



## **CITY OF MENIFEE**

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SUBJECT: 2023 Parks Master Plan Adoption

MEETING DATE: July 19, 2023

TO: Mayor and City Council

PREPARED BY: Mariana Mitchell, Community Services Manager

REVIEWED BY: Jonathan Nicks, Deputy City Manager

APPROVED BY: Armando G. Villa, City Manager

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### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

1. Adopt a resolution adopting the updated 2023 Parks Master Plan.

### **DISCUSSION**

The Parks Master Plan (PMP) update revisits and builds upon existing goals and policies for Menifee-maintained parks, trails, and recreational programs. This update focused on gauging current opinions and priorities of the community to coincide with the recent growth experienced in the last seven years since the adoption of the original Parks, Open Space, Trails, and Recreation Master Plan in 2016. The PMP document will guide future park and trail development, community activities and programs, as well as align with goals established under the City's Strategic Plan adopted March 1, 2023.

Based in San Diego, KTUA has over 30 years of experience in developing master plans as well as land use and transportation planning. In March 2022, the City hired KTUA to spearhead the PMP update. Moreover, KTUA assisted the City's Engineering Department with the completion of the Active Transportation Plan.

KTUA began work on the PMP update by reviewing existing City planning and visioning documents, conducting an inventory of parks and park amenities, reviewing current and future development projects being considered by the Planning Department, and created overlay maps to help identify areas of opportunity to improve access to the park system for underserved areas, enhance park amenities, park access through public trails, and expanded programming. Key takeaways from existing conditions include:

1. The City has a 2.4 park acre per 1,000 residents deficit citywide (including Valley-Wide parks).

2. The City is lacking in aquatic facilities (publicly accessible swimming pools and splash pads).
3. The City has high totals of program registrants with recreational programs being very popular post COVID.

## Public Engagement and Survey Responses

As part of an extensive public outreach and survey process, KTUA, along with Community Services staff, conducted 3 community workshops and 11 stakeholder meetings, and invited over 4,000 residents to participate in a statistically valid mail-back survey. Additionally, outreach was conducted at City events, social media platforms, and through an open online survey. Results of the public engagement and outreach efforts are as follows:

- Over 800 survey responses received, including:
  - 353 statistically valid survey responses from 4,000 surveys mailed
  - 293 responses to open online survey
  - 161 in-person survey responses conducted at Citywide special events booths
- Dedicated project webpage – [www.cityofmenifee.us/parksmasterplan](http://www.cityofmenifee.us/parksmasterplan)
- News Alert on landing page of the City website with 7 Newsflashes delivered to 1,050 subscribers
- Social media posts and stories highlighting events and survey opportunities reaching 40,000 users
- Article in Fall Edition of the Menifee Matters delivered to 37,877 homes and businesses
- Recorded meetings and workshops posted on City's YouTube site with over 360 views
- Direct emails to families in Menifee schools in both Romoland School District, and Menifee Union School District

Table 1 below is a summary of formal community engagement meetings conducted by KTUA and City staff since June 2022, which gauged opinions of many key stakeholders, City Council, City Commissions, City staff, and members of the public.

Based on feedback from the public outreach process, some recurring public comments received included the desire for more adult recreation opportunities such as pickleball, splash pads and aquatics programs, additional park and field lighting, multi-generational public facilities, and more dedicated walking/hiking trails. It is important to note that 42% of respondents were unaware of which agency (City or Valley-wide Recreation and Park District) maintained their closest park. Full details of the responses received through the public outreach process are in Appendix A (page 131) of the PMP Report.

