

City of Hercules | Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan



# Draft Plan

Presentation to the Joint Commission and City Council



February 20<sup>th</sup> (JC) & 27<sup>th</sup> (CC), 2024



# AGENDA

**Master Plan Purpose**

**Master Plan Process**

**Master Plan Overview**

**Action Plan**

**Discussion and Next Steps**

# Master Plan Purpose

*To guide the sustainable development and enhancement of parks and recreation opportunities in Hercules.*

- Inventory and document the condition of park facilities
- Identify community needs and investment priorities
- Develop recommendations
  - 10+ years of recommended systemwide projects
  - 5-year action plan with priority projects



# Planning Process



# Master Plan Overview

Ch 1: Introduction

Ch 2: Existing Parks, Trails, and Facilities

Ch 3: The Hercules Community

Ch 4: Park System Needs

Ch 5: Recommendations

Ch 6: Action Plan

## City of Hercules Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan



*Draft Plan*

Prepared by



February 2024





# Appendices

- A: Parks, Trails, and Facility Inventory
- B: Park Condition Assessment
- C: Park Needs and Priorities Engagement Summary
- D: Potential Improvement Costs
- E: Prioritization Engagement Findings
- F: Capital Improvement Plan

## APPENDIX E

### Prioritization Engagement Findings



# Community-Centered Park Planning

- Project website
- Social media posts, press releases, and email blasts
- Park needs engagement: 986 participants
- Project priorities engagement: 213 participants
- Activities and events: 12
- Key City staff involvement: 5
- Steering Committee members: 7
- Council members: 5



# Community Priorities Overview



Focus on existing sites and addressing gaps in the trail system to better connect Hercules



Concentrate efforts at some of Hercules' larger, aging parks that will provide visible results to the community



Provide improvements that serve everyone (safety and restrooms) alongside major investment in active recreation, fields, courts, play



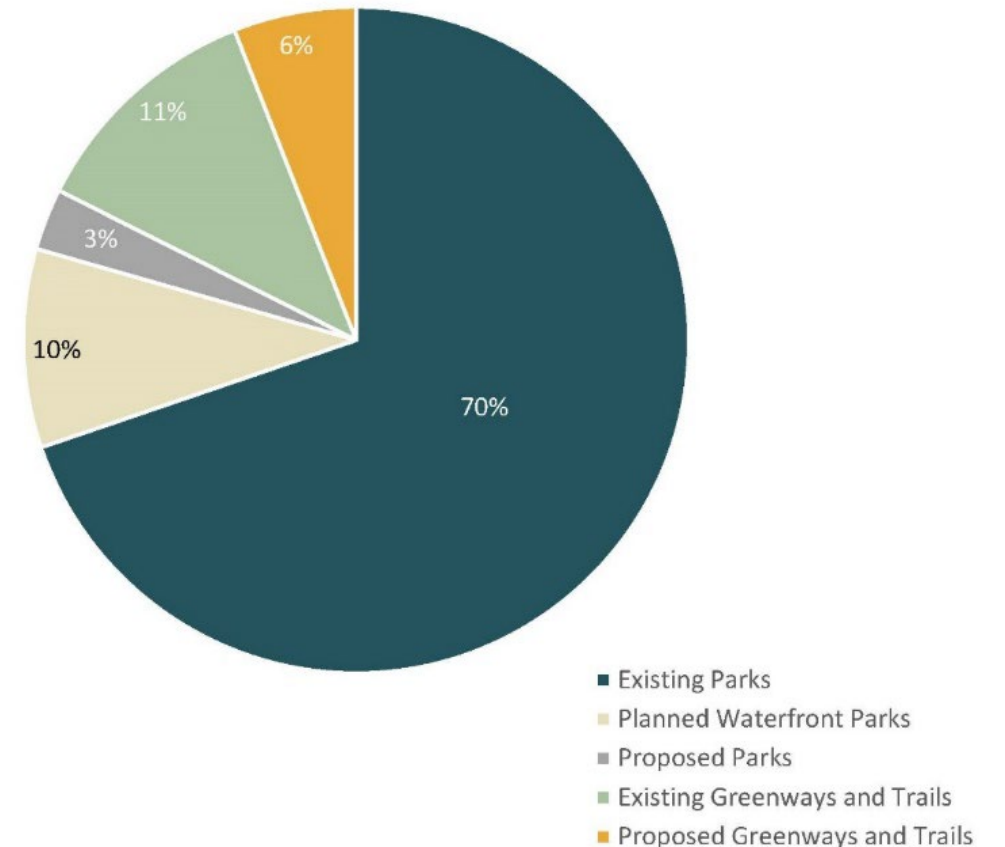
Implement select small projects that are low effort/cost and make a large impact



# Long-Term Systemwide Recommendations

- Improvements to all sites
- Planned waterfront parks
- New trail connections
- One proposed open space park
- Tiered maintenance investment
- Incorporate additional findings from parallel facility assessment to prioritize needed building improvements

Park investment by park type needed to complete all identified projects in the Master Plan.



