



Date: April 3, 2006
To: Gerald R. Miller, City Manager *grm*
From: Phil T. Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine /s/
For: Mayor and City Council
Subject: **NEED FOR ADDITIONAL OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

The acquisition and development of additional open space and recreation opportunities has been a high priority for the City since the adoption of the Long Beach 2010 Strategic Plan on June 20, 2000. The Environmental, Neighborhood Development, and Youth sections of the Plan all contain specific goals that speak to the importance of open space and recreation opportunities to the quality of life for all residents in all neighborhoods. These goals were further addressed through the revision of the Open Space and Recreation Element of the General Plan.

The Open Space and Recreation Element (OSRE) of the General Plan was developed over a four-year period with considerable public input. Beginning in 1998, numerous public meetings were held, including five "parks in perpetuity" meetings hosted by the City Council's Housing and Neighborhoods Committee, to present a draft OSRE and to receive public input. The Recreation Commission unanimously recommended approval of the OSRE on March 21, 2002, and the Planning Commission followed suit on July 18, 2002.

On October 15, 2002, the City Council unanimously adopted the OSRE and related Zoning Code amendments. The key provisions of the OSRE and Zoning Code amendments are as follows:

- Achieve a ratio of 8.0 acres of publicly owned recreation open space per 1,000 residents. There are currently 5.8 acres per 1,000 residents. Approximately 1,300 additional park acres are needed to meet the needs of the projected 2010 population.
- Add recreation open space and recreation facilities in the areas of the City that are most underserved. There is an average of only 1.6 acres per 1,000 residents within the South, West, and North Districts of the City versus 16.7 acres per 1,000 residents in the Eastern District.
- Formally dedicate all City-owned parks and designate them to be preserved in perpetuity.

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- Any necessary conversion of parkland to non-park purposes must be approved by the City Council and the lost park acreage must be replaced on a two-for-one basis. One acre of replacement land would be located in the park service area where the land was converted and an additional acre of replacement land would be located in a park service area needing parkland, as determined by the Parks and Recreation Commission.
- Develop a long-term funding mechanism for park and open space acquisition and development.

Several documents are attached for your reference. The first is a copy of the October 15, 2002 City Council agenda item. The second is the specific chapter from the OSRE that addresses the issues associated with providing adequate public recreational opportunities in our community. The third is the Executive Summary of the Department's Strategic Plan (completed in 2003), which also addresses the needs for additional open space and recreation opportunities. The final document is the Department's "Green Vision" map that identifies current opportunities for parkland acquisition and development in the central, west, and northern portions of the City.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

PTH:gh

Attachments

- c. Christine F. Shippey, Assistant City Manager
Reginald I. Harrison, Deputy City Manager
Patrick H. West, Director of Community Development



CITY OF LONG BEACH

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

333 W. OCEAN BLVD. LONG BEACH, CA 90802 PHONE 562.570.6005 FAX 562.570.6068

October 15, 2002

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECEIVED
CITY CLERK
LONG BEACH, CALIF.
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SUBJECT: Resolutions Considering and Approving EIR SCH # 2002021040 and Adopting the Open Space and Recreation Element and Related Provisions of the Land Use Element of the General Plan; Ordinances Implementing New Provisions by Amending the Zoning Code, Amending PD-1, PD-6, PD-21, PD-30, Rezoning Parks to "P" Zone, and Dedicating City Parks in Perpetuity; and Resolution Submitting These Changes to the California Coastal Commission (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

On July 18, 2002, the City Planning Commission voted unanimously 5-0 (Commissioners Greenberg and Whelan being absent) to recommend that the City Council approve a resolution adopting the Open Space and Recreation Element (OSRE) of the City's General Plan. The OSRE, which is attached for your consideration, has been updated to incorporate the changes recommended by the Planning Commission. These changes are indicated on Attachment B, the Final Draft OSRE, by the underlining of text to be inserted.

At the public hearing, the Planning Commission also certified the Environmental Impact Report (SCH # 2002021040); recommended that the City Council approve a resolution amending the Land Use Element text and maps (implementing the plan); and recommended that the City Council approve ordinances making necessary findings, rezoning all City-owned parklands to the "P" Park District, and amending text in Chapter 21 of the Zoning Code regulating development and uses in City parks.

The Planning Commission also acted to:

- A. Recommend that staff provide an annual report documenting progress in implementing each of the programs in the OSRE (incorporated into Attachment B – City Council, page 30);
- B. Recommend that instead of requiring only an acre-for-acre replacement of any lost parkland, a two-for-one mitigation of any lost acreage be required. One acre of replacement land would be located in the park service area where the land was converted and an additional acre of replacement land would be located in a park service area needing parkland, as determined by the Recreation Commission (incorporated into Attachment B – City Council, page 28 and Attachment C – City Council, page 3); and

- C. Recommend that the City Council adopt an ordinance dedicating all City-owned parks in perpetuity, and amend the City Charter to require that any conversion of parkland to a non-park use be put to a vote of the people.

