

SOUTH SALT LAKE CITY ON THE MOVE

CITY COUNCIL

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**South Salt Lake City Council
Work Meeting Agenda**

Public Notice is hereby given that the **South Salt Lake City Council** will hold a Work Meeting on **Wednesday, July 30, 2014** in the City Council Chambers, 220 East Morris Avenue, **commencing at 6:00 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as possible.

Conducting: Irvin H. Jones, Jr., Council Chair

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Parks, Open Space, Trails and community Facilities Master Plan
2. Newsletter Discussion
3. Discussion of RFQ for Fire Contract Services

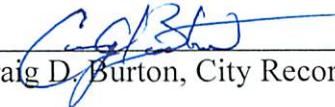
Motion for Closed Meeting

THOSE NEEDING AUXILIARY COMMUNICATIVE AIDS OR OTHER SERVICES FOR THIS MEETING SHOULD CONTACT CRAIG D. BURTON AT 801-483-6027, GIVING AT LEAST 24 HOURS' NOTICE.

CRAIG D. BURTON
CITY RECORDER
July 25, 2014

Each of the Deseret News and Salt Lake Tribune was advised of the Work Meeting of the Council to be held Wednesday, July 30, 2014 by fax transmittal of the foregoing agenda on Friday, July 25, 2014.

Dated this 25th day of July, 2014.



Craig D. Burton, City Recorder

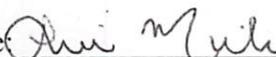
CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETING LAW

The undersigned, duly qualified and acting City Recorder of the City of South Salt Lake, does hereby certify that on the 25th day of July, 2014, pursuant to Utah Code Annotated Section 52-4-202 (1953), as amended, there was posted (at least 24 hours prior to the meeting time) at the regular meeting place of the City Council of the City of South Salt Lake, written Notice of the Agenda of the Work Meeting of the Council, a copy of which is attached and incorporated herein as Exhibit "A." The undersigned does further certify that there was mailed or delivered to all persons shown on Exhibit "B," Notice of Agenda of the above mentioned work meeting, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein.

Name: CRAIG D. BURTON
Title: CITY RECORDER

Signature: 

Witnessed the 25th day of July, 2014 by
Name: SHERI MILLER

Signature: 

CITY OF SOUTH SALT LAKE
CITY COUNCIL WORK MEETING

COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, July 30, 2014
6:05 p.m.

CITY OFFICES

220 East Morris Avenue #200
South Salt Lake, Utah 84115

PRESIDING
CONDUCTING

Council Vice-Chair LeRoy Turner
Council Vice-Chair LeRoy Turner

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sharla Beverly, Ryan Gold, Kevin Rapp, LeRoy Turner,
Michael Rutter and Debbie Snow

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

Irvin H. Jones, Jr.

STAFF PRESENT:

Mayor Cherie Wood
Charee Peck, Chief of Staff
Lyn Creswell, City Attorney
Aaron Wiet, Recreation Director
Dwayne Ruth, Deputy Police Chief
Mont Roosendaal, Public Assets Director
Ron Morris, Fire Chief
Kevin Bowman, Deputy Fire Chief
Kari Cutler, Promise South Salt Lake Director
Glenn Smith, Urban Livability Director
Pam Juliano, Human Resources Director
Craig Burton, City Recorder
Paula Melgar, Deputy City Recorder

OTHERS PRESENT:

See Attached List

Matters for Discussion

- 1. Parks, Open Space, Trails and Community Facilities Master Plan.** Urban Design Director, Sharen Hauri, made a presentation to City Council on the above mentioned topic and requested direction from City Council on priorities and goals. A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes and incorporated by this reference.
- 2. Newsletter Discussion.** Mayor Cherie Wood requested this topic be addressed at this time so that she could get a better understanding and direction from the Council on what needs to be different with the newsletter.

Council Member Rapp mentioned how he appreciated reduction in the cost of paper. He also pointed out that there is feeling that no one is aware of city meetings but the meetings are being advertised in the newsletter, he wonders if people are just not reading the newsletter or if people are just not coming to the meetings.

Mayor Wood made the comment that events are also advertised in the newsletter and people do show up for them. She would like to have a “Council’s Corner” in the newsletter so that Council Members can have a message in there. She asked if the Council is interested in doing that.

Council Member Rutter is very impressed with the newsletter and its transformation from The Journal to what City has done. This transformation has caught people’s attention and it shows due to the awards it has received. He is very supportive of the newsletter and feels people have not shown up to meetings due to apathy. The newsletter is a necessary tool to spread information to people with different interests. He congratulated staff on this very good tool.

Council Member Gold mentioned that he has heard a lot of people are watching these meetings on the internet. Maybe if there is a way to have viewers check in, that might help. He asked if there is a way the City could sell small ad spaces or something like that, in the newsletter.

Mayor Wood clarified that the City is not allowed to do that unless it contracts out those services.

City Attorney, Lyn Creswell, explained that once that door is open, the newsletter stops being a newsletter and becomes more of a public forum.

Council Member Snow always enjoyed the newsletter and believes it to be very informative. With that said she feels it does not serve the same function as a third party newspaper. She expressed a bit of concern that City let go of the contract with The Journal and did the newsletter in lieu of The Journal contract. She has heard others have had both publications run concurrently, because she sees the public outreach benefit of the newsletter but she sees an enormous benefit of having a neutral third party press that covers the City from a distance, from an objective point of view. There are different functions there and she wishes to know what happened to The Journal and can the City get it back.

Mayor Wood clarified that The Journal actually pulled out. They eliminated 3 cities they felt were not making enough money to continue to provide the service for, and that is why the City switched to do their own newsletter. The journal was not selling enough advertised space from the local businesses to continue.

Council Member Turner mentioned the senior population that has difficulty getting out and about and depends on the newsletter to know what is going on in the City. There is a section in the newsletter for seniors that provide this segment of the population with valuable information. Having said that, what he has heard is that they

need the newsletter but they also want to make it as economical as they can and he recognized Mayor Wood's work on that.

Council Member Rutter believes the City should continue with the newsletter but cut down on the cost to make it a valuable tool at a reasonable cost. The Council needs to decide what a reasonable cost is and what the tradeoffs are.

Council Member Turner asked the Mayor if she feels she has gotten enough direction from the council.

Mayor Wood explained that short of changing the format of the paper the City has done all it can do. Staff has researched postage costs, which was another reason The Journal left was because they were hiring individuals to deliver it door to door and these individuals were just dumping it. The City received numerous calls from residents complaining they did not receive it. Due to this, staff feels that postage is the way to go, rather than relying on someone to pass it out. Mayor Wood explained that there are no more places to cut costs.

Council Member Rutter mentioned the City's community service program as a possibility, to use these individuals enrolled in this program, to distribute the newsletter.

Mr. Creswell, strongly recommended against it. There is a concern with individuals of criminal background circulating through the city's neighborhoods unsupervised. Mr. Creswell added that this is not the kind of task you want people under a court order involved in, but staff can take a look at it, if Council Members want them too.

Council Member Rutter assured City Attorney that he trusts his judgment on the issue.

The following item is a verbatim transcript.

3. Discussion of RFQ for Fire contract services.

Council Member Turner: We've kicked this around several times now. It doesn't seem to me that we've really made a lot of progress on it. We did ask Chief Morris to produce some follow-up. Chief would you share with us your perspective on this, at this point what you found out and Dwayne would you please do that too, Chief. And then, we will open it for discussion and see where we can get this thing moving. Is that Okay? Okay.

Chief Ron Morris: I guess is I could start tonight, the biggest thing that will help me with department morale and everything that is going on is, and the question that I keep getting asked from my employees are: "Why is the City Council pursuing this? What is their end goal? Is this strictly a money deal? Are they angry at us? Do they just want to kick us to the curb?" The majority of my firefighters don't see the reason why this was brought up in the Council, where the RFQ initial discussion was

brought up. I guess I would just ask “why?” if we could just start there and that would help me know direction and comments further.

Council Member Turner: Just one moment Debbie...Before we go, Chief, are you along the same lines as far as that would be your perspective in the police department?

Deputy Chief Ruth: Absolutely.

Council Member Turner: Okay

Deputy Chief Ruth: It created a lot of confusion, I think. City wide, public safety wide, in any case. Oh, yes.

Council Member Turner: Alright, thank you. Debbie, you had a comment.

Council Member Snow: I can just, I can't speak for why for everybody but I know there is two-fold major reasons that I've heard as to why we keep discussing it. One is the pay inequities that I have been told about in the Fire Department and employees who are concerned about having not gotten raises and not being on track and therefore, could they receive better treatment elsewhere. Can we take care of our guys here or are we going to miss more raises and... So, part of it is about, are we properly able to take care of the fire fighters? And, how deep is the dissatisfaction among those firefighters who have missed raises and look forward to... And so that is reason one and number two, which is closely interconnected with reason one is the revenue loss in July 2017, I guess is when it will officially hit, rather than 2016, I just learned that last week. Anyways, so yeah, we have a major budget loss coming and therefore that is connected to, can we properly take care of our guys? If we haven't met their needs every time so far, how assured can we be that we can meet your needs going forward with such significant losses in front of us? Those are the two major reasons I have seen but the rest of the Council, you know...

Council Member Turner: Other comments? Kevin?

Council Member Rapp: One of the, I guess, basic functions of this Council is to make sure the citizens are represented in the budget discussion. I personally thought it is a good idea just to investigate this. I didn't have any intension of trying to cut any services or no vendetta against any department. I just thought it was good for the Council to be able to see what other options there are. I didn't necessarily mean that we were going to take those options; it was a matter of seeing what other options we have. And, I think we owe it to the public to provide them with those numbers. I am not saying anything about disservice, dissatisfied with the services or anything like that, but I think we owe to the public to be able to make sure we have, you know, that down as part of the budget.

Chief Morris: If I could, Roy if you want to take more comments I can address those but if...

Council Member Turner: Just one comment, please, first. We've created a hail storm here and I think whatever we do at this point on we need to be very, very careful that our public understands what we are doing and where we are trying to go and has the answers to the whys and the what's and the wherefores and so on, so that we don't magnify the problem we've created. Yes, Chief?

Chief Morris: I can speak to number one of Councilmember's Snow's concerns. I think the Mayor can speak to number two. Hindsight is always 20/20. If what I am hearing is correct, I wish it would have been presented as we would like to do some sort of a scoping project to go out and look where we stand with the rest the departments in the valley and get an idea of are we truly that far behind them or are we about even, are we ahead of some. The fear of most of my guys is you as the Council have listen to the vocal minority of our department, when the majority have sat by and sort of not realized they were being spoken for. We just conducted a survey department wide and even after the RFQ discussion and I think anybody that left here that night was of the opinion that this had been decided and we were going to go looking for fire services elsewhere. Still the majority of my department wants to stay with South Salt Lake Fire, with South Salt Lake City and wants to retire as South Salt Lake Fire Fighter. I am all in favor of going out and looking at what our neighbors are doing and I think we owe it to ourselves to look at what we have done in the past. Because there have been years when we did not get merit increases but there have been years when our neighbors have taken furloughs, and we didn't take furloughs. So, we really need to compare apples to apples and, you know, make sure we are on the same page with what we are doing. I just have to tell you, I have a huge morale problem in my department and I think, I don't want to speak for Dwayne, but I think PD is right behind us. Is, I have a fire department now that feels like they're not wanted by the City, which I don't think it is true but (Council Member Rutter: It was never the intention) if you listen to the council meeting when the RFQ was initially brought up, it was pretty clear that we had moved pass looking at our own Fire Department, we were looking elsewhere for fire service. So, Mayor, if you want to address the 2016...

Mayor Wood: Yeah, as we move forward, I think it would be helpful if everybody would state their "why?" what do you expect to gain from this, because this is going to really help staff move forward and in discussing with you appropriate processes to go through that may be just a little bit less damaging to our employee's morale right now. And so, I do not mean to put you on the spot but Kevin and Debbie, we've heard from you...

