitioned). These certificates are issued on the authorization of the Town Council. Repayment is based on the property and sales taxing power of the Town, utility system revenues, or a combination of the two. CO debt can be used for construction and/or restoration of structures; purchase of materials and supplies; purchase of equipment, machinery, buildings and land; and professional services (architects, engineers, etc.).

**TYPE 4B ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SALES TAX**
The State of Texas authorizes local governments to impose a sales tax, known as Part A and Part B, for economic development and quality of life. Proceeds accumulate in a sales tax fund. State law lists the possible uses of the fund. Part 4B offers all the options of Part A, including job training facilities, parks, tourist facilities, and sports venues.

**PARKLAND DEDICATION ORDINANCE**
Requires developers to dedicate land for parks and/or pay a fee in lieu of dedicating land. This ordinance ensures that park facilities will be available when new homeowners purchase their homes and it avoids permitting development without ensuring park infrastructure is in place to support the new demands. Each community has a specific ordinance, but typically the Town can require the developer to provide land for a park, cash in lieu of the required land, or park development fees.

**USER FEES**
This method of financing requires the eventual user of each facility to pay a fee for the use of each facility. Fees to be charged users can be established to pay for debt service, maintenance, and operation of the parks system.

**PRIVATE OR CORPORATE DONATIONS**
Donations from foundations, corporations, and/or private individuals are often used to acquire and develop parks. The Town should constantly identify and pursue opportunities to receive such funding for parks. One avenue for receiving donations is through the use of the Texas Parks & Recreation Foundation. This foundation has been developed to help all communities in the State of Texas to maximize the benefits of donations of land, property, and money.
STATE & FEDERAL FUNDING

TPWD OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANTS
These grants are intended for communities with a population of less than 500,000 and can be used for the acquisition of parkland, park development or for the renovation of existing parks and open spaces. This grant is a 50% matching grant with a ceiling of $750,000.

TPWD INDOOR RECREATION GRANTS
These grants are intended for communities with a population of less than 500,000 and can be used for the construction of recreation centers, local community centers, nature centers and other applicable indoor facilities. This grant is a 50% matching grant with a ceiling of $1.5 million.

TPWD COMMUNITY OUTDOOR OUTREACH PROGRAM (CO-OP)
These grants are primarily used to assist non-profits and local governments for recreational programming geared toward under served populations. The intent of the funds are to introduce the importance of environmental education and conservation and provide TPWD mission oriented outdoor recreational activities. This grant is a TPWD Sponsored grant with a minimum funding requirement of $5,000 and a ceiling of $50,000.

TPWD RECREATIONAL TRAILS GRANTS
These grants are intended for both motorized and non-motorized recreational trail projects; including new trail construction, existing trail improvements, acquisition of trail corridors, trailheads and/or amenities. This grant is federally funded by the Federal Highway Administration and administered by TPWD. This grant is 80 / 20 grant with up to 80% of the project being funded through TPWD with a ceiling of $200,000 for non-motorized trails and no ceiling for motorized trails.

TXDOT TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES SET-ASIDE (TA) PROGRAM
TxDOT administers TA funds for locally sponsored bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure projects in communities less than 200,000. In large urbanized areas with populations over 200,000, TA funds are distributed directly to Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) to administer according to their needs. MPOs and TxDOT are responsible for selecting projects independent of one another.

LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND (LWCF) GRANTS
These funds are federally funded and administered through TPWD through the Texas Recreation Park Account. Note: If a City applies for an Outdoor Grant, Small Community Grant or Indoor Recreation Grant, TPWD may choose to fund a successful project directly through LWCF with no additional or separate application.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE (NPS) PROGRAMS
These funds are primarily used for parks and recreational opportunities and consist of LWCF & Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act (UPARR) dollars. The United States Congress appropriates funds to each State.

ADDITIONAL GRANT OPPORTUNITIES
There are numerous grant opportunities through both public and private institutions. Grants.gov is an electronic platform for a comprehensive list of government grant opportunities.
TOWN OF SUNNYVALE
PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN
SPACE MASTER PLAN