Public Participation

This OSRE was developed over a four-year period with considerable public input. In 1998, an original draft OSRE was reviewed at two public meetings. Shortly thereafter, a new Citywide strategic planning effort commenced; the Parks, Recreation and Marine Department began their own strategic planning process to improve their operations; a new plan was under development for Alamos Bay; and the City was completing an inventory of all vacant sites. It was decided that further revisions of the draft OSRE be postponed pending completion of these other activities.

Public meetings started again in February of 2001 when the City Council's Housing and Neighborhoods Committee began a discussion of "parks in perpetuity." This Committee held the initial meeting in the Council Chambers and four subsequent meetings at community recreation centers throughout the City. Following this input, the draft OSRE was revised and recirculated. (Over 300 draft elements were mailed directly to interested parties and the draft OSRE has been posted on the City's web page since January 2002.)

On February 23, 2002, the eighth public meeting was held. It was a half-day public workshop held at the Veteran's Park Community Center. Staff presented information from the Parks, Recreation and Marine Department's strategic planning efforts and the draft Open Space and Recreation Element's findings and proposals. The public was invited to ask questions and make comments on the draft plan.

On March 21, 2002, in a meeting held at Cesar E. Chavez Park, the public was invited to comment on the draft OSRE to the City's Recreation Commission. At that meeting, the Recreation Commission unanimously approved the draft OSRE with one recommendation: that program 4.4 be amended to include a proviso that future parks be deed restricted for park uses only.

On July 18, 2002, the Planning Commission acted to recommend approval of the OSRE as described in the first section of this report.

The Open Space and Recreation Element

California Government Code, Division 1, Chapter 3, Article 10.5 requires local governments to adopt policies and plans to guide the comprehensive and long-range preservation and conservation of open space lands within their jurisdictions. With the current Open Space Element almost 30 years old, there is a compelling need to revisit open space issues in our community. This OSRE is intended to meet the requirements of State legislation and present a policy framework and plan to meet the City's open space and recreation goals.

To that end, this OSRE has been modernized and streamlined to be a user-friendly document with most of the background material contained in technical references rather than within the OSRE. A synopsis provides the highlights of the background data. The issues, goals, policies and implementation actions within the plan are delineated and keyed to each other with specific programs and timelines. Every effort was made to keep the OSRE limited in length and on-target in its content.

Principal Deputy City Attorney Michael J. Mais reviewed the staff report and City Council letter and prepared the attached resolutions and ordinances for your consideration. Budget Manager Annette Hough has also reviewed the staff report and City Council letter.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

There is no mandatory deadline for adoption of the new Open Space and Recreation Element. However, Title 21 of the Long Beach Municipal Code requires that a positive Planning Commission action shall be transmitted by the Department of Planning and Building to the City Clerk for presentation to the City Council within 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT

There are no direct fiscal impacts by the adoption of the new Open Space and Recreation Element. However, implementation of the OSRE will be a multi-million dollar effort. Park Impact Fees are the only dedicated source of City funding to implement the OSRE. Additional sources of funding will be needed for full implementation of the OSRE.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

1. Receive the supporting documentation into the record, conclude the public hearing, consider and approve the information in Environmental Impact Report SCH# 2002021040 and adopt the Resolution regarding the Environmental Impact Report;
2. Adopt the Resolution incorporating the new Open Space and Recreation Element into the General Plan;
3. Adopt the Resolution amending the Land Use Element text and maps to implement the new Open Space and Recreation Element;
4. Declare the Ordinance amending Chapters 21.15, 21.35 and 21.52 regulating uses in City parks (including a 2 for 1 replacement of any lost parkland), read the first time and laid over to the next regular meeting of the City Council for final reading;
5. Declare the Ordinances amending PD-1, PD-6, PD-21, and PD-30 read the first time and laid over to the next regular meeting of the City Council for final reading;
6. Declare the Ordinance rezoning properties to the Park District designation read the first time and laid over to the next regular meeting of the City Council for final reading;

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

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7. Adopt the Resolution instructing the Zoning Official to submit said Resolution, together with supporting documentation, to the California Coastal Commission for their approval;
8. Direct the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance dedicating all City-owned parks in perpetuity; and
9. Refer to the Charter Amendment Committee the issue of requiring a vote of the people for conversion of parkland to non-park use.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES B. WINN, CHAIR
CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

BY:



EUGENE J. ZELLER
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND BUILDING

EJZ:AR:PG

CCrptOSRE.917.WORD

ATTACHMENTS:

