

PARKS, RECREATION, TRAILS AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN



ADOPTED
May 4, 2021



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview

In the twelve years that have transpired since the last update to the Spanish Fork Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan, the City has grown by nearly 15,000 residents. During that time, the City has continued to develop new parks, such as the recently completed Adventure Heights All Abilities Park. The City has also made upgrades and additions to existing parks, such as the addition of 16 pickleball courts to the Sports Park. The purpose of this Plan is to update the comprehensive vision of the City's parks, recreation and trails system and provide staff and community leaders with guidance for making informed decisions as the City continues to grow and develop.

Community Engagement

The plan recommendations are based on numerous analyses of existing conditions and projected growth and are grounded in a public engagement process that included elements such as a statistically-valid survey and guidance from an Advisory Committee and City staff, among others.

The survey results indicate that residents are generally active and that a recreation center and indoor pools are the top requests for new recreation amenities. Approximately 92-percent of survey respondents consider the overall quality of parks, trails, open spaces and recreation facilities in Spanish Fork as either excellent or good.

Parks and Open Space

Spanish Fork has more than 424 acres of parks and special facilities that meet the recreation and leisure needs of the community. Of those facilities, 198.4 acres are Mini, Neighborhood, Community or Regional Parks that meet traditional park needs and are used to calculate the City's Level-of-Service (LOS). The City currently provides 4.70 acres of park land per 1,000 residents. The Plan recommends a future LOS of 4.75 acres of park land per 1,000 residents as the community continues to grow, with

Future Level of Service



the understanding that additional amenities such as open space, trails and other recreation facilities will contribute to meeting needs as well.

The City will need to develop 75.6 acres of the 117.3 acres it already owns to meet LOS needs by 2030 and the remainder needs to be developed by buildout in 2050. It will need to acquire and develop seven neighborhood parks to meet distribution needs as growth areas around the City's perimeter continue to develop. Spanish Fork will need to acquire and develop 50.3 acres to meet LOS needs by buildout, which should be focused in distribution gap areas.

The Plan includes standards for Mini, Neighborhood, Community and Regional Parks. Existing parks should be brought up to these minimum standards and new parks should be developed with these standards as a minimum requirement. Additional park amenities are recommended based on population and should be evaluated in tandem with upgrades to meet standards.

As opportunities to acquire additional open space arise, the City should prioritize land that expands the existing parks, open space and trails system, especially when it preserves natural drainages, wildlife corridors, key agricultural lands or other valuable community resources.

Recreation, Arts and Community Events

A recreation center and an indoor pool are among the top requests from respondents in the statistically-valid survey. With the impending closure of the Water Park following the 2021 summer season, the City should explore the feasibility of providing a recreation center with pools. Such a facility could potentially include a senior center, but the feasibility study should be sensitive to the failure of the 2015 bond for a combined recreation center, senior center and library and should include extensive, focused engagement to gauge public support.

Spanish Fork should continue to work with existing partners and explore new partnerships for recreation and arts facilities and programming. The City should also communicate regularly with participants and the community at large to ensure programs are meeting needs. A marketing plan is recommended to help increase awareness of and participation in available community programs.

Trails

The City has an extensive network of existing and planned trails, which should be targeted for implementation by buildout. Regional Shared Use Paths should be the priority for development. Other desired improvements include safe crossings; improved trailhead facilities such as restrooms, trash receptacles and signage; and more benches and lighting along trails.

A system-wide wayfinding and signage system is also recommended to provide consistent information while also offering City branding opportunities throughout the parks, open space, recreation and trails system.

Implementation

Specific tasks to achieve the Plan vision are assigned immediate, short-term (0-10 years), medium-term (10-20 years) and long-term (20+ years) implementation timeframes.

The total costs for implementing the Plan recommendations are summarized in the table below.

Item	Probable Cost
Probable Costs to Upgrade Existing Parks, Acquire New Park Land and Develop Future Parks Through Buildout	\$72,820,000
Probable Costs to Develop Trails and Other Improvements	\$17,466,000
Wayfinding & Signage Master Plan (for entire parks, recreation, open space and trails system)	\$50,000
Wayfinding & Signage Installation (for entire parks, recreation, open space and trails system)	\$200,000
Grand Total	\$90,536,000

The Plan concludes with funding options and considerations.

1 INTRODUCTION

Purpose and Use of the Plan

An up-to-date and comprehensive parks, recreation and trails master plan is an essential tool for ensuring the acquisition, development and maintenance of facilities and programs in Spanish Fork keeps pace with demands and needs. Twelve years have passed since the last update to the Spanish Fork Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan was completed in 2008. This exceeds the typical update period for a master plan of this nature, especially given the significant growth the City has experienced during the ensuing years. The City has nonetheless managed to sustain consistently high maintenance throughout, avoiding the deference of maintenance that many comparable cities experienced during the economic downturn in the late 2000s. Instead of catching up, Spanish Fork can focus on acquiring additional park land and building its trail system as a primary focus for meeting future needs.

The Spanish Fork Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan 2020 represents the community's updated vision and needs. It provides policy guidance and specific implementation ideas for allocating resources to ensure the City keeps pace with demand during the next ten years and beyond.



Organization of the Plan

The Plan is organized into six chapters, as described below.

Chapter 1 - Introduction

Summarizes the purpose and organization of the Plan and relationships with other planning documents and concludes with a summary of the City's demographics focusing on future projections and needs.

Chapter 2 - Community Engagement

Describes the planning process, summarizes feedback and issues identified during the public involvement process and verifies the planning vision.

Chapter 3 - Parks and Open Space

Examines the City's existing parks and open space amenities. Also analyzes existing and future needs using Level of Service (LOS) and distribution analyses, establishes park standards and outlines the approach for meeting future park and open space needs.

Chapter 4 - Recreation, Arts and Community Events

Investigates recreation facilities and programming, arts programs, community events and similar community needs and demands.

Chapter 5 - Trails

Addresses the City's trail network, building upon the concepts in the Transportation and Circulation Element of the General Plan. Looks at the current structure, establishes a vision for meeting existing and future needs and creates a framework for a fully-connected trail system in the future.

Chapter 6 - Implementation

Summarizes specific actions to meet needs and standards for parks, open space, recreation, community arts and trails. Translates priorities into probable cost estimates for meeting requirements during the next ten years and beyond. Includes an action plan that details implementation actions for the short and long-term and concludes with an updated list of potential funding sources to help facilitate the Plan's implementation.

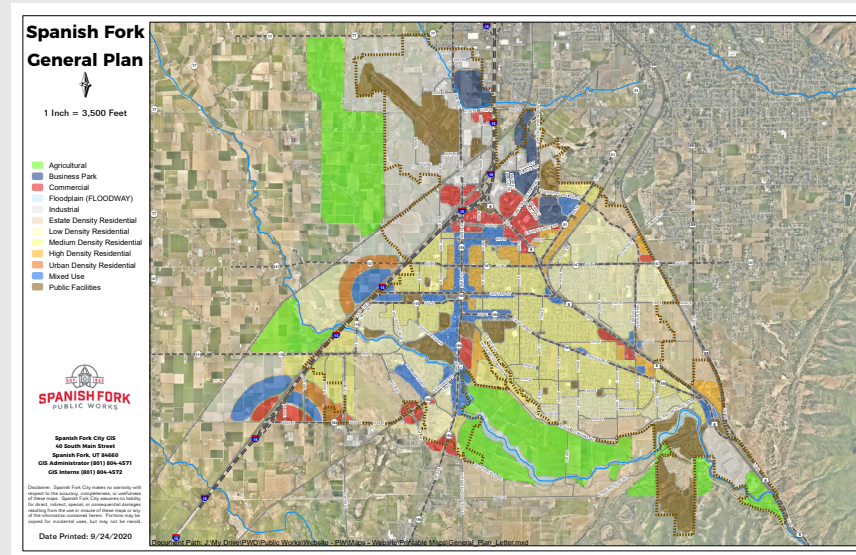
Coordination with Other Plan Documents

The Spanish Fork Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan 2020 is one of the core elements of the City's General Plan and works in concert with the other official planning and policy documents adopted for the City as described below. The Master Plan supports the vision

and goals established for the City as a whole while highlighting specific parks, recreation and trail enhancements and implementation measures that will help make the City a more complete, livable and attractive community.

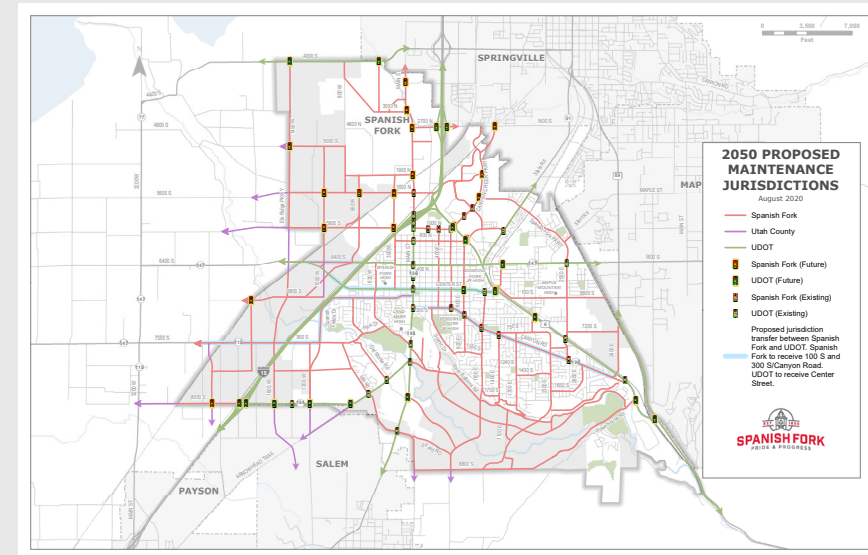
Spanish Fork Land Use, Moderate Income Housing and Annexation Elements of the General Plan 2018

The Spanish Fork Land Use, Moderate Income Housing and Annexation Elements of the General Plan address and support parks, recreation and trails. The Plan incorporates several recreation-specific goals, including promoting trails and other routes for non-motorized vehicles and protecting open space corridors and environmentally sensitive lands when planning and designing new developments.



Spanish Fork Transportation Element of the General Plan 2020

The primary focus of the Spanish Fork Transportation Element of the General Plan is the City's road system. The document also addresses alternative transportation elements, discussing opportunities to encourage alternative transportation modes such as bike lanes, shared-use trails, car-pooling, park-and-ride lots, local transit routes and bus and commuter rail transit. The Transportation Element includes an updated trails plan illustrating existing and proposed paved trails and existing and proposed bike lanes. The appendices provide a traffic calming toolbox to help improve safety and conditions for non-motorized users.

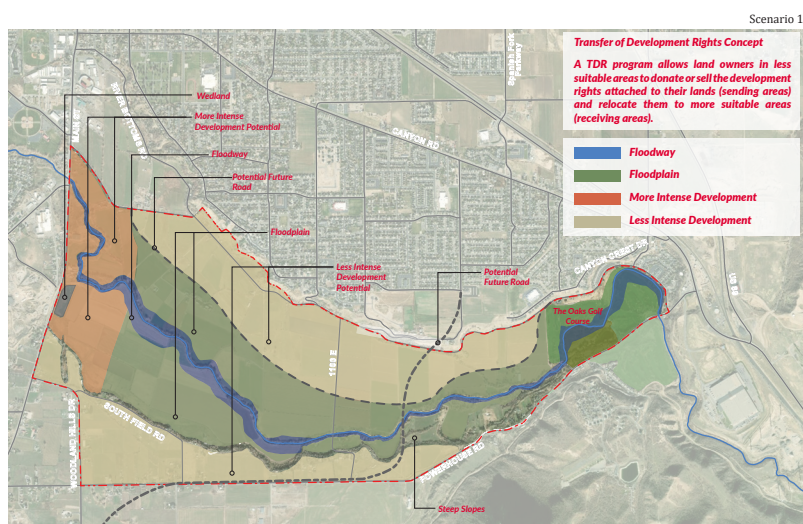


"Love SF parks. Love the thought and planning. Love the poop bags and that there are garbage cans around. Love the dog park. Love the pickleball court-wish there were a few more. Love the river trail. Love the new mtn biking trail. SF is doing a great job! Thank you!"

- Survey Respondent

Spanish Fork River Bottoms Vision Plan 2019

The Spanish Fork River Bottoms is a unique area with characteristics that are highly valued by the community. These unique attributes led the City Council in 2019 to commission the River Bottoms Vision Plan which engaged the community to help the City better understand the desires and potentials for the River Bottoms area. While most of the River Bottoms currently lie within Utah County and the County regulates the use, the document explores a baseline and three potential development scenarios, to help City leaders understand future options as the City annexes additional land. The concepts focus on the preservation and conservation of the Spanish Fork River and its associated riparian areas and evaluate various land uses, including parks, open space and trails. The Plan also includes a suite of farmland and open space preservation tools. As a follow-up to the River Bottoms Vision Plan, an effort is currently underway to implement various regulatory tools with the intent of limiting land use change in the River Bottoms. While that project is still in process, it is expected to have the result of limiting development in the River Bottoms and to preserve the area for continued agricultural uses.



Spanish Fork City Profile

Physical and Social Structure

Spanish Fork City is located in the heart of Utah County, at the crossroads of Interstate 15 and U.S. Highway 6. Spanish Fork Peak and the Wasatch Mountains lie to the south and east, providing a dramatic backdrop to the community and a wide array of recreational options, including many in the well-traveled Spanish Fork Canyon. The communities of Springville and Mapleton border the City on the north, Salem on the south and unincorporated Utah County areas bound the City on the west, beyond which lies Utah Lake.

Spanish Fork encompasses slightly more than sixteen square miles and was originally home to the Ute Indian Tribe¹. The City is named for the Spanish Fork River, which traverses the southern boundary of the community. Early Spanish explorers Silvestre Valez de Escalante and Francisco Atanasio de Dominguez visited the area in 1776. Pioneers from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints moved into the region in the mid-1800s and constructed a fort in 1854.



1 Uintah Dream: The Ute Treaty – Spanish Fork, 1865 by Gustive O. Larson, *BYU Studies Journal* 14:3,
Spring 1974 <https://byustudies.byu.edu/content/uintah-dream-ute-treaty-spanish-fork-1865> and the Utah Division
of Indian Affairs <https://indian.utah.gov/ute-indian-tribe-of-the-uintah-ouray-reservation/>.

The City was incorporated in 1855². Early residents established farms and businesses over time, along with supporting utility and transportation infrastructure. In the twenty-first century, the City's rural agricultural land use patterns have been transitioning to more urbanized development patterns, including a broader range of residential uses, lot sizes and housing types in recent years. Large commercial areas have also emerged in recent decades, providing residents and the region with a growing range of services and experiences, focusing on significant transportation corridors.

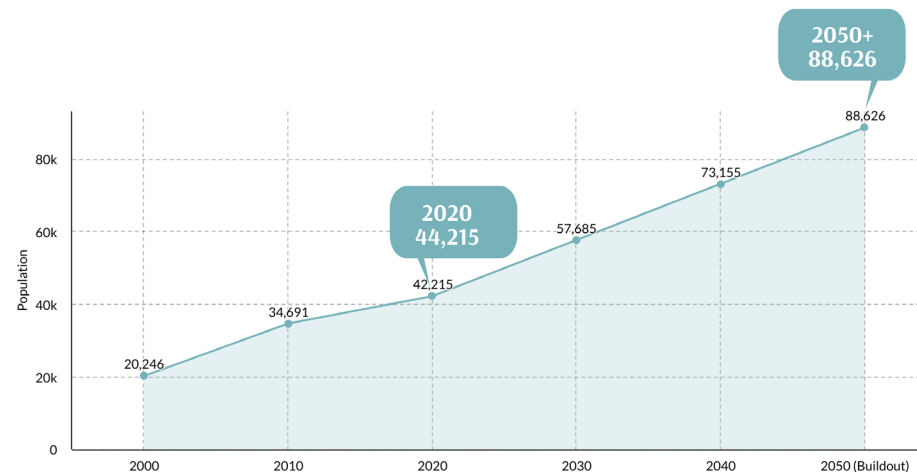
Demographic Profile and Projections

A clear understanding of Spanish Fork's current population and household characteristics is essential to accurately understand the current and future needs for public parks, recreation and trails. The following is a summary of the crucial population, age and household characteristics, which are generally the most impactful characteristics for assessing parks, recreation and trail systems³.

Population

Spanish Fork has experienced significant growth in recent years. The population doubled from 20,246 in 2000 to approximately 42,214 in 2020, representing an annual average growth rate of 3.6-percent during that period (see Figure 1). However, that is somewhat misleading when considering that the City saw a 171-percent population increase between 2000 and 2010

Figure 1: Spanish Fork Population Growth



² <https://www.spanishfork.org/visitors/about/history.php>

³ Demographic information was obtained from the Mountainland Association of Governments (MAG) and supplemented with information from the U.S. census bureau as needed.

alone. According to projections by the Mountainland Association of Governments, population growth is projected to remain steady during the next few decades, with the population more than doubling again during the next thirty years, increase by 209-percent to reach a buildout population of 88,626⁴ in 2050.

Age

As shown in Figure 2, the median age increased from 24.1 in 2000 to 26.2 in 2018⁵. Spanish Fork is still a young city when compared to the median age of the state (31.2) and the nation (38.5), though it is slightly older than the county (25.2) (see Figure 3). Figure 4 shows the

⁴ According to the Transportation Element of the General Plan, which was updated in 2020.

⁵ According to the Transportation Element of the General Plan, which was updated in 2020.

Figure 2: Spanish Fork Median Age

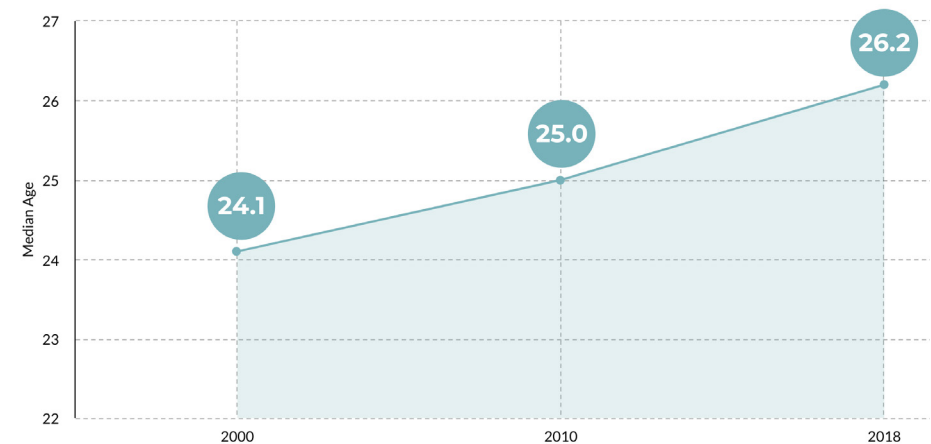


Figure 3: Median Age Comparison

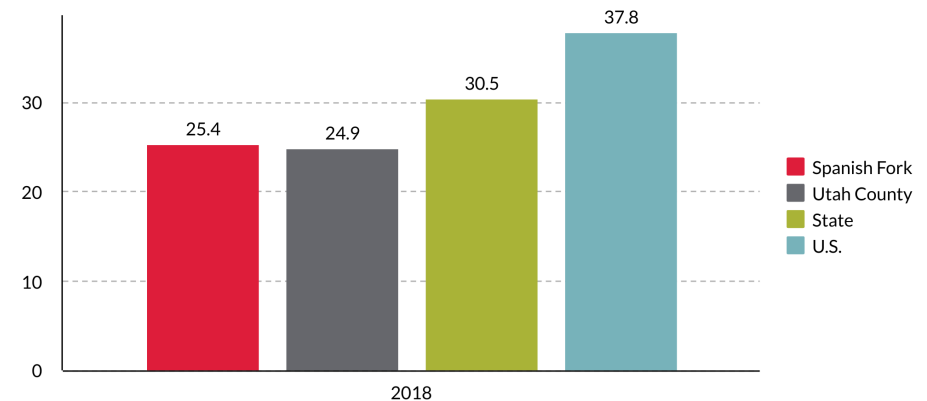
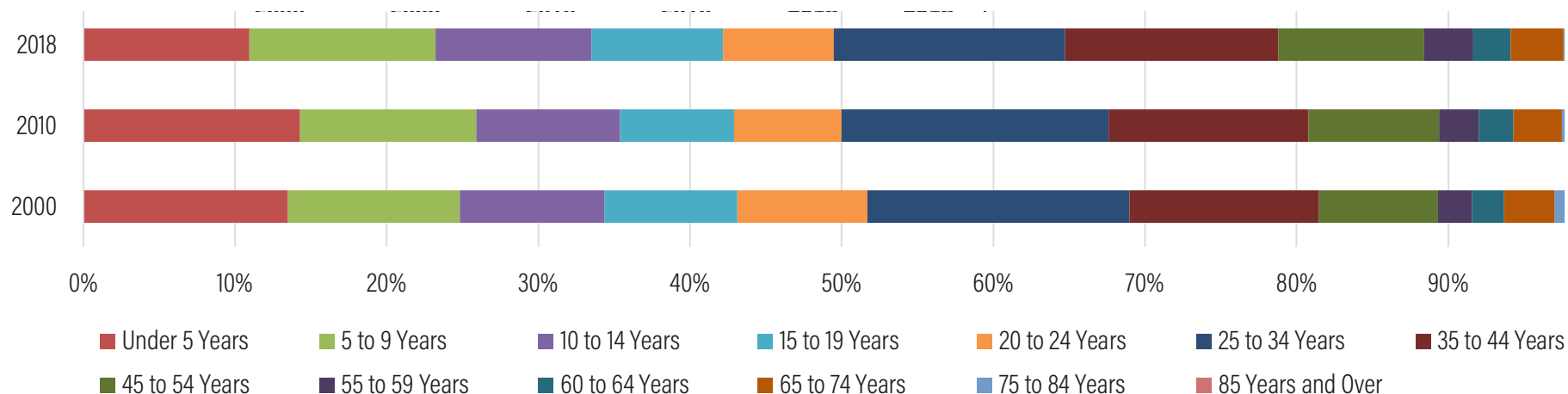


Figure 4: Spanish Fork Age Groups



shift in age groups in Spanish Fork between 2000 and 2018, illustrating a slight increase in younger children between 2000 and 2010, but that the City's older age groups as a percentage of the population are increasing.

Table 1 compares the percent of children by age group in 2018 for Spanish Fork, Utah County, Utah and the United States. As indicated, Spanish Fork has more children by percentage than the county, state and nation in all age categories, with the City's portion of 5-14 year-olds nearly double the national average. According to the American Community Survey 2018 estimates, approximately 57.4-percent of households in the City have children under eighteen years. This data is critical for understanding existing and future needs, indicating the needs of children, young and old, will dominate demands for the next generation and possibly beyond.

Table 1: Comparison of Children by Age Group (2018)

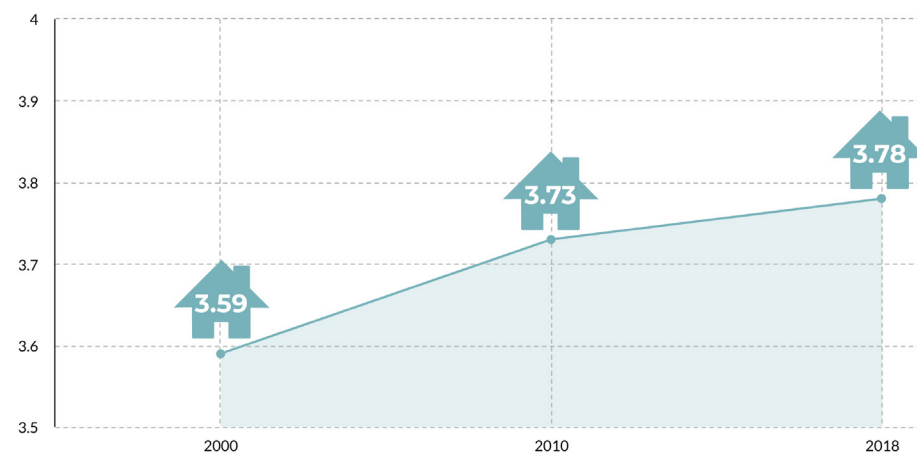
	<5 Years Old	5-14 Years Old	15-17 Years Old	Total <17 Years Old
Spanish Fork	10.9%	22.6%	27.6%	38.5%
Utah County	9.8%	19.1%	24.4%	34.2%
State of Utah	8.3%	17.0%	21.9%	30.2%
United States	6.1%	12.7%	16.6%	22.8%

While the City will continue to grow through 2050, the population will be gradually aging in the future. This means that the needs of older populations will become more significant over time.

Household Size

The average household size in Spanish Fork increased from 3.59 in 2000 to 3.78 in 2018 (see Figure 5). This is a larger household size when compared to the county (3.48) and state (3.08) and a significantly larger size than the nation as a whole (2.61) and is a reflection of the

Figure 5: Average Household Size



young age profile of the City. In other words, Spanish Fork is a community of young families with many children. Meeting this cohort’s needs will likely be the dominant need and theme of the parks, recreation and trail system through 2050 and beyond.

Household Income

The median household income in Spanish Fork increased from \$59,348⁶ in 2010 to \$74,554⁷ in 2018. This compares to \$70,408 for Utah County, \$68,374 for the state and \$60,293 for the nation during the same period. In other words, City residents have income levels that are slightly higher than the county and state and significantly higher than the country as a whole.

Summary

Spanish Fork is a young community with large families and many children. The City has grown rapidly during the past two decades and is anticipated to continue growing steadily during the next thirty years, adding approximately 46,411 residents by 2050. It is a very young community, with large households growing in size at higher rates than county, state and national averages. The community is also gradually aging and will age more rapidly in the coming decades, meaning that the needs of children will eventually be replaced by the needs of older residents. Household income has increased significantly over the years, which is indicative of a community that is attracting more affluent residents in recent years. It is anticipated that this trend will continue into the coming decades.

These characteristics indicate that the existing and future parks, recreation and trails system should be planned in a manner that serves immediate needs (families and children) while meeting the needs of a maturing population over time. Although there will be significant pressure to meet the considerable demands of young families with young children and teenagers, it is vital to ensure that the City also addresses adults and seniors’ needs now and in the future.

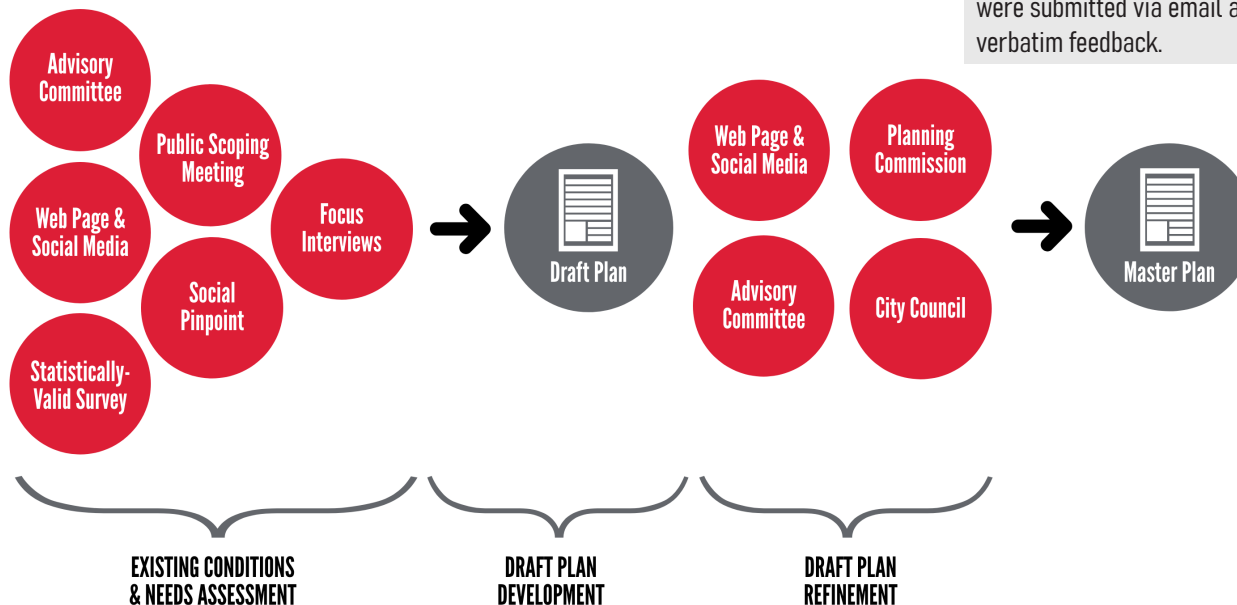
6 In 2020 inflation-adjusted dollars
7 In 2020 inflation-adjusted dollars

2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Planning Process and Public Involvement

A comprehensive community engagement plan was utilized for this project, providing meaningful opportunities for residents and stakeholders to provide input and become engaged in developing the Plan. The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic during the earliest stages of the planning process required a pause in the overall planning process while the City shifted resources and attention to managing the community's response. Adjustments were implemented that shifted engagement efforts to online methods. Despite these changes, the community input and feedback received was comprehensive. The results of the statistically-valid survey were particularly informative, providing input and perspectives that are representative of the community as a whole. Figure 6 provides a graphic representation of the key involvement and engagement processes and activities that were undertaken.

