

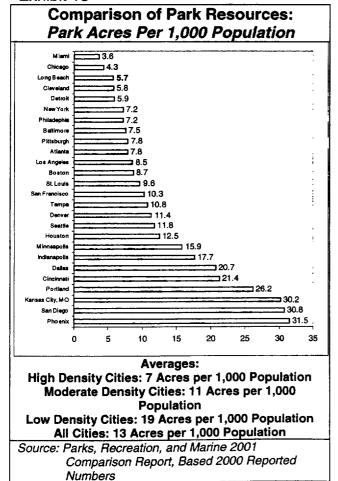
This high level of population density increases the need for park space. Given this density, families have limited yard space in which to recreate. In addition, there is an increased need to escape the pressures of urban life and to order to relieve these overcrowded conditions.

The high level of population density also makes it more difficult to develop and maintain park space, given the high demand for land area. Competing needs including housing, commercial space, and even public services vie for the limited space available.

## ADDITIONAL PARK SPACE NEEDED IN LONG BEACH

There are currently approximately 5.8 acres of park land within the City of Long Beach for every 1,000 residents. This includes parks, specialty facilities, beaches, golf courses, and water recreation areas, and is based on the 2000 Census population. As the following exhibit shows, substantially below the number of park acres per 1,000 population for many other comparable cities.

Exhibit 13



When this comparison was completed (prior to completion of the 2000 census) Long Beach had an estimated 5.78 acres of park land for every 1,000 residents.

substantially below the average of 13 acres per 1.000 residents for all the cities compared. and somewhat below average of 7 acres per 1,000 for other high density cities. It is important to note that many of these other cities have national. county parks or within boundaries that serve the needs of their residents. Long Beach does not have any of these types of parks.

Long Beach also falls well below the average in park area compared to total city area. As the following exhibit shows, 7.9 percent of Long Beach is park land. This compares to the average of 10.9 percent for all the cities benchmarked.

Exhibit 14