- July 18, 2002 Planning Commission Staff Report (Attachment A incl. Planning Commission Attachments A – K)
- August 27, 2002 – Final Draft Open Space and Recreation Element – City Council (Attachment B)
- Planning Commission Recommended Zoning Code Text Change – City Council (Attachment C)
- Resolutions amending Land Use Element Text and Maps
- Ordinances amending the Zoning Code Text and Maps
- Resolution submitting package to California Coastal Commission
- Resolution Considering and Approving the Final Environmental Impact Report

RESOLUTION NO. C-28095

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH CONSIDERING AND APPROVING THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH (SCH 2002021040), FINDING THAT THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT HAS BEEN COMPLETED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT AND STATE AND LOCAL GUIDELINES, AND MAKING CERTAIN OTHER FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS RELATIVE THERETO

The City Council of the City of Long Beach does hereby find, determine and resolve:

Section 1. The City of Long Beach, by and through Eugene J. Zeller, Director of Planning and Building ("Applicant"), has submitted an application for the adoption and implementation of a new Open Space and Recreation Element of the General Plan of the City of Long Beach ("Project") in accordance with the provisions of California Government Code section 65561 *et seq.* The Project applies to all lands within the municipal boundaries of the City of Long Beach and includes lands under the jurisdiction of the City's Harbor Commission, the City's Redevelopment Agency as well as those lands under the jurisdiction of the California Coastal Commission.

The Project will involve the adoption of a new Open Space and Recreation Element of the General Plan, the amendment of the Land Use Element ("LUD") of the General Plan to reflect the policies of the new Open Space and

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1 Recreation Element, the amendment of the LUD to designate all municipal parks to
2 Land Use District 11, "Open Space and Parks", the amendment of the City's zoning
3 regulations to reflect the policies of the Open Space and Recreation Element, the
4 rezoning of parkland areas to zoning designation "P", "Parkland", and the dedication of
5 certain areas as parkland in the City of Long Beach.

6 The Project goals and objectives are: to develop well managed, viable
7 ecosystems that support the preservation and enhancement of natural and wildlife
8 habitats, to preserve, keep clean and upgrade beaches, bluffs, water bodies and
9 natural habitats, including the ecological preserves at El Dorado Nature Center and the
10 De Forest Nature Area, to improve appropriate access to natural environments, to
11 design and manage natural habitats to achieve environmental sustainability, to
12 remediate contaminated sites, to maintain a sufficient quantity and quality of open
13 space to produce and manage natural resources, to provide for and maintain sufficient
14 open space for adequate protection of lives and property against natural and
15 man-made safety hazards, to foster park stewardship by every individual in the
16 community through recreation program services, to achieve a ratio of 8.0 acres of
17 publicly owned recreation open space per 1,000 residents, to add recreation open
18 space and recreation facilities in the areas of the City that are most under-served, to
19 provide the recreational resources the public wants, to make all recreation resources
20 environmentally friendly and socially and economically sustainable, to increase
21 recreation resources and supplement publicly owned recreation resources with privately
22 owned recreation resources, to fully maintain public recreation resources, to fully utilize
23 all recreational resources including those at public schools, to connect recreation open
24 spaces with greenway linkages, and to provide access to recreation resources for all
25 individuals in the community.

26 Sec. 2. On February 5, 2002, the City issued an Initial Study for the
27 Project. The Initial Study concluded that there was substantial evidence that the
28 Project may have a significant effect on the environment. In accordance with the

1 California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") Guidelines, Sections 15064 and 15081,
2 the City determined that an Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") should be prepared
3 for the Project.

4 Sec. 3. The Draft Environmental Impact Report ("DEIR") was prepared by
5 the staff of the Community and Environmental Planning Division, Department of
6 Planning and Building, of the City of Long Beach.

7 Sec. 4. On April 19, 2002, the DEIR was completed. Pursuant to State
8 CEQA Guidelines, Section 15085, the City prepared a Notice of Completion of the
9 DEIR, which was filed by mail with the State Office of Planning and Research on
10 April 19, 2002. The DEIR was circulated to interested persons and agencies between
11 April 19, 2002 and June 14, 2002 for a 45-day comment period pursuant to CEQA
12 Guidelines, Sections 15087 and 15101.

13 Sec. 5. The EIR is comprised of the DEIR and the Final EIR ("FEIR")
14 dated July 18, 2002, including any exhibits or appendices thereto; the list of persons,
15 organizations and public agencies that commented on the DEIR and FEIR; the
16 comments which were received by the City regarding the DEIR; the City's written
17 responses to significant environmental comments raised in the public review and
18 comment process; and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting program for the Project;
19 each of which is incorporated herein and made a part hereof by this reference. The
20 Planning Commission held a duly noticed public hearing on the DEIR, FEIR, and the
21 Project on July 18, 2002, at which time evidence, both written and oral, was presented
22 to, and considered by, the Planning Commission. Notice of the time, place and
23 purpose of the Planning Commission's hearing was provided in accordance with
24 applicable law.

