
EAST PALO ALTO PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE RECOMMENDATIONS

A Report Prepared for:
The Trust for Public Land

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INTRODUCTION

Executive Summary

East Palo Alto has the unique opportunity to improve and enhance its citizen's quality of life through a variety of development proposals pending before the City. Proposed redevelopment projects at Four Corners, Gateway/101 Corridor, University Circle and the Ravenswood Industrial Area will most likely improve the economy, resulting in new jobs and increased City revenues. However, any time such development opportunities arise, they necessarily beg the question: how will open space and recreational opportunities be addressed? Which park, recreation and open space should be preserved and/or acquired to provided the quality of life needed by residents? Do conflicts exist between open space and the development of commercial /industrial land?

This report and its recommendations establish a framework for the City of East Palo Alto and its citizens to begin the long term process of answering these difficult planning questions. Many of the tools needed to answer these questions are included in this report.

These park, recreation and open space recommendations are intended for incorporation in all long range planning efforts. The recommendations represent two of the seven elements required in the City's General Plan: 1) Open Space and 2) Conservation of Natural Resources. The report also includes a tiered prioritization for open space, park and recreation development.

Documents pertinent to this study, such as existing maps, reports, plans and large scale development proposals were reviewed to establish a solid background on the issues facing East Palo Alto. Open space sites were identified as public/semi-public owned lands using the City's parcel maps. Numerous site visits were conducted to become familiar with the existing park, recreation and open space resources of the City. These visits also assisted in identifying the unmet needs within the community and highlighted opportunities for realizing the short and long term goals incorporated in these recommendations.

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Executive Summary

Data from the site investigations was incorporated in the maps used at the community workshops to encourage discussion regarding open space issues. The community outreach program consisted of a series of monthly meetings with residents and agency stakeholders to help develop the process. Three public workshops encouraged participation by residents, local community groups and the CPAC (Community Planning Advisory Committee) members wishing to help guide the development of East Palo Alto's Open Space Element. Individual interviews were conducted with city planning staff, various city agencies, City councilmembers, the Community Development Director, community organization leaders and members of the CPAC. After receiving their input, comments and suggestions were incorporated and this report was prepared.

The recommendations developed for East Palo Alto take into consideration the many factors at play within the community. Most importantly, the plan focuses on the vision held by East Palo Alto's residents who attended the community workshops. Next, the recommendations examine the existing facilities and compare them to the National Recreation and Park Association guidelines. Upgrades, renovations or redesigns of existing facilities are explored as the most cost effective ways of improving the park and recreation facilities with the City. Land already in public ownership is identified and reviewed as potential sites for future parkland development. Each of these potentials is examined in relationship to its ability to satisfy the park and recreation needs identified by the community's residents and national and state guidelines. This analysis highlights improvements that can be made to the park, recreation and open space system in the short term. Regardless of the cost effectiveness of the specific recommendations, each of the identified improvements projects requires some level of funding to realize its implementation. Thus, financing mechanisms including development incentives and external sources of funding are also explored.

INTRODUCTION

Project History and Participants

The Trust for Public Land received grant support from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation to provide the City and the community of East Palo Alto with the technical assistance needed to formulate and implement the Open Space Element of the General Plan. East Palo Alto is currently updating its General Plan as part of the City's redevelopment strategy. A critical consideration in this process are questions related to the identification, distribution, and use of open spaces, park facilities and agricultural lands. The Trust for Public Land was asked by the City to work with the Director of Community Development for the purpose of developing a process through which the City and its citizens could come together to shape the future development and operations of parks and recreation facilities and open space sites.

The Trust for Public Land retained the services of the Sokale/Landry Collaborative, an environmental planning and landscape architecture firm, to aid in the development of a series of park, recreation and open space recommendations. The work involved several stages that included: completion of an open space inventory; preparation of a parks and recreation needs assessment; and an analysis of state and local regulations affecting land use and acquisition. The Trust for Public Land hired Heru Hall, a resident and committed grassroots organizer, to work with the Sokale/Landry Collaborative to coordinate all of the community outreach (See Appendix I: Study Team Members).

The citizens of East Palo Alto who attended the workshops to express their views on the future development of parks, recreation and open space inspired many of the recommendations contained in this report (See Appendix II: Workshop Attendance Roster). East Palo Alto residents through their voices, votes and active participation in the decision-making process of the local government are ultimately responsible for building the City. This report is their product to adopt and amend and to implement the recommendations as opportunities are created to do so.

Goals and Methodology

East Palo Alto is at the threshold of change. The City is located in a prominent position adjacent to San Francisco Bay that is conveniently accessed from Highway 101 in San Mateo County. East Palo Alto is nestled between the City of Menlo Park to the north, San Francisco Bay to the east and the City of Palo Alto to the southwest.

The primary goal of this project was to involve East Palo Alto residents in the process of determining the City's future park, recreation and open space facilities. This began by providing information about the City's resources to East Palo Alto residents and demonstrating a comparison between the existing facilities and national and state park, recreation and open space guidelines. This initial information was presented at the City's "Juneteenth Celebration" and the first meeting in a series of community workshops.

This information was gathered and compiled after a thorough review of all documents, discussions with community leaders and City staff and visits to existing and potential park sites. The documents reviewed for this study included existing maps, reports, plans and large scale development proposals. Numerous site visits were conducted to become familiar with the existing park, recreation and open space resources of East Palo Alto. These visits also assisted in identifying the unmet needs within the community and highlighted opportunities for realizing the short and long term goals incorporated in these recommendations. The data from the site investigations was used to create the maps presented at the community workshops.

Many forms of public outreach were included in the project. First, The Trust for Public Land hired Heru Hall, a resident and committed grassroots organizer, to coordinate all aspects of the community outreach. His personal contacts and connections throughout the City gave the The Trust for Public Land's project a local voice. He coordinated meetings, developed flyers in several languages, created the televised talk show, manned the

INTRODUCTION

Goals and Methodology

"Juneteenth" booth and personally contacted residents to bring them to events. Mr. Hall was hired based upon recommendations from community and business leaders who had been donating their time as part of The Trust for Public Land's Resource Team. The Resource Team evolved out of an initial community workshop sponsored by the California Trails Foundation in the fall of 1994. A core group of community leaders and agency representatives who had attended this workshop began to meet monthly with The Trust for Public Land to strategize and develop a plan to galvanize the community around the City's open space issues (See Appendix III: Resource Team Roster).

Second, additional forms of community outreach included attendance at the weekend-long "Juneteenth Celebration," a series of three community workshops and two televised talk shows. These events were developed to gather information from residents regarding their thoughts on park and recreation needs within the community and to present and receive feedback on the implementation recommendations. Third, this final report will be circulated and presented to the 31-member Community Planning Advisory Committee to allow for maximum coordination with all aspects of the planning process.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Government Structure

Two departments share the responsibility for parks and recreation within the City of East Palo Alto (See Diagram 1 - City Government Organization). The Community Services Department provides recreational programming and coordinates reservations for park and recreation facilities. Daily contact with the public is afforded from these activities. As a result of these daily interactions, maintenance and operations concerns are reported by the public to the Community Services Department. These issues must then be referred to the Community Development Department.

