
3.15 Parks and Recreation

This section provides background information regarding parks and recreation facilities and services within the County, the state and local regulations that govern them, and an assessment of the potential impacts to parks resulting from the proposed General Plan Update. Existing parks and recreation facilities and programs are described in Chapter 5, Parks, Recreation, and Open Space, of the *Natural Resources and Hazards Report*, September 2002 (Appendix D, <http://humboldt.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/1370>), and Section 9, Parks and Recreation of the *Community Infrastructure & Services Technical Report*, July 2008 (Appendix Q, <http://humboldt.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/1449>). These reports, which are available for review at the Planning Division public counter during normal business hours at 3015 H Street in Eureka, are incorporated herein by reference, and summarized below. Where any discrepancies may exist between the referenced material and the material presented here, the material presented here should be considered as the most up to date and is to be relied on for the environmental setting and analyses.

3.15.1 Parks and Recreation - Environmental and Regulatory Setting

Recreation and Park Facilities in Humboldt County

More than twenty percent of the County's 2.3 million acres are protected open space, forests, and recreation areas. Within the County boundaries, there are four federal parks and beaches, ten state parks (three of which are encompassed by Redwood National Park), 16 County parks, beaches, recreational areas and reserves. These areas contribute to the quality of life in Humboldt County and provide needed recreational opportunities for residents of neighboring counties and visitors from all over the world.

Several agencies manage the parks, recreation, and open space resources in Humboldt County including Native American tribes, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), United States Forest Service (USFS), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), California State Parks Department, local city governments, Humboldt County, and special districts.

Regional Park Facilities

Most parks in Humboldt County are regional in scope; outside the incorporated cities there are few local community or neighborhood parks. There are nearly 468,000 acres of federally managed parklands in the County, including National Forest, National Parks, and National Wildlife Areas, and 7,600 acres of Bureau of Land Management Reserve Lands. The County has about 76,000 acres of State Beach, State Parks, and State Reserve Lands. Humboldt County operates approximately 850 acres of parkland that includes ocean beaches, river access, boat ramps, and trails. Maps and figures describing the location and extent of regional parklands and open space in Humboldt County can be found in *Natural Resources and Hazards Report* Volume 1, Figure 5-1 and Tables 5-1 through 5-3 (Appendix D).

Local Park Facilities

Community and neighborhood park facilities are described in Section 9 of the *Community Infrastructure and Services Technical Report* (Appendix Q). Tables 9.1 through 9.12 in that report detail the park and recreation facilities found in Humboldt County's seven incorporated cities as well as within the Manila, McKinleyville, Scotia, and Willow Creek Community Services Districts and Resort Improvement District No. 1, and are summarized below in Table 3.15 -1. Updates have been made by staff of the Planning and Building Department since the publication of the Community Infrastructure and Services Technical Report based on best available information from service providers and other planning documents.

Table 3.15-1. Park Facilities in Unincorporated Humboldt County.

Park Name	Location	Park Type	Size in Acres
Humboldt County Operated			
Arthur W. Way County Memorial Park	36594 Mattole Rd, Honeydew	Regional	20
Big Lagoon County Park	505 A St, Big Lagoon	Regional	52
Centerville Beach County Park	4000 Centerville, Rd, Ferndale	Regional	2
Clam Beach County Park	1100 Clam Beach Rd, McKinleyville	Regional	370
Crab County Park	4000, Cannibal Rd, Loleta	Regional	10.5
Fields Landing County Park	160 Railroad Ave, Fields Landing	Regional	1.5
Freshwater County Park	Freshwater Rd, Freshwater	Regional	7
Hammond Trail	McKinleyville	Regional	5
Luffenholtz Beach County Park	Scenic Drive, Westhaven	Regional	7.5
Mad River County Park	150 Mad River Rd, Arcata	Regional	95.5
Margarite Lockwood Park	Maple Hills Rd, Miranda	Regional	20
Moonstone Beach County Park	Moonstone Beach Rd, Westhaven	Regional	8
Pedrazzini County Park	Pedrazzini Park Ln, Loleta	Regional	1
Samoa Boat Ramp	New Navy Base Rd, Samoa	Regional	8
Table Bluff County Park	Table Bluff Rd, Loleta	Regional	34
Van Duzen County Park	St Hwy 36, Carlotta	Regional	200
Sub Total			842

