





PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

City of American Canyon



CITY OF AMERICAN CANYON

This page intentionally left blank.



CITY OF AMERICAN CANYON
PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

ADOPTED: June 16, 2026

PREPARED FOR:

City of American Canyon
4381 Broadway Street, Suite 201
American Canyon, CA 94503

PREPARED BY:

RRM Design Group and
The City of American Canyon

This page intentionally left blank.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

CITY COUNCIL

Pierre Washington, Mayor
Mark Joseph, Vice Mayor
David Oro, Councilmember
Melissa Lamattina, Councilmember
Brando Cruz, Councilmember

OPEN SPACE, ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Debbie Chavarria
Barry Christian
Sean Hughes
Nance Matson
Tara McClinton-Horner

PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION

Gina Griggs
Elston James Mallory, Jr.
Shirley Koot
Scott Myer
Iain Smith

CITY STAFF

Jason Holley, City Manager
Juan Gomez, Assistant City Manager
Alexandra Ikeda, Deputy City Manager

This page intentionally left blank.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary **INTRODUCTION**

Chapter 1 **OUR CITY AND OUR PARKS**

1.1	Recreation for All	1-1
1.2	Guiding Principles	1-2
1.3	A Livable City	1-3
1.4	A Connected City	1-4

Chapter 2 **WHAT WE HAVE**

2.1	Programs for All	2-2
2.2	Partnerships	2-4
2.3	Shared Use	2-4
2.4	Park Classifications	2-5
2.5	Community/Recreation Centers	2-31
2.6	Phillip West Aquatic Center	2-35
2.7	Community Garden	2-37
2.8	Open Space	2-39
2.9	Conservation Lands	2-46
2.10	Trails	2-47

Chapter 3 **WHERE WE ARE GOING**

3.1	Planning For Future Park Needs	3-2
3.2	Continual Parkland Acquisition	3-4
3.3	Community Engagement	3-6
3.4	Future Park Plans	3-12
3.5	The Path Forward	3-13

Chapter 4 **HOW WE GET THERE**

4.1	Capital Improvement Program	4-1
4.2	Funding Strategy	4-2
4.3	Prioritization Framework	4-4
4.4	Operations And Maintenance	4-6
4.5	Cost And Implementation Considerations	4-6
4.6	Implementation Strategies	4-7
4.7	Moving Forward Together	4-11

This page intentionally left blank.



Introduction

Parks and open spaces are central to the identity and quality of life in American Canyon. They are places where our families gather, children play, neighbors connect, and residents experience the natural beauty that surrounds our community every day. From neighborhood parks and trails to open spaces and recreation programs, these shared spaces encourage healthy lifestyles, strengthen community bonds, and help define the unique sense of place that makes American Canyon a welcoming and vibrant place to call home.

This Parks and Recreation Master Plan provides a shared vision and practical framework to guide the future of parks, recreation, community services, and open space in American Canyon. As our city continues to grow and evolve, thoughtful planning will ensure that our parks and recreational opportunities remain accessible, sustainable, and responsive to the needs of our community. Guided by the City's mission, vision, and values, this plan reflects our collective aspiration for a welcoming city where everyone belongs, a destination for outdoor recreation and natural beauty, and a community where strong neighborhoods and economic vitality enhance quality of life.

Rooted in community input and the City's commitment to being the best place to live, work, and play, this plan identifies priorities, partnerships, and strategies to guide future investment in parks, trails, open space, community services, and recreation programs. By building on the assets we cherish today and planning for tomorrow's needs, American Canyon's parks system will continue to inspire connection, support sustainability, and enrich the lives of residents for generations to come.

"I love … being outside, and connecting with the local environment"

- Community member comment from online questionnaire

Executive Summary



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Guiding Principles

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan establishes guiding principles to help shape the future of parks, recreation programs, and open spaces in American Canyon. These principles reflect the City's mission to deliver responsive services that enhance quality of life and support a healthy, safe, and sustainable community. They provide a foundation for planning, investment, and decision-making to ensure the parks and recreation system continues to serve residents today and into the future.

The guiding principles emphasize creating parks and recreation opportunities that are inclusive, accessible, and welcoming to people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds. Parks and recreation programs should remain relevant and responsive to the changing needs and interests of the community while promoting active and healthy lifestyles. As American Canyon grows, the parks system should continue to strengthen community connections, foster a sense of belonging, and reflect the diversity and identity of the community.

Environmental stewardship is also a key component of the City's parks and recreation system. Parks, trails, and open spaces should protect and enhance the natural landscapes that define American Canyon while supporting sustainability, conservation, and long-term resilience. Through thoughtful planning and responsible land stewardship, these spaces will continue to connect residents and visitors with nature and support the community's role as a destination for outdoor recreation and natural beauty.

Together, these guiding principles help ensure that parks, recreation facilities, programs, and open spaces are thoughtfully planned, equitably accessible, and responsibly managed—strengthening neighborhoods, supporting community well-being, and enhancing the quality of life for residents of American Canyon for generations to come.

Guiding Principles

- Inclusive, Accessible, and Welcoming Spaces
- Responsive and Relevant Recreation Opportunities
- A Destination for Outdoor Recreation and Natural Beauty
- Stewardship and Environmental Sustainability
- Celebrating Community Identity and Cultural Diversity
- Building Community and Sense of Place



Guiding Documents

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan is not a stand-alone document, but an integrated planning framework that aligns with and supports the City's 2040 General Plan. The Parks Master Plan does not supersede the General Plan, it complements it by translating broader community goals into a focused strategy for parks, recreation, and open space. The plan documents the City's existing parks and recreation system, identifies future needs and opportunities, and outlines a path forward to guide thoughtful investment, planning, and stewardship of these community assets.

Where We Are Going

American Canyon is a growing community, and with that growth comes evolving needs and opportunities for parks, recreation, and open space. As the community continues to develop, the demand for diverse recreational experiences, accessible parks, and community programs will continue to expand. Planning for the future means anticipating these changes and ensuring that the City's parks and recreation system evolves alongside the community it serves.

In recent years, the City has focused on maintaining and improving the parks and recreation facilities we already have—protecting the investments that residents value and rely on every day. While stewardship of these assets remains essential, this Parks and Recreation Master Plan also looks ahead to identify future needs, opportunities, and priorities.

American Canyon is home to a diverse and multi-generational community with a wide range of interests and recreation preferences. This plan recognizes that no single type of park or program can meet every need. Instead, the City strives to create a balanced system of parks, trails, programs, and open spaces that support active lifestyles, community connection, and access to nature. By listening to community input and planning thoughtfully for growth, the City aims to expand and enhance recreation opportunities that serve residents today and into the future.

Our Needs & Priorities

Community input was essential in shaping the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Feedback was gathered through questionnaires, stakeholder interviews, and public workshops, giving residents and community partners opportunities to share their perspectives on parks, recreation programs, and open spaces in American Canyon. This engagement helped identify key community needs and priorities, which directly informed the recommendations and strategies outlined in the Master Plan to guide future planning and investment.

Parks For All of Us

Parks and open spaces in American Canyon are for everyone. They provide welcoming places where residents and visitors of all ages and abilities can gather, play, connect with nature, and enjoy active and healthy lifestyles. Together, parks, trails, and open spaces create a connected network that reflects the community's character, celebrates its natural beauty, and protects important environmental resources. Through thoughtful planning and stewardship, the City will continue to enhance these spaces so they serve residents today while reinforcing American Canyon as a destination for outdoor recreation and natural beauty.



Moving Forward Together

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan provides a roadmap for the future of parks, recreation programs, and open spaces in American Canyon. Guided by community input, the City's mission, and the principles outlined in this plan, the recommendations that follow identify opportunities to enhance existing parks, expand recreation offerings, and plan for future facilities and open spaces.

American Canyon's parks and recreation system plays an important role in celebrating the community's diverse cultures, strengthening neighborhood connections, and fostering a welcoming place where everyone belongs. Parks and community spaces bring people together, create opportunities for shared experiences, and enhance the overall quality of life for residents of all ages and backgrounds.

Implementation of this plan will occur over time and will require continued collaboration between the City, community partners, and residents. Through thoughtful investment, stewardship, and community engagement, American Canyon will continue to provide parks and recreation opportunities that reflect the values of its residents while reinforcing the community as a place people are proud to call home.

Together, these efforts will help ensure that American Canyon remains the best place to live, work, and play—today and for generations to come.



1

Our City and Our Parks



CHAPTER 1:
OUR CITY AND OUR PARKS

The City of American Canyon's Parks and Recreation Master Plan is a practical and inspirational framework for meeting the City's changing parks and recreational needs and interests. A sustainable, flexible, and innovative system requires investment and commitment now and in the years ahead.

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan identifies principles, actions, and partnerships for planning parks, recreational facilities, and programs that reflect the vision of a world-class Citywide network of recreational experiences to engage, inspire, and connect with everyone.

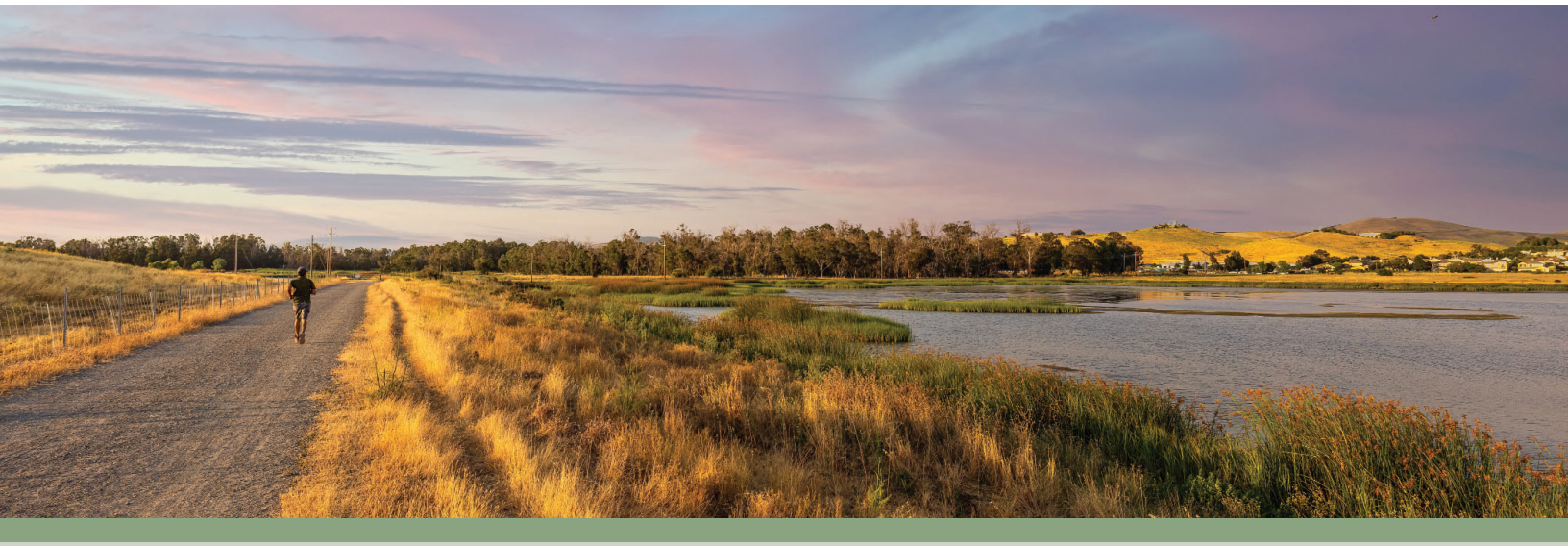
1.1 Recreation for All

The natural beauty of American Canyon makes outdoor recreation an integral part of community life. Parks, trails, and open spaces provide opportunities for residents to connect with nature, stay active, and spend time together. This Parks and Recreation Master Plan is guided by the goal of ensuring that these spaces and programs are welcoming and accessible to everyone in the community.

American Canyon is proud to be a diverse and inclusive city where people of all ages, abilities, cultures, and backgrounds feel they belong. Parks and recreation play an important role in strengthening community connections, celebrating cultural identity, and enhancing the quality of life for residents. Through thoughtful planning, inclusive design, and continued community engagement, the City strives to ensure that all residents have access to meaningful recreation opportunities and safe, welcoming places to gather and play.

Partnerships with schools, community organizations, and local groups help bring residents together through programs, events, and celebrations that reflect the community's diversity. At the same time, the City remains committed to responsible stewardship of its parks, natural spaces, and recreation facilities so they continue to serve current and future generations.

By investing in parks, expanding recreation opportunities, and listening to the voices of the community, American Canyon will continue to build a parks system that reflects its values, celebrates its people, and reinforces the community as the best place to live, work, and play.



1.2 Guiding Principles

The Guiding Principals for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan establish a shared vision for how parks, programs, and open spaces will serve the American Canyon community. Rooted in the City's mission and informed by community input, these principals emphasize inclusion, accessibility, responsiveness, and environmental stewardship. Together, they provide a foundation for decision-making and investment, ensuring that the parks system reflects community values, supports well-being, and evolves to meet the needs of current and future residents.

1

Inclusive, Accessible, and Welcoming Spaces

Create parks, programs, and recreational opportunities that serve residents of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds. Prioritize accessibility, safety, comfort, and high-quality amenities so everyone in the community can gather, play, and connect in spaces designed for multi-generational use.

2

Responsive and Relevant Recreation Opportunities

Provide recreational programs, facilities, and services that reflect the evolving needs and interests of the community. Through ongoing community engagement and thoughtful planning, ensuring parks and recreational opportunities remain meaningful, accessible, and enriching for residents today and into the future.

3

A Destination for Outdoor Recreation and Natural Beauty

Strengthen American Canyon's identity as a destination for outdoor recreation and natural beauty. Expand and enhance parks, trails, and open spaces, and recreational experiences that invite residents and visitors to explore the City's scenic landscapes while supporting active and health lifestyles.

4

Stewardship and Environmental Sustainability

Protect and enhance the natural landscape that define American Canyon. Through responsible land stewardship, conservation, and thoughtful, resilient design, parks and open spaces will support environmental sustainability while connecting people with nature and preserving nature resources for future generations.

5

Celebrating Community Identity and Cultural Diversity

Reflect the character of the community through parks, spaces, and programs that celebrate American Canyon's diverse cultures, traditions, and shared stories. Foster spaces and experiences that promote belonging, connection, and community pride.

6

Building Community and Sense of Place

Parks are the heart of community life. Thoughtful planning and investments will continue to create vibrant gathering places that strengthen neighborhoods, support community events, and reinforce American Canyon as a welcoming place to live, work, and play.

1.3 A Livable City

A great parks system makes a great city. Long before American Canyon was incorporated in 1992, the community was served as a Water District. Since incorporation, the City has grown significantly, with its population more than tripling over the past three decades. Shifts in lifestyles, demographics, technology, and development patterns have fundamentally reshaped recreation. More broadly, these changes have transformed the way the City plans and prepares for future growth and development.

The City's 2040 General Plan provides the long-range framework for managing this growth, guiding land use, housing, transportation, economic development, and community amenities. As American Canyon continues to evolve, the General Plan identifies where future development will occur and how community infrastructure—including parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces—should grow alongside it to support a healthy, livable, and connected community. The Parks and Recreation Master Plan is an integral component of this broader planning framework. Rather than functioning as a stand-alone document, it supports and implements the goals of the General Plan by identifying how parks, trails, recreation programs, and open spaces will meet the needs of the community as it grows.

Parks and open spaces play an essential role in creating a vibrant and livable city. They provide places for residents to gather, stay active, and connect with nature, while strengthening neighborhood identity and community pride. Through thoughtful planning and stewardship, the Parks and Recreation Master Plan helps ensure that American Canyon's parks system evolves alongside the community and continues to enhance quality of life for residents today and into the future.