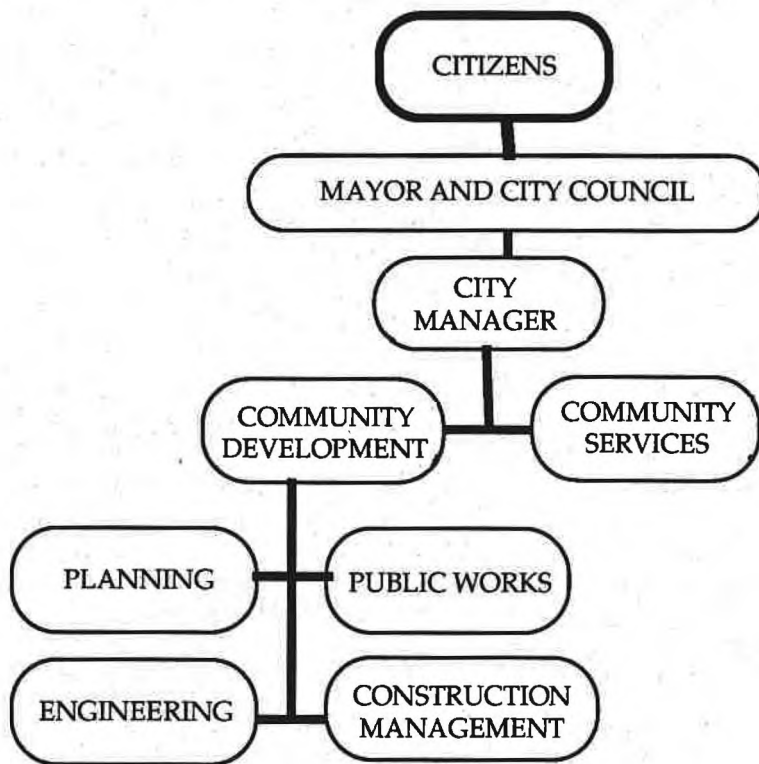


Diagram 1. City Government Organization

The Community Development Department is responsible for all facility operations and construction including park development and maintenance. The Department's maintenance functions include keeping the infrastructure of the city, its streets, sewer lines, water lines and stormwater systems in working order. This task is difficult due to problems present in the infrastructure. Planning, Public Works, Construction Management and Engineering are also under the jurisdiction of this department.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Park and Recreation Facilities

The City of East Palo Alto's three parks, Bell Street, Jack Farrell, and Martin Luther King Jr. offer the only active recreation facilities owned and operated by the City. Ravenswood School District owns 37 acres of land at four school sites within the City limits. Most of the school property includes open space and/or recreational facilities. Although these sites have the potential to meet a great many of the recreation needs of East Palo Alto, all of the sites are currently closed to the public during both school hours and non-school hours. The existing park and recreation facilities include:

Bell Street Park

This five acre park is situated at the intersection of Bell Street and University Avenue (*See Figure 1*). Bell Street Park is the most developed of the city parks with a Senior Center, tot lot, picnic area and pavilion, large grass area, a gymnasium and the Community Services Department office. The gymnasium includes basketball and volleyball courts and indoor soccer leagues, as well as aerobics and gymnastic classes. An outdoor swimming pool and two sand volleyball courts are currently under construction at the park. This construction has been undertaken to partially mitigate the loss of recreation facilities from the old Ravenswood High School site.

The Senior Center is located at Bell Street Park, but is independently operated. The center provides a place for seniors to congregate, visit and play games during the day. Lunch is served during the week. Courses in sewing, exercise and ceramics, in addition to seminars on a wide variety of topics are offered through the Center's programming.

Martin Luther King Jr. Park

At five and one half acres Martin Luther King Jr. Park is the largest park in the city. It is situated along the Palo Alto Baylands in the Gardens Neighborhood. The park is relatively undeveloped and contains only a single little league field, a small parking lot with restrooms and a paved path linking the park to the San Francisco Bay Trail. Two acres of the site are completely undeveloped (*See Figure 1*).

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Park and Recreation Facilities

Jack Farrell Park

This three and one half acre park is located in the University Village neighborhood on Fordham Street (*See Figure 1*). The park was developed on the site of an old quarry. As a result, the majority of the facilities are located in a basin that is significantly below the grade of the surrounding neighborhood. The park includes a baseball field, tot lot, restrooms and parking area.

Community Gardens

There is a single community garden located in the Weeks Neighborhood on Weeks Street. However, this site is privately owned and operated under a lease agreement with the East Palo Alto Agricultural and Historical Society. Demand is not met by the site and individuals wishing a plot are placed on a waiting list. The City has no property specifically designated for community gardens. At least eight for-profit gardens and/or agricultural product vendors operate within the City.

Commercial Recreation Opportunities

Residents in most communities benefit from the availability of numerous commercial recreation opportunities including movie theaters, fitness centers, ice and roller rinks, amusements parks, bowling alleys, miniature golf courses, etc. Currently, there are no commercial recreational ventures located in East Palo Alto.

Maintenance

During the site investigations it was evident that routine maintenance of the parks was insufficient. Every effort should be made to increase the level of maintenance to protect the existing investment in these facilities. Any new park development should be undertaken only after considering long term maintenance costs.

Open Space Preserves

East Palo Alto does benefit from the establishment of two significant open space sites located directly adjacent to its border. The Ravenswood Open Space Preserve and the Palo Alto Baylands Nature Preserve form a buffer between San Francisco Bay and the northerly limit of the City (*See Figure 1*). These sites offer scenic vistas, provide flood control to the City, serve some of the passive recreation needs of the community and provide habitat to numerous native plant and animal species.

Residents use these sites for walking, jogging, bicycling and nature appreciation. While these two preserves are a wonderful resource for the citizens of East Palo Alto, they serve only passive recreation functions and can not meet the need for active recreation.

Palo Alto Baylands Nature Preserve

This tract of land located within East Palo Alto is owned and managed by the City of Palo Alto. The preserve dominates the frontage of San Francisco Bay. The site provides some access for hiking, bird watching, nature study and cycling on established trails. The preservation of wetland habitat and wildlife populations have priority in the management strategy of the site.

Ravenswood Open Space Preserve

This tract of land is located primarily within the city limits of Menlo Park, but shares some of East Palo Alto's bayfront with the Baylands Nature Preserve. Similar use and management restrictions apply to this parcel that is owned and operated by the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

All of the existing trails in East Palo Alto are built along San Francisco Bay and San Francisquito Creek. Approximately 6,000 feet of paved trail and 1,500 feet of unimproved trail currently exist along the bayfront. An additional 4,500 feet of unimproved trail extends along San Francisquito Creek south from San Francisco Bay toward Highway 101. These segments are contiguous and total 2 1/4 miles of trail.

In recent years, trails have been considered to be more than recreational amenities. Trails provide a transportation function. Walking and bicycling are the primary modes of transportation for many residents of East Palo Alto. It is therefore imperative that trails also be considered part of the transportation infrastructure of the city. The existing trails include:

San Francisco Bay Trail

The San Francisco Bay Trail is planned to encircle the San Francisco Bay with a multi-use trail. In East Palo Alto, the Bay Trail crosses San Francisquito Creek from Palo Alto Baylands and follows a levee up to Weeks Street. At Weeks Street the trail becomes an unimproved footpath and connects to Bay Road. An additional paved segment of trail developed by Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District extends from Bay Road north for approximately 1/4 mile. A spur extends along an unimproved access road from the bridge over San Francisquito Creek toward Highway 101 (See Figure 2).

San Francisquito Creek Trail and Greenway

San Francisquito Creek forms the boundary between the City of East Palo Alto and the City of Palo Alto from San Francisco Bay to Euclid Avenue. San Francisquito Creek is identified in the Open Space Action Plan of the 1986 City of East Palo Alto General Plan as a potential greenbelt for the City (East Palo Alto, City of, 1986). The Friends of San Francisquito Creek, a private nonprofit organization, has promoted the restoration of the riparian habitat and return of historic flows throughout the length of the waterway. At present, only short unimproved trails created simply by human use exist within the creek corridor (See Figure 2).

Trail Facilities

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Natural Resources

An inventory of East Palo Alto's natural resources was conducted during the study (*See Figure 3*). Habitats were classified under the California Wildlife Habitat Relationship System. This system groups habitats into four broad categories - Urban-developed Habitats, Tree-dominated Habitats, Herbaceous Habitats and Aquatic Habitats.

Urban-developed Habitats

This habitat comprises the majority of habitat available for wildlife in East Palo Alto. This category has four subgroups including Commercial, Industrial, Urban Residential and Urban Park. All of these habitats have been affected to some degree by human activities. Residential backyards, open fields, street trees and landscaped areas provide the habitat in the Urban-developed areas. Generally, those areas of less intensive development provide the greatest degree of habitat. These habitat types are frequented by raccoons, opossums, skunks and squirrels. Bird species common to the Urban-developed Habitat include robins, scrub jays, starlings, house sparrows and morning doves. As East Palo Alto pursues its plans for redevelopment it can be expected that higher density development will replace existing facilities and result in a reduction in the quality of the Urban-developed Habitat.

