

A KID-FRIENDLY POMONA PARK SYSTEM PROPOSAL



GROUNDING IN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

1. Hosted 17 Pomona Placemaking Workshops involving hundreds of participants from 2017-2020, resulting in proposals for park events, pop-up parks in under-served areas, and the installation of a butterfly garden at Ganesha Park.
2. Partnered with *Conexión de Padres* to engage parents regarding recreational needs, and advocate for additional programming.
3. Surveyed over 600 youth and adults regarding climate change action in 2022 - the majority of respondents cited new parks as a top priority.
4. Facilitated workshops with over 70 youth in the city regarding climate change action in 2022, where parks and street trees were expressed as priorities.
5. Worked with students from Cal Poly Pomona on analysis and development of park concepts in 2018, 2020 and 2022.
6. Coordinated volunteer planting of 1,000 trees since 2017, at schools, on streets and in 7 city parks.

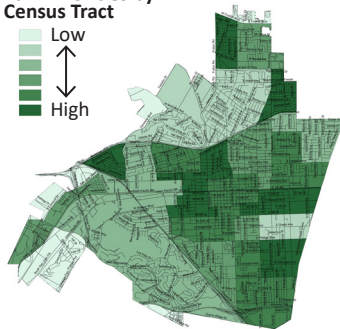


	2020	2040
Population	150,830	190,400
Park Acres	188.47	188.47
Park Acres per 1,000 persons	1.25	0.99

3.3 ACRES IS THE COUNTY AVERAGE!

Park Priorities by Census Tract

Low
↑
↓
High

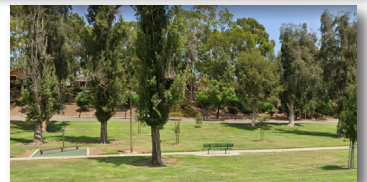


"The bathroom is kinda dirty and smelly."

"If they see a kid's game going on [at the park], they won't go there to do drugs."

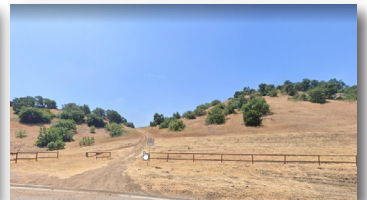
KEY ISSUES

1. There is a serious lack of park land, limiting opportunities for recreation, and growth will only make this problem worse.
2. Parks are not equitably distributed through the city. Serious gaps exist in District 1, District 3, and portions of Districts 4 & 6.
3. Existing parks are intensively programmed, limiting un-programmed open space use, and maintenance concerns have been identified.
4. Youth and adults have voiced concerns about connections to parks, safety, a lack of resources, and a lack of programming.
5. The city is poorly-prepared for the effects of climate change, including resiliency during extreme heat and risks from wildfire.
6. The management of park land and recreational programs is decentralized, unfocused, and has resulted in neglect of our park system.



KEY OPPORTUNITIES

1. The City currently owns and manages 32 acres of land that functions as park but is not designated.
2. The City owns 270 acres that is currently underutilized and has potential as public park land.
3. The Park Impact Fee provides for acquiring and developing new park land - at least 50 acres by 2040 according to projections.
4. Many city street public rights-of-way are wide, and capable of providing complete street services that provide green connections to parks.
5. The City has a thriving public art program which has greatly enhanced existing parks and other public spaces.
6. The people of Pomona, their knowledge, abilities, assets and passion are a major source of strength for the City.