Park Name	Location	Park Type	Size in Acres
Manila CSD Operated			
Manila Dunes Rec. Area & Community Center	1901 Park Street, Manila	Regional	154
Manila Park	Lupin Avenue and Peninsula Drive, Manila	Community	12
Sub Total			166
McKinleyville CSD Operated			
Hiller Park and Sports Complex	795 Hiller Road, McKinleyville	Community	58
Pierson Park	1608 Pickett Road, McKinleyville	Community	5
Larissa Park	Larissa Circle, McKinleyville	Neighborhood	0.3
Sub Total			63.3
RID No. 1 (Shelter Cove) Operated			
Shelter Cove Golf Course	1555 Upper Pacific Drive, Shelter Cove	Regional	35
Playground	9126 Shelter Cove Road, Shelter Cove	Neighborhood	0.25
Sub Total			35.25
Scotia CSD Operated			
Scotia Fireman's Park (including soccer field)	Williams Street, Scotia	Community	10
Carpenter Field	Williams Street, Scotia	Community	4
Scotia Community Forest	Scotia	Regional	22.5
Scotia Museum, Town Park, Winema Theater	Main Street @ Bridge Street, Scotia	Neighborhood	0.75
Sub Total			37.25
Willow Creek CSD Operated			
Kimtu Beach & Camp Kimtu	Kimtu Road, Willow Creek	Regional	17
Veteran's Park	Kimtu Road, Willow Creek	Neighborhood	16
Creek Side Park	Willow Road, Willow Creek	Neighborhood	3.6
Community Commons	38919 Hwy 299, Willow Creek	Neighborhood	1.2
Sub Total			37.8
Total Parkland serving Community Areas			1,182

Source: Community Infrastructure and Services Technical Report, 2008; Humboldt County Planning and Building Advanced Planning Division, 2016.

The Technical Report also contains narrative descriptions of the activities of the Northern Humboldt and Rohner Community Recreation and Park Districts. School playgrounds in

Humboldt County are often the most accessible facilities for recreational use by children and families, and although they serve a broader community need, they are not designed and constructed as community park and recreation facilities and there is no formal program to maintain them as such. In recent years, school districts have installed security measures to protect buildings and facilities which limits their accessibility for broader community use and, as with all California public agencies, funding for facility maintenance and improvement is limited. Future school district budget and security requirements are unknown; therefore there is no guarantee that school facilities will remain available to serve the community public park and recreation needs in the future.

Private individuals and groups also provide parks and recreation facilities. For example, most communities have a health club that offer services such as weight lifting and fitness classes. In addition, there are parks open to the public that are operated by private non-profit groups such as the Redwood Fields in Cutten (an approximately 12-acre site that includes ball fields, playgrounds, picnic areas, and bocce courts), and the Southern Humboldt Community Park in Garberville (a 405-acre site that includes sports fields, playgrounds, picnic areas, and trails).

Table 3.15-2 lists acres of local and community parkland in unincorporated Humboldt County by Community Planning Area (CPA) (inland and coastal), where the local agency is responsible for planning, funding, and providing parklands for that area. Park operators include special districts such as Community Service Districts. Parks located within incorporated cities, like school facilities are, in many cases, the closest facilities to unincorporated communities, but are not included in this analysis. City parklands and facilities may serve unincorporated populations, just as the residents of one city may use the parklands of another city. However, city parklands are not designed and managed to serve unincorporated areas. Parklands provided by non-profit organizations such as Redwood Fields in Cutten and the Southern Humboldt Community Park may also be important to unincorporated areas, but are not included in this analysis because they are not operated by a local agency that is responsible for planning, funding, and providing park facilities for that area.

Total neighborhood and community park acres are compared to unincorporated area population within Community Planning Areas. Additional detail regarding facility type and park location can be found in Sections 9.1.1 and 9.1.2 of the *Community Infrastructure and Services Technical Report* and Table 5-3, County Parks and Trails of the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space section of the Natural Resources and Hazards Technical Report.