1.4 A Connected City

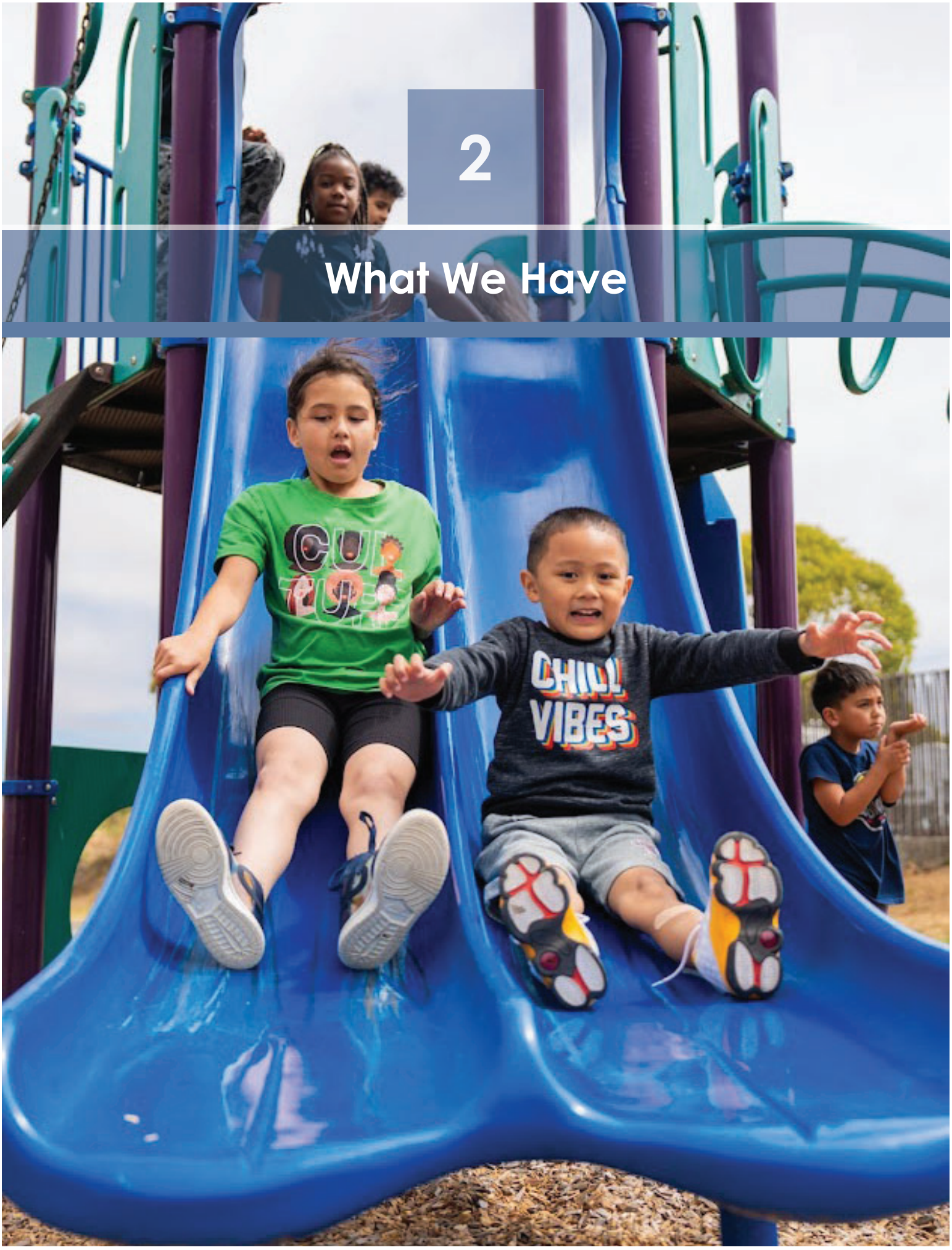
Parks and recreation planning in American Canyon must recognize the remarkable natural beauty and history of the city and surrounding region. With its landscape of agricultural lands, canyons, valleys, watersheds, and the Napa River, American Canyon is one of the most physically striking communities in the county and part of one of the most biologically diverse landscapes in the region. These natural features provide opportunities to connect people with the outdoors while supporting a wide range of recreational experiences such as hiking, walking, bicycling, bird watching, kayaking, taking in stunning views, and volunteering at community workdays.

Parks, trails, and open spaces play an important role in connecting neighborhoods, natural areas, and regional destinations. In alignment with the City's 2040 General Plan, expanding a network of parks, trails, and pathways supports a more connected community by providing safe and enjoyable ways to move throughout the city. Walking, bicycling, and other forms of active transportation allow residents and visitors to travel between neighborhoods, parks, schools, and commercial areas while experiencing the natural beauty that defines American Canyon. Strengthening these connections encourages healthy lifestyles, improves mobility, and supports a more accessible and livable community.

Natural land stewardship and sustainability focus on conserving and preserving open space lands through science-based management practices that protect habitats and maintain ecological health. These efforts ensure that natural areas are responsibly managed for both environmental conservation and community benefit. To foster a deeper appreciation for the natural environment and inspire long-term stewardship of these landscapes, the City promotes outdoor education and recreational opportunities.




65



2

What We Have

CHAPTER 2:
WHAT WE HAVE

Understanding the current parks and recreation system is an important first step in planning for the future. Before identifying new opportunities or improvements, it is essential to recognize the parks, facilities, programs, and partnerships that already serve our American Canyon community.

The City of American Canyon has developed a network of parks, open spaces, trails, and recreation facilities that support a wide range of activities and experiences. These resources provide places for residents to gather, stay active, connect with nature, and participate in community programs and events. In addition to physical spaces, the City's recreation programs, partnerships, and community services play an important role in supporting quality of life for residents of all ages.

This chapter provides an overview of the parks, open spaces, trails, facilities, and recreation services that make up the City's current system. Together, these assets represent the foundation of American Canyon's parks and recreation network and help illustrate where the community is today as the City plans for the future.



2.1 Programs for All

The City of American Canyon offers a wide range of programs, activities, and events that support the health, well-being, and quality of life of the community. Recreation programs help residents stay active, build social connections, develop new skills, and engage with their community. Programming is delivered through a combination of City-led activities, contracted instructors, and partnerships with local organizations and service providers. Together, these offerings bring parks and facilities to life and provide recreation opportunities for residents of all ages.

Aquatics programming at the Phillip West Aquatic Center includes swim lessons, lap swim, recreation swim, aquatic fitness classes, lifeguard training, and special events such as water carnivals. The facility also supports community use through swim team rentals and pool parties. Youth programs include sports clinics, camps, and recreational activities that promote physical activity, skill development, and social interaction. Seasonal camps, including sports, science, and the Wonders of the Wetlands outdoor camp, provide structured activities and childcare options for families throughout the summer. The City also offers a variety of enrichment programs, including dance, art, chess, cooking, and other creative activities for toddlers, youth, and families. Adult recreation opportunities include sports leagues, open gym activities, and fitness classes that support active lifestyles.



In addition to traditional programming, the City provides opportunities for residents to connect with nature and give back to the community. Open space programs such as guided hikes and the American Canyon Trail (ACT) program encourage exploration and environmental awareness. Volunteer stewardship projects and community workdays offer hands-on opportunities to care for parks, trails, and wetlands, while the community garden provides space for residents to grow food and connect with neighbors. The Adult Activity Center serves as a dedicated gathering place for older adults and active seniors. The center offers programs that support healthy aging, social connection, and lifelong learning, including fitness classes, arts activities, educational workshops, and social gatherings.



The City also hosts a variety of community events throughout the year that activate parks and public spaces and bring residents together. These include seasonal celebrations such as the Magic of the Season Tree Lighting and Fourth of July Celebration, as well as military and memorial ceremonies honoring service members and veterans. Unique outdoor events, such as S'mores and Meteors, provide opportunities to experience the City's open spaces in new ways. The City also supports community-led events, contributing to a vibrant calendar of activities that enrich the community's social and cultural life.



Through these programs and events, the City provides essential services that promote healthy lifestyles, strengthen community connections, encourage environmental stewardship, and enhance the overall livability of American Canyon.



2.2 Partnerships

Partner organizations are essential collaborators in the delivery of parks and recreation services in American Canyon. The City works with numerous nonprofit organizations, youth sports leagues, cultural groups, and educational institutions to expand programming opportunities, activate facilities, and strengthen community connections. Many of these organizations provide direct recreational programming to residents and rely on City parks and facilities to conduct practices, events, and community activities.

Through these partnerships, the City is able to leverage volunteer leadership, specialized expertise, and strong community networks to enhance service delivery beyond what municipal resources alone can provide. Recognizing that the City cannot be all things to all people, these collaborations are intentionally structured to complement, not duplicate, services, ensuring that resources are used effectively while broadening access to diverse programs and opportunities.

Partner organizations play a vital role in enriching recreational offerings, supporting youth development, hosting cultural events, and contributing to overall community vitality. At the same time, parks and facilities remain public assets owned and stewarded by the City for the benefit of the entire community. Partnership activities operate within adopted City policies, facility standards, and financial guidelines to ensure fairness, equity, and long-term sustainability.

By aligning shared goals with clearly defined roles and responsibilities, the City and its partners work together to deliver high-quality, inclusive services that support and strengthen the American Canyon community.

2.3 Shared Use

The City of American Canyon maintains a collaborative relationship with the Napa Valley Unified School District (NVUSD) that supports recreation programming and community access to school facilities when available.

While the City does not own or operate indoor gymnasium facilities, the Parks and Recreation Department is able to utilize these spaces at American Canyon Middle School and High School for recreation programs. These facilities are reserved through the school district's facility reservation system and are scheduled when available, with the City paying nonprofit user fees similar to other community organizations.

Community access is limited and dependent on district scheduling and availability. As a result, the City's ability to offer indoor recreation programs is often constrained by the availability of school facilities. Despite these limitations, the City and NVUSD maintain a positive working relationship that helps support recreation programming for residents.



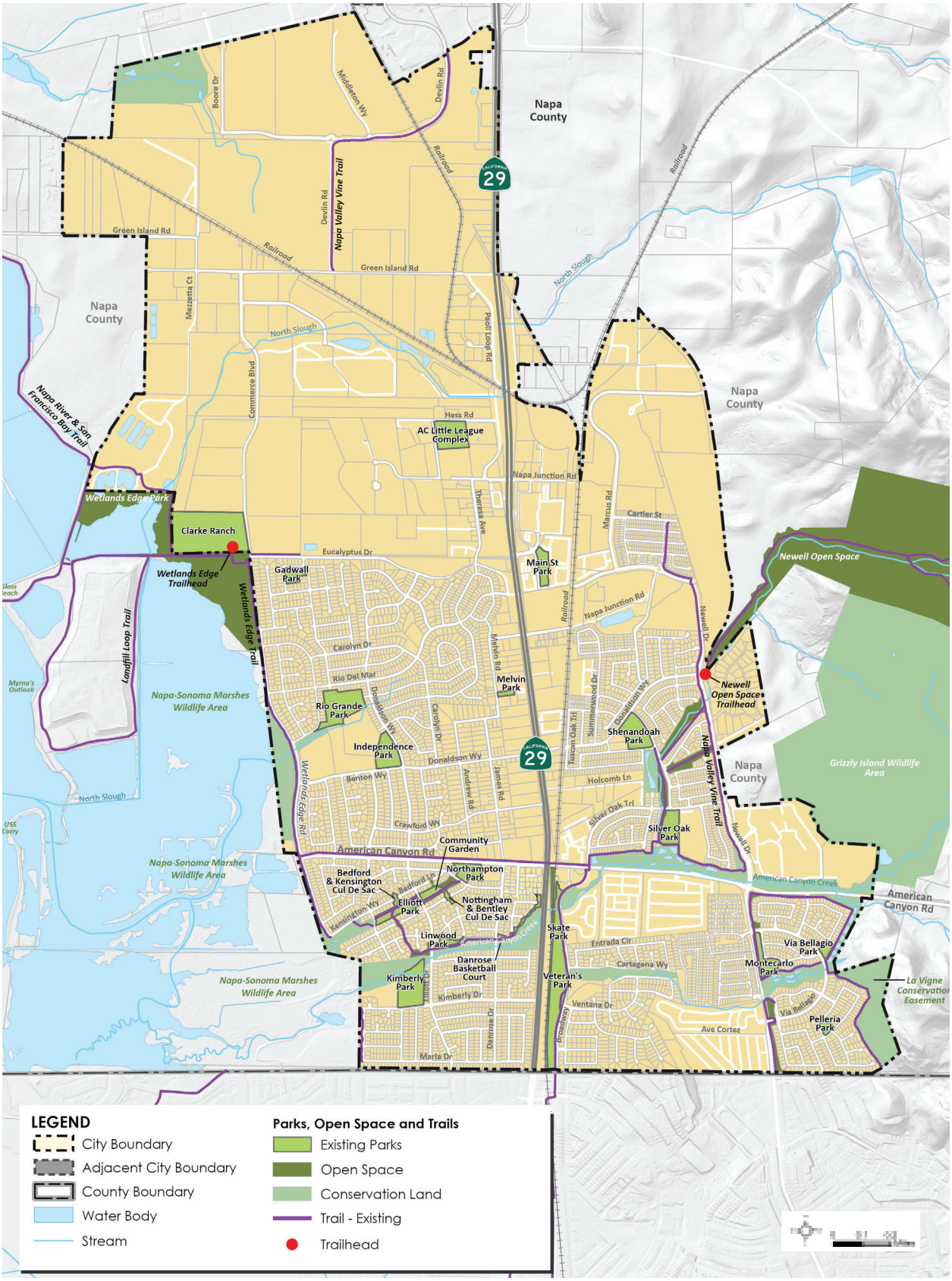
2.4 Park Classifications

Park Lands are publicly accessible outdoor spaces owned and operated by the City and designated for recreation, leisure, and community gatherings. These spaces are open to the public and managed under established rules and regulations to ensure they are safe, welcoming, and well maintained for all users. Park Lands include a variety of park types, such as pocket parks, neighborhood parks, and community parks, each providing different amenities and recreational opportunities to serve residents throughout the city.

Each classification is described in the sections that follow. **Figure 2-1** maps the location and distribution of each park and open space asset, while **Table 2-1** lists site-specific features and amenities — such as play structures, athletic fields, courts, picnic areas, and walking paths—to provide a comprehensive snapshot of the City's current park system. Together, these materials establish a clear understanding of "Parks Today" and serve as the baseline for evaluating future needs and opportunities.



Figure 2-1: Existing Parks, Open Space, and Trails



Source: Prepared by RRM Design Group; Additional Data Provided by Napa County

Table 2-1: Parks, Location, and Amenities

Park	Danrose Sports Court	Elliott Park	Gadwall Park	Independence Park	Kimberly Park	Linwood Park	Main Street Park	Melvin Park	Montecarlo Park	Northampton Park	Nottingham & Bentley Cul De Sac	Pelleria Park	Rio Grande Park	Shenandoah Park	Silver Oak Park	Skate Park	Veterans Memorial Park	Via Bellagio Park
Location	785 Danrose Dr	2234 Elliott Dr	161 Gadwall St	20 Benton Way	600 Kimberly Dr	285 Linwood Dr	5050 Main St	19 Melvin Rd	54 Montecarlo Way	242 Northampton Dr	270 Nottingham Ln	54 Pelleria Dr	1400 Rio Grande Dr	100 Sonoma Creek Way	485 Silver Oak Park	2801 Broadway St	2801 Broadway St	100 Via Bellagio
Baseball Field										●			●	●	●			
	●	●	●							●		●		●				
BBQ Grill			●			●	●						●	●	●		●	
Benches	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Shelter/Gazebo			●							●			●	●	●			
Open Lawn Space		●	●	●	●	●	●		●			●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Picnic Table(s)			●	●	●	●	●	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Play Structure		●	●			●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Restrooms					●					●			●	●	●	●	●	
Grass Turf Field				●	●		●		●	●			●	●	●	●	●	
Swings		●	●				●							●				
Tennis Courts		●						●										
Picnic Rental			●	●	●	●	●			●		●	●	●	●		●	●
Walking Path	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Other Sport Court		Pickleball											Horseshoe, Volleyball				Bocce	

2.4.1 Pocket Parks

Pocket Parks are spaces that are typically less than an acre in size and located within a neighborhood for convenient access for nearby residents to gather, relax, and enjoy outdoor space close to home. While modest in size, pocket parks play an important role in bringing green space into neighborhoods, creating opportunities to connect, and ensuring access to parks within walking distance. These neighborhood spaces help strengthen community connections and contribute to the welcoming, livable character of American Canyon.

Danrose Sports Court is an outdoor half basketball court, there is also a bench at this location and a walking path, however, since the basketball court take up most of the space it is categorized as an Outdoor Sports Court.

The City has three pocket parks listed in **Table 2-2**.

Table 2-2: Pocket Parks

Name	Address/Location	Acreage
Bedford & Kensington	323 Bedford Lane	0.41
Nottingham & Bentley	270 Nottingham Lane	0.45
Danrose Sports Court	785 Danrose Drive	0.14
	Total Pocket Park Acreage	**1.00**



Bedford & Kensington Cul De Sac Park



Amenities

- Benches
- Picnic Table(s)
- Play Structure

Quick Facts

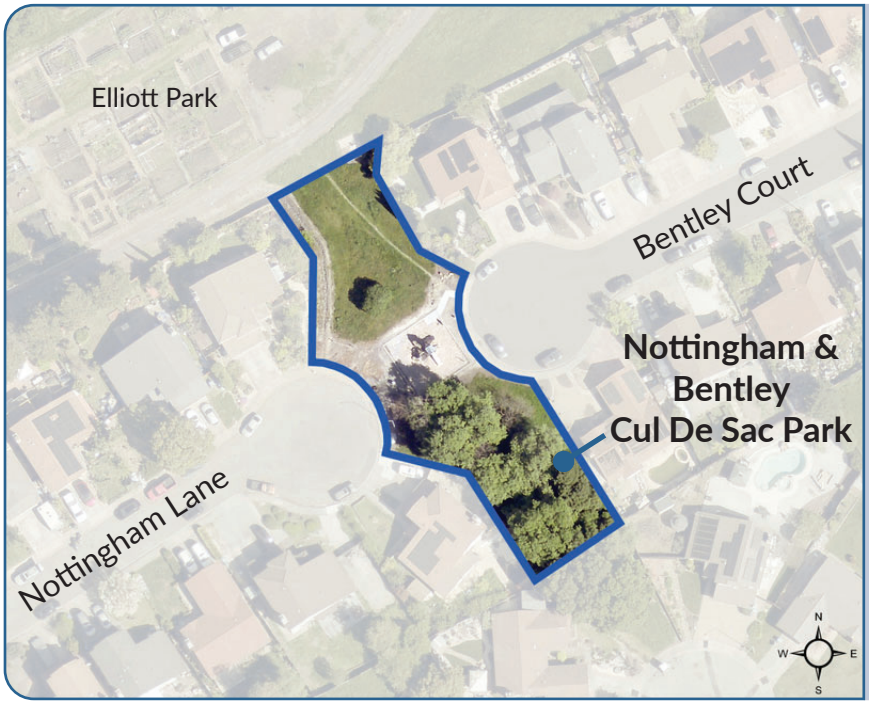
Park Type: Pocket Park

Location: 323 Bedford Lane

Size: 0.41 Acres



Nottingham & Bentley Cul De Sac Park



Amenities

- Benches
- Play Structure

Quick Facts

Park Type: Pocket Park

Location: 270 Nottingham Lane

Size: 0.45 Acres





Danrose Sports Court



Amenities

- Benches
- Basketball Court
- Walking Paths

Quick Facts

Park Type: Pocket Park

Location: 785 Danrose Drive

Size: 0.14 Acres





2.4.2 Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood Parks are spaces that typically range from approximately one (1) to six (6) acres and serve residents living in nearby neighborhoods. These parks provide accessible spaces for everyday recreation, relaxation, and community gathering within walking or biking distance of surrounding homes. Designed to support informal recreation and neighborhood use, these parks help strengthen community connection while providing convenient access to outdoor space close to home.