Council Member Turner: We will start with Mike and come right here...

Council Member Rutter: You want to hear from me, here I go: I am 100% supportive of our Fire and Police. I am the oldest member on this Council - Roy I think you were here just about a year after or so after I came - I have been through the gauntlet, I have seen council people go out of this city and contact other fire services and police services to cause a stir and they did cause a stir. I have seen other

cities that I've had people talk to me within other cities who have contracted with other fire departments. I have seen property values stay the same but property taxes go up because of fire services and police services that were offered. I have seen all of these scenarios, no one has convinced me that if we were to take and to destroy a fire service and a police department that we have, that we would be guaranteed that we would not have property taxes increased, it would not decrease the time of calls for service, that the time would go down, every study that I have seen says that time will go up to give our citizens, people who live here, service that we need. Nothing I have seen says that an outside service will do us a better job. I have always supported our police and fire. I support our police and fire today. I think that we never, ever are going to break even with fire, police and ambulance. It is never going to be a money maker. I voted for it, I knew that it was going a loser when I voted for it. I still would vote for it today because it is a necessary tool to protect our city. If you guys, that are shaking your heads no, no, no, can prove in fact to me that we can provide ambulance service, fire service and police service at a lower cost with the same type of service that we get today, with dedicated people that are here willing to work and to work within the tools that we have, I am willing to listen but I don't think you can.

Council member Turner: Thanks Mike. Kevin?

Council Member Rapp: I have a question for Lyn because he mentioned something in the last meeting that I wanted to know the legal ramifications of this. Okay, so are talking about an RFQ, now did you say that that has certain legal repercussions if we did that versus just doing as Chief Morris suggested, looking outside at what our neighbors are doing?

Mr. Creswell: An RFQ is a formal process and that was what I was trying to emphasize. Before you start a formal process, you need to do your scoping homework, kind of visioning, before you kick off something as formal as an RFQ or and RFP.

Council Member Turner: So this is step one. And if we were to go to a RFQ or RFP that would be step two. But we can very well do that without having step one.

Mr. Creswell: You have to design an RFQ or an RFP around some policy direction and some basic facts and I don't think we are there, yet.

Council Member Rapp: Oaky, so for clarification knowing that, my whole point in this is was basically what Chief Morris was saying, I wanted to know what the cities around us are doing, and just for comparison, Unified.

Mr. Creswell: You could do some information gathering...

Council Member Rapp: I didn't necessarily want necessarily an RFQ as formal process. And I had nothing against the Fire Department or the Police Department, and I have nothing against, or, and I am not saying I am not supportive of them, I just thought it would be wise to find out what the cities around us are doing, as well. That

would also benefit not only the citizens but also our fire people. Now, you've mentioned, some of them took furloughs in some years and we didn't, that is a good thing to know. Now, I don't find there is nothing wrong with information gathering and to find out and do some comparison. Now, if the RFQ is a very formal process that we have to make certain decisions and stuff going through it, fine, I will forgo that, that does not bother me. I just want some information. Now, granted, I am new on this Council and I just want some information on this. So, I would like to stress to the Police and Fire that there is no, I mean for me personally, I can't speak for the rest of the Council, I have no intention of disbanding the Police or Fire. I just wanted to gather some information. And I thought it was a wise, not only for me but for the rest of the Council.

Council Member Turner: Okay. Ryan?

Council Member Gold: I'm with Kevin. I didn't know anything about an RFQ before a month or so ago when it was initially brought up. I was under the understanding that our Council Chair, Irvin Jones, was in communication with the Mayor, and staff, and Fire... that he just came up with this. I didn't know that he just came up with it on his own. I would have thought that he would have been guided in some way, given information. Lyn, you didn't seem surprised when he mentioned it. You seemed prepared to say how long it takes and...

Mr. Creswell: He had asked me specifically, if we were to go out and seek a contract for Fire, what would that take and what would the process be. So that's what I was responding to, and he had specifically asked me to come prepared in that meeting to answer that question. So that was answered but as we found out there is a lot more to that than just are we ready to contract out and what process would we follow.

Council Member Gold: Because at that meeting was the first I knew anything about it, I still don't not know exactly what is involved in an RFQ. I mentioned the last meeting that like Kevin said, it is information gathering. I hear all the time of how unhappy some of the fire fighters are because they are not getting their bumps. Is everybody getting their bumps? Are we just being told that is it... It would be nice to be topped out by the time they retire at 20-25 years or if that is the standard? Is that the standard over the whole state or the nation? Is that? I don't know. I don't know if that is what is expected. And if it is expected than why isn't mandated by the state that they top out at 20-25 years?

Mayor Wood: In the beginning of our employee handbook when it starts talking about the merit increases, that is the system by which we pay our employees, it talks about how loose that really is and it's based on whether there are funds available. And I don't think we're, I know we are not the only city that has not been able to get raises. And when fire fighters, they are saying that they missed raises, we all missed raises. It wasn't just the Fire Department, and so... Some of the surrounding jurisdictions have been going through the same thing. But we're happy to gather that information.

Council Member Gold: Right. I would like to know that. I in my time as a council I have seen two different types of raises. I've seen merits and I've seen a percentage, which takes away from the merit and then you get that backlash "Well, I'm still not going to top out when I am 25 years/ 20 years" I don't know if that is a norm. That's where I am at. If all the rest of State is in the same boat as we are, we do the best that we can but at the same time, if we are always getting that kind of complaint, that they are not getting paid enough, which, I think you go to any job, my job, it's the same way. We would all like to be paid more but is that realistic? Are we even bringing in enough to do that? I think... I don't know if contracting out, how anyone else could do it any better. I would think that for the quality of service that we have, we can't do it any less expensive than we do now. I think the only way that would happen, would be going with less quality, which I don't think the residents want. And that is what, like Kevin said, we represent the residents and I know they don't want a decrease in quality of their service for any. And I have zero complaints on the Fire and Police. I have seen them in action and I've had to call on them, even rode in the ladder truck today. I have nothing bad to say on their service. I would like to see that everybody is treated fairly and if this information that we gather helps the morale of our fire fighters and police, that no, they are not getting treated poorly, or maybe they are; it will give us a direction to go. It will give us information to go to the residents, the citizens of this city and say "this is what we need to do." I can't ask to raise taxes without a reason; I can't do that with anything. If it's RFQ, I thought that was the way of gathering the information, if we can just call them up, I'll do that. I am more than willing to go around every fire station around here and see what they are doing, every city, doesn't matter.

Council Member Turner: Thanks. Sharla?

Council Member Snow: I'm sorry. Can you give me a minute?

Council Member Turner: You've spoken to this already. Let's go to Sharla and see if we have any time left over. I have some comments, also.

Council Member Snow: Okay.

Council Member Beverly: I too was really surprised by the RFQ at that meeting which I had no knowledge that that was going to come up. Just coming off of the election process, the majority of the people I talked to want local police and fire, including myself. And, I agreed with Chief Morris that we would be better off looking at our neighbors and comparing salaries and kind of looking at how everyone is, rather than doing a formal request, especially hearing all the trouble that it has caused. That is really sad. We are damaging morale. We don't want do that!

Council Member Turner: Two or three things. I would like to go on record with both Chiefs here saying that I support the fire and the police programs. I think we got good departments and I have seen them in action and I am all in support of it. I am going to be just a little bit unspecific, here. I have contacted a number of friends of mine throughout different parts of the valley with the specific objective of finding out

what has been happening to their taxes as they move from a sales system or between systems. And the impression I received overwhelmingly is that they usually get low-balled to go in and then taxes go up, shortly after that. I have one friend who told me it was \$60.00 three years ago and now it is \$600.00. I think we need to be very careful of that. One of the main reasons is that I am pretty sensitive to the seniors in this City that are struggling. Now, having said that, Chiefs I would like to suggest a possible approach here. I don't see anything wrong with us doing some self-analysis. I don't think we ought to throw the baby out with the bath water, but if we do some self-analyses I would hope that when we find things that we can do better, that we can implement them, without having somebody else come in and tell us how to do that. I think we can manage our own house, here. But I really, I just don't like the idea of going with an RFQ. We are not there, yet. We are not anywhere near there, yet. And I think we ought to do everything we can possibly can right now to try build that morale back rather than tear it down. Debbie you had some comments?

Council Member Snow: I know I have spoken to this but I just wanted to say a couple more words. Yeah, I didn't join the Council with an ax to grind against the Fire Department or really come in thinking, "Oh, we've got to get to Unified," or some thoughts like that. If we can afford to take care of our guys and afford to fund it, than I am okay to keep it. So, I would say, that is kind of just kind of the baseline. But with that said, this process that we have been talking about is information gathering and I find it a little bit shocking the amount of push back that we've gotten. That, literally, every time we meet, the Council gets so, so much static when we talk about just gathering statistic and making sure we know where everyone is at and what our other options are. I can't imagine any process where people are that afraid of us getting the information. It comes off... Maybe I am wrong, but it comes off as people being afraid.

Mayor Wood: I think I can answer that because I think that we are talking about two different things and that is why we have been trying to get some clarification this evening. An RFQ process is scary. I don't know of any municipality that's entered into that, that it did not end up contracting services. So, that is what we are talking about. We have done salary studies, so I think we are thinking we are getting certain information through an RFQ and I think there has been some confusion. We have no problem getting information. We did a salary study in 2011 to make sure that we were comparable to our surrounding entities and we came in very close, we were very competitive with our surrounding jurisdictions. And so I think that that... when I started hearing the Council's follow-up questions or conversations about the RFQ, it was clear that we weren't talking about the same thing. So, I am just trying to force a conversation where we can figure out what we are talking about and make sure we start the right process. And, we are happy to provide whatever information. I have mentioned to some of you that if it is a budget issue, if that is the biggest concern, let's schedule some work meetings to discuss 2016 strategies. But let's do that first, before we initiate a RFQ process. Happy to do all of the salary gathering, as well.

Council Member Snow: Let me just finish my thoughts. I think we do want salary gathering, I think we do also want quotes on the cost from other agencies, though. I

mean, it doesn't have to be from them...listen...

Council Member Rutter: They are not going to give it to you.

Council Member Turner: That will cost us money to just go out and just ask for quotes and people don't like to just go through the expense of providing quotes, just for the sake of providing quotes. It costs money. I think we need to be a little careful there. We can get information but let's not go through this formal process and waste money.

Council Member Snow: Let me finish my thoughts, real quick. I am okay with an informal process, just for the record. I honestly am. I'm not hitching for an RFQ necessarily but what I was trying to say is I don't just want salary comparisons; I also want cost comparisons of the services. And if we can get that through an informal process then that is fine. The other thing I talked to the Mayor about this week, or last week as we met is about surveying our public safety employees to find out where exactly they fall. Because I keep hearing really different scenarios on who wants to go and who doesn't want to go, and who is dissatisfied and who is totally happy. I don't feel like we really have an unbiased... I don't feel comfortable that I know where our guys stand to be honest. I have gotten a lot of representations from various...

Chief Morris: So let me just say if I could. The survey we just did was completely anonymous and even after the feeling like we were being thrown to the curb, the majority of the department still wants to stay with South Salt Lake City. My door is always open to any of the Council. I would encourage you if you are getting conflicting messages from my guys, come talk to me. I represent the entire department, not just the local, not just the non-local, not just the part-timers; I have to be in favor of all of them, so if you are looking for an unbiased opinion, mine is probably as close as you will get.

Council Member Turner: Okay, we are running out of time.

Council Member Snow: Can we get a copy of that survey? And the results and what question was? Because what we had talked about was formulating a survey, so I am not sure that the question, as it was asked in your survey is exactly akin to what I was looking.

Mayor Wood: We are happy to do that because I think that public safety... that we should analyzed it as a whole. So, I think that a survey for public safety would work. We could do that.

Chief Morris: Mine was strictly fire and it would probably be good representation to have all the public safety involved in a survey like that. I agree with it.

Council Member Snow: Chief Carruth had asked if we do this, to send it out to his guys, as well. That is what he said in the meeting. Sorry, hearsay, he is not here to

appear.