25 Sec. 6. In response to the circulation of the DEIR, the City received
26 written comments regarding the adequacy of the DEIR. The City staff prepared written
27 responses to all comments that raised significant environmental issues. The Planning
28 Commission incorporated the comments and the responses thereto into the FEIR

1 pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15088.

2 Sec. 7. The findings made in this Resolution are based upon the
3 information and evidence set forth in the DEIR and FEIR and upon other substantial
4 evidence (both oral and written), which has been presented or referenced in the record
5 of the proceeding, including, but not limited to, that record established by the Planning
6 Commission. The DEIR and FEIR, staff reports, public testimony, technical studies,
7 appendices, plans, specifications, figures, exhibits, and other materials that constitute
8 the record of proceedings on which this Resolution is based are on file and available for
9 public examination during normal business hours in the Department of Planning and
10 Building, Community and Environmental Planning Division, 333 West Ocean Boulevard,
11 Fifth Floor, Long Beach, CA 90802. The custodian of said records is the Director of
12 Planning and Building of the City of Long Beach.

13 Sec. 8. The Planning Commission found and the City Council concurs
14 that the public and government agencies have been afforded ample notice and
15 opportunity to comment on the Initial Study, DEIR, and FEIR.

16 Sec. 9. The Planning Commission found and the City Council concurs
17 that, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Section 15084, that the EIR has been
18 independently analyzed by the Planning Commission and that the EIR represents the
19 independent judgment and analysis of the Planning Commission as lead agency with
20 respect to the Project. The Planning Commission further found and the City Council
21 concurs that the information provided in the various staff reports, the corrections and
22 modifications to the DEIR made in response to comments, and the evidence presented
23 in written and oral testimony at the public hearings do not represent significant new
24 information so as to require recirculation of the EIR pursuant to the Public Resources
25 Code.

26 Sec. 10. The Planning Commission found and the City Council concurs
27 that the comments regarding the DEIR and FEIR, and the responses to those
28 comments, have been received and considered by the Planning Commission and the

1 City Council; that the Planning Commission and City Council have received and
2 considered public testimony regarding the adequacy of the DEIR and FEIR; and that
3 the Planning Commission and City Council have reviewed and considered all such
4 documents and testimony prior to acting on or approving the Project or this Resolution.
5 Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Section 15090, the City Council therefore certifies that
6 the EIR has been completed in compliance with CEQA.

7 Sec. 11. Based upon the Initial Study, the DEIR and FEIR, public
8 comments, and the record before the Planning Commission, the Planning Commission
9 found and the City Council concurs that the following environmental impact areas will
10 have less than significant impacts and will not require mitigation: Aesthetics, Biological
11 Resources, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Population and
12 Housing, Noise, and Recreation.

13 The Planning Commission further found and the City Council concurs that
14 the Project may create significant environmental impacts that can be mitigated to a level
15 of insignificance in the following areas: Air Quality, Cultural Resources, Geology and
16 Soils, Public Service, Utilities and Service Systems, and Transportation and Circulation.

17 Project related impacts on Air Quality include a potential for adverse
18 impacts related to site remediation which typically generates a high amount of
19 particulates, odor, and other pollutants during the remediation process as well as a
20 potential adverse impact as a result of emissions from automobiles used by those who
21 may experience difficulty locating parking in and around parks. To mitigate this impact
22 to a level of insignificance, the Planning Commission has required, and the City Council
23 concurs that, where appropriate, an air quality and health risk assessment be required
24 for each contaminated site undergoing remediation for the purpose of conversion to a
25 recreational use.

26 Project related impacts associated with Cultural Resources include the
27 potential for the discovery of significant archaeological resources should the Los
28 Cerritos Wetlands be acquired and restored. To mitigate these potential impacts to a

1 level of insignificance, the Planning Commission has required and the City Council
2 concurs that a site specific environmental review will be required for all future parks and
3 may likewise be required for projects within existing parks.

4 Project related impacts on Geology and Soils include the potential
5 disruption of existing soils during site remediation resulting in the potential for air
6 pollutant emissions including dust, particulates and odor. To mitigate these impacts to
7 a level of insignificance, the Planning Commission has required, and the City Council
8 concurs, that a health risk assessment be conducted for recreation projects which will
9 utilize a remediated site.

10 Project related impacts on Public Service include a potential increase in
11 the demands for police services as a result of the expansion and increase in open
12 space and recreational lands in the City. To mitigate this potential impact to a level of
13 insignificance, the Planning Commission has required, and the City Council concurs,
14 that the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine coordinate the design of all future
15 parks with the Crime Prevention Unit of the Long Beach Police Department.