While neighborhood parks in American Canyon are primarily intended to serve nearby residents with spaces for everyday recreation and relaxation, they occasionally host special community events that bring residents together. A notable example is our partnership with the American Canyon Chamber of Commerce. During the summer, Northampton Park becomes part of the Meet Me In the Streets series, where American Canyon Road is temporarily activated for a community gathering with live music, food trucks, and local businesses. While these types of events are limited in scale and frequency, they demonstrate how neighborhood parks can occasionally serve as organized gathering spaces that strengthen community connection and celebrate American Canyon's tradition and pride.

The City's neighborhood parks are listed in **Table 2-3.**

Table 2-3: Neighborhood Parks

Name	Address/Location	Acreage
Elliott Park	2234 Elliott Drive	2.11
Gadwall Park	161 Gadwall Street	2.00
Linwood Park	285 Linwood Lane	1.10
Main Street Park	5050 Main Street	2.72
Melvin Park	19 Melvin Road	0.56
Montecarlo Park	54 Montecarlo Way	3.47
Northampton Park	242 Northampton Drive	3.06
Pelleria Park	54 Pelleria Drive	1.06
Silver Oak Park	485 Silver Oak Drive	4.47
Via Bellagio Park	100 Via Bellagio	1.06
Total Neighborhood Park Acreage		**21.61**

Elliott Park





Amenities

- Benches
- Basketball Court
- Kindness Rock Garden
- Off Leash Dog Area
- Open Lawn Space
- Pickleball
- Play Structure
- Swings
- Tennis Court

Quick Facts

Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Location: 2234 Elliott Drive

Size: 2.11 Acres



Gadwall Park





Amenities

- Basketball Court
- BBQ Grill
- Benches
- Covered Picnic/ Gazebo
- Open Lawn Space
- Picnic Rental
- Picnic Table(s)
- Play Structure
- Swings
- Walking Paths

Quick Facts

Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Location: 161 Gadwall Street

Size: 2.00 Acres



Linwood Park



Amenities

- BBQ Grill
- Benches
- Open Lawn Space
- Picnic Rental
- Picnic Table(s)
- Play Structure
- Walking Paths

Quick Facts

Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Location: 285 Linwood Lane

Size: 1.10 Acres





Main Street Park



Amenities

- Amphitheater
- BBQ Grill
- Benches
- Covered Picnic/ Gazebo
- Grass Turf Field
- Open Lawn Space
- Picnic Rental
- Picnic Table(s)
- Play Structure
- Swings

Quick Facts

Park Type: Neighborhood Park

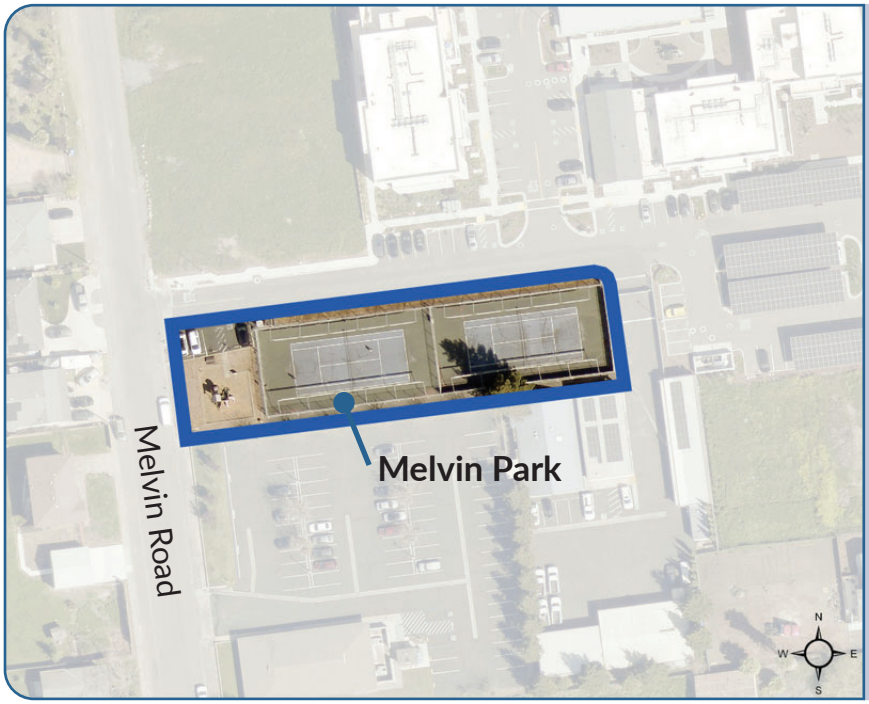
Location: 5050 Main Street

Size: 2.72 Acres





Melvin Park



Amenities

- Picnic Table(s)
- Play Structure
- Portable Restroom
- Tennis Courts

Quick Facts

Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Location: 19 Melvin Road

Size: 1.30 Acres

Planned Expansion: 0.65 Acres + 0.07 Acres for picnic area





Montecarlo Park



Amenities

- Benches
- Grass Turf Field
- Open Lawn Space
- Walking Paths

Quick Facts

Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Location: 54 Montecarlo Way

Size: 3.47 Acres





Northampton Park



Amenities

- Basketball Court
- Baseball Field
- Benches
- Covered Picnic/ Gazebo
- Grass Turf Field
- Parking Lot
- Picnic Rental
- Picnic Table(s)
- Play Structure
- Portable Restroom

Quick Facts

Park Type: Neighborhood Park
Location: 242 Northampton Drive
Size: 3.06 Acres





Pelleria Park



Amenities

- Basketball Court
- Benches
- Open Lawn Space
- Picnic Rental
- Picnic Table(s)
- Play Structures
- Walking Paths

Quick Facts

Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Location: 54 Pelleria Drive

Size: 1.06 Acres





Silver Oak Park





Amenities

- Baseball Field
- Benches
- Covered Picnic/ Gazebo
- Grass Turf Field
- Open Lawn Space
- Parking Lot
- Picnic Rental
- Picnic Table(s)
- Play Structure
- Portable Restroom
- Walking Paths

Quick Facts

Park Type: Neighborhood Park
Location: 485 Silver Oak Drive
Size: 4.47 Acres





Via Bellagio Park



Amenities

- Benches
- Open Lawn Space
- Picnic Table(s)
- Play Structure
- Walking Paths

Quick Facts

Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Location: 100 Via Bellagio

Size: 1.06 Acres





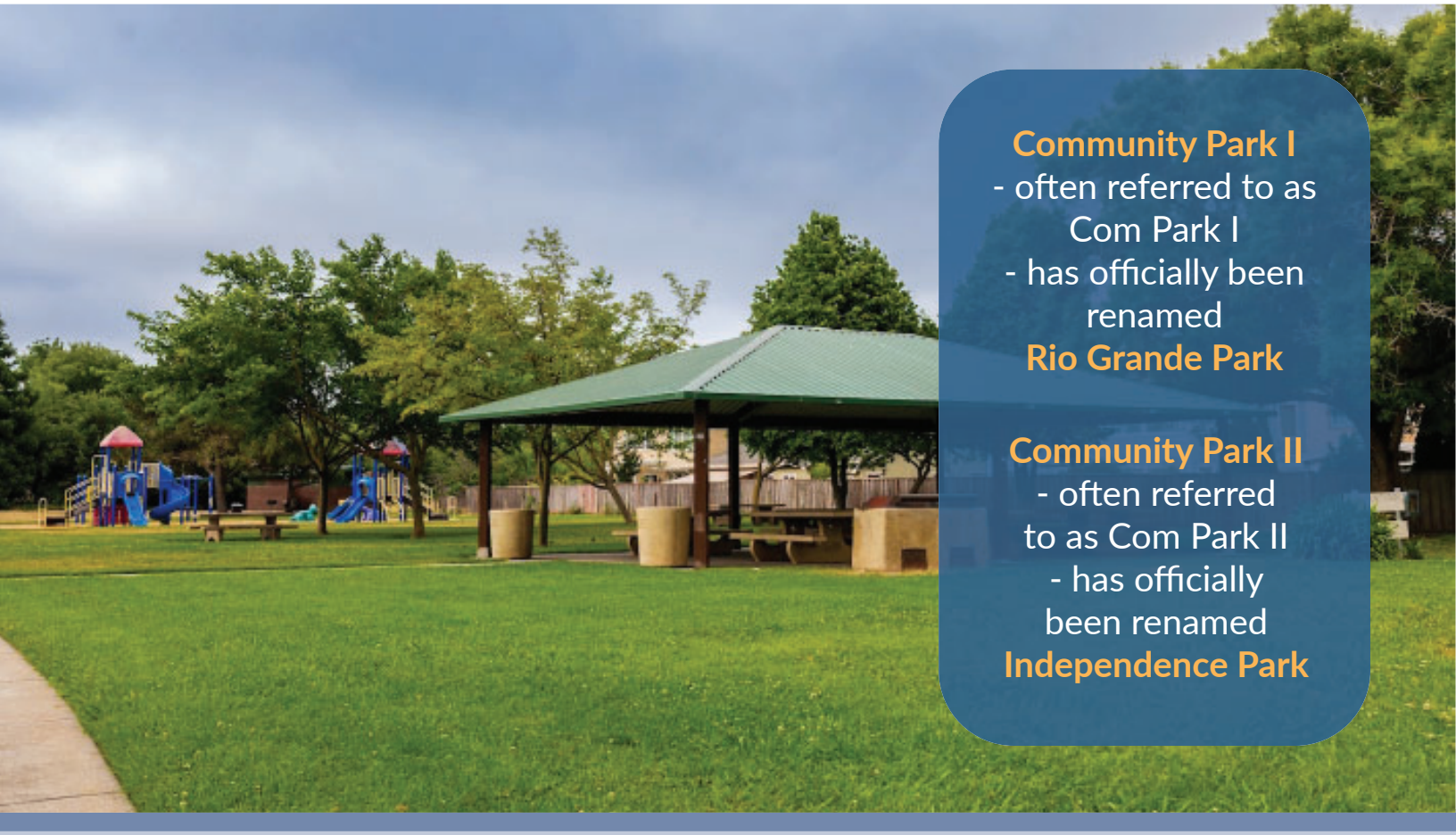
2.4.3 Community Parks

Community Parks are spaces that typically range from approximately 4.5 to 40 acres and are designed to serve the entire community. These parks provide space for a wider variety of recreational amenities and gathering areas that support both everyday use and larger community activities. Because of their size and amenities, they also support larger civic gatherings and community events like our 4th of July celebration and Memorial Day Ceremony — bringing our community together, fostering civic pride, supporting active lifestyles, and providing a place to connect together.

The City has five Community Parks listed in **Table 2.4.**

Table 2-4: Community Parks

Name	Address/Location	Acreage
Rio Grande Park (Formerly Community Park I)	1400 Rio Grande Drive	8.74
Shenandoah Park	100 Sonoma Way	5.67
Independence Park (Formerly Community Park II)	20 Benton Way	4.94
Kimberly Park	600 Kimberly Way	7.55
Little League Complex	280 Napa Junction Road	6.55
Veterans Memorial Park	2801 Broadway	14.36
	Total Community Park Acreage	**47.81**



Rio Grande Park



Amenities

- Baseball Fields
- Covered Picnic/ Gazebo
- Grass Turf Field
- Horseshoe/ Volleyball
- Open Lawn Space
- Parking Lot
- Picnic Rental
- Picnic Table(s)
- Play Structure
- Restrooms
- Walking Paths

Quick Facts

Park Type: Community Park

Location: 1400 Rio Grande Drive

Size: 8.74 Acres





Shenandoah Park





Amenities

- Basketball Court
- Baseball Field
- Covered Picnic/ Gazebo
- Fitness Stations
- Grass Turf Field
- Open Lawn Space
- Parking Lot
- Picnic Rental
- Picnic Table(s)
- Play Structure
- Restrooms
- Storywalk
- Walking Paths

Quick Facts

Park Type: Community Park
Location: 100 Sonoma Creek Way
Size: 5.67 Acres





Independence Park



Amenities

- Benches
- Boys/Girls Club
- Grass Turf Field
- Open Lawn Space
- Parking Lot
- Picnic Table(s)
- Walking Paths

Quick Facts

Park Type: Community Park

Location: 20 Benton Way

Size: 4.94 Acres







Kimberly Park



Amenities

- Benches
- Lighted Walking Paths
- Grass Turf Field
- Open Lawn Space
- Parking Lot
- Picnic Rental
- Picnic Table(s)
- Restrooms

Quick Facts

Park Type: Community Park

Location: 600 Kimberly Way

Size: 7.55 Acres

Planned Expansion: 2.53 Acres





Veterans Memorial Park



Amenities

- Benches
- Covered Picnic/ Gazebo
- Dog Park
- Open Lawn Space
- Parking Lot
- Picnic Rental
- Picnic Table(s)
- Play Structure
- Portable Restrooms
- Skatepark/Bocce
- Walking Paths

Quick Facts

Park Type: Community Park

Location: 2801 Broadway

Size: 14.36 Acres

Planned Expansion: 0.26 Acres



Little League Complex



Amenities

- Baseball Field(s)
- Batting Cages
- Benches
- Buildings
- Parking Lot
- Picnic Table(s)
- Play Structure
- Restrooms
- Snack Bar

Quick Facts

Park Type: Community Park

Location: 280 Napa Junction Road

Size: 6.55 Acres





2.5 Community/Recreation Centers

The City of American Canyon owns three recreation centers. Each center features a wide variety of programming designed to encourage play, learning, social interaction, and enhance quality of life for people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. All three facilities also serve as important focal points for the City's diverse communities since they can be rented by community members and non-profit organizations. The size and location of each facility is listed in **Table 2-5.**

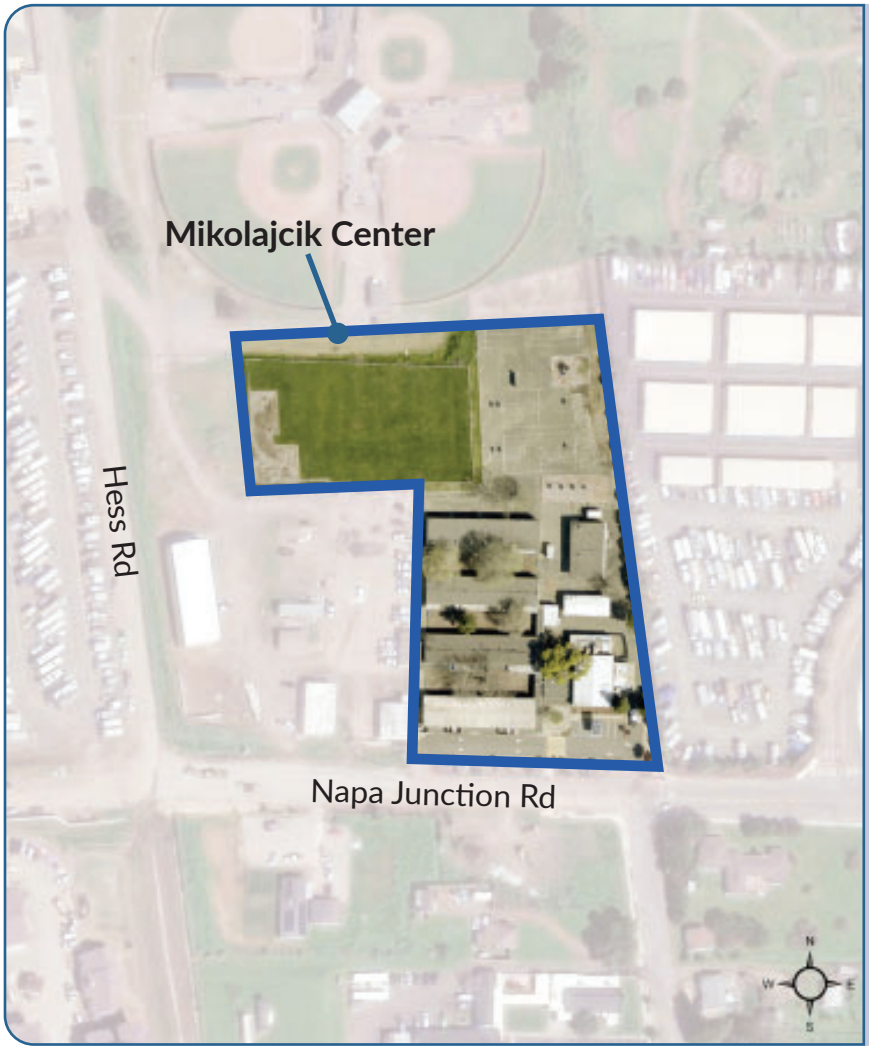
Table 2-5: Community/Recreation Centers

Name	Address/Location	Acreage
Recreation Center	2193 Elliott Drive	0.25
Adult Activity Center	2185 Elliott Drive	0.25
Mikolajcik Community Center (Formerly Napa Junction)	300 Napa Junction Road	3.88
Total Community Center Acreage		**4.38**

The Community Center has been renamed Mikolajcik Community Center. John "Mickey" Mikolajcik (1921–2008) was a longtime American Canyon resident, developer, and founder of Mid City Nursery, Inc. (1954). Known as the "Father of American Canyon," he played a key role in shaping the community through decades of civic leadership. His service included the American Canyon School Board, the Napa County Board of Supervisors, and helping establish essential local institutions such as the Volunteer Fire Department and District, Water District, Recreation District, and ultimately the City of American Canyon.



