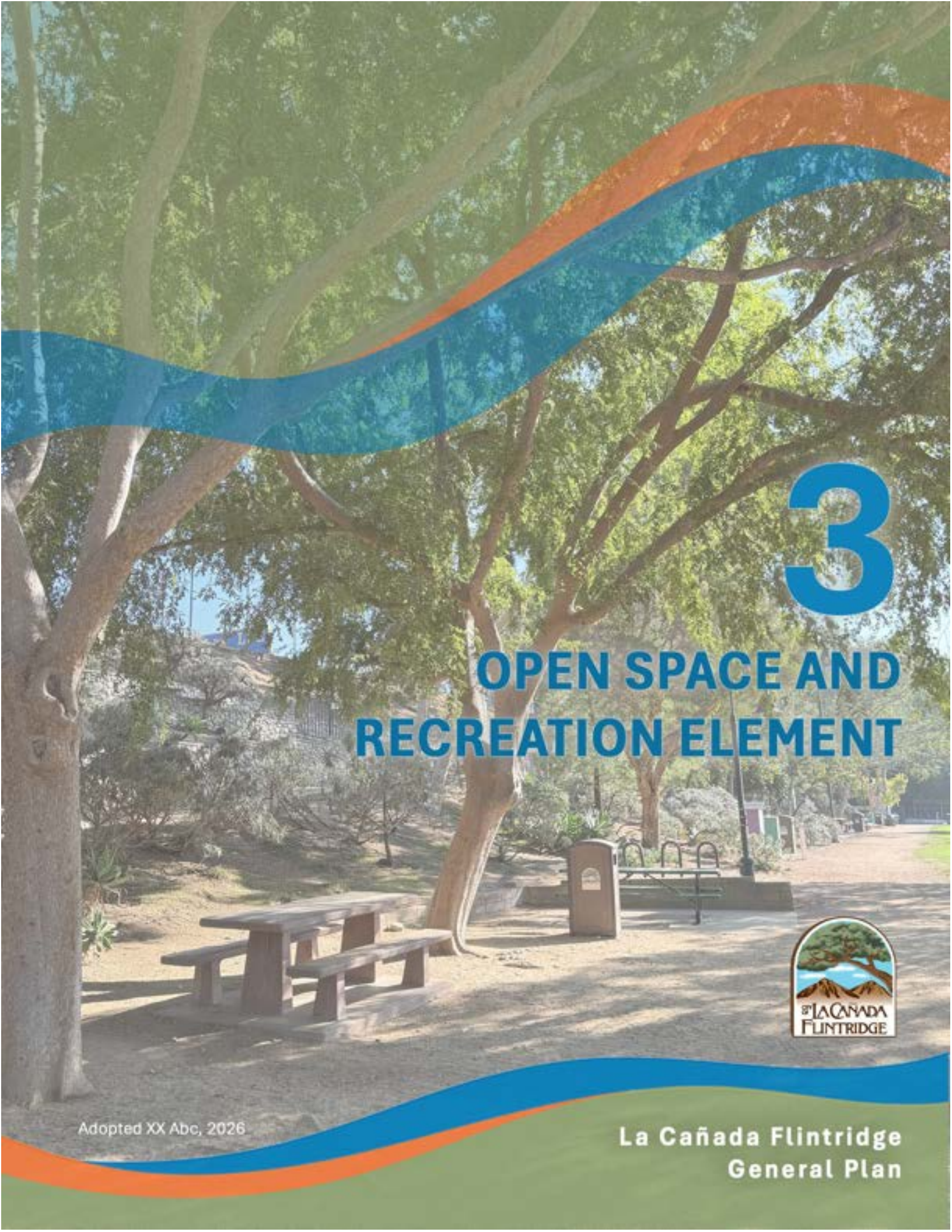




3

OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION ELEMENT



Adopted XX Abc, 2026

La Cañada Flintridge
General Plan



Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION 4

PARKLAND TYPOLOGY 7

TRAIL SYSTEM 12

COMMUNITY FACILITIES 14

PARK LAND GAP ANALYSIS 17

URBAN TREE CANOPY 23

GOALS, POLICIES, AND ACTIONS 28



INTRODUCTION

The Open Space and Recreation Element of the City of La Cañada Flintridge complies with California Government Code Sections 65560 and 65302(e) by providing a framework to preserve, manage, and enhance open spaces, including natural resources, recreation areas, and scenic and historic landscapes, thus contributing to health and wellbeing of the community.



INTRODUCTION

The City of La Cañada Flintridge is home to extensive natural open spaces, public parks, and areas dedicated to both public and private recreational facilities and trails. The City is strategically positioned between the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains and the Angeles National Forest to the north, and the San Rafael Hills to the south.

Since its incorporation, the community has prioritized the preservation and protection of its open space areas. The City encompasses approximately 943 acres of parkland, which includes all areas designated as Parks and Recreation and Open Space on the Land Use Map. Of these, 6.75 acres are categorized as public parks. Many of the undeveloped private lands, generally designated as Hillside Residential, are located on steep and visually prominent hillsides. These hillsides are home to significant environmental and aesthetic resources and are traversed by numerous hiking, bicycling, and equestrian trails.

In addition to the open spaces within the City, substantial recreational facilities and open spaces are nearby, including the Angeles National Forest and the Hahamongna Watershed Park in Pasadena. The City's robust trail system connects to an extensive network of trails in Pasadena, Glendale, Altadena, other unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County, and the Angeles National Forest.

Purpose

The purpose of the Open Space and Recreation Element is to create a framework guiding present and future decisions and investments in parks, trails, recreation, and community facilities across the City of La Cañada Flintridge, contributing to a high quality of life for residents. This element will set goals and policies to preserve, manage, and develop open spaces within the City. It aims to support residents' objectives to preserve and expand the City's natural open spaces, recreation areas, and trails.

The City of La Cañada Flintridge is a built-out city, which makes it challenging to find vacant land for parks, recreation, and trail system expansion. Therefore, the Open Space and Recreation Element aims to support the development and improvement of these facilities by focusing its goals and policies on preserving the existing facilities while finding new ways to add more of these spaces creatively.





Relationship with Other Elements

The Open Space and Recreation Element was developed to safeguard and effectively manage the open space resources and community facilities in the City of La Cañada Flintridge. This element aligns with other elements of the General Plan by implementing cohesive goals and guiding principles. In particular:

- **Land Use Element:** The Land Use Element outlines the proposed uses of land, their intensity, and their location. The Land Use Element supports and complements the Open Space and Recreation Element by designating parcels for parks, recreation, and open space uses, and by aligning land use goals and policies to protect, manage, and enhance these areas.
- **Circulation Element:** The Open Space and Recreation Element may help plan for trails, bike routes, and pedestrian routes. The intercorrelation among these elements enables a well-integrated transportation network and promotes the use of open spaces.
- **Housing Element:** The Open Space and Recreation Element contributes to the Housing Element by planning parks, recreation, and open space areas that new housing developments can benefit from, ensuring residents have access to open spaces and enhancing their quality of life.
- **Conservation Element:** The Open Space and Recreation Element and Conservation Element are interconnected, both focusing on the preservation and management of spaces. However, while the Conservation Element focuses on preserving natural resources, the Open Space and Recreation Element supports these efforts by designating protected areas and promoting environmentally responsible land management practices.
- **Safety Element:** The Open Space and Recreation Element can complement the Safety Element by preserving or proposing green spaces that mitigate natural hazards, such as floodplains, excessive heat, and fire-prone areas. It also supports community resilience by providing open areas for emergency evacuation or as buffer zones in disaster-prone regions.
- **Noise Element:** The Open Space and Recreation Element can serve to maintain natural buffer zones and green spaces that mitigate noise pollution, complementing the goals of the Noise Element.
- **Air Quality Element:** The Open Space and Recreation Element may complement the Air Quality Element by creating policies and goals that preserve open space to reduce pollution.



EXISTING CONDITIONS ANALYSIS



PARKLAND TYPOLOGY

Parks and open spaces play a crucial role in the City of La Cañada Flintridge, providing areas for recreation, relaxation, social gatherings, and outdoor enjoyment. To ensure these areas cater to various needs, cities commonly categorize parks by their size, intended use, and the populations they serve. Generally, cities feature a variety of park types, including mini parks, neighborhood parks, community parks, regional parks, and linear parks.

The City of La Cañada Flintridge is home to a variety of parks and open space areas that provide recreational opportunities for its residents. The City consists of six parks, 18 trails, and five open space areas, including the Descanso Gardens and the La Cañada Flintridge Country Club. The City is also in close proximity to the Angeles National Forest, Hahamongna Watershed Park, the San Rafael Mountains Open Space, and the Verdugo Mountains Open Space Preserves. The City's close proximity to these open spaces and the national forest adds not only to the recreational opportunities for the residents but also contributes to their health and well-being.

A PARK is a designated open space for public recreation and leisure, typically improved with amenities such as lawns, play areas, and sports or picnic facilities. Unlike trails, which are primarily linear corridors for movement, parks serve as destinations for play, relaxation, and community gathering.

Subsequent sections, **FIGURE 1**, and **TABLE 1** documents various parks in the City of La Cañada Flintridge.

Mini Parks

Mini parks are typically less than an acre in size and are usually located within dense neighborhoods, making them a very short walking distance from residences, usually 5-minutes. These parks generally have limited facilities, such as benches, restrooms, and playgrounds. These may also be used as dog parks.

The City of La Cañada Flintridge has a total of four mini parks: Glenhaven Park, Mayors' Discovery Park, Winery Channel Trailhead Park, and Olberz Park. Glenhaven Park is equipped with tennis courts, a playground, and restrooms, catering to both active and passive recreational needs. Olberz Park provides benches and a gazebo, offering peaceful spots for relaxation. Mayors' Discovery Park boasts a discontinued water feature and restrooms. Although these parks are not the largest in size, as shown in **TABLE 1**, they offer a variety of amenities that enhance the community's quality of life.





Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks are typically a few acres in size, ranging from one to ten acres, and generally serve residents within a 10- to 15-minute walk of their homes. These parks often feature playgrounds, restrooms, benches, walking paths, and sometimes basketball or tennis courts. The City of La Cañada Flintridge has two neighborhood parks: Memorial Park and Glenola Park. Memorial Park features a playground for children and convenient restrooms. Glenola Park provides benches and a small gazebo, offering peaceful spots for relaxation.

Community Parks

Community parks typically serve more than one neighborhood and can range from 10 to 40 acres. These parks usually offer a wide array of amenities, including playgrounds, paths, trails, restrooms, picnic areas, and multiple sports facilities. They are often located within 2 to 3 miles of the neighborhoods they serve. The City of La Cañada Flintridge has no community parks at this point.



Regional Parks

Regional parks are typically more than 40 acres and serve more than just one neighborhood or City. These parks often feature picnic areas, athletic fields, event spaces, natural areas, and may have historical features. While the City of La Cañada Flintridge does not have a regional park, it is situated near Hahamongna Regional Park to the south, providing residents with an accessible recreational park.



Linear Parks

Linear parks are typically less than 20 acres and are typically known for their greenway and length. These parks tend to be narrow and run along City edges, major corridors, and large developments. These parks often include seating, trails, picnic areas, and lots of shade. The Southern California Edison easement within the City of La Cañada Flintridge may fit in this category, but it is not owned by the City. However, many residents within the City of La Cañada Flintridge consider the numerous trails within the City to be linear parks.

Other Open Space

The City of La Cañada Flintridge is situated near several prominent open spaces that fulfill multiple roles.

- protect natural resources, such as plant and animal habitats and waterways
- preserve important viewsheds
- support resource protection, including groundwater recharge zones
- serve as electrical transmission corridors
- offer both active and passive recreational opportunities



- support public health and safety by including debris basins, watersheds, unstable soil areas, and high wildfire risk zones, and limiting development in these areas

The Angeles National Forest lies to the north and east of the City, while the Hahamongna Watershed Park is located southeast of the City boundary. Within the City, both public and private parks are available. These include Descanso Gardens, Cherry Canyon, and La Cañada Flintridge Country Club.



Angeles National Forest:

The City of La Cañada Flintridge borders the Angeles National Forest, providing accessible parkland within close proximity to La Cañada Flintridge residents.

National parks and national forests are established by an act of Congress. Proposals for these designations can come from the public, local or state officials, Indian tribes, members of Congress, or the National Park Service. To be considered, the proposed areas must possess nationally significant natural, cultural, or recreational resources. They must also be sustainable, feasible, and require management by the National Park Service.

Hahamongna Watershed Park

Hahamongna Watershed Park, located in the City of Pasadena, borders La Cañada High School and spans more than 1,300 acres in the Arroyo Seco. This regional park serves Pasadena, La Cañada Flintridge,

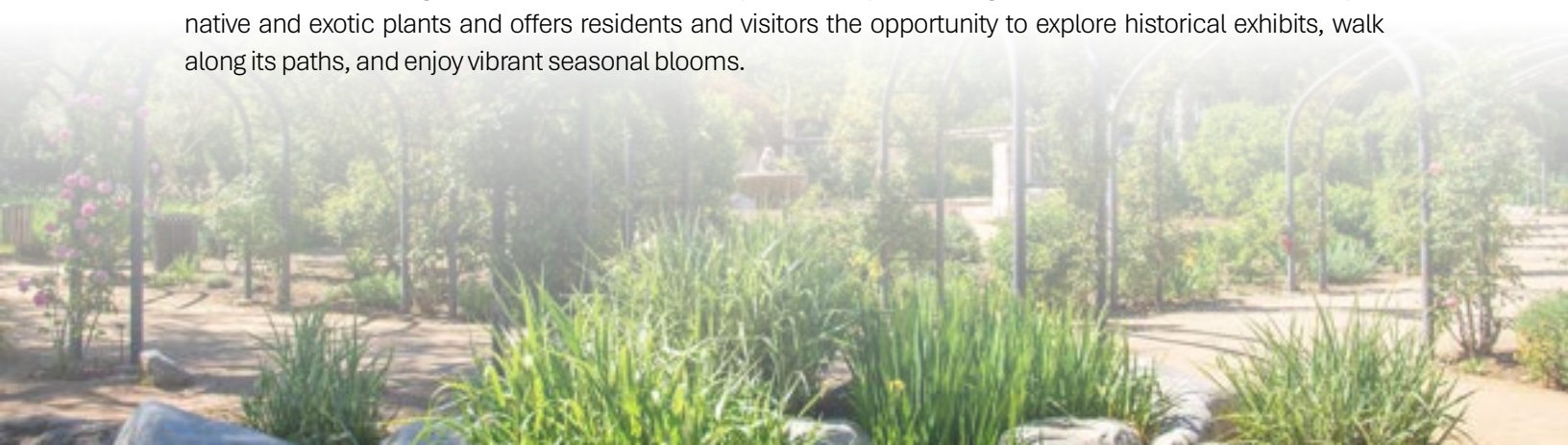
and neighboring cities. Within Hahamongna, visitors can enjoy athletic fields, bridle paths, bicycles, and hiking trails, as well as picnic and barbecue areas.

Gould Canyon/Lukens Connection Open Space

The Gould Canyon Open Space is a natural area with multiple hiking and other outdoor trails. It features rolling hills and scenic views. The Lukens Connection Trail runs through the open space area north and south.

Descanso Gardens

Spanning approximately 150 acres, Descanso Gardens is a nationally accredited botanical garden recognized as a “museum of living collections” that is owned by the County of Los Angeles. It is home to a diverse array of native and exotic plants and offers residents and visitors the opportunity to explore historical exhibits, walk along its paths, and enjoy vibrant seasonal blooms.





Cherry Canyon

Located adjacent to Descanso Gardens, Cherry Canyon spans approximately 137 acres. It features an extensive network of trails that weave through its terrain, offering breathtaking views of the surrounding mountains and valleys.

La Cañada Country Club

This is a premier recreational facility situated in the scenic foothills of the City of La Cañada Flintridge. The approximately 88-acre private club maintains an 18-hole golf course, tennis courts, a swimming pool, fitness facilities, and dining options.

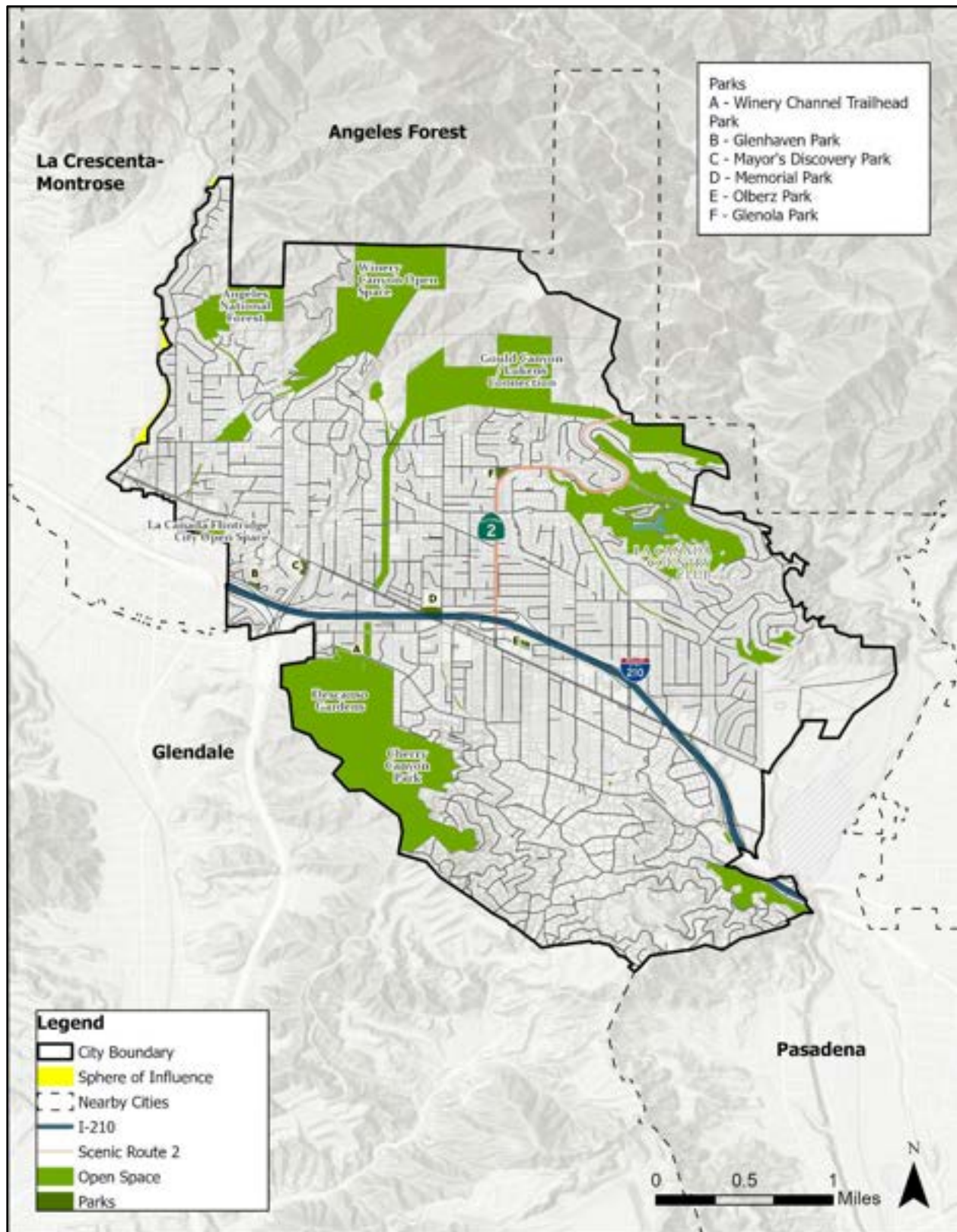
Winery Canyon Open Space

Positioned in the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains, Winery Canyon Open Space encompasses approximately 343 acres. Through Winery Canyon Open Space runs the Hall Beckley Canyon Trail in its southern portion.