Figure 6: Community Engagement Process



Advisory Committee

An Advisory Committee was established specifically for this project and was composed of representatives from the City Council, Parks and Recreation Committee and City Staff. The Advisory Committee met three times during the planning process, providing critical guidance and feedback as the Plan was developed.

Project Web Page

A dedicated project web page was developed for this project, which was available throughout the planning process. The web page provided comprehensive documentation of meeting results and directives, in addition to serving as a clearinghouse of information and planning progress. The web page included information on meetings, provided access to presentation materials, notes and recordings of meetings and was used to disseminate survey results. It also provided an email list sign-up, comment tools, updates on plan progress, links to an interactive online mapping and comment tool called Social Pinpoint and access to draft plan documents for public review and comment. Only two comments were submitted via email and through the project web page. The Appendix contains verbatim feedback.

Statistically-Valid Survey

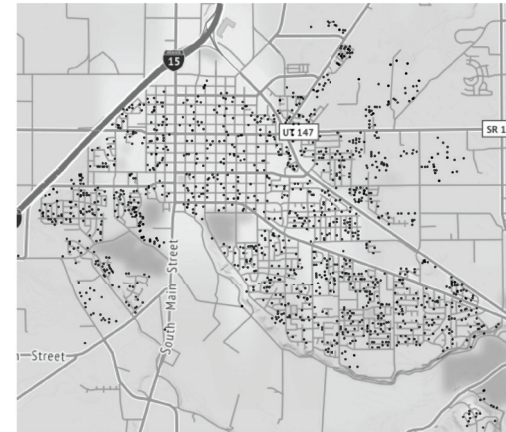
A statistically-valid survey was conducted by Y2 Analytics, a Salt Lake City-based public polling and surveying firm. The purpose of the survey was to gather representative community input on parks, recreation and trails.

The survey invitations were distributed to a random sample of residents. Because each resident had an equal probability of being selected into the survey sample, Y2 Analytics avoided self-selection, geographic and other biases and gathered a sample that reflects, within the margin of error, the City's population as a whole. If any of the sampled residents occupied the same household, one of the duplicate Household representatives was randomly selected to be kept in the records. All of this was done mechanically to avoid introducing any preventable bias. The results were weighted to align with the population distributions for age, gender, homeownership and income from the American Community Survey and statistically adjusted for over-or under-represented groups.

The survey randomly sampled residents over a week-long period in June 2020. Of the 7,992 invitations sent, **1,418 citizens responded by completing online surveys, resulting in a response rate of approximately 20-percent overall and a margin of error of +/- 2.56.** This is a high rate of return and is indicative of a highly accurate and representative survey. The Appendix contains detailed survey results and highlights are presented below.

Respondents are roughly equal proportions of males and females. On average, a household has five children under 18. The average age is 44 years. A plurality of respondents (26-percent) are 3-5 year residents. Twenty-two percent are less than 2-year residents and 21-percent are 21+ year residents. Just over half of all residents expect to make between \$50,000 and \$99,999 in 2020. Seventy-six percent are homeowners.

GEOCODED RESPONSES

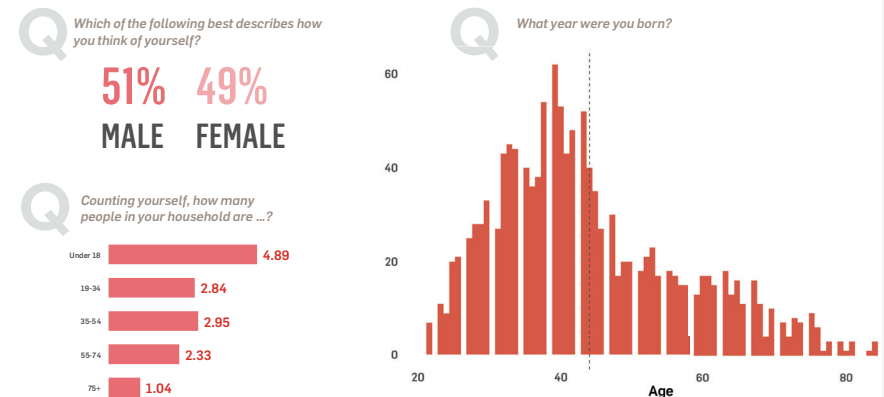


Sample consists of Spanish Fork residents from all areas of the city with no clear geographic nonresponse bias patterns.

Neighborhood- or planning area-level analysis can be conducted on our response data as a follow-up to this overall report as needed.

DEMOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN OF SAMPLE

Responses are weighted to match region demographics. Respondents are roughly equal proportions male and female. On average, a household has 5 children under 18. The average age is 44 years.



"I appreciate Spanish Fork taking the time to get people's opinions."

- Survey Respondent

Top Five Takeaways of the Survey

1. Spanish Fork residents are generally active. **Most residents use Spanish Fork parks, fields, or recreational facilities at least once a month.** However, over half did not participate in Spanish Fork City recreation programs such as organized sports for youth and adults.
2. **A recreation center and indoor pools are the top requests** for new recreation amenities. When asked to allocate \$100 in hypothetical funds, **respondents put \$20 towards a recreation facility and \$14 to indoor aquatics facilities, on average.** New trails/trailheads are also a popular request.
3. Residents are **most likely to support a new recreation center bond** and least likely to support a bond for arts and cultural programs.
4. Residents report a willingness to pay an average of \$67.30 a year in higher taxes to fund the types of trails, parks, open space and recreation facilities that are the most important to their households.
5. Having a **park within walking distance from home is important to residents.** It is the most significant factor that determines which parks residents visit the most often.

92% of respondents consider the overall quality of parks, trails, open spaces and recreation facilities in Spanish Fork as either excellent or good. Only 1% of respondents considered them poor quality and no respondents described them as terrible.



“I am glad to see that Spanish Fork is looking into improving the city’s amenities.”

- Survey Respondent

City Resident Lifestyle Analysis

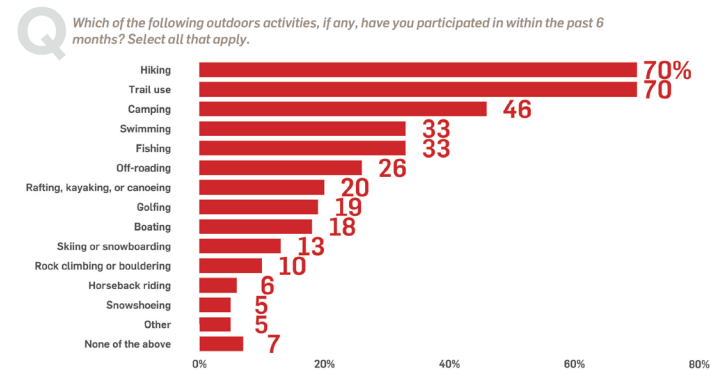
The community's overall activity and health levels were surveyed, grouping respondents according to questions concerning health, activity levels, rate and level of exercise and the types of activities in which they participate.

Lifestyle-Related Survey Results

- **Running and weightlifting are the most common fitness activities.** Forty-four percent of respondents participated in running within the past six months and 42-percent weightlifting. Only eight-percent participated in pilates and eight-percent did none of the listed activities.
- **A majority of residents do not participate in sporting activities,** with 57-percent of respondents indicating they participated in none of the listed sporting activities. Nineteen percent of the respondents stated that they had played recreational/pick-up team sports within the past six months and 17-percent participated in organized team sports.
- **Hiking and trail use are the most popular outdoor activities.** Hiking and trail use are the most common outdoor activities, with 70-percent of respondents participating in each. The least popular activities are horseback riding and snowshoeing.
- **For children under 18, swimming, bike riding and walking are the most common exercise and recreation activities.** Among adults, a majority enjoy walking. Bike riding and weightlifting are also popular.

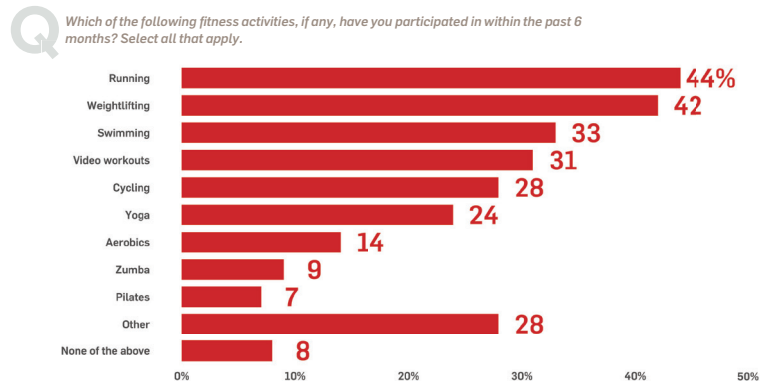
HIKING, TRAIL USE MOST POPULAR OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Hiking and trail use are the most common outdoor activities, with 70% of respondents participating in each. The least popular activities are horseback riding and snowshoeing.



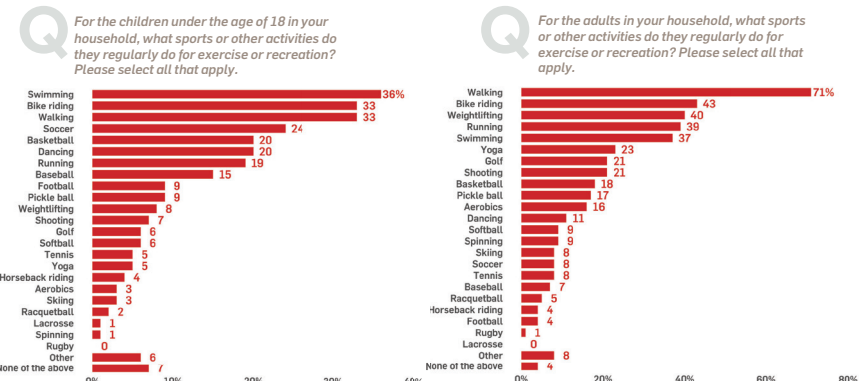
RUNNING, WEIGHTLIFTING MOST COMMON FITNESS ACTIVITIES

44% of respondents participated in running within the past 6 months, and 42% weightlifted. Only 7% participated in Pilates, and 8% did none of the listed activities.



MOST POPULAR ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS

For children under 18, swimming, bike riding, and walking are the most common exercise and recreation activities. Among adults, a majority enjoy walking. Bike riding and weightlifting are also popular.



Fitness Groups

Four groups emerged corresponding to different health and activity levels: **Performers**, **Competitors**, **Movers** and **Recreators**.

- **Performers and Competitors** are healthy, active groups. Ninety-eight percent of performers and 93-percent of competitors have good or excellent health. Both groups exercise at least 20 days per month. The feature that distinguishes Competitors from Performers is that they regularly participate in organized sporting activities.
- Forty-nine percent of Performers and 56-percent of Competitors are between the ages of 18 and 34. Competitors are more affluent, with 40-percent earning more than \$100,000 annually compared to 35-percent of Performers. A majority of Competitors are men, while the Performers are more evenly divided between females and males.
- **Movers** are the largest segment and are composed primarily of residents who describe themselves as being in “good” health and who are “somewhat active.” There are many more Movers who are seniors than Performers or Competitors. However, Movers still report exercising more days than not in a month and typically participate in some fitness and outdoor activities (5 different activities per person, on average).

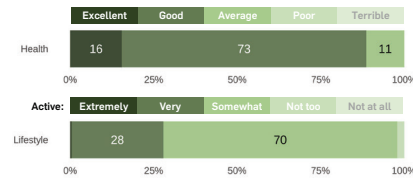
- **Recreators** include all residents who described themselves as “not too active” or “not at all active.” However, most Recreators are still “somewhat active” or of “average” health. Furthermore, on average, Recreators say they exercise 7 days out of the month, reflecting the residents’ high baseline of activity. While Recreators typically do not participate in most fitness or sporting activities, 4 out of 5 still actively participate in at least one outdoor activity, such as hiking, for example.

Chapters 3 through 5 include a corresponding summary of the survey results for parks, recreation and trails. Detailed survey results are available in the Appendix.

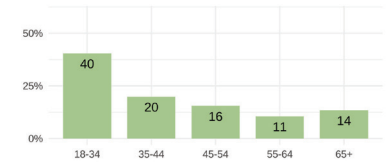
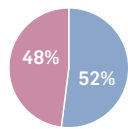
MOVERS

Movers are the largest segment in Spanish Fork and are composed primarily of residents who describe themselves as being in “Good” health and who are “Somewhat active.” There are many more Movers who are seniors than Performers or Competitors, but Movers still report exercising more days than not in a month, and typically participate in some fitness and outdoor activities (5 different activities per person, on average).

Health and Lifestyle



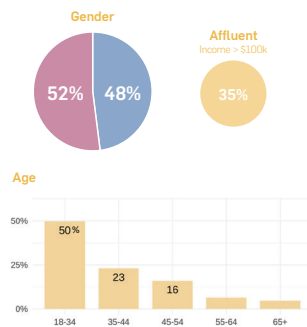
Gender



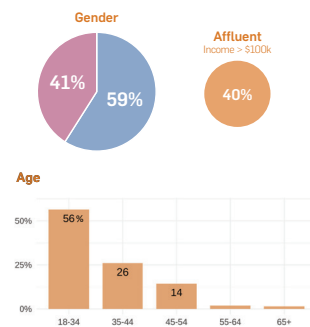
PERFORMERS AND COMPETITORS

49% of Performers and 56% of Competitors are between the ages of 18 and 34. Competitors are more affluent, with 40% earning more than \$100,000 annually compared to 35% of Performers. A majority of Competitors are men, while the Performers are more evenly divided between females and males.

Performers



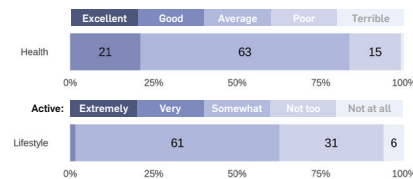
Competitors



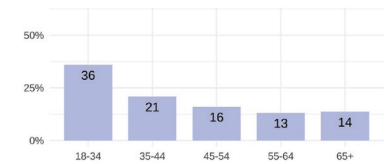
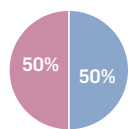
RECREATORS

Recreators include all residents who described themselves as “Not too active” or “Not at all active.” However, most Recreators are still “Somewhat active” or of “Average” health. Furthermore, on average, Recreators say they exercise 7 days out of the month, reflecting the high baseline of activity for Spanish Fork residents. While Recreators typically do not participate in most fitness or sporting activities, 4 out of 5 still actively participate in at least one outdoor activity, such as hiking, for example.

Health and Lifestyle



Gender



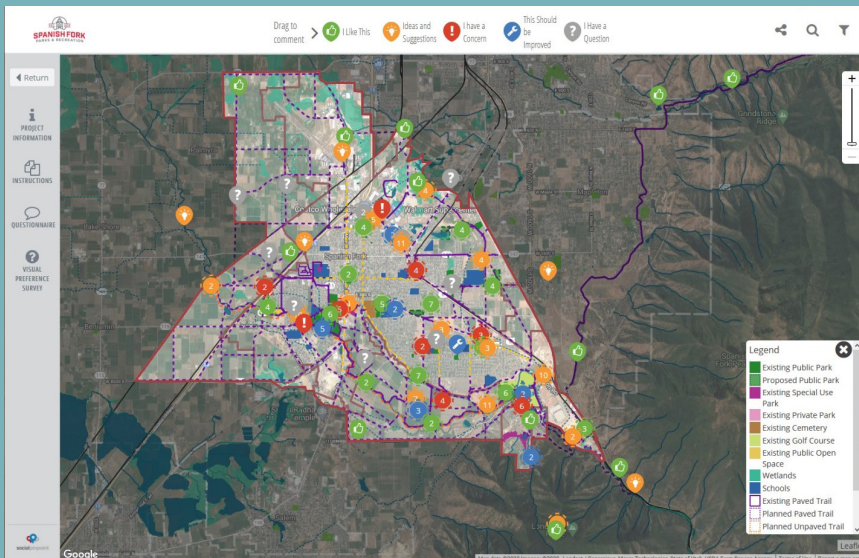
Social Pinpoint Online Engagement

The community engagement process included several interactive online tools to gather residents' preferences and opinions. These participation opportunities were accessed through the project web page and were open to anyone to participate.

Activity #1: Online Mapping

The interactive Social Pinpoint map received 222 comments, with many more visitors providing "up votes" or "down votes" to comments made by others. The map below shows the geographic locations that received mentions. The numbers on the map represent multiple comments within a given area. The feedback was sorted into common topics and then tabulated to identify common issues that received the most attention. Chapters 3 through 5 include a summary of the Social Pinpoint Online Mapping results relating to parks, recreation and trails. Detailed responses are available in the Appendix.

766	266	4:10	42	222
Total Visits	Unique Users	Average Time (minutes)	Users Commented	Comments



Activity #2: Online Questionnaire

The questionnaire contained a series of questions (see below) to identify City residents' critical issues regarding parks, recreation and trails. The questionnaire received 15 responses from 13 different respondents.

15
Responses

- Q1 - How are your recreation and leisure needs currently being met?
- Q2 - Which City park does your household use most often and why? What improvements should be made to that park?
- Q3 - What type of parks are needed most in Spanish Fork and why?
- Q4 - Do existing recreational facilities meet your recreational needs? What facilities do you use most? What facilities are missing?
- Q5 - Do you or your family participate in City recreation programs? If so, which ones? Are there additional programs that you would like to see?
- Q6 - Which trails do you use most often and why?
- Q7 - Describe improvements, if any, that should be made to the trail system.
- Q8 - Do you have any additional comments regarding Spanish Fork's parks, recreation and trails system?

General comments indicated that recreation needs are generally well met and that participants are pleased with the City's provision of parks, recreation and trails. Some participants don't want an increase in property taxes. Respondents also want more large shade trees.

A summary of the Social Pinpoint Online Questionnaire results relating to parks, recreation and trails is included in Chapters 3 through 5 in the corresponding chapters. Detailed responses are available in the Appendix.

Activity #3: Visual Preference Survey

The visual preference survey asked participants to rate 30 images on a scale of -3 (really dislike) to +3 (really like). The visual preference survey aims to gauge public preference for a range of parks, recreation and trails facilities and activities. Some of the images are of existing sites and uses in and around Spanish Fork, while the bulk is from other areas, highlighting potential future uses.

124
Responses

The image below shows the top five highest-scoring images and the bottom five lowest-scoring images from the survey.

				
309 Total Score	305 Total Score	297 Total Score	276 Total Score	273 Total Score
2.5 Average Score	2.5 Average Score	2.4 Average Score	2.2 Average Score	2.2 Average Score
				
24 Total Score	27 Total Score	53 Total Score	68 Total Score	94 Total Score
0.2 Average Score	0.2 Average Score	0.4 Average Score	0.5 Average Score	0.8 Average Score

The highest-scoring images were generally larger parks with trees, lawn areas and amenities; natural open space with a combination of waterways, farmland and developed amenities; paved trails; playgrounds with more natural surfacing, trees, seating for parents and free-form play equipment. The lowest-scoring images were of motorized trails, shooting ranges, dog parks, historic pioneer buildings and sculptural/art pieces as playgrounds with little seating and shade for parents.

Additional information and details for the Visual Preference Survey are available in the Appendix.

Focus Group Meetings

The planning team held three separate focus group meetings with various special interest groups in October 2020, including representatives of the Spanish Fork Senior Center, the aquatics community and the Spanish Fork Arts Council. Chapter 4: Recreation, Arts and Community Events includes a summary of the comments provided during each meeting and detailed notes are included in the Appendix.

Public Scoping Meeting

The online public scoping meeting was held on July 13, 2020, using Zoom as the platform. The meeting was lightly attended, with five members of the public attending and seven members of City staff and the Advisory Committee attending. The meeting began with a PowerPoint summary of the planning process and community engagement opportunities, followed by discussions. The meeting concluded with an open dialogue about the public's needs and desires for the City's parks, recreation and trails system.

Chapters 3 through 5 include a summary of the Public Scoping Meeting feedback relating to parks, recreation and trails. Detailed responses are available in the Appendix.

City Leadership Briefings and Adoption Presentations

The planning team briefed the City's leadership at key points during the planning process. The City Council was briefed on _____. The final draft of the Spanish Fork Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan was presented to the Spanish Fork City Planning Commission on _____ and was forwarded to the City Council. The Spanish Fork City Council adopted the Plan on _____.

Vision Statement

The City's Vision Statement, shown below, summarizes the community's aim for the future, the guiding principles to which the community aspires and which serve as a basis for decision-making by City staff and leadership.

"It is the mission of the Spanish Fork City Government to provide effective and fiscally responsible municipal services in a manner that promotes this high standard of community life.

We provide progressive, effective government for all of Spanish Fork City.

We offer unmatched customer service in an environment of sound fiscal management. We balance economic prosperity and the preservation of our neighborhoods and natural resources. Safe, healthy neighborhoods are our hallmarks."

The Vision statement specifically references the desire for a high quality of life, a healthy community and the preservation of the resources and qualities that make that possible. The statement works in tandem with this Plan which provides background research, analyses and specific recommendations to help the City achieve the principles laid out in its mission statement. The Plan captures a comprehensive, well-distributed and interconnected system that will continue to enhance public health and well-being as it is implemented.

"I love this poll and I love this city! Keep up the good work guys!"

- Survey Respondent

3

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

Parks and open space are essential components of a comprehensive recreation system. Having ready access to a well-coordinated and distributed system of developed parks and natural lands is critical for ensuring that a community is livable, which has become even more apparent during the increased demand for access to parks and open space during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Parks and open spaces are valuable community resources that offer residents safe opportunities to be outdoors, exercise, socialize and reconnect with the natural world. As such, they contribute to the physical and mental health of the City.

This chapter begins by examining the current state of existing parks and open space in Spanish Fork City, documenting the number, size, amenities and distribution of the City's existing parks and open spaces. These conditions are then analyzed to determine how well current needs are being met. Once existing conditions are understood, the focus switches to future needs by applying growth projections and establishing future trends to help determine how best to meet the long-term park and open space needs of the City as it continues to grow and change. The chapter concludes with specific goals, policies and implementation measures to ensure these needs and changes are met.



Public Input on Parks and Open Space

The planning process included a range of public outreach opportunities to ensure the needs and desires of Spanish Fork residents are well-vetted and understood. The following is a summary of the results of those outreach processes which specifically addressed parks and open space.

Statistically-Valid Survey

- Having a **park within walking distance** from home is important to residents. It is the most significant factor that determines which parks residents visit the most often. Thirty-six percent of respondents say proximity to home is the most important reason for visiting their park of choice, but proximity to work has no influence on park choice.
- **Parks or playgrounds tied with walking, jogging, or running trails** are the most used types of recreation facilities used by residents in the past twelve months.
- **Eighty-five percent of residents are satisfied** with the City's parks.
- **Sports Park, Canyon View Park, City Park and Spanish Oaks Reservoir are the most heavily used City Parks.** The majority of those who don't use City facilities are not interested or have no time.
- Overall, the parks in Spanish Fork are considered very well or mostly **well maintained** by a majority of residents. Eighty-percent of respondents believe the Icelandic Monument is very well maintained. Seventeen-percent of respondents say **Whispering Willow Park needs improvement**.
- **Eighty-one percent of respondents have never used the gun club.** Of those who use the gun club, 48-percent do so because of the activities. Forty percent of patrons identify proximity to their home as another reason to use the gun club. Of those who do not use the club, 44-percent say it's because they are not members and 30-percent are not interested in activities at the club.
- Thirty-nine-percent of respondents who use the gun club request adding a **handgun range** and 38-percent would like a **rifle range**. Thirty-percent say **no improvements are needed**.

SPANISH FORK PARKS GENERALLY WELL MAINTAINED

Overall, all parks are considered very well or mostly well maintained by a majority of residents. The Icelandic Monument is considered very well maintained by 80% of respondents. 17% of respondents say Whispering Willow Park needs improvement.

Q In your opinion, how well maintained are each of these parks and facilities?

	Very well maintained	Mostly well maintained	Needs Improvement
Icelandic Monument	80%	20	
Sports Park	75	24	
North Park	71	27	
Memorial Park	69	31	
Spanish Fork Golf Course	69	27	4
Sierra Park	68	31	
Fairgrounds	63	34	3
Parkside Estates Park	63	35	
Swenson Openpark	61	35	4
Highlands Park	57	37	6
City Park	56	40	4
Maple Mountain Park	52	46	2
Centennial Park	51	45	5
Legacy Farms Park	51	40	9
Canyon View Park	50	47	3
Spanish Oaks Campground	48	51	2
Spanish Oaks Reservoir	48	47	5
Water Park	47	40	13
East Park	46	48	6
Dog Park	44	49	7
Gun Club	44	53	3
Whispering Willow Park	41	42	17
Abble Court Park	39	55	7
None of the above	37	61	2
Skate Park	37	54	9
Little Chicago Park	28	58	13
Canyon View RV Park	27	66	7
Little Cleveland Park		69	11

Social Pinpoint Online Mapping

- Most participants are **pleased with the quality and distribution** of parks and open space, although some indicated that existing parks could use additional amenities.
- There was strong support for **developers to provide parks** in the future.
- Some residents want to see the **Spanish Fork urban forest** be developed and improved, while others appreciate it as it is.

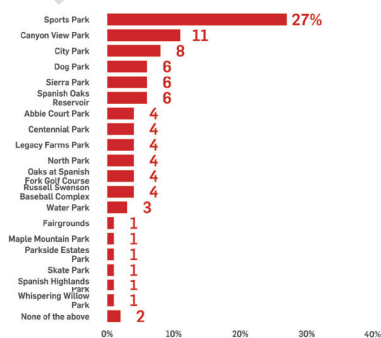
Social Pinpoint Online Questionnaire

- Canyon View Park, Sports Park and Reservoir Park are all popular**, although residents also use many of the other parks and open spaces in the City as well.
- Improvements were mentioned** for a handful of parks, though some participants indicated that their most-used park needs no upgrades.
- It was suggested the existing Community Parks include plenty of **trees, open lawn areas and active fields**.
- There is a desire for **playgrounds**, especially on the west side of the City.
- Shade** should be added to playgrounds whenever possible.
- Other desired facilities include **dog parks, baseball fields, walking trails, a recreation center with a replacement pool and a train-themed rest stop park** on Highway 6.
- The **cost of building and maintaining** new parks was concerning to some respondents, who indicated that the City should **focus on maintaining existing facilities**.
- Desired improvements to the **Urban Forest** include a unique playground on the west side and parking and restrooms on the north side. The disc golf in the Urban Forest seems haphazard.
- There was some support for an **amphitheater** somewhere in the City.

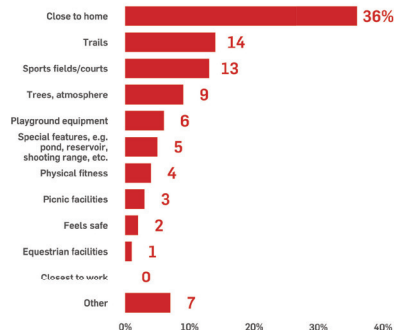
PROXIMITY TO HOME MOST CRUCIAL FOR PARK USAGE

27% of respondents use the Sports Park most often, followed by Canyon View Park (11%) and City Park (8%). 36% of respondents say proximity to home is the most important reason for visiting their park of choice, but proximity to work has no influence on park choice.

Q Which Spanish Fork City park, field, or recreational facility does your household use most often?



Q What is the most important reason that your household uses or visits [selected choice] most often?