Mikolajcik Center



Amenities

- Basketball Courts
- Classrooms
- Benches
- Building Rentals
- Grass Turf Area
- Kitchen
- Multipurpose Room
- Parking Lot
- Play Structure
- Restrooms

Quick Facts

Type: Community Center

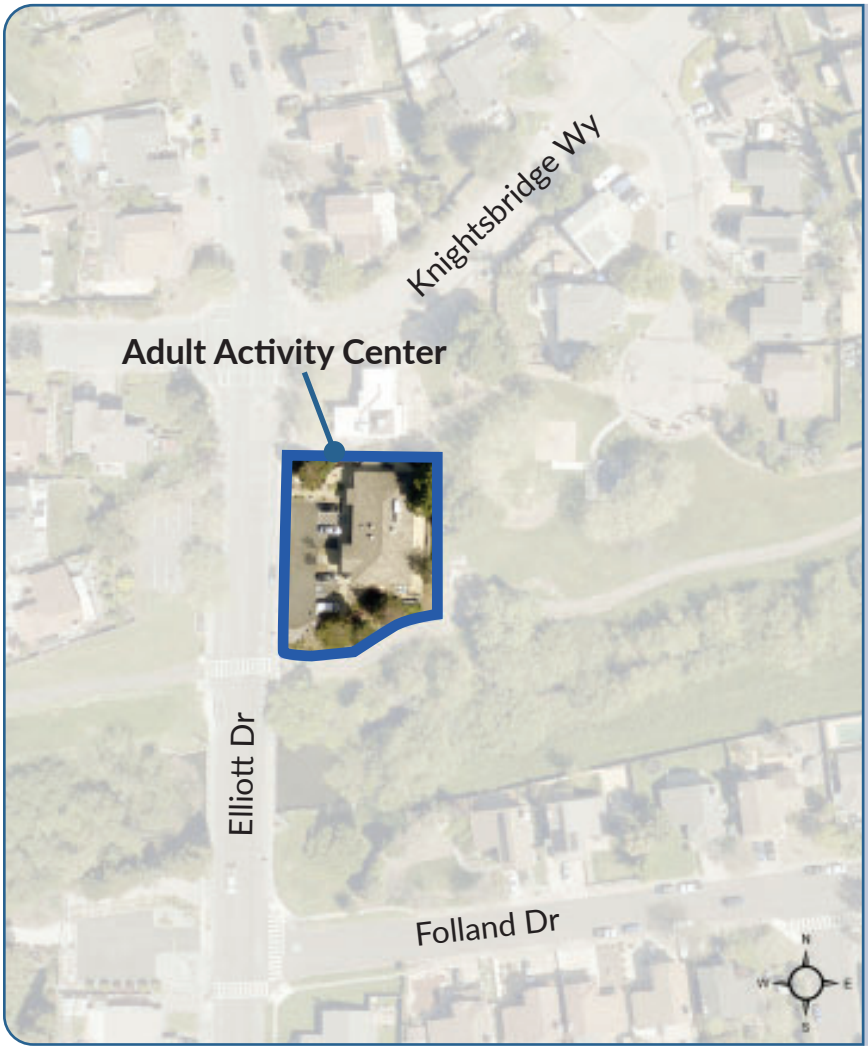
Location: 300 Napa Junction Road

Size: 3.88 Acres





Adult Activity Center



Amenities

- Building Rentals
- Kitchen
- Multipurpose Room
- Parking Lot
- Restrooms

Quick Facts

Type: Community Center

Location: 2185 Elliot Drive

Size: .25 Acres





Recreation Center



Amenities

- Benches
- Building Rentals
- Parking Lot
- Restrooms

Quick Facts

Type: Community Center

Location: 2193 Elliott Drive

Size: .25 Acres





2.5 Phillip West Aquatic Center

The City's Phillip West Aquatics Center offers a wide range of youth and adult programming, including learn-to-swim lessons, water aerobics, and recreational swimming. The facility also supports community use through rentals for swim teams, pool parties, and special events. As the only public pool facility in American Canyon, the Aquatic Center provides an important space for swim instruction, recreation, and water safety programming for the community. The Aquatic Center location and size is located in **Table 2-6.**

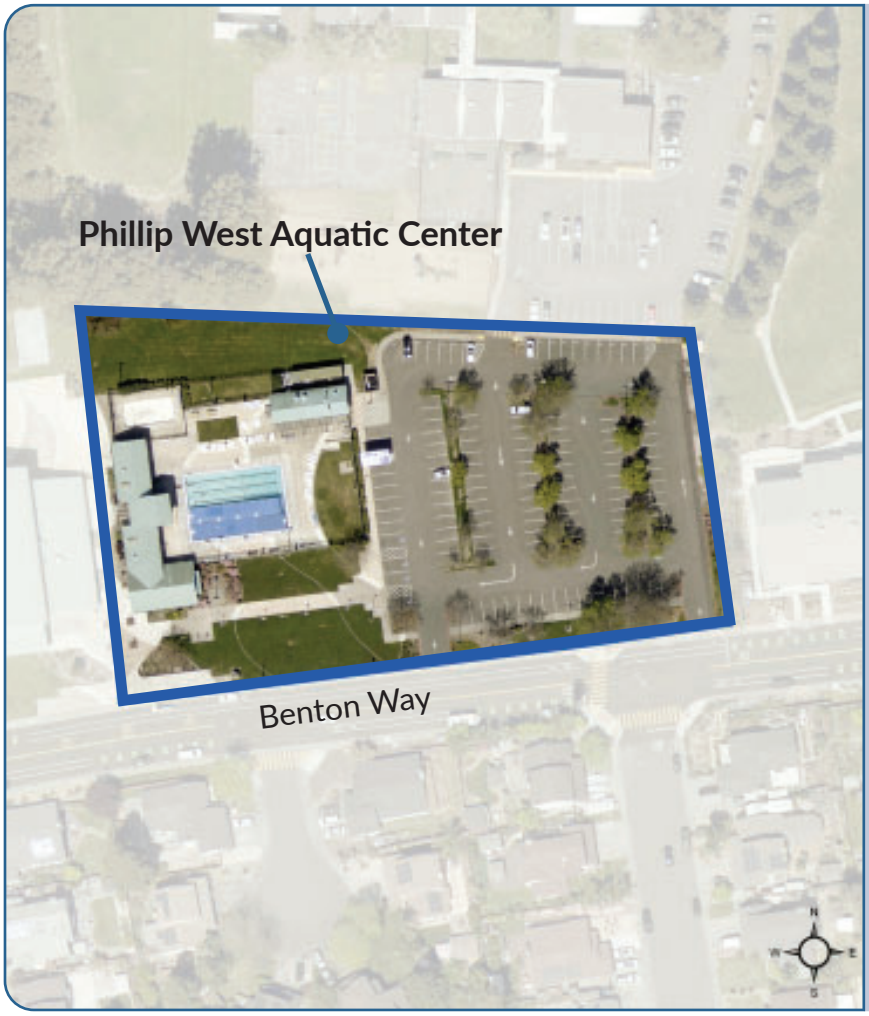
Table 2-6: Phillip West Aquatic Center

Name	Address/Location	Acreage
Phillip West Aquatic Center (6 Lanes; small play pool)	100 Benton Way	1.31
Total Aquatic Complex Acreage		**1.31**

The Phillip West Aquatics Center was named in honor of Lance Corporal Phillip West, a United States Marine who was killed in action in Fallujah, Iraq on November 19, 2004. Prior to his military service, Phillip was a dedicated member of the American Canyon community, serving as a lifeguard, swim instructor, and swim coach at this very facility. We honor his bravery and service to our country.



Phillip West Aquatic Center



Amenities

- 6 Lane Pool
- Benches
- Buildings
- Grass Turf Area
- Lockers
- Picnic Table(s)
- Ping Pong Table
- Rental
- Restrooms
- Showers
- Snack Bar

Quick Facts

Type: Aquatic Center
Location: 100 Benton Way
Size: 1.31 Acres





2.6 Community Garden

The Community Garden has been in existence since before the City of American Canyon was incorporated. The American Canyon Community Garden provides residents with an opportunity to grow fresh food, learn about gardening, and connect with neighbors through shared outdoor space. The garden covers approximately 1.12 acres and includes 102 individual garden plots, each measuring approximately 15 by 20 feet.

Of the 102 plots, 98 are available for community members and four are maintained by the City. Two of the City-managed plots support programming at the Adult Activity Center, while two plots are used for food donation efforts that help support the broader community.

The Community Garden serves as an important neighborhood resource that promotes healthy living, environmental stewardship, and community connection through hands-on gardening and outdoor activity.

Table 2-7: Community Garden

Name	Address/Location	Acreage
Community Garden	2247 Elliott Dr	1.12
	Total Acreage	**1.12**



Community Garden



Amenities

- Garden Plots
- Parking Lot

Quick Facts

Location: 2247 Elliot Drive
Size: 1.12 Acres





2.7 Open Space

Open Space consists of natural or minimally developed lands that are preserved for environmental protection, habitat conservation, watershed protection, and passive recreation. These areas may be owned or managed by the City and the City is committed to protecting and preserving these lands through thoughtful planning, responsible stewardship, and partnerships.

Open Space often includes trail networks that allow residents and visitors to access and experience the natural landscape. While certain areas may have restrictions to protect sensitive habitats and ecological resources, these properties can provide recreational opportunities like hiking, walking, bird watching, bicycling, and other passive recreational uses – with the broader goal of allowing people to experience and connect with nature while preserving the ecological integrity of these landscapes. Through this approach of carefully balancing recreation with conservation, American Canyon's open spaces provide meaningful opportunities for outdoor recreation, environmental learning, and appreciation of the community's natural beauty.

Table 2-8: Open Space

Name	Address/Location	Acreage
Newell Open Space	7000 Newell Drive	640
Wetlands Edge, including Clarke Ranch 2.0	2 Eucalyptus Drive	537
	Total Open Space Acreage	**1,177**



2.7.1 Newell Open Space Preserve

The Newell Open Space Preserve was donated to the City by Jack and Bernice Newell in 1999. The preserve encompasses approximately 640 acres of rolling hills and agricultural open land with year-round cattle grazing. The City owns and operates the property in partnership with the Land Trust of Napa County, which holds the conservation easement. Most of the preserve is located east of the city; however, the trailhead is within city limits, near the intersection of Newell Drive and Donaldson Way. The preserve offers opportunities for low-density, passive recreational use, allowing residents and visitors to experience the area's natural beauty while protecting its ecological and cultural resources.

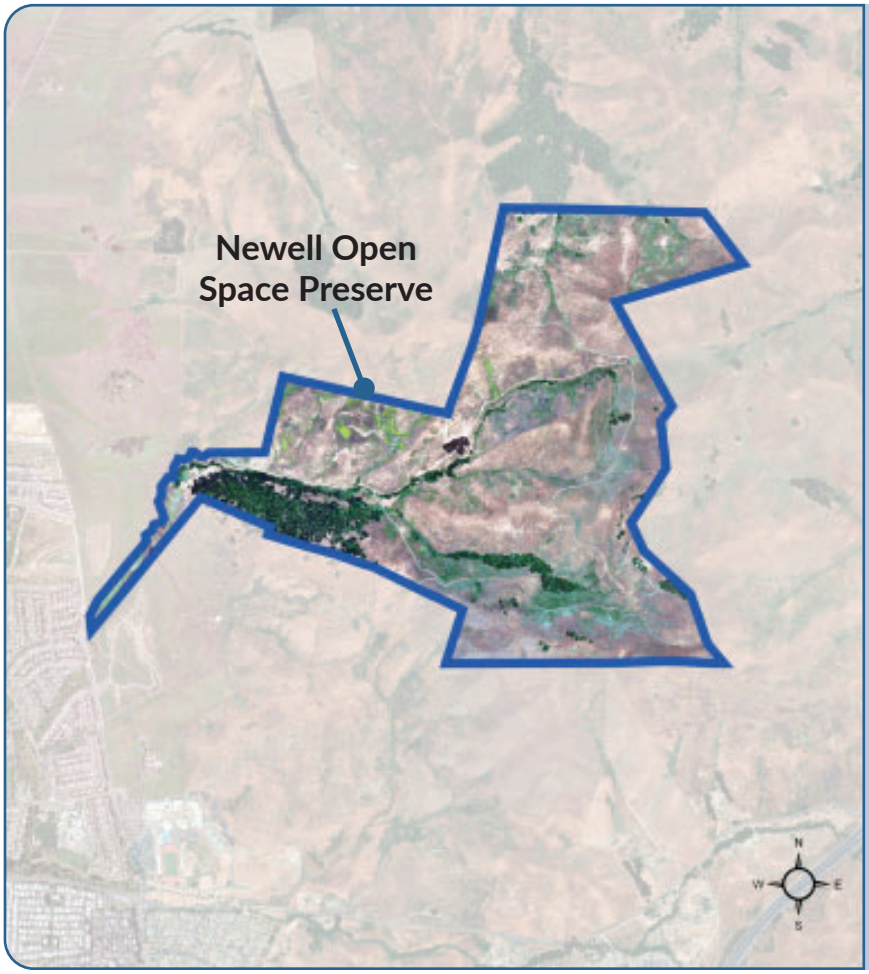
The property includes approximately five miles of multi-use trails designed for hiking, bicycling, and equestrian use. The trail system is classified as a Class II multi-use trail with moderate terrain, inviting individuals of varying skill levels to explore and enjoy the natural environment while fostering a shared appreciation for the outdoors. Visitors are expected to remain on designated trails and respect wildlife and their habitats. The trail system is maintained in its natural condition, and trail conditions may vary throughout the year depending on weather and environmental factors. Permitted recreational activities include hiking, horseback riding, bicycling, wildlife observation, nature study, environmental education, photography, kite flying, scenic painting, and meditation. These activities are designed to be compatible with the conservation objectives of the preserve, ensuring minimal impact on its ecological and cultural resources.

In recent years, the City has invested in sustainable vegetation management practices to protect the biodiversity of ecological systems and sensitive habitats. These efforts include seasonal sheep grazing conducted twice annually in the lower portion of the property, outside of the cattle pasture. In 2024, the City completed the Newell Open Space Project, which included construction of the Newell Parking Lot, improvements to the first 100 feet of the trailhead, and installation of trailhead security gates. These gates help prevent unauthorized access during park closures due to inclement weather or Red Flag Warning conditions.

Additional information about the property can be found in the Newell Open Space Management Plan available on the City's website.



Newell Open Space Preserve



Amenities

- Benches
- Parking Lot
- Picnic Benches
- Portable Restroom
- Trails

Quick Facts

Type: Open Space Park
Location: 7000 Newell Drive
Size: 640 Acres





2.7.2 Wetlands Edge Park

Wetland Edge Park is one of the most unique natural areas connected to American Canyon. Located along the Napa River just outside the city limits, the park is jointly owned by the City of American Canyon, the Napa-Vallejo Waste Management Authority, and the State of California. From 1942 through the 1990s, a portion of the property served as a municipal landfill for Napa and Solano counties. Following its closure, the landfill was capped and transformed into a recreational and ecological resource for the community. Between 1990 and 2000, significant restoration efforts were undertaken to reestablish tidal and seasonal wetlands, restoring valuable Baylands habitat for fish, waterfowl, shorebirds, and other wildlife species.