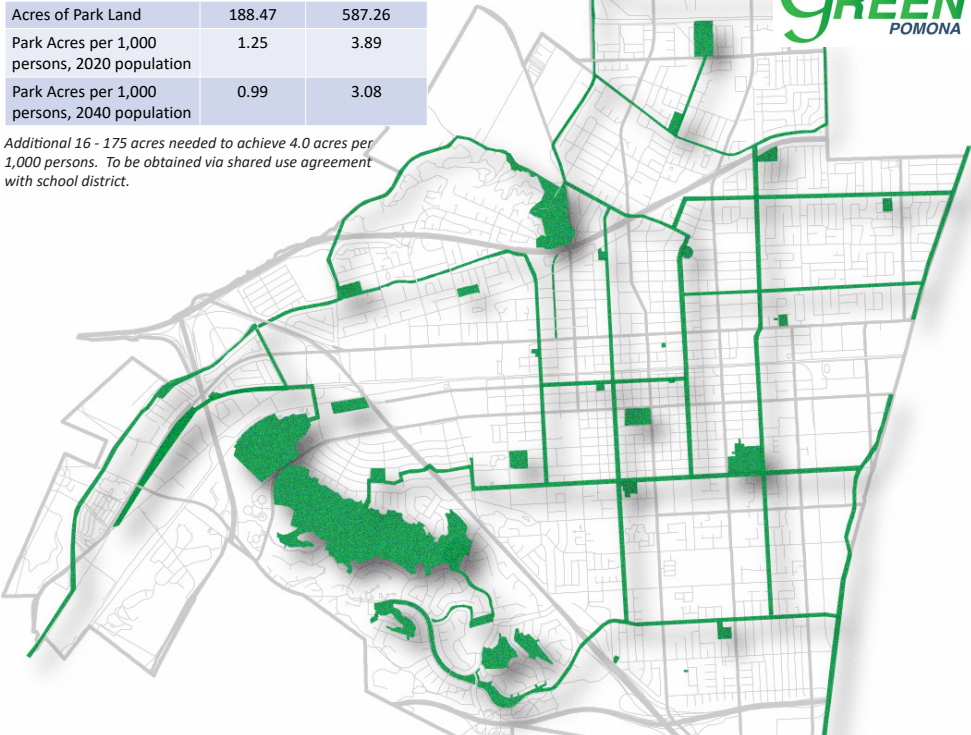
John F. Kennedy Park

A KID-FRIENDLY POMONA PARK SYSTEM

A kid-friendly park system provides opportunities for young people (25% of the city in 2021) to safely and conveniently access well-maintained parks; provides active sports programs, un-programmed play, creative outlets, and opportunities to experience nature; our proposal links diverse parks together across the city via a “tapestry” of green connections that extend the feel of parks throughout the city.

	Existing Park System	Proposed Park System
Acres of Park Land	188.47	587.26
Park Acres per 1,000 persons, 2020 population	1.25	3.89
Park Acres per 1,000 persons, 2040 population	0.99	3.08

Additional 16 - 175 acres needed to achieve 4.0 acres per 1,000 persons. To be obtained via shared use agreement with school district.



PARKS MASTER PLAN GOALS

1. Increase park acreage to 4 acres per 1,000 people.
2. Provide a park or green connection within 1/4 mile of every home.
3. Enhance existing parks to increase activity.
4. Activate parks through expanded recreational programming.
5. Re-Establish a parks and recreation department.

POLICIES TO MAKE THE PLAN A REALITY

1. **INCREASE PARK ACREAGE TO 4 ACRES PER 1,000 PEOPLE**
 - A. Establish policy of no-net loss of park land.
 - B. Designate currently managed land as park land - 32 acres.
 - C. Prioritize conversion of other public lands to park land - 270 acres.
 - D. Acquire Elephant Hill & Valley Blvd Railroad spur for public park land - 97 acres.
2. **PROVIDE A PARK OR GREEN CONNECTION WITHIN 1/4 MILE OF EVERY HOME**
 - A. Prioritize small park land acquisitions in under-served communities for playgrounds and pocket park amenities.
 - B. Implement “Shared Use Agreements” with the Pomona Unified School District focused on active sports - 16 - 175 acres
 - C. Establish a green “tapestry” along select corridors in the city that can provide complete street and/or trail connections to parks.
 - D. Promote Healthy ecosystem function and opportunities for access to nature.
3. **ENHANCE EXISTING PARKS TO INCREASE ACTIVITY**
 - A. Make safe and functioning park restrooms a priority.
 - B. Implement a park steward program.
 - C. Design parks for evening use.
 - D. Plant trees and manage Pomona’s urban forest.
4. **ACTIVATE PARKS THROUGH EXPANDED RECREATIONAL PROGRAMMING**
 - A. Provide formal programming to increase activity in all parks.
 - B. Expand recreation programs for children under 5 years old and special needs populations.
5. **RE-ESTABLISH A PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**
 - A. Commit to unified leadership on management of park assets and provision of community services.
 - B. Leverage relationships with community organizations to build on assets of the community.
 - C. Support establishment of non-profit Parks Foundation.
6. **DEVELOP STRATEGIES TO SUBSIDIZE RECREATIONAL PROGRAMMING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE, INCLUDING SUPPORT FOR LIGHTING NIGHTTIME ACTIVITIES.**