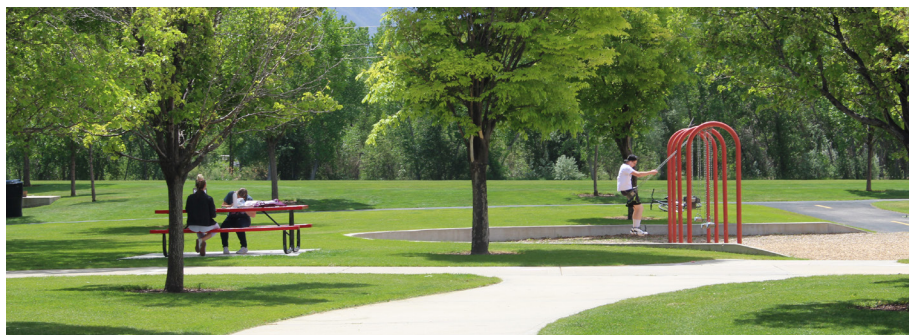


"I love Spanish Fork and the parks and recreation available here are part of why. I worry about excessive development destroying open spaces."

- Survey Respondent

Public Scoping Meeting

- There were questions about the possibility of a new **swimming pool** to replace the one at the high school that will be demolished in 2021.
- There were many **positive comments** regarding the existing parks and amenities, with a focus on the quantity, variety and quality of the facilities.
- City staff indicated that the Mayor recently signed an initiative with a stated goal to provide **parks within a 10-minute walk of all homes**.



Existing Parks/System-at-a-Glance

Residents expressed appreciation for the wide variety of parks, open space and other amenities that help meet the community's recreational needs. These are illustrated in Map 1, which indicates the location of existing parks and open spaces in the City, including school grounds, special use parks and other unique amenities.

Table 2 provides a detailed inventory of the existing parks and amenities provided at each, with notes regarding additional facilities and changes that could help meet the community's recreation needs. To summarize, 424.6 acres of existing parks and other special recreation lands and 105.9 acres of open space are currently located in the City to serve Spanish Fork City residents.

425

Public Park Acres

18

Public Parks

10

Special Use
Parks/Facilities

13

School Partnerships



17

Playgrounds



4

Basketball
Courts



16

Pickleball
Courts



16

Multipurpose
Fields



24

Pavilions



17

Baseball/Softball
Fields



10

Tennis Courts



5

Volleyball Courts

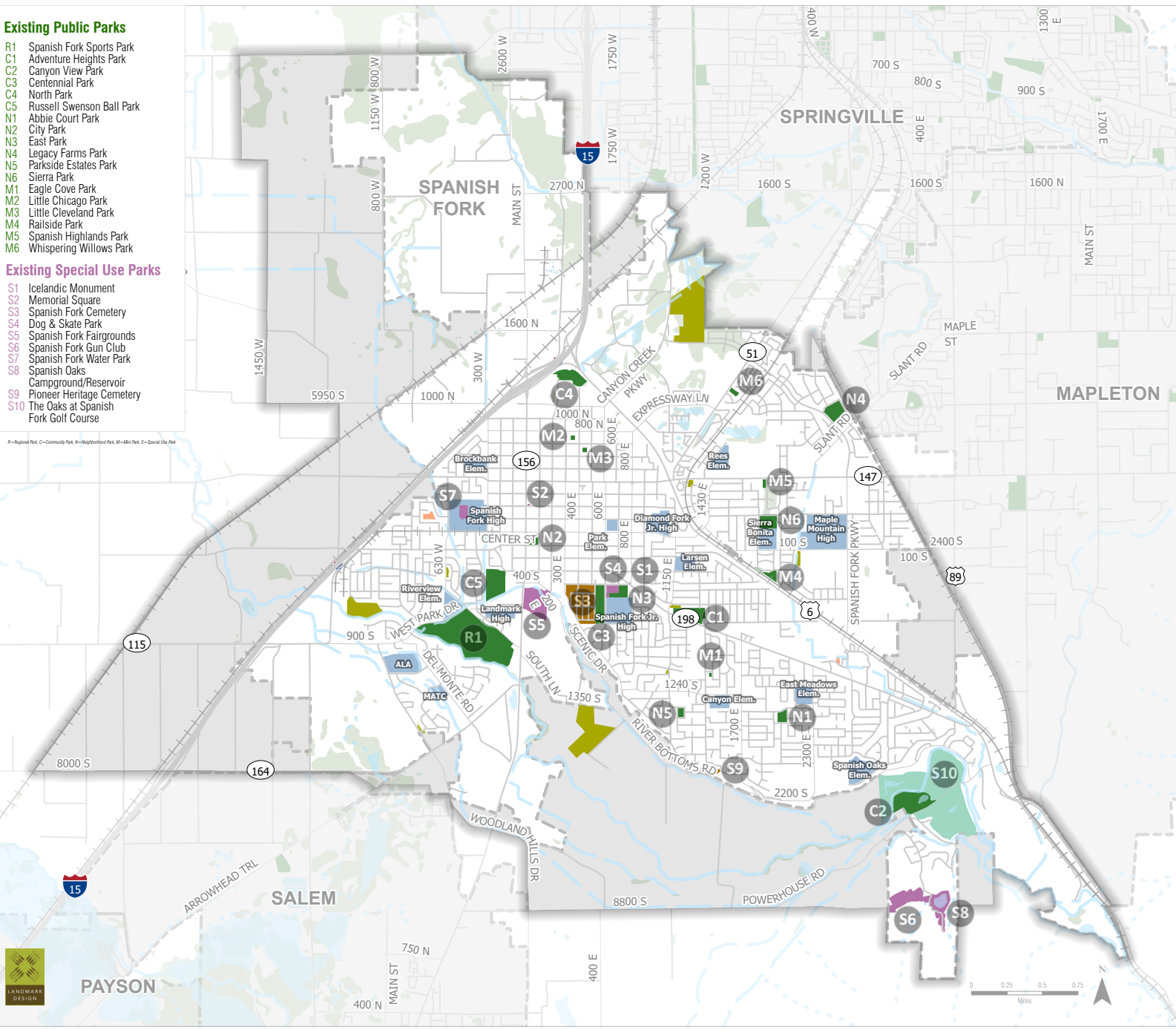
Existing Public Parks

- R1 Spanish Fork Sports Park
- C1 Adventure Heights Park
- C2 Canyon View Park
- C3 Centennial Park
- C4 North Park
- C5 Russell Swenson Ball Park
- N1 Abbie Court Park
- N2 City Park
- N3 East Park
- N4 Legacy Farms Park
- N5 Parkside Estates Park
- N6 Sierra Park
- M1 Eagle Cove Park
- M2 Little Chicago Park
- M3 Little Cleveland Park
- M4 Railside Park
- M5 Spanish Highlands Park
- M6 Whispering Willows Park

Existing Special Use Parks

- S1 Icelandic Monument
- S2 Memorial Square
- S3 Spanish Fork Cemetery
- S4 Dog & Skate Park
- S5 Spanish Fork Fairgrounds
- S6 Spanish Fork Gun Club
- S7 Spanish Fork Water Park
- S8 Spanish Oaks
- S9 Campground/Reservoir
- S10 Pioneer Heritage Cemetery
- S10 The Oaks at Spanish Fork Golf Course

R=Regional Park, C=Community Park, N=Neighborhood Park, M=Mini Park, S=Special Use Park



SPANISH FORK PARKS & RECREATION

Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan

Map 1 Existing Parks and Open Space

- Existing Public Park
- Existing Special Use Park
- Existing Private Park
- Existing Golf Course
- Existing Cemetery
- Existing Open Space
- Existing Park Outside of City
- Schools
- Wetlands
- Lake or Pond
- Canal
- Perennial Stream
- Ephemeral/Intermittent Drainage
- Annexation Areas

5/4/2021



Table 2: Park Amenities Matrix

Park Name	Address	Total Park Acres	Parking Type	Parking Stalls	Restrooms	Pavilions	Soccer/Multipurpose Fields	Baseball/Softball Fields	Tennis Courts	Pickleball Courts	Volleyball Courts	Basketball Courts	Playgrounds	Picnic Tables	Barbeque Grills	Benches	Walking Paths	Trailhead	Water Access	Notes
REGIONAL PARKS																				
Spanish Fork Sports Park	141 W Volunteer Dr	90.5	Paved Lot	600	5	2	9	10	6	16	0	0	1	45	2	20	Y	Y	N	Connects to Spanish Fork River Trail, Fitness Stations, Concessions
Subtotal Regional Parks		90.5			5	2	9	10	6	16	0	0	1	45	2	20				
COMMUNITY PARKS																				
Adventure Heights Park	1321 E Canyon Rd	10.4	Paved Lot		1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	24	0	34	Y	N	Y	Water Feature/Splash Pad/Waterfall/River
Canyon View Park	3300 E Powerhouse Rd	23.5	Paved Lot	155	2	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	73	2	8	N	Y	Y	RV Park, Fishing Pond, Gazebo
Centennial Park	572 S 600 E	11.3	Paved Lot	71	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	3	N	N	N	1 Practice Baseball Field
North Park	1185 N 400 E	10.0	Paved Lot	70	2	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	18	0	40	Y	Y	Y	Splash Pad, Amphitheater
Russell Swenson Baseball Complex	171 W 300 S	16.8	Paved Lot	200	1	2	0	6	0	0	0	0	1	7	0	1	N	N	N	Concessions
Subtotal Community Parks		72.0		496	7	13	4	6	0	0	2	0	6	128	2	86				
NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS																				
Abbie Court Park	1438 S 2050 E	3.3	Paved Lot	35	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	6	0	0	N	N	N	
City Park	49 S Main St	3.6	On Street	N/A	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	24	0	7	N	N	N	Library, Rose Garden
East Park	498 S 820 E	4.9	Unpaved	N/A	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N	N	N	
Legacy Farms Park	2382 E Purple Sage Dr	7.9	Paved Lot	25	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	18	0	0	N	Y	N	
Parkside Estates Park	1221 E 1480 S	1.7	On Street	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	5	0	2	N	N	N	Perimeter Sidewalks
Sierra Park	94 N 1800 E	7.8	Paved Lot	60	1	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	12	0	6	N	N	N	
Subtotal Neighborhood Parks		29.2			3	5	3	1	0	0	0	3	5	65	0	15				
MINI PARKS																				
Eagle Cove Park	1116 S 1450 E	0.4	On Street	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	N	N	N	
Little Chicago Park	727 N 400 E	0.6	On Street	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N	N	N	Internal to Residential Block, No Signage, Minimal Access
Little Cleveland Park	428 E 700 N	0.6	On Street	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N	N	N	Internal to Residential Block, No Signage, Minimal Access
Railside Park	1923 E 280 S	2.9	Paved Lot	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	Y	Y	N	Trails Need to Be Connected
Spanish Highlands Park	375 N 1880 E	0.9	On Street	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	N	N	N	Trail Runs Along North End of Park
Whispering Willow Park	1149 N Ridge Ct	1.3	On Street	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	Y	N	N	Small Loop Trail
Subtotal Local Parks		6.7			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	4				
SPECIAL USE PARKS AND FACILITIES																				
Icelandic Monument	800 E Canyon Rd	0.1	On Street	N/A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	N	N	N	Light House Monument to Icelandic Heritage
Memorial Square	200 N Main St	0.1	On Street	N/A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	4	N	N	Y	Memorial to Spanish Fork Citizens
Spanish Fork Cemetery	420 S 400 E	30.1	On Street	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Y	Y	N	N	Veterans Memorial
Spanish Fork Dog Park	491 S 600 E	3.0	On Street	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	N	N	N	
Spanish Fork Fairgrounds	475 S Main St	20.0	Multiple	700	3	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N	N	N	Multi-Use Fairground Facility
Spanish Fork Gun Club	2912 S Spanish Oaks Dr	16.0	Unpaved	N/A	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	28	N	N	N	
Spanish Fork Skate Park	491 S 600 E	0.3	On Street	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	N	N	N	
Spanish Fork Water Park	199 N 300 W	3.5	Paved Lot	School Lot	1	1	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	24	0	0	N	N	Y	Swimming Pool
Spanish Oaks Campground	2939 S Spanish Oaks Dr	4.9	N/A	N/A	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	Y	Y	Y	
Spanish Oaks Reservoir	2931 S Spanish Oaks Dr	10.1	Paved Lot	32	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	12	0	6	Y	N	Y	Reservoir for Swimming and Fishing
Pioneer Heritage Cemetery	1884 S 1530 E	0.8	Paved Lot	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	Y	N	N	Daughters of Utah Pioneers Memorial
The Oaks at Spanish Fork Golf Course	3430 E Powerhouse Rd	137.3	N/A	N/A																City-Owned/Operated Course
Subtotal Special Use Parks		226.2			8	4	0	0	4	0	3	1	2	56	0	57				
TOTAL PARK LAND FACILITIES (Community, Neighborhood, Local, Special Use, and Other Facilities)		424.6			23	24	16	17	10	16	5	4	17	292	4	182				
TOTAL PARK LAND AND FACILITIES USED FOR LOS CALCULATION (Regional, Community, Neighborhood and Mini)		198.4			15	20	16	17	6	16	2	3	15	236	4	125				

Park Types

The following is a summary of the types of parks found in the City, beginning with the smallest – **Mini Parks** – and followed by **Neighborhood Parks**, **Community Parks** and the largest – **Regional Parks**¹. The Plan also examines **Special Use Parks** and **Other Recreational Facilities** that are not generally used for assessing City needs. The section concludes with a description of public **Open Space** and how it is distributed in the community.

Mini Parks

Mini Parks are typically **less than 3 acres** in size and usually have minimal amenities. Open lawn areas, picnic tables, benches, trees and sometimes a playground or sport court are typical for this classification. Mini parks usually serve the immediate residential neighborhood, filling a gap where a Neighborhood or Community Park with more amenities may not be accessible within a reasonable walking distance.

There are six Mini Parks totaling **6.7 acres**, ranging from 0.6 acres to 2.9 acres in size, with an average of 1.1 acres per park.

¹ Parks may be classified in a larger park category if they have the types of amenities typically associated with that larger park category.



Eagle Cove Park

Eagle Cove Park is located in the southwest quadrant of the City and is the smallest Mini Park in the community at 0.4 acres. It features a playground and bench.

Little Chicago Park

Little Chicago Park, at 0.6 acres, is located internal to a residential block in the northeast quadrant of the City. It includes an open lawn area.

Little Cleveland Park

Little Cleveland Park, at 0.6 acres, is located internal to a residential block in the northeast quadrant of the City. It includes an open lawn area.

Railside Park

Railside Park is the City's largest Mini Park at 2.9 acres and is located in the southeast quadrant of the City adjacent to the railroad tracks. It includes an open lawn area, benches and a walking path that will eventually connect to the City's greater trail system.

Spanish Highlands Park

Spanish Highlands Park is located in the northwest quadrant of the City and features open lawn, a playground and bench and a trail along the northern boundary. It is just under 1 acre in size.

Whispering Willows Park

Whispering Willows Park is located in the northeast quadrant of the City between the railroad tracks and State Street and is 1.3 acres in size. It includes open lawn, a playground and a small looped walking path.

Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood Parks are typically **3 to 10 acres** in size and provide amenities focused on meeting the needs of the surrounding neighborhood. They usually feature sports courts and fields, a perimeter walking path, trees, open grass areas, a playground, a pavilion, picnic areas, seating and a restroom.

There are 6 Neighborhood Parks in Spanish Fork. Together they comprise **29.2 acres** of land, ranging in size from 1.7 acres to 7.9 acres, with an average of 4.8 acres per park.

6

**Neighborhood
Parks**

29.2

**Total
Acres**

4.8

**Average
Size (ac.)**



Abbie Court Park

Abbie Court Park, at 3.3 acres, is located in the southeast quadrant of the City. It includes a pavilion with picnic tables, basketball court, playground and open lawn area.

City Park

City Park is located in the center of the City on Main Street and features a restroom, playground, picnic tables, benches, open lawn area and a rose garden. It is 3.6 acres in size and shares the block with the Spanish Fork Library.

East Park

East Park is located in the southeast quadrant of the City east of the Dog Park and Skate Park. It is 4.9 acres in size and includes a baseball field.

Legacy Farms Park

Legacy Farms Park is Spanish Fork's largest Neighborhood Park at 7.9 acres and is located in the northeast quadrant near the City's eastern boundary. It includes a restroom, pavilion with picnic tables, basketball court, playground, benches and a connection to the City's trail network.

Parkside Estates Park

Parkside Estates Park is the City's smallest Neighborhood Park at 1.7 acres and is located in the southeast quadrant of the community. It features a pavilion with picnic tables, a basketball court, playground, benches and perimeter sidewalks.

Sierra Park

Sierra Park is located in the northeast quadrant of the City and is 7.8 acres in size. It includes a restroom, two pavilions with picnic tables, three multipurpose fields, a playground and benches.

Community Parks

Community Parks include all of the features typical of a Neighborhood park, such as sports fields and courts, playgrounds, pavilions, perimeter walking trails, restrooms, trees, large open grassy areas, picnic areas and seating areas. They also usually include at least one large specialty feature with a community-wide draw, such as a competition-level sports facility, a swimming pool or a community center.

Community Parks are generally between **10 acres and 30 acres** in size. Spanish Fork City currently has five parks in this category, encompassing **72.0 acres** of land, with an average of **14.4 acres** per park.



Adventure Heights Park

Adventure Heights is Spanish Fork's newest public park, completed in 2020. It is 10.4 acres in size and features a large all-abilities park along with a restroom, four pavilions with picnic tables and numerous benches. The playground also includes a water feature with a splash pad, waterfall and "river".

Canyon View Park

Canyon View Park is the City's largest Community Park at 23.5 acres and it located in the southeastern quadrant of the community along the Spanish Fork River. It features a large fishing pond, RV park, gazebo, two restrooms, three pavilions with picnic tables, a volleyball court, playground, barbecue grills, benches and a connection to the Spanish Fork River Trail and other trails in the City's network.

Centennial Park

Centennial Park is located in the southwest quadrant of the City, near the Skate Park, Dog Park, East Park and the Cemetery. The park features a restroom, four multipurpose fields, a practice baseball field, playground and benches.

North Park

North Park is the City's smallest Community Park at 10.0 acres and is located in the northeast quadrant of the City near the intersection of Highway 6 and Interstate 15, behind Costco. The park includes two restrooms, four pavilions with picnic tables, a volleyball court, playground, splash pad, benches, walking paths and a connection to the City's trail network.

Russell Swenson Baseball Complex

The Russel Swenson Baseball Complex is located in the southwest quadrant of the City just north of the Spanish Fork Sports Park. The Millrace Canal traces the southern boundary of the park which features six baseball/softball fields, a restroom, concessions building, playground, picnic tables and a bench.

Regional Parks

The largest class of parks is **Regional Parks**. These parks serve the City and region with unique features and amenities. Regional Parks are typically **at least 30 acres** in size and **often much larger**. Typical amenities include multiple specialty features with a regional draw, such as a sports complex, an aquatics facility, or a splash pad play area. This type of park also features sports fields and courts, playgrounds, pavilions, perimeter walking trails, restrooms, trees, large open grassy areas, picnic areas and seating.

As described below and to the right, Spanish Fork has one park that falls within this category – the Sports Park – which is **90.5 acres** in size.



Spanish Fork Sports Park

The Spanish Fork Sports Park is Spanish Fork's largest park at 90.5 acres and its only Regional Park. The park is located in the southwest quadrant of the City, bounded by the Spanish Fork River and its associated trail along the southern boundary. This premiere park includes ten baseball/softball fields, nine multipurpose fields, five restrooms, two pavilions with picnic tables, six tennis courts, sixteen pickleball courts, a playground, barbecue grills, benches, a group of centrally-located fitness stations and a concessions building.

Special Use Parks and Facilities

There are many special use parks and unique facilities in Spanish Fork, as described below. Additional special use facilities (Fairground, Gun Club, Water Park, Spanish Oaks Campground and Reservoir and Spanish Oaks Golf Course) are described in more detail in Chapter 4. These parks and facilities typically are focused on non-traditional park and recreation needs or are “pay to play” facilities not accessible without payment of an entrance fee.

10

**Special Use
Parks**

226

**Total
Acres**

22.6

**Average
Size (ac.)**



Icelandic Monument

The Icelandic Monument, located in the southwest quadrant of the City, pays tribute to Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints pioneers from Iceland. It includes a lighthouse monument, plantings and benches.

Memorial Square

Memorial Square is located near the heart of downtown Spanish Fork. The plaza features a monument to Spanish Fork citizens, benches and picnic tables.

Spanish Fork Cemetery

The Spanish Fork Cemetery is located in the southeast quadrant of the City just west of Centennial Park. The Cemetery includes walking paths, a veterans' memorial and benches.

Spanish Fork Dog Park

The Dog Park is located in the southeast quadrant of the City near East Park, the Skate Park and Centennial Park. The dog park features two enclosed off-leash dog areas and benches.

Spanish Fork Skate Park

The Skate Park is located in the southeast quadrant adjacent to the Dog Park and East Park. The park includes concrete skate features, several benches and an open lawn area.

Pioneer Heritage Cemetery

The Pioneer Heritage Cemetery is located in the southeast quadrant of the City and features markers for Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saint and other early pioneers who were buried there, a memorial from the Daughters of Utah Pioneers and several benches.

(The Fairgrounds, Gun Club, Water Park, Campground, Reservoir and Golf Course are detailed in Chapter 4)

Other Public Land Maintained by the City

In addition to parks, open space and trails, the City also encompasses and maintains a range of public landscapes located in the vicinity of public buildings and similar quasi-park parcels and features. While such uses often enhance the community's aesthetics, they do not fulfill a park function and place additional demands on the City's maintenance staff.

Private Parks

Private parks are typically designed to meet the needs of residents who live in private subdivisions. Such parks are generally not open to public access and use and often focus on providing open lawn areas, playgrounds, sports courts and small pavilions. In contrast, public parks usually include large-ticket features and elements expressly to meet public needs and demands, such as active sports fields and other major recreation facilities. Since private parks and recreation facilities are generally not open for public use, they are not included in the assessment of distribution and service levels that follow.



Existing Park Needs and Service Levels

Two separate analyses were used to determine how the existing parks system in Spanish Fork meets community needs. The first of these is a **Level of Service (LOS) Analysis**, which examines park acreage in relation to population. The second is a **Distribution/Service Area Analysis**, which evaluates the distribution of parks in the City to determine if gaps in service to residential areas exist.

Level of Service Analysis

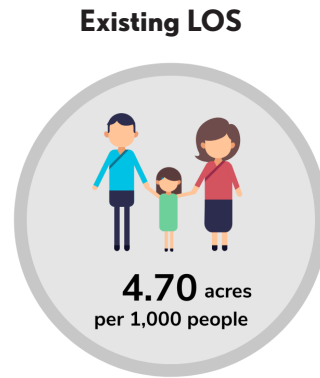
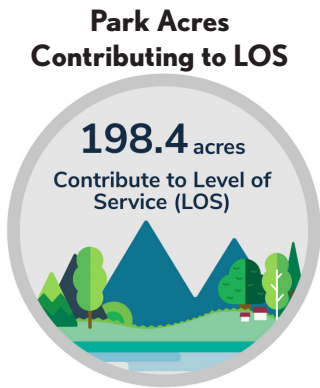
The National Parks and Recreation Association (NRPA) developed the Level of Service (LOS) Analysis to help communities evaluate whether the park land amount is sufficient for meeting needs. The LOS analysis is a ratio calculated by dividing the total acres of park land by the population and multiplying by 1,000. This resulting figure represents the number of park acres provided for every thousand residents.

Until recently, the LOS analysis was the benchmark tool for assessing park needs, providing the framework for a community to compare its performance against other cities and minimum national standards. The method has fallen out of favor as a standard benchmark in our region, in large part because such comparisons do not reflect the unique conditions and goals of individual communities. This is especially true in the Intermountain West, where cities such as Spanish Fork have access to significant amounts of state and federal public lands and publicly-owned open space that help meet recreation needs. As a result, the analysis serves instead as a reference point for gauging where a community stands compared to national averages rather than a recommendation or for direct comparisons with other communities. It nevertheless remains an important tool for understanding the amount of park acreage currently available and whether or not adjustments are required as the community grows and matures.

As previously indicated, Spanish Fork City has approximately 424.6 acres of land available to meet a broad spectrum of park uses and needs. It should be noted that only a portion of that total has been used for calculating the current Level of Service (LOS) since many of the existing parks in the City do not contribute to the system. For example, Icelandic Monument, Memorial Square, the cemetery, the dog park, fairgrounds, gun club, skate park, water park, campground, reservoir, Pioneer Heritage Cemetery and Spanish Oaks Golf Course are not traditional park site, are special-use facilities, or are “pay-to-play” facilities.

“We live over in the Meadow Creek development near the new hospital/Lowes. We moved recently from a townhome that was close to the sports complex and miss the trails and park. If we want to go to a good park with our little kids, we have to pack them up in a car and drive to a park. We hate not having a park that we can walk to or bike to safely. We would LOVE a new park for that side of Spanish fork or trails to existing parks.”

- Survey Respondent



Therefore, the acreage for these sites was deducted from the total acreage, resulting in 198.4 acres of Regional, Community, Neighborhood and Mini Parks that contribute to traditional park needs.

The existing LOS was determined by dividing the acreage of existing City parks (198.4) by the 2020 population (42,215) and multiplying by 1,000 to calculate the number of park acres per 1,000 residents ($198.4 / 42,215 \times 1,000 = 4.70$). This calculation demonstrates that the City has **an existing LOS of 4.70 acres of park land for every thousand residents.**

Distribution Analysis

In addition to determining the existing Level of Service, the Plan examines the park distribution and service areas to understand the spatial and locational characteristics of the City's park system. This analysis is supported by public input, which indicated that it is essential to have parks within walking distance of their homes.

Map 2 illustrates the distribution and service areas of existing parks, which were assigned service radii by park type as follows:

- Mini Parks 1/4 mile radius
- Neighborhood Parks 1/2 mile radius
- Community Parks 1 mile radius
- Regional Parks 2 mile radius

Special use parks and other recreation facilities were not assigned service radii for the reasons previously discussed. The map includes residential areas², illustrating where parks serve existing and future neighborhoods and the resulting gap areas.

² As designated in the City's current Land Use Plan.

As illustrated in Map 2, there are a few minor gaps in the City, primarily along the eastern and northeastern Map 3 shows the location and service areas of currently planned parks on land the City already owns. These parks help fill some of the perimeter gap areas and also help create a better distribution of smaller parks that people are typically willing to walk to. Table 3 summarizes the planned parks and acreages shown on Map 3.

Table 3: Planned Parks

Name	Acre	Park Type
Legacy Farms Park #2	17.7	Community Park
North Side Park	5.0	Neighborhood Park
Power Park	7.8	Neighborhood Park
River Bottoms Park West	6.0	Neighborhood Park
River Bottoms Park East	65.0	Regional Park
Urban Forest	15.8	Neighborhood Park

The importance of well-distributed parks to community residents was acknowledged by the Mayor when he signed a proclamation which declared a goal to provide parks within one-half mile of all homes in the City. Map 4 illustrates the service areas of existing and currently planned City parks when they are assigned a one-half mile radius. In particular, this map demonstrates the absence of parks serving the City's current and future residents west of Interstate 15 and around the community's southern and eastern edges.

Meeting Existing and Future Park Needs

This section addresses the acreage and distribution of future parks required to meet existing and future needs. The evaluation is based on the previous section's analyses and aligned with projections of future growth and park demands. Input and direction provided by City staff, the Advisory Committee and the public have proven invaluable for ensuring that future park service levels align with the community's vision.