The City of American Canyon gained public access to this regional park in 2010. Today, the park attracts more than 280 visitors daily for passive recreational activities such as walking, running, bicycling, fishing, and birdwatching, as well as outdoor programming offered through the City and community partners. The wetlands now feature more than 10 miles of trails managed through partnerships with the City, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Napa County Parks and Open Space District, including segments of the San Francisco Bay Trail.

In addition to its trail network, the park includes an outdoor gymnasium. In 2025, the City completed the Outdoor Education Project, which added an all-season outdoor pavilion, expanded trail connections, an interpretive garden with native plantings, and a park restroom. These amenities were thoughtfully designed to support environmental education, passive recreation, and stewardship while preserving the ecological integrity of the site. Through guided programs, interpretive features, and accessible outdoor spaces, the park provides opportunities for visitors of all ages to learn about local ecosystems, engage with the natural environment, and develop a deeper appreciation for the region's unique wetlands. This balanced approach demonstrates that public access and recreational use can be carefully integrated with habitat protection and long-term sustainability.



Wetlands Edge



Amenities

- Benches
- Bicycle Repair Station
- Gazebo
- Interpretive Signs
- Parking Lot
- Picnic Benches
- Restroom
- Trails
- Workout Equipment

Quick Facts

Type: Open Space Park
Location: 2 Eucalyptus Drive
Size: 513 Acres





CLARKE RANCH 2.0

Clarke Ranch was originally envisioned as part of a Master Plan for Wetlands Edge Park as it sits adjacent to it. Since that time, the vision for Clarke Ranch has organically evolved into what is now referred to as Clarke Ranch 2.0. As planning efforts progressed, several elements of the original concept shifted or were refined. For example, the Ecology Center originally proposed for the site has since been moved to the City's former Corporation Yard. Additionally, the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, which was previously contemplated as part of the broader vision for the area, has been relocated to Carneros. Both these examples are no longer included within the Clarke Ranch planning area or considered as part of the Clarke Ranch Master Plan. While the original Clarke Ranch Master Plan remains relevant and continues to inform the long-term vision for the area, it will be reviewed separately from this Master Plan and will be revisited in the future as planning efforts continue and evolve.

Clarke Ranch now serves as a unique community programming space. The property is home to valued community partners including 4-H and Spirit Horse, who provide youth development programs, equestrian related activities, and hands-on learning experiences for the community. These partnerships help activate the site while offering recreational and educational opportunities that are not typically found in traditional park settings.

Today, Clarke Ranch complements Wetlands Edge Park. In 2026, the City completed the Outdoor Education Project in the Wetlands Edge Park, which included the construction of an all season outdoor education pavilion, an interpretive garden, new walking trails, and a park restroom. These improvements expanded opportunities for environmental education and outdoor programming within Wetlands Edge. Since the two properties sit adjacent to each other, the Outdoor Education Project in conjunction with Clarke Ranch create a unique destination where residents can connect with nature, participate in education programs, and experience a different side of recreation right here in American Canyon.



Clarke Ranch 2.0



Amenities

- 4-H
- Animal Pens
- Garden
- Stables
- Spirithorse

Quick Facts

Type: Open Space Park
Location: Eucalyptus Drive and Wetlands Edge Court
Size: 24 Acres





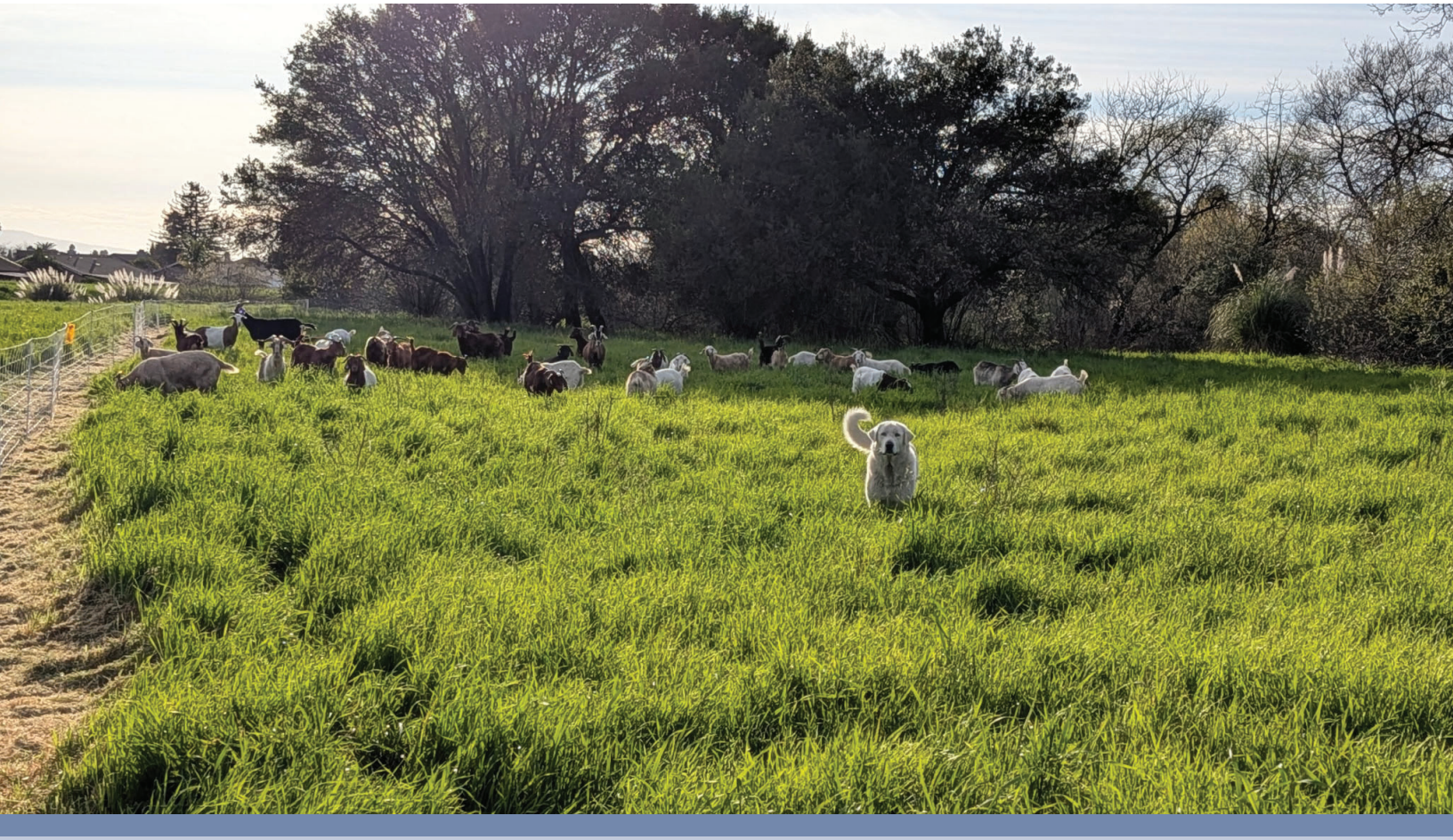
2.8 Conservation Lands

Conservation lands are properties permanently protected to preserve sensitive habitats, natural resources, and ecological functions. These lands may be owned by the City or another entity and are subject to legal agreements or conservation easements that limit development, public access, and use.

Unlike the City's open space areas, conservation lands are not intended for public access and do not include recreational amenities or trail systems within their boundaries. Instead, they serve an essential role in preserving the region's natural landscape and supporting wildlife habitat throughout the community. While a network of trails connects neighborhoods and parks across the City, these trails run adjacent to the conservation lands but generally do not pass through them to protect sensitive environments. As part of this Master Plan, American Canyon includes approximately 168 acres of conservation lands, which are counted as part of the City's overall park acreage. Due to their restricted use and conservation purpose, these areas are not included as individual park sites in Section 2 as they do not have public amenities specific to each location.

Table 2-9: Conservation Lands

Name	Address/Location	Acreage
Conservation Lands	Varies	168
	Total Conservation Lands Acreage	**168**



2.9 Trails

The City of American Canyon hosts a wide variety of regional trail systems that connect the city to surrounding cities and the Greater San Francisco Bay Area. From paved paths along the Napa River to ridge top hikes, the trail systems in this section provide scenic views, recreation opportunities, and adventures for all.

This trail network is supported by the City in conjunction with several regional partners. These include the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District, the Napa Valley Vine Trail Coalition, the San Francisco Bay Trail, and the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council. Refer to **Figure 2-2, Existing Trails.**

2.9.1 Napa Valley Vine Trail

The Napa Valley Vine Trail is spearheaded by the nonprofit Napa Valley Vine Trail Coalition to construct a 47-mile walking and biking trail system connecting the entire Napa Valley from the Vallejo Ferry terminal to Calistoga. A total of 47 miles is envisioned when the trail network is complete. As of 2025, approximately 3.25 miles have been completed within American Canyon. The completed Vine Trail paths exist in two different sections of the City, and are currently not connected. There is a plan to connect the two sections of the trail through the new Watson Ranch development.

2.9.2 The Bay Trail

The San Franciso Bay Trail is a regional effort led by the San Francisco Bay Trail Coalition to develop a 500-mile network of walking and bicycling trails that will ultimately encircle the San Francisco Bay.

In American Canyon, a segment of the Bay Trail is located adjacent to Meadow Bay Drive and Wetland Edge Road, continuing north along the Napa River to the eastern side of Brazos Railroad Bridge. The Bay Trail is largely complete within the City, with only two segments currently proposed for development. One segment would extend the Wetlands Edge Trail between Kensington Way and Kimberly Drive through the wetlands area. The second would traverse the open space behind homes along Dutch Flat Road and Severus Drive. While these segments remain unfinished, existing routes allow for continued connectivity. Users can connect to the Napa Valley Vine Trail via American Canyon Road or utilize local trail connections through Kimberly Park, the Par Course Trail, or neighborhood sidewalks to link existing Bay Trail segments.

Although the Bay Trail is well established within American Canyon, the full regional trail system remains incomplete. Future plans include extending the trail north of the Brazos Railroad Bridge.

2.9.3 Ridge Trail

The Bay Area Ridge Trail Council, a nonprofit organization encompassing representatives from public and private organizations, has sponsored planning for a 550-mile Ridge Trail that would traverse the ridgelines surrounding the San Francisco Bay. The closest Ridge Trail to American Canyon traverses Hiddenbrooke in Vallejo, north to Lynch Canyon, with a plan to connect into Skyline Wilderness Park in the City of Napa. The trail crosses into Newell Open Space while traversing the ridge between Newell Open Space and Lynch Canyon. The South Loop trail within Newell Open Space is also recognized as a connector trail for the Bay Area Ridge Trail.

Within American Canyon a planned River to Ridge Trail would connect the Bay Trail next to the Napa River to the Ridge Trail in Lynch Canyon through the Newell Open Space Preserve.

2.9.4 American Canyon Wetlands Trail

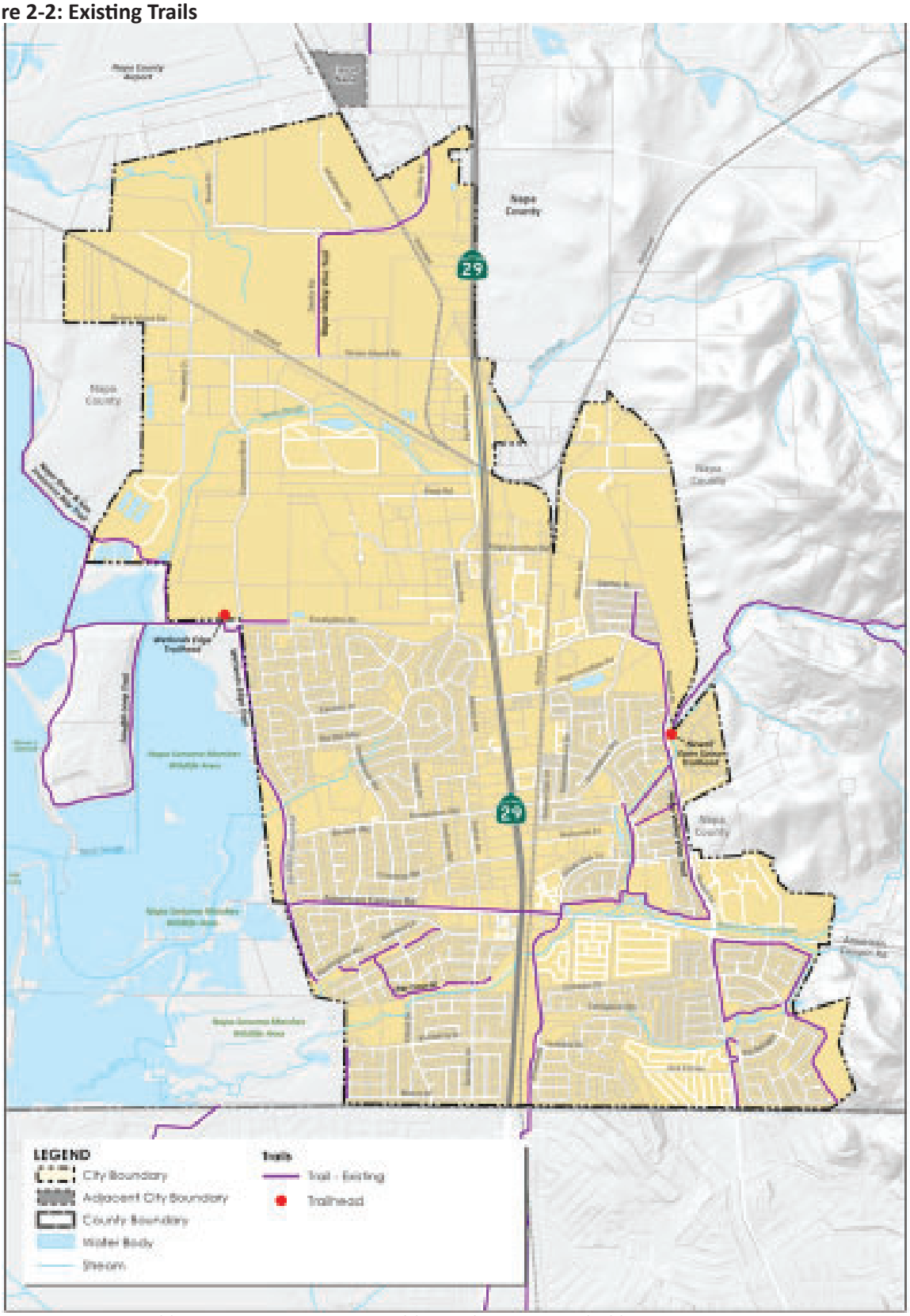
The American Canyon Wetlands trail was opened to the public in 2010. This five-mile paved trail (Class I) network showcases the Napa River, associated marshes, and beautiful views across town east to the Newell Open Space. This trail is a regional draw and hosts visitors from across the state and country. It is a hub for various recreational activities including walking, running, hiking, biking, bird watching, dog walking, fishing, photography, and many more. This trail system is one of the most beloved places in American Canyon.