16 Project related impacts on Utilities and Service Systems relate to the
17 potential adverse impact on water supplies and the need for additional reclaimed water
18 as a result of the addition of new park acreage. To mitigate this potential impact to a
19 level of insignificance, the Planning Commission has required, and the City Council
20 concurs, that the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine coordinate park
21 acquisition plans with the Long Beach Water Department so that the Master Plan for
22 Water Reclamation can be adjusted accordingly.

23 Project related impacts to Transportation and Circulation relate to the
24 potential adverse impact to residential areas adjacent to parks if adequate parking is
25 not provided at a park site to accommodate anticipated park usage. To mitigate this
26 potential impact to a level of insignificance, The Planning Commission has required,
27 and the City Council concurs, that full required parking be required, without grant of
28 zoning or parking variances.

1 Sec. 12. The Planning Commission found and the City Council concurs
2 that in response to each significant impact identified in the DEIR and FEIR, changes,
3 alterations, or mitigation measures have been or will be required or incorporated into
4 the Project as part of the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, which will avoid
5 or substantially reduce to a level of insignificance the environmental impacts previously
6 identified. The mitigation measures required and approved by the Planning
7 Commission shall be a condition of approval of the Project. Said changes, alterations,
8 or mitigation measures are more fully detailed and described within the Mitigation
9 Monitoring and Reporting Program which is incorporated herein as though set forth in
10 full, word for word.

11 Sec. 13. Section 8 of the DEIR describes, and the Planning Commission
12 and City Council have fully considered, a reasonable range of alternatives to the
13 Project. These alternatives include: 1) No Project, 2) Multi-Purpose Use, and 3)
14 Recreation and Preservation.

15 The No Project alternative would leave the 1973 Open Space Element
16 intact and in place. In addition to failing to adequately provide guidance for future
17 decision making, this alternative is contrary to the State law requirement that the City's
18 Open Space Element be reviewed every five (5) years. This alternative would have no
19 new impacts because no new development or improvements would be undertaken.
20 While this alternative would not result in any additional environmental impacts, certain
21 existing environmental conditions would not be remediated. The No Project alternative
22 also fails to meet the objectives identified for the Project. The No Project alternative
23 would not provide for the adoption of a new and revised Open Space and Recreation
24 Element for the City and likewise it would not serve to develop or adopt new land use
25 policies and regulations governing park and open space usage and development.
26 Based on these and other factors discussed in this Resolution, as well as information
27 contained in the DEIR and FEIR, the City Planning Commission found and the City
28 Council concurs that the No Project alternative is not feasible.

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1 The Planning Commission and City Council have also analyzed
2 Alternative Two. This alternative would reduce the amount of open space required, and
3 would necessitate intense multi-use facilities. Under this alternative urban parks would
4 be designed to be flexible, multi-purpose buildings and facilities specifically designed to
5 meet a particular recreation need. This is an approach that has been utilized in the
6 denser cities of the east coast. Typically, such recreation centers and facilities operate
7 some 15-20 hours per day. This alternative would not result in significant vegetation or
8 habitat and would likewise not meet many of the goals or objectives of the Project,
9 including the goal to provide additional park and open space areas to an already
10 underserved City. Based on these and other factors discussed in this Resolution, as
11 well as information contained in the DEIR and FEIR, the Planning Commission found
12 and the City Council concurs that Alternative Two is not feasible.

13 Alternative Three would involve the combination of elements of Alternative
14 2 and would result in the establishment of intense active recreational uses together with
15 the establishment of a "preserve" system similar to the forest preserve district of Cook
16 County, Illinois, in which natural areas are preserved with minimal public contact. As an
17 example, the current wetlands mitigation at Catalina Landing is fenced and does not
18 allow for direct public access. Although this is a viable Alternative, it does not meet
19 many of the articulated goals or objectives of the proposed Project, including the goal to
20 achieve a ratio of 8.0 acres of publicly owned recreation open space per 1,000
21 residents. Based on these and other factors discussed in this Resolution, as well as
22 information contained in the DEIR and FEIR, the Planning Commission found and the
23 City Council concurs that Alternative Three is not feasible.

24 Accordingly, and for any one of the reasons set forth herein, or in the
25 DEIR and FEIR, the Planning Commission found and the City Council concurs that
26 specific economic, social, or other considerations make infeasible each of the project
27 alternatives, including the No Project alternative identified in the EIR, and each is
28 hereby rejected. The Planning Commission further found and the City Council concurs

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1 that a good faith effort was made to incorporate alternatives into the preparation of the
2 EIR, and that all reasonable alternatives were considered in the review process of the
3 EIR and the ultimate decision on the Project. The Planning Commission further found
4 and the City Council concurs that the Project, as proposed, is the environmentally
5 superior alternative for the reasons set forth herein or as articulated in the DEIR and
6 FEIR.

7 Sec. 14. The City Council hereby makes each of the findings contained in
8 this Resolution and further finds that each fact in support of a finding is true and is
9 based on substantial evidence in the record, including the DEIR and FEIR. The City
10 Council further finds that the Planning Commission properly adopted the Mitigation
11 Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Project.