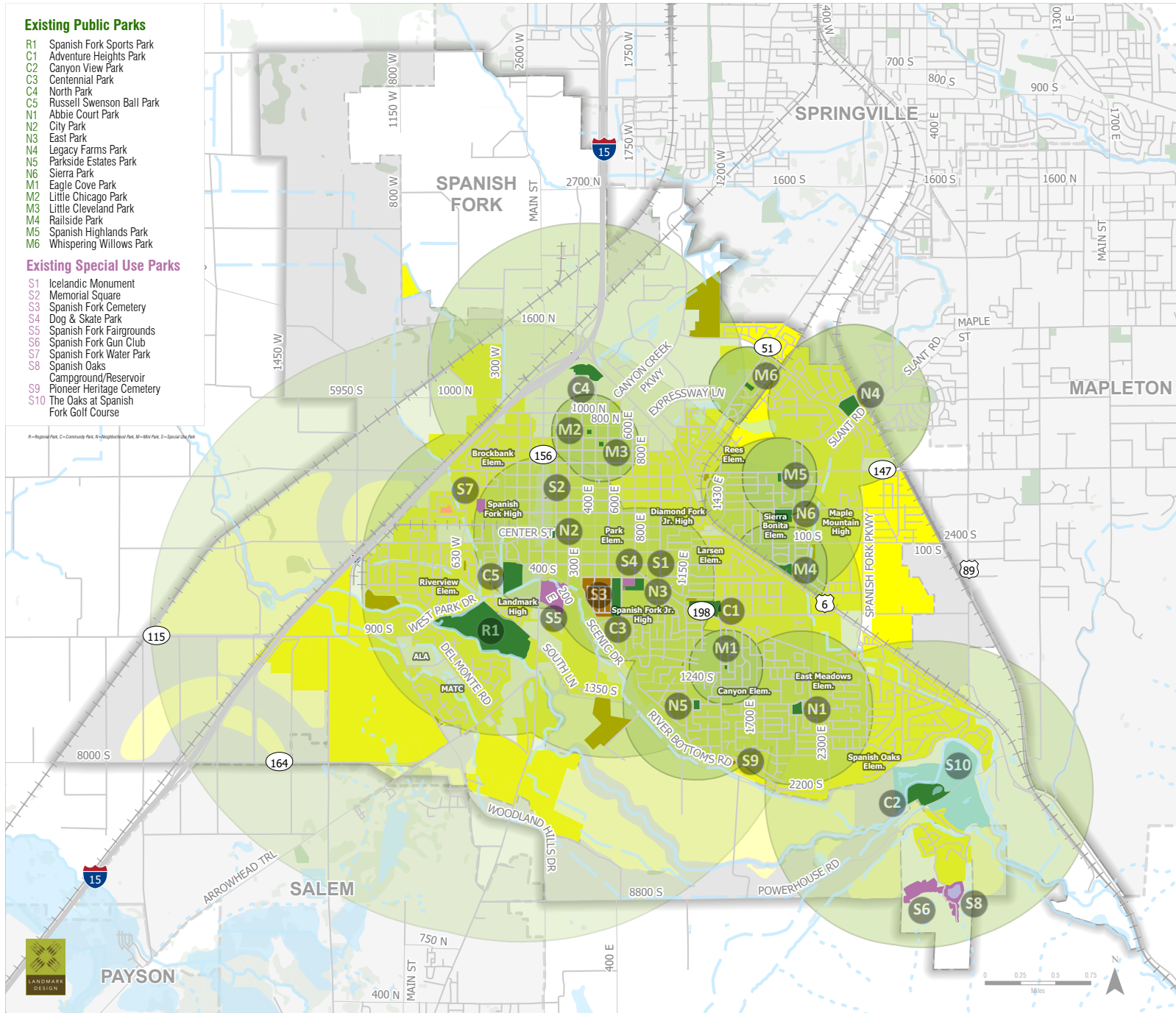
Existing Public Parks

- R1 Spanish Fork Sports Park
- C1 Adventure Heights Park
- C2 Canyon View Park
- C3 Centennial Park
- C4 North Park
- C5 Russell Swenson Ball Park
- N1 Abbie Court Park
- N2 City Park
- N3 East Park
- N4 Legacy Farms Park
- N5 Parkside Estates Park
- N6 Sierra Park
- M1 Eagle Cove Park
- M2 Little Chicago Park
- M3 Little Cleveland Park
- M4 Railside Park
- M5 Spanish Highlands Park
- M6 Whispering Willows Park

Existing Special Use Parks

- S1 Icelandic Monument
- S2 Memorial Square
- S3 Spanish Fork Cemetery
- S4 Dog & Skate Park
- S5 Spanish Fork Fairgrounds
- S6 Spanish Fork Gun Club
- S7 Spanish Fork Water Park
- S8 Spanish Oaks
- S9 Campground/Reservoir
- S10 Pioneer Heritage Cemetery
- S10 The Oaks at Spanish Fork Golf Course

R=Regional Park, C=Community Park, N=Neighborhood Park, M=Mini Park, S=Special Use Park



SPANISH FORK PARKS & RECREATION

Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan

Map 2 Existing Park Distribution

- Mini Parks Service Area - 1/4 Mile
- Neighborhood Parks Service Area - 1/2 Mile
- Community Parks Service Area - 1 Mile
- Regional Parks Service Area - 2 Miles
- Existing Public Park
- Existing Special Use Park
- Existing Private Park
- Existing Golf Course
- Existing Cemetery
- Existing Open Space
- Existing Park Outside of City
- Schools
- Wetlands
- Lake or Pond
- Canal
- Perennial Stream
- Ephemeral/Intermittent Drainage
- Land Use Zone Permits Residential
- General Plan Includes Residential Use
- Annexation Areas

Existing Public Parks

- R1 Spanish Fork Sports Park
- C1 Adventure Heights Park
- C2 Canyon View Park
- C3 Centennial Park
- C4 North Park
- C5 Russell Swenson Ball Park
- N1 Abbie Court Park
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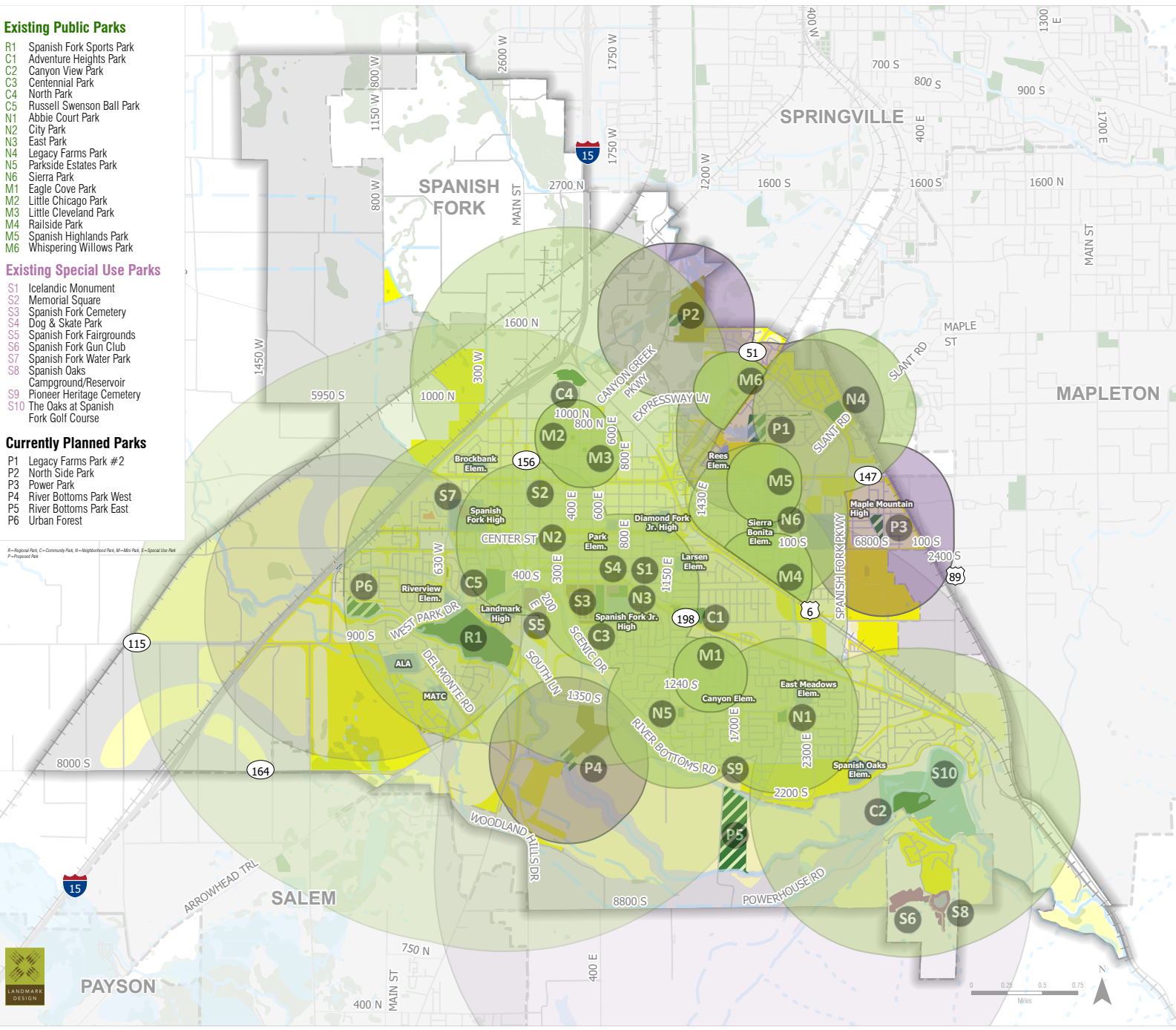
Existing Special Use Parks

- S1 Icelandic Monument
- S2 Memorial Square
- S3 Spanish Fork Cemetery
- S4 Dog & Skate Park
- S5 Spanish Fork Fairgrounds
- S6 Spanish Fork Gun Club
- S7 Spanish Fork Water Park
- S8 Spanish Oaks
- S9 Campground/Reservoir
- S10 Pioneer Heritage Cemetery
- S11 The Oaks at Spanish Fork Golf Course

Currently Planned Parks

- P1 Legacy Farms Park #2
- P2 North Side Park
- P3 Power Park
- P4 River Bottoms Park West
- P5 River Bottoms Park East
- P6 Urban Forest

R=Regional Park, C=Community Park, N=Neighborhood Park, M=Mini Park, S=Special Use Park
P=Proposed Park



SPANISH FORK PARKS & RECREATION

Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan

Map 3 Existing and Currently Planned Park Distribution

- Mini Parks Service Area - 1/4 Mile
- Neighborhood Parks Service Area - 1/2 Mile
- Community Parks Service Area - 1 Mile
- Regional Parks Service Area - 2 Miles
- Proposed Community Parks Service Area - 1 Mile
- Proposed Regional Parks Service Area - 2 Miles
- Existing Public Park
- Existing Special Use Park
- Existing Private Park
- Existing Golf Course
- Existing Cemetery
- Existing Open Space
- Currently Planned Park
- Existing Park Outside of City
- Schools
- Wetlands
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Existing Public Parks

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- N5 Parkside Estates Park
- N6 Sierra Park
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- M3 Little Cleveland Park
- M4 Rialside Park
- M5 Spanish Highlands Park
- M6 Whispering Willows Park

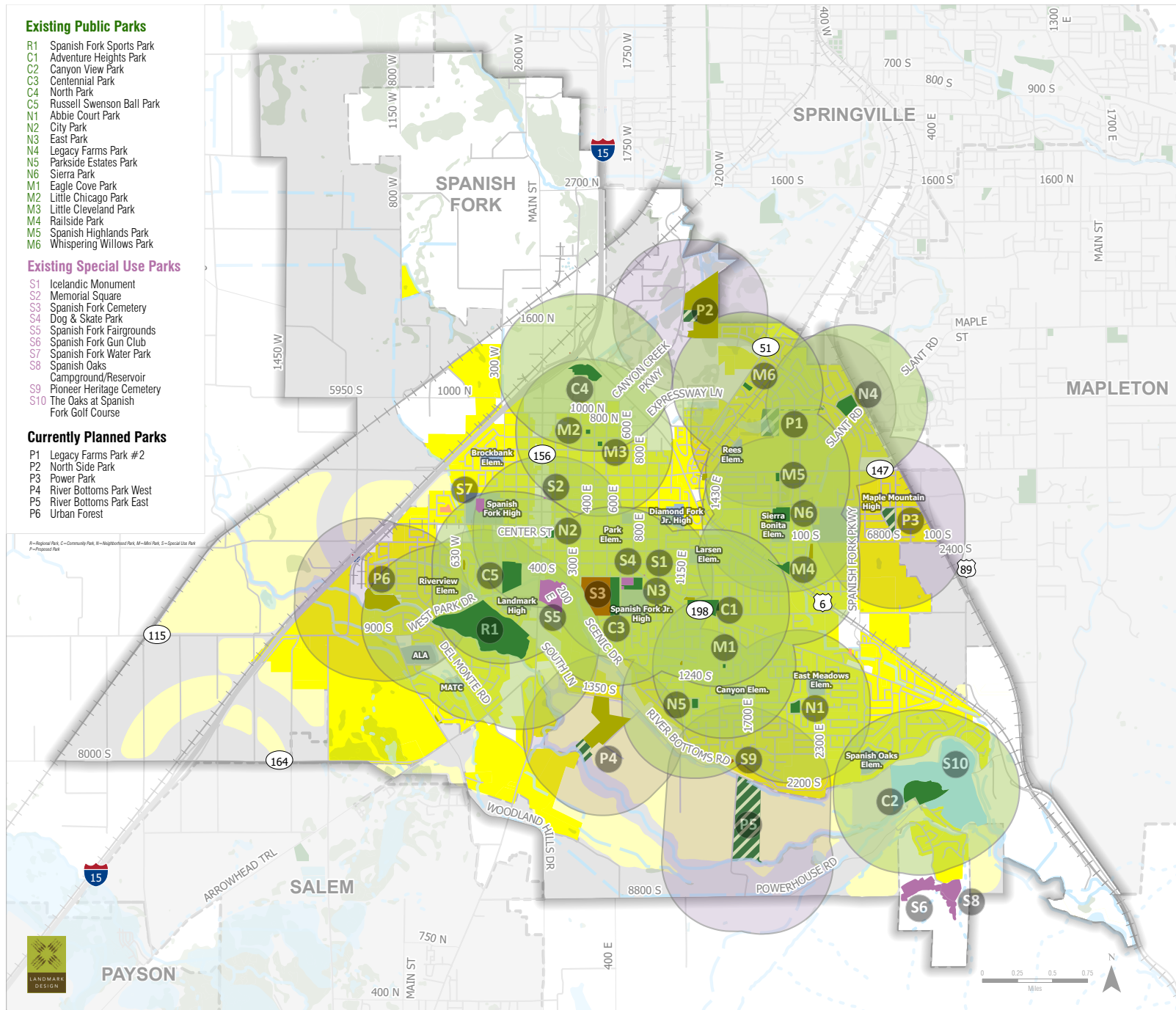
Existing Special Use Parks

- S1 Icelandic Monument
- S2 Memorial Square
- S3 Spanish Fork Cemetery
- S4 Dog & Skate Park
- S5 Spanish Fork Fairgrounds
- S6 Spanish Fork Gun Club
- S7 Spanish Fork Water Park
- S8 Spanish Oaks
- S9 Campground/Reservoir
- S10 Pioneer Heritage Cemetery
- S11 The Oaks at Spanish Fork Golf Course

Currently Planned Parks

- P1 Legacy Farms Park #2
- P2 North Side Park
- P3 Power Park
- P4 River Bottoms Park West
- P5 River Bottoms Park East
- P6 Urban Forest

R=Regional Park, C=Community Park, N=Neighborhood Park, M=Mini Park, S=Special Use Park
P=Planned Park



SPANISH FORK PARKS & RECREATION

Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan

Map 4 Existing and Currently Planned Half-Mile Park Distribution

- 1/2 Mile Service Area - Existing Parks
- 1/2 Mile Service Area - Currently Planned Parks
- Existing Public Park
- Existing Special Use Park
- Existing Private Park
- Existing Golf Course
- Existing Cemetery
- Existing Open Space
- Currently Planned Park
- Existing Park Outside of City
- Schools
- Wetlands
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Future Level of Service for Parks

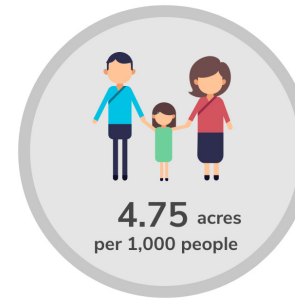
As previously discussed, comparing the existing LOS with national standards has fallen out of favor in recent years. Likewise, comparing the park LOS in Spanish Fork with those of other communities is not the best method for establishing a desired LOS, in large part because every location is unique and the method used for calculating LOS in other communities may differ from the method used in Spanish Fork. Nevertheless, such comparisons can help provide a general sense of where Spanish Fork stands in comparison to similar communities in the region, many of which may have similar goals, visions and needs. As illustrated in Table 4, the current LOS in Spanish Fork City falls in the middle range compared to the other sample communities.

Table 4: Level-of-Service (LOS) Comparison

Community	LOS
Orem	2.8
West Jordan	2.8
Herriman	3.7
Saratoga Springs	3.7
Draper	3.8
Salem	4.3
Spanish Fork City	4.70
South Jordan	4.8
Mapleton City	4.92
Lehi	5.6
Sandy	6.0
Provo	10.0
St. George	10.0

It is perhaps more useful to compare Spanish Fork against itself. The previous Spanish Fork Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan 2008 indicated that the desired LOS for the City at that time was 5.9 acres/1,000 people, which was based on the LOS used to calculate impact fees at that time. As a comparison, the current LOS for calculating impact fees is 4.75 acres/1,000 people. While lower than the recommended LOS in the previous Plan, utilizing the adjusted figure of 4.75 acres/1,000 people as the future LOS makes some sense, as it is aligned with the impact fee and also takes into account the fact that the community is generally very pleased with the City's provision of parks.

Future LOS



Park Acres Needed to Fill Gaps



Rather than focusing solely on LOS and the provision of overall park acres, the City should remain aware that vigilance and care are required to ensure parks are located in a manner that fills distribution gaps and provides equitable access to parks as the City continues to develop.

Filling Distribution Gaps

As described previously, there are several gaps in park distribution and service areas, primarily west of Interstate 15 and around the perimeter of Spanish Fork in future development areas. Map 5 summarizes the quantity, location and distribution of proposed parks and those currently planned, which are in addition to the planned parks outlined in Table 3. The City needs to provide seven Neighborhood Parks to provide equitable park access in the future. Assuming a minimum of five acres per Neighborhood Park, the City will need a total of **35.0 acres of additional park land to meet distribution needs in the future.**

Meeting Needs During the 10-Year Planning Horizon

As the Spanish Fork population continues to grow, the majority of residential expansion will be focused west of Interstate 15 and along the City's southern and eastern edges. The City's policy on park development is to collect impact fees to provide parks where they are needed, rather than require developers to provide parks.

Carrying the recommended future LOS of 4.75 forward to meet park need through the 10-year planning period results in a total of 274.0 acres of public park land required by 2030 to meet requirements ($57,685 / 1,000 \times 4.75 = 274.0$). There are 198.4 acres of existing public park land already provided and 117.3 acres of planned parks (see Table 3). **The City has a surplus of 41.7 acres of park land to meet park needs during the next ten years and therefore does not need to acquire additional park land ($274.0 - 198.4 - 117.3 = -41.7$).** However, 75.6 of those acres need to be developed by 2030.

Public Parks

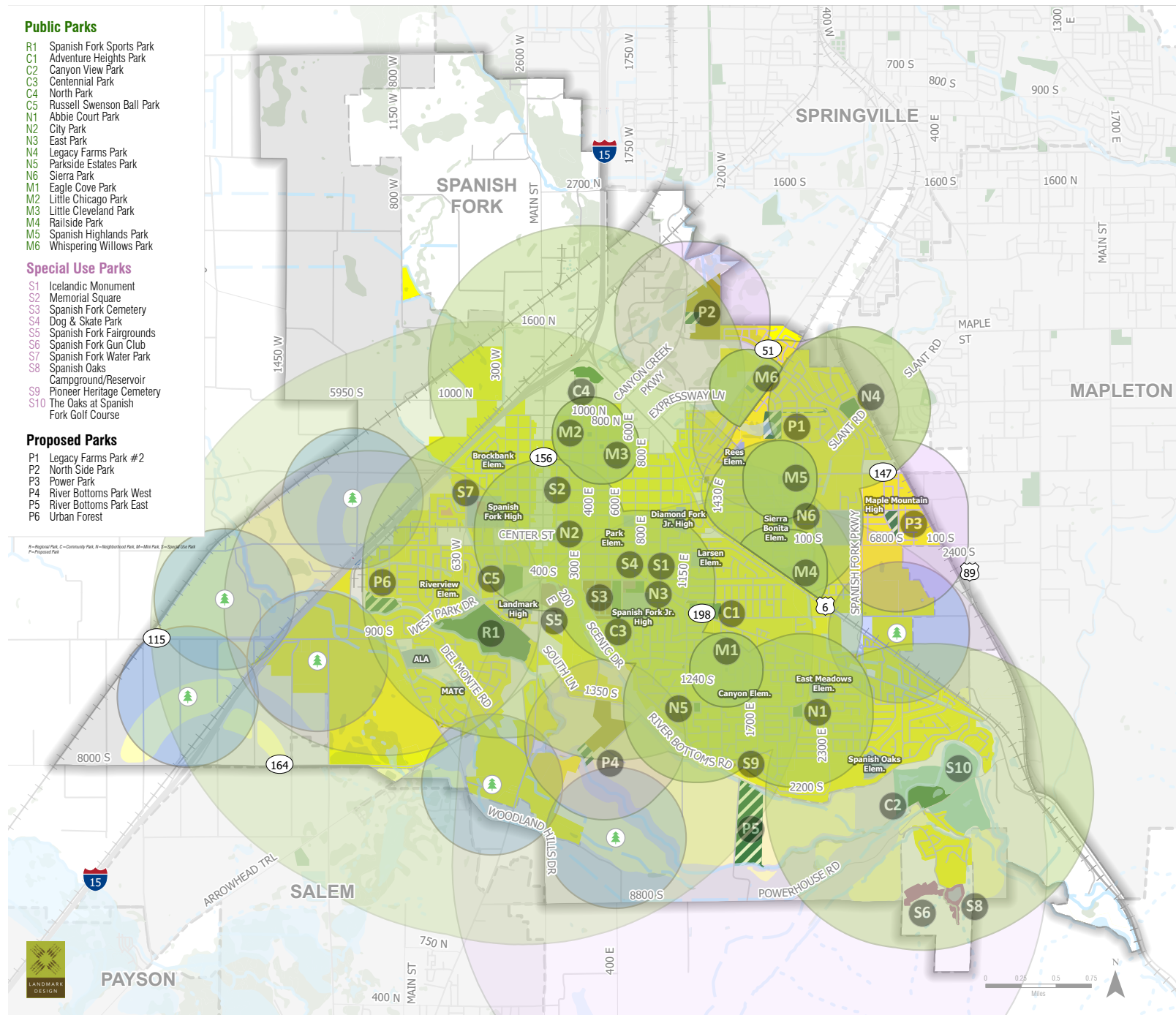
- R1 Spanish Fork Sports Park
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Special Use Parks

- S1 Icelandic Monument
- S2 Memorial Square
- S3 Spanish Fork Cemetery
- S4 Dog & Skate Park
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- S6 Spanish Fork Gun Club
- S7 Spanish Fork Water Park
- S8 Spanish Oaks
- S9 Campground/Reservoir
- S10 Pioneer Heritage Cemetery
- The Oaks at Spanish Fork Golf Course

Proposed Parks

- P1 Legacy Farms Park #2
- P2 North Side Park
- P3 Power Park
- P4 River Bottoms Park West
- P5 River Bottoms Park East
- P6 Urban Forest



Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan

Map 5 Existing, Currently Planned, and Proposed Park Distribution

- Mini Parks Service Area - 1/4 Mile
- Neighborhood Parks Service Area - 1/2 Mile
- Community Parks Service Area - 1 Mile
- Regional Parks Service Area - 2 Miles
- Proposed Neighborhood Parks Service Area - 1/2 Mile
- Proposed Community Parks Service Area - 1 Mile
- Proposed Regional Parks Service Area - 2 Miles
- Proposed Neighborhood Park Service Area - 1/2 Mile
- Existing Public Park
- Existing Special Use Park
- Existing Private Park
- Existing Golf Course
- Existing Cemetery
- Existing Open Space
- Currently Planned Park
- Existing Park Outside of City
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- Annexation Areas

5/4/2021

Meeting Needs Through Buildout

The projected Spanish Fork population at buildout (2050) requires a total of 421.0 acres of public park land ($87,626 / 1,000 \times 4.75 = 421.0$) to meet park needs. There are 198.4 acres of existing developed public park land. Assuming the City develops 117.3 acres of planned parks and acquires and develops 55.0 acres of land needed to fill gaps, **50.3 acres of additional park land are required to meet LOS needs between 2030 and buildout** ($421.0 - 198.4 - 117.3 - 55.0 = 50.3$).

If future park land is acquired in strategic locations that meet distribution needs, the City can address LOS and distribution needs at the same time, minimizing additional park land required in the future.

Park Land Acquisition and Development

The opportunity may arise to acquire additional park, recreation, trail, or open space land sooner than needed. To help meet future needs, the City should consider obtaining available land, which is especially critical given increasing land costs in the future.

The City should develop new parks toward the upper end of the recommended acreage ranges established in the park standards to ensure that the City achieves the recommended LOS in the future. The City should not develop or acquire any new Mini Parks, as they are small, difficult to maintain and operate and place a significant burden on maintenance staff and resources. **The City should instead focus on providing Neighborhood and Community Parks** to the greatest degree possible. These park types provide the most “bang for the buck” and are more efficiently utilize maintenance and operations funds. Furthermore, they serve the surrounding neighborhoods and community with more desirable amenities than Mini Parks.

Existing Park Acres to Develop by 2030



Existing Park Acres to Develop by 2050



Additional Park Acres to be Acquired & Developed by 2050



Park Standards

It is essential to develop standards for each park type to ensure that Spanish Fork's parks meet resident expectations and needs. The development of the park standards began by understanding the expectations and needs of residents. The statistically valid survey indicated that respondents are generally satisfied (85-percent) with the City's provision of parks. When asked about willingness to pay a usage fee of \$10 that would fund either maintenance and upgrades to existing parks, facilities, or trails or fund the development of new ones, there was more support for investment in new parks, trails and facilities (61-percent and 71-percent respectively). Although the City's parks are generally considered very well or mostly well maintained by most residents, a few parks need improvements (Water Park, Whispering Willows Park, Little Chicago and Little Cleveland). Feedback from Social Pinpoint also indicated that some parks need additional or upgraded amenities. This feedback signifies that **there is both a desire to upgrade amenities at some Special Use and Mini Parks and a need to ensure that future parks meet standards and expectations.**

Another consideration to keep in mind is that while Spanish Fork is a young community with many children, it is aging and maturing. This dichotomy means that parks should be designed and implemented flexibly to meet the needs of the broadest range of users and age groups, all of whom have unique demands. The following minimum standards will help ensure parks meet existing and future needs and expectations.

The City should upgrade existing parks to meet the minimum requirements for the designated type. Where acreage would qualify a park for a “higher” park type, the City should add amenities to bring the park up to the higher standard. The City should also design future parks from the outset with features and amenities that meet the minimum standards. The City should work with developers to appropriately locate park to help meet distribution needs. Future parks should be located along existing and proposed trails when possible, accommodate the minimum suggested amenities, have easy access to collector roads and include adequate parking for the intended facilities.

The following criteria serve as a starting point for ensuring every park in Spanish Fork meets the basic needs for its intended purpose while still meeting specific use, design and setting needs. The City can achieve variety in park design in part by soliciting input from the surrounding neighborhoods.

Mini Park Standards

Mini Parks are less than 3 acres in size and should include the following amenities:

- Trees
- Picnic table(s), bench(es) and site furnishings
- Grassy play area(s)
- A covered shelter, pavilion, or shade structure OR a small playground, sport court, or activity area



Neighborhood Park Standards

Neighborhood Parks are 3 to 10 acres in size and should include the following amenities:

- Trees
- Picnic tables and benches
- Sports court(s) (basketball, volleyball, pickleball and tennis) or sports field(s) (baseball, soccer, football and similar sports)
- Connections to other parks, open spaces, recreation amenities and community destinations by multipurpose trails, bike lanes, or routes
- A drinking fountain
- Grassy play area(s)
- Playground(s)
- Small/Medium Pavilion(s)
- Perimeter walking trail(s) where appropriate



Community Park Standards

Community Parks are between 10 and 30 acres in size and should include the following:

- All the amenities and features in Neighborhood Parks
- At least one large pavilion
- At least one specialty recreation feature, such as a sports complex, an aquatics facility, splash pad, or arboretum
- Two or more restrooms, depending on size and needs



Regional Park Standards

Regional Parks are large, typically greater than 30 acres in size. They are also the most diverse park type, providing a range of amenities and features. To ensure they are and should include the following:

- All the amenities and features in Community Parks
- Two or more regional recreation features, such as a sports complex, an aquatics facility, splash pad, or arboretum



Park Amenities

Numerous factors contribute to a park's character and function, including the design, setting and amenities the park contains. As described below, a Level of Service (LOS) Analysis and an examination of individual park features was used to evaluate park amenities. This dual analysis illuminates the deficiencies and needs systemically and for specific park sites.