One exception to this general rule of thumb may be found within the Weeks Neighborhood. During the past five years, residents with the assistance of the US Department of the Interior - National Park Service Rivers and Trails Program, East Palo Alto Historical and Agricultural Society and Urban Ecology, Inc. have been developing a plan to preserve the physical and social character of this neighborhood. The Weeks Neighborhood Community Plan outlines preservation goals and urban design criteria intended to maintain the integrity of the neighborhood's agricultural history (Weeks Neighborhood Community Plan, September, 1995). The Weeks Neighborhood is primarily composed of large (1/2 to 2 acre) single family lots which have traditionally supported an agricultural-based economy. The plan supports the preservation of the agricultural industry and physical components associated

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Natural Resources

with farming. Thus, the large lots, rural streets, heritage trees and community gardens are recommended for protection by the City. Adoption of this plan would likely maintain the quality of the Urban-developed Habitat in the Weeks Neighborhood.

Tree-dominated Habitat

San Francisquito Creek provides the only significant Tree-dominated Habitat in East Palo Alto. This habitat category includes oak-woodlands, riparian corridors and non-native eucalyptus groves. San Francisquito Creek hosts willows, sycamores and coast live oaks which are inhabited by a variety of bird and mammals species. East Palo Alto also has pockets of remnant oak-woodlands on several undeveloped parcels. These remaining portions of forest contain multi-age stands of coast live oak trees. Many of these trees would be considered heritage trees under the City's existing ordinance.

Herbaceous Habitats

This type of habitat includes grasslands and wetlands. Wetland communities are found along the bayfront and grasslands are found in the undeveloped areas between the bayfront and the edge of residential development. Wetlands provide habitat for shorebirds, migratory waterfowl, bats, raccoons and jackrabbits. The marsh hawk is a frequent hunter of these sites. Grasslands host ground squirrels, gophers, mice and voles, alligator and western fence lizards, burrowing owls, red-tailed hawks and turkey vultures.

Aquatic Habitats

This habitat can be divided into freshwater and saltwater. The salt ponds, the sloughs found throughout the wetlands and the downstream portion of San Francisquito Creek provide saltwater habitat. San Francisquito Creek, upstream of Highway 101, and the storm water retention pond adjacent to Martin Luther King Jr. Park provide the only freshwater sites. Most animals visit these sites to drink.

PARK, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE NEEDS

EAST PALO ALTO PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE RECOMMENDATIONS

Park Acreage Needs

A comparison between the existing park and recreation facilities and national and state guidelines for park, recreation and open space facilities is necessary to assess the needs of a community. In order to develop acquisition, development and preservation goals and objectives, an analysis was prepared to pinpoint need gaps. The three methods of evaluating the park, recreation and open space deficiencies and corresponding needs are detailed below. They include a comparison of existing resources to the National Recreation and Park Association guidelines; an evaluation in accordance with California's Quimby Act; and outreach to the community to obtain the public's viewpoints.

Park Acreage Compared to National Recreation and Park Association Guidelines

The National Recreation and Park Association provides guidelines for the development of park, recreation and open space facilities. These guidelines are viewed by most planners as minimum requirements for park and recreation facilities. The guidelines are also dated and do not fully reflect current recreation trends. The National Recreation and Park Association is anticipated to release new guidelines in 1996. However, any set of guidelines offers only a single reference point for assessing the needs and desires of a community.

The guidelines define a broad array of park types and establish minimum acreage thresholds required to meet the park and recreation needs of communities. Four of the park types are applicable to East Palo Alto. They include mini-parks, neighborhood and community parks and linear parks. The definitions of these park types and the existing facilities that fulfill these guidelines are described below.

Mini-Park or Pocket Park:

A small facility usually serving residents within a quarter mile radius. Ranging in size from 1/4 to 1/2 acre per 1,000 people. Often these parks are specialized to serve a specific population such as children or seniors depending upon the demographics of the neighborhood.

PARK, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE NEEDS

Park Acreage Needs

Currently, there are no mini-parks located within the city. This type of park is one of the easiest to integrate into a developed neighborhood due to the limited land requirement. These types of facilities can be maintenance intensive especially when a large number are located throughout the city.

Neighborhood Park

A higher-intensity recreation area serving the population within a 1/2 mile radius. Generally, a minimum size of 1 to 2 acres per 1,000 people served is recommended. Martin Luther King Jr. and Jack Farrell parks serve as neighborhood facilities. Both sites could be redeveloped to make better use of the existing acreage and modernized the recreation equipment, courts and fields.

Community Park

A facility which usually includes both natural areas for passive recreation and developed areas for active recreation. Community parks serve residents within a 2 mile radius and usually require 5 to 8 acres per 1,000 residents. Bell Street Park functions as a community park; incorporating the greatest number of the City's active recreation amenities including the swimming pool, gymnasium, tot lot, sand volleyball courts, open fields and Senior Center.

Linear Park

A facility that integrates a natural feature such a stream course or open space corridor to provide opportunities for walking, running, bicycling and horseback riding. No developed linear parks exist in East Palo Alto. However, San Francisquito Creek provides an ideal setting for trail development.

Many deficiencies are observed through the comparison of existing facilities in East Palo Alto to the recommendations of the National Recreation and Park Association for a community of approximately 23,000 individuals. The need gaps are summarized in Table 1. Comparison of East Palo Alto Park Acreage to NRPA Guidelines and Quimby Act Standards.

PARK, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE NEEDS

EAST PALO ALTO PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE RECOMMENDATIONS

Comparison of East Palo Alto Park Acreage to NRPA Guidelines and Quimby Act Standards for a Community of 23,000

Park Type	Acres/1000 Pop.	Recommended	Existing	Deficiency
Mini/Pocket	1/4 to 1/2	6 to 12 acres	None	6 to 12 acres
Neighborhood	1 to 2	23 to 46 acres	MLK Jr. (5.6 acres) J. Farrell (3.6 acres)	14 to 37 acres
Community	5 to 8	115 to 184 acres	Bell St. (5 acres)	110 to 179 acres
Linear	1 Trail System	1 Trail System	Bay Trail (1 mi. improved and 1/4 mi. unimproved) San Francisquito Trail (3/4 mi. unimproved)	Complete Trail System
NRPA Total Acreage	6.25 to 10.50	144 to 242 acres	Approx. 14 acres	130 to 228 acres
NRPA Total Acreage w/ School Property	6.25 to 10.50	144 to 242 acres	Approx. 51 acres	93 to 191 acres
Quimby Act Total Acreage	3 to 5	69 to 115 acres	Approx. 14 acres	55 to 101 acres
Quimby Act Total Acreage w/School Property	3 to 5	69 to 115 acres	Approx. 51 acres	18 to 64 acres

Table 1. Comparison of EPA Park Acreage to NRPA Guidelines and Quimby Act Standards.

East Palo Alto is deficient in park acreage from between 55 acres to 228 acres based on the National Recreation and Park Association guidelines and Quimby Act Standards. This deficiency is reduced to between 18 acres to 191 acres when school property is made available to public use. Regardless of guidelines or inclusion of school grounds, East Palo Alto suffers from a lack of park and associated recreation facilities.

PARK, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE NEEDS

Park Acreage Needs

Comparison to Quimby Act Standards

California's Quimby Act allows cities to require builders of residential subdivisions to dedicate land for parks and recreation or pay an open space fee. This section of the government code recommends that 3 to 5 acres of land be dedicated for every 1,000 residents within a community. The Quimby Act provides another reference point in the analysis of the park and recreation needs of a community.