TABLE 1: PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

Park/Open Space Name	Acres
Parks in the City	
Mayor's Discovery Park	0.94 acres
Glenhaven Park	0.47 acres
Olberz Park	0.75 acres
Memorial Park	1.65 acres
Glenola Park	1.13 acres
Winery Channel Trailhead Park	1.81 acres
Park Total	6.75 acres
Other Open Space	
Descanso Gardens	150 acres
Cherry Canyon Park	137 acres
La Cañada Country Club	88 acres
Winery Canyon Open Space	343 acres
La Cañada Flintridge City Open Space*	5.4 acres
Gould Canyon/Luckens Connection	64 acres
Los Angeles County Flood Control District	88.25 acres
US Government – Angeles National Forest	44 acres
Southern California Edison Easement**	17 acres
Open Space Total	936.65 acres
TOTAL Acreage	943.4
Note: The table excludes Hahamongna Watershed Park and portions of the Angeles National Forest outside of the City boundaries. The acreages are based on the GIS Data provided by the City of La Cañada Flintridge. These may differ from previous versions of the General Plan. * City-owned vacant hillside property. **Owned by Southern California Edison. Acreage is approximate. Source: County of Los Angeles and City of La Cañada Flintridge, GIS Data	

FIGURE 1: OPEN SPACE IN LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE





TRAIL SYSTEM

Trails are an important part of La Cañada Flintridge and have existed in the City since its settlement. When the hills of Flintridge were originally subdivided in the 1920s, bridle paths were included in the subdivision plans. Additionally, in 1996, the American Hiking Society designated the City of La Cañada Flintridge as a "Trail Town, USA," ranking it among the top ten towns in the country.

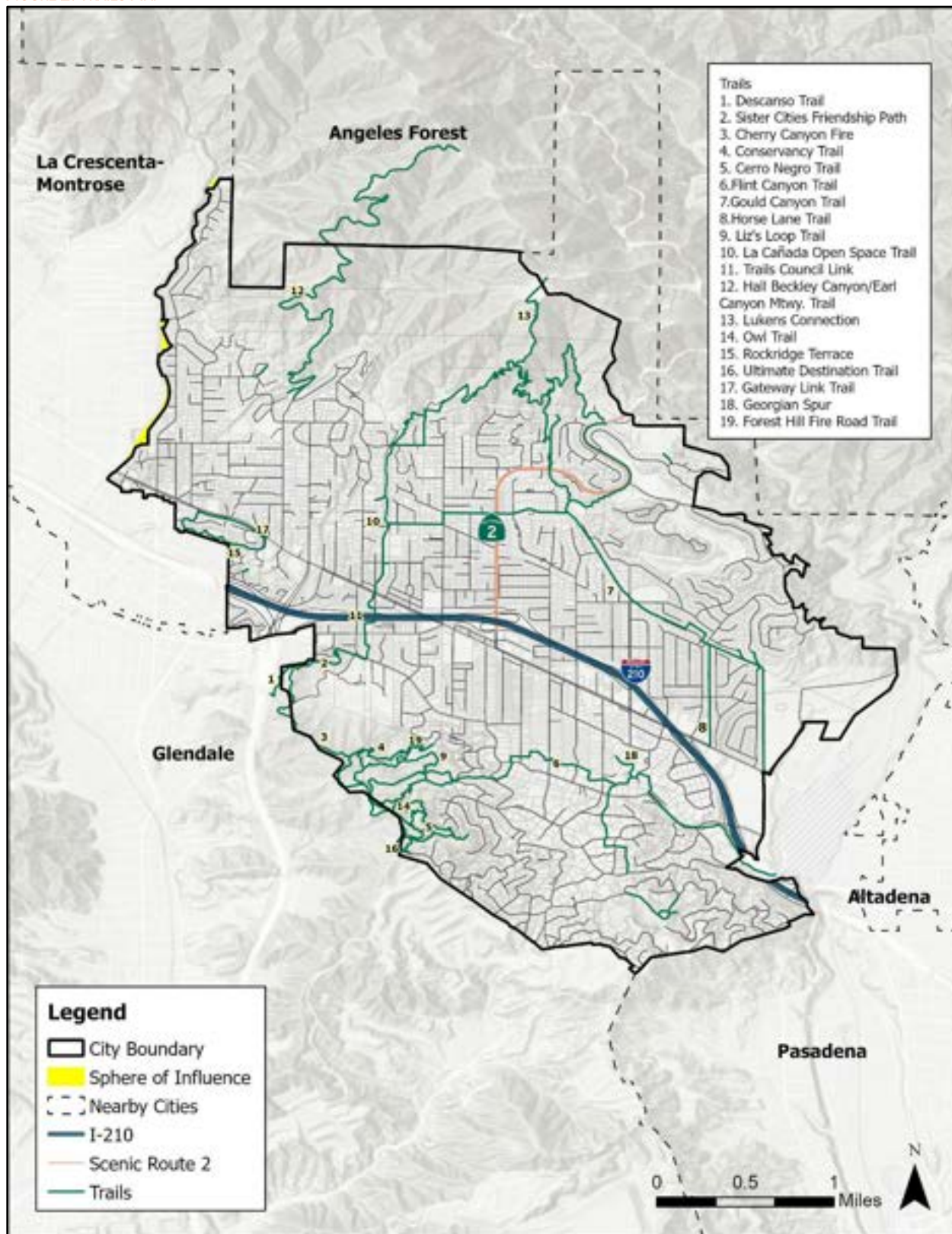
The City has placed a high priority on the preservation, maintenance, and expansion of the trail system within the City and in 2006 adopted the City of La Cañada Flintridge Trails Master Plan. This master plan was created by the La Cañada Flintridge Trails Council and adopted by the City. The Trails Council is a nonprofit, volunteer organization founded in 1974, just two years before the official incorporation of the City of La Cañada Flintridge. The Trails Council spearheads many projects, including maintenance and trail restoration, funded through donations, including those from the City. La Cañada Flintridge has 19 trails totaling approximately 23 miles.

TABLE 2 and **FIGURE 2** break down the trails located within the City and the length of each trail. The Trails Council, in coordination with the City, is updating the Trails Master Plan as of this writing.

TABLE 2: EXISTING TRAILS

Park/Open Space Name	Length (Miles)	Trail Type
Cerro Negro Trail	1.16 miles	Equestrian, Pedestrian, Bicycle
Cherry Canyon Fire Road	1.14 miles	Equestrian, Pedestrian, Bicycle
Conservancy Trail	0.7 miles	Equestrian, Pedestrian, Bicycle
Descanso Trail	1.8 miles	Equestrian, Pedestrian, Bicycle
Flint Canyon Trail	2.4 miles	Equestrian, Pedestrian, Bicycle
Gateway Link Trail	0.35 miles	Equestrian, Pedestrian, Bicycle
Hall Beckley Canyon/ Earl Canyon Mtwy. Trail	3.61 miles	Equestrian, Pedestrian, Bicycle
Georgian Spur Trail	0.18 miles	Equestrian, Pedestrian, Bicycle
Gould Canyon Trail	2.9 miles	Equestrian, Pedestrian, Bicycle
Horse Lane Trail	0.56 miles	Equestrian, Pedestrian, Bicycle
La Cañada Open Space Trail	3.7 miles	Equestrian, Pedestrian, Bicycle
Liz's Loop Trail	0.39 miles	Equestrian, Pedestrian, Bicycle
Lukens Connection Trail	0.2 miles	Equestrian, Pedestrian, Bicycle
Owl Trail	0.5 miles	Equestrian, Pedestrian, Bicycle
Sister City Friendship Path	0.3 miles	Equestrian, Pedestrian, Bicycle
Trails Council Link	0.5 miles	Equestrian, Pedestrian, Bicycle
Ultimate Destination Trail	0.3 miles to 0.5 miles	Equestrian, Pedestrian, Bicycle
Rockridge Terrace	0.69 miles	Equestrian, Pedestrian, Bicycle
Forest Hill Fire Road Trail	0.7 Miles	Equestrian, Pedestrian, Bicycle
TOTAL Acreage	22.28	
Source: Trails Council and City of La Cañada Flintridge		
Note: Motorized vehicles are not allowed on trails except for maintenance purposes.		

FIGURE 2: TRAILS MAP





COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The Open Space and Recreation Element evaluates community facilities, including schools, athletic fields, libraries, and community centers, within the City of La Cañada Flintridge. By assessing these facilities, the City can evaluate current availability, plan for future needs, and either preserve existing facilities or establish agreements for their use. Given that the City is built out, creating new spaces and facilities may be challenging, making it even more important to use and maintain existing facilities effectively. Community facilities are essential for residents, providing valuable recreational opportunities and enhancing the quality of life in the City.

Schools

Within the City of La Cañada Flintridge, there are 12 schools, of which only 4 are public. The school breakdown within the City can be seen in **TABLE 3** below. Schools are essential components of a community, bringing everyone together, not just families with children. Many times, these schools serve as meeting grounds; they are often located near parks, playgrounds, and athletic fields, making them ideal locations for additional services such as food drives, health fairs, and more. The City of La Cañada Flintridge is served by the La Cañada Unified School District, which includes three elementary schools, a middle school, and a high school that share a campus. The City of La Cañada Flintridge and La Cañada Unified School District have a joint use agreement, which is discussed further in the Recreation section of this Element.