Amenity Level of Service

The suggested amenity LOS levels reflect the unique needs and expectations in Spanish Fork. Table 5 summarizes the total quantity of existing amenities³, compares the population per amenity to the suggested LOS and outlines the total surplus or deficit.

This analysis indicates that the Spanish Fork has a slight surplus of baseball/softball fields, soccer/multipurpose fields, pavilions and skate/bike parks. The City is just barely meeting needs for pickleball courts, playgrounds, restrooms, splash pads/water features and tennis courts⁴.

Table 6 looks at amenity needs between 2020 and 2030. With the growth anticipated during that timeframe, the City will need to provide one additional soccer/multipurpose field, two pavilions, six pickleball courts, six playgrounds, six restrooms and two tennis courts.

³ Only includes amenities in parks that are used to calculate the City's overall parks LOS, with the exception of the splash pad at the Water Park.

⁴ It should be noted that these recommended levels also take into consideration the impact of non-resident use and assumes that neighboring communities will also be increasing their provision of amenities over time.

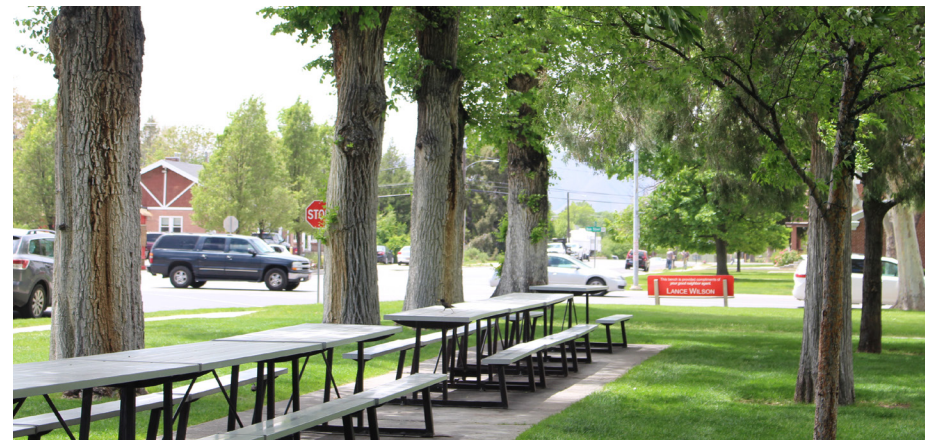


Table 5: Existing Park Amenity Level-of-Service Analysis

Amenity	Quantity of Existing Amenities	Existing Amenity Level of Service (pop. per amenity)	Suggested Level of Service (LOS)	Total Quantity Required to Meet Suggested LOS for 2020 Population	2020 Surplus or Deficit of Amenity	Quantity Required to Meet Immediate Needs
Baseball/Softball Fields	17	2,483	3,000	14.1	2.9	0
Soccer/Multipurpose Fields	16	2,638	3,000	14.1	1.9	0
Pavilions	20	2,111	2,400	17.6	2.4	0
Pickleball Courts	16	2,638	2,600	16.2	-0.2	0
Playgrounds	15	2,814	2,800	15.1	-0.1	0
Restrooms	15	2,814	2,800	15.1	-0.1	0
Skate/Bike Parks	1	42,215	21,100	2.0	-1.0	1
Splash Pads/Water Features	5	8,443	10,500	4.0	1.0	0
Tennis Courts	6	7,036	7,000	6.0	0.0	0

Table 6: 2030 Park Amenity Level-of-Service Analysis

Amenity	Quantity of Existing Amenities	Existing Amenity Level of Service (pop. per amenity)	Suggested Level of Service (LOS)	Quantity Required to Meet Suggested LOS for 2030 Population	Quantity Required to Meet Immediate Needs in 2020	2030 Surplus or Deficit of Amenity	Quantity Required to Meet Needs Between 2020 and 2030
Baseball/Softball Fields	17	3,393	3,000	19.2	0	-2.2	2
Soccer/Multipurpose Fields	16	3,605	3,000	19.2	0	-3.2	3
Pavilions	20	2,884	2,400	24.0	0	-4.0	4
Pickleball Courts	16	3,605	2,600	22.2	0	-6.2	6
Playgrounds	15	3,846	2,800	20.6	0	-5.6	6
Restrooms	15	3,846	2,800	20.6	0	-5.6	6
Skate/Bike Parks	1	0	21,100	1.0	1	1.0	0
Splash Pads/Water Features	5	0	10,500	1.0	0	4.0	0
Tennis Courts	6	9,614	7,000	8.2	0	-2.2	2

Minimum Park Amenity Standards

The recommended standards establish the minimum amenities by type for both new and existing parks. Table 7 indicates which amenities are lacking in existing parks. While all existing parks should meet these standards, the City should apply some subjective input to ensure that modifications and enhancements are feasible and desirable. The statistically-valid survey asked residents which improvements are needed for their most-used park. Detailed results for each park are included in the Appendix, but feedback from the community echoes the recommendations below. The City should solicit additional input from the community when upgrades are planned for each park.

Table 7: Existing Park Amenity Deficiencies to Meet Park Standards

Park	Park Type	Amenities Needed to Meet Park Standards
Little Chicago Park	Mini Park	• Pavilion, Sports Court, or Playground
Little Cleveland Park	Mini Park	• Pavilion, Sports Court, or Playground
Railside Park	Mini Park	• Pavilion, Sports Court, or Playground
City Park	Neighborhood Park	• Pavilion • Sports Field or Sports Courts
East Park	Neighborhood Park	• Pavilion • Playground

Amenity Deficiency Assessment

Both the Level of Service and Park Standard Analyses help present a clear picture of the citywide need for additional park amenities. While not explicitly mentioned in the park standards, Spanish Fork is exploring options to expand the skate park by adding a beginner area for younger children. The City is also evaluating the possibility of locating a bike park/ pump track in the community to expand recreation options for residents.

Open Space

Whether publicly, privately, locally or nationally-owned, open space provides physical and visual relief from the more developed areas in a community. Spanish Fork is fortunate to rest up against prominent mountains and foothills to the east and south and to have the Spanish Fork River traverse the southern end of the City.

Open space provides a host of ecological benefits. It helps purify the soil, water and air; can absorb and deflect noise, wind and visual disturbances; helps store stormwater and absorb carbon and reduces urban heat. These and other benefits help make Spanish Fork a healthier community.

Spanish Fork is fortunate to have more than 100 acres of existing open space, as shown on Map 1. The land includes nearly 16 acres at the Urban Forest, approximately 50 acres of wetlands at the north end of the community near Canyon Creek and Spanish Fork Parkways, almost 35 acres of the western end of the River Bottoms and a handful of detention basins. The Urban Forest currently houses the community’s disc golf course and some residents indicated a desire to leave this land as it is presently. However, other residents have requested improvements to the site and the City has stated a desire to develop this open space into more manicured park land.

Open space did not emerge as a top priority in the statistically-valid survey, ranking seventh behind a recreation center, pools, trails, a splash pad and new neighborhood parks. Despite the lack of emphasis on open space, the City should nevertheless acquire open space when opportunities arise, since these valuable lands can preserve the ecological and environmental integrity of the City, ensuring that natural drainages are available to convey stormwater, for example. Open space is also important for protecting critical habitat and, when carefully developed with trails, can serve as connections to parks and neighborhoods. Open space can also serve as a holding use until the land can be formally developed in the future.

Environmental Considerations

Map 6 illustrates some of the critical environmental conditions in the City. These include wetlands, steep slopes, faults and surface fault rupture hazard special study zones. The preservation of the proposed open space will help mitigate some of these potential hazards and preserve habitat for mule deer and other key species.

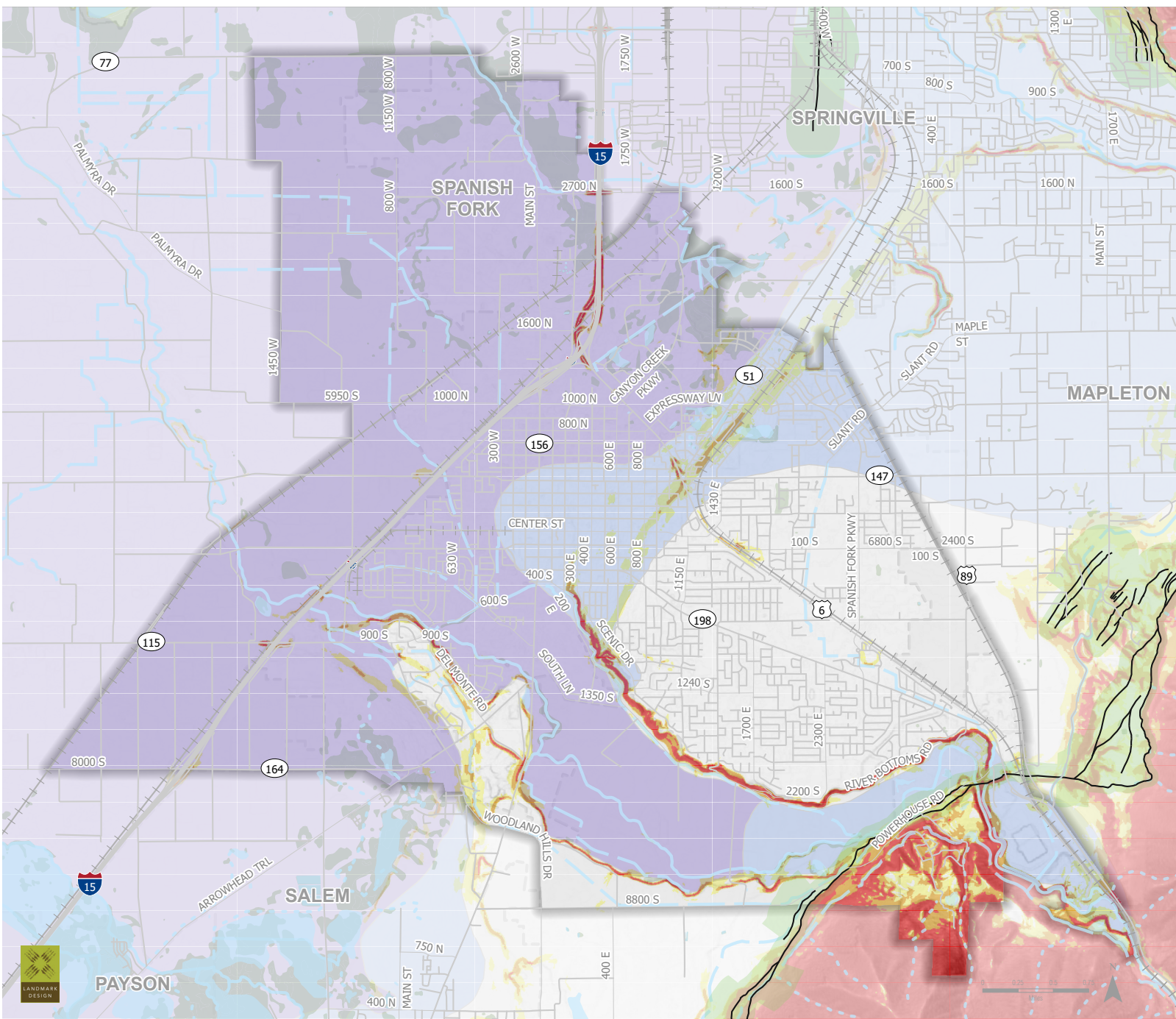


SPANISH FORK PARKS & RECREATION

Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan

Map 6 Environmental Considerations

- 10 - 20% Slope
- 20-30% Slope
- 30%+ Slope
- Quaternary Faults
- Surface Fault Rupture Hazard Special Study Zone
- Moderate Liquifaction Potential
- High Liquifaction Potential
- Wetlands
- Lake or Pond
- Canal
- Perennial Stream
- Ephemeral/Intermittent Drainage
- Annexation Areas



5/4/2021

There is no standard Level of Service (LOS) for providing open space in Spanish Fork. Cities typically acquire open space on a case-by-case basis where opportunities emerge. A list of open space acquisition tools to assist with the acquisition is listed on this page and detailed in the Appendix. Chapter 6: Priorities and Acquisition and Construction Costs includes additional funding resources and options.



Priorities: Parks and Open Space

It is important for Spanish Fork to maintain the recommended LOS of 4.75 acres per 1,000 residents to maintain the City's high recreation standards moving into the future. Distribution gaps are primarily located in areas of the City that will see significant growth in the future. In addition to developing the currently planned parks, Spanish Fork will need to acquire and develop seven neighborhood parks to ensure equitable park distribution as the City approaches buildout. Of the 117.3 acres of currently planned park land already owned by the City, 75.6 of those acres should be developed by 2030 and the remainder by buildout. Spanish Fork will need to acquire and develop 50.3 acres of additional park land to meet LOS needs by buildout, which should be focused in existing and future gap areas.

The City should ensure its park standards are consistent with the recommendations in this plan and upgrade existing parks to meet the standards. New parks should be built to the standards at a minimum. Individual park amenities that deficient according to the proposed park standards or the amenities LOS analysis should be provided where feasible.

Additional open space should be acquired when it expands the City's existing parks, open space and trails system. Land that preserves natural drainages, wildlife corridors, key agricultural lands, or other valuable community resources should be prioritized.

Goals and Policies: Parks and Open Space

Goal 1: Assure that Residents of Spanish Fork City Have Adequate Access to Parks

Policy 1.1: Meet the recommended Level of Service (LOS) for parks of 4.75 acres per 1,000 population in the future.

a. Implementation Measure: Develop at least 75.6 acres of the park land already owned by the City to meet needs by 2030.

b. Implementation Measure: Develop remaining 41.7 acres of park land already owned by the City to meet needs between 2030 and 2050.

c. Implementation Measure: Acquire and develop 35.0 additional acres of park land to fill gaps in future residential areas.

d. Implementation Measure: Acquire and develop 50.3 additional acres of park land to meet LOS needs between 2030 and 2050 and address distribution needs at the same time by acquiring at least 35.0 of these areas in gap areas.

e. Implementation Measure: As the community grows, ensure that the recommended LOS is maintained.

f. Implementation Measure: Develop and implement a signage and wayfinding system for the City, so residents have ample information about available facilities and amenities.

Policy 1.2: Ensure that new parks and open space provide high-quality recreation opportunities for the community.

a. Implementation Measure: Pursue neighborhood and community parks (parks 3 acres or larger) in the future to meet the needs of the community while minimizing the maintenance demands associated with smaller parks.

b. Implementation Measure: Upgrade existing parks to meet the minimum requirements for amenities and features where possible.

c. Implementation Measure: Adopt the minimum development standards for parks detailed in this Plan as a City policy.

d. Implementation Measure: Design and develop all new parks with amenities and features that meet the established standards and allow and encourage public input on the design.

Policy 1.3: Ensure that new developments provide adequate open space, buffering and landscaped areas.

a. Implementation Measure: Modify zoning and other City ordinances as needed to require developer participation in the provision of small private parks, open space and trails.

Goal 2: Continue to Maintain a High Standard of Maintenance for Spanish Fork Parks in the Future

Policy 2.1: Continue to improve the best management and maintenance procedures to protect the City's park and recreation investments.

a. Implementation Measure: Protect the City's investment in sports fields by resting fields regularly to prevent damage by overuse.

b. Implementation Measure: Update annual budgets to ensure funding for operation and maintenance of City parks and other lands the City maintains is sufficient to meet needs.

c. Implementation Measure: Maintain an up-to-date inventory of all parks, park facilities and parkways, documenting and implementing improvements according to a feasible schedule.

d. Implementation Measure: Apply design standards for all parks in a way that helps reduce maintenance requirements while promoting better long-term use of public parks and recreation amenities.

e. Implementation Measure: Increase the variety of amenities in parks to promote better long-term use of parks.

f. Implementation Measure: Provide amenities and facilities to help residents “self-maintain” their parks and park facilities (trash receptacles, animal waste containers, hose bibs, pet clean-up stations, etc.)

Goal 3: Increase the Amount and Variety of Natural Open Space in the City

Policy 3.1: Secure and expand the Spanish Fork City open space system as part of a flexible and opportunistic approach.

a. Implementation Measure: Acquire open space that preserves natural drainages, waterways, wetlands, wildlife habitat, viewsheds, iconic agricultural land and other highly-valued community resources.

b. Implementation Measure: Work with Utah County and the State of Utah to ensure that new facilities meet City, county and state statutes and regulations.

Goal 4: Promote Water Conservation and Similar Practices to Help Ensure the Spanish Fork Parks and Recreation System is Sustainable and Resilient

Policy 4.1: As new parks, open space, recreation facilities and trails are developed, utilize the most up-to-date technologies to conserve water and other resources in public parks and associated facilities.

a. Implementation Measure: Utilize drip irrigation, moisture sensors, central control systems, appropriate plant materials, soil amendments and other City requirements as applicable to create a more sustainable Spanish Fork City parks and recreation system.

b. Implementation Measure: Utilize industry best practices to ensure plants are water-wise, regionally-appropriate and as low maintenance where appropriate to reduce maintenance and water demands.

4 RECREATION, ARTS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

While public parks and open space are significant features of Spanish Fork's leisure system, the City's recreation, community arts and events provide an additional layer of opportunities for residents to meet, connect, play together and improve their health and well-being.

This chapter examines the City's recreation and arts facilities and programs and summarizes the broad range of community events sponsored and hosted by the City. The chapter concludes with specific goals, policies and implementation measures to direct system growth and development in the future.

Public Input on Recreation, Arts and Community Events

A variety of methods and formats were used to gauge resident needs, desires and vision for recreation, arts and community events. The following is a summary of public involvement, specifically addressing recreation, community events and arts feedback.



"I don't believe in raising property taxes on those with fixed incomes. Find a way to exclude them or I will never vote for it. I am not describing myself, but many others cannot afford it."

- Survey Respondent

Statistically-Valid Survey

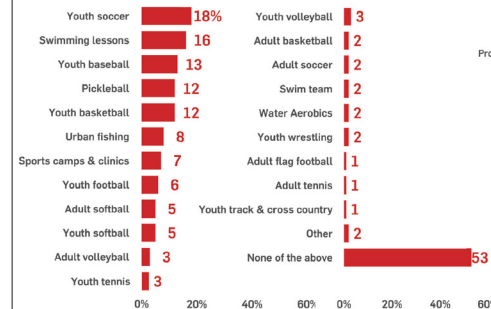
Recreation Programming

- A majority of survey respondents had not utilized City recreation programs during the previous 12 months. During that same period, 18-percent of respondents indicated that a member of their household had participated in youth soccer programs and 16-percent had taken swimming lessons. Some respondents indicated that more appealing activities, convenient activity times and lower fees are changes that might entice them to participate in City recreation programs, yet 19-percent indicated they would not participate in City recreation programs under any circumstances.
- Recreation centers located elsewhere in the region, including the Provo Recreation Center and Springville Recreation Center, were frequently mentioned when asked what survey participants were queried on the facilities, activities, or programs they participate in. Mountain biking, indoor and outdoor pools were also in the top 10 most frequent answers.
- The survey results indicate that many residents are interested in recreation centers. Both indoor and outdoor swimming pools, including a water park, were also frequently mentioned.
- The survey indicates that a recreation center with an indoor pool is more likely to draw patrons and increase participation rates over a bike park or a performing arts/event center.
- Sixty-nine percent of respondents indicated that if a new recreation center were constructed, they would support an indoor leisure pool, while 62-percent preferred an outdoor leisure pool. Respondents were least supportive of an indoor turf field and areas for plyometric and functional training as part of a potential recreation center.
- Residents of all ages support a City-owned indoor and outdoor leisure pool, with 37-percent of seniors also supporting indoor lap lanes for exercise swimming. Sixty-three percent of all respondents residents under 54 want a splash pad.
- Nearly half of all residents (49-percent) visit the waterpark a few times a month or more. Twenty-nine percent visit a few times a season and only three-percent never visit the waterpark.

MAJORITY OF RESPONDENTS DID NOT USE CITY RECREATION PROGRAMS

In the past year, 18% of respondents participated in youth soccer programs, and 16% took swimming lessons. However, 53% did not use any of the listed city programs. More appealing activities, more convenient activity times, and lower fees are changes that may encourage more residents to participate in city recreation programs. 19% will not participate under any circumstances.

Q In the past 12 months, which of the following Spanish Fork City recreation programs, if any, have you or members of your household used? Select all that apply.



*Pickleball was the most popular program for residents over 55.

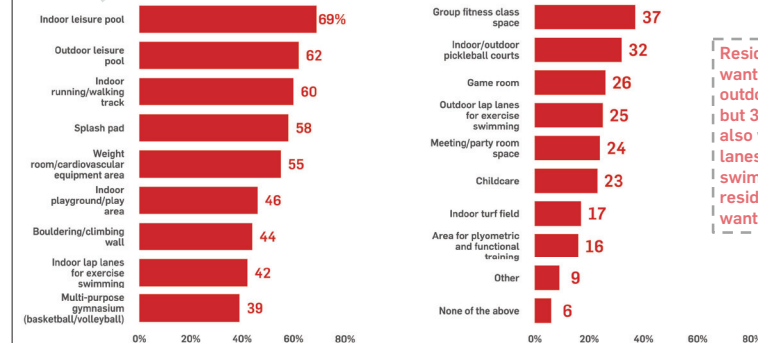
Q Which, if any, of the following offerings or improvements would be most likely to cause you to participate in sports or recreation programs in Spanish Fork City? Select up to three.



POOLS MOST POPULAR REQUEST FOR POTENTIAL REC CENTER AMENITIES

If a new recreation center is built, 69% of respondents want an indoor leisure pool and 62% request an outdoor leisure pool. Respondents are least enthusiastic about a potential indoor turf field and areas for plyometric and functional training.

Q If Spanish Fork City were to build a new Recreation Center, which of the following offerings would you or members of your household use? Select all that apply.



Residents of all ages want indoor and outdoor leisure pools, but 37% of seniors also want indoor lap lanes for exercise swimming. 63% of residents under 54 want a splash pad.

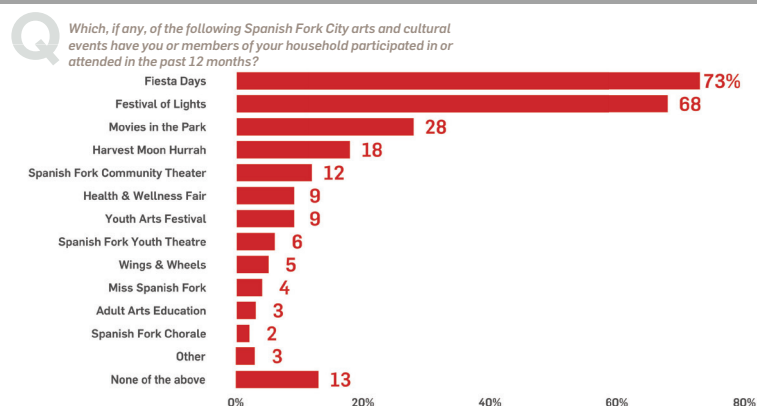
Statistically-Valid Survey

Art and Community Events

- Fiesta Days and the Festival of Lights are the most attended cultural events, with 73-percent of the respondents indicating they had participated in Fiesta Days and 68-percent indicating they had participated in the Festival of Lights in the last twelve months.
- Adult Arts Education and Spanish Fork Chorale had the lowest attendance by survey takers, as 13-percent indicated that they had attended no arts or cultural events in the last twelve months.
- When asked their opinion about arts and cultural events in the City, 76-percent of respondents indicated that they believed there is an appropriate number of arts and cultural events. Only 22-percent think there are too few events of this nature and two-percent said there are too many.

FIESTA DAYS, FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS HIGHEST ATTENDED CULTURAL EVENTS

A majority of respondents attended Fiesta Days (73%) and the Festival of Lights (68%). Adult Arts Education and Spanish Fork Chorale had the lowest attendance, and 13% said they attended none of the arts and cultural events.



Social Pinpoint

Online Mapping

- There is support for providing a new pool to replace the one being demolished at the high school.

Online Questionnaire

- A recreation center with a replacement pool should be constructed, preferably as part of a new recreation center.
- Some respondents indicated they do not currently participate in recreation programs, nor do they plan to in the future.
- The most popularly-mentioned recreation programs include youth softball, soccer, wrestling, flag football, baseball, basketball, adult softball, basketball, pickleball, swimming and summer art classes.
- There is interest in more skills classes such as music lessons, pottery and similar courses throughout the summer months.

Public Scoping Meeting

- Recreation discussions centered on the possibility of expanding and providing better notice about opportunities for adults to participate in programs. Offering alternative organized activities such as hiking or biking was also supported.

"I think with the RAP tax, that should support recreational arts and programs, rather than increase taxes again. I'm for additional programs, but it isn't why we passed the tax in the first place."

- Survey Respondent

Aquatics Focus Group

- The City's swimming pool serves a vital recreational role for the community, offering swimming lessons, water safety training and physical fitness opportunities for youth and adults, in addition to being a popular venue for parties and reunions.
- The group stressed that it is essential for the City to provide a new pool since the existing facility is being razed after 2021. There was strong support for an 8-lane, 50-meter pool, as it is believed that this size and configuration would provide the broadest range of options and serve the largest range of users.
- Focus group participants indicated that existing pool users desire indoor and outdoor pools with lap lanes and leisure uses.
- The group indicated that partnering with Salem on a joint-facility is a good idea, as it could maximize funds and reduce costs for both communities.
- Participants were passionate about swimming, several stating that swimming is a great activity that can help keep youth out of trouble. They also indicated that swimming is suitable for a wide range of ages and users, including children, adults, seniors and families. It is also a good activity for team and group activities.
- The group members noted that regional swim teams depend on the existing facility for their training and meets. Pools in neighboring communities are already maxed out and the pool's demolition will be a great loss for the community.

Senior Focus Group

- This group would like more programs and facilities specifically for seniors. For instance, it was noted that senior walking groups could utilize the City's extensive trail system and that aquatics classes are already popular, though senior-specific classes would be helpful. They would like to see more benches located along trails as places to rest along the way.
- Many participants take part in the activities at the Senior Center, which provides great camaraderie and a sense of belonging in the community.
- There was enthusiastic support for a new senior center. They believe that such a facility should provide parking close to the building, that it should be centrally located and should continue to provide outreach programs to homebound seniors.
- Focus group members support providing a new recreation center that includes a new pool as a replacement for the existing pool slated to be shuttered in the near future, potentially with a senior center as part of it like Provo.
- The group noted that the City is very supportive of their needs and they are appreciative of City staff and the services they provide.

Arts Focus Group

- This group also noted that the City has been very supportive of their needs, providing space, funding and staff assistance.
- They believe that the addition of RAP tax revenues has helped reduce the "up and down" nature of funding arts programs.
- The group would like to grow arts programs in the community. They currently use school auditoriums and gyms for many of their activities and events and would like to have a dedicated City facility for performances and classes. Storage space was also indicated as being an issue of this group.
- Participants think that the City could be more effective in advertising arts events and programs. They support having a full-time City staff member dedicated to Arts Council programs and events.

Recreation

Spanish Fork residents are generally active and they meet their recreation needs in a variety of ways. Most residents use the City's parks, fields, trails and recreational facilities at least once a month. They also exercise at home using videos or home gyms, visit private fitness facilities and utilize other public lands and facilities in the region.

Existing Public Recreation Facilities

Key recreation facilities currently located in Spanish Fork include the Water Park, Senior Center, Fairgrounds, Gun Club, Campground and Reservoir and the Oaks at Spanish Fork Golf Course.

Spanish Fork Water Park

The City funded the construction of the Water Park at Spanish Fork High School, which is owned by Nebo School District. The City pays a minimal fee to lease the property from the school district and has been solely responsible for operations and maintenance of the facility. The facility was opened in 1994, encompassing an outdoor pool with a water slide, lap lanes, diving boards and a zero-entry water play area. The park also features a splash pad and small pavilions adjacent to the zero-entry feature. An associated park area located south of the pool includes a large "for rent" pavilion, three sand volleyball courts, a basketball court and an open lawn area.

As indicated throughout this summary, the Water Park is one of the most-used facilities in the City and is highly coveted and supported by the Spanish Fork swimming community. The facility supports active swimming, individual swimmers, teams, family and church parties, and events.