Table 3.15-2. Neighborhood and Community Parks by Planning Area

Community/Coastal Planning Area	Community & Neighborhood Park Acres	Acres Per 1,000 Persons
Arcata CPA	0	0
Avenues CPA-Miranda	0	0
Avenues CPA-Myers Flat	0	0
Avenues CPA-Phillipsville	0	0
Avenues CPA-Stafford-Redcrest	0	0
Avenues CPA-Weott	0	0
Blue Lake CPA	0	0
Eel River AP	0	0
Eureka CPA	0	0

Community/Coastal Planning Area	Community & Neighborhood Park Acres	Acres Per 1,000 Persons
Fieldbrook-Glendale CPA	0	0
Fortuna CPA	0	0
Freshwater CPA	0	0
GRBA-Alderpoint CPA t	0	0
GRBA-Redway/Garberville CPA	0	0
Humboldt Bay AP	0	0
Hydesville CPA	0	0
Jacoby Creek CPA	0	0
McKinleyville AP/ CPA	63.38	4.1
North Coastal AP	0	0
Orick CPA	0	0
Orleans CPA	0	0
Rio Dell-Scotia CPA	37.25	9.1
Shelter Cove AP/ CPA	0.025	0.04
South Coast AP	0	0
Trinidad AP	0	0
Westhaven CPA	0	0
Willow Creek CPA	20.8	13
Grand Total	93	1.41

CPA – Community Planning Area

Source: Community Infrastructure and Services Technical Report, 2008; Humboldt County Community Development Services.

Coastal Accessways

The California Coastal Act encourages local agencies to provide maximum access to recreational opportunities within the coastal zone. Numerous coastal access points have been identified within each of the approved coastal plans for the coastal zone portions of the County. A complete listing of the coastal access points is included in the Natural Resources and Hazards Report Volume 1, Appendices. The *Local Coastal Plan Issue Identification Report, September 2003* (Appendix L), (<http://humboldt.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/1863>) includes additional information regarding coastal access points, including inventories for each local coastal plan.

3.15.2 Parks and Recreation - Standards of Significance

This analysis uses the significance criteria from the CEQA Guidelines Appendix G. The proposed General Plan Update would result in significant impacts related to parks and recreation if it would:

- a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated.
- b) Require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

Item "a" is discussed in Impact 3.15.3.1, Deterioration of Parks and Recreational Facilities. Items "b" is discussed as part of Impact 3.15.3.2, Construction of New Recreational Facilities.

3.15.3 Parks and Recreation - Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Impact 3.15.3.1. Deterioration of Parks and Recreational Facilities

Implementation of the General Plan Update could facilitate population growth that outpaces improvements to existing parks and recreation facilities, resulting in their overuse and deterioration.

This impact analysis addresses item "a" of the significance standards listed in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines as provided in Section 3.15.2 above. Pursuant to these standards, the proposed General Plan Update would have a significant impact if it would:

- a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated.

Population growth that is projected by the State of California Department of Finance (DOF) to occur during the planning period would likely utilize park and recreation facilities at a similar rate as the current population. In general, significant environmental affects would occur if population growth and park use outpace the improvements to parks and recreation facilities resulting in the deterioration of existing facilities. If park and recreation facilities are not developed at a rate commensurate with population growth, the proposed General Plan Update could result in overuse and deterioration of existing parks and recreation facilities. To avoid deterioration, sufficient additional parkland acres should be provided in order to maintain or exceed the current population to parklands acres ratio, hereafter referred to as "needed acres of parkland".

Table 3.15-3, Needed Acres of Park Land in Areas with Parkland Requirements, identifies the acres of park land required to maintain the current ratio of population to parkland at the peak population during the General Plan Update planning period as projected by the Department of Finance (peak population will occur in 2028). Peak population is determined by multiplying the proportion of 2010 unincorporated area population to total County population by the projected housing unit growth within each Community Plan Area/Area Plan.