2.9.5 Park Connector Trails

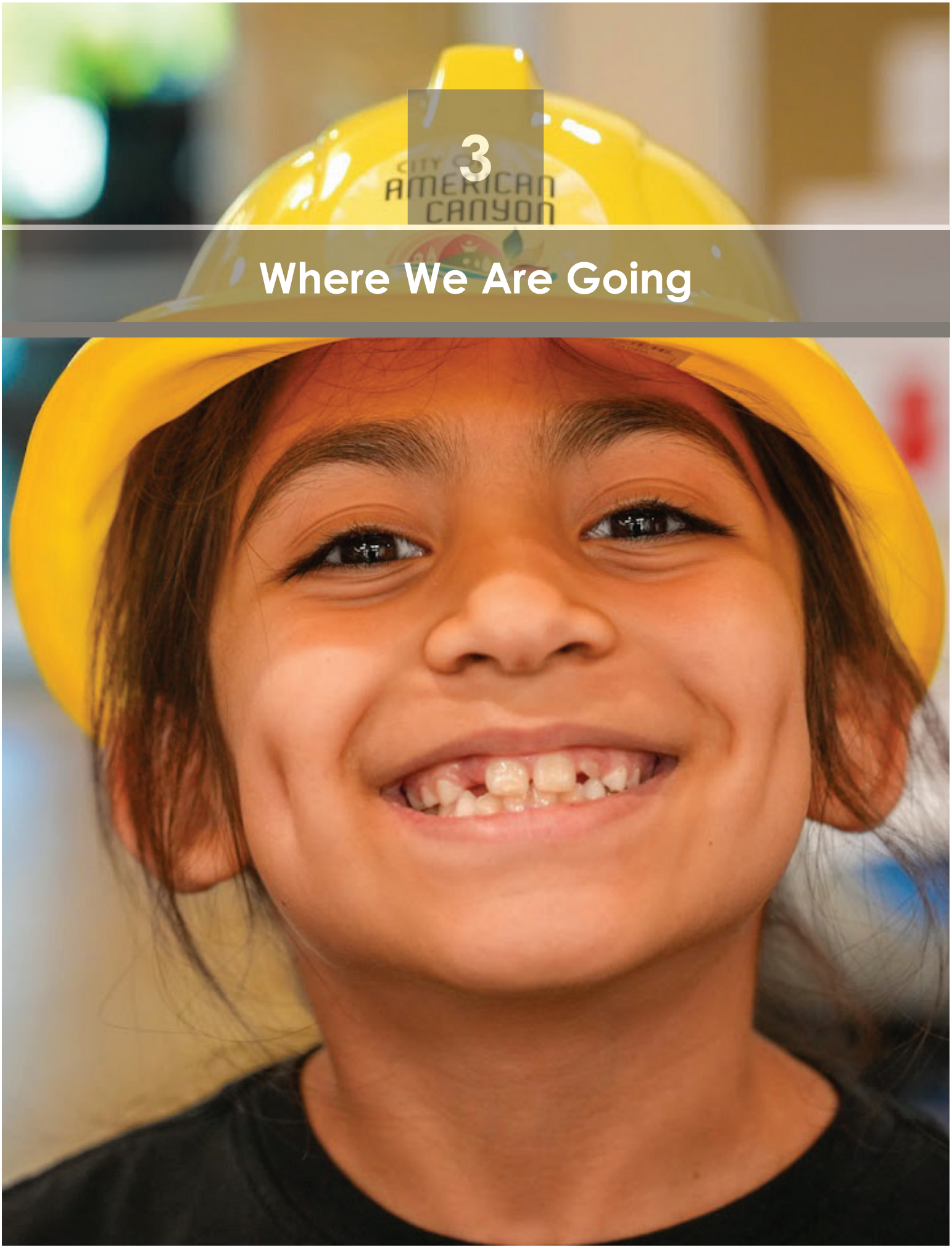
American Canyon parks have several connection trails that link multiple parks together and provide scenic walking or biking paths through the neighborhoods. The Par Course is a multi-use path that connects North Hampton Park, the Community Garden, Elliot Park, Linwood Park, Danrose Sports Court, and Banbury Park. There is also a collection of paths connecting Shenandoah and Silver Oak Parks together. Finally, there are some paths surrounding the La Vigne Community connecting Via Bellagio and Montecarlo parks. These park connector trails provide additional recreational opportunities for the community and allow access to multiple parks without the need for driving.



Figure 2-2: Existing Trails



Source: Prepared by RRM Design Group; Additional Data Provided by Napa County



Where We Are Going

CHAPTER 3:
WHERE WE ARE GOING

As American Canyon continues to grow and evolve, so too must the City's parks, recreation programs, and open spaces. This Parks and Recreation Master Plan provides a roadmap for the future, one that builds upon the community's strengths while preparing for the needs of tomorrow. The plan reflects shared commitment to ensuring that parks and recreation continue to enhance quality of life and support American Canyon as a welcoming and vibrant place to live, work, and play.

Community input played a critical role in shaping the direction of this plan. Through questionnaires, stakeholder conversations, and community engagement opportunities, residents shared their perspectives on parks, recreation programs, trails, and open spaces. This input helped the City better understand how residents use parks today and how the parks and recreation system can continue to evolve to meet the needs of the community into the future.

Planning for the future also means recognizing that American Canyon is a diverse and multi-generational community with a wide range of recreation interests and needs. As the City grows, the parks and recreation systems must continue to adapt by balancing the care of existing parks with opportunities to expand amenities, improve access to nature, and provide meaningful recreation experiences for residents of all ages.

Guided by community input and the City's long-term planning efforts, this section outlines the strategic direction for how American Canyon will continue to expand, enhance, and connect parks and recreation opportunities to meet the growing needs of the community.



3.1 Planning For Future Park Needs

Planning for parkland in American Canyon is guided by the level of service standards established in the City's adopted 2040 General Plan, the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Element. The General Plan establishes goals and policies to guide provision of parks, trails, and open space throughout the city. In particular, Goal PR-2and Policy PR-2.1 call for providing a variety of mini, neighborhood, community, and regional park facilities to achieve a minimum of 5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.

This standard serves as the foundation for evaluating existing park resources, identifying gaps in service, and planning for future parkland as the community grows. It ensures that parkland is not only provided in sufficient quantity, but also distributed in a way that supports access, connectivity, and a range of recreational opportunities across the city.

American Canyon currently benefits from a strong network of parks that includes pockets parks, neighborhood parks, community parks, community and recreation centers, and open space resources. As the City grows towards an estimated population of 25,000 residents by 2040, the City will continue to assess how parkland is distributed and where additional parks, amenities, or improvements may be needed. Future planning efforts will focus on maintaining this level of service while ensuring parks remain accessible, well-integrated, and responsive to the evolving needs of the community.

3.1.1 Park Standard

American Canyon maintains a minimum of 5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.

3.1.2 Existing Park Acreage and Future Needs

The City currently maintains:

3 Pocket Parks, totaling approximately **1.0 acre**

12 Neighborhood Parks, totaling approximately **21.61 acres**.

5 Community Parks, totaling approximately **47.81 acres.**

3 Community/Recreation Centers, 1 Aquatic Center, and **1 Community Garden,** totaling approximately **6.81 acres.**

In addition to developed Parkland, the City also currently maintains:

2 Open Space parks, totaling approximately **1,177 acres.**

Conservation Lands, totaling approximately **168 acres.**

American Canyon currently includes approximately 1,422 acres of parkland, which reflects the City's total inventory for parks, community and recreation centers, open spaces, and conservations lands. However, the City's General Plan standard of 5 acres per 1,000 residents applies specifically to parkland and facilities that are accessible and designed for public use. Based on this standard, the City currently provides 77.23 acres of qualifying parkland – this metric includes acreage from our pocket parks, neighborhood parks, community parks, and community and recreation centers.

The difference between these two totals reflects conservation lands and open spaces, which are included in the City's overall acreage but are not counted toward the park standard. While these areas provide important environmental benefits, they are either not publicly accessible or provide limited recreational access. Together, parklands, open spaces, and conservation lands contribute to the community in different ways – providing spaces for recreation, gathering, and programming, while also preserving natural habitats and supporting ecological health.

American Canyon currently does not meet the parkland standard established under General Plan Goal PR-2, as summarized in Table 3-1 (Parkland Level of Service). Table 3-1 also identifies future parkland needs based on the 2040 General Plan population projections, indicating that as the community grows, the City's deficit in parkland will increase without the addition of new park facilities.

3.2 Continual Parkland Acquisition

Table 3-1: Parkland Level of Service

Current Inventory and Service Levels				Future Parks Level of Service			
Park Type	**American Canyon Existing Park Acreage[1]**	**Service Level Standard** **5.0 acres per 1,000 residents**	**Meets Standard/ Need Exists[2]** *108.46 - 77.23 acres = -31.23*	**American Canyon Planned Park Acreage**	**American Canyon Total Planned Park Acreage**	**Meets Standard/ Need Exists[3]** *2040 Population = 25,280/1,000 = 25.280 x 5 =* *= 126.5 - 124.93= -1.57 acres*	**Additional Acreage Needed**
Parkland	**77.23**	2024 Population 21,691/1,000 = 21.691 x 5 = **108.46**	**-31.23 acres** Below Standard	47.7	124.93	**-1.57 acres** Below Standard	1.57 acres

[1]The Existing Park Acreage is calculated using the total park acreage of the City's Pocket Parks, Neighborhood Parks, Community Parks, Community Center, Aquatic Center, Community Garden, and Recreation Center.
[2]Population estimate of 21,691 based on 2024 Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) data set.
[3]Future population estimate of 25,280 was taken from the American Canyon Housing 6th Cycle Housing Element.



With anticipated population growth over the next two decades, acquiring additional parkland will remain an important strategy for meeting the City's parkland standards and supporting the needs of residents and visitors. The City will pursue land acquisition when feasible, with a special focus on acquiring land where the needs are the greatest, and where the future park spaces would be used by the most people.

An additional priority for the City is to establish adequate resource levels, including funding and staffing, to deliver safe, clean and well-maintained parks for all communities across the City. This is essential to creating an equitable park system.

3.2.1 Park Expansions

Planned park expansions including parks, open spaces, trails, and athletics fields have been identified to be added to the City's park inventory in the next five years. These are shown on the map, **Figure 3-1 Future Parks and Planned Improvements** and are listed in **Table 3-2 Planned Park Acreage.**

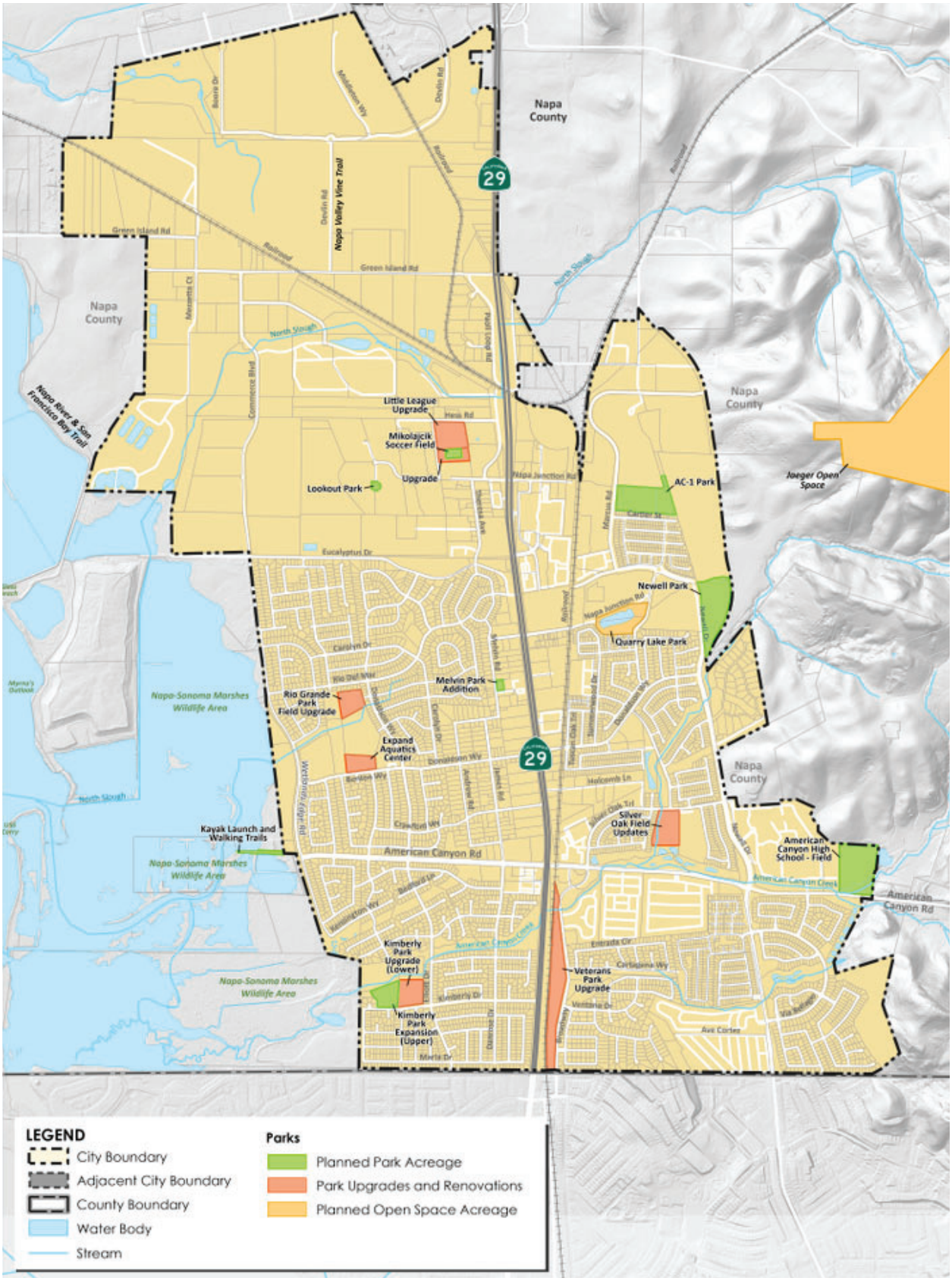
3.3 Community Engagement

Table 3-2 Planned Park Acreage

Name	Planned Park Acreage	Planned Open Space Acreage
Kimberly Park	4.13 acres	--
Melvin Park	0.61 acres	--
Mikolajcik Soccer Field	1.3 acres	--
Jaeger Open Space	--	400 acres
Quarry Lake Park	--	6.08 acres
American Canyon High School - Field	14.73 acres	--
Kayak Launch and Walking Trails	2 acres	--
AC 1 Park	11.49 acres	--
Newell Park	12.44 acres	--
Lookout Park	< 1 acre	--
Total	**47.7 acres**	**406.08 acres**



Figure 3-1: Future Parks and Planned Improvements



Source: Prepared by RRM Design Group; Additional Data Provided by Napa County

To understand what residents of American Canyon want from their parks, facilities, and recreation programs, the City gathered input from the community in several ways. This included an online questionnaire, interviews with local organizations, and a public open house.

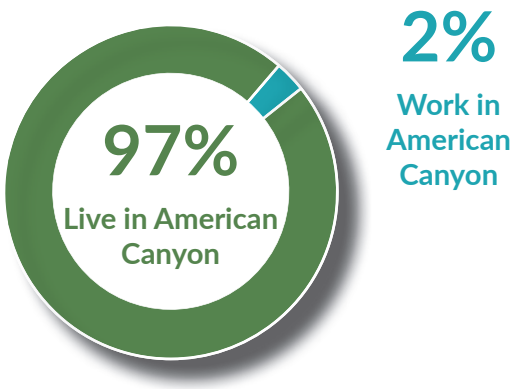
3.3.1 What We Heard

QUESTIONNAIRE

An online questionnaire was available from late July through early September 2025. Its goal was to better understand how people use parks and programs, how they view current facilities, and what improvements they would like to see. A total of 122 responses were received.

Most respondents (97%) live in American Canyon, and 2% work in the City. About 57% of respondents have children under 18 at home, 7% have adult children living with them, and 36% do not have children at home.

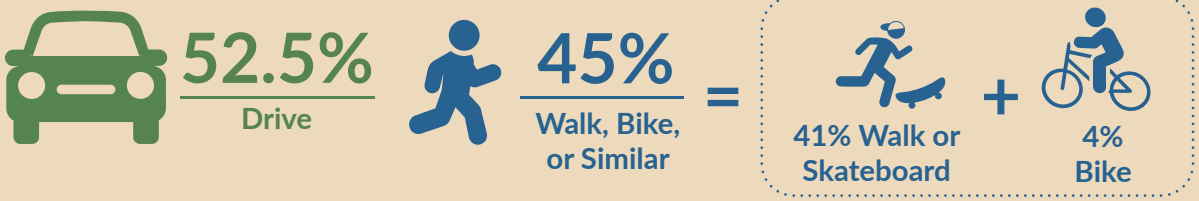
Survey Respondents that Live and Work in American Canyon



Parks & Facilities

Most respondents (52.5%) reported driving to parks, while 41% reported walking or skateboarding and 4% biking. When combined, 45% of respondents actively travel to parks using walking, biking, or similar methods.

How Respondents Access Parks:



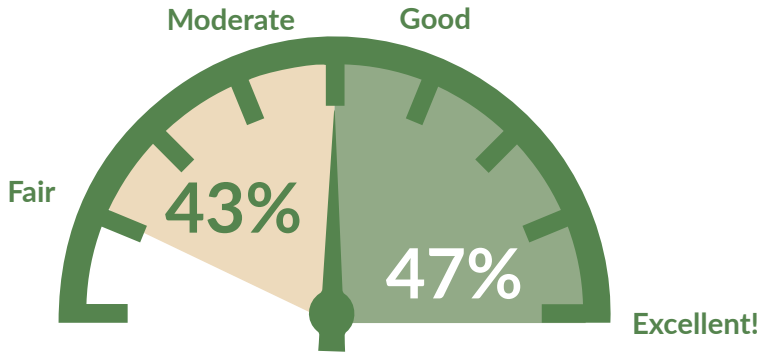
Park use is high—71% of respondents visit parks, sports fields, or recreation facilities more than twice a week, with many visiting around four times weekly.

Overall, park conditions were rated positively:

- 47% said parks are in good or excellent condition
- 43% said they are in fair to moderate condition

This means 90% of respondents felt parks were at least in acceptable condition.

Conditions of Parks



61% of respondents said they visit parks as often as they'd like. Those who wanted to visit more often mentioned barriers such as:

- Lack of permanent restrooms
- Not enough shade or drinking fountains
- Missing amenities
- Limited lighting
- Maintenance concerns
- Insufficient parking for cars and bikes

When visiting parks, people most often walk or bike, use playgrounds, play sports, and picnic.

20% of respondents said they visit Shenandoah Park, making it the most frequently visited park. The other most frequently visited parks are:

- Shenandoah Park (20.1%)
- Wetlands Edge (19.6%)
- Kimberly Park (11.7%)
- Independence Park (11.2%)
- Silver Oak Park (7.9%)
- Rio Grande Park (5.6%)

These six parks accounted for 76% of all responses.