Spanish Fork Senior Center

The City-owned and operated Senior Center is located at 167 West Center Street in close proximity to the library, Spanish Fork High School and the Water Park. The Senior Center

offers a broad range of activities and a welcoming setting where seniors can connect and be active. Meals, social outings, educational and fitness classes and presentations are typical activities and programs provided at the center. With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the center was closed to protect senior and community health. The City has since modified its practices, offering drive-up lunches four days a week. Senior Center staff and volunteers have also reached out by offering televised programs and information of interest to the senior population.

Spanish Fork Fairgrounds

Spanish Fork is widely renowned for the Fiesta Days Rodeo, which is hosted at the 20-acre, City-owned Spanish Fork Fairgrounds. The facility also hosts the Diamond Fork Riding Club Winter Series Rodeo. The fairground includes an 8,400 seat main outdoor arena, an indoor trade show/tennis court building, two multiuse buildings containing meeting rooms and banquet facilities, six barns with rentable horse stalls, paved parking for 700 vehicles, a shaded grass picnic area, 40 full RV hookups, restrooms with showers, stock washing facilities, a caretaker's residence and associated maintenance facilities.

Various organizations use the fairgrounds for a range of non-rodeo events, including those listed below.

- Fiesta Days Rodeo
- Diamond Fork Riding Club Winter Series Rodeo
- Utah Junior Livestock Show
- Utah County Fair
- Utah Ram Sale
- Missouri Fox Trotters Show
- Jack Russell Fox Terrier Dog Show
- Public riding



- Company Parties
- Utah High School Rodeo
- Utah 4-H Horse Show
- Utah Reigning Association
- Utah Quarter Horse Association Fall Futurity
- National Barrel Racing Association
- Utah Cutting Horse, Paint Horse, Arabian Horse and Quarter Horse Associations
- Rich Roping of Utah
- Spanish Fork Roping Club
- Craft and Tradeshows

Gun Club

The Spanish Fork Gun Club is a City-owned public trapshooting facility located at the southern end of the City in the foothills near the mouth of Spanish Fork Canyon. The club was founded by volunteers in 1972 and has since evolved to include a number of trapshooting facilities and events. The trapshooting range is recognized for its unique setting and the high-visibility views over the valley. The site also offers a clubhouse, restrooms, picnic tables, a pavilion and 70 full RV hookups. For a nominal membership fee, members of the public can receive a discount on shooting and other perks. The club is located adjacent to the Spanish Oaks Campground and Reservoir.

The statistically-valid survey included questions specific to the gun club. Only 19-percent of respondents indicated that they had used the gun club. The top reasons stated for using the club include the activities provided, proximity to home, the view and the safe feeling.

Most of the 81-percent who have not used the facility indicated that it is due to the lack of a membership. A small portion of this group indicated that they are not interested or do not enjoy trap shooting and the rest indicated that they prefer to shoot on public land.

Spanish Oaks Campground and Reservoir

Spanish Fork owns a 4.9-acre campground near the gun club and reservoir. The campground encompasses twelve single and double campsites with picnic tables, a group site, restrooms, a pavilion and a playground.

The campground connects to hiking and mountain biking trails in the adjacent foothills above and Spanish Oaks Reservoir below. The 4.5-acre reservoir offers fishing and swimming, a sandy beach, a fish cleaning station, a pavilion with gas grills, restrooms, picnic tables, a playground and a walking path.

The Oaks at Spanish Fork Golf Course

Spanish Fork owns and operates the 137-acre Oaks at Spanish Fork Golf Course near the mouth of Spanish Fork Canyon at the southern end of the City. The Oaks is an 18-hole, 72-par championship course. The golf course includes a driving range, putting greens, a practice bunker, a full-service pro shop, a café and an event center. The City contracts operation of the café and event center.

The Oaks Event Center offers a rentable indoor event space with a large outdoor deck, gazebo and footbridge. The center can seat up to 160 people. The City also provides a variety of programs and lessons, as listed below.

- Junior Golf Camp – Ages 6 to 16
- Junior and Adult Golf Lessons
- Clubs for Kids Day Free Camp – ages 5-13



Four associations at the course offer opportunities for golfers to socialize through regular team play, luncheons, contests and championship events. The golf course also hosts several tournaments throughout the year, as listed below.

- Corporate Tournaments
- Senior Amateur
- Pro-Am and Open
- 2-Man Scramble
- 2-Man Best Ball
- Ladies 2-Woman Scramble
- Men's Club Championship

The Role of Private and School District Recreation Facilities

A range of privately-owned and operated gyms and recreation facilities are located in Spanish Fork that serve residents on a fee or membership basis. Examples of programs and activities provided at these facilities include organized and independent fitness, performance and athlete development programs. The facilities work in tandem with City-owned facilities, providing residents with private recreation and fitness opportunities. However, they are only available to those who are willing and able to pay.

Some communities actively strive to join forces with private gyms and organizations to enhance the range of recreational facilities and services available to the public. For example, Layton City has a stated policy that acknowledges the role of private gyms for providing opportunities not provided by the City and has helped finance gyms at public schools, which are then available to residents during non-peak days and times. Salt Lake County similarly considered teaming up with the University of Utah to develop a larger multi-purpose Wellness and Recreation Center than either entity could provide independently, although the concept was ultimately abandoned.

Spanish Fork has a cooperative relationship with Nebo School District, sharing indoor gyms, outdoor fields and other facilities between students and the general public. The City holds recreation programs at eight elementary schools, and in gyms at Spanish Fork High School, Maple Mountain High School, Diamond Fork Junior High School and Spanish Fork Junior High. The City also utilizes track and field facilities at Spanish Fork High School. Interlocal agreements formalize the partnership, designating conditions of use, access, maintenance and financial responsibilities of both parties.



While the City uses these facilities extensively for recreation programming purposes, they are available only with the continued agreement of the school district. Since cooperative agreements are not typically guaranteed in perpetuity, City use and access are not guaranteed. Partnering with local schools is nevertheless an important tool for maximizing the benefit provided, particularly for communities like Spanish Fork that have a high demand for limited resources. Furthermore, such partnerships minimize the duplication of park and recreation facilities in the City.

Recreation Programming

Spanish Fork provides an extensive range of recreation programs for youth, including baseball/softball, urban fishing, pickleball, football, track and field, soccer, wrestling, basketball, volleyball, swimming lessons and tennis. Adult programming includes softball, soccer, flag football, volleyball, basketball, tennis and pickleball. The City also hosts numerous tournaments, camps and clinics.

The statistically-valid survey indicated that 47-percent of respondents had used City recreation programs in the past twelve months. Youth soccer, swimming lessons, youth seball, pickleball and youth basketball are the most popular programs, with pickleball being the most popular program for residents over 55.

Recreation Programs

The following is a summary key program trends and needs. Figure 7 illustrates the participation levels in City youth recreation programs and Figure 8 shows the levels for adult programs. See the Appendix for corresponding charts for individual programs. It should be noted that the chart below includes participant numbers for the elementary school track and field programs, which pushes the number of participants in this program higher than indicated by the statistically-valid survey results.

Figure 7: City Youth Recreation Program Participation

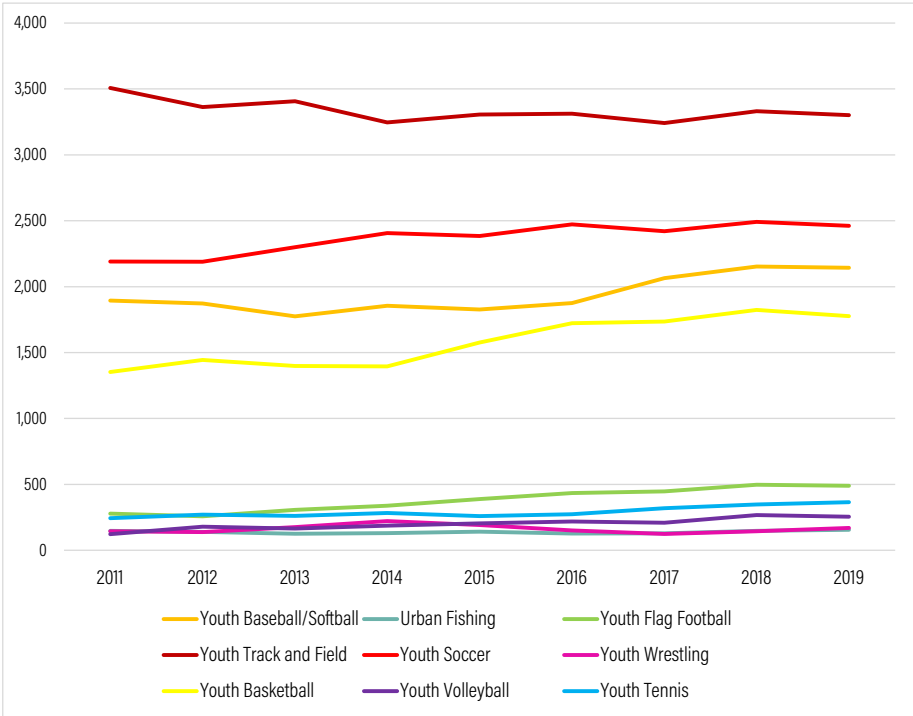
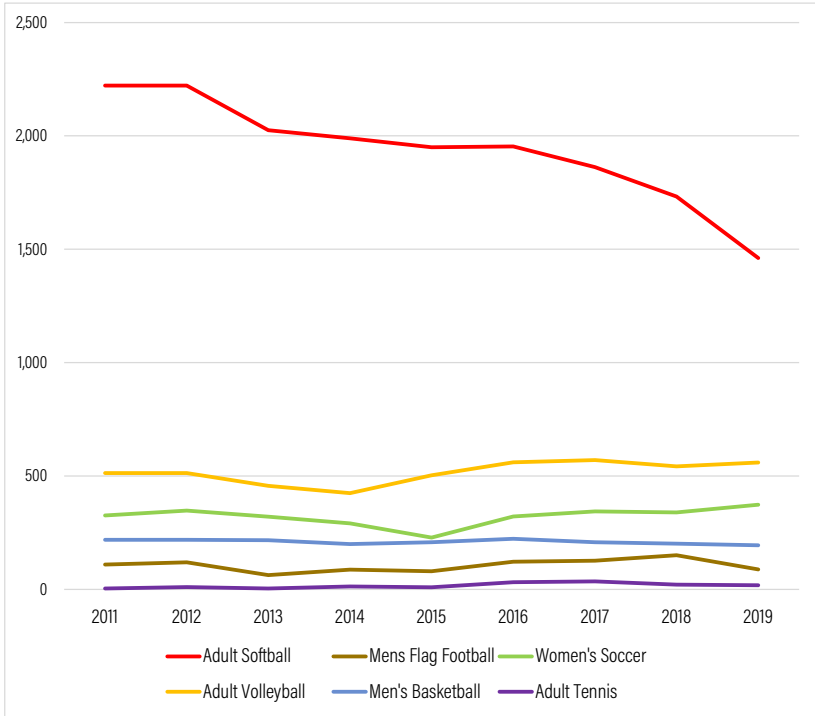


Figure 8: City Adults Recreation Program Participation



Youth Baseball/Softball

Participation in youth baseball and softball programs has seen a gradual increase over time, from 1,894 total participants in 2011 to 2,143 in 2019. Participation in baseball programs for ages 4 through 2nd grade has vacillated slightly, with overall participation remaining reasonably constant. Programs for 3rd through 11th grade have experienced a slight increase during much of the current decade. The youth softball programs have varied slightly but have seen a slight decrease since 2011.

Youth Basketball

Spanish Fork offers the Little Hoopsters basketball program for children in the first and second grades and programs for youth in 3rd through 12th grade. Participation in both of these programs has gradually increased over time, with the program for older children growing more steadily.

Youth Football

Overall participation in football programs has increased, with a bump in 2013 and 2014 due to the addition of the junior gridiron and junior high flag football programs and an increase beginning in 2015 from greater participation in the 5th and 6th grade program.

Youth Track and Field

The youth cross-country track program was founded in 2018 and has had approximately 30 participants each year since. The youth summer track program has fluctuated over time, with an overall increase in participation between 2011 and 2019. Participation in the youth elementary track and field has decreased slightly since 2011.

Youth Soccer

Spanish Fork offers spring and fall youth soccer programs for children from kindergarten to 9th grade. Participation in fall soccer programs has remained relatively steady with some fluctuations, while the spring programs have seen growth overall.

Youth Volleyball

The City's youth volleyball programs, offered in the fall and winter, have seen overall increases between 2011 and 2019.

Youth Wrestling

The City's youth wrestling programs have fluctuated over time, between 124 and 222 participants. Changes in programs, including discontinuing some programs, adding new ones and changing grade divisions, have likely contributed to the vacillation in overall the number of the overall rate of involvement.

Youth Urban Fishing

This program takes place at Spanish Oaks Reservoir. Participation rates have fluctuated slightly over time, hovering between 125 and 155 each year since 2011.

Adult Softball

Overall participation levels in adult softball programs have declined significantly over time; the most significant decline in the number of participants is the co-ed fall softball program, with the cancellation of specific league programs also a contributing factor. The co-ed summer programs and men's and women's softball programs have had slight fluctuations in participation.

Adult Soccer

The City previously offered both men's and women's adult soccer programs but canceled the men's programs in 2013. Women's soccer participation took a deep dip in 2015 but has since recovered and is currently slightly above 2011 levels.

Adult Football

The City runs a men's flag football program. Participation rates have fluctuated since 2011, dipping significantly in 2013 and 2015, with another decline experienced in 2019.

Adult Volleyball

Participation in adult volleyball programs has remained relatively consistent over time, with the exception of a dip in the women's program in 2014. Overall participation was higher in 2019 than in 2011, with the increase primarily in the women's program.

Adult Basketball

Spanish Fork once offered a women's basketball program but discontinued the program in 2017. The City also offered a women's basketball program that was eliminated in 2017. The current adult basketball program is a men's winter program; participation rates have varied greatly, with a significant dip in 2014.

Pickleball

Spanish Fork initiated pickleball programs for ages 12 and up in 2019; participation numbers are unavailable due to the recent start date. Participation in pickleball leagues and lessons indicates that nearly half of the participants in the Fall Ladder League are from surrounding communities.

Youth and Adult Tennis

Spanish Fork offers a selection of tennis lessons and leagues for youth and adults. The youth tennis lesson program has the most significant participation levels and has been trending

upward in the last four years, increasing by nearly 100 participants. Adult participation in tennis lessons is significantly lower and has seen a drop in recent years. Total memberships for the Spanish Fork indoor tennis courts at the fairgrounds have increased over time, with dips noted during the 2005-2006 and 2013-2014 seasons.

Tournaments

Spanish Fork hosts several recreation tournaments each year, including dodgeball, Friday Night Lights Co-Ed Softball, Pizza Factory Baseball, Sophomore Round Robin Softball, Toys for Kids Co-Ed Softball, Picklejam Mayhem and the Wicked Pickle tournaments. The pickleball tournaments are the newest offerings, having commenced in 2018/2019. The Toys for Kids Co-Ed Softball tournament was initiated in 2016.

Camps and Clinics

Spanish Fork offers a youth baseball camp for 8-15 year-olds, a fast-pitch softball clinic for youth in 3rd through 9th grade and a youth summer sports and fitness camp. Participation in the baseball camp and fast-pitch clinic has varied over the years, with dips primarily in 2014 and 2015. Overall participation has declined from 2011 levels. The summer sports and fitness camp saw an increase between 2011 and 2019, with participants more than doubling in that time.

Programming Suggestions

Survey participants provided feedback on recreation programs in general, in addition to providing specific program requests. The feedback received in each category is summarized below.

General Suggestions:

- Provide information on how teams are formed and the steps people need to take to participate
- Send timely notifications
- Offer programs at more times of the day to accommodate working adults
- Coordinate with schools to distribute information on youth programs
- Do not duplicate programs offered by private businesses
- Offer shorter-duration activities for busy people
- Make sign-up easier with things like online waivers
- Keep programs affordable
- Offer more year-round activities

Specific Suggestions:

- Accessible programs for people of all abilities
- Activities for toddlers
- Adult education classes: computers, programming, languages, welding, wood-working, auto mechanics, survival skills, cooking classes, dog training, equestrian lessons, photography, ceramics, writing, welding, Toastmasters and healthy lifestyle/eating ideas
- Adult programs: frisbee, men's soccer, road cycling, hiking club, running club, ski club, fishing, belly dancing, pole fitness, self-defense classes, women's fast-pitch softball, disc golf club, women's tennis, tennis tournaments, more diverse aquatics programs, spikeball, Tai Chi in the parks, aviation, water sports (sailing, canoeing and kayaking), and astronomy club
- Adult-only swim times at the pool
- All ages: archery, fencing, bowling, indoor soccer and futsal, bird watching, rock climbing, dance nights in the park and year-round arts programs
- Community service projects/volunteer opportunities
- Indoor fitness programs: yoga, Pilates and HIIT classes, weight training, boxing, classes for beginners, spinning, water aerobics and Zumba
- Red-Cross certified swim lessons
- Senior-specific programs and programs for older adults
- Youth programs: dance, electronic sports (esports), fitness, martial arts, gymnastics, cheer, ice skating/hockey, tennis for younger ages and mountain biking

Recreation Programming Summary

Participation in several City recreation programs has fluctuated over time but is generally quite constant. A handful of programs have seen declines in recent years, such as youth elementary track and field and adult softball. Programs that have experienced the greatest amount of growth and higher participation levels included youth football, summer track and field, volleyball and basketball. Tennis programs are also growing, as is the youth summer sports camp.

Spanish Fork actively monitors the participation rates and demands for programs, discontinuing programs when they see steep declines and adds new programs and leagues when they see enough demand from residents.

Private Sports Clubs

Several private sports clubs serve the residents of Spanish Fork and rent the community's fields or courts. Known groups include Rocky Mountain School of Baseball, Utah's Perfect Game, Utah High School Activities Association (UHSAA), Shooter's Soccer Club, LaRoca Soccer Club, Utah Storm Soccer Club, Nebo United Soccer Club, Villegas Men's Soccer Club, Genesis Rugby Club, United States Tennis Association (USTA) and BreakPoint Tennis.

Recreation Needs and Priorities

Recreation Center and Pools

Nebo School District will soon construct a new high school on the site where the Water Park is currently located. The closure and demolition of this popular facility at the end of the 2021 summer swim season represents a significant recreational loss to the City. Although Spanish Fork leaders were aware that the school district would eventually construct a new school on the site, the project emerged much sooner than was anticipated, catching the City somewhat off guard.

Aquatics Focus Group participants indicated that local swimmers rely on the Spanish Fork Water Park in the summer months and then compete for indoor space at recreation centers in neighboring communities (Springville, Provo and Orem). Youth, adult recreation programs and swim teams must vie with high school and college teams in the region for pool time, which is already limited.

In 2015, Spanish Fork sought approval for a bond to finance a new lifestyle center that included a joint recreation, library, senior and community center. Residents convincingly voted against the bond, at a rate of 70-percent against the bond and 30-percent in favor. City staff and leadership have since analyzed why the public rejected the initiative, which they have determined was partially due to their reliance on out-of-date data for assessing willingness to bond.

The statistically-valid survey conducted by Y2 Analytics for this Plan included several questions focused on current resident support for a recreation center and indoor swimming pool. The results indicate that new recreation amenities are highly supported, ahead of trails, outdoor pools, splash pads and new parks. The survey further indicated that residents are willing to pay approximately \$67 in additional property taxes to fund the new recreation facilities that are most important to them. The survey also indicated that residents are willing

to spend approximately \$21 in property taxes specifically to replace the existing Water Park elsewhere in the City. When polled on their willingness to support bonds for different types of programs and facilities, the respondents indicated more support for a bond to fund recreation facilities over one to finance trails, parks, open space, or arts and cultural programs.

The most popular recreation center amenities that emerged from the survey were an indoor leisure pool (69-percent), an outdoor leisure pool (62-percent), an indoor track (60-percent), a splash pad (58-percent) and a weight room/cardiovascular equipment area (55-percent). Slightly more than a third of senior respondents desire indoor leisure lanes.

Senior Center

As indicated previously, the failed 2015 lifestyle center bond included a senior center as part of the proposed facility. The City is still exploring options for establishing a new senior center in the future. City staff indicates a joint facility similar to the one located at Provo City's Recreation and Senior Center as a possible model, particularly since it provides significant construction and operation efficiencies. The co-location of such facilities offers active seniors a wider range of programs and options for staying active and fit.

Gun Club

Of survey respondents who have used the gun club, the top requested improvements include a handgun range (39-percent) and a rifle range (38-percent). Thirty-percent indicated no upgrades are needed.



Arts

Spanish Fork is served by an active Arts Council, which hosts many events and activities throughout the year. The Spanish Fork Arts Council's mission is to enrich the quality of life in the community through broadened availability, collaboration, promotion, education and increased participation of the cultural arts. They help provide a range of performances, visual art, fine art and other event and programs are provided throughout the year for youth and adults alike.

A list of the activities offered by the Council are listed below:

Adult Cultural Arts Education (32 participants in 2019)

- Calligraphy and Intro to Lettering
- Cake Decorating
- Ceramics
- Creative Writing
- Crochet and Sewing – Quilt Block
- Dance – Couples and Folk/Cultural
- Drawing – Basics and Figures
- Music – Folk/Bluegrass, Guitar, Group Vocal and Songwriting
- Painting – Fundamentals, Watercolors and Canvas
- Digital Photography
- Theater/Drama
- Web Design
- Yoga

Spanish Fork Chorale (54 participants in 2019)

- Interfaith Easter Celebration Concert
- Come Alive Easter Concert
- Harvest Moon Hurrah Concert
- Christmas Box Angel Vigil
- Christmas Concert

Harvest Moon Hurrah Activities

- Activities and Crafts
- Storytelling
- Balloon Shapes
- Face Boards
- Giant Paint-it-Yourself Murals
- Caricature Drawings
- Face Painting
- On-Stage Entertainment

Youth Arts Festival (1,300 participants in 2019)

- Anime Art
- Collage Art
- Comic Book Art
- Desserts, Desserts, Desserts
- Folk Dance
- Fairy Beach
- Hand Stitching Art
- Landscape and Abstract Painting
- Lego Story Art
- Let's Make a Musical
- Magic Blue Wand
- Minecraft Art
- Nailed it – Pinterest Style
- Origami
- Paint, Paint, Paint
- Paper Art
- Pattern Art
- Pokémon Art
- Puppet Art
- Puppet Art for Littles
- Rock Art/YAF Rocks
- Superhero Art
- Surviving the Zombies
- Unplugged Stem
- Watercolor Techniques
- Slime Art

Youth Theatre (1,003 participants in 2018/2019 season)

- Robin Hood Tales of Ye Merry Woode
- Babes in Toyland
- Cinderella

Community Theater

- Broadway Lights: Movie Night
- Disney's Beauty and the Beast

A majority of participants in the survey and public meetings indicate that the current level of community arts and events is sufficient. The Arts Council has expressed a desire to grow arts programs in the City, but it faces several challenges meeting that goal. For example, space for productions is limited and in high demand by other groups as well. The small stage currently used at Spanish Fork High School through a cooperative agreement will not be available while the school district constructs the new high school and it is unclear whether a similar agreement can be struck once the new facility is complete.

Arts programs require significant storage for costumes, props, set pieces and other equipment. The City provides some storage and volunteers handle the rest. The Arts Council indicates that additional space for educational programs is also lacking.

Similar to the recreation programs, distributing information about arts programs is one of the biggest challenges the Arts Council faces in its efforts to get better participation. Recruiting volunteers to assist with programs also poses a challenge.

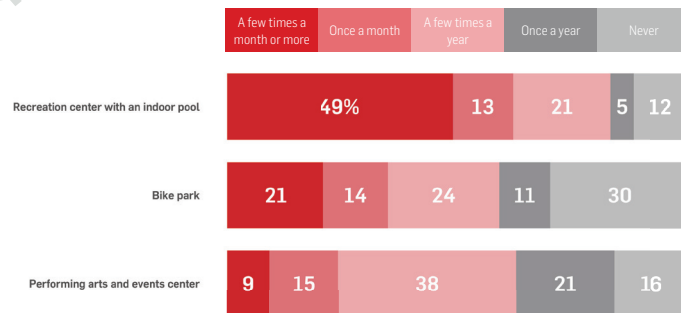
Survey participants and members of the public who provided input indicate an appreciation for existing arts programs at current and possibly higher levels. However, there is little support for a bond or similar funding to pay for arts and cultural programs. 62-percent of survey participants indicated they would use a potential performing arts and events center a few times a year or more, compared to 83-percent who would use a recreation center a few times a year or more. In other words, a recreation center is more highly desired and supported in comparison.

RECREATION CENTER WITH INDOOR POOL MOST LIKELY TO DRAW PATRONS

A plurality of respondents indicate they would use a recreation center with an indoor pool a few times a month or more. Support for a bike park is mixed, with 21% saying they would use it often, but 30% saying they would never visit. 38% of respondents say they would visit a performing arts and events center a few times a year.



How often would you or members of your household use or visit each of the following potential Spanish Fork City parks and recreational or cultural facilities?



Community Events

Spanish Fork holds several large community events in partnership with the Arts Council. City-hosted events follow.

- Festival of Lights
- Fiesta Days
- Harvest Moon Hurrah
- Health and Wellness Fair
- Miss Spanish Fork
- Movies in the Park
- Wings and Wheels



Priorities: Recreation, Arts and Community Events

Many survey respondents and other members of the public indicate a desire for a recreation center with indoor and outdoor pools to replace the Water Park. The City should explore the feasibility of providing such a facility, potentially in conjunction with a Senior Center, to ensure the widest range of options for the active senior population. While there is also a desire for a dedicated performing arts venue, survey results indicate that it has less support than a recreation facility at this point in time. The City should continue to explore partnering with other entities like the school district or other communities to develop big-ticket facilities, some of which would likely serve both the local and regional community.

The City provides a broad range of recreation and arts programs and community events. It should continue to work with existing partners, regularly survey participants for feedback, monitor program participation and make adjustments based on interest and participation levels. The City should also develop a comprehensive marketing plan to increase knowledge of and participation in public programs and events.

Goals and Policies: Recreation, Arts and Community Events

Goal 1: Assure that Residents of Spanish Fork City Have Access to High Quality Recreation and Arts Facilities and Programs

Policy 1.1: Pursue additional planning studies to explore facilities requested by residents.

a. Implementation Measure: Conduct a feasibility study to determine the scope, costs and funding opportunities for a recreation center with indoor and outdoor competition and leisure pools.

b. Implementation Measure: Explore the option of co-locating a senior center with a recreation center.

c. Implementation Measure: Explore partnerships with other communities, public and private agencies, facilities, organizations and groups to help fund the construction, operation and maintenance of a recreation/senior center.

d. Implementation Measure: Continue to partner with Nebo School District to meet the resident's recreation facility and programming needs in the future.

e. Implementation Measure: Conduct a feasibility study to determine the scope, costs and funding opportunities for a flexible use facility for arts programs and activities and other community events.

f. Implementation Measure: Explore partnerships with other communities, public and private agencies, facilities, organizations and groups to provide a flexible use facility for arts programs and activities and other community events.

g. Implementation Measure: Continue to support the Arts Council in providing high-quality arts events and activities.

h. Implementation Measure: Create a full-time Arts director staff position.

Goal 2: Assure that Recreation and Arts Programs and Community Events Continue to Meet Residents' Needs

Policy 2.1: Increase awareness about and participation in City programs and events.

a. Implementation Measure: Develop a marketing plan that includes comprehensive strategies and approaches for increasing awareness of City programs and events.

b. Implementation Measure: Provide timely notifications of programs and events.

c. Implementation Measure: Provide a centralized source of information on all City programs and events offered throughout the year and include information about how to participate and register, if required.

d. Implementation Measure: Implement online registration tools, including the ability for participants to sign liability waivers online.

e. Implementation Measure: Regularly survey program participants and the community-at-large to ensure the City is providing programs that serve a broad range of users.

f. Implementation Measure: Conduct a thorough review of private programs offered in the community before providing new programs to avoid duplication.



“I would really like to have a rec center, but not at the cost of the last one proposed.”

- Survey Respondent

5 TRAILS

Trails are a vital community resource. They provide important recreation and mobility opportunities while connecting local homes and businesses to each other, to essential services and to regional transit systems. Trails are an integral component of a connected and healthy city, providing direct and easy access to local parks, open space and recreation opportunities. When carefully planned and implemented, trails are democratic facilities, providing equal access by all users.