Mayor Wood: Yeah, he did say that. We did discuss having the two Chiefs get together and put some questions together, some starter questions to the Council and then you guys can have some input.

Council Member Turner: In trying to draw this to a close I would ask two questions: One to you, Mayor and one to the Chiefs. Have we provided you some sense of where the council sits on this so you can move forward?

Mayor Wood: Absolutely. Thank you.

Council Member Turner: Okay. To the two chiefs – have you provided you something tonight that allows to go back to your guys and say we are not trying to line everybody up in front of a firing squad?

Chief Morris: I personally feel much better. I am always welcomed to a survey looking at what our neighbors are doing, compared to what we are doing; my guys are always welcomed to that. How else do you make an educated decision without that information? The part that scared us was we were out of business. So, thank you.

Council Member Turner: Mayor, I think they are your staff so any input would come back through them. Dwayne?

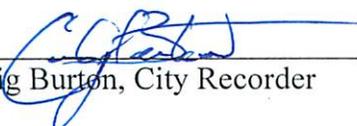
Deputy Chief Ruth: I am glad to hear your position right now, I really am. We were a little frightened, frankly. We work well with Fire Department and I think if there is a decision to go with another fire department you are going to greatly affect the Police Department, the morale and other things. So, I am happy to hear it. I am still a little concerned that surveys actually need to be done. I am concerned about that. We had West Valley police that just closed their application process; we had three people out of 59 sworn apply out there, so that is a pretty impressive numbers. They were offering a lot of money and low barriers to entry. We had three sworn officers that applied out there so that says something for the morale of the Police Department. But we want to be as transparent as we possibly can with this Council. Thank you.

Council Member Turner: Thank you. Meeting is closed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.



Irvin H. Jones, Jr., Council Chair



Craig Burton, City Recorder



PARKS, OPEN SPACE, TRAILS AND
COMMUNITY FACILITIES

MASTER PLAN 2014



**DRAFT
07.30.14**

INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

The City of South Salt Lake has strong community programs, and wants to continue to expand and strengthen these programs to serve a wider audience and a growing population. The city needs additional park space to continue to provide programs that suit the unique needs of its population and to improve its recreation level of service.

The City is also growing and becoming a destination for new residents seeking a particular lifestyle - one that values walkability, public spaces and recreation. In this way, parks, trails and open space are viewed as essential amenities to revitalize neighborhoods. These features are economic development tools that spur new investment, home-ownership and attract the next generation.



This master plan is based on the City's General Plan (2009); interviews with city staff (Recreation, Community Development, Promise South Salt Lake); master planning processes conducted for the Central Park Community Center, former Granite High School and Historic Scott School; and feedback from residents through focus groups, the Neighborhood Advisory Committee, and the Citizen Strategic Plan.

GROWING NEEDS, GROWING SERVICES

South Salt Lake has expanded their recreation offerings significantly in the last decade. One of the driving forces has been to provide healthy, positive activities for youth and families to reduce risky behaviors and improve educational outcomes. This has driven generated a boom in programs. There is also significant need for infrastructure that supports healthy lifestyles, since South Salt Lake has some of the highest rates in Utah of obesity, smoking, mental illness and other unhealthy behaviors. Parks, trails, sidewalks, and recreation facilities are key opportunities for promoting fitness, wellness as well as walking for everyday errands. There are proven links between a neighborhood's walkability and its rates of mobility.

This has come at a time when society increasingly recognize the benefits of parks, public spaces, walkable streets and biking for both personal and community health. This heightened public interest led to acquiring or re-purposing several properties, including Central Park (formerly Woodrow Wilson Elementary), Historic Scott School, and an attempt to purchase Granite High for a community center through a bond measure (which did not pass). The city has also made greater investment in infrastructure for walking and biking, including two new regional trails and miles of bike lanes. Residents have also requested specific amenities (such as dog parks and trails) and programs (such as pickleball), to which the city has responded.

To meet the growing demand, the city has strategically acquired, improved and re-purposed facilities to suit. The city has been funding these improvements at a relatively steady (though not guaranteed) level. Also, city staff has grown to provide programs, expand outreach and build and maintain new facilities. The city's population is growing a slow, steady rate, meaning the demand that can be easily accommodated with modest, but consistent investment. The more important goal is to continue to raise the overall standard of service in the city for all residents to provide a better quality, quantity and diversity of offerings.



COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

South Salt Lake community programs serve a demographically and culturally diverse population and have a stated goal of unifying the community. These include:

- recreation programs, including sports leagues, camps and fitness classes
- enrichment programs for youth during out-of-school hours through Promise South Salt Lake and the Police Athletic League - offering academic support, mentoring and recreation
- senior and active adult programs through the Columbus Senior Center and recreation programs
- arts programming through the Arts Council and Historic Scott School partners
- community events hosted monthly (approximately) by the Recreation department



Community programs are offered in nine neighborhood centers across the city, including four city-operated facilities and five school-operated centers, with plans for more.



In addition to City-sponsored recreation, many residents participate in school district, County and Church-sponsored recreation. Many teens play school sports outside the city, since there is no high school within the city's boundaries. The LDS Church and St. Ann's Parish have gyms and sports fields in South Salt Lake that are heavily used by their members and students at different Catholic schools. Participation in Salt Lake County recreation programs is also common.



Fields, gyms, community rooms and outdoor spaces are also rented for sports leagues, special events, reunions and celebrations.

STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES

Through a SWOT Analysis (Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats), the current status of parks and community facilities was assessed. Major findings are summarized here while a detailed list is included in the Appendix.

The City's major strengths are the extensive network of community centers and the focus on community needs. There is a high utilization of facilities, integration between community programs, events, after-school programming and community partners. The city does a remarkable amount of programming with its funding and has leveraged it to very high degrees with other grants and partners. Parks and community center are located in every neighborhood, and there is opportunity to enhance each of these to meet current recreation interests. Programs are a good value, and priced to be affordable to all. Another strength is the rapidly growing network of trails and bike lanes.

The major weakness in the city is the limited amount of park space, and the lack of a major recreation center and gymnasium (including no private membership-based gyms). As the population grows, there are few available properties to add park space. Another weakness is the city's reliance on renting school property. While the partnerships are appreciated, the city is in a weak position if the school closes or is sold (in the case of Granite High). In particular, the city's signature event, Freedom Festival, will end if it cannot be held at Granite High.

A major challenge currently is the lack of coordinated planning and budgeting for and management of community facilities. This is improving, with the adoption of this plan and work to prepare a Capital Improvements Plan and revamping the Facilities Management approach. It will also require a stronger commitment on the part of city leaders to increase park space requirements and/or budget for new facilities as well as more funding for maintaining existing facilities.



BENEFITS OF PARKS, OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS

Parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces provide numerous benefits to people, communities, and the natural environment. They provide people with formal and informal gathering places to be physically active, socialize, relax, build community, and connect with the natural world. They make urban areas more inviting for living, working and relaxing.

There are proven economic benefits to parks and open spaces, as well. Foremost, real estate property values are positively affected. Green spaces and trails also play a role in attracting and retaining affluent retirees as well as young professionals and knowledge workers. These factors can contribute to increasing municipal revenues that provide infrastructure and community services. Parks have also been shown to attract home buyers to purchase in the surrounding areas providing significant neighborhood investment and community stability.

Public health is positively impacted to a well-maintained park and trail system. Physical activity opportunities in parks help to increase fitness and reduce obesity. Sidewalks, and trail connections to community destinations also support healthy habits and lifestyles. Time spent in nature has also been shown to help relieve mental fatigue, reduce stress, and decrease aggression.

There are also numerous environmental benefits to these areas. Resources within parks and open spaces can mitigate climate, air, and water pollution impacts on the health of community residents. By properly planning and managing park and open space system, communities can reduce flood control and stormwater management costs, improve water quality, and control erosion. Parks can also protect biological diversity and preserve essential ecological functions while serving as a place for recreation and civic engagement.



Research provided by the American Planning Association at: <https://www.planning.org/cityparks/briefingpapers>)

INVENTORY

FACILITY INVENTORY

South Salt Lake has a variety of community facilities, including:

- parks,
- open spaces,
- trails, and
- community centers.

These offer a wide variety of recreation, leisure and enrichment activities that support community health, education and enrichment (Table 1). They are embraced by the entire community and many different users, from recreation to education.



4.7% of the City of South Salt Lake’s land area is “green space”, including parks, schools, golf courses, Jordan River Parkway, and other open spaces.* This represents a total of 236 acres, of which 37.8 acres is land for parks (Table 2) and 43.1 acres is recreation sites managed by non-city entities (Table 3) and 156.5 acres are open spaces (Table 4). Recreation is also supported by trails and bike lanes (Table 5) and by Community Centers (Table 6). These include a wide variety of recreation amenities and opportunities, such as sports fields or playgrounds (listed in Table 7). These are shown and summarized in the maps and tables on the following pages.

Table 1: Community Facilities.

	Total	supply per 1,000 residents	access
Parks	37.8 acres	1.6 acres	75% of residents within ¼ mile of a park
Other recreation sites	43.1 acres	1.8 acres	75% of residents within ¼ mile of a place to play
Open Space	156.5 acres	6.6 acres	52% of residents within ¼ mile of open space
Trails	8.3 miles	.35 miles	65% of residents within ¼ mile of a trail
Bike Lanes	2 miles	0 miles	98% of residents within ½ mile of a bike lane
Community Center	9	one center per 2,600 residents	95% of residents within ½ mile of a community center

Notes: Based on 2010 census population of 23,617.

MAP 1: PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

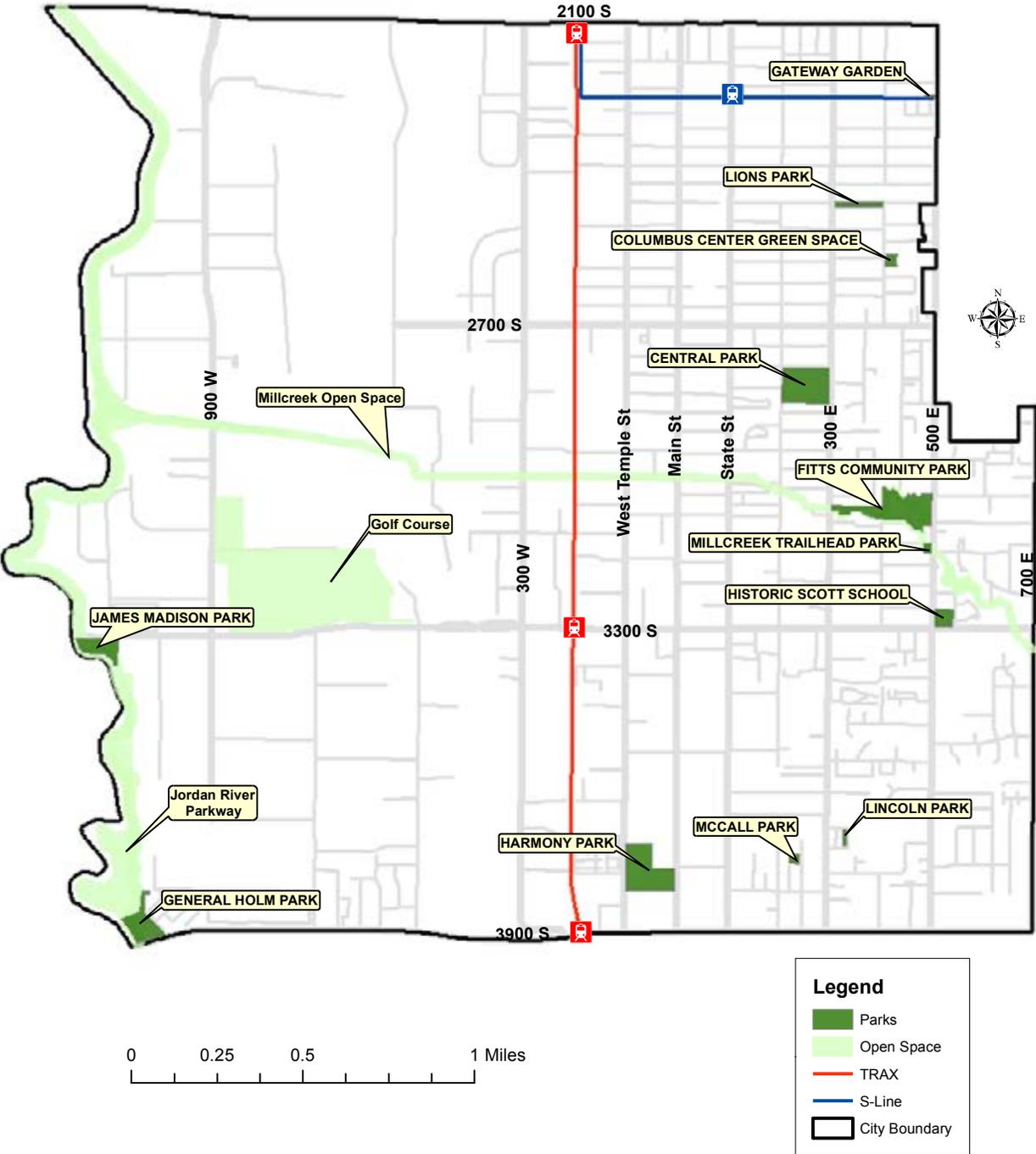


Table 2: Parks – 2014.