The Quimby Act recommends between 69 to 115 acres of park and recreation facilities for a community of 23,000. Currently, East Palo Alto has 14 acres of City property designated as parkland. A deficiency of 55 to 101 acres exists under the Quimby Act standards. This is reduced to between 18 acres to 64 acres when school property is made available to public use. Even using this more lenient Quimby Act standard, East Palo Alto falls short of the recommend acreage for parkland.

The National Recreation and Park Association guidelines and Quimby Act standards note that these recommendations for developed parks and recreation acreage should be considered in addition to land dedicated for open space. Neither of these reference points recommend specific acreage set-asides for open space. Improved pedestrian and bicycle access to the Palo Alto Baylands Nature Preserve and Ravenswood Open Space Preserve would likely afford East Palo Alto residents with adequate open space opportunities. Residents also benefit from the close proximity of these resources to their homes. Most residents can reach these sites without the use of an automobile.

PARK, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE NEEDS

EAST PALO ALTO PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE RECOMMENDATIONS

Recreation Facility Needs

As with a park acreage assessment, a comparison of existing recreation facilities to the national and state guidelines is necessary to evaluate the recreation need gap of a community. The deficiency found with park acreage is also evidenced in the comparison of East Palo Alto's existing recreation facilities to the recommendations of the National Recreation and Park Association for a community of approximately 23,000 individuals.

Recreation Facilities Compared to National Recreation and Park Association Guidelines

The National Recreation and Park Association also provides guidelines for recreation facilities. Numerous types of recreation activities, and the facilities needed to support these forms of recreation, are defined in the guidelines. Minimum facility thresholds are outlined for communities. The various recreation activities and the existing facilities that fulfill these guidelines are described in Table 2. Comparison of Recreation Facilities in East Palo Alto to NRPA Guidelines. As is the case with parks, many deficiencies are observed through the comparison of existing recreation facilities in East Palo Alto to the recommendations of the National Recreation and Park Association.

**PARK, RECREATION AND
OPEN SPACE NEEDS**

**Comparison of Recreation Facilities in East Palo Alto to
NRPA Guidelines for a Community of 23,000**

Recreation Facility Type	Acres/1000 Pop.	Recommended	Existing	Deficiency
Badminton Courts	1/5,000 or 1/4-1/2 mi	4 courts	None	4 courts
Basketball Courts	1/5,000 or 1/4-1/2 mi	4 courts	1 Indoor	3 courts
Tennis Courts	1/2,000 or 1/4-1/2 mi	11 courts	0	11 courts
Volleyball Courts	1/5,000 or 1/4-1/2 mi	4 courts	2 Sand	2 courts
Baseball Fields	1/5,000 or 1/4-1/2 mi	4 fields	2	2 fields
Lighted Baseball Flds.	1/30,000 or 1/4-1/2 mi	1 field	0	1 field
Softball Fields	1/5,000 or 1/4-1/2 mi	4 fields	0	4 fields
Soccer Fields	1/10,000 or 1-2 mi	2 fields	0	2 fields
Multi-use Courts	1/10,000 or 1-2 mi	2 courts	0	2 courts
Handball Courts	1/20,000 or 15-30 min travel	1 court	0	1 court
Field Hockey Fields	1/20,000 or 15-30 min travel	1 field	0	1 field
Football Fields	1/20,000 or 15-30 min travel	1 field	0	1 field
Driving Range	1/50,000 or 15-30 min travel	0 ranges	0	0 ranges
1/4 Track	1/20,000 or 15-30 min travel	1 track	0	1 track
Trails	1 system/15 min travel	1 system	Incomplete	complete
Archery Range	1/50,000 or 15-30 min travel	0 ranges	0	0
Skeet & Trap Range	1/50,000 or 15-30 min travel	0 range	1 Private	0
Swimming Pool	1/20,000 or 15-30 min travel	1 pool	1 New	0
Golf 9-Hole	1/25,000 or 30-60 min travel	1 course	0	1 course
Golf 18-Hole	1/25,000 or 30-60 min travel	1 course	1 PA Muni	0

Table 2. Comparison of Recreation Facilities in East Palo Alto to NRPA Guidelines

Many deficiencies in recreation facilities exist in East Palo Alto. This situation has been made worse by the loss of the Ravenswood High School site. Although some of these facilities have been replaced at Bell Street Park, the loss has yet to be fully mitigated.

PARK, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE NEEDS

EAST PALO ALTO PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE RECOMMENDATIONS

Recreation Facility Needs

Comparison to Community Identified Recreation Needs

The National Recreation and Park Association guidelines provided a starting point for discussing the recreation needs of the community with residents who attended the public outreach programs. Although the guidelines offer one bench mark for assessing needs, they can not fully reflect the desires of an individual community. Several workshops, televised talk shows and participation in the "Juneteenth Celebration" were undertaken to hear the thoughts of East Palo Alto's residents. The desires of the East Palo Alto community can be organized into three distinct categories. They include cultural facilities, cityscape concepts and park and recreation facilities.

Inclusive Cultural Facilities

Residents wanted a "cultural center" to display all forms of artistic expression. The center would include space for dance lessons, theater productions, art classes, etc. At this site the residents also proposed a small outdoor amphitheater for use in both performances and community events. It is anticipated that many of the recreation programs offered by the City could originate from this center.

Innovative Cityscape Concepts

Many cityscape concepts were proposed by residents. These ideas ranged from the development of a central plaza for use both as a local marketplace and gathering location to the creation and installation of public art. Numerous forms of art were described by residents. They included such forms as murals, sculptures, historic restorations and graffiti walls.

Residents also indicated a desire for the development and installation of gateway features that announce the entrance into East Palo Alto. The idea of incorporating a water tank theme or logo element in the gateway entrance design to represent East Palo Alto's agricultural history was put forward. All of these ideas are important to the redevelopment of the City and are recorded for the relevance many of these cityscape concepts may have to future park, recreation and open space development. It is possible that many of these ideas can be incorporated into the design of new facilities and the renovation of existing sites.

PARK, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE NEEDS

Recreation Facility Needs

Residents expressed interest in many types of recreation facilities. They can be summarized into three categories: active recreation facilities, pedestrian and bicycle circulation, and city-wide facilities. Many of the needs identified by the residents are incorporated in the recommendations detailed in the next chapter.

Resident Identified Recreation Needs		
Active Recreation Facilities	Ped/Bike Circulation	City-wide Facilities
Group Picnic Areas	Improved Ped/Bike	Community Center
Multi-purpose Fields	Access at University	Youth Center
Tennis Courts w/Lights	Ave. Overpass	
Basketball Courts		"Mid-life/Taxpayer
Volleyball Courts	New Underpass	Center"
Baseball Fields	Crossing Beneath	Fishing Access along
Soccer Fields	Highway 101	San Francisco Bay
Bike Rodeo Course	possibly at Euclid	
Handball/Racquetball		Restore SF Creek
1/4 mile Track	Develop San	Community Gardens
Horseshoes	Francisquito	Environmental Center
Shuffle Board	Creek Trail w/	
Par Course	Crossing under	Improved Heritage
Public Restrooms	Highway 101	Tree Ordinance
Tot Lots		
	Greenbelt circling	Open Cooley Landing
	the City and linking	
	parks and schools	
	Streetscape Plan	
	for Weeks Neighborhood	

Table 3. Resident Identified Recreation Needs

RECOMMENDATIONS

EAST PALO ALTO PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE RECOMMENDATIONS

Parks and Recreation Facilities

The recommendations developed for East Palo Alto take into consideration the many factors at play within the community. Most importantly, the plan focuses on the vision held by East Palo Alto's residents who attended the community workshops sponsored by The Trust for Public Land. Next, the recommendations examine the existing facilities and compare them to the National Recreation and Park Association guidelines. In addition, attention is given to the location, neighborhood demographics, accessibility, and types of facilities that are desirable for particular neighborhoods. The regulatory framework of agencies with jurisdiction in East Palo Alto is monitored to insure the park, recreation and open space recommendations are in compliance with current laws and policies. These benchmarks offer a long-range perspective. However, in order to establish both short and long term goals, the plan takes into consideration financial constraints.