This chapter begins by documenting the existing trail system in Spanish Fork, which is followed by the planned trail network to serve immediate and long-term needs for trails and trail facilities. It concludes with specific goals, policies and implementation measures to guide decision-making and resource allocation processes during the coming years.

Public Input on Trails

The planning process included significant public involvement to understand community values, needs, desires and priorities (see Chapter 2 and the Appendix for details). A summary of the input that was received that specifically addresses trails follows.

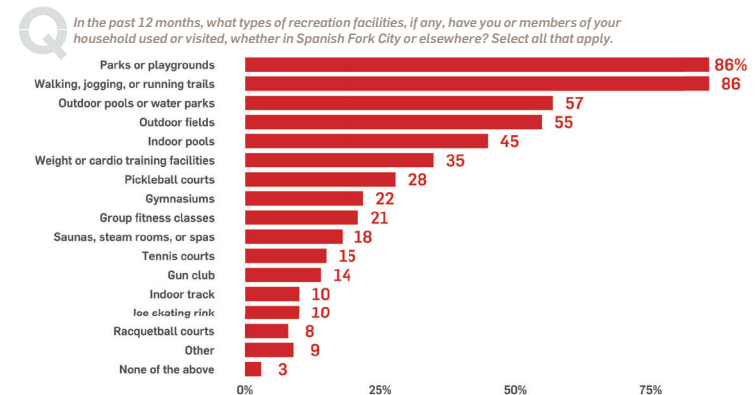
Statistically-Valid Survey

- Walking, jogging and running on trails are tied with parks and playgrounds for the most-used recreation facilities during the previous 12 months.
- Eighty-one percent of those surveyed indicated that they are satisfied with the overall value their household receives from Spanish Fork trails. This is a high rate of concurrence.



PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS, TRAILS MOST USED RECREATION FACILITIES

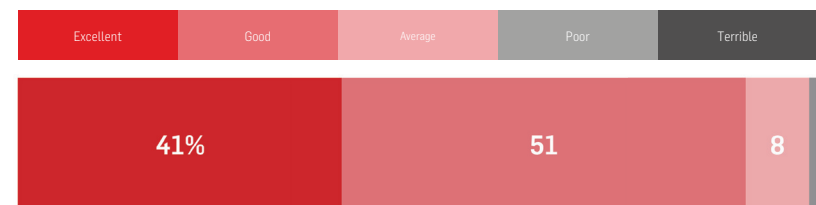
86% of respondents use parks/playgrounds and walking, jogging, or running trails. Over half of respondents also utilize the outdoor pools and fields. The indoor track, ice skating rink, and racquetball courts are the least used amenities.



VAST MAJORITY PLEASED WITH OVERALL QUALITY OF PARKS, TRAILS, REC FACILITIES

92% of respondents consider the overall quality of parks, trails, open spaces, and recreation facilities in Spanish Fork as either excellent or good. Only 1% of respondents considered them poor quality, and zero respondents described them as terrible.

Q All things considered, how would you rate the overall quality of parks, trails, open spaces, and recreation facilities / programs in Spanish Fork City?



Social Pinpoint

Online Mapping

- Participants indicated a clear desire to have trail connections between neighborhoods and community/regional destinations such as parks, hospitals, nearby mountains and canyons and Utah Lake. They also expressed a desire that local trails should be linked with regional trails in surrounding communities.
- Participants want trails to be separated and protected from major roadways.
- Filling trail system gaps and creating an interconnected trail network is important.
- Having safe trail crossings on busy roads and ensuring that walking and biking routes to schools are significant concerns.
- Desired improvements include the inclusion of restrooms and trash receptacles at trailheads, benches and lighting along major trails and additional signage at trailheads and along trails, including regulatory/rules signs and interpretive signage.

Online Questionnaire

- Connections to the mountains are appreciated.
- Primitive and backcountry trails would also be great, particularly as part of completing the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.
- The River Trail is one of the most popular trails, which is a function of its scenic quality, available shade, easy access and length. Other popular routes provide connected stretches of trails for long-distance biking, while others are popular because they are close to home and feel safe.
- Completing the planned trail network is a priority, including trails that provide connections with community destinations and those that provide linkages to adjacent communities, Spanish Fork Canyon and Utah Lake.
- The north end of the City needs a “go-to” trail.
- Trails should generally be wider. They should also be designed to ensure busy road crossings are safe and should receive regular maintenance to ensure they are safe and navigable.
- Some respondents indicated they have concerns extending trails through private property.

Public Scoping Meeting

- Participants expressed interest in having better trail connections to adjacent communities, better connectivity (including loop systems) and safer crossings for the benefit of all potential users, including seniors and children.
- Participants had positive comments regarding the City's wide variety of trails currently available to use, most notably the River Trail. They also noted the positive impact trail development is having on creating a more livable community.
- Participants indicated that a need exists for more accurate, up-to-date trail maps, both online and at trailheads and City kiosks.
- Participants would like City roads to be less car-centric and better accommodate bikes and pedestrians.
- It was noted that the City will be developing more bike lanes and the Power Corridor Trail. They will also be filling trail system gaps in the future.

Existing and Planned Trails and Bike Lanes

Spanish Fork has a significant network of existing trails. The City adopted an updated Transportation Master Plan in August 2020 that includes a comprehensive trail network. As illustrated in Map 7, the planned trail network consists of an expansive shared use path system and several new bike lanes.

As summarized in Table 8, the current Spanish Fork trail system includes approximately 1.8 miles of bike lanes, 12.3 miles of Local Paved Shared Use Paths, 6.3 miles of Regional Paved Shared Use Paths, 1.2 miles of Regional Unpaved Shared Use Paths within the City boundaries. Table 9 summarizes the existing and planned trails within the annexation areas. The City also plans to develop an extensive interconnected system of pathways and bike lanes that builds upon established trails. The total planned trails within the City and in annexation areas are listed in Table 10, which includes a total of 3.6 miles of Bike Lanes, 80.2 miles of Local Paved Shared Use Paths, 11.8 miles of Regional Paved Shared Use Paths and 11.8 miles of Unpaved Shared Use Paths. The completed network will provide 5.4 miles of bike lanes, 115.7 miles of Paved Shared Use Paths (regional and local) and 10.0 miles of Regional Unpaved Paths.

Table 8: Existing and Planned Trails within the City

WITHIN CITY	
Trail Type	Miles
Existing Bike Lanes	1.8
Existing Paved Local Shared Use Paths	12.3
Existing Regional Paved Shared Use Paths	6.3
Existing Unpaved Regional Shared Use Paths	1.2
Planned Bike Lanes	3.6
Planned Paved Local Shared Use Paths	42.7
Planned Regional Paved Shared Use Paths	8.9
Planned Unpaved Regional Shared Use Paths	3.4
Total Existing and Planned Bike Lanes in City	5.4
Total Existing and Planned Local SUP in City	55.0
Total Existing and Planned Regional Paved SUP in City	15.2
Total Existing and Planned Regional Unpaved SUP in City	4.6

Table 9: Existing and Planned Trails within the Annexation Areas

WITHIN ANNEXATION AREA	
Trail Type	Miles
Existing Bike Lanes	0.0
Existing Paved Local Shared Use Paths	1.2
Existing Regional Paved Shared Use Paths	3.9
Existing Unpaved Regional Shared Use Paths	0.4
Planned Bike Lanes	0.0
Planned Paved Local Shared Use Paths	37.5
Planned Regional Paved Shared Use Paths	2.9
Planned Unpaved Regional Shared Use Paths	5.0
Total Existing and Planned Bike Lanes in Annexation Area	0.0
Total Existing and Planned Local SUP in Annexation Area	38.7
Total Existing and Planned Regional Paved SUP in Annexation Area	6.8
Total Existing and Planned Regional Unpaved SUP in Annexation Area	5.4

Table 10: Total Planned Trails

Trail Type	Miles
Total Planned Bike Lanes in City and Annexation Area	3.6
Total Planned Local SUP in City and Annexation Area	80.2
Total Planned Regional Paved SUP in City and Annexation Area	11.8
Total Planned Regional Unpaved SUP in City and Annexation Area	8.4

Table 11: Total Trails at Buildout

Trail Type	Miles
Total Existing and Planned Bike Lanes at Buildout	5.4
Total Existing and Planned Local SUP at Buildout	93.7
Total Existing and Planned Regional Paved SUP at Buildout	22.0
Total Existing and Planned Regional Unpaved SUP at Buildout	10.0

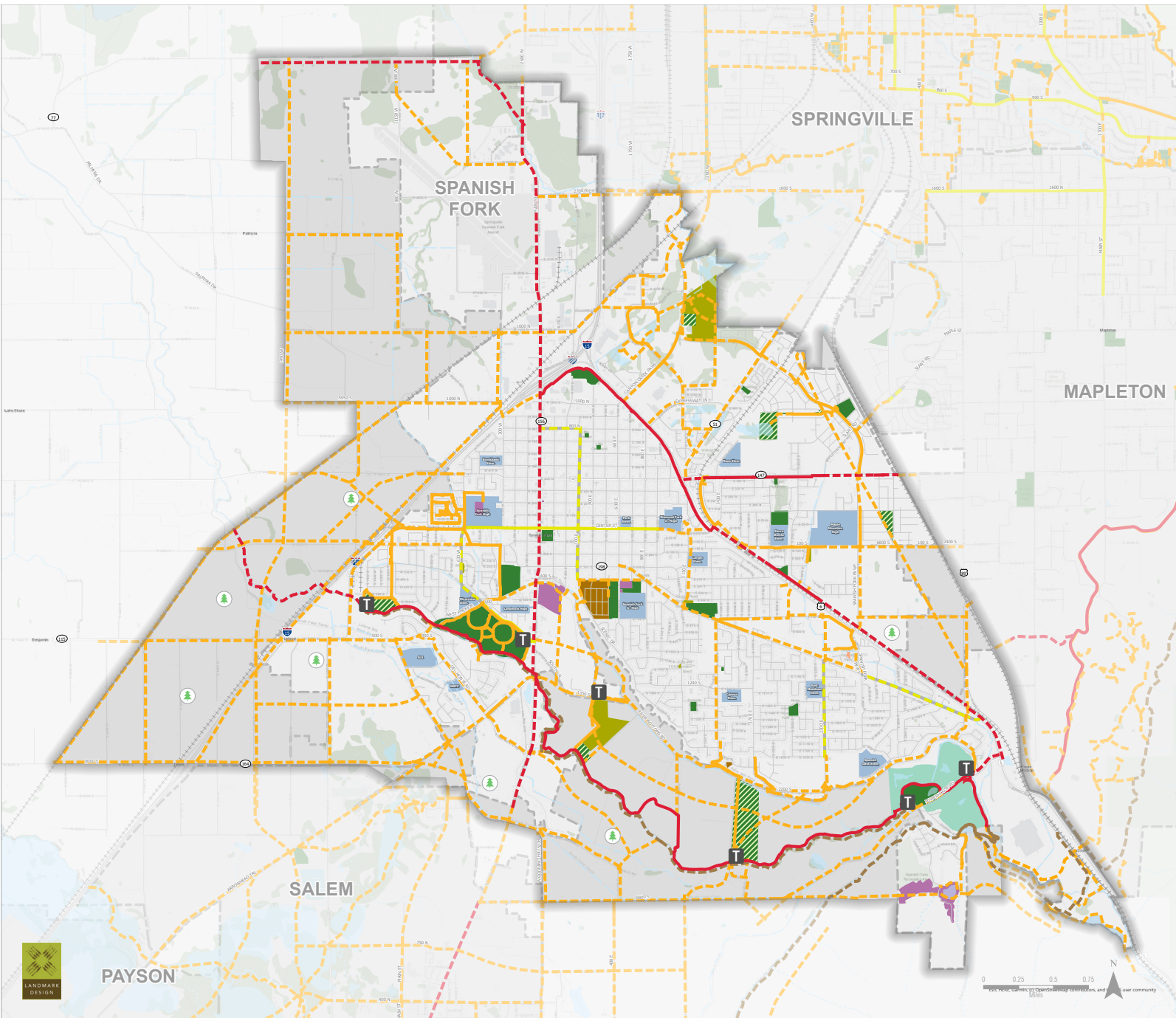
Bike Lanes

The City has two small segments of existing bike lanes on Center Street between Spanish Fork High School and Diamond Fork Junior High and on Volunteer Drive between Riverview Elementary and Main Street.

The City has planned several additional bike lanes where separated shared use paths may not be feasible. These routes include 400 East from the cemetery to 900 North and turning west to Main Street, River View Elementary north to Center Street, 2300 East from 1850 South to Canyon Road and Canyon Road between 2600 East and Highway 6.

Local Shared-Use Paths

Feeding into the Bike Lanes and Regional Shared Use Paths, the Local Shared Use Paths provide the next layer of connection, linking neighborhoods to regional trails and destinations within the community. Local trails are located along roads and in railroad and powerline corridors but may also follow waterways or other natural features. Local Shared Use Paths are typically paved and separated from roadways. Map illustrates the extensive network of local trails.



Map 7 Existing and Planned Trails

- Proposed Neighborhood Park
- Existing Trailheads
- Existing Bike Lane
- Existing Paved Local Shared Use Path
- Existing Paved Regional Shared Use Path
- Existing Unpaved Regional Shared Use Path
- Planned Bike Lane
- Planned Paved Local Shared Use Path
- Planned Paved Regional Shared Use Path
- Planned Unpaved Regional Shared Use Path
- Existing Public Park
- Existing Special Use Park
- Existing Private Park
- Existing Golf Course
- Existing Cemetery
- Existing Open Space
- Currently Planned Park
- Existing Park Outside of City
- Schools
- Wetlands
- Lake or Pond
- Canal
- Perennial Stream
- Ephemeral/Intermittent Drainage
- Annexation Areas

NOTE: This map represents the City's trail master plan as of the plan adoption date. Please visit the City's website for the most current version of the map: www.spanishfork.org/departments/public_works/bicycle_and_trail_facilities

5/4/2021

Regional Shared-Use Paths

Regional Shared Use Paths serve multiple users. They are typically wide enough to accommodate significant use and trail traffic, fully separated from major roadways. They form the spine of the City's extensive trail network. Regional trails are the primary trail routes in the City and are the typical trail linkages with neighboring communities. The extent and scope of Regional Trails in Spanish Fork are extensive, connecting with regional cities and towns, natural areas and destinations. There is strong public support for trail linkages to the mountains, Spanish Fork Canyon, Utah Lake and other regional destinations.

Regional trails often follow natural features such as waterways, natural drainages and built features such as major roads, railroad lines and power corridors. The City's most popular trail is the River Trail, which parallels the Spanish Fork River at the southern end of the City. It is the longest existing trail segment in the City. Other regional trails with portions that are already built include the Bonneville Shoreline Trail and the trails associated with Highway 147/400 North and Highway 6. A trail is proposed to connect Main Street to Highway 77 in the northern end of the City.

Regional trails may be paved or unpaved.



Trail Needs Analysis

It is clear that there is strong public support for the development of additional trails in Spanish Fork. Trails are a top priority for residents, ranking just below a new recreation center and indoor aquatics facilities in the statistically-valid survey. Residents supported additional trails and related amenities throughout the public involvement process.

Spanish Fork has a good start on its trail system, which currently consists of more than 26 miles of regional and local trails. However, many areas of the City have no trails, while trails in other parts of the City are incomplete and disconnected.

Trailheads

Trail users are currently served by five trailheads, as shown on Map 7 and summarized below.

- Sports Park Trailhead (1.1 acres)
- Bradford Lane Trailhead (0.7 acres) - intersection of 7650 South and 300 East
- Poplar Lane Trailhead (1.3 acres) - 1100 East near the Spanish Fork River
- Canyon View Trailhead (0.4 acres) - west end of the parking lot in Canyon View Park
- Dripping Rock Trailhead (0.7 acres) - east of Canyon View Park near the intersection of River Bottoms Road and Powerhouse Road
- Urban Forest Trailhead (15.8 acres) - 1130 East 590 South

Several City parks are connected to existing trails, serving as defacto trailheads. These include Sports Park, Canyon View Park and North Park. The City prefers to use parks as trailheads since restrooms and other amenities can meet both user groups' needs, maximizing the efficient use of land and funds.

Design Standards

Trail design and engineering standards are well-established, including clear design parameters and details. Figure 9, Figure 10 and Figure 11 are typical sections of the three typical types of trails in the City: a paved trail, an unpaved trail and a paved trail paralleled by a meandering single-track where right-of-way allows.

Figure 9: Paved Trail Section

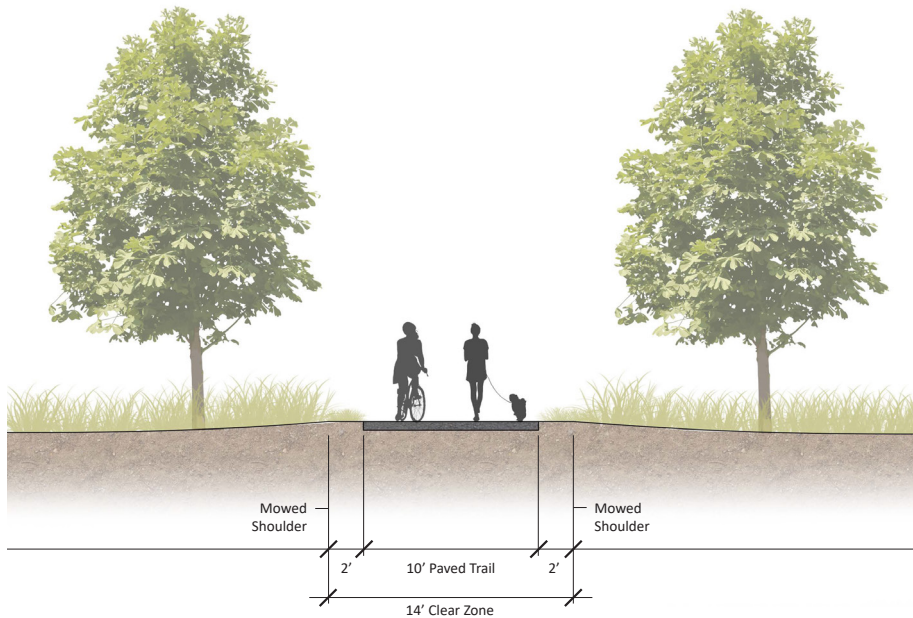


Figure 10: Unpaved Trail Section

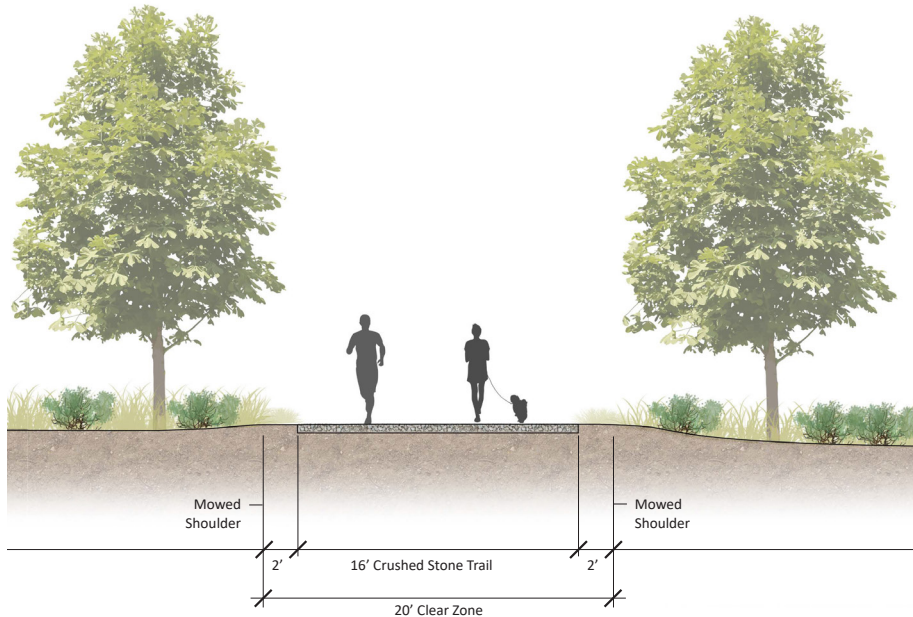
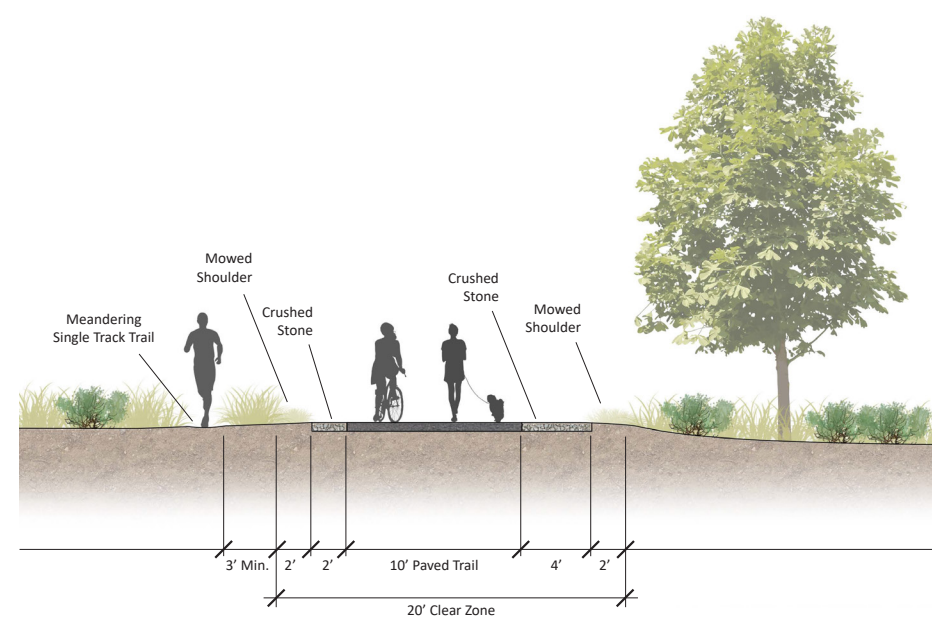


Figure 11: Paved Trail with Paralleled Single Track Section



Priorities: Trails

Proposed Trails

Map 7 illustrates the City's planned network of trails and bike lanes. It should be noted that more primitive trails and private trails located in private developments may be developed in the future beyond the illustrated system.

As shown in Table 8 the City is planning to construct 15.0 miles of Regional Shared Use Paths and 95.6 miles of Local Shared Use Paths in the future, including an expansion of the River Trail, the Bonneville Shoreline Trail and trails along major roadways.

Completing the Regional Shared Use Paths through Spanish Fork should be one of the top priorities, facilitating regional access and linkages to amenities and destinations. The City should also prioritize Local Shared Use Paths that connect parks, schools, or other essential community destinations to the regional trail network. Residents expressed a desire for looped trail segments, which should be an additional priority for the City. The implementation focus is on paved trails, which serve the broadest range of user groups, including users who require accessible routes.

In addition to separated paved trails, the City plans to construct 3.3 miles of additional bike lanes, as shown in Table 8 and on Map 7. These facilities are primarily located on major and minor collectors and arterial roadways and are designed to serve commuter bicyclists and recreational bicyclists who are comfortable riding with traffic. Since bike lanes are typically installed as part of roadway construction, the City should ensure that the alignments designated on Map 7 are included in future road projects.

Other Trail Improvements

In addition to providing a complete and interconnected network of trails, residents also indicated a desire for safe trail crossings at major roadways, improved trailhead facilities including restrooms and trash receptacles and the inclusion of benches and lighting along key trails. The establishment of a consistent regulatory, wayfinding and interpretive sign system is an important component of the City's trails system, informing trail users of use regulations, the location of key destinations and providing awareness and stewardship of the trail and open space system. Residents requested that better signage be located at trailheads, with interpretive signs located where appropriate. The community expressed a need for accessible, up-to-date trail maps at trailheads and online or other forms such as printed maps.



Goals and Policies: Trails

Goal 1: Implement the Recommended Trail Facilities by Buildout

Policy 1.1: Complete a non-motorized transportation system network.

- a. **Implementation Measure:** Develop the planned trail network by 2050.
- b. **Implementation Measure:** Encourage multi-jurisdictional cooperation and funding relationships with the Mountainland Association of Governments, Utah County and the neighboring cities of Springville, Mapleton and Salem.
- c. **Implementation Measure:** Update the Transportation Master Plan and this master plan regularly.

Policy 1.2: Assure that the Spanish Fork Trails System Meets Public Needs and Expectations

- a. **Implementation Measure:** Work with all involved City departments to ensure all trails and bike lanes are implemented as envisioned.
- b. **Implementation Measure:** Make trail and bike lane maps available to the public.
- c. **Implementation Measure:** Develop an accessible network of supportive pedestrian infrastructure, including sidewalks, curb ramps and trails near existing parks and other high-use destinations.

Policy 1.3: Require the community planning, land use planning and the development review processes of Spanish Fork to incorporate trail master planning, including the access to trails.

- a. **Implementation Measure:** Continually evaluate system-wide trail needs as part of future planning efforts, focusing on closing gaps and improving connections with existing and future neighborhoods, destinations, parks, recreation facilities and future transit stations.

b. **Implementation Measure:** Require private development projects to finance and install bicycle facilities, sidewalks and trails recommended in the Transportation Master Plan and this plan.

c. **Implementation Measure:** Require pedestrian walkways between sidewalks along public streets and developments adjacent to those streets.

d. **Implementation Measure:** Require sidewalks, pathways, plazas, or other pedestrian-friendly entrances to buildings.

Policy 1.4: Maintain trails as safe, attractive and comfortable amenities for the community.

a. **Implementation Measure:** Implement a Safe Routes to School program with an emphasis on separated trails.

b. **Implementation Measure:** Work with the local school district, police, UDOT, Utah County, local developers and neighborhood groups to identify and clearly-mark appropriate trails.

c. **Implementation Measure:** Ensure that maintenance routines include the control of weeds (particularly thorny species), removing trash and debris and selective plowing of crucial routes to facilitate winter trail use.

d. **Implementation Measure:** Promote an “Adopt a Trail” program to encourage trail user assistance in maintaining the trail system. Encourage participants to become involved in all aspects of trail development through maintenance and long-term improvements.

e. **Implementation Measure:** Develop a wayfinding and signage program that provides clear information to users about trail access and proper trail behavior, including allowed uses and other regulations.

f. **Implementation Measure:** Install a safe system of trail lighting and emergency response stations along paved trails where appropriate.

g. **Implementation Measure:** Construct arterial and collector streets wide enough to accommodate bicycles safely.



6 IMPLEMENTATION

As described in the preceding chapters, numerous improvements and actions are required to ensure existing and future needs related to parks, recreation and trails in Spanish Fork City are met. The following is a summary of the specific tasks and projects associated with probable costs.

Public Input on Spending Priorities and Willingness to Fund

The statistically-valid survey conducted by Y2 Analytics featured several questions that purposefully address funding priorities and resident willingness to fund different facilities. Key takeaways from the results follow.

Statistically-Valid Survey

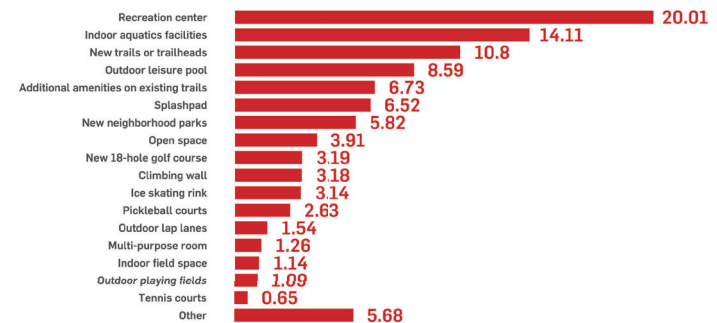
- A plurality of funds for additional programs (\$20.01) goes towards a new recreation center. The results indicate that residents would allocate \$14.11 towards an indoor aquatic facility, while tennis courts receive the lowest amount of funding at \$0.65.
- There is more support for investment in new facilities versus maintenance and upgrades at existing facilities. Seventy-one percent of respondents were at least somewhat willing to pay a \$10 monthly usage fee to support the acquisition/development of new parks projects and 61-percent were at least somewhat willing to financially support improvements at existing facilities, although more than half of the support for each potential fee is “soft.” Thirty-eight percent of participants indicated that they were unwilling to pay a fee for improving existing facilities.
- On average, residents are willing to pay \$67.30 annually in additional property taxes to fund the parks, trails, open space and recreation facilities that are most important to them. A plurality of respondents (18-percent) were only willing to pay \$50. The next largest group, at 13-percent, were willing to pay \$100 per year. Nine-percent said they do not want to pay higher taxes.