Table 3.15-3. Needed Acres of Park Land in Areas with Parkland Requirements.

Community/Coastal Planning Area	Existing Community & Neighborhood Park Acres	2010 Population	Existing Park Acres Per 1,000 Persons	Projected Peak Population Increase (2028)	Park Acres Needed to Maintain Ratio
Eureka CPA	0.00	12,631	0.00	1,460	0.00
McKinleyville AP/ CPA	63.38	15,476	4.10	496	2.03

Source: Community Infrastructure and Services Technical Report, 2008; Humboldt County Planning and Building Department, 2016.

The only community plan that specifies parkland standards is the McKinleyville Community Plan, which requires three acres of community park land per 1,000 new residents and two acres of neighborhood and mini park/tot lots per 1,000 new residents. There are approximately 15,476 persons in the McKinleyville CPA and McKinleyville Area Plan (Coastal Zone Segment for the McKinleyville area, the developed portion of which is within the McKinleyville CSD) and 63 acres of park facilities, which results in 4.1 acres of community and neighborhood parkland per 1,000 residents (based on 2010 population and information from the 2008 Community Infrastructure and Services Technical Report). The projected 2028 population for the McKinleyville CPA and McKinleyville AP would be approximately 15,972 persons. The McKinleyville CPA/AP currently has adequate parkland to accommodate the three-acre community parkland standard and 2-acre neighborhood park standard for the projected 2028 population, but would need to develop additional parklands to maintain the current ratio of parks to population. It is assumed that by maintaining the current ratio, the deterioration of existing park facilities would be avoided.

There is no local agency park provider within the Eureka CPA. The Eureka CPA requires that at least a five acre parkland be provided as part of a subdivision for each of three large land tracts. These tracts include the Barry property atop Humboldt Hill, the Robinson\Dunn property in Cutten and the McKay South tract located east of Walnut Drive in Ridgewood Heights. The parklands shall be required to meet the requirements of the Eureka CPA. To date, none of the above listed developments have occurred nor have the five acre parks been developed.

The current Humboldt County Zoning Regulations (Section 314-110.1 Parkland Dedication) require that residential subdivisions offer to dedicate land to a public or private non-profit agency for public park or recreation use or pay in-lieu fees to provide an appropriate contribution to public parks or recreation, pursuant to the Quimby Act (Government Code section 66477). Parkland dedication requirements are consistent with policies contained in the McKinleyville Community Plan and Coastal Area Plan as well as within the Eureka Community Plan. This current Parkland Dedication program would require that residential subdivisions in Eureka and McKinleyville make fair share contributions towards new park facilities or rehabilitating existing park facilities. These contributions would serve to limit the deterioration of existing facilities in these areas.

Coastal Access policies contained in each Local Coastal Plan require that new development not interfere with existing access points to coastal resources in the coastal zone. The Public Recreation and Public Lands land use and zoning classifications limit the allowed uses to protect recreational uses from new development. The Parkland Dedication requirements provide funding for development of new parks in urban areas.

Analysis of Relevant General Plan Update Policies

Goals, policies, standards and implementation measures contained in the Community Infrastructure and Services Element, as well as of the Conservation and Open Space Elements, are intended to address potential impacts to parks and recreation. Policies IS-P3, Public Infrastructure and Services Standards, and IS-P8, Infrastructure and Services Capacity, and Policy CO-P5, Planning for Recreational Needs within Communities, set forth the requirements that the County plan for parks within communities, coordinate with appropriate service providers to monitor the capacities of infrastructure and services in relation to existing and planned demand, and specify infrastructure and service needs for new development. Policy IS-P4, Requirements for Discretionary Development, directs the County to evaluate proposed development relative to service standards adopted by the County, service providers, and state and federal agencies, and if necessary impose conditions to ensure that the appropriate standards are met. In addition, Policy IS-P21, Parks and Recreation Service in Urban Development Areas, encourages special districts to provide parks and recreation services to meet the needs of urban area populations. However, this policy is only advisory and cannot be relied upon to lessen impacts to parklands resulting from the General Plan Update.