TABLE 3: SCHOOLS IN LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE

School Name	School Type
La Cañada Middle/High School	Public
La Cañada Elementary School	Public
Paradise Canyon Elementary School	Public
Palm Crest Elementary School	Public
Flintridge Sacred Heart Academy	Private
Flintridge Preparatory School	Private
Foothill Progressive Montessori School	Private
La Canada Preparatory School	Private
Hogg's Hollow Preschool & Kindergarten	Private
St. Francis High School	Private
Crestview Preparatory School	Private
St. Bede the Venerable Catholic School	Private
Lighted Window Preschool	Non-Profit
Source: City of La Cañada Flintridge	

Libraries and Community Centers

The City of La Cañada Flintridge only has one library located at 4545 North Oakwood Avenue, serviced by the Los Angeles County Library Department, and one Community Center located at 4469 Chevy Chase Drive (see **FIGURE 3**). The Community Center, a property owned by the City, is operated by the non-profit organization Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge. They offer programs for all ages, including ceramic classes, S.T.E.M. programs for children, sports and fitness activities, arts programs, and camps during summer and school breaks. These programs provide residents with opportunities to engage with their community and stay active.



Active Recreation

Active recreation involves more vigorous, structured activities, often played in organized teams, such as baseball, soccer, and football. The City of La Cañada Flintridge has ten athletic fields (see [FIGURE 3](#) and [TABLE 4](#)) that are available for public use through collaboration with the La Cañada Unified School District and an agreement with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints to utilize their athletic fields as joint use facilities.

The trails are generally used for passive recreation and leisure activities that do not require intensive physical effort, such as walking. However, many residents and local teams in La Cañada Flintridge use the trail system for cross-country, cycling, and running, making it part of the City's active recreational facilities.

Each year, the City releases a master field use schedule for community sports groups in coordination with La Cañada Unified School District and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and allocates field permits to sports groups. Additionally, there are limitations on field use at the La Cañada High School Oak Grove Athletic Field, which allows use only for soccer and for children 8 and under. Similarly, the Cornishon Athletic Field allows only children 12 and under for specific activities, and the Latter-Day Saints Athletic Field is available to children 12 and under and is not open to the public on Sundays. The school fields are closed during the La Cañada Unified School District winter break. The 2025 amendment to the joint-use agreement between the City and La Cañada Unified School District adjusted field hours, shifting weekday use to start later and reserving certain fields for school sports, thereby reducing public access time. The City's Administrative Services Department and the Joint Use Committee must balance limited field availability against high demand from schools, community programs, and private sports teams.

TABLE 4: RECREATION FACILITIES IN LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE

Location	Field Type	Public Usage of School Facilities (Hours)	
		On School Days	On No-School Days
La Cañada High School Athletic Fields (Varsity, JV, Oak Grove)	Soccer, Football, Baseball	<u>Monday, Wednesday, Friday</u> 5:30 PM – 11:00 PM <u>Tuesdays and Thursdays</u> 6:00 PM – 11:00 PM	7:00 AM to 11:00 PM
Cornishon Athletic Field	Tennis Courts, Pickleball Courts, Baseball	3:00 PM – 11:00 PM	7:00 AM to 11:00 PM
FIS Athletic Field (Upper and Lower Field)	Baseball, Soccer	<u>Upper Field</u> 3:15 PM – 11:00 PM <u>Lower Field</u> 5:00 PM – 11:00 PM	7:00 AM to 11:00 PM
Paradise Canyon Elementary Athletic Field	Soccer, Basketball	4:45 PM – 11:00 PM	7:00 AM to 11:00 PM
La Cañada Elementary Athletic Field	Baseball, Basketball	4:45 PM – 11:00 PM	7:00 AM to 11:00 PM
Latter-Day Saints Athletic Field	Baseball	<u>Monday – Saturday</u> non-school hours	7:00 AM to 11:00 PM
Source: City of La Cañada Flintridge			



FIGURE 3: COMMUNITY FACILITIES MAP





PARK LAND GAP ANALYSIS

A parkland gap analysis is used to identify areas or demographic groups within a community that lack adequate access to parks and recreational open spaces. It compares where parks currently exist with where people live and how easily they can reach them, using measures such as walking distance (e.g., a 10-minute walk), population density, and demographic or equity indicators.

Park Ratio per 1,000 Residents

The City of La Cañada Flintridge has 6.75 acres of public park space for its population of 20,573 (2020 Decennial Census). This translates to a ratio of 0.33 park acres per 1,000 residents. The Los Angeles County average is 3.3 park acres per 1,000 residents¹. Additionally, according to the National Recreation and Park Association's 2025 Agency Performance Review, a typical park and recreation agency in the U.S. manages 10.2 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. The National Recreation and Park Association is an independent, non-profit organization and is the primary professional organization within park planning. Based on County and National Park acreage-to-resident ratios, the City lacks sufficient parkland for its population. However, the City has more than 800 acres of open space and 24 miles of trails that residents may access or have visual relief from urban development. While these are not traditional parkland spaces in terms of usability, they provide recreational opportunities such as trails for residents to enjoy (See **TABLE 1** and **TABLE 2**). As part of the Open Space and Recreation Element, the City may assess existing parks and their infrastructure to ensure equitable access and to maintain the quality and accessibility of the City's limited park space.

5-minute and 10-minute Walkshed

A 5-minute (quarter mile) and 10-minute (half mile) walkshed assessment was conducted to further evaluate residents' access to six parks and ten trailheads within the City of La Cañada Flintridge (See **FIGURE 4** and **FIGURE 5**). The parks in La Cañada Flintridge are located close together on the west side of the city, near the central area and Interstate 210. Therefore, only 59 percent of residents are within a 5- or 10-minute walkshed of parks within the city, according to Park Serve². However, due to the City's proximity to open spaces and parks outside the city boundary, residents may access parks that are not within the city limits.

According to **FIGURE 4**, there are gaps in park access in the northern and southern parts of the city. To the north, Hall Beckley Canyon and Webber Canyon, along with some trails and the Angeles National Forest outside the City limits, may provide access points within a quarter- or half-mile radius. Nevertheless, not all residents are near these access points, making these spaces more of a visual relief than usable green spaces. To the south, Cherry Canyon Park and Hahamongna Watershed Park, just outside the city boundary, offer additional green spaces for residents in the southern portion of the city. To the northeast is La Cañada Flintridge Country Club, which, despite an entrance fee, may still provide visual relief for nearby residents.

The city also has various trails and open spaces. **FIGURE 5** shows access to trails via trailheads within 5- and 10-minute walking distance. If trailheads and open spaces were considered, residents' access to parks across the city would significantly increase due to the extensive open spaces and trails within and near the city limits. Note that informal trail access has not been included in this analysis, although it may substantially increase access to parks and recreation.

¹ Los Angeles County. Countywide Comprehensive Park & Recreation Needs Assessment: Appendix A- City of La Cañada Flintridge, Study Area Profile. Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, May 3, 2016.

² Trust for Public Land. ParkServe. Available at: <https://www.tpl.org/parkserve>. Accessed January 22, 2026.



FIGURE 6 highlights priority areas for new park development in the La Cañada Flintridge region by integrating environmental, health, and demographic indicators based on the data provided by ParkServe. The areas marked in purple, particularly in the central and southeastern parts of the City, are identified as having the greatest need for additional park space. These areas also experience overlapping challenges, such as high heat exposure, elevated rates of physical inactivity, and older adults and children. According to the American Community Survey (2021), La Cañada Flintridge's population includes approximately 15 percent aged 65 and older and 26 percent under 19, representing residents who often have limited access to personal vehicles. These age groups depend more heavily on walkable connections, nearby parks, and trail networks to reach recreation areas safely and independently, underscoring the need for well-connected, accessible open space throughout the city. Expanding green spaces in these zones would not only enhance equitable access to recreation but also help mitigate environmental health risks like urban heat and air pollution.

Equitable Access to Parks

In light of Senate Bill (SB) 1425 (2023), which requires cities to address equitable access to parks, open space, and recreational facilities as part of their General Plan updates, La Cañada Flintridge must ensure that all residents, regardless of income, age, or ability, have fair access to quality recreational opportunities. While the CalEnviroScreen tool shows no disadvantaged communities within the City, equity extends beyond socioeconomic status to include fairness across age groups and abilities. SB 1425 highlights the importance of equitable park distribution, accessibility, and amenities to prevent disparities and to ensure that children, seniors, and individuals with disabilities have equal opportunities to enjoy safe, high-quality parks and open spaces.

La Cañada Flintridge has a Walk Score of 34 out of 100 and a Bike Score of 25 out of 100³, indicating it is largely car-dependent with limited pedestrian and cycling infrastructure. The city's hilly terrain and dispersed land-use pattern make walking and biking less convenient, highlighting the need for improved active-transportation connections to parks, schools, and neighborhood destinations.

Los Angeles County 2022 Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment

According to the Los Angeles County 2022 Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment Plus, West San Gabriel Valley Regional Study Area Profile Report, the majority of La Cañada Flintridge residents live within a 5-mile drive of a regional recreation park. The entire city is within a 5-mile drive of a Nature-Based Recreation Area entry point. The report also indicates that a significant portion of La Cañada Flintridge residents are within a 0.5-mile walk and a 2.5-mile bicycle ride of a trailhead or access point. Residents of La Cañada Flintridge with vehicles and bicycles may have greater access to green spaces, as they can reach them faster than individuals without a vehicle. Overall, the City of La Cañada Flintridge is well positioned near green spaces.

³ Walk Score. Cities and Neighborhoods. Available at: <https://www.walkscore.com/cities-and-neighborhoods/>. Accessed January 22, 2026.