**Table 1 – Community Engagement Meetings**

Date/Time	Meeting Type	Participants	Location
July 21, 2022 6:00 PM	Community Workshop #1	Members of the Public	Kay Cenicerros Senior Center
August 9, 2022 10:00 AM	Monthly Community Partners Meeting & Stakeholder Meeting	Community Partners	Kay Cenicerros Senior Center

Date/Time	Meeting Type	Participants	Location
August 9, 2022 7:00 PM	Quail Valley Community Meeting	Members of the Public	Quail Valley Moose Lodge
August 10, 2022 9:30 AM	Department Head Meeting & Stakeholder Meeting	City Department Heads	City Hall Council Chambers
August 10, 2022 4:30 PM	Joint PRTC/Planning Commission Special Meeting & Stakeholder Meeting	PRTC & Planning Commissions & Members of the Public	City Hall Council Chambers
August 23, 2022 10:00 AM	Senior Advisory Committee & Stakeholder Meeting	Senior Advisory Committee & Members of the Public	City Hall Council Chambers
August 29, 2022 5:00 PM	Stakeholder Meeting	Sports Groups	Online via Zoom
September 22, 2022 8:30 AM	Oasis Coffee with the Board Community Meeting	Members of the Public	Oasis Clubhouse
September 22, 2022 6:00 PM	Community Workshop #2	Members of the Public	MSJC
September 28, 2022 2:00 PM	Developer Stakeholder Meeting	Residential Developers within the City	Online via Teams
October 5, 2022 4:00 PM	City Council Special Meeting Workshop & Stakeholder Meeting	City Council & Members of the Public	City Hall Council Chambers
October 11, 2022 9:30 AM	Sun City Civic Association	Members of the Public	Sun City Civic Association
October 18, 2022 6:00 PM	Youth Leaders of Menifee	Youth Leaders & Members of the Public	Lazy Creek Recreation Center
December 1, 2022 6:00 PM	PRTC Regular Meeting & Community Workshop #3	Members of the Public	City Hall Council Chambers

### **Incorporation of Additional Feedback**

A draft version of the final report was shared with the Parks, Recreation and Trails Commission at the April 6, 2023, meeting where the following updates were incorporated into the PMP:

- Strengthening potential trails, parks, and open space connectivity throughout the City
- Recommendation for the City of Menifee to undergo Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) Accreditation through the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA)
- Recommendation for City staff to obtain the Certified Park and Recreation Professional and Certified Park and Recreation Executive through NRPA
- Additional information on Trails Recommendations in Appendix E (page 206)

With these updates, the Parks, Recreation and Trails Commission recommended continuation of the adoption process of the updated PMP.

Additionally, the draft PMP was made available to the public for review and comment from April 10 – May 10, 2023. During this period, feedback from five residents resulted in the addition of the following items:

- Increase of pickleball deficit to better reflect community needs and local use
- Recommendation to require all future park developments to provide adequate shading for park and playground areas
- Review and update park design standards to include best practices for playground safety including appropriate levels of shade coverings

Following the workshop, City staff and KTUA reviewed the final comments and recommendations from City Council and incorporated the following updates:

- Clarification on the impact of Homeowners Associations and accessibility; the potential neighborhood impacts of organized tournaments; and the recommendation for repurposing restricted properties
- Creation and implementation of a Park Maintenance Schedule based on an asset management system for regular maintenance and/or replacement of park amenities
- Recommendation to explore partnerships to develop regional parks, both open space and sports

## **Conclusion and Final Report**

KTUA recommendations are separated into seven specific categories including:

1. Facilities and Amenities
2. Programs and Services
3. Administrative
4. Financial
5. Trails, Connectivity and Open Space
6. Placemaking
7. Technology

The Future Scenario Level of Service (2035) determined that the City will be at 3.1 acres per 1,000 residents in 2035 resulting in future park deficit of 1.9 acres per 1,000 residents (242 acres total deficit) when using a national standard for park access and should no additional parks outside of those already in planning stages be developed. The recommendations provided in Chapter 6 and Appendix C (page 181) of the PMP provide a clear roadmap to assist the City in achieving the ultimate goal of 5 acres per 1,000 residents.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE**

Community Engagement and Social Infrastructure

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommended action. However, upon final adoption, City staff will utilize the recommendations in the PMP to guide future Department Budgets and Capital Improvement Program projects to close the identified gaps in service and enhance current programs and amenities.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Resolution
2. Exhibit A - 2023 Parks Master Plan