Standard IS-S7, Parkland Requirements, requires all residential subdivisions to offer to dedicate land or pay a parkland dedication in-lieu fee pursuant to the Quimby Act (Government Code section 66477).

The General Plan Update does not specify parkland standards. Instead, park standards would be established as part of community plans, such as the McKinleyville Community Plan, through implementation measures contained in the plan. Implementation Measure IS-IM29, Parks and Recreation, would prepare standards for new development that consider community preference and differentiate between urban, suburban, and rural settings; specify acreage of park land per 1,000 residents; and specify land dedication, in-lieu fees or other mechanisms to make park and recreation improvements.

Policy CO-P6, Develop and Maintain County Parks, requires that the County secure, develop and maintain parks that are accessible to the public in order to serve the current and future needs of County residents. Policy CO-P7, Encourage Private Outdoor Recreation, encourages the development of private parklands and outdoor recreational services and facilities as a means to generate economic returns for the landowner from conservation and open space lands.

Conclusion

Table 3.15-3, Needed Acres of Park Land, specifies the number of additional parkland acres that would be required to maintain the current ratio of park acres to residents within Community Planning Areas that have park requirements. The application of policies, programs, and implementation measures contained in the General Plan Update could provide a framework for coordinated planning for park and recreation facilities to ensure that new residential development includes provisions for adequate parks and open space in order to avoid an undue burden on existing facilities which would otherwise lead to deterioration. Implementation Measures IS-S7, Parkland Requirements requires all new residential development to offer to dedicate land or pay a parkland dedication in-lieu fee pursuant to the Quimby Act. In addition, IS-IM29, Parks and Recreation, would create standards for establishing park and recreation improvements.

However, there is no guarantee that setting standards will ensure that development allowed under the General Plan Update would not place undue burdens on existing parkland.

Therefore, impacts to parks facilities resulting from the implementation of the General Plan Update would be potentially significant.

Mitigation

Mitigation 3.15.3.1.a. In order to protect existing parkland from deterioration that could result from development pursuant to the General Plan Update, the following Policies and Implementation Measures shall be added to the Community Infrastructure and Services Element:

***IS-Px. Parks Master Plan.** In cooperation with other park service providers, the County shall establish and maintain a Parks Master Plan that would assess current facilities within each inland and coastal planning area, determine appropriate locations for new facilities, and identify funding options.*

***IS-Sx. Interim Parks and Recreation Standards.** Parks and recreation standards contained in the Government Code Section 66477 shall be used as the standard for parkland dedication in the review of divisions of land for which a tentative map is required pursuant to Section 66426, until such time that the County has established parks and recreation standards for new development that differentiate between urban and rural settings; specify acreage of park land of 3 acres per 1,000 residents; and specify land dedication, in-lieu fee, or other mechanisms to fund park and recreation improvements and funding for operation and maintenance.*

Level of Significance after Mitigation

With implementation of the General Plan Update policies, standards and implementation measures, and the mitigation measures identified above, impacts relating to the deterioration of parks and recreation facilities would be **less-than-significant**, particularly when considering the extensive area of County, state, and federal parkland within the County General Plan Update planning area.

Impact 3.15.3.2. Construction of New Recreational Facilities

Implementation of the General Plan Update could facilitate population growth that would require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which could have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

This impact analysis addresses item "b" of the significance standards listed in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines as provided in Section 3.15.2 above. Pursuant to these standards, the proposed General Plan Update would have a significant impact if it would:

- b) Require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

The General Plan Update would accommodate population growth, which would lead to increased demand for recreational facilities within the County. The Eureka and McKinleyville areas are the most populous communities in the unincorporated area, and are projected to receive the most significant levels of development during the General Plan update planning period. Lower levels of development would be expected to occur in other areas. Scattered development is expected to occur in rural areas. The General Plan Update land use diagram

does not specify the location of planned new parks or recreational facilities, the need for which could be triggered by the implementation of the General Plan.

The Quimby Act allows cities and counties to establish requirements for new development to dedicate land for parks, pay an in-lieu fee, or a combination of the two, and requires that standards be adopted for recreational facilities in its general plan recreation element. The Eureka and McKinleyville Community Plans contain park dedication policies and standards consistent with the Quimby Act.