FIGURE 4: 5- AND 10-MINUTE WALKSHED FROM PARKS

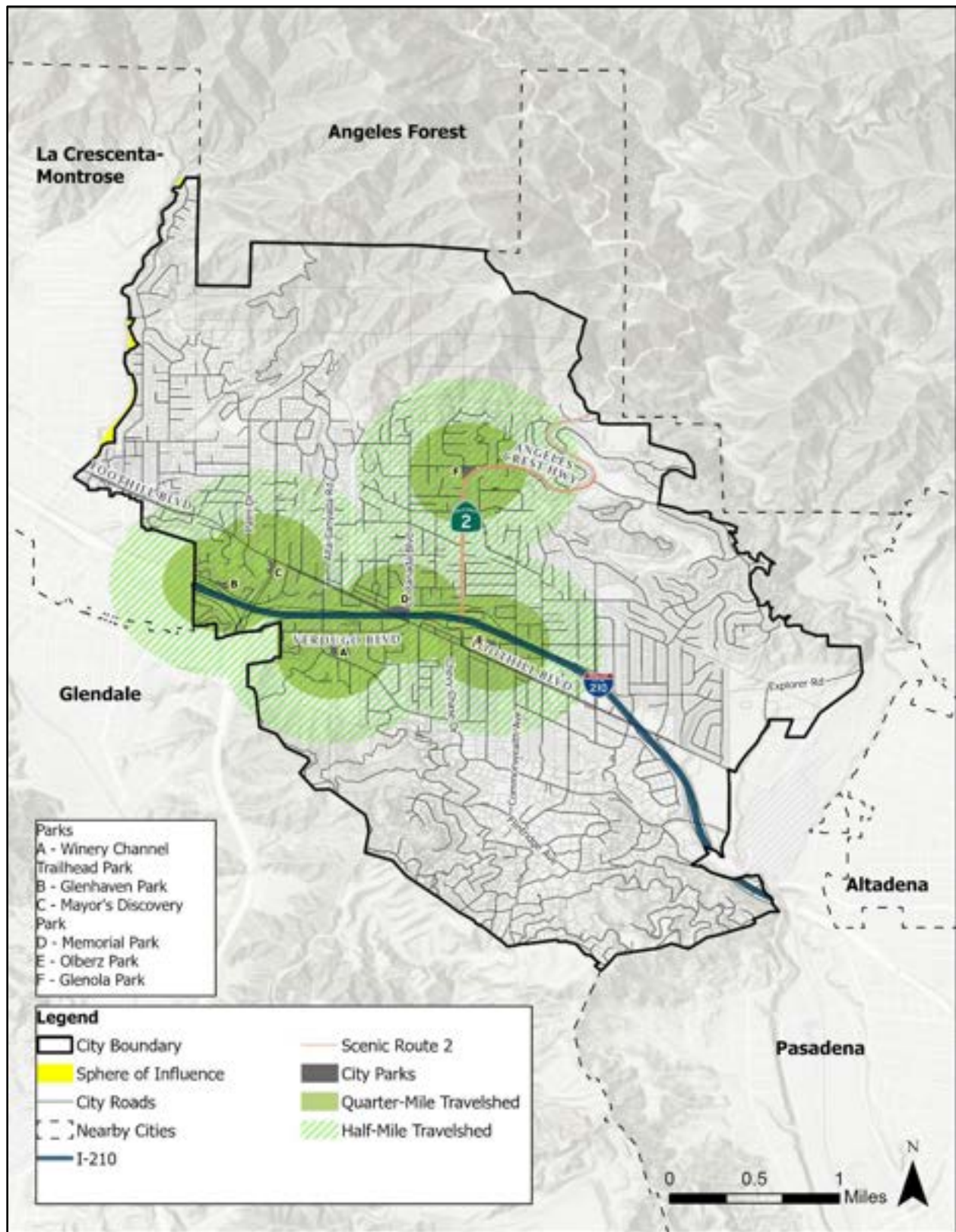


FIGURE 5: 5- AND 10-MINUTE WALKSHED FROM TRAIL HEADS

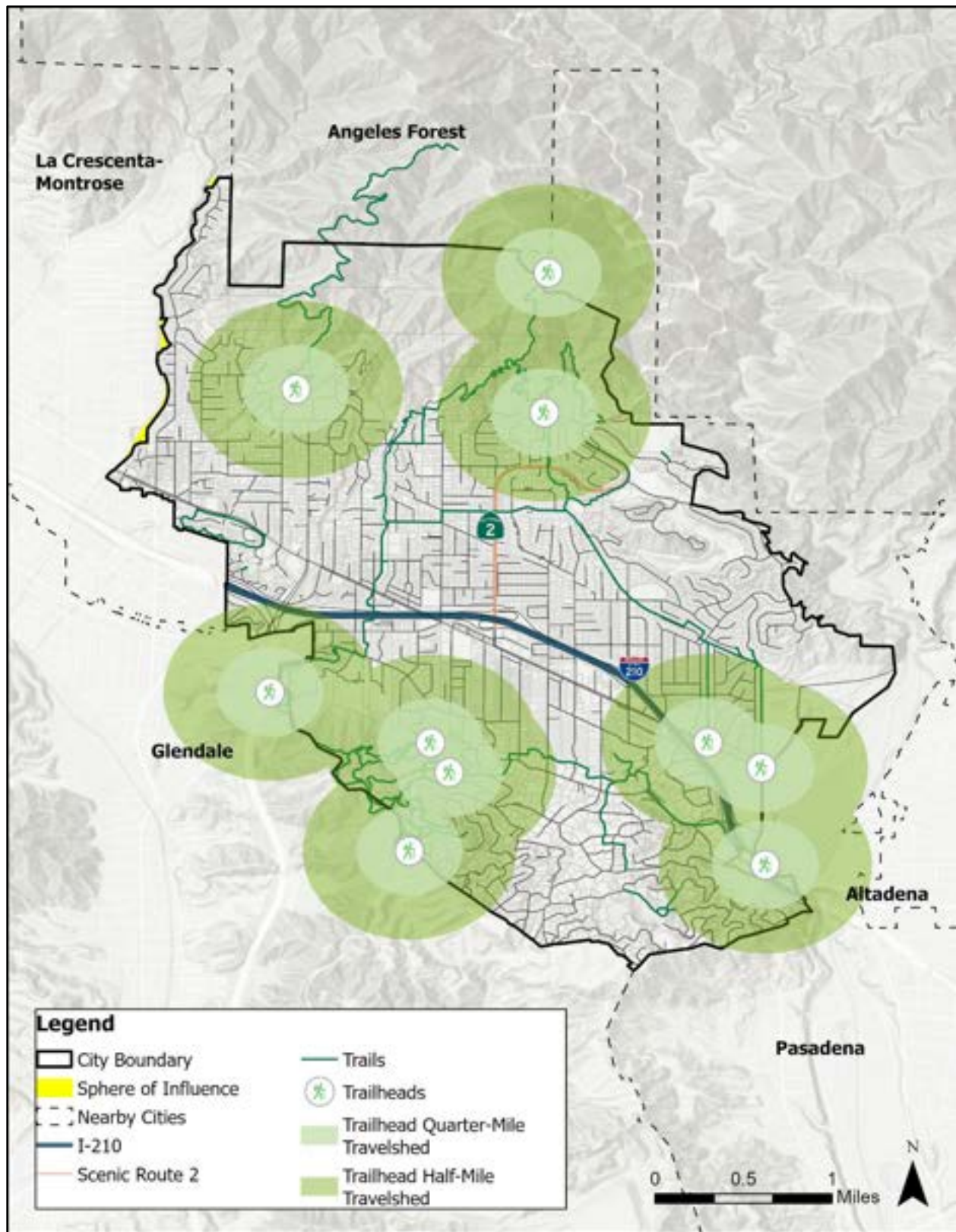
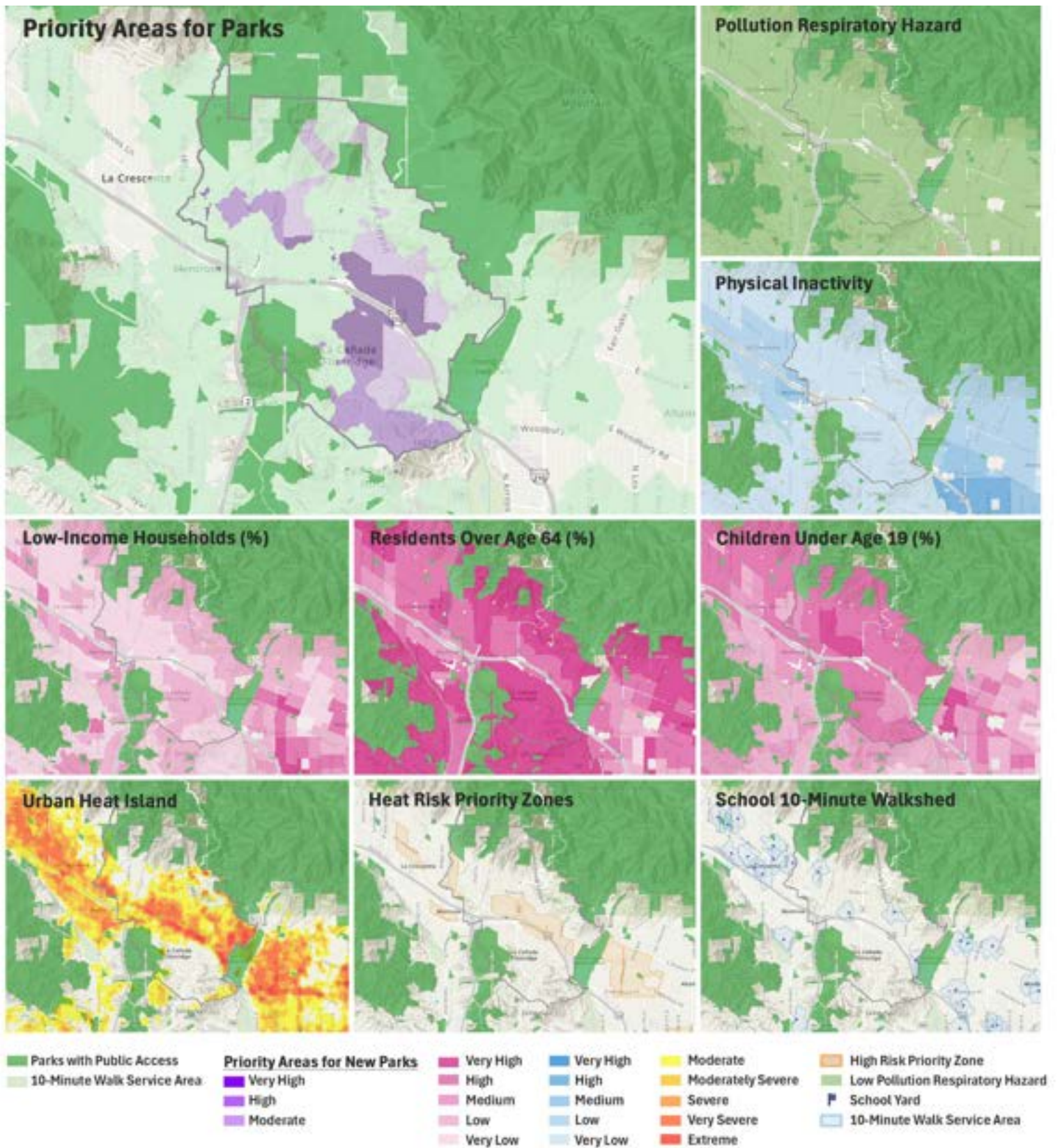