Name	Acres	Amenities	Owner
Fitts Park	10.2	Playgrounds, pavilions, veterans memorial, restrooms, turf and irrigation, Mill Creek and Spring Creek.	City of South Salt Lake
Central Park	6.5	Soccer field, baseball field, 2 playgrounds, event lawn, parking. Recreation center is adjacent.	City of South Salt Lake
Lions Pride Park	1	Swings, dog park, 2 pavilions, restroom, turf, irrigation.	City of South Salt Lake
McCall Park	0.5	Turf, irrigation, playground, picnic table and stormwater detention basin	City of South Salt Lake
Lincoln Park	0.3	Turf, irrigation, trees	City of South Salt Lake
Historic Scott School	0.6	Turf, irrigation, arboretum, courtyard, event lawn	City of South Salt Lake
Columbus Center Green Space	0.5	Turf, irrigation, fence	Todd Family, leased to City of SSL
Gateway Garden	0.2	Community garden, Parley's Trail	City of South Salt Lake
Millcreek Trailhead Park	0.43	Natural open space, xeriscape/native demonstration garden, Mill Creek, Millcreek Trail connection	City of South Salt Lake
Harmony Park	10.4	Playground, restrooms, pavilions, 2 baseball fields, 2 tennis courts, community garden, turf, irrigation	Salt Lake County
James Madison Park	3.4	Restrooms, turf, irrigation, Jordan River Parkway trailhead	Salt Lake County
General Holm Park	3.8	Playground, pavilion, restroom, turf, irrigation, pedestrian bridge over 3900 South, Jordan River Parkway trailhead	Salt Lake County
TOTAL	37.8		

Source: South Salt Lake GIS 2014. Note: Building sites deducted from total acreage of sites with both.

Other recreation sites include communal, often public, places that are frequently used by residents for recreation and social events. These are open to many residents via involvement in a school, church or recreation league. Some properties, such as schools, have property that is open to the public during off-hours. There are few private recreation and fitness facilities and no membership-based gymnasiums.

Table 3: Other Recreation Sites - 2014.

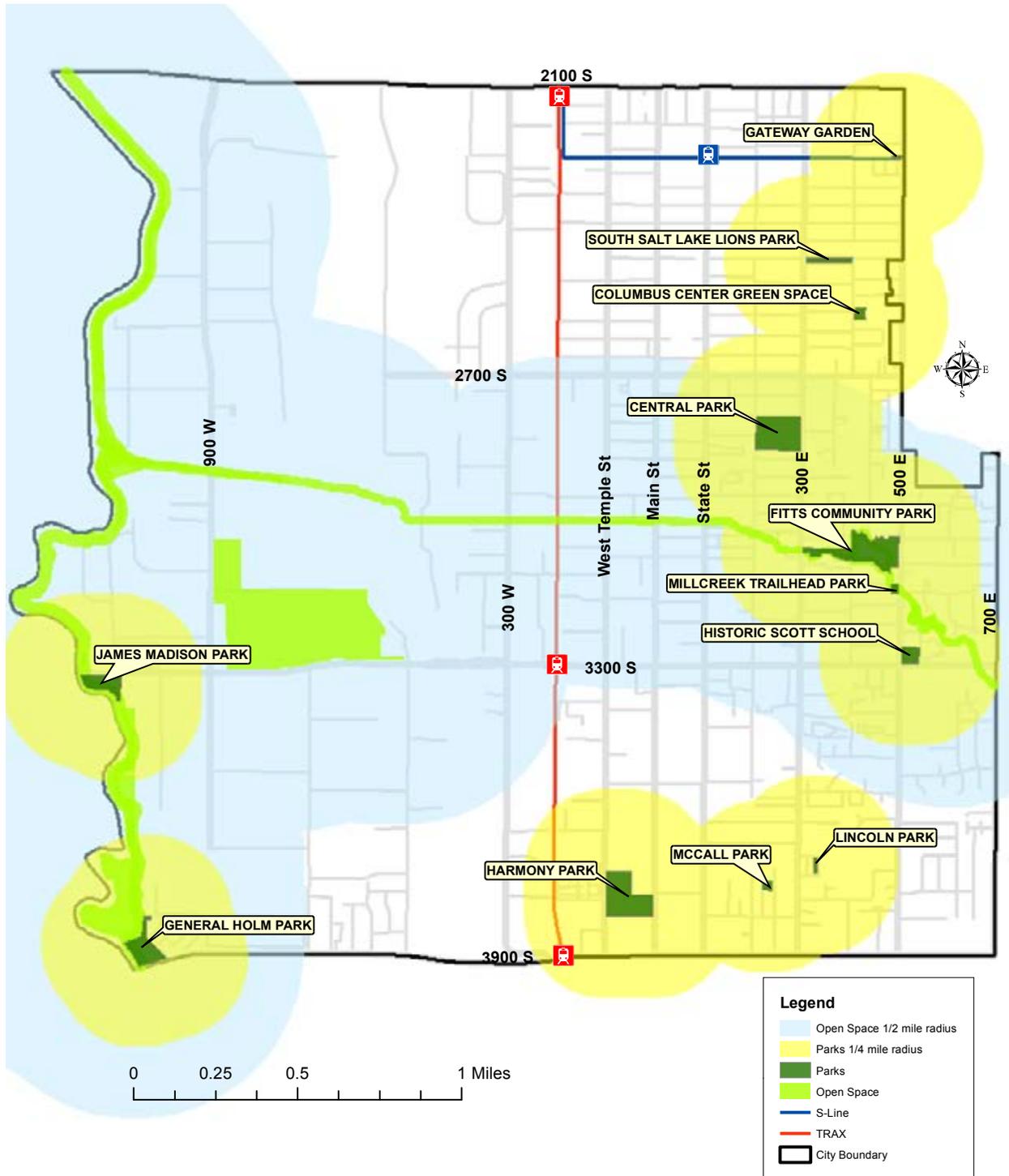
Name	Acres	Amenities	Owner
Granite High School	20	Football field, track, grandstand, baseball field, 6 tennis courts. 2-acre event lawn. Recreation building with indoor pool, gym with full sized basketball courts.	Granite School District. Currently on sale for development.
Granite Park Junior High School	6.3	Sports field, indoor gym.	Granite School District. Field space and gym rented by SSL.
Lincoln Elementary	4.5	Sports field, playground, indoor gym.	Granite School District. Field space and gym rented by SSL.
Woodrow Wilson Elementary	3.6	Sports field, playground, indoor gym.	Granite School District. Field space and gym rented by SSL.
Utah International School	0.5	Playground, garden, outdoor courtyard.	Granite School District
Kearns-St. Anns School	7	2 baseball fields and 1 multi-use field	Catholic Diocese
SSL LDS Stake Center 2280 S 250 East	0.4	Turf, irrigation, pavilion	LDS Church
SSL LDS Stake Center 3219 S 300 East	0.77	Turf, irrigation, pavilion	
TOTAL	43.1		

Open spaces are defined as publicly owned and permanently protected land that is home to important natural or cultural resources, and which may or may not be open to recreation uses.

Table 4: Open Spaces – 2014.

Name	Acres	Amenities	Owner
Jordan River Parkway	75	Jordan River Parkway Trail, Meadowbrook Nature Area	Salt Lake County
Central Valley Golf Course	81	Golf in the Round	Central Valley Water Reclamation
Millcreek Open Space	?	Mill Creek	Private, mixed
TOTAL	156+		

MAP 2: ACCESS TO PARKS & OPEN SPACES



Accessibility: Areas highlighted in yellow are within a short walk (1/4 mile) of a park.
 Areas highlighted in blue are within a moderate walk (1/2 mile) of a natural open space.

Trails

Trails offer numerous benefits to neighborhoods and communities. Trails support an active lifestyle that improves health and preventing disease. Physical activity also reduces stress and improves mental health. Trails also increase property values by offering pleasing views, quieter streets, recreational opportunities and interaction with nature. Studies find that properties located near trails sell for 5-33% more than those farther away. Well-planned trails can also provide environmental buffers that protect delicate habitat while still allowing users in these areas. A well-developed trail system can also serve as a safe and attractive way to connect a community through alternate modes of transportation such as biking and walking (source: Ontario Trails Strategy).



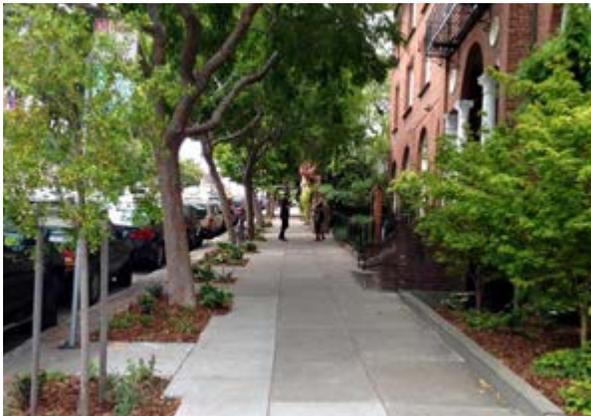
Shared Use Path

Shared use paths are paved trails shared by both pedestrians and cyclists. These trails often provide for two-way circulation and are typically used on routes with appropriate space and few interruptions in trail flow. The Jordan River Parkway is an excellent example of a shared-use trail.



Primitive Trail

Primitive trails are typically smaller unpaved trails built on dirt or with crushed gravel. These trails are primarily used for walking, hiking, or jogging although they can accommodate mountain bikers where appropriate. Because they are less durable, these trails should typically be used in areas with less foot traffic than paved trails.



Sidewalks

Sidewalks are the primary pathways used by pedestrians in urban areas. They are typically constructed of concrete and other high quality paving material. They provide critical infrastructure for pedestrian circulation within a city. Sidewalks are designed to accommodate a wide variety of users and are meant to be used for slow speed pedestrian activity. As such, cycling and skateboard should be discouraged on these pathways.



Bicycle Lane

Bike lanes are designed to provide a safe space for cyclists on along roadways. These lanes can range from standard five foot travel lanes to larger lanes with buffers to protect from traffic to fully separated cycle tracks. The size of bike lane to use depends on a variety of factors including road and sidewalk size, traffic volume, cost, potential return on investment, and various design considerations.