When asked about the most important outdoor amenities, the top priorities were:



34%
Walking and Biking Trails



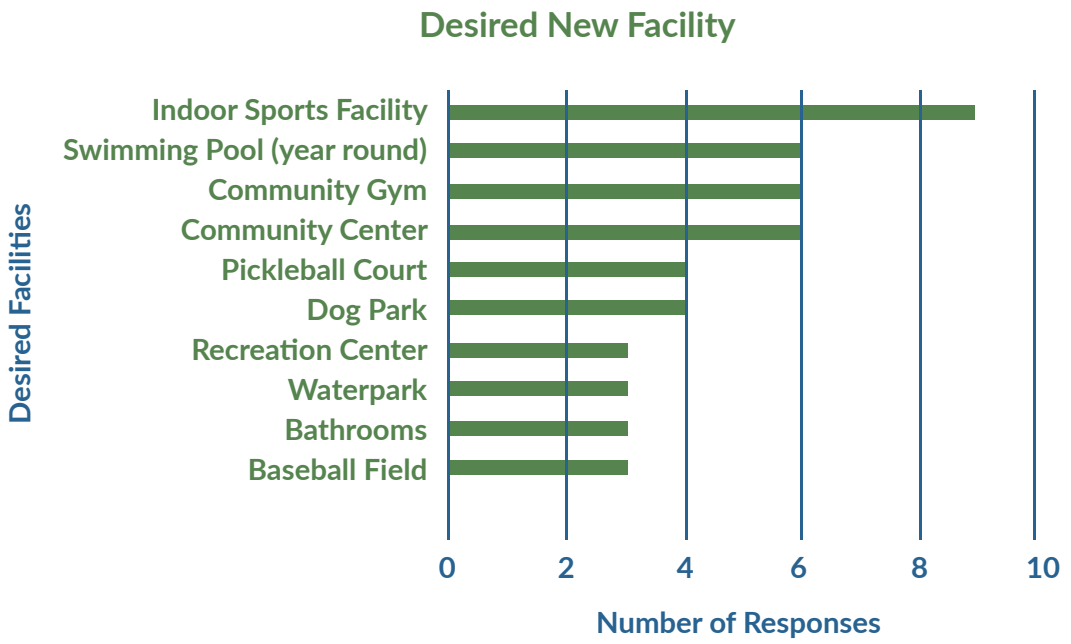
14%
Environmental and Nature Education



10%
Athletic Fields

In response to the question: If you could improve or refresh one park, facility, sports field, or open space area which would it be? The highest-ranking response was Rio Grande Park (36%), followed by Kimberly Park (23%), Shenandoah Park (21%), and Wetlands Edge (20%).

The questionnaire included the following question: If you had a magic wand and could add one new facility what would it be? The responses to this question were diverse, extensive, and in many cases very detailed. The chart below shows any desired new facility that received three (3) or more responses.



Programs

About 59% of respondents had participated in recreation programs in the past year. Among those who had not:

- 29% said programs did not interest them or meet their needs
- 12% were unaware that programs were offered

Feedback on programs was generally positive:

- 39% rated them as good or excellent
- 34% rated them as fair to moderate
- Only 2% rated them as poor

Nearly half (47%) said they participate as often as they want. Others cited barriers such as:

- Inconvenient schedules (24%)
- Lack of appealing programs (22%)
- Being too busy or not interested (20%)
- Lack of awareness (12%)
- Full classes (10%)
- Cost (9%)
- Difficult registration (8%)

Top program priorities included:

23%

Youth Sports Programs and Leagues





12%

Before- and After- School Programs

9%

Active Adult Programs Swim Lessons



Overall, responses showed:

- High park and trail usage
- Strong satisfaction with facilities and programs
- High demand for walking and biking trails
- Interest in fitness programs and community events
- Ongoing need for additional and improved facilities

STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS

The project team also met with 11 local organizations that use or provide recreation services. These conversations highlighted a strong need for:

- Improved sports fields (soccer and baseball)
- Better pool facilities
- Lighting for evening use
- More permanent restrooms

OPEN HOUSE

A public open house was held on October 9, 2025. The team shared current findings and explained the planning process. Community members were invited to provide feedback.

During the meeting, participants emphasized:

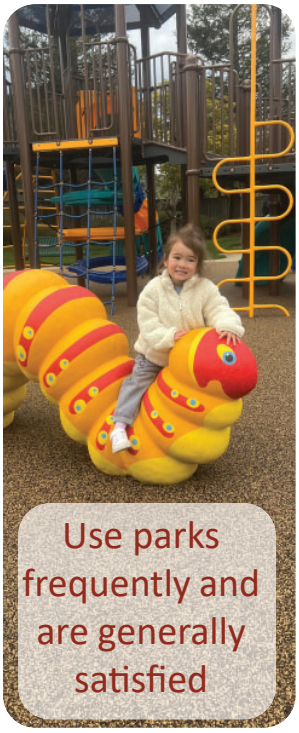
- The importance of equity
- The need to maintain existing facilities
- Concerns about families leaving the city for sports and recreation due to limited local options

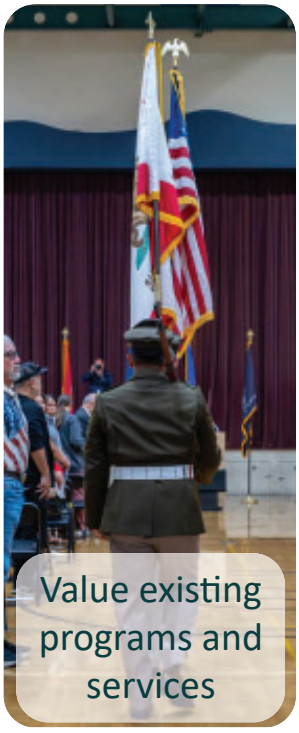


3.3.2 Community Engagement Summary

Community input—from the questionnaire, interviews, and open house—played a key role in shaping this plan.

Overall, residents:









Common themes included accessibility, affordability, quality facilities, programming for all ages, and opportunities to connect as a community.

In summary, residents appreciate American Canyon's park system and provided clear direction on how it can be improved to better meet current and future needs.



3.4 Future Park Plans

Guided by community input and an understanding of the evolving needs of our residents and community groups, improvements and opportunities have been identified, as shown in **Table 3-3 Future Park Plans.** The identified improvements demonstrate how the City intends to meet the growing needs of the community in the years ahead.

Table 3-3 Future Park Plans

Location	Desired Facility	Key Amenities	User Group	Estimated Projected Project Cost
American Canyon High School – Field	All weather sports fields	(2) Synthetic Turf Fields, field lights, park restroom, gazebo, picnic area, and pickleball courts	AC Atletico, City Programming, and facility rentals	$5,000,000
Kimberly Park (Lower)	All weather sports fields	(2) synthetic turf fields	AC Atletico, city programming, and facility rentals	$4,000,000
Kimberly Park (Upper)	Neighborhood Park	Seasonal athletic grass, playground, walking path, additional parking, gazebo with picnic area, and half-court basketball hoop	AC Atletico, Kimberly neighborhood, city programming, and facility rentals	$3,000,000
Rio Grande Park	Community Park	Remove softball field, install seasonal athletic grass, install walking path, upgrade baseball field, remove sand volleyball court and horse shoe pits, expand parking, remove fence into baseball field, and replace playground and resurface	AC Jr. Wolves, AC Little League, and Junction Valley Pony League, city programming, and facility rentals	$2,000,000
Mikolajcik Center	Community Park	Install seasonal athletic grass, and pickleball courts.	City programming, youth sports programs, facility rentals	$850,000
Silver Oak Park	Neighborhood Park	Renovate the baseball field to include Softball and Baseball	Softball and Baseball Organizations, city programs, and facility rentals	$500,000
Veterans Park	Community Park	(2) parks restrooms: 1 near Playground, 1 near bocce ball courts, and parking lot		$750,000
Melvin Park	Neighborhood Park	Playground, walking path, gazebo with picnic area, grass, and shade	Melvin neighborhood	$1,500,000

Table 3-3 Future Park Plans (continued)

Location	Desired Facility	Key Amenities	User Group	Estimated Projected Project Cost
Newell Park	Community Center	Double Gymnasium, breakout rooms, patio area, walking trails that connect to Newell Open Space, Gazebo with picnic area, interpretive garden, dance studio, weight room	City Programming, facility rentals, and user groups	$30,000,000
Oat Hill Look Out Park	Neighborhood Park	Walking trails, Benches, Viewing area	Community	$250,000
Jaeger Open Space	Open Space	Connected to Newell – would use Newell as a trail head – Mountain Bike Open Space		$600,000
Quarry Lake Park	Open Space	No swimming, or boating. This would be network of trails and fishing would be allowed		$600,000
Phillip West Aquatics Center	Aquatics Facility	Large Pool: Add (2) swim lanes to large pool, resurface, and install new rim flow and deck. Play Pool: expand with zero depth entry and play structure, into a program pool from 2 ft to 3.5 ft. Pool Facility: extend fence line to side walk on street side for more green space, add new entrance where parking lot is, and turn old entrance into staff area, and upgrade restrooms	City Programming, Ahi Swim Team and DART Swim Team	$7,000,000
American Canyon Little League	Sports Complex	Playground replacement, parking lot, paving, and field lights	American Canyon Little League	$700,000
Kayak Launch	Open Space	Walking trails, parking lot, and kayak launch with dock	Community	$600,000
			Total	**$57,350,000**

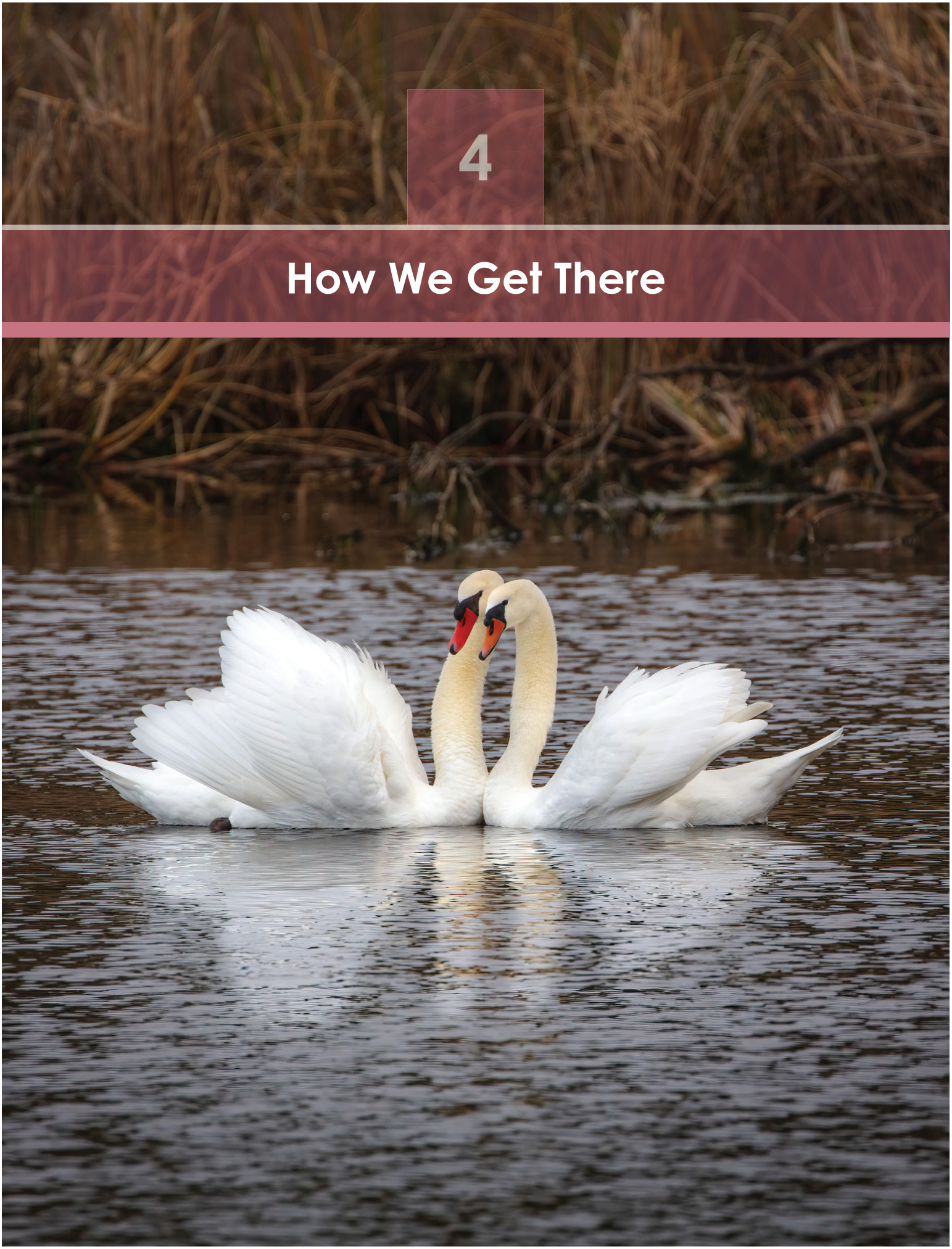
3.5 The Path Forward

Together, the strategies and projects identified in this chapter provide a clear direction for how the City's park system can continue to grow and evolve alongside the community. From maintaining parkland standards and pursuing opportunities for parkland acquisition, to expanding recreation facilities, trails, and open spaces, these efforts reflect the priorities expressed by residents and community groups.

As American Canyon continues to grow, thoughtful planning will ensure that parks remain welcoming, accessible, and reflective of the community's values. The future park improvements and expansions identified in this chapter represent an important step toward meeting the needs of a diverse and multi-generational community while continuing to enhance quality of life for residents.

4

How We Get There



CHAPTER 4:
HOW WE GET THERE

Building on the recreational priorities and future park opportunities identified in Chapter 3, this section will move from planning to implementation. Achieving the City's goals for parks, recreation, and open space will require a coordinated approach that aligns planning, funding, partnerships, and ongoing stewardship.

Delivering these improvements will depend on thoughtful investments, efficient use of resources, and continued collaboration with community partners, local organizations, and regional agencies. Implementation will occur over time and will be guided by available funding, community priorities, and the City's commitment to maintaining high quality parks and services.

Through a balanced approach that prioritizes both new investments and the care of existing facilities, American Canyon will continue to enhance its parks systems in a way that is responsible, sustainable, and reflective of the community it services.

4.1 Capital Improvement Program

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is the City's primary tool for planning, funding, and delivering park and recreation projects over time. The City develops its CIP in five-year segments, identifying and prioritizing projects based on community needs, facility conditions, and long-term planning efforts. The CIP is reviewed and confirmed annually as part of the City's budget process, allowing projects to be adjusted based on funding availability, changing priorities, and emerging needs.

In American Canyon, the CIP includes a range of projects in varying scale, including repair and replacement, improvements, and the development of new parks and facilities. These investments are essential to maintain safe, functional, and high-quality spaces while also expanding and enhancing the City's parks and recreation system. While the Master Plan identifies long-term opportunities and larger scale priorities, the CIP plays a critical role in implementing these projects over time, supporting both the care of existing assets and the delivery of new improvements for the community.

Project recommendations are informed by a variety of sources, including City Council direction, existing plans and technical studies, state and regulatory requirements, staff recommendations, commissions and advisory groups, and input from residents and community stakeholders. Projects are typically evaluated based on their ability to support public health, safety and welfare; maintain and replace existing assets; expand existing programs and services; or introduce new recreation opportunities. CIP projects generally includes capital improvements with a value of $50,000 or greater, as well as projects that repair, replace, or significantly enhance City-owned assets. All projects go through a review and recommendation process that includes the Parks and Community Services Commission and the Open Space, Active Transportation, and Sustainability Commission, with final approval by the City Council.

Funding for CIP projects is limited and primarily supported through the General Fund and Park Impact Fees, with additional funding opportunities including special funding sources, grants, donations, and, in some cases, volunteer contributions. Because resources are constrained, projects must be carefully prioritized to ensure that available funding is used effectively and aligned with the City's highest needs. Some projects may be identified as unfunded, meaning they have been prioritized but require funding before they can move forward. As funding becomes available, these projects may advance through the CIP process.

The CIP is designed to be flexible and responsive. As community needs evolve, new opportunities arise, or funding becomes available, projects may be added, adjusted, or re-prioritized. Through this process, the City ensures that investments in parks, recreation, and open space remain strategic, sustainable, and focused on maintaining and enhancing the community's existing assets.

4.2 Funding Strategy

Implementation of this Master Plan will rely on a combination of funding sources to support park improvements, investments, maintenance, and new recreation opportunities. As a growing city, American Canyon must take a balanced and strategic approach to funding, ensuring that investments in parks and recreation are thoughtfully aligned with community needs while also considering other City priorities. The City's primary funding sources are discussed below.

GENERAL FUND

The General Fund is the City's primary source of funding and is supported by revenues such as property tax, sales tax, and transient occupancy (hotel) tax. These funds are allocated to a wide range of City services, including parks and recreation programs, staffing, operations, and capital projects. As a shared resource, General Fund dollars must be carefully balanced across all City priorities.



PARK IMPACT FEES

Park Impact Fees are collected from new residential development and are used specifically for parkland acquisition and park improvements needed to serve a growing community. These funds help ensure that growth contributes to the expansion of park and recreation facilities.

REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT FUND

The Repair and Replacement Fund is a dedicated funding source established by the City Council to support the ongoing repair, replacement, and reinvestment in existing park and facility infrastructure. This fund focuses on maintaining the City's current assets, ensuring that parks and facilities remain safe, functional, and well-maintained for the community. By prioritizing the care of what the City already has, this fund plays a critical role in preserving past investments and supporting the long-term sustainability of the park system.

MISCELLANEOUS FUNDING

The City also pursues additional funding through grants, donations, and community partnerships. Grants may be available through State, Federal, or regional agencies and can support specific projects or improvements. However, grant funding is competitive, often comes with restrictions, and may not fully cover the total cost of a project.

Donations and volunteer contributions, including community-led efforts and partnerships, also play an important role in supporting park improvements and programming. While these funding sources provide valuable opportunities, they are not guaranteed and are best used to supplement, not replace, the City's primary funding sources.

REVENUE MEASURE

While the funding sources listed above support ongoing maintenance, smaller improvements, and incremental expansion of the park system, they are generally not sufficient on their own to deliver larger civic projects. Facilities such as community centers, major recreation facilities – like athletic fields and sports complex's, and significant park developments typically require a higher level of investment than can be supported through the General Fund, Parks Impact Fees, or the Repair and Replacement Fund alone.

To advance these types of projects, the City may explore additional funding strategies, including a voter-approved revenue measure to provide dedicated funding. Revenue measures offer an opportunity for the community to directly invest in major facilities and amenities that would be difficult to achieve through existing funding sources alone.

Any future revenue measure would be developed with clear project goals, community input, and a defined funding approach to ensure transparency, accountability, and alignment with community priorities.

4.3 Prioritization Framework

With a wide range of park improvements, programs, and future opportunities identified in this Master Plan, a clear approach is needed to determine how and when projects move forward. The prioritization framework provides a consistent way to evaluate projects and guide decision-making over time.

This framework helps ensure that investments are aligned with community needs, support the City's existing parks and facilities, and are implemented in a thoughtful and fiscally responsible manner. It also allows the City to remain flexible, adapting to changing conditions, funding availability, and new opportunities as they arise.

4.3.1 Evaluation Considerations

Projects and initiatives are evaluated using a consistent set of considerations to ensure priorities reflect both community needs and practical implementation. These include:

- **Community Demand and Use** – how well a project responds to community input, participation trends, and identified needs.
- **Level of Service and Facility Gaps** – the extent to which a project addresses gaps in parkland, facilities, or recreation opportunities.
- **Condition and Asset Stewardship** – whether a project improves, reinvests in, or preserves existing parks and facilities.
- **Equity, Access, and Geographic Distribution** – how a project improves access to parks and recreation across the city and serves a range of ages and abilities.
- **Consistency with Adopted Policy** – alignment with the City's 2040 General Plan and established park standards.
- **Feasibility and Phasing** – consideration of cost, site conditions, operational impacts, and the ability to implement over time.

Together, these considerations help ensure that priorities reflect community values while remaining achievable and sustainable. Access, connectivity, and functionality are also key factors in evaluating projects, alongside overall parkland supply.



4.3.2 Priority Tiers

Based on these considerations, projects and initiatives are grouped into three priority tiers. These tiers are intended to guide decision-making and may shift over time as funding, partnerships, and opportunities evolve. High Priority projects are generally the most aligned with available funding and are the most likely to move forward through the City's Capital Improvement Program.

High Priority Projects and Initiatives

High Priority projects respond directly to community needs, prioritize the care and improvement of existing parks and facilities, and provide broad benefit to residents. These projects often focus on enhancing access, addressing core facility needs, and maintaining high-use community assets.

Key focus areas include:

- Improvements to existing parks and facilities with high use or identified maintenance needs
- Expansion and connection of walking and biking trails
- Enhancements to athletic fields, lighting, restrooms, shade, and other foundational amenities
- Projects that respond to identified community needs and system priorities

These projects represent the City's near-term focus and are well positioned for capital planning and funding opportunities.

Medium Priority Projects and Initiatives

Medium Priority projects enhance the range and quality of recreation opportunities and may require additional planning or partnerships.

These projects often include:

- Expand or enhance recreation programming and facilities
- Improvement to existing recreation amenities, including enhancements to the City's aquatic facility to expand aquatic offerings
- Enhancements that increase flexibility and multi-use functionality

These projects may be implemented as funding becomes available or as part of coordinated development efforts.

Long-Term and Opportunity Projects

Long-Term projects reflect the community's long-range goals and may require significant investment or coordination.

Examples include:

- New community-scale parks
- Major recreation or community center facilities
- Destination or specialized amenities

These projects provide a framework for future planning and allow the City to respond as opportunities arise.

4.4 Operations And Maintenance

Maintaining and caring for existing parks and facilities is the foundation of a strong park system in American Canyon. Community input consistently emphasized the importance of clean, safe, and well-maintained spaces. Ongoing maintenance, lifecycle replacement, and reinvestment in existing facilities are essential to protecting past investments and ensuring parks remain welcoming, vibrant, functional, and reliable for the community. Prioritizing maintenance not only extends the life of park assets, but also supports consistent, high-quality experiences for our residents.

Effective operations are equally important. Parks, amenities, and programs require ongoing resources and attention to ensure they continue to function as intended and meet community expectations. As new facilities and improvements are introduced, they bring additional long-term responsibilities that must be considered. Operational capacity will continue to be a key factor in planning future improvements. Projects will be evaluated not only based on community need, but also on the City's ability to sustain them over time. By balancing new investments with ongoing maintenance and operational needs, the City can continue to provide reliable, high-quality parks and recreation services.

This approach aligns with the City's Capital Improvement Program, which focuses on the repair, replacement, and improvement of existing assets as a key component of long-term planning.

4.5 Cost And Implementation Considerations

As projects move from planning to implementation, detailed scopes and cost estimates will be developed to reflect current conditions and project needs. Costs associated with construction, materials, and improvements can change over time, and all projects will require updated estimates during design and budgeting.

Implementation of projects identified in this Master Plan will occur over time and will be guided by available funding, project readiness, and overall community priorities. Not all projects can be completed at once, and improvements will be phased to align with the City's Capital Improvement Program and budget process. Projects identified in this Master Plan are not considered funded unless approved through the City's budget and Capital Improvement Program. This ensures that investments remain transparent, fiscally responsible, and aligned with the City's broader priorities.

A variety of factors may influence the timing and delivery of projects, including funding availability, site conditions, permitting requirements, and opportunities for partnerships. By maintaining flexibility in implementation, the City can respond to changing conditions while continuing to make steady progress toward its parks and recreation goals.

4.6 Implementation Strategies

Carrying out the goals of this Master Plan requires a thoughtful and coordinated approach to how projects, programs, and investments are delivered overtime. The following strategies reflect the priorities identified by the community and reaffirm the City's ongoing commitment to serving American Canyon, building on how the City continues to support residents and respond to their evolving and growing needs.

Grounded in the Guiding Principles outlined in Chapter 1 of this Master Plan, these strategies translate community values into action, expanding opportunities for recreation and learning, improving access, and creating vibrant, activated spaces throughout the City. Together, they define a clear path forward for delivering parks, programs, and facilities that continue to serve the community now and into the future.

PARKS & PROGRAMMING

Opportunities for everyone to play, explore, learn, and interact.

Parks and recreation programs in American Canyon provide opportunities for residents of all ages and abilities to stay active, connect with others, and engage with the natural environment. A strong parks system is supported not only by quality facilities, but also by meaningful programming that reflects the interests and needs of the community.

As the community continues to grow and evolve, the City will focus on enhancing existing parks and expanding recreation opportunities in ways that are flexible and responsive. This includes improving amenities within current parks, activating underutilized spaces, and offering programs that support youth, families, active adults, and seniors. Recreation programming plays a key role in bringing parks to life. The City will continue to provide and expand programs that promote health and wellness, support youth development, and create opportunities for social connection. Programs should be accessible, inclusive, and reflective of the community's diverse interests. In addition to traditional recreation opportunities, parks and open spaces will continue to support environmental education and outdoor experiences. Opportunities to connect with nature, through trails, open space, and educational programming, help foster stewardship and appreciation for American Canyon's natural resources.

By investing in both parks and programming, the City will continue to create spaces and experiences that bring people together and support a high quality of life for the entire community.

EQUITY, ACCESS & ACTIVATION

Creating welcoming, vibrant, accessible, and active spaces for everyone.

The City is committed to providing parks and recreation spaces that are welcoming, inclusive, and accessible to everyone. This includes designing parks that are easy to use and comfortable for all ages and abilities, while working to strengthen connections between parks, trails, and neighborhoods.

Access in American Canyon is about more than proximity; it is about how people experience getting to and using parks every day. The City will continue to improve safe and connected sidewalks, trails, and bike routes that make parks easier to reach and more enjoyable to use. These connections also extend to open spaces, providing opportunities for residents to explore and experience the natural environment in a way that is both accessible and respectful of the landscape.

An inclusive approach to parks and recreation means continuing to provide spaces and opportunities that reflect the needs of a diverse and multi-generational community. This includes expanding amenities and programs over time, and designing park spaces that are usable, flexible, and welcoming to all.

Activation will continue to play an important role in bringing parks to life. Thoughtful design and the addition of essential amenities, such as lighting, seating, and restrooms, can encourage regular use and create comfortable environments for gathering and recreation. Programming, events, and partnerships will continue to support active and vibrant park spaces that bring the community together.

By focusing on equity, access, and activation, the City will continue to move toward a parks system that is easy to reach, enjoyable to use, and reflective of the values of the American Canyon community.

CO-BENEFIT

Multi-purpose park spaces improve the overall quality of life.

Parks in American Canyon serve many purposes beyond recreation. Parks, trails, and open spaces are planned and designed to provide multiple community benefits, including enhancing quality of life, supporting environmental sustainability, and strengthening community connections.

Access to parks and natural spaces supports physical health, mental well-being, and opportunities for social interaction, while also providing places for residents to gather, relax, and connect with nature as part of everyday life. Parks also support broader community goals; trails, walking paths, and bike routes improve mobility and provide alternatives to driving, while open spaces and natural areas help protect habitat, manage stormwater, and contribute to a healthier environment. Through thoughtful design, parks can meet both recreational and environmental purposes in a way that reflects the natural character of American Canyon.

Well-designed and actively used parks can also strengthen neighborhoods by creating welcoming spaces that bring people together. As parks become more active and connected, they can contribute to a greater sense of community, safety, and pride.

Looking ahead, the City will continue to explore opportunities to maximize the value of park spaces through thoughtful design and partnerships. By considering multiple benefits when planning and making investments, parks can do more for the community: supporting recreation, sustainability, and overall community well-being.

COMMUNITY BUILDING

Spaces that celebrate community, culture, and connection.

In American Canyon, our parks and open spaces are where community comes together. They are places where people connect, celebrate, and share experiences that reflect the diversity and spirit of the community.

These spaces support everyday moments and special traditions, from informal gatherings and play to community events and cultural celebrations. They provide opportunities for residents to connect with one another, learn from different perspectives, and build a strong sense of belonging. Thoughtful design and programming help bring these spaces to life. Parks and facilities should be welcoming, flexible, and reflective of the community's culture, history, and identity. As the City looks to the future, there is an opportunity to create parks and recreation spaces that are not only functional, but also destinations, places where residents choose to gather, spend time, and create lasting experiences within American Canyon.

By investing in spaces that are vibrant, engaging, and uniquely connected to the community, the City can continue to foster pride, strengthen connections, and ensure that residents find meaningful recreation and community experiences close to home.

MOBILITY AS RECREATION

A connected network that makes getting around part of the experience.

Getting around American Canyon is more than just travel, it is part of the recreational experience. The City's network of trails, sidewalks, and bike routes connects parks, open spaces, and neighborhoods, making it easier for residents to stay active and enjoy the community.

Trails, multi-use paths, and bike routes create a connected system that link people to parks and everyday destinations. These connections provide safe and convenient alternatives to driving, while also encouraging walking, biking, and other active ways of getting around. As the park network continues to grow, there is an opportunity to strengthen these connections and make them more comfortable, visible, and enjoyable to use. Thoughtful design can enhance these connections by incorporating elements such as shade, seating, landscaping, signage, and wayfinding. These features help create routes that are not only functional, but also engaging and welcoming, encouraging people to spend more time outdoors and move through the community in active ways.

American Canyon continues to support active transportation through partnerships and programs. Collaboration with local bicycle organizations and regional partners helps expand bicycle education and safety efforts, while programs such as Safe Routes to School encourage walking and biking for students and families.

Guided by the City's commitment to active transportation and supported by the Open Space, Active Transportation, and Sustainability Commission, the City will continue to enhance a connected network that supports mobility, recreation, and everyday use. By strengthening these connections, getting around American Canyon becomes an experience in itself, linking people to parks, nature, and one another.

ARTS & CULTURE

Celebrating culture, creativity, and community.

American Canyon is a community that celebrates its diversity and embraces a strong sense of belonging. Parks and recreation spaces play an important role in bringing people together through cultural expression, shared experiences, and community traditions.

Through partnerships with local organizations, artists, and community groups, the City will continue to expand opportunities for culturally relevant programs and events that reflect the community's diversity, helping connect residents, celebrate different cultures, and create meaningful opportunities for engagement. Public spaces will serve as venues for cultural events, performances, and community gatherings, from seasonal celebrations to long-standing traditions that help define the identity of American Canyon and strengthen connections across the community. Incorporating public art into park design further reflects local character and tells the story of the community, with art, interpretive elements, and creative design features highlighting culture, history, and identity while enhancing the overall park experience.

We love everyone in American Canyon. American Canyon is a welcoming City where everyone belongs. Our parks and recreation spaces will continue to reflect that value, creating opportunities for all residents to see themselves represented, to connect with others, and to celebrate what makes our community truly unique.



CONSERVATION, SUSTAINABILITY, & RESILIENCE

Protecting natural lands while connecting people to nature.

American Canyon is defined by its natural landscapes, including Wetlands Edge Park, Newell Open Space, and a network of conservation lands that are protected for long-term preservation. These spaces play a critical role in maintaining the environmental health of the community while providing opportunities for residents to experience and connect with nature. The City is committed to responsible land stewardship through the protection and management of open space, including areas with public access as well as conservation easements that preserve sensitive habitats. These lands support biodiversity, protect natural resources, and ensure that important environmental features are maintained for future generations.

Parks and open spaces also contribute to the overall resilience of the community. Natural areas help manage stormwater, improve air and water quality, reduce heat, and support habitat for wildlife. By preserving and enhancing these landscapes, the City strengthens its ability to respond to environmental changes while maintaining the natural character of American Canyon. Sustainability efforts in American Canyon are grounded in practical, environmentally sensitive approaches. This includes vegetation management strategies that reduce wildfire risk and support ecological health, such as the use of targeted grazing through sheep as a natural and effective land management tool.

The City also incorporates thoughtful planning and, where appropriate, improvements within open space areas through capital projects that are carefully designed to meet environmental requirements and minimize impacts. These efforts reflect a balanced approach—protecting sensitive resources while enhancing access and experience in a responsible and sustainable way.

Through continued stewardship, thoughtful planning, and sustainable practices, the City will continue to protect its natural resources while providing meaningful opportunities for residents to experience and appreciate the outdoors.

PARTNERSHIPS

A collaborative network that expands opportunities and strengthens community.

Strong partnerships are essential to delivering parks, recreation programs, and community services. With a network of more than 44 nonprofit and community-based organizations, these partnerships play a vital role in expanding opportunities and meeting the diverse needs of the community.

The City cannot be all things to all people. Instead, partnerships allow for a broader range of programs, services, and experiences than the City could deliver alone. These collaborations support youth programs, sports leagues, cultural events, and community services that reflect the interests and needs of residents. Built on shared goals, trust, and a commitment to service, these relationships bring additional expertise, resources, and community connections that strengthen the overall parks and recreation system.

As the community continues to grow, partnerships will remain a key strategy for meeting increasing demand. The City will continue to support and expand these relationships, working collaboratively to enhance recreation opportunities, strengthen community services, and deliver meaningful experiences. By continuing to invest in these partnerships, the City can maintain a flexible and responsive system that reflects the needs, values, and diversity of the community.

4.7 Moving Forward Together

Together, the strategies outlined in this chapter provide a clear and practical path for how parks and recreation will continue to evolve to meet the needs of the community. From prioritizing investments and identifying funding strategies, to strengthening operations, partnerships, and programming, these efforts reflect a balanced approach to delivering high-quality parks and recreation services.

As the City moves forward, implementation will be guided by community priorities, available resources, and ongoing planning efforts. Not all projects will happen at once, but each step will contribute to building a more connected, accessible, and vibrant parks system over time.

By focusing on thoughtful planning, responsible investment, and strong partnerships, the City will continue to enhance parks, programs, and open spaces in ways that support community well-being and reflect the values of those who live here.

"My vision for the future of parks and recreation is to foster the spirit of nature and getting people out to play in our parks"

- Community member comment from online questionnaire