FIGURE 6: PRIORITY AREAS FOR PARKS



Gap in Athletic Fields

The lack of City-owned athletic fields and dependence on shared facilities with schools and churches indicate a shortage of athletic fields, especially for teams serving children 12 and older, who must seek opportunities outside the city amid an already constrained supply of athletic fields in neighboring jurisdictions. Non-residents must pay surcharges to use athletic facilities in nearby cities such as Pasadena and Glendale, where local priority policies limit access to fields for outside users. According to each City's Open Space and Recreation Element, both jurisdictions face limited availability of athletic fields relative to community demand. Pasadena notes a shortage of regulation-sized fields and scheduling conflicts among youth leagues, while Glendale identifies capacity constraints and high utilization rates across its sports fields. Consequently, regional access to athletic fields remains competitive, further restricting options for La Cañada Flintridge teams seeking practice or game space outside City limits.



As part of the General Plan, it is important to explore creative, multifaceted strategies to expand access to athletic fields in a largely built-out community. Potential approaches may include partnerships with the La Cañada Unified School District for expanded joint-use agreements, repurposing underutilized public land or community spaces for multi-functional recreation, or investing in alternative turf and lighting upgrades to extend play hours on existing fields. The City may also explore opportunities for strategic land acquisition to develop new athletic facilities, particularly in areas underserved by parkland or active recreation space. Additional strategies could include shared-use partnerships with neighboring jurisdictions or organizations, as well as the potential use of utility corridors or easements for informal recreational uses. Collectively, these options could help address growing community demand, particularly for youth sports, and align with long-term goals to enhance equitable access to high-quality recreational amenities.

Promoting Health and Well-Being

Access to open spaces, parks, trails, and nature reserves plays a crucial role in enhancing public health. Access to these areas encourages physical activity, which can help reduce the risk of obesity, heart disease, and other chronic conditions. Additionally, spending time in natural settings has been shown to reduce stress, improve mental health, and boost overall well-being. Green spaces also provide social benefits by serving as communal areas where people can gather, fostering a sense of community and social cohesion. The Open Space and Recreation element can serve as a tool for planning these types of spaces and promoting health and well-being. The availability and accessibility of open spaces are vital for promoting both physical and mental health in communities.



URBAN TREE CANOPY

Urban Heat Island Impact

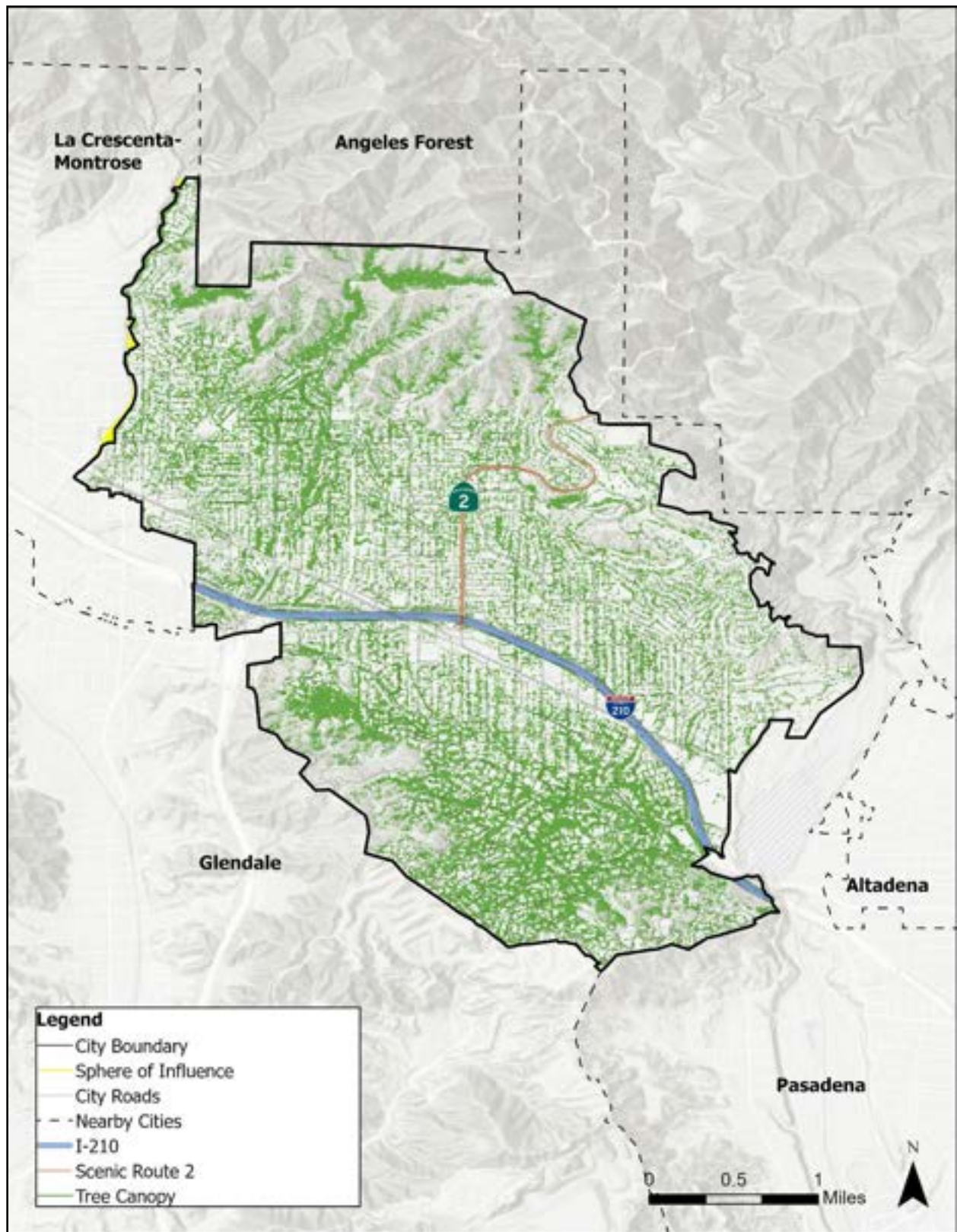
The Urban Heat Island Effect is the phenomenon in which urbanized regions experience higher ambient temperatures than nearby rural areas. This temperature disparity results from the replacement of natural vegetation with materials such as concrete, asphalt, and buildings. La Cañada Flintridge's 2024 Climate Action Plan sets a goal of conducting a heat study and mapping the results to identify areas within the City that could be classified as urban heat islands. Elevated temperatures pose significant health risks and place considerable strain on local infrastructure. Increased reliance on air conditioning can overwhelm the power grid, leading to energy shortages and higher emissions.

Urban tree canopy is the amount of shade produced by a tree or group of trees. The United States Department of Agriculture Forest Services, in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), developed a statewide Urban Tree Canopy database for California. According to this data, the City of La Cañada Flintridge has a 35.8% urban tree canopy, covering 1,983.8 acres. In comparison, Los Angeles County has about 20% urban canopy cover. As seen in **FIGURE 7**, the majority of the City has some tree canopy cover with higher tree canopy coverage in the southern portion of the City.





FIGURE 7: URBAN TREE CANOPY





Wildfire Versus Tree Canopy

In a very high fire hazard zone, having a dense tree canopy without proper upkeep can significantly increase the risk of wildfires. Overgrown and poorly maintained trees can accumulate dead branches, leaves, and other debris, all of which create highly flammable fuel that can easily ignite and spread a fire. This not only endangers the natural landscape but also poses severe threats to structures and the safety of the community. Therefore, it is crucial to strike a balance between preserving open spaces and tree canopies and ensuring sufficient fire safety measures. Regular tree maintenance, such as trimming, removal of dead wood, and creation of defensible spaces, helps mitigate these hazards. By adopting a proactive approach to tree management, the City can maintain its green spaces and natural beauty while prioritizing the safety and well-being of its residents and infrastructure.

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection develops wildfire hazard severity maps that identify areas at elevated wildfire risk and the agencies responsible for emergency response within those zones. The entire City of La Cañada Flintridge is located within a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. As a result, the City needs to implement and maintain adequate measures that reduce wildfire risk, including vegetation management, fuel reduction, and other fire-prevention strategies consistent with state and local fire safety requirements.

Additionally, the City advises residents to maintain a 30-foot fire-resistant zone around their homes to help protect against wildfires. This involves removing debris, flammable items, and dry leaves within this 30-foot perimeter. La Cañada Flintridge also holds an annual Community Preparedness Day event to discuss wildfire prevention. The city has also initiated a No Parking during Red Flag Warning Program⁴ in response to past fire events, to have clear access to roads during emergencies. Red flag warnings in Los Angeles County are issued when humidity is below 15 percent and sustained winds are 25 mph or greater.