12 Sec. 15. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption
13 by the City Council, and the City Clerk shall certify to the vote adopting this resolution.

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1 I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the City Council of
2 the City of Long Beach at its meeting of October 15, 2002, by the following
3 vote:

4 Ayes: Councilmembers: Baker, Colonna, Carroll, Kell,
5 Richardson-Batts, Reyes Uranga,
6 Webb, Lerch.

7
8 Noes: Councilmembers: None.

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10 Absent: Councilmembers: Lowenthal.

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13 Elaine M. Marsh
14 Acting City Clerk

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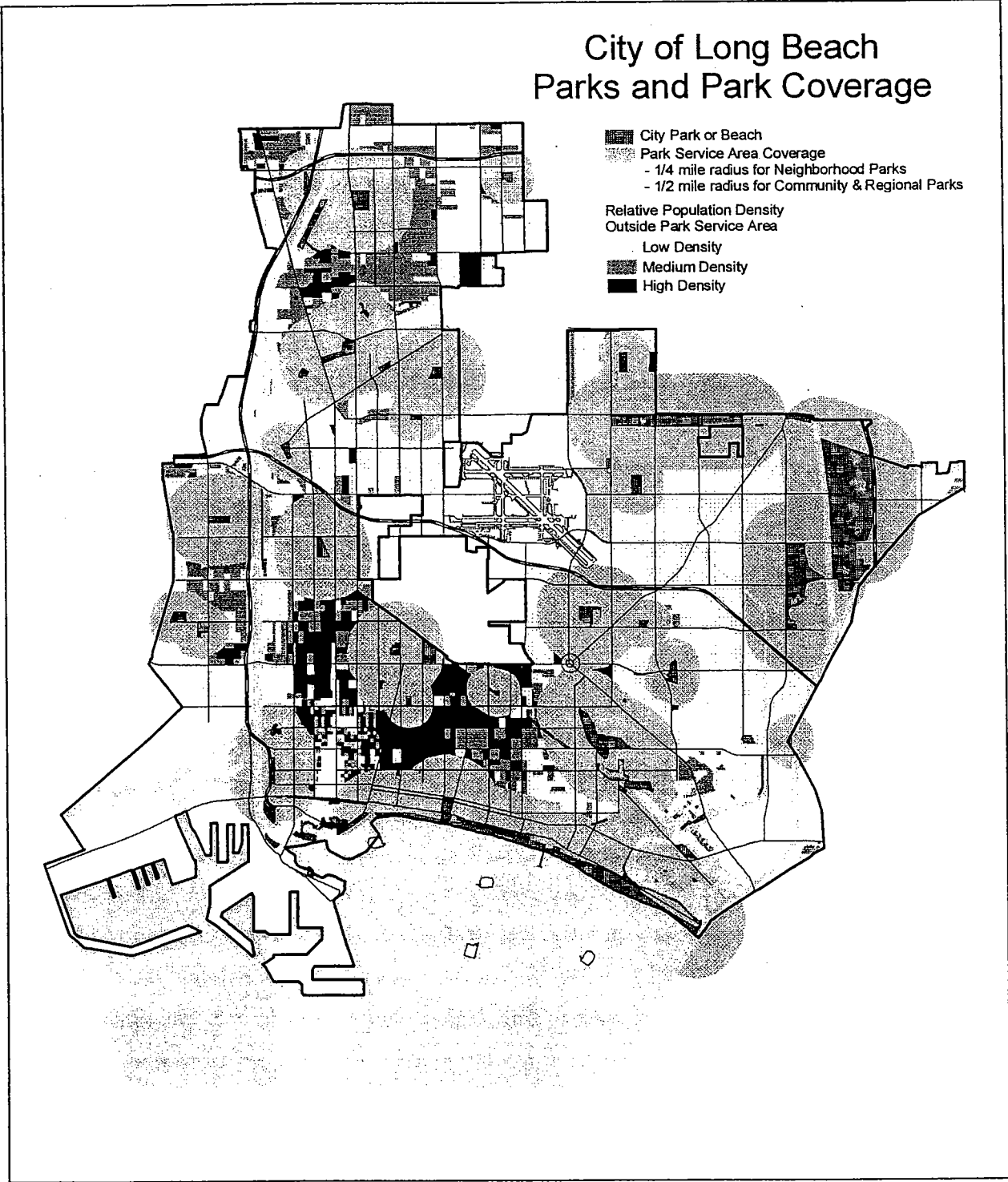
4. OPEN SPACE FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION & RECREATION FACILITIES

This chapter addresses the issues associated with providing adequate public recreational opportunities in our community. As stated in the introduction of this element of the General Plan, open space for public recreation is a preeminent Long Beach concern. Both active and passive recreational opportunities are included in this discussion, so there is some overlap with natural resource issues such as wetland and riparian habitats. Definitions of specific terms used to create the park inventory and analysis, and the following material, are provided in the glossary of terms (included at the end of this chapter) which the reader may want to reference at this time for a better understanding of the information presented below.