Upgrades, renovations or redesigns of existing facilities are explored as the most cost effective ways of improving the park and recreation facilities within the City. Land already in public ownership is identified and reviewed as potential sites for future parkland development. Each of these potentials is examined in relationship to its ability to satisfy the park and recreation needs identified by the community's residents and federal and state guidelines. This analysis highlights improvements that can be made to the park, recreation and open space system in the short term. Regardless of the cost effectiveness of the specific recommendations, each of the identified improvement projects requires some level of funding to realize its implementation. Thus, financing mechanisms including development incentives and external sources of funding are identified.

It should be noted that park, recreation and open space development is directly connected to the changes that occur within the community. These changes can be physical changes to the land that result from redevelopment or a reorganization of priorities based upon evolving public opinion regarding parks and recreation. As a result, it is critical that the City Council, appointed Commissions and residents regularly review and update the parks, recreation and open space plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Parks and Recreation Facilities

The most important recommendation for East Palo Alto's long range park, recreation and open space system is to provide facilities in close proximity to all residents. The service areas of the existing park and recreation facilities meet the needs of a small percentage of residents as defined by the National Recreation and Park Association guidelines. Only those residents living within the half-mile radii of Bell Street, Martin Luther King Jr. and Jack Farrell parks are served by existing facilities (*See Figure 4*). Service to all residents can be accomplished by securing access to all school grounds and adding six mini- or pocket-parks and 1 neighborhood park to the system.

Access to School Grounds

The Ravenswood School District owns and operates 37 acres of land at four school sites within the city limits. Most of the school property includes open space and/or recreational facilities. These sites have the potential to meet many of the park and recreation needs of East Palo Alto. Unfortunately, due to security concerns all of these sites are currently closed to the public during both school hours and non-school hours.

The scarcity of open space resources and the financial constraints impacting both local governments and schools has encouraged many communities in the Bay Area to develop joint use agreements between cities and school districts. This form of cooperation is necessary in East Palo Alto. Joint use agreements generally define physical site improvements and maintenance and operation responsibilities of both parties. It is understandable that this type of joint use has yet to occur in East Palo Alto. However, as crime is reduced through the efforts of East Palo Alto's Police Department and cooperating jurisdictions, it is imperative that experiments involving a sharing of resources occur between the City and the school district for the benefit of all residents and the reduction of costs to both public agencies.

Joint use agreements at all four school sites would provide park and recreation facilities to as many residents as are served by the three existing city parks. Even with this addition of school resources, several of East Palo Alto's neighborhoods would remain

RECOMMENDATIONS

Parks and Recreation Facilities

unserved. This is particularly true of the Willows and West Bayshore neighborhoods located on the west side of Highway 101 as well as the Gardens, Weeks and Midtown/Palo Alto Park areas to the east of Highway 101 (See Figure 1). It is in these locations that the addition of one neighborhood park and six mini- or pocket-parks are recommended to adequately meet the needs of all residents (See Figure 4).

Neighborhood Park Development

The neighborhood park is recommended for the Weeks area. The reasons for locating the largest proposed park facility in the Weeks are three-fold. First, even with the addition of the school sites, the Weeks area would remain the largest unserved area. Second, the majority of the Weeks neighborhood contains 1/2 to 2-acre residential lots and larger tracts of land previously used for agriculture. It is most probable that land sufficient to develop a neighborhood park can be found in this area of the City. Third, the agricultural history of the Weeks neighborhood would be best expressed by a significant sized park. One of the desires voiced by residents was to preserve the rural atmosphere of the Weeks neighborhood. Residents' believed that the sense of place could be passed on to future generations through the development and operation of an environmental education center. The center would focus on interpreting the agricultural history of East Palo Alto .

The most significant redevelopment project undertaken by East Palo Alto is the Gateway/101 Corridor project. This project sets the framework for the future use of approximately 145 acres that includes the old Ravenswood High School Site. The Gateway/101 Corridor Specific Plan designates 11.4 acres of the area for park and recreation development (Wallace Roberts & Todd, 1993). The plan recommends that one acre be located adjacent to Brentwood Oaks Elementary School in the Gateway area. A second larger site, totaling 10.4 acres, is to be located in the Gateway area south of O'Conner Street. The exact placement will be determined as development proposals are submitted to the City. This larger site is proposed across the street from Brentwood Oaks Elementary and Ronald McNair Middle Schools. Under the proposed joint use agreement scenario, this neighborhood would be adequately

Parks and Recreation Facilities

served by the existing schools. It is recommended that a site of similar size be identified within the Weeks neighborhood and the fees collected from the redevelopment area be alternatively used to purchase a neighborhood park site in the Weeks area (*See Figure 4*). It is believed that a park within this residential area is more desirable than a park located in a primarily commercial setting. The Gateway/101 Corridor Plan includes housing, but the majority of the redevelopment is directed at commercial uses which will provide greatly needed tax revenue for the City. Placement of a neighborhood park in the Weeks area would meet the park and recreation needs of these residents and has the potential to be achieved in part through fees collected from the Gateway/101 Corridor project.

Mini- or Pocket-Park Development

Six mini- or pocket-parks are recommended throughout the City. The highest priority areas include those neighborhoods west of Highway 101. All of the City's existing parks are located to the east of Highway 101. Residents living to the west of Highway 101 in the Willows and West Bayshore neighborhoods must cross the freeway to enjoy any of these facilities. Access to the west side is provided only by two freeway overpasses. The University Avenue overpass provides a single sidewalk in the west-bound direction causing pedestrians and bicyclists to compete for space and disregard the "rules-of-the-road" for safety reasons. Pedestrians and bicyclists correctly perceive the only sidewalk to be the safer option than that of merging on the road with automobile traffic entering and exiting Highway 101. The Willows Road overpass is the other access route to the west side. This overpass does provide sidewalks in either direction, but lacks bicycle facilities. Thus, pedestrian and bicyclists also compete for space on the Willow Road overpass. Thus, one mini- or pocket-park is recommended in both the Willows and West Bayshore neighborhoods.

Three additional mini- or pocket-parks are recommended in the Midtown/Palo Alto Park neighborhood. One of these parks could be developed on land located at the corner of Garden Street and Oakwood Drive. This site is owned by the East Palo Alto Park

RECOMMENDATIONS

Parks and Recreation Facilities

Mutual Water Company. Water tanks occupy a portion of the site, but sufficient acreage is available to accommodate a mini- or pocket-park. This site could be developed under a joint use agreement between the City and the East Palo Alto Park Mutual Water Company.

The other two mini- or pocket-parks are recommended on either side of Newbridge Street. These parks are sited primarily because of the heavy traffic patterns present on Newbridge Street. This traffic is difficult for young families, small children and senior citizens to navigate. The area would remain unserved without the addition of these small parks. Only two very small pieces of publicly held land are available in this area. Neither of which appears to satisfy the requirements of even a mini- or pocket-park. Thus, the City must explore the park potential of individual parcels as each is presented for sale. The City may wish to consider selling the two small parcels that are unusable for park purposes to raise revenue to purchase mini- or pocket-park sites.

The final mini- or pocket-park is recommended in the Gardens Neighborhood. This neighborhood has no park facilities. Alternatively, access to the proposed San Francisquito Creek Trail and Greenway could meet the park needs of this neighborhood. The trail would provide recreation opportunities and direct connections to other park sites on either side of Highway 101/

Mini- or pocket-parks are often designed for specific audiences such as senior citizens or young children. In East Palo Alto, the City may wish to combine the development of the sites with small community gardens. This concept would provide play space for children in close proximity to garden space used by their parents. The two publicly held plots of land may indeed be suitable for very small community gardens and should be reviewed for this purpose even if considered an interim use of the land.

Commercial Recreation Ventures

Community members involved in the planning process also identified many recreational needs that could be met through commercial ventures. These idea including attracting vendors to

Parks and Recreation Facilities

offer recreation activities found at movie theaters, roller rinks and skateboard parks, tennis clubs, fitness centers, miniature golf courses, bowling alleys and along San Francisco Bay wind surfing and ocean kayaking. These commercial operations would generate tax revenue for the City and provide many needed recreation outlets.