The Los Angeles County Fire Department, which serves the City of La Cañada Flintridge, conducts an Annual Defensible Space Inspection Program⁵. Through this program, the Los Angeles County Fire Department provides defensible space clearance notices to property owners in High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones within its jurisdiction. As all homes in La Cañada Flintridge are located within a very high fire hazard severity zone, they are subject to these inspections. This program aims to reduce the risk of wildfires and enhance community safety.

The Los Angeles County Fire Department also provides Zone-Specific Plant Selection Guidelines for Fuel Modification. These guidelines classify the type of plants that can be selected within specific zones: Zone A (within 30 feet of a structure or property line), Zone B (30 to 100 feet from a structure), and Zone C (100 to 200 feet from a structure or adjacent to access roads). Adhering to this plan is crucial for reducing fire hazards, creating defensible space, mitigating fire spread, maintaining visual appeal, and ensuring that the selected plants are well-suited to the local environment. All new development and major expansions of existing property within the city are subject to the Fuel Modification requirements.

The City of La Cañada Flintridge has implemented a four-year grid trimming program, ensuring that all trees within the City's right-of-way or on City property are trimmed at least once every five years. As part of this

⁴ City of La Cañada Flintridge. Red Flag Warning Program. Available at: <https://lcf.ca.gov/public-safety/redflaginfo/>. Accessed January 22, 2026.

⁵ Los Angeles County Fire Department. Defensible Space Program. Available at: <https://fire.lacounty.gov/fire-hazard-reduction-programs/>. Accessed January 22, 2026.



General Plan, the City may evaluate the program to determine whether trimming should occur more frequently. Additionally, the City provides a public form to request an evaluation of a tree for further trimming, watering, or when a tree is damaged or at risk of falling. The City's Municipal Code, specifically Chapter 11.40, addresses the preservation, protection, and removal of trees on private property. This code mandates that protected private trees may be removed only by an authorized arborist or the homeowner with a permit. It also provides residents with a replacement tree chart and lists penalties for tree removals without a City-issued permit. Protected trees within La Cañada Flintridge include certain Oaks and Sycamore trees with a diameter of 12 inches or greater in R-1 Single Family Residential Zones, Deodar Cedars within the Historic Deodar District, any tree over five feet in height in non-R-1 zones, and all trees on public property or within the right-of-way. The City has established tree preservation and protection guidelines to help residents effectively manage and protect trees on their private property.

The comprehensive measures implemented by the City of La Cañada Flintridge, together with the Los Angeles County Fire Department and CAL FIRE, form a robust strategy to combat wildfire risks and create defensible space. By enforcing municipal tree-preservation and protection codes, conducting annual defensible-space inspections, and providing plant-selection guidelines, the City ensures its policies align with best practices in wildfire prevention. Community initiatives, such as maintaining fire-resistant zones around homes and hosting annual preparedness events, further empower residents to take proactive steps to safeguard their properties. Collectively, these efforts foster a safer, more resilient community capable of withstanding the dangers posed by wildfires.

To better protect residents from extreme heat, La Cañada Flintridge may consider prioritizing investments in public infrastructure. This could include using heat-efficient materials, providing shade and hydration options at bus shelters, establishing designated cooling centers for extreme heat events, and introducing cool pavements. Cool pavements are innovative surfaces designed to reduce the heat absorbed and emitted by traditional pavement materials. These pavements use materials with higher solar reflectance (albedo) and better heat dissipation properties. By reflecting more sunlight and absorbing less heat, cool pavements can significantly lower surface temperatures and reduce the urban heat island effect. Additionally, cool pavements can improve comfort for pedestrians and cyclists, enhance pavement durability by reducing thermal stress, and potentially lower energy costs for nearby buildings by mitigating surrounding heat. Implementing cool pavement solutions could involve using lighter-colored or specially coated materials in streets, sidewalks, and parking lots. Within this General Plan, the City may consider conducting a pavement inventory to identify potential improvements.





GOALS, POLICIES, AND ACTIONS



GOALS, POLICIES, AND ACTIONS

The goals, policies, and actions in the Open Space and Recreation Element promote the expansion, preservation and enhancement of the City's open space, recreation, and trails resources. They emphasize and support the interrelationships among all General Plan elements to achieve a community in which parkland resources also support land use, circulation, conservation, and safety.

OSRE Goal 1.0: Create an integrated, connected system of parks, recreation facilities, open space, and trails that serve residents of all ages and abilities while protecting the City's natural resources.

OSRE Policy 1.1: Plan, develop, and maintain a cohesive parkland system that balances active recreation, passive open space, trails, and natural resource protection and reflects community needs and demographic trends.

OSRE Action 1.1.1: Use watershed analysis, demographic data, heat exposure, and age-based needs to identify priority areas for park, trailhead, or micro-open-space investments, with a focus on neighborhoods outside 5- and 10-minute access areas.

OSRE Action 1.1.2: Assess the feasibility of impact fees to create or upgrade parks and/or recreation facilities as well as to require the inclusion of permanently dedicated open space and/or recreation facilities within new residential developments in accordance with the Quimby Act.

OSRE Action 1.1.3: Work with the school district to assess existing athletic fields to identify opportunities for targeted upgrades such as surface improvements, synthetic turf, lighting, or scheduling efficiencies to increase usable hours and accommodate community demand.

OSRE Action 1.1.4: Incorporate multi-functional design principles into the planning and improvement of recreation facilities to support shared use by multiple age groups, programs, and activities.

OSRE Action 1.1.5: Include inclusive, accessible play equipment in new parks and park improvements so that children of all abilities can safely play and participate together.

OSRE Policy 1.2: Pursue creative use of traditional, nontraditional, and shared spaces to expand recreation and open space opportunities.

OSRE Action 1.2.1: Evaluate opportunities to acquire land for active recreational facilities, such as courts, on underutilized parcels, in parking areas, or on for-sale properties along or near Foothill Boulevard.

OSRE Action 1.2.2: Evaluate the possibility of a trail linking the completed Foothill Link with the proposed Rockridge Terrace Trail in the Trails Master Plan (2006).

OSRE Action 1.2.3: Evaluate design and funding options for the Community Center site to determine whether it could be jointly used, reconfigured, or redeveloped to expand athletic field capacity or support active recreation needs while maintaining community programming, in coordination with the facility operator and other relevant partners.



OSRE Action 1.2.4: Evaluate the Southern California Edison (SCE) utility easement as a potential multi-use open space corridor by assessing utility constraints, ecological opportunities, recreation compatibility, access, and parking. The evaluation shall prioritize preservation of the existing trail connection and explore low-impact recreation uses such as outdoor fitness elements, community gardens, and passive open space, alongside pollinator-friendly habitat improvements, while maintaining utility access and neighborhood compatibility.

OSRE Action 1.2.5: Evaluate opportunities to utilize underutilized or vacant land, including the JPL parking lot leased from the Flintridge Riding Club and other similar sites, for active recreational facilities. The evaluation may also consider shared or structured parking solutions to support recreational uses and JPL parking needs and to provide buffering between proposed facilities and nearby residential areas.

OSRE Policy 1.3: Strengthen physical and functional connections between parks, open spaces, trails, neighborhoods, schools, and regional destinations through coordinated pedestrian, bicycle, and trail planning.

OSRE Action 1.3.1: In coordination with the Circulation Element, create a comprehensive multimodal plan that integrates pedestrian and bicycle facilities to improve connectivity, safety, and access to parks, recreational facilities and trails.

OSRE Action 1.3.2: Prevent unauthorized motorized vehicle use on trails by installing physical barriers at access points, providing clear signage, enforcing applicable regulations, and coordinating with law enforcement, while allowing controlled access for maintenance and emergency vehicles.

OSRE Policy 1.4: Pursue diverse, reliable funding strategies to support the acquisition, development, enhancement, and long-term maintenance of parkland and recreational facilities.

OSRE Action 1.4.1: Develop a funding program for acquisition and/or development of parkland property and facilities that includes a variety of methods, such as grants, easements, land donations, and gift annuities.

OSRE Action 1.4.2: Maintain readiness to pursue parkland acquisition opportunities by identifying priority opportunity sites, evaluating financing options, including voter-approved bonds, and preparing funding strategies and partnerships that enable the City to act quickly when land becomes available.

OSRE Action 1.4.3: Pursue opportunities to secure the first right of purchase or negotiation for properties that could support future parkland, open space, or trail connections when such properties become available.

OSRE Action 1.4.4: Develop and adopt an ordinance in accordance with the Quimby Act establishing requirements and options for parkland and/or trail dedication, or in-lieu fees for new development and expansions of existing structures exceeding 30 percent.

OSRE Action 1.4.5: Pursue grant funding, cost-sharing arrangements, and partnerships to support the planning, acquisition, development, improvement, and maintenance of parks and usable open space on City-owned and non-City-owned land, consistent with community needs and available resources.



OSRE Policy 1.5: Improve public awareness and use of parks, trails, recreational resources, and programs through clear, accessible, and up-to-date information.

OSRE Action 1.5.1: Continue to work with citizens, non-profit organizations, volunteer groups, and other community partners to identify and acquire land and provide needed active and passive parks, recreation, and age-specific programs.

OSRE Action 1.5.2: Develop brochures, maps, a website, and other informational materials to inform the community about the parks, recreational opportunities, trail system, and their linkages to regional systems, as well as available programs, including youth-, senior-, and family-oriented offerings, within the City.

OSRE Goal 2.0: Preserve, protect, and enhance open space areas within and adjacent to the City to maintain hillside character, conserve scenic and natural landscapes, support public health and safety, and promote climate resilience.

OSRE Policy 2.1: Conserve and manage open space through land-use designation, development controls, and coordinated planning to maintain hillside character, protect scenic landscapes, and support compatible, low-impact public access.

OSRE Action 2.1.1: Continue to preserve all publicly owned open space committed to open space land or utility right-of-way by designating them as Open Space on the General Plan Land Use Map, while allowing compatible low-impact recreational uses where consistent with utility requirements, public safety, and environmental constraints.