ISSUES

- 4.1 The ratio of recreation open space per capita in Long Beach has declined 18 percent in the past 28 years
- 4.2 Outdoor recreation open space land is unevenly distributed in Long Beach; populations in the north, central and western areas of the City are underserved
- 4.3 Rising land costs and tightly constrained municipal budgets have made acquisition of additional open space for outdoor recreation difficult in heavily urbanized areas
- 4.4 Non-outdoor recreation uses, including police and fire facilities, are increasingly impinging on existing recreation open spaces
- 4.5 An inadequate number of recreation facilities has resulted in competition for outdoor recreation open space between adult and children's sports leagues
- 4.6 Tight constraints on municipal funding have negatively impacted City recreation facilities and capital improvement budgets
- 4.7 Some recreation facilities are no longer popular and new recreation preferences require new facilities
- 4.8 Public school recreation facilities are often completely closed to the public
- 4.9 Recreation open spaces are not well linked; i.e., recreation trails are weak

FIGURE OSR-3



GOALS/OBJECTIVES

- 4.1 Foster park stewardship by every individual in the community through recreation program services.
- 4.2 Achieve a ratio of 8.0 acres of publicly owned recreation open space per 1,000 residents.
- 4.3 Add recreation open space and recreation facilities in the areas of the City that are most underserved.
- 4.4 Provide the recreational resources the public wants.
- 4.5 Make all recreation resources environmentally-friendly and socially and economically sustainable.
- 4.6 Increase recreation resources and supplement publicly-owned recreation resources with privately-owned recreation resources.
- 4.7 Fully maintain public recreation resources.
- 4.8 Fully utilize all recreational resources including those at public schools.
- 4.9 Connect recreation open spaces with greenway linkages.
- 4.10 Provide access to recreation resources for all individuals in the community.

POLICIES

- 4.1 Create additional recreation open space and pursue all appropriate available funding to enhance recreation opportunities. (Issues addressed: 4.1, 4.3, 4.5 & 4.6)
- 4.2 Protect public parkland from intrusive, non-recreational uses. (Issues addressed: 4.1 & 4.4)
- 4.3 Keep parklands open and green by limiting the amount of parking lot and building coverage areas within parks. (Issues addressed: 4.1 & 4.3)
- 4.4 Ensure that the general plan and zoning are consistent for all recreation open space locations and uses. (Issues addressed: 4.1, 4.3 & 4.4)
- 4.5 Replace any displaced publicly owned recreation open space on an acre per acre basis, in kind, within areas of the City most underserved by recreation open space. (Issues: 4.1, 4.2 & 4.4) [superseded by Program 4.5]

OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION ELEMENT

- 4.6 With the help of the community, plan and maintain park facilities at a level acceptable to the constituencies they serve. (Issues addressed: 4.2, 4.6 & 4.7)
- 4.7 Continue to solicit citizen participation in the creation of new park space and recreation facilities. (Issues addressed: 4.2 & 4.7)
- 4.8 In creating additional recreational opportunities, priority shall be given to areas of the City that are most underserved. (Issue addressed: 4.2)
- 4.9 Encourage the provision of non City-owned recreation resources to supplement what the City is able to provide. (Issues addressed: 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5 & 4.6)
- 4.10 Require all new developments to provide usable open space tailored to the recreational demands they would otherwise place on public resources. (Issues addressed: 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 & 4.6)
- 4.11 Identify and increase the use of all underutilized potential public recreation resources to best serve the community; and work with the Long Beach Unified School District to enhance community recreational opportunities at Long Beach schools. (Issues addressed: 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.6, 4.7 & 4.8)
- 4.12 Give preference to children's sports leagues over adult sports leagues in neighborhood parks. (Issue addressed: 4.5)
- 4.13 Give special consideration to handicapped and disadvantaged residents in accessing public recreation resources. (Issue addressed: 4.2)
- 4.14 Develop an open space linkage/trails plan. (Issue addressed: 4.9)
- 4.16 Ensure that the City's Parks, Recreation and Marine Advisory Committee reviews all development proposals on City parklands prior to any City action to approve such projects. (Issue addressed: 4.4)