RECREATION CENTER, INDOOR AQUATICS FACILITY GIVEN MOST FUNDING

A plurality of funds for additional programs (\$20.01) goes towards a new recreation center. Resident would allocate \$14.11 towards an indoor aquatic facility. Tennis courts received the lowest amount of funding at \$0.65.



Suppose you had \$100 to spend on additional parks, recreational programs, facilities, open space, or trails the Spanish Fork city boundaries. How would you divide your \$100 among the various projects that could be funded?



RESIDENTS WILL PAY ~\$67 MORE ANNUALLY FOR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

On average, residents are willing to pay \$67.30 in additional property taxes to fund the types of parks, trails, open space, and recreation facilities that are most important to them. A plurality of respondents (18%) were only willing to pay \$50. The next largest group was the 13% of respondents who were willing to pay \$100 per year. 9% said they don't want to pay higher taxes.



What is the maximum amount of additional annual property taxes you would be willing to pay to fund the development and operations of the types of parks, trails, open space, and recreation facilities that are most important to you and members of your household?



Statistically-Valid Survey (continued)

- A majority of respondents (54-percent) indicate they are most likely to support a bond to finance recreation facilities. Forty-one percent are least likely to support a bond funding arts and cultural programs and 29-percent are least likely to support a bond for open space. Residents 55 and older are less enthusiastic about a recreation facility and more enthusiastic about trails.
- Residents are willing to pay \$21.10 on average in annual property taxes to replace the current aquatic facilities.
- As described in Chapter 1, four groups emerged corresponding to different health and activity levels: Performers, Competitors, Movers and Recreators. Performers and Competitors are much more receptive to paying more in usage fees or property taxes in order to fund Parks and Recreation initiatives. Notably, while both groups stand out from Movers and Recreators, Competitors are willing to pay much more (+27-percent) than Performers in order to fund such operations. The groups strongly suggest that this higher willingness relates to participation in organized sports activities (ostensibly sponsored by the City).
- There are several activities that draw more than 20-percent of all groups in Spanish Fork, which suggests that there exists common ground for the City to pursue that would be appealing for a broad subset of residents. These are primarily outdoor activities
- Highlighted by hiking, which at least half of all groups report participating in recently. Overall, 70-percent of all residents said they have been hiking in the last six months.

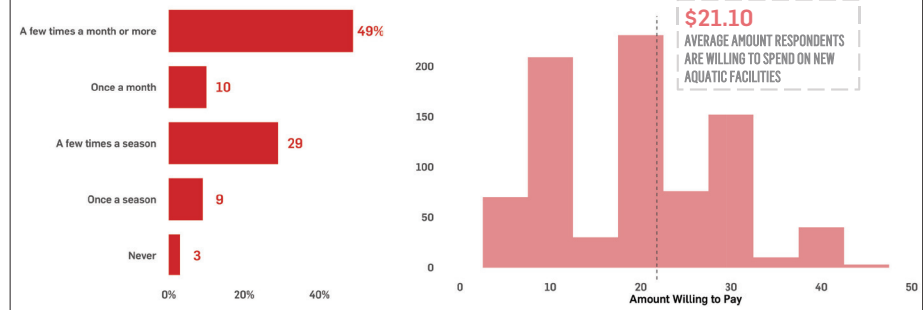
WATERPARK POPULAR AMONG RESIDENTS

Nearly half of all respondents (49%) visit the waterpark a few times a month or more. 29% visit a few times a season, and only 3% never visit. Residents are willing to pay \$21.10 on average in annual property taxes to replace the current aquatic facilities.



How often do you or members of your household visit Spanish Fork Water Park?

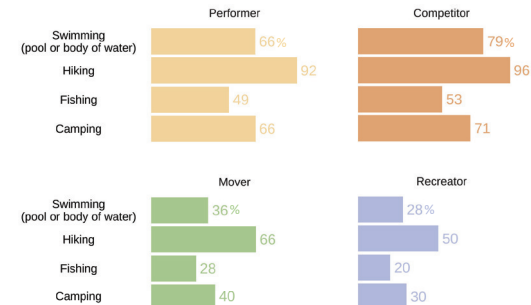
After Spanish Fork High School is rebuilt and the current outdoor pool facilities are no longer available, how much would you be willing to pay in annual property taxes for Spanish Fork City to replace those aquatic facilities elsewhere in the city?



COMMON GROUND

There are several activities which draw more than 20% of all groups in Spanish Fork, which suggests that there exists common ground for the city to pursue that would be appealing for a broad subset of residents. These activities are primarily outdoors—highlighted by hiking, which at least half of all groups report participating in recently. Overall, 70% of all residents said they have been hiking in the last 6 months.

Reported participation in last 6 months



"I prefer the facilities to be funded with revenue bonds so that the people that are using the facilities are the ones paying for them."

- Survey Respondent

Plan Priorities

Table 12 below summarizes the recommendations from Chapters 3 through 5 that have direct cost implications for implementation.

Table 12: Recommendation Summary

Chapter 3: Parks and Open Space
- Develop 75.6 acres of City-owned park land by 2030 - Develop 41.8 acres of City-owned park land by 2050 - Acquire and Develop 35.0 acres of park land by 2050 to fill gaps - Acquire and Develop 50.3 acres of park land to meet LOS and distribution by 2050 - Meet current and future amenity LOS requirements - Upgrade existing parks to meet Park Standards
Chapter 4: Recreation, Arts and Community Events
- Conduct a recreation center/senior center feasibility study - Conduct an arts/flexible-use facility feasibility study - Develop a programs and events marketing plan - Update the City's website to provide comprehensive program information and registration
Chapter 5: Trails
- Construct 3.6 miles of bike lanes - Construct 80.2 miles of local shared use paths - Construct 11.8 miles of regional shared use paths - Construct 8.4 miles on unpaved shared use paths - Install lighting and safety improvements - Add benches along regional trails, improve trailheads
System-Wide Recommendations
Develop a signage and wayfinding system for parks, recreation and trails

Probable Costs

Park and Open Space Costs

The amenities listed in Table 13 are required to meet Level of Service needs and to bring existing parks up to proposed standards. As indicated in the table, the total probable costs for these amenities is \$820,000. Costs may be reduced in cases where the City can meet a specific LOS requirement and park standard with a single facility.

Table 13: Probable Cost to Bring Existing Parks to Standard

Amenity	Quantity to Meet LOS Requirements and Park Standards in 2020	Probable Cost	Unit	Total
Skate/Bike Parks	1	\$300,000	Each	\$300,000
Playground, Pavilion, or Sports Court Specifically for Mini Parks	3	\$60,000	Each	\$180,000
Playground Specifically for Neighborhood Parks	1	\$100,000	Each	\$100,000
Pavilion Specifically for Neighborhood Parks	2	\$80,000	Each	\$160,000
Sports Court or Field Specifically for Neighborhood Parks	1	\$80,000	Each	\$80,000
Total				\$820,000

Table 14 summarizes the costs required to upgrade existing parks and meet amenity levels of service and the costs to acquire and develop parks through 2030 and buildout in 2050. Estimated acquisition costs are \$250,000 per acre based on information from similar recent planning efforts and typical local real estate costs; development costs are also estimated at \$250,000 per acre for parks, which reflects parks designed to meet the standards established in this plan. As indicated in Table 14, \$72,820,000 is required to meet amenities LOS requirements and park standards, fill gaps, meet needs through anticipated buildout in 2050.

Table 14: Probable Costs for Parks and Open Space

Item	Probable Cost
Meeting Standards	
Upgrade existing parks to meet amenity LOS requirements and park standards	\$820,000
Subtotal Amenities	\$820,000
Meeting Needs by 2030	
Develop 75.6 acres of City-owned park land by 2030 to meet LOS requirements	\$18,900,000
Subtotal 2030 Needs	\$18,900,000
Meeting Needs by Buildout in 2050	
Develop 41.8 acres of City-owned park land by 2050 to meet LOS requirements	\$10,450,000
Acquire and develop 35.0 acres of park land by 2050 to fill gaps	\$17,500,000
Acquire and develop 50.3 acres of park land by 2050 to meet LOS and distribution requirements	\$25,150,000
Subtotal Buildout Needs	\$53,100,000
Grand Total	\$72,820,000

Note: All costs assume \$250,000 per acre acquisition cost and \$250,000 per acre development cost

Recreation, Community Event and Community Art Costs

New recreation, event and art facilities are major investments and commitments that require more detail than can be addressed in a comprehensive planning study of this nature. Due to the wide range of unknown conditions and variabilities for these planning efforts, including the scopes and timeframes, opinions of probable cost are not included in this plan. Feasibility studies for a new recreation center/senior center and a performing arts/flexible use facility are recommended in order to adequately address the variables and level-of-detail required to make clear and rational decisions for such high-cost facilities. It is also recommended that Spanish Fork create a program marketing plan.

Trail Costs

Table 15 summarizes the costs required to develop the complete trail network and associated improvements shown on Map 7. Since it is assumed that bike lanes will be constructed with roadway development projects, associated costs are not included.

The total cost for trail system improvements is \$17,466,000. This amount could be reduced if the City is able to partner with local volunteers for trail development.

Table 15: Probable Costs for Trails

Item	Miles or Quantity	Unit Cost Each or Per Mile	Probable Cost
Planned bike lanes*	3.6	n/a	\$0
Planned regional paved shared use paths	11.8	\$250,000	\$2,950,000
Planned local paved shared use paths	80.2	\$150,000	\$12,030,000
Planned unpaved shared use paths	8.4	\$15,000	\$126,000
Lighting and safety improvements for regional shared use paths (per mile)	11.8	\$200,000	\$2,360,000
Grand Total			\$17,466,000

*It is assumed that bike lanes will be completed as part of road improvements.

Total Probable Costs

The total probable costs for developing the proposed park and trail system improvements through buildout in 2050 is \$90,536,000 (see Table 16). Projected costs include the development and installation of a City-wide Wayfinding and Signage Master Plan for the parks, recreation, open space and trails system.

Table 16: Total Probable Costs for Parks and Trails

Item	Probable Cost
Probable Costs to Upgrade Existing Parks, Acquire New Park Land and Develop Future Parks Through Buildout	\$72,820,000
Probable Costs to Develop Trails and Other Improvements	\$17,466,000
Wayfinding & Signage Master Plan (for entire parks, recreation, open space and trails system)	\$50,000
Wayfinding & Signage Installation (for entire parks, recreation, open space and trails system)	\$200,000
Grand Total	\$90,536,000

Action Plan

The following Action Plan is a summary of short, medium and long-term implementation actions and priorities. Section 1 of the table addresses recommended capital facility improvements and operations and maintenance and Section 2 describes the associated policies in Chapters 3 through 5. To meet future needs, it is essential that the City implement the suggested improvements according to the corresponding 2030 and 2050 schedules.

“Spanish Fork’s parks and trails are one of the big reasons Spanish Fork is so great. Fantastic work by the city to lay the groundwork for a continuously growing city!”

- Survey Respondent

Table 17: Action Plan

		Immediate Implementation	Short-Term Implementation 0 - 10 years 2020-2030	Medium-Term Implementation 10 - 20 years 2030 - 2040	Medium to Long-Term Implementation 20 years+ (through build-out) 2040 - 2050+
	Capital Facility Improvements				
	Parks and Open Space				
1	Utilize 4.75 acres per 1,000 population as the future level of service through build-out.				
2	Upgrade existing parks to meet amenity LOS requirements and park standards.				
3	Develop 75.6 acres of City-owned park land to meet LOS requirements.				
4	Develop 41.8 acres of City-owned park land by 2050 to meet LOS requirements.				
5	Acquire 35.0 acres of park land to fill gaps by 2050.				
6	Develop 35.0 acres of park land to fill gaps by 2050				
7	Acquire 50.3 acres of park land to meet LOS and distribution requirements by 2050				
8	Develop 50.3 acres of park land to meet LOS and distribution requirements by 2050				
9	Develop and install City-wide wayfinding and signage system for the parks, open space, recreation and trails system.				
10	Acquire additional open space with a focus on expanding existing open space areas, protecting natural drainages and other valued resources including the preservation of agricultural land.				
	Trails				
11	Develop 3.6 miles of planned bike lanes by 2050.				
12	Develop 11.8 miles of planned regional paved shared use paths by 2050.				
13	Develop 80.2 miles of planned local shared use paths by 2050.				
14	Develop 8.4 miles of unpaved regional shared use paths by 2050.				
15	Install lighting and safety improvements along regional shared use paths.				
16	Design and install wayfinding and signage system.				
	Policy Actions				
	Parks and Open Space				
17	As the community grows ensure that the recommended LOS is maintained.				

Table 18: Action Plan (Continued)

		Immediate Implementation	Short-Term Implementation 0 - 10 years 2020-2030	Medium-Term Implementation 10 - 20 years 2030 - 2040	Medium to Long-Term Implementation 20 years+ (through build-out) 2040 - 2050+
18	Pursue Neighborhood and Community Parks (3 acres or larger) in the future to meet the needs of the community while minimizing the maintenance demands associated with smaller parks.				
19	Adopt the minimum development standards for parks detailed in this plan as a City policy.				
20	Design and develop all new parks with amenities and features that meet the established standards, and allow and encourage public input on the design.				
21	Modify zoning and other City ordinances as needed to require developer participation in the provision of small private parks, open space, and trails.				
22	Protect the City's investment in sports fields by resting fields regularly to prevent damage by overuse.				
23	Update annual budgets to ensure funding for operation and maintenance of City parks and other lands the City maintains is sufficient to meet needs.				
24	Maintain an up-to-date inventory of all parks, park facilities, and parkways, documenting and implementing improvements according to a feasible schedule.				
25	Apply design standards for all parks in a way that helps reduce maintenance requirements while promoting better long-term use of public parks and recreation amenities.				
26	Increase the variety of amenities in parks to promote better long-term use of parks.				
27	Provide amenities and facilities to help residents "self-maintain" their parks and park facilities (trash receptacles, animal waste containers, hose bibs, pet clean-up stations, etc.)				
28	Acquire open space that preserves natural drainages, waterways, wetlands, wildlife habitat, viewsheds, iconic agricultural land, and other highly-valued community resources.				
29	Work with Utah County and the State of Utah to ensure that new facilities meet City, county, and state statutes and regulations.				

Table 19: Action Plan (Continued)

		Immediate Implementation	Short-Term Implementation 0 - 10 years 2020-2030	Medium-Term Implementation 10 - 20 years 2030 - 2040	Medium to Long-Term Implementation 20 years+ (through build-out) 2040 - 2050+
30	Utilize drip irrigation, moisture sensors, central control systems, appropriate plant materials, soil amendments, and other City requirements as applicable to create a more sustainable Spanish Fork City parks and recreation system.				
31	Utilize industry best practices to ensure plants are water-wise, regionally-appropriate, and as low maintenance where appropriate to reduce maintenance and water demands.				
Recreation and Community Events and Arts					
32	Conduct a feasibility study to determine the scope, costs, and funding opportunities for a recreation center with indoor and outdoor competition and leisure pools.				
33	Explore the option of co-locating a senior center with a recreation center.				
34	Explore partnerships with other communities, public and private agencies, facilities, organizations, and groups to help fund the construction, operation, and maintenance of a recreation/senior center.				
35	Continue to partner with Nebo School District to meet the resident's recreation facility and programming needs in the future.				
36	Conduct a feasibility study to determine the scope, costs, and funding opportunities for a flexible use facility for arts programs and activities and other community events.				
37	Explore partnerships with other communities, public and private agencies, facilities, organizations, and groups to provide a flexible use facility for arts programs and activities and other community events.				
38	Continue to support the Arts Council in providing high-quality arts events and activities.				
39	Create a full-time Arts director staff position.				
40	Develop a marketing plan that includes comprehensive strategies and approaches for increasing awareness of City programs and events.				
41	Provide timely notifications of programs and events.				

Table 20: Action Plan (Continued)

		Immediate Implementation	Short-Term Implementation 0 - 10 years 2020-2030	Medium-Term Implementation 10 - 20 years 2030 - 2040	Medium to Long-Term Implementation 20 years+ (through build-out) 2040 - 2050+
42	Provide a centralized source of information on all City programs and events offered throughout the year and include information about how to participate and register, if required.				
43	Implement online registration tools, including the ability for participants to sign liability waivers online.				
44	Regularly survey program participants and the community-at-large to ensure the City is providing programs that serve a broad range of users.				
45	Conduct a thorough review of private programs offered in the community before providing new programs to avoid duplication.				
	Trails				
46	Encourage multi-jurisdictional cooperation and funding relationships with the Mountainland Association of Governments, Utah County, and the neighboring cities of Springville, Mapleton, and Salem.				
47	Update the Transportation Master Plan and this master plan regularly.				
48	Work with all involved City departments to ensure all trails and bike lanes are implemented as envisioned.				
49	Make trail and bike lane maps available to the public.				
50	Develop an accessible network of supportive pedestrian infrastructure, including sidewalks, curb ramps, and trails near existing parks and other high-use destinations.				
51	Continually evaluate system-wide trail needs as part of future planning efforts, focusing on closing gaps and improving connections with existing and future neighborhoods, destinations, parks, recreation facilities, and future transit stations.				
52	Require private development projects to finance and install bicycle facilities, sidewalks, and trails recommended in the Transportation Master Plan and this plan.				
53	Require pedestrian walkways between sidewalks along public streets and developments adjacent to those streets.				
54	Require sidewalks, pathways, plazas, or other pedestrian-friendly entrances to buildings.				

Table 21: Action Plan (Continued)

		Immediate Implementation	Short-Term Implementation 0 - 10 years 2020-2030	Medium-Term Implementation 10 - 20 years 2030 - 2040	Medium to Long-Term Implementation 20 years+ (through build-out) 2040 - 2050+
	Capital Facility Improvements				
	Parks and Open Space				
1	Utilize 4.75 acres per 1,000 population as the future level of service through build-out.				
2	Upgrade existing parks to meet amenity LOS requirements and park standards.				
3	Develop 75.6 acres of City-owned park land to meet LOS requirements.				
4	Develop 41.8 acres of City-owned park land by 2050 to meet LOS requirements.				
5	Acquire 35.0 acres of park land to fill gaps by 2050.				
6	Develop 35.0 acres of park land to fill gaps by 2050				
7	Acquire 50.3 acres of park land to meet LOS and distribution requirements by 2050				
8	Develop 50.3 acres of park land to meet LOS and distribution requirements by 2050				
9	Develop and install City-wide wayfinding and signage system for the parks, open space, recreation and trails system.				
10	Acquire additional open space with a focus on expanding existing open space areas, protecting natural drainages and other valued resources including the preservation of agricultural land.				
	Trails				
11	Develop 3.6 miles of planned bike lanes by 2050.				
12	Develop 11.8 miles of planned regional paved shared use paths by 2050.				
13	Develop 80.2 miles of planned local shared use paths by 2050.				
14	Develop 8.4 miles of unpaved regional shared use paths by 2050.				
15	Install lighting and safety improvements along regional shared use paths.				
16	Design and install wayfinding and signage system.				
	Policy Actions				
	Parks and Open Space				
17	As the community grows ensure that the recommended LOS is maintained.				

Establishing Funding Priorities

Establishing funding priorities for parks, recreation, open space and trails is a challenge for communities with limited resources and diverse needs. The following are key questions to be considered when establishing funding priorities over time.

Project Prioritization Considerations

- Do they help fill a critical need or service gap?
- Do they address life and safety concerns?
- Do they support on-going maintenance of existing facilities (thereby protecting existing resources and investments)?
- Do they meet future needs in clear and logical phases?

It should be noted that budgets should be established for the acquisition of land as soon as possible to help avoid escalating acquisition costs over time.

Existing Funding Sources

The following are some of the key funding sources currently available for implementing the plan recommendations.

- **General Funds** - funds that come through government levies such as property and sales taxes that are divided up as the City sees fit.
- **Park Improvement Funds** - impact fees assessed with new development and redevelopment to provide a comparable level of service for parks as the City grows.
- **Enterprise Funds** - business-type funds where governments charge fees for programs and services and then use the money to pay for those services.
- **Bonds** - debt obligations issued by government entities.

Details regarding the various bonds, special assessments, service districts, grants, partnerships and other funding options and sources that are available to help implement the plan vision follow.

Funding Opportunities and Options for Large Projects

General Obligation Bonds

The lowest interest cost financing for any local government is typically through the levying of taxes for issuance of General Obligation Bonds. General Obligation Bonds, commonly referred to as “G.O. Bonds,” are secured by the unlimited pledge of the taxing ability of the community, sometimes called a “full faith and credit” pledge. Because G.O. bonds are secured by and repaid from property taxes, they are generally viewed as the lowest credit risk to bond investors. This low risk usually translates into the lowest interest rates of any municipal bond structure.

Under the Utah State Constitution, any bonded indebtedness secured by property tax levies must be approved by a majority of voters in a bond election called for that purpose. Currently, bond elections may only be held once each year on the November general election date.

If the recreation improvements being considered for funding through a G.O. bond have broad appeal to the public and proponents are willing to assist in the promotional efforts, G.O. bonds for recreation projects can meet with public approval. However, since some constituents may not view them as essential-purpose facilities for a local government or may view the government as competing with the private sector, obtaining positive voter approval may be a challenge.

It should also be noted that a G.O. bond election, if successful, would only cover the financing of capital expenditures for the facility. Facility revenues and/or other funds would still be needed to pay for the operation and maintenance expenses of the facilities. State law limitations on the amount of General Obligation indebtedness for this type of facility are quite high with the limit being 12-percent of an area's taxable value. Pursuant to state law the debt must be structured to mature in 40 years or less, but practically the entity would not want to structure the debt to exceed the useful life of the facility.

Advantages of G.O. bonds:

Lowest interest rates

Lowest bond issuance costs

If approved, a new 'revenue' is identified to pay for the capital cost

Disadvantages of G.O. bonds:

Timing issues; limited dates to hold required G.O. election

Risk of a "no" vote while still incurring costs of holding a bond election

Can only raise taxes to finance bonds through election process to pay for physical facilities, not ongoing or additional operation and maintenance expense. This would have to be done through a separate truth-in-taxation tax increase.

Creative Financing

Non-traditional sources of funding may be used to minimize the amount that needs to be financed via the issuance of debt. The City's approach should be to utilize community support for fund-raising efforts, innovative sources of grants, utilization of naming rights/donations, corporate sponsorships, contracting services, partnership opportunities involving other communities and the private sector, together with cost-sharing arrangements with school districts. To the extent debt must be incurred to complete the financing package, bonding structures, as discussed above, should be evaluated to find the optimal structure based on the financial resources of the City.

Funding Options For Smaller Projects

Private and Public Partnerships

The Park and Cemetery Department or a group of communities acting cooperatively and a private developer or other government or quasi-government agency may often cooperate on a facility that services the public, yet is also attractive to an entrepreneur or another partner. These partnerships can be effective funding opportunities for special use sports facilities like baseball complexes or soccer complexes; however, they generally are not feasible when the objective is to develop community parks that provide facilities such as playgrounds, informal playing fields and other recreational opportunities that are generally available to the public

free of charge. A recreation center, community center, or swimming/water park is also potentially attractive as a private or public partnership.

Private Fundraising

While not addressed as a specific strategy for individual recreation facilities, it is not uncommon for public monies to be leveraged with private donations. Private funds will most likely be attracted to high-profile facilities such as a swimming complex or sports complex and generally require aggressive promotion and management on behalf of the Park and Cemetery Department or City administration.

Service Organization Partners

Many service organizations and corporations have funds available for park and recreation facilities. Local Rotary Clubs, Kiwanis Clubs and other service organizations often combine resources to develop park and recreation facilities. Other for-profit organizations such as Home Depot and Lowes are often willing to partner with local communities in the development of playground and other park equipment and facilities. Again, the key is a motivated individual or group who can garner the support and funding desired.

Joint Development Partnerships

Joint development opportunities may also occur between municipalities and among agencies or departments within a municipality. Cooperative relationships between cities and counties are not uncommon, nor are partnerships between cities and school districts. Often, small cities in a region can cooperate and pool resources for recreation projects. There may be other opportunities as well which should be explored whenever possible to maximize recreation opportunities and minimize costs. To make these kinds of opportunities happen, there must be on-going and constant communication between residents, governments, business interests and others.

Point of Sale Fundraising

Point of Sale Fundraising allows businesses the opportunity to collect voluntary donations from patrons of hotels, restaurants, grocery stores or other service providers at the time they pay for the primary service. Patrons may elect to round up their bill or contribute a self-designated amount to go towards the City designated fund, park or project.

Local funding sources

RAP Taxes

Other nearby communities have initiated and voted-in a Recreation, Arts and Parks tax which has been very effective in raising funds to complete parks, recreation, trails and arts

projects. This type of funding is generally administered by a municipality or county and is distributed based on population.

Parks, Trails and Open Space Impact Fees

Impact fees are used by the City to offset the cost of public parks, trails and open space needed to serve future residents and new development.

Impact fees are especially useful in areas of rapid growth or redevelopment. They help the City to maintain a current level of service as new development puts strain on existing facilities. It assures that new development pays its proportionate share to maintain quality of life expectations for community residents.

Dedications and Development Agreements

The dedication of land for parks and open space has long been an accepted development requirement and is another valuable tool for procuring these amenities. The County can require the dedication of park land through review of projects such as Planned Unit Developments ("PUDs"), for example. The County may require developers to provide park land or open space for new developments or offer the option to instead pay fees, construct facilities or establish private parks or open space. The District may only use the dedicated land or fees for acquiring or constructing park or open space facilities.

In-Kind and Donated Services or Funds

Several options for local initiatives are possible to further the implementation of the Plan. These kinds of programs would require the community to implement a proactive recruiting initiative to generate interest and sponsorship and may include:

Fundraising and volunteer support of the community's parks, trails and open spaces; Adopt-a-park or adopt-a-trail, whereby a service organization or group either raises funds or constructs a given facility with in-kind services;

Corporate sponsorships, whereby businesses or large corporations provide funding for a facility, as per an adopt-a-trail and adopt-a-park program; or Public trail and park facility construction programs, in which local citizens donate their time and effort to planning and implementing trail projects and park improvements.

User Fees

User fees may be charged for reserved rentals on park pavilions and for recreation programs. These fees should be evaluated to determine whether they are appropriate. A feasibility study may be needed to acquire the appropriate information before making decisions and changes.

Local, State and Federal Programs

The availability of these funds may change annually depending on budget allocations at the local, state or federal level. It is important to check with local representatives and administering agencies to find out the status of funding. Some of these programs are funded by the Federal government and administered by local State agencies and others are funded by the State of Utah.

These include:

USFWS Sharon Steel Natural Resource Damage Assessment
Utah Watershed Restoration Initiative
Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation Grants
Utah Forestry, Fire and State Lands Grants
Utah Division of Water Quality Nonpoint Source Grants
Utah Department of Agriculture and Food Invasive Species Management Grants
Utah State Parks Recreation and Trails Program

Land and Water Conservation Fund

This Federal money is made available to states and in Utah is administered by the Utah State Division of Parks and Recreation. Funds are matched with local funds for acquisition of park and recreation lands, redevelopment of older recreation facilities, trails, accessibility improvements and other recreation programs /facilities that provide close-to-home recreation opportunities for youth, adults, senior citizens and persons with physical and mental disabilities.

Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation Grants

The Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation currently administers three grant programs:
Utah Outdoor Recreation Grant (for outdoor recreation projects that improve economic development and tourism)
Utah Restoration Infrastructure Grant (to restore or rehabilitate existing recreation infrastructure)
Utah Children's Outdoor Recreation & Education Grant (to provide outdoor skill-building programming for Utah's youth)
Additional information on all of these grants can be found [here](#).

Other Grants

Grant opportunities are extensive and ever-changing. Further grant opportunities should be explored further.

Federal Recreational Trails Program

The Utah Department of Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation Division administers these Federal funds. The funds are available for motorized and non-motorized trail development and maintenance projects, educational programs to promote trail safety and trail-related environmental protection projects. The match is 50-percent and grants may range from \$10,000 to \$200,000. Projects are awarded in August each year.

Utah Trails and Pathways/Non-Motorized Program

Funds are available for planning, acquisition and development of recreational trails. The program is administered by the Board of Utah State Parks and Recreation, which awards grants at its fall meeting based on recommendations of the Recreation Trails Advisory Council and Utah State Parks and Recreation. The match is 50-percent and grants may range from \$5,000 to \$100,000.