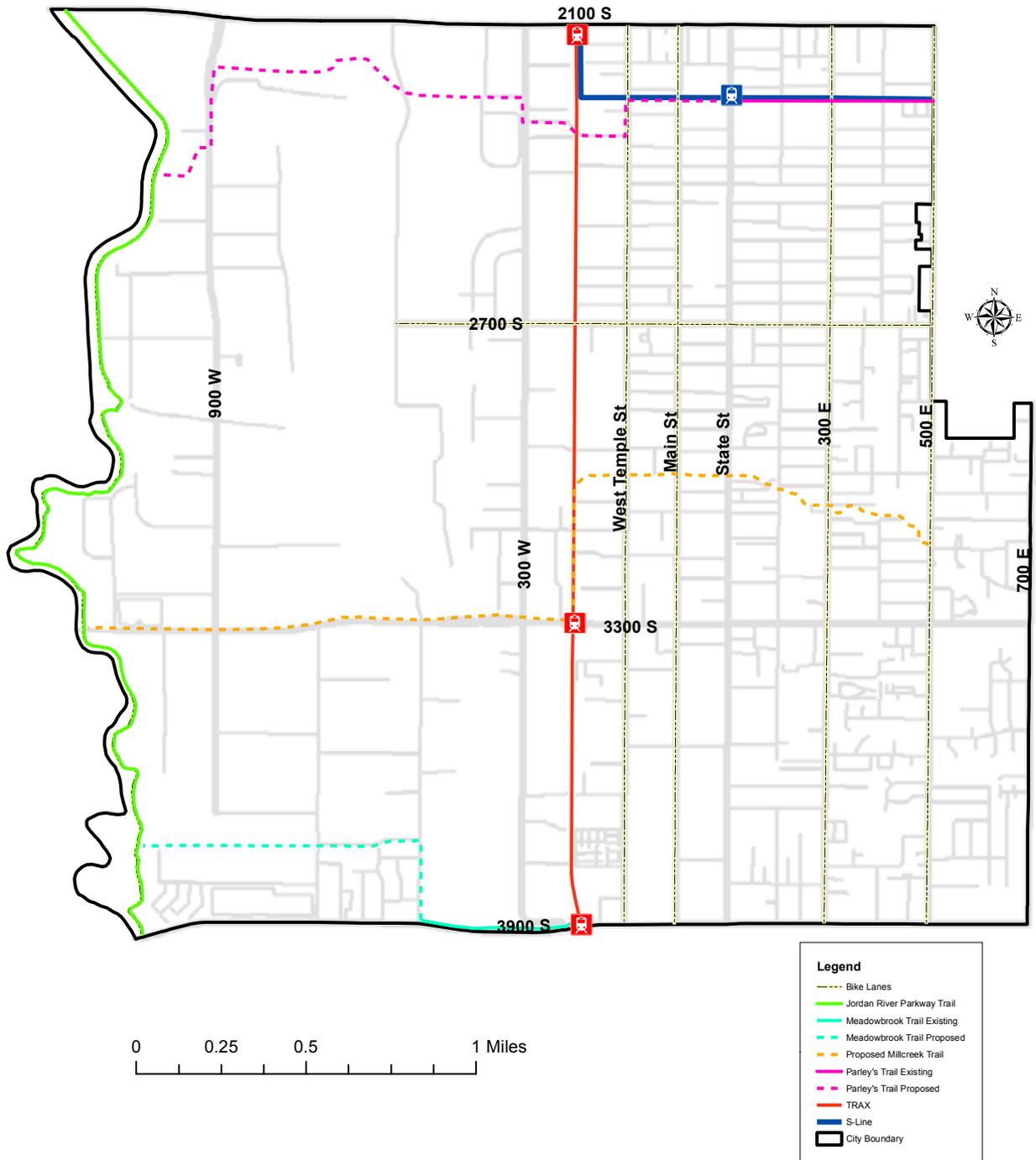
South Salt Lake has significantly expanded its bicycle and trail network in recent years. The need for trails and bike lanes is highly location specific, and by necessity should consider regional routes, continuous routes and key connections. The Public Works Department is including trails, bike lanes and sidewalks in discussions on designing an “active transportation network” to serve people biking and walking for commuting as well as for recreation.

Table 5: Trails and Bike Lanes – 2014.

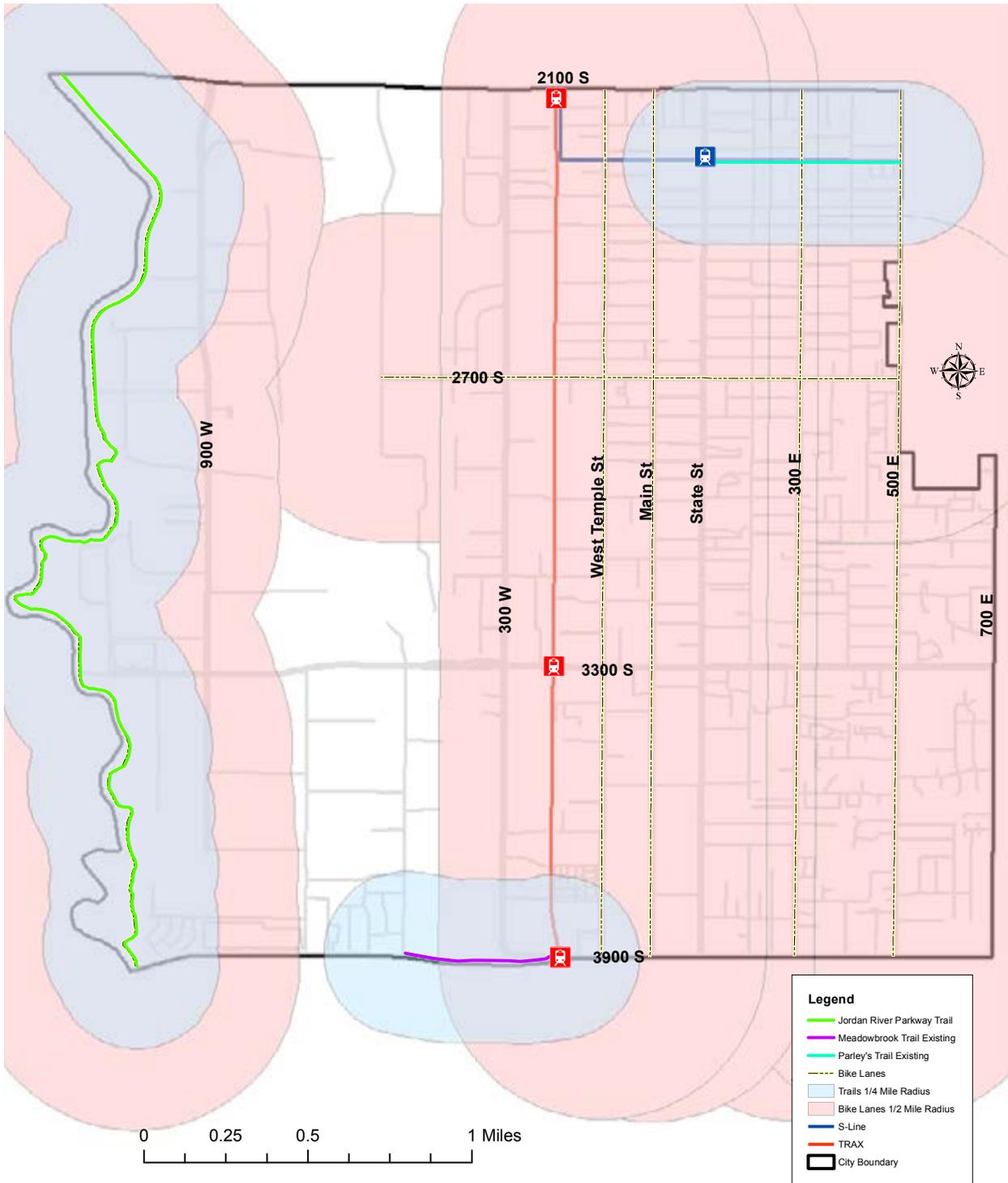
Name	Miles Planned	Miles Completed
Parley’s Trail*	2.8	2.8
Millcreek Trail*	3	1.5
Meadowbrook Trail	1.6	.5
Jordan River Parkway Trail	3.5	3.5
Trails Total	10.9	8.3
500 East Bike lane (sharrow)	2.6	?
300 East Bike lane	2.6	?
Main Street Bike lane	2.6	?
2700 South Bike lane	2.3	0
Bike Lanes Total	10.1	5.0 +

* Distance funded and to be completed by 2015

MAP 3: TRAILS AND BIKE LANES



MAP 4: ACCESS TO TRAILS AND BIKE LANES



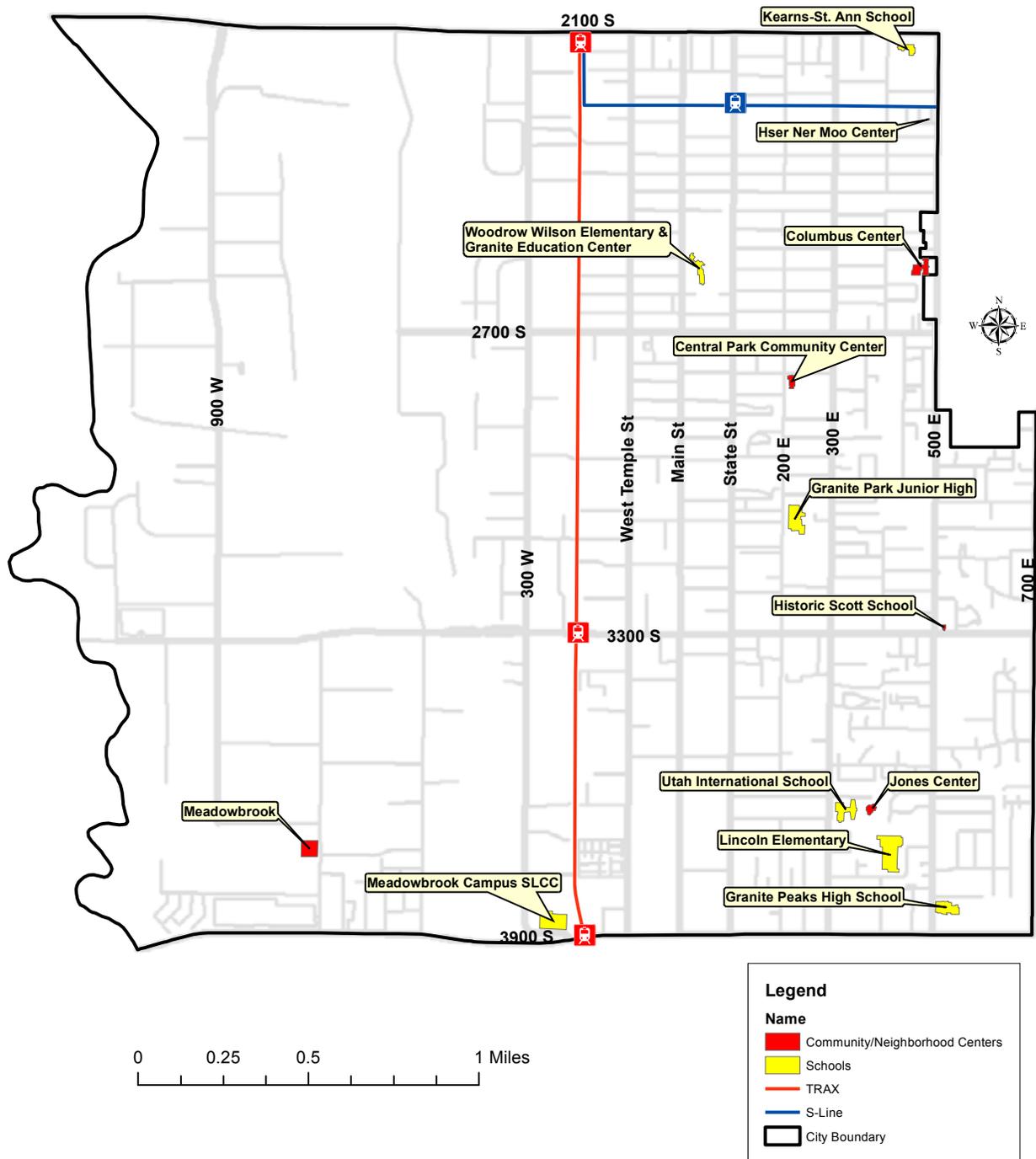
COMMUNITY CENTERS

The City owns and operates three neighborhood community centers, with recreation and education programs. In addition, programs are run at six other neighborhood centers, with recreation and education programs supported by city Promise South Salt Lake and Parks and Recreation Staff. A new center is being proposed for the Riverfront-Carlisle neighborhood, with an emphasis on science, experience learning and outdoor recreation.