Specific Site Improvements

The following upgrades, renovations or redesigns of existing parks are detailed as likely the most cost effective ways of adding recreation amenities and demonstrating progress toward attaining some of the short-term park and recreation goals. These recommendations locate in existing parks or adjacent lands some of the specific recreation facilities identified by the public as needs within the community.

Bell Street Park

The recent improvements to Bell Street Park have greatly increased the usefulness of this site. The old swimming pool has been replaced with a new swimming pool and sand volleyball courts. The open grass area has been leveled so that pick up games of football, soccer, and other sports can be safely played. A new gymnasium is planned in the next few years.

During the community workshops, residents expressed interest in developing a place for large family gatherings or small work parties. Residents noted that to host any of these types of events now, they must rent space in a park within another community. Bell Street Park currently contains a small barbecue and pavilion area. Improvements and expansion of this component of the park would meet the needs expressed by residents. Bell Street Park is also the most central of the City's existing facilities. Its location and open nature also allow for security. In the future, it would be ideal to further enhance the site by improving pedestrian and bicycle circulation between Drew Medical Center, Ravenswood School District Office and the park.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Parks and Recreation Facilities

Martin Luther King Jr. Park

This park is located adjacent to undeveloped County-owned property. The City should work with San Mateo County to add this acreage to the Martin Luther King Jr. Park for the development of additional baseball and multi-purpose fields. Expansion of the park would allow the main entrance of the park to be relocated from Daisy Lane to Beech Street. This would enhance visibility and improve security. Parking could be created to accommodate little league and soccer crowds. Ample space would be available to build a tot lot allowing younger siblings of the little league and soccer participants to play.

Jack Farrell Park

The proposed addition of baseball fields to Martin Luther King Jr. Park would permit a redesign of Jack Farrell Park. The existing baseball field could be replaced with basketball and volleyball courts in the basin of the park and bleachers could be installed on the hillsides for game viewing. The existing play equipment could remain or be upgraded.

Planned Gateway Park

The new park proposed with the Gateway/101 Corridor development may be an appropriate location for a multi-purpose community center and a large turf area that can be used for a variety of sports. However, should the City elect to use the funds generated through redevelopment for a neighborhood park in the Weeks area, that site should express the attitudes and feelings of the residents as detailed in the Weeks Neighborhood Community Plan (September 1995).

Trail Facilities

The citizens of East Palo Alto who attended the planning workshops were very concerned about retaining the rural feeling of the city. It is important that the City adopt a pedestrian, equestrian and bicycle friendly attitude. All development proposals should be reviewed for pedestrian and bicycle accessibility, and where appropriate for incorporation of equestrian facilities to insure that new construction is compatible with the desired atmosphere. Specific recommendations include:

San Francisquito Creek Trail and Greenway

East Palo Alto residents have indicated a strong interest in developing the creek corridor into a trail and greenway. The park development would include incorporating half of the current Woodland Road right-of-way into the greenway. If the roadway were redesignated as a one way street then a trail, benches and other amenities could be constructed within the reclaimed street right-of-way. The entire corridor could be restored through the installation of indigenous vegetation. The development of the San Francisquito Creek Trail and Greenway would improve the state of the creek and provide open space for residents who live in the high density housing located between the creek corridor and Highway 101.

Hetch-Hetchy Right-of-Way

The Hetch-Hetchy right-of-way runs behind the homes along Fordham and Georgetown Streets. Currently, the area is fenced to restrict public access. This linear parcel would make an excellent link between Costano School and the San Francisco Bay Trail. The link would allow teachers to take classes out to the baylands for nature study. Children could walk and bicycle to school along this route. Public use of this right-of-way would improve the connectivity between the school and the University Village neighborhood. The linear parcel is also ideally suited for use as a par course for physical fitness activities. These facilities could be used both by students attending Costano School and nearby residents.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Trail Facilities

Weeks Colony Greenway

Many residents of the Weeks Neighborhood and representatives of East Palo Alto Historical and Agricultural Society (EPA-HAS) have demonstrated an interest in developing a greenway corridor through the Weeks area. The path would link the Four Corners area with the Gateway/101 Corridor redevelopment site through several pockets of open space and community gardens in the neighborhood. This corridor concept provides an off-street alternative to pedestrians and bicyclists.

Circle of Green around East Palo Alto

A long term goal of many residents is to have an integrated trail system throughout the city that includes a greenbelt around the City. This greenbelt exists along the bayfront and to some extent along San Francisquito Creek. It would be very challenging to continue a linear park around the west and north sides of the City, but sidewalks and an on-street bicycle routes and lanes could be constructed to fill in the gaps in the Circle of Green.

Highway 101 Overpass/Underpass Opportunities

Improved pedestrian and bicycle access across Highway 101 is needed to connect the City. The only crossing points currently available to residents are at University Avenue and Willow Road. These bridges were not designed to safely and efficiently accommodate pedestrian and bicycle traffic. The University Avenue and Willow Road overpasses should be modified to accommodate bicycle and pedestrian passage. This would be most cost-effectively accomplished during a retrofit of either structure. The Gateway/101 Corridor project proposes improvements to the University Avenue overpass which are necessary to meet the needs of the new commercial development. This opportunity to improve pedestrian and bicycle access should not be lost.

The old Euclid Avenue undercrossing should be reexamined to determine the feasibility of rehabilitating and reopening the tunnel. The Highway 101 bridge which spans San Francisquito Creek should be studied to determine the feasibility of constructing a trail crossing beneath the roadway. This crossing would provide an additional connection between the east and west sides of the City and would allow extension the San Francisquito Creek Trail.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Trail Facilities

Streetscape System

Strong interest has been demonstrated in the Weeks Neighborhood for the preservation of the existing streetscape and the formation of a development strategies to maintain the historical integrity of the neighborhood. Factors such as street trees, street width, installation of curbs, gutters and sidewalks have be taken into consideration in the Weeks Neighborhood Community Plan (September 1995). While the Weeks neighborhood is working to retain its rural character, other neighborhoods in the community have resources that should also be taken into consideration in a streetscape study. A streetscape plan can provide for improved bicycle and pedestrian circulation and protect significant trees and historical features from indiscriminate and accidental removal. A streetscape plan, complete with a tree inventory, is recommended for all neighborhoods. Several major City streets are highlighted for street improvement specific to providing improved bicycle and pedestrian access and connections to frequently visited locations (*See Figure 2*).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Tiered Prioritizations

The following tiered prioritization is provided to begin a dialog regarding which park and recreation facilities should be developed first as funding becomes available. Although workshop participants were hesitant to rank the list of resident identified needs, a tiered prioritization is presented using the number of times a facility type was mentioned during discussions with community members. High priority items were mentioned most often, medium priority items were mentioned frequently and low priority items were mentioned occasionally. The Community Services Director was also consulted to assist in the determination of this ranking (See Table 4. Tiered Prioritization of Park and Recreation Facilities). Community members identified golf courses, a driving range, an archery range, a skeet and trap range and field hockey facilities which were available within close proximity of East Palo Alto. As a result, these specific facilities are not included on the list.

Tiered Prioritization of Park and Recreation Facilities

High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority
Bicycle and Pedestrian Trails	Group Picnic Areas	Fishing Access to SF Bay
Safe crossings of Highway 101	Basketball Courts	Baseball Field w/ lights
Multi-purpose Fields	Tennis Courts	Basketball Courts w/lights
Playgrounds and Tot Lots	Environ. Education Center	Tennis Courts w/lights
Multi-purpose Center	Community Gardens	Multi-use Court
Gymnasium	Football Field	1/4 mile Track
Town Plaza/Marketplace	Baseball Field	Handball Court
Access to Cooley Landing	Softball Field	
Soccer Fields		
Volleyball Courts		

Table 4. Tiered Prioritization of Park and Recreation Facilities

Tiered Prioritization

The tiered prioritizations should be used as a starting point for future public meetings regarding the ranking of park, recreation and open space development projects. This report should not be interpreted as a recreation master plan or as the City's Open Space Element of the General Plan. This report should guide the design of a recreation master plan and provide vision for the preparation of the Open Space Element. This document should be reviewed and revised annually to reflect changes in attitudes and recreation trends, respond to new funding opportunities and capitalize on development proposals under review by the City.