# 5-Year Action Plan

A community prioritization effort helped identify priority projects at 8 sites:

- Beechnut Park
- Foxboro Park
- Frog Pad Park
- Refugio Valley Park and Tennis Courts
- Shoreline Park
- Woodfield Park
- Bay Trail
- Sycamore Avenue Trail (proposed)

How should we invest in the park system?



Concentrate on a few projects in major parks



## Beechnut Park

### Near-Term Recommendations

**Add drought tolerant pollinator vegetation** around developed park areas.

Capital Cost: \$      Operating Cost: \$      Urgency: High

**Update park entry and access** from driveway curb cut. Add standard park sign.

Capital Cost: \$      Operating Cost: \$      Urgency: High

**Repurpose paved lot into active area for youth.** Add a tricycle loop or small skate spot and a half-basketball court and appropriate screening vegetation from neighbors.

Capital Cost: \$      Operating Cost: \$      Urgency: High

**Remove extraneous asphalt at paved lot.**

Capital Cost: \$      Operating Cost: \$      Urgency: High

### Master Plan Goals

1. Serve all ages and abilities
2. Provide an accessible and equitable system
3. Create a connected trail system
4. Improve and restore existing parks
5. Provide varied active recreation
6. Support and expand local collaboration
7. Create a strong local identity

			X			
			X			X
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			X			





## Foxboro Park

### Near-Term Recommendations

**Replace aging playground equipment and safety surfacing.**

Capital Cost: \$\$\$

Operating Cost: \$

Urgency: High

**Renovate basketball court surfacing and striping.** Reposition hoops and posts they meet standards.

Capital Cost: \$\$

Operating Cost: \$

Urgency: Medium

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	X		X			
			X			



# Frog Pad Park

## Near-Term Recommendations

Repair and refinish gazebo shade structure.

Capital Cost: \$      Operating Cost: \$      Urgency: Medium

Master Plan Goals						
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			X			





## Refugio Valley Park and Tennis Courts

### Near-Term Recommendations

**Initiate a site master plan or design development process** for the identified near-term projects. Near-term design should consider the needs and space requirements of other mid- and long- term projects identified in this Master Plan. A public engagement process for this high-profile site may be considered.

Capital Cost: \$\$      Operating Cost: n/a      Urgency: High

**Provide shade structures** near group picnicking areas where trees have been removed. Locate shade structures along an accessible route from the parking lot. Replant trees that were removed with species selected to provide shade and meet other City maintenance needs.

Capital Cost: \$\$\$\$      Operating Cost: \$      Urgency: High

**Renovate connecting circulation system** between parking lot, practice wall, group picnic area, tennis courts, and Turquoise Avenue. Includes replacing wood railroad tie stairs, steps, and other connecting features with concrete throughout.

Capital Cost: \$\$      Operating Cost: \$      Urgency: High

**Provide a marked accessible parking spot and accessible route** to tennis courts and gathering areas.

Capital Cost: \$      Operating Cost: \$      Urgency: High

**Remove trees at Tennis Center** including tree stumps and replant using species with characteristics compatible with tennis and maintenance needs.

Capital Cost: \$      Operating Cost: \$      Urgency: High

**Initiate permits needed to dredge the pond.** Select a qualified contractor to dredge and semi-annually maintain the pond. Includes naturalizing the pond edge with a 10'-20' buffer of native pond plantings; replenish existing edges; limit public access around pond edge.

Capital Cost: \$\$\$      Operating Cost: \$\$      Urgency: High

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x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	x		x			
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			x			
			x	x		x





## Shoreline Park

### Near-Term Recommendations

#### Add Shoreline Park identification sign.

Capital Cost: \$

Operating Cost: \$

Urgency: Medium

#### Replace drinking fountain.

Capital Cost: \$

Operating Cost: \$

Urgency: Medium

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			X			
			X			



## Woodfield Park

### Near-Term Recommendations

**Initiate a site master plan or design development process** for the identified near-term projects of Woodfield Park. Near-term design should account for the needs and space requirements of mid- and long- term projects to be addressed in the future. Consider including a parallel public engagement process. Incorporate a sound study at this stage (or later during schematic design) to inform design as it relates to noise generating uses.

Capital Cost: \$      Operating Cost: n/a      Urgency: High

**Renovate the two existing basketball courts**, including court resurfacing, restriping, new posts, backboards, hoops, etc.

Capital Cost: \$\$      Operating Cost: \$      Urgency: High

**Renovate the tennis courts** to support tennis courts and/or pickleball courts, including court resurfacing, restriping, new nets, perimeter shaded seating, and storage. Provide wind guard system on court fencing.

Capital Cost: \$\$      Operating Cost: \$      Urgency: High

**Replace the current restroom.** Select prefabricated restroom with two individual unisex stalls. Provide water fountain at restroom.

Capital Cost: \$\$      Operating Cost: \$      Urgency: High

**Provide an accessible route** between the restroom, fields, courts, playground, picnic areas, and street parking. Reorient and enhance park entry and location of restroom as needed.

Capital Cost: \$\$\$      Operating Cost: \$      Urgency: Low

**Remove pines surrounding courts** as they uplift and damage pavement and create other maintenance issues for court use. Remove any other hazardous trees.