Eureka Community Plan. The Eureka Community Plan requires that at least five acres of parkland be provided as part of a subdivision for each of three large land tracts. These tracts include the Barry property at the top Humboldt Hill, the Robinson-Dunn property in Cutten, and the McKay South tract located east of Walnut Drive in Ridgewood Heights. The Eureka Community Plan specifies that the terrain of park sites should be suitable to accommodate both active and passive recreational activities. The terrain for each of the three five-acre parks is required to consist of relatively flat, stable land usable for softball/soccer fields and basketball courts. A small portion of the land may be wooded and sloped to allow for passive recreation uses. To date, none of these areas have been subdivided and none of the five-acre parks have been developed.

McKinleyville Community Plan. Tables 17 and 18 of the McKinleyville Community Plan identify a series of park and recreation facilities that are needed within the McKinleyville area. The McKinleyville Community Plan includes policies to augment and compliment the efforts of the McKinleyville CSD Recreational Plan by encouraging the acquisition and development of other recreational amenities by other non-County entities such as the Redwood Community Action Agency, McKinleyville Land Trust, or the Coastal Conservancy in order to provide a comprehensive system of public trails, greenbelts, and parks. Future park development projects within the McKinleyville Community Plan area would include various expansions to Hiller Park and the development of playgrounds, ball fields, and tot lots in major developments and other locations.

As indicated above, the location and nature of park and recreation facilities that would be required as a result of the implementation of the General Plan Update is not known at this time. Parks and recreation projects are often located at or adjacent to existing facilities, but could occur in new locations. Table 3.15-3, Needed Acres of Park Land, identifies the acres of parkland needed to maintain the current ratio of population to parkland within the Eureka and McKinleyville Community Planning Area (the only two with park standards). The acreage required for each park project would vary depending on the specific park facility needs. Some projects may be as small as 10,000 to 20,000 square feet (e.g., a tot lot, basketball court, or recreation building) while larger projects may be several acres in area (e.g., ball fields). Therefore, the construction of these facilities could result in adverse physical effects on the environment related to geology, stability, and failure hazards; hydrology and drainage; water quality, erosion and drainage; air quality; sensitive flora and fauna; streams, wetlands and riparian areas; traffic and circulation; utilities and public services; aesthetics; cultural resources; population, housing, and employment; hazardous materials; and noise. However, site-specific impacts of potential new parks and recreation facilities cannot be determined until such time as they are proposed and under environmental review.

Analysis of Relevant General Plan Update Policies

As identified in Impact 3.15.3.1 above, policies, programs, and implementation measures contained in the General Plan Update would impose requirements on discretionary

development to provide adequate parkland and recreation facilities to offset additional demands. In particular, Policy IS-P4, Requirements for Discretionary Development, requires that the County evaluate discretionary development projects greater than one single family unit relative to County, service provider, and state and federal service standards, and if necessary, impose conditions to ensure that standards are met. In addition, Policy IS-P21, Parks and Recreation Service in Urban Development Areas, encourages special districts to provide parks and recreation services to meet the needs of in urban area populations. Standard IS-S7 Parkland Requirements requires that new residential subdivisions dedicate land or pay in-lieu fees for parkland pursuant to the Quimby Act. Implementation Measure IS-IM29, Parks and Recreation, would establish urban and rural parks and recreation standards for new development and specifies land dedication, in-lieu fees, or other mechanisms to facilitate park and recreation improvements. This implementation measure does not address funding for ongoing maintenance.