FINANCING MECHANISMS

City Funding Alternatives

East Palo Alto must identify local funding in addition to seeking external sources support for the development and operations of park facilities and recreation programming. The City should consider implementing special assessment districts, ensuring the full mitigation of development project as specified under the law and supporting the development of local nonprofit public benefit organizations and land trusts dedicated to assisting the City with parks and recreation functions.

Grant Funding

The interdisciplinary nature of parks, trails, recreation, habitat restoration and historic preservation suggests that East Palo Alto is eligible to receive funding from a wide variety of grant sources. Many of the recommendations contained in this report are consistent with regional, state and federal government funding priorities. As a result, funding of the park, recreation and open space recommendations will more than likely be a blend of state and federal grants and regional and local matching funds.

Grant programs are ever changing and should be monitored closely to ensure new funding sources are identified and present funding sources are updated and evaluated on a continuing basis as part of the development of parks and recreation. Monitoring the grant programs is one step in developing a comprehensive funding strategy. Private foundations and corporations should also be identified and included in the funding plan. East Palo Alto has benefited tremendously from strong foundation support. This support should now be leveraged to obtain state and federal funding for park, trail, recreation and habitat restoration projects.

Summaries of current federal, state and local government grant programs can be found within the references listed in Appendix 4: Park Financing Resources Bibliography. In reviewing these documents it is clear that many grant are available to East Palo Alto. However, it is also obvious that most agencies have specific funding priorities and application guidelines which must be met to secure grant monies. The time between application and grant award is typically quite lengthy. This time frame often allows funding to be secured in advance of the City budget process enabling decision makers to plan more accurately.

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**Appendix I:
Study Team
Members**

The Trust for Public Land

The Trust for Public Land is a nonprofit land conservation organization dedicated to preserving land and open space for people. Since 1972, The Trust for Public Land has recognized that open space, parks, community gardens, recreation facilities, trails and greenways can provide multiple benefits in the areas of economic development, public health, crime prevention and environmental justice. The Trust for Public Land has effectively helped protect close to one million acres of land, mostly by applying its technical skills to transfer private land into public stewardship.

The Trust for Public Land recognizes that part of its mission is to empower citizens to initiate conservation projects and to protect public open space where they live and work. This is especially true in cities, where the critical need for parks and open space recreation is matched by a challenging and complex environment in which to acquire and protect open spaces. Recognizing that greater local neighborhood participation leads to higher community investment in and caring for park assets, The Trust for Public Land is committed to working with diverse communities and organizations in the protection of public open spaces.

Sokale/Landry Collaborative

The Sokale/Landry Collaborative believes in the wise and equitable use of our diminishing natural resources. Over the past ten years principals, Jana Sokale and Susan Landry have participated in the creation of user-friendly, environmentally-sensitive and educationally-oriented projects that provide our communities with opportunities to explore their natural and built environments. Our philosophy is to provide the technical expertise of an interdisciplinary team utilizing the participatory process to develop innovative solutions that incorporate and address the concerns of the people.

Greenway and Outdoor Recreation Planning (GORP)

Greenway and Outdoor Recreation Planning (GORP) was established by Mark Ivy in 1994 to assist community groups, nonprofit agencies, and governmental agencies in creating more

Appendix I:
Study Team
Members

livable communities while protecting and promoting natural resources. The firm's primary interest is in the creation of greenways and trails, but also conducts work in other facets of outdoor recreation. Greenways offer a myriad of potential benefits including: providing a link to the natural environment; providing an opportunity for physical exercise; improving air and water quality; elevating community pride; and encouraging economic development and urban renewal. Insightful outdoor recreation planning insures access to quality facilities that can elevate the health and wellness of all community residents.

Heru Hall, Grassroots Organizer

Mr. Hall is a resident of East Palo Alto. He is involved in numerous nonprofit organizations dedicated to the education of youth. He coordinated all of the community outreach for The Trust for Public Land.

APPENDICES

Appendix II: Workshop Attendance Roster

Community Residents

Arnoldo Alcazor
Ida Berk
Marda Buckholz
Rebekah Fiser
Gerrick Goiden
U. Harris
Wilma Johnson
Rick Judice
Aretha Lawrence
Maisha Mouten
Luju Sanchez
Richard Tatum
Charles White

Ben Ahmad
CH Buchy
Midge Dorn
Pat Foster
Micheal Haas
Stewart Hyland
Ken Jones
Fred Kramer
Leonard Lawrence
George Nauita
Loyci Stockay
William Byron Webster
Ron Wormly

Interested Individuals from Neighboring Communities

Trevor Burrowes
Michelle Lewis
Denis Ladwig
Sally Nakai

Zera Campbell
Olivia de Haullville
Albert Nakai

Staff to the Process

Heru Hall
Mark Ivy
Meda Okelo
R. Sibley
Tracey Warner

William Howard
Susan M. Landry
Arlene Rodriguez
Jana Sokale

APPENDICES

Appendix III: Resource Team Roster

Resource Team Members

Ben Ahmad, EPA-CPAC

Duane Bay, EPA-CPAC

Jack Buktenica, Landscape Architect
Palo Alto Resident

Trevor Burrows
East Palo Alto-Historical and Agricultural Society

Martha Crusius
National Park Service

Midge Dorn
EPA-CPAC

Heather Fargo
California Department of Parks

Pat Foster, Resident
East Palo Alto-Historical and Agricultural Society

Bob Hoover
Congress of Community Organizations

Bill Howard, Community Development Director
City of East Palo Alto

Mark Ivy
California Trails Foundation

Kenneth Jones
EPA CAN-DO

Aretha Lawrence
EPA CAN-DO
East Palo Alto-Historical and Agricultural Society

APPENDICES

Appendix III: Resource Team Roster

Resource Team Members cont.