Capital Cost: \$      Operating Cost: \$      Urgency: High

### Master Plan Goals

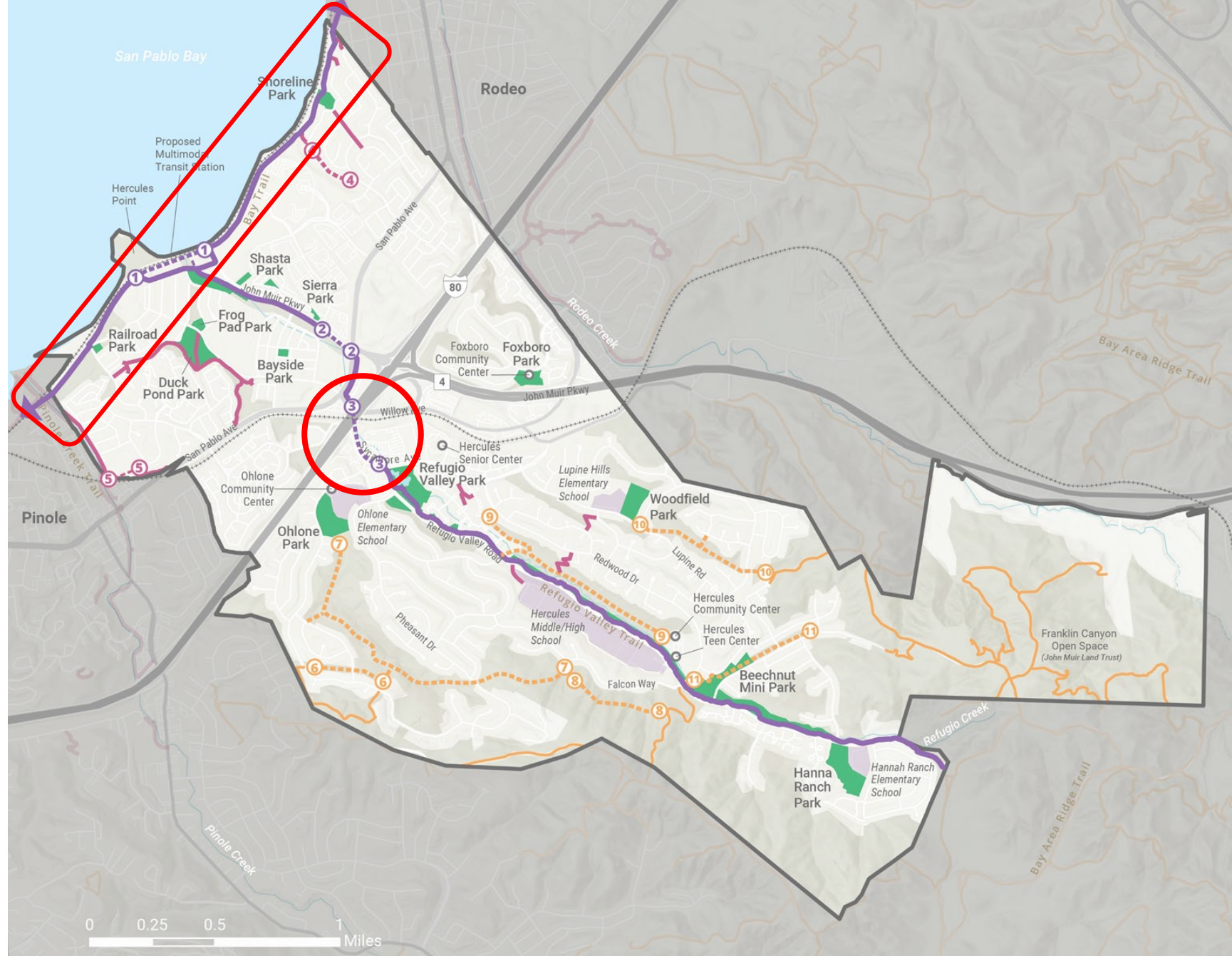
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# Priority Trails

- ❖ Master Plan identifies 11 proposed trail segments to address gaps and access improvements
- ❖ 2 trails are in the 5-year action plan
  - Bay Trail (crack and seal existing Bay Trail)
  - Sycamore Ave Trail (new connection under I-80 and railroad tracks)







## Bay Trail

### Near-Term Recommendations

**Crack and seal the existing Bay Trail.**

Capital Cost: \$\$

Operating Cost: \$

Urgency: Medium

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## Sycamore Avenue Trail (Proposed)

### Near-Term Recommendations

**Construct a 2800' LF (0.53 mi) multiuse trail** along Sycamore Avenue between Willow Avenue and Refugio Valley Road. Use a 10' paved trail width. This multiuse trail connection will provide critical east-west pedestrian and bicycle connectivity below I-80 and the railroad tracks. Project will require working with CALTRANS and impacted railroad to identify appropriate design standards, details, materials, and safety requirements.

Capital Cost: \$\$\$\$

Operating Cost: \$

Urgency: High

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## Discussion:

- Master Plan overall impressions
- Suggested revisions or refinements
- Next steps
  - City Council Review of Final Draft Master Plan
  - Finalize Master Plan