The discussion above identifies the need for additional parklands in the Eureka and McKinleyville Community Planning Areas to ensure that current population to parkland ratios are maintained, which would be facilitated by the implementation of the proposed General Plan Update. The following is a summary of General Plan Update policies that would reduce construction related environmental impacts from new or expanded park facilities:

- The Circulation Element contains policies to reduce traffic impacts by supporting the location of intensive land uses near collectors and arterials (C-P1, Orderly Development; and utilizing traffic impact thresholds (C-P5, Level of Service Criteria).
- The Biological Resources Chapter within the General Plan Update contains policies to reduce impacts to plants, animals, and habitat by planning land containing sensitive and critical habitats for uses for long term habitat sustainability (BR-P1, Compatible Land Use); conditioning projects to avoid impacts to critical and essential habitat where such resources are present (BR-P2, Critical Habitat); regulating development within streamside management areas to minimize adverse environmental effects (BR-P6, Development within Streamside Management Areas); and through the delineation and protection of wetlands (BR-P-7, Wetland Identification, and BR-S10 Development Standards).
- The Water Resources Element contains policies regarding critical watersheds to protect municipal water supplies from the environmental effects of development (WR-P4, Critical Municipal Water Supply Areas) and to limit the effects of development upon threatened and endangered species including Coho salmon habitat (WR-P5, Critical Watershed Areas); minimizing erosion and sediment discharge through the implementation of performance standards (WR-Px2, Mitigate Controllable Sediment Discharge Sites, WR-P8 Erosion and Sediment Discharge and WR-P36 Erosion and Sediment Control Measures); and by limiting the transmission of contaminants from parking lots to the storm water system by requiring oil water separators (WR-P35, Oil/Water Separation).
- Noise Element policies are intended to minimize short-term noise and noise from stationary sources through the application of appropriate standards (N-P1, Minimize Noise from Stationary and Mobile Sources) and through application of noise performance standards (N-S8 Short-Term Noise Performance Standards-Maximum Noise Level).
- The Safety Element contains policies to plan land use and new development to reduce hazards (S-P1, Reduce the Potential for Loss); applying state geologic and seismic standards to new development (S-P6, Structural Hazards); regulating uses around airports consistent with Airport Land Use Compatibility Plans (S-P21, Development Compatibility and S-P22, Airport Land Use Compatibility Criteria), and by regulating land uses in flood

hazard areas (S-P10, Federal Flood Insurance Program). Also, Policy S-PX1, Site Suitability, specifies that new development may be approved only if it can be demonstrated that the proposed development will neither create nor significantly contribute to or be impacted by geologic instability or geologic hazards; and Policy S-PX3, Construction Within Special Flood Hazard Areas, restricts construction within a floodplain identified as the 100-Year Flood Boundary on FEMA's Flood Insurance Rate Map.

- Air Quality Element policies require that construction and grading dust control measures achieve local air quality standards (AQ-P4, Construction and Grading Dust Control) and air quality impacts of new development are reduced through the implementation of mitigation measure during discretionary review (AQ-P5, Air Quality Impacts from New Development).

Conclusion

Implementation of the General Plan Update would result in the need for new or expanded parks and recreation facilities, the construction of which could result in significant environmental effects. Such new parks and recreation facilities would likely be constructed as part of a subdivision or require another County land use approval. New parks or recreational facilities could also be carried out by public park service providers on land planned and zoned in a manner that does not require a County land use approval. In such instances, the public park service provider would be required to seek General Plan conformance review by the County pursuant to Government Code Section 65402, and the above-listed General Plan Update policies would direct the County to work cooperatively with the service provider to plan and implement the project consistent with this plan. In particular, the General Plan encourages public agencies to plan for park and recreation facilities in areas with adequate road, pedestrian, and bicycle circulation and access to appropriate utility services.

However, the nature and location of potential new or expanded park and recreation facilities that would be constructed by another agency and that do not trigger a County land use approval is not known. As a result, the potential impacts of these facilities are too speculative for evaluation. Such potential new or expanded park and recreation facilities are within the responsibility and jurisdiction of other public agencies, and not the County, and appropriate mitigations can and should be adopted by such other agency.

If the new or expanded facilities were to be constructed as part of a subdivision or other process requiring County land use approval, such as an amendment to the General Plan Land Use Map, rezone, use permit, or a special permit, the County would ensure that environmental impacts are addressed through the application of the policies listed above, appropriate Zoning Regulations, and its land use authority. Therefore, with implementation of the General Plan Update policies, General Plan Update impacts relating to the need for new or expanded parks and recreation facilities triggered by the General Plan would be **less-than-significant**.