Tony Look
California Trails Foundation

Judith LoVuolo-Bhushan
Palo Alto Resident

Anne O'Neil
Major Taylor Cycling Club

Arlene Rodriguez, Bay Area Program Director
The Trust for Public Lands

Dennis Sherzer
Sanitary District Board

S. Z. Sykes
EPA CAN-DO

Bill Vines, Councilmember
East Palo Alto City Council

John Wade
Peninsula Open Space Trust

Tracy Warner
Planning Department
City of East Palo Alto City

Brian Wiese
Bay Trail Project

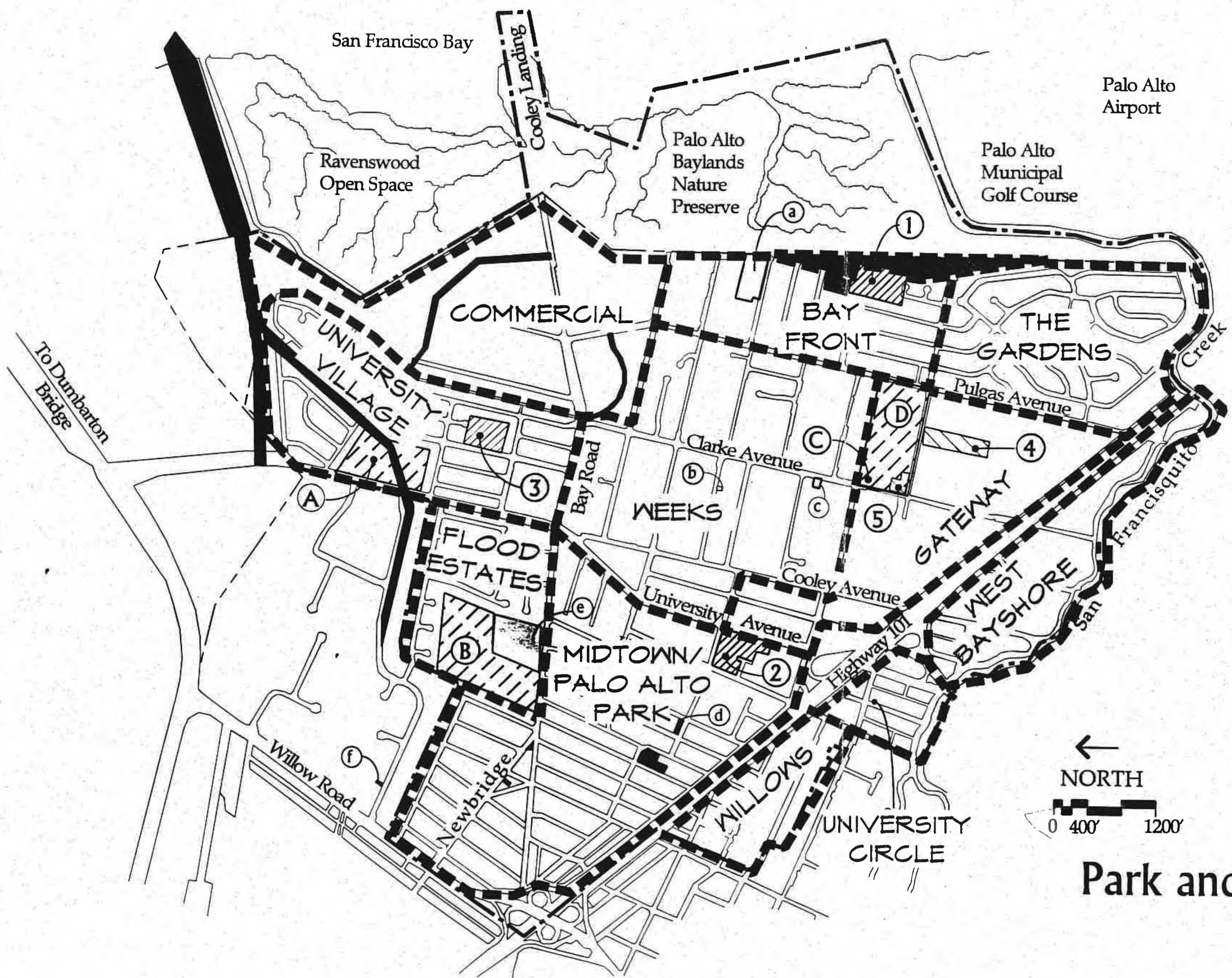
Charlie Willard
California Department of Parks

APPENDICES








EAST PALO ALTO
PARKS, RECREATION
AND OPEN SPACE
RECOMMENDATIONS

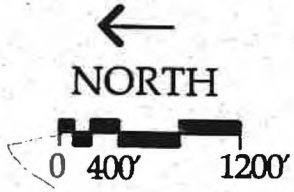
Appendix IV: Park Financing Resource Bibliography

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LEGEND

-  City Boundary
-  Neighborhood Boundary - (Approx.)
-  Existing Parks
 - 1 Martin Luther King Jr. Park
 - 2 Bell Street Park
 - 3 Jack Farrell Park
-  Planned Parks
 - 4 Gateway 10.4 Acre Park
 - 5 Gateway 1.0 Acre Park
-  Existing Public Schools
 - A Castano School
 - B Cesar Chavez School
 - C Brentwood Oaks School
 - D Ronald McNair School
-  Existing Private Schools
 - a Ravenswood Children Center
 - b The Community School South
 - c The Creative Adventures Learning Center
 - d The Shule-Mandela Academy
 - e The Creative Montessori
 - f Warren Haymen Academy
-  Public/Semi Public Lands

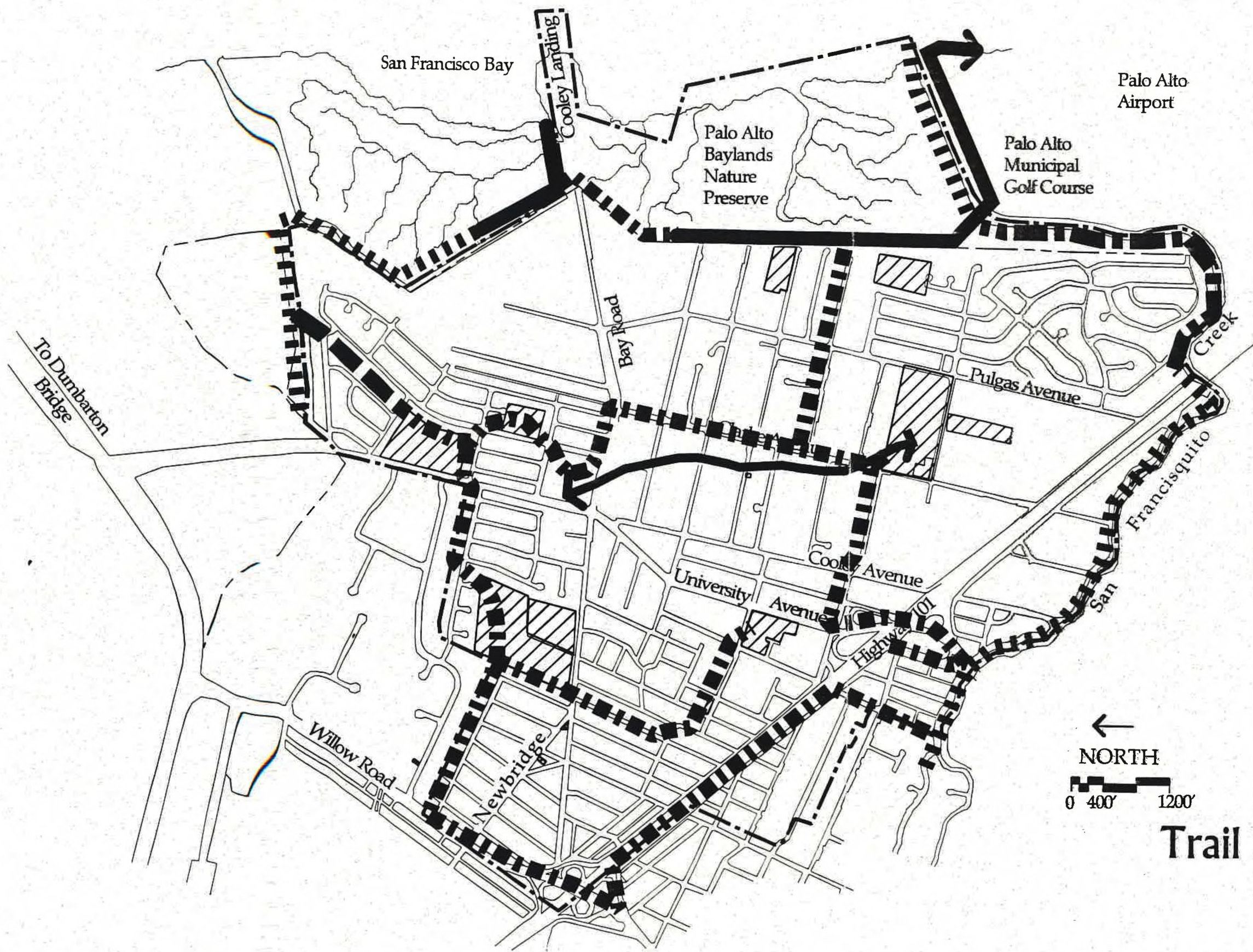


Park and Recreation Facilities Map

PARK AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEMS

CITY OF EAST PALO ALTO

A Project for: The Trust for Public Land
 Prepared by: Sokale/Landry Collaborative
 Figure No. 1



LEGEND

- San Francisco Bay Trail**
- Existing, Improved
 - - - Existing, unimproved
 - Proposed

- San Francisquito Creek Trail**
- - - Existing, unimproved
 - Proposed

- Hetch-Hetchy R.O.W.
- - - Proposed Streetscape
- ↔ Proposed Weeks Colony Greenway
- ▨ Parks and Schools