OSRE Action 2.1.2: Continue to maintain the hillside character of the community through regulation and development control, thereby preserving the unique setting and significant resources of the San Gabriel Mountains and San Rafael Hills.

OSRE Action 2.1.3: Continue to designate owned recreational and open space areas that are designed and approved as an integral part of a land use development as Open Space on the General Plan Land Use Map to reflect their intended long-term use. Such designation does not imply public ownership or public access unless otherwise provided through approval conditions or agreements.

OSRE Action 2.1.4: Continue to preserve and enhance non-vehicular access from the City to the Angeles National Forest trails and open lands remaining in the San Rafael Hills and San Gabriel Mountains, in coordination with the federal Angeles Forest Plan.

OSRE Action 2.1.5: Coordinate planning and management of open space areas with the Conservation Element to support wildlife movement, habitat continuity, and rewilding opportunities, while maintaining the primary open space functions of public access, scenic preservation, and community benefit.



OSRE Policy 2.2: Provide and preserve open space areas that protect public health and safety, maintain natural landscapes, vegetation, and watershed functions, and allow compatible recreational uses.

OSRE Action 2.2.1: Identify areas subject to natural hazards, such as earthquake fault zones, earthquake-induced landslides, wildfires, debris and mudflows, and unstable slopes, and designate undeveloped areas subject to such hazards as open space to minimize risk to people and property.

OSRE Action 2.2.2: Discourage new development and intensification within open-space areas designated for public safety, allowing only low-impact, safety-compatible uses such as trails, passive recreation, emergency access, and hazard-mitigation improvements that do not increase hazard exposure or interfere with emergency response.

OSRE Action 2.2.3: Adopt a risk-based approach to tree trimmings and brush clearance that considers tree species, location, wildfire risk, emergency access routes, and environmental conditions to determine appropriate trimming frequency.

OSRE Action 2.2.4: Enforce restrictions on unauthorized off-road vehicles, including e-bikes, from operating within the City limits, except where such use is expressly permitted under applicable regional, state, or federal plans.

OSRE Policy 2.3: Design, manage, and retrofit open space, parks, and trails to reduce wildfire risk, mitigate heat, and support long-term climate resilience while protecting ecological function.

OSRE Action 2.3.1: Incorporate shade and heat mitigation measures into park and trail planning, design, and improvements by combining fire-resistant tree species, strategic canopy placement, shade structures, and complementary cooling strategies in high-use areas such as trailheads, seating areas, play spaces, and pathways.

OSRE Action 2.3.2: Apply fire-resilient and climate-responsive design measures to new parks, recreational facilities, and trailheads, and incorporate phased retrofits into existing facilities, prioritizing improvements through the City's Capital Improvement Program and applicable grant funding.

OSRE Action 2.3.3: Coordinate the planning, design, and management of open space, parks, and trails with Public Works, emergency response agencies, Los Angeles County, and other relevant land management agencies to support wildfire prevention, emergency access, evacuation readiness, trail safety, and hazard mitigation.

OSRE Policy 2.4: Plan and site recreational facilities to balance community demand with neighborhood compatibility, public health, and quality of life.

OSRE Action 2.4.1: Evaluate opportunities to expand recreational facilities to meet community demand by prioritizing locations along major corridors, shared-use sites, or non-residential areas, and away from existing residential neighborhoods.

OSRE Action 2.4.2: Require site-specific noise studies and enhanced siting and design review for new pickleball facilities or the conversion of existing courts located within approximately 600 feet of residential uses, to evaluate potential noise impacts and identify appropriate mitigation measures before approval.



OSRE Goal 3.0: Provide and enhance park and recreation opportunities within the City.

OSRE Policy 3.1: Expand access to park, recreation, educational, and cultural opportunities by supporting shared use of facilities, coordinated programming, and collaboration with public agencies, schools, utilities, non-profit organizations, and private partners, in a manner that responds to community needs and available resources.

OSRE Action 3.1.1: Cooperate with public agencies, public utilities, and private organizations, including the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, the Los Angeles County Fire Department, the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, the La Cañada Unified School District (LCUSD), and SCE to promote the use and development of public recreation uses on their land. Such facilities are important to the City's efforts in providing a balanced recreation program.

OSRE Action 3.1.2: Evaluate and, where feasible, expand joint-use agreements with LCUSD and other public or institutional partners to increase access to athletic fields and active recreation facilities.

OSRE Action 3.1.3: Continue to partner with the facility operator of the Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge to provide and expand recreation and enrichment programs for seniors, youth, and teens, including after-school classes, and regularly assess community needs to refine and update offerings.

OSRE Goal 4.0: Preserve, improve, and expand existing trails and promote coordinated, comprehensive trail systems for hikers, bicyclists, and equestrians.

OSRE Policy 4.1: Plan, implement, and manage the trail system through the Trails Master Plan to guide trail development, mapping, public access, shared use, and long-term stewardship.

OSRE Action 4.1.1: Support the Trails Council in updating the Trails Master Plan in coordination with the County and nearby cities. Any new or planned trail routes, as well as significant additions or modifications, shall be reviewed and approved by the City Council and/or County Board of Supervisors as appropriate.

OSRE Action 4.1.2: Use the Trails Master Plan as the primary implementation document for the General Plan's goals and policies related to trails, trail connectivity, and trail-related planning and improvements.

OSRE Action 4.1.3: Support the Trails Council in creating, maintaining, and periodically updating the Trails Map as the Trails Master Plan is implemented, and make it available for public reference and use through various mediums such as:

- Posting on the City website
- Print copies available at City Hall, Community Center, and Library
- Posting simplified versions at major trailheads and Parks with trail access



- Posting a QR Code for easy download of the map at various locations

OSRE Action 4.1.4: Update the Trails Map administratively as the Trails Master Plan is implemented.

OSRE Action 4.1.5: Incorporate trail etiquette, shared-use guidance, and safety information into the Trails Map and associated public-facing materials as part of future map updates, trailhead signage, and digital resources.

OSRE Action 4.1.6: Amend the Trails Master Plan or Trails Map as implementation documents without requiring a General Plan amendment, unless such changes would create an inconsistency with the General Plan's goals, policies, or other applicable provisions.

OSRE Action 4.1.7: Use the Community Development Department Project Review Procedure: Trails (as included in Trails Master Plan or as modified by the Community Development Director, whichever is the latest update) when reviewing proposed development that is located adjacent to or within current trails, existing trail easement(s), or proposed trail location(s), to evaluate and require mitigation of potential impacts on the trail system.

OSRE Action 4.1.8: Promote safe and compatible shared use of trails through signage, education, and trail design, and consider user conflicts and emergency access needs when planning trail improvements or permitting trail events.

OSRE Action 4.1.9: Establish a coordinated trail maintenance program for vegetation management, erosion control, and post-fire or storm recovery among public works, fire, nonprofit organizations, and applicable land managers to support safe, sustainable trail use.

OSRE Policy 4.2: Implement the Trails Master Plan through dedication of land, targeted purchases, easements, joint-use and shared-access agreements, development conditions and design integration, or other appropriate methods.

OSRE Action 4.2.1: Coordinate with public agencies, public utilities, and private organizations to identify opportunities for trail access or trail facilities on their lands through joint-use agreements, licenses, easements, or other mutually beneficial arrangements.

OSRE Action 4.2.2: Provide planning coordination, mapping information, design guidance, and permitting support to partner agencies and organizations to facilitate trail planning and implementation consistent with the Trails Master Plan.

OSRE Action 4.2.3: Establish and enforce coordinated sustainable trail-maintenance practices among public agencies, public utilities, private organizations, and adjacent property owners to keep recreational trails in good repair and prevent loss of use or access due to encroachment or interference.

OSRE Action 4.2.4: Maintain efforts to work with regional organizations, such as the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, to secure funding for the ongoing implementation of the Trails Master Plan.

OSRE Action 4.2.5: Pursue grant funding, active transportation and multimodal funding sources, and cost-sharing arrangements, and partner with public agencies, utilities, and non-profit organizations to support the planning, construction, maintenance, and implementation of trail facilities on both City-



owned and non–City–owned land, coordinating trail planning where appropriate with the City’s multimodal planning efforts.

OSRE Action 4.2.6: Assemble the right-of-way and implement improvements for a circular trail connecting Mayors’ Discovery Park, the Rockridge conservation area, the Link Linear Park on Foothill Boulevard, and the YMCA.

OSRE Action 4.2.7: Install and maintain trail signage that promotes safety and courtesy between all trail users, including equestrians, hikers, and bicyclists, and provides information regarding the trails and their use.

OSRE Action 4.2.8: Preserve the City’s core circular trail by maintaining continuous public access, protecting the trail alignment from encroachment or discontinuity during development and infrastructure projects, coordinating with regional agencies to maintain connections to regional trail networks, and prioritizing maintenance, signage, and wayfinding to reinforce its function as a primary loop and connector.

OSRE Policy 4.3: Manage the City’s trail system to support public safety and long-term usability by preparing for, responding to, and recovering from wildfires, floods, mudslides, and other hazard events, in coordination with emergency response agencies and applicable land managers.

OSRE Action 4.3.1: Following wildfire, mudslide, flooding, or other hazard events, conduct coordinated post-event assessments of trails to evaluate safety, erosion, slope stability, and access conditions, and prioritize phased reopening, repairs, or realignments in coordination with Fire, Public Works, and applicable land managers.

OSRE Action 4.3.2: Implement procedures for temporary trail closures, on-site signage, and public notification following hazard events, and provide timely updates through City communication platforms regarding trail conditions, closures, and reopening status.

OSRE Action 4.3.3: Incorporate hazard-resilient design and adaptive improvements into post-event trail repairs, including erosion control, drainage enhancements, slope stabilization, vegetation management, and fire-resilient materials, to reduce future damage and improve long-term trail performance.