TABLE OSR – 7
4. Open Space for Outdoor Recreation
Implementation Programs

Program	Responsibility	Funding Source	Time Frame
4.1 Inventory and analyze City-owned lands, blighted properties, and former oil drilling sites to identify parcels that can be converted to open space or parks and recreation uses. (Policies: 1, 11 & 14)	City of Long Beach Departments of Planning & Building, Community Development, Oil Properties and Technology Services	City of Long Beach Water Department and General Fund	Within one year of the adoption of this chapter
4.2 Adopt a citywide ratio of eight acres of parkland for each 1,000 residents. (Policy: 1)	Long Beach City Council	Not applicable	Approve ratio with adoption of this chapter
4.3 Review and revise as necessary the Park Impact Fee Ordinance in order to achieve the community's open space and recreation goals. (Policy: 1)	City of Long Beach City Council, City Attorney, Parks, Recreation & Marine, and Planning & Building Departments	Federal and State grants, City of Long Beach Park Impact Fee	Within two years of the adoption of this chapter.
4.4 Formally dedicate all City-owned parks and designate them to be preserved in perpetuity. (Policies: 2,4,5, & 8)	Long Beach City Council, City Attorney, Parks, Recreation & Marine, and Planning & Building Departments	City of Long Beach General Fund	Within six months of the adoption of this chapter.
4.5 Require that any conversion of parkland be replaced amenity-for-amenity and acre-for-acre at a 2:1 ratio. One acre of replacement land shall be located in the park service area where the land was converted and an additional acre of replacement land shall be located in a park service area needing parkland – as determined by the Recreation Commission.	Long Beach City Council, City Attorney, Parks, Recreation & Marine, and Planning & Building Departments	City of Long Beach General Fund	Upon adoption of this chapter.
4.6 Integrate the provisions of the Department's Strategic Plan for the socially, economically and environmentally sustainable development of the City's park and recreation system, with short and long-term Capital Improvement Plans. (Policies: 6,7,8,14 & 15)	City of Long Beach Parks, Recreation & Marine, Public Works, and Financial Mgmt. Departments in conjunction with the City Manager's Office	Federal, State and regional grants, City of Long Beach General Fund	Within two years of the adoption of this chapter
4.7 Develop a long-term funding mechanism for park and open space acquisition and development. (Policies: 1,5, & 14)	City of Long Beach Parks, Recreation & Marine, Public Works, Financial Mgmt. Departments in conjunction with City Manager's Office	To be determined	Within two years of the adoption of this chapter

**TABLE OSR – 7
4. Open Space for Outdoor Recreation
Implementation Programs**

Program	Responsibility	Funding Source	Time Frame
4.8 Analyze opportunities for open space linkages that include bicycle trails, drainage channels, right-of-ways, parks, rivers and beaches; and develop an integrated open space and recreation trails plan. (Policies: 1, 11 & 14)	City of Long Beach Department of Planning & Building in conjunction with the Parks, Recreation & Marine Department	Federal, State and regional grants, City of Long Beach General Fund	Within two years of the adoption of this chapter
4.9 Hold community meetings to devise and establish solutions to park safety, maintenance and development issues for each park. Foster park stewardship through building inclusive relationships with the community. (Policies: 6 & 7)	City of Long Beach Parks, Recreation & Marine Department in conjunction with the Department of Planning & Building	City of Long Beach General Fund	Ongoing
4.10 Develop a special use park oriented to the viewing and playing of adult active recreational sports. (Policies: 1, 12 & 15)	City of Long Beach Financial Management, Planning & Building, Public Works, Parks Recreation & Marine, and Community Development Developments	Federal and State grants or loans, City of Long Beach General Fund	Within three years of the adoption of this chapter
4.11 Create a top level committee composed of City Council members, City administrators, and key LBUSD officials to address enhanced utilization of school sites for public recreation. (Policies: 8, 9 & 11)	City Manager's Office, Parks, Recreation & Marine, Community Development, and Planning & Building Departments in conjunction with LBUSD administrators and board members	City of Long Beach General Fund	Within one year of the adoption of this chapter
4.12 Modify provisions of the general plan and zoning for complete consistency of recreation open space locations, uses and building coverage. (Policies: 2, 3, 4, 9, 10 & 14)	City of Long Beach Department of Planning & Building in conjunction with the Parks, Recreation & Marine Department and City Attorney	City of Long Beach General Fund	Upon adoption of this chapter
4.13 Place before the voters a City Charter Amendment to update and clarify the (Parks and) Recreation Commission's role relative to non-recreation uses and development in City parks. (Policies: 2, 3, 6, 7 & 15)	City Attorney in conjunction with the City Manager's Office, City Clerk, and the Parks, Recreation & Marine Department	City of Long Beach General Fund	Within one year of the adoption of this chapter

TABLE OSR – 7
4. Open Space for Outdoor Recreation
Implementation Programs

Program	Responsibility	Funding Source	Time Frame
4.14 Provide an annual report to the Planning Commission and City Council documenting progress in each of the implementation programs of this Element.	City of Long Beach Department of Planning & Building in conjunction with the Parks, Recreation & Marine Department and City Attorney	City of Long Beach General Fund	Upon adoption of this chapter.