Table 6: Community Centers – 2014.

Name and Owner	Facilities	Programs
South Salt Lake City Community Centers		
Columbus Center	Gymnasium, auditorium, County library, senior center, Alianza Academy school, outdoor patio, outdoor green space	Fitness classes, basketball, open gym, senior activities, special events
Central Park Community Center	Gymnasium, boxing room, fitness room, classroom, kitchen, community garden	PAL boxing center, fitness room, indoor soccer, basketball, fitness classes
Historic Scott School	13 classrooms, outdoor classroom, community garden	Arts and crafts classes, community education, after-school program, Write Here Community Writing Center
Neighborhood Learning Centers		
Hser Ner Moo Center Owner: South Parc	2 Classrooms, Computer Lab, Community Garden (adjacent)	Computer lab, community education, ESL, after-school program, preschool
Utah International School Owner: Granite School District	Gymnasium	Promise SSL after-school program
Lincoln Elementary Owner: Granite School District	Gymnasium, sports field, playground	Promise SSL after-school program
Woodrow Wilson Elementary Owner: Granite School District	Gymnasium, sports field, playground	Promise SSL after-school program
Roosevelt Elementary Owner: Granite School District	Gymnasium, sports field, playground	Promise SSL after-school program
Granite Park Junior High Owner: Granite School District	Gymnasium, track, soccer field	Promise SSL after-school program
Creekside Building Owner: South Salt Lake	Multipurpose room, 2 classrooms, kitchen, playground	Head Start preschool (full building lease)
Meadowbrook Learning Center Owner: UTA	Classrooms	Promise SSL after-school program

COMMUNITY CENTERS



Several major partners have signed long-term leases to offer community programs in these centers. This includes:

- Salt Lake County Library (at the Columbus Community Center)
- Salt Lake County Senior Center (at the Columbus Community Center)
- Alianza Academy, a K-8 free, public charter school (at the Columbus Community Center)
- Pioneer Craft House (at Historic Scott School)
- Promise South Salt Lake community support partners such as ESL, Citizenship classes, United Way
- Westminster College (Write Here Community Writing Center at Historic Scott School)
- Police Athletic League (at Central Park Community Center)
- Head Start (leasing at Creekside Building, purchased parcel at Central Park)

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Community facilities are also frequently rented by the hour by different groups and citizens. :

- Refugee soccer league
- Civic groups such as Lions Club, Rotary, and CERT
- Special events, such as family reunions, conferences, weddings

Current recreation program offered at community centers include:

- outdoor youth soccer leagues
- indoor youth soccer league
- Jr. Jazz indoor basketball
- Summer basketball and volleyball camp
- Fitness classes taught by third parties, including Jazzercise and Yoga
- Pickleball
- Yoga
- Active adult fitness classes offered by Salt Lake County Aging Services

Table 7: Facilities – 2014.

Type	Location	Number	Owner
Soccer fields	Central Park	1	City of South Salt Lake
Baseball fields	Central Park	1	City of South Salt Lake
	Harmony Park	2	Salt Lake County
Gymnasium with basketball courts (outdoors)	Central Park	1	City of South Salt Lake
Basketball courts (indoors)	Columbus Center	1	City of South Salt Lake
	Central Park Community Center	1	City of South Salt Lake
	Granite Park Middle School	1	Granite School District
	Granite Peaks School	1	Granite School District
	Granite High	2	Granite School District
Tennis courts (outdoors)	Granite High	6	Granite School District
	Harmony Park	2	Salt Lake County
Volleyball (outdoor)	Harmony Park	1	Salt Lake County
Horseshoes	Harmony Park	1	Salt Lake County
Playgrounds	Central Park	2	City of South Salt Lake
	Fitts Park	5	City of South Salt Lake
	McCall Park	1	City of South Salt Lake
	Lions Pride Park	1	City of South Salt Lake
	General Holm Park	1	Salt Lake County
	Harmony Park	1	Salt Lake County
Pavilions	Fitts Park	4	City of South Salt Lake
	Lions Pride	2	City of South Salt Lake
	General Holm Park		Salt Lake County
Community garden plots	Harmony Park	25	Salt Lake County
	Gateway Garden	8	City of South Salt Lake
	Historic Scott School	12	City of South Salt Lake
	Granite Park Jr High	?	Granite School District
	FUTURE Central Park	10	City of South Salt Lake
Dog Park	Lions Pride	1	City of South Salt Lake
Auditorium	Columbus Center	1	City of South Salt Lake
Event Lawn	Columbus Center, Central Park, Fitts Park, Historic Scott School	4	City of South Salt Lake

APPENDIX - FACILITY PLANS

FACILITY PLANNING

Several community facilities have current, complete master plans. Many more do not. These basic facility plans show the current amenities. In cases where there is a future master plan, proposed improvements are also mentioned. Master Plans should be prepared for all community facilities and updated on a regular basis. Facilities with current master plans or recent improvements plan that have guided improvements include:

- Central Park Community Center
- Central Park
- Historic Scott School
- Gateway Garden
- McCall Park
- Lincoln Park

Existing Facilities without future master plans include:

- Fitts Park
- Lions Pride Park
- Millcreek Trailhead Park
- Columbus Community Center
- Historic Scott School

COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLANNING

Master plans need to address city-wide goals for community facilities. A comprehensive facilities plan is the best foundation for setting goals for each individual facility to help support. This plan should include the type of activities (program), management goals (shared use, etc.) and recommended capital improvements.

The maps on the follow pages show the current conditions of existing community facilities.

CENTRAL PARK



LEGEND

- community garden (future)
- pavilion (future)
- active recreation area
- playground
- playground (future)

QUICK FACTS	
OWNER: South Salt Lake City	
ADDRESS: 2797 S. 200 East	
TOTAL ACREAGE: 6.5 acres	
AMENITIES:	PROPOSED AMENITIES:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> soccer field baseball field 2 playgrounds event lawn parking adjacent recreation center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> soccer field baseball field 2 playgrounds event lawn parking adjacent recreation center



FITTS COMMUNITY PARK



LEGEND



QUICK FACTS

OWNER: South Salt Lake City
ADDRESS: 3010 South 500 East
TOTAL ACREAGE: 10.2 acres

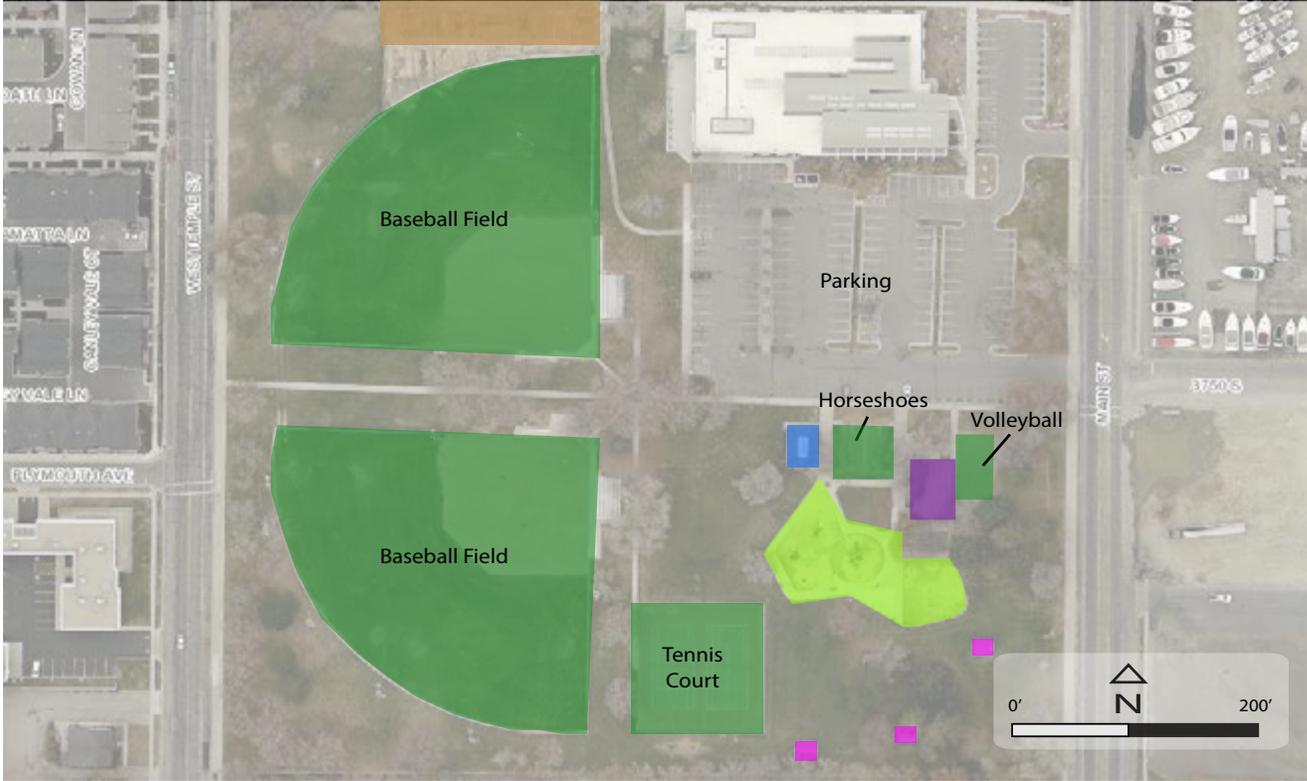
AMENITIES:

- playgrounds
- pavilions
- veterans memorial
- restrooms
- turf
- irrigation
- Millcreek trail

PROPOSED AMENITIES:



HARMONY PARK



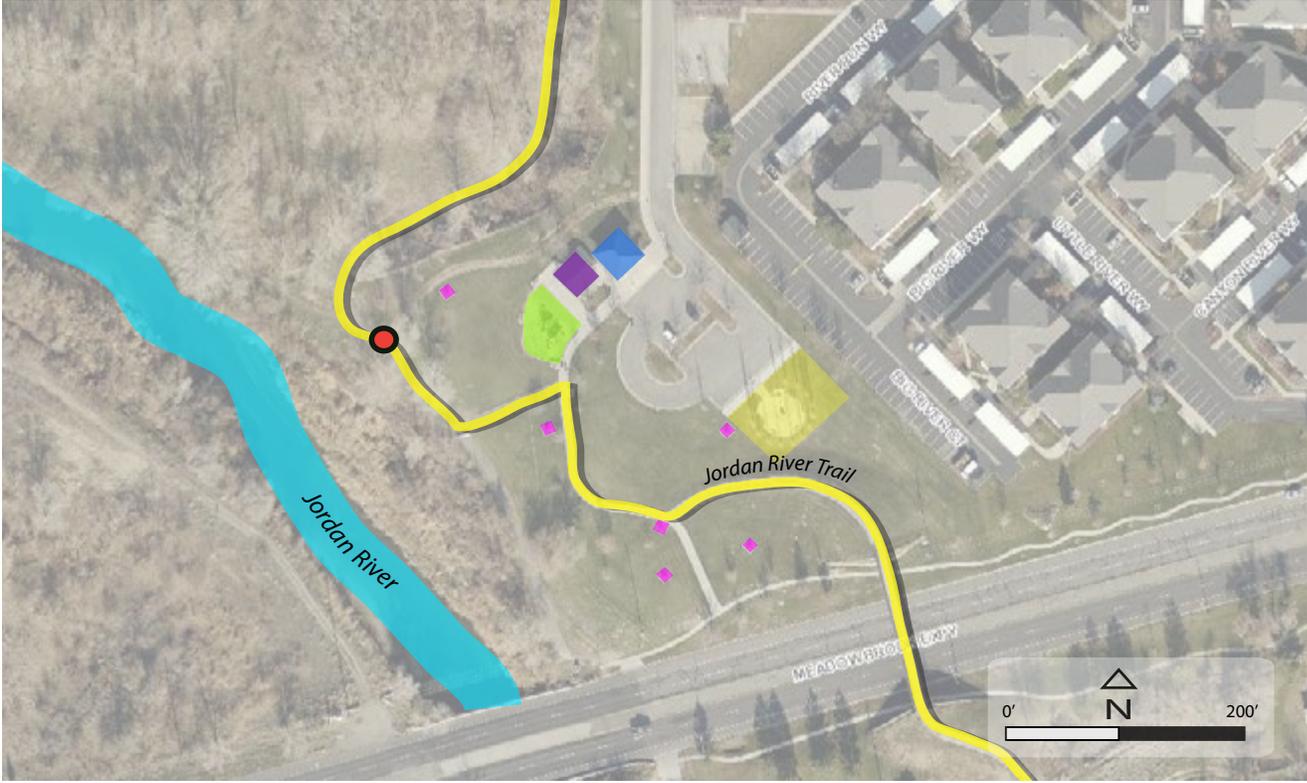
LEGEND

- pavilion
- active recreation area
- restrooms
- community garden
- picnic area
- playground

QUICK FACTS	
OWNER: Salt Lake County	
ADDRESS: 3760 South Main Street	
TOTAL ACREAGE: 10.4 acres	
AMENITIES:	PROPOSED AMENITIES:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> playground restrooms pavilions 2 baseball fields 2 tennis courts horseshoe area community garden turf irrigation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> playground restrooms pavilions 2 baseball fields 2 tennis courts horseshoe area community garden turf irrigation



GENERAL HOLM PARK



LEGEND

-  world war two memorial
-  picnic area
-  restrooms
-  pavilion
-  playground
-  river/stream
-  trail
-  trail access

QUICK FACTS	
OWNER: Salt Lake County	
ADDRESS: 1021 West Carlisle Park Lane	
TOTAL ACREAGE: 3.4 acres	
AMENITIES:	PROPOSED AMENITIES:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> playground pavilion restroom turf irrigation pedestrian bridge over 3900 South Jordan River Parkway trailhead 	



JAMES MADISON PARK



LEGEND



QUICK FACTS

OWNER: Salt Lake County
ADDRESS: 1111 West 3300 South
TOTAL ACREAGE: 3.8 acres

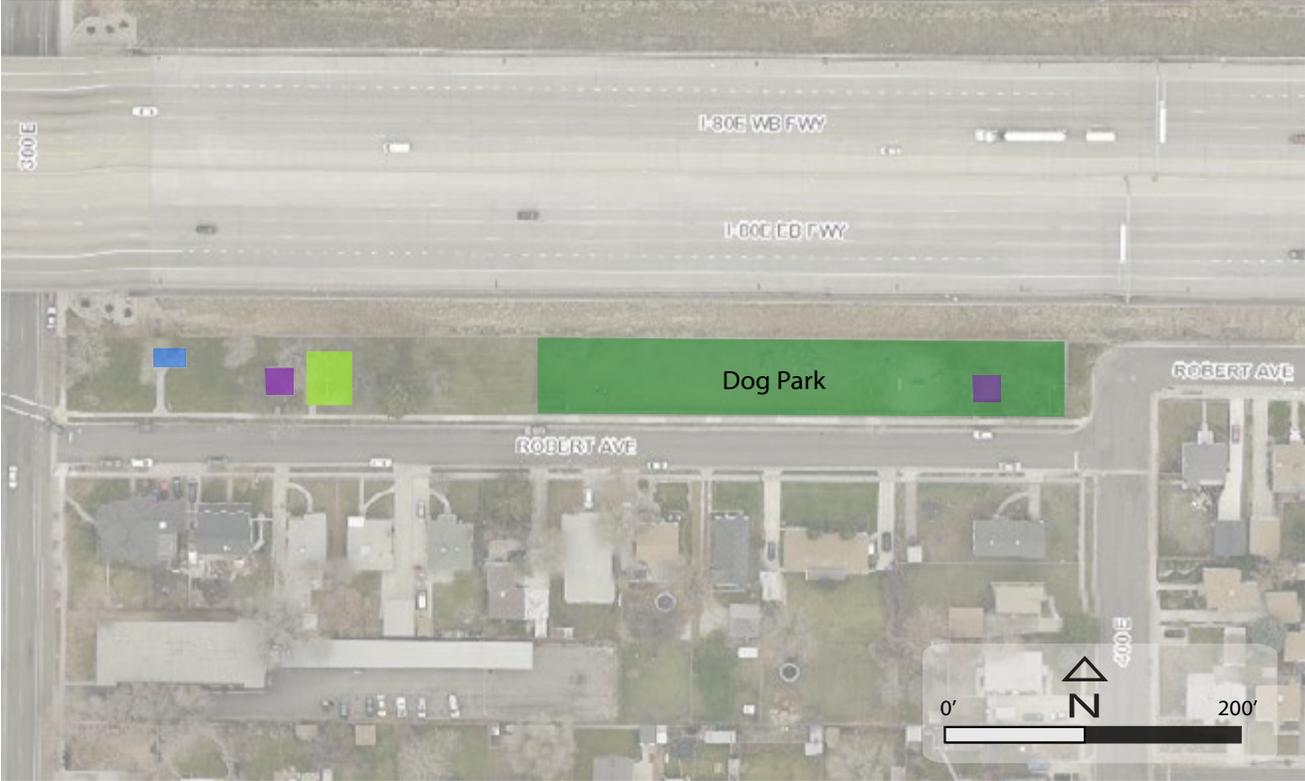
AMENITIES:

- restrooms
- turf
- irrigation
- Jordan River Parkway trailhead

PROPOSED AMENITIES:



LIONS PRIDE PARK



LEGEND

- pavilion
- active recreation area
- playground
- restrooms

QUICK FACTS	
OWNER: City of South Salt Lake	
ADDRESS: 2431 South 300 East	
TOTAL ACREAGE: 1 acre	
AMENITIES:	PROPOSED AMENITIES:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> swings dog park restroom pavilion turf irrigation lighting 	



McCALL PARK



LEGEND

- picnic area
- playground

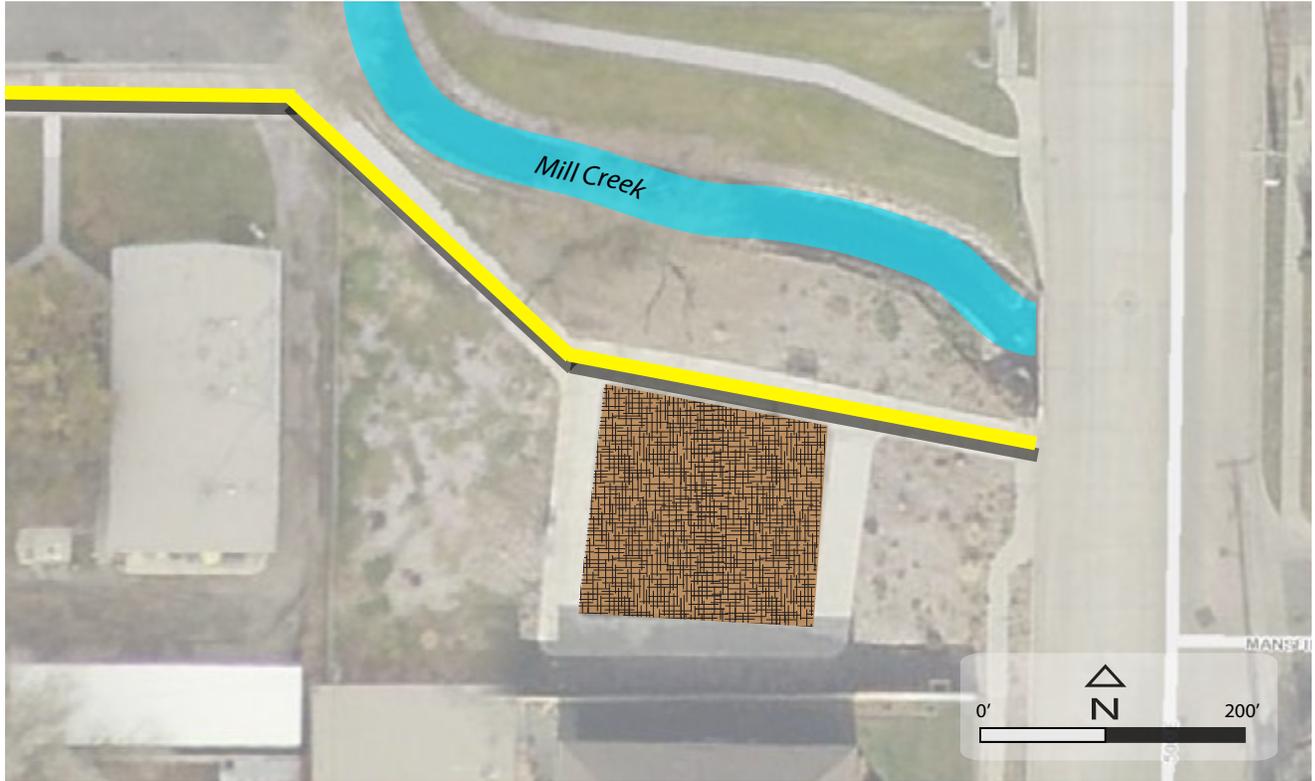
QUICK FACTS

OWNER: City of South Salt Lake
ADDRESS: 3702 South McCall Street
TOTAL ACREAGE: 0.5 acre

<p>AMENITIES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> turf irrigation playground detention basin 	<p>PROPOSED AMENITIES:</p>
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------



MILLCREEK TRAILHEAD PARK



LEGEND



QUICK FACTS

OWNER: City of South Salt Lake, conservation easement by Salt Lake County

ADDRESS: 3116 South 500 East

TOTAL ACREAGE: 0.43 acre

AMENITIES:

- natural open space
- demonstration garden
- Mill Creek
- Millcreek trail connection
- concrete walkway
- benches

PROPOSED AMENITIES:

- community garden
- **natural play area (stumps and rocks)**



HISTORIC SCOTT SCHOOL



LEGEND

-
 recreation area
-
 community garden

QUICK FACTS	
OWNER: City of South Salt Lake	
ADDRESS: 3238 South 500 East	
TOTAL ACREAGE: 0.6 acre	
AMENITIES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> turf irrigation arboretum courtyard community garden event lawn 	PROPOSED AMENITIES:



LINCOLN PARK



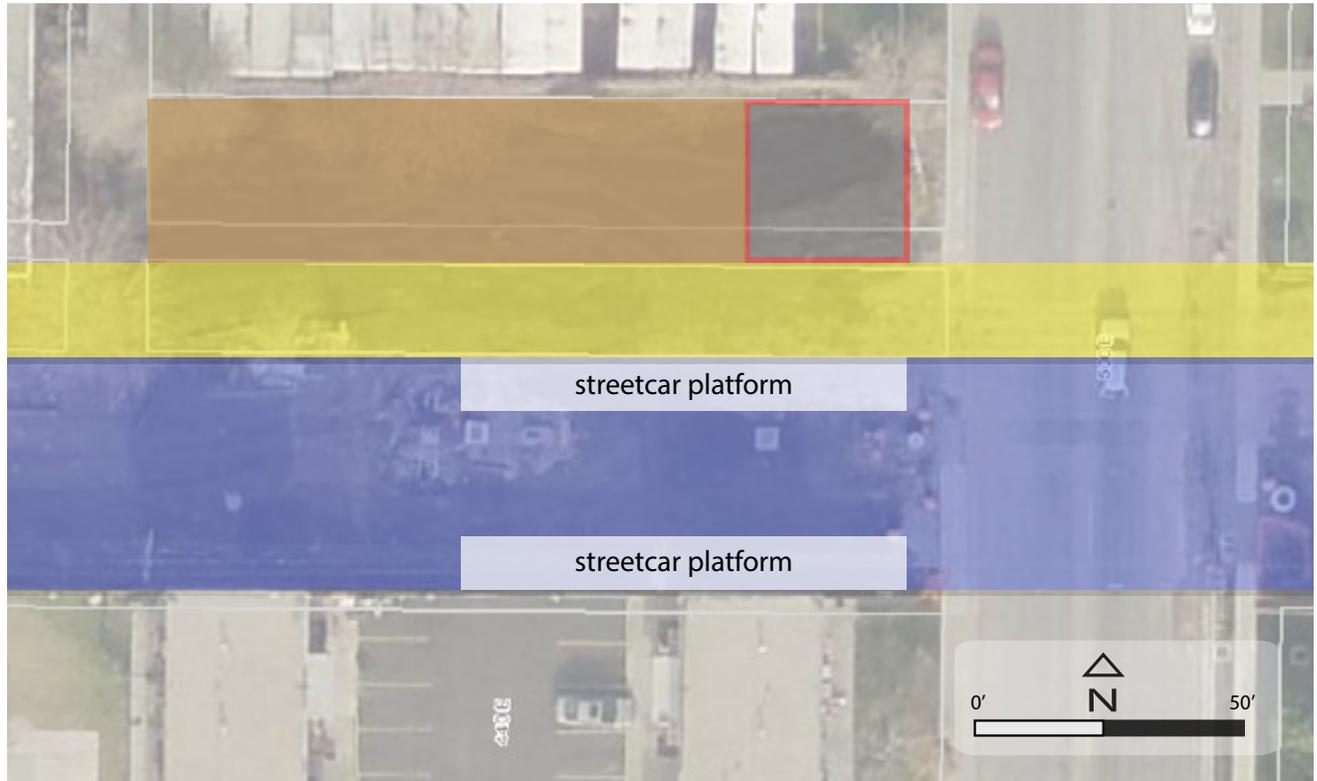
LEGEND

 green space

QUICK FACTS	
OWNER: City of South Salt Lake	
ADDRESS: 3680 South Lincoln Park Drive	
TOTAL ACREAGE: 0.3 acre	
AMENITIES:	PROPOSED AMENITIES:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • turf • irrigation • trees 	



GATEWAY GARDEN



LEGEND

- community garden
- future gateway plaza
- parley's trail
- s-line

QUICK FACTS

OWNER: City of South Salt Lake
ADDRESS: 2230 South 500 East
TOTAL ACREAGE: 0.2 acre

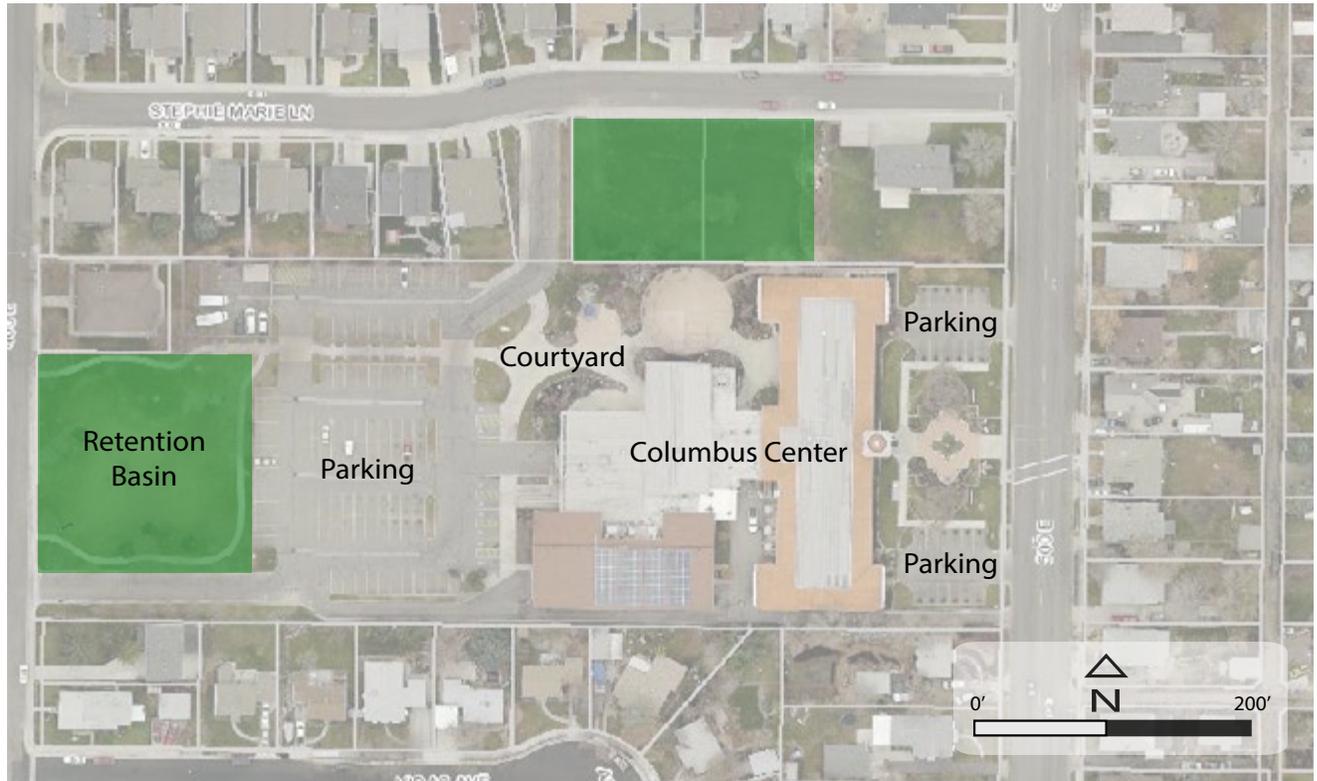
AMENITIES:

- Community garden
- Parley's Trail
- Streetcar line

PROPOSED AMENITIES:



COLUMBUS CENTER



LEGEND

 green space

QUICK FACTS

OWNER: City of South Salt Lake

ADDRESS: 2530 South 500 East

TOTAL ACREAGE: 0.6 acre

AMENITIES:

- turf
- irrigation
- fence

PROPOSED AMENITIES:



APPENDIX - SWOT ANALYSIS

RECREATION SWOT ANALYSIS 2014

The following analysis summarizes overall city parks and recreation Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT). Created with Parks and Recreation, Community Development, Promise SSL):

STRENGTHS

- Extensive system of community centers with a variety of offerings
- Have our own library, senior center (county-operated)
- Youth sports programs are high-quality, affordable, and have high participation rates
- Excellent after-school programming
- Successful Community Service program provides extensive free labor
- Partnerships with Jazz, SL Bees, Chill
- Programs target the city population well.
- New programs for adults in response to requests – Jazzercise, yoga, pickleball, adult volleyball.
- Special events are popular and are an excellent outreach tool.
- City is skilled at getting grant funding for programs that target their lower-income residents.
- High utilization of parks
- Value/cost of programs is high
- Customized, localized amenities
- Strong volunteers keep the rec programs going
- City has very good open space and recreation along Mill Creek and Jordan River.
- Expanding trail system to serve pedestrians and bicyclists.
- Majority of city residents have good access to parks and recreation facilities (city-owned or otherwise), measured by number of residents within walking distance (1/4 mile) of a park, open space or school.

WEAKNESSES:

- Have no adopted Parks and Recreation Master Plan
- Have no dedicated capital funding or impact fees.
- Have no master plans for several parks and facilities.
- Lack of coordinated Capital Improvements Plan or Facility Management expertise.
- Facility management funds have not grown to meet expanded property inventory.
- Outdated equipment and deferred maintenance (example – no automated irrigation at several sites).
- Feel the need for a “first class” recreation center.
- Still feeling loss of community rooms for rent after leasing Columbus Center to Alianza Academy.
- Some popular programs were lost/dropped in the last few years (WOW, adult softball, Movies in the Park, First tee)
- Limited adult recreation offerings and difficulty increasing participation in fitness classes.
- Limited summer recreation programs for youth and adults.
- County recreation is open to South Salt Lake residents, but many can’t afford it.
- Relatively low level of service for recreation, measured by park acreage per capita.
- No field or gym space available to expand sports programs.
- Several facilities used for city programs are rented from school district or county. This poses uncertainty for their future availability and for future costs to use.
- Community Service program needs a permanent home and an internet connection.
- Columbus Center is harder to care for without Community Service housed there.
- Recreation scholarship program was not offered last year by grant funders and may not be offered this year
- Lack of expertise and funding to maintain Jordan River Parkway, highway interchanges, other non-park spaces
- No outdoor recreation programs
- No urban forestry master plan or coordinated city policy
- Parks maintenance yard and storage needs improvement – indoor space for equipment, more secured storage areas.
- Lacking equipment – balls, workout room, etc. Would like some of this equipment in every building.

- Need a place for Hser Ner Moo kids to play soccer – currently going to WVC
- No funding for adult fitness + limited program funding
- Demand exceeds supply now – will get worse with time
- Need a membership gym in the city – public or private
- Need bicycle routes and urban trails
- No parks in the northeast corner of the city (Except St. Ann’s – maybe we can discuss with the diocese)
- Hser Ner Moo is not big enough community center for the demand

OPPORTUNITIES

- Tell people about recreation in new resident packet
- Opportunity for responsive programming and communication Guerrilla fitness- recreation anytime, anyplace Improve communication between departments and externally
- Central Park is close enough to access from the S-Line and could attract people with the right programming and wayfinding
- Scott School is underutilized for recreation
- Better job recruiting – can do with PSSL
- More collaboration with SL County Rec is possible
- Adult recreation programs get local businesses involved in the community.
- Potential new park and/or open space in the Riverfront-Carlisle neighborhood.
- Potential to acquire the green space, gymnasium building and/or Industrial Arts shop at Granite High.
- Potential to make Central Park the city’s premier park and recreation and fitness center.
- Potential to move senior center to new location (Creekside Building) to open up space at Columbus for community use and/or school.
- Potential to acquire the Todd property to expand Columbus Center green space or building.
- Build parks and public spaces within Downtown South Salt Lake.
- Build the greenway public park along the S-Line/Parley’s Trail.
- Acquire open space/parks along Millcreek trail corridors. Develop the city property on the west side of Fitts Park into trail corridor.
- Rent available gymnasium space in the city as temporary solution.
- Work with Salt Lake County Cultural Facilities Program to improve Historic Scott School a community arts center.
- Work with Salt Lake County to identify potential ZAP funded projects for if bond renewal passes in 2014.
- Potential to acquire additional property on Oakland Ave. to expand Public Works complex to include parks.
- Apply for grants to fund tree plantings on city property, native plant restorations along Jordan River.
- Potential for boating on the Jordan River through South Salt Lake and beyond.
- Remove/replace playground equipment at Fitts Park with equipment for a wider range of ages and interests.
- Create fitness circuit at Fitts Park with new sidewalk and fitness equipment.
- Create more recreation opportunities within developments, such as fitness centers, pools and rooftop gardens inside apartment complexes and PUDs.

THREATS

- Columbus Center does not feel like a community center anymore to some residents.
- Limited rooms/spaces available for rental by residents. Columbus spaces not replaced as promised.
- Questionable budget support for recreation programs, and potential further cuts in 2016.
- Salt Lake County interested in running more recreation programs within city, which may not suit resident needs and budgets as well as city programs.
- Losing public green space, tennis courts and track at Granite High.
- Losing location for Freedom Festival at Granite High.
- Possibility of additional loss of park space if Granite School District closes Granite Park Junior High School.
- Costs to rent/lease park and recreation facilities is increasing every year, at a rate faster than inflation as more agencies try to make facilities pay for themselves.
- City population is increasing through redevelopment, but land for park space is severely limited, further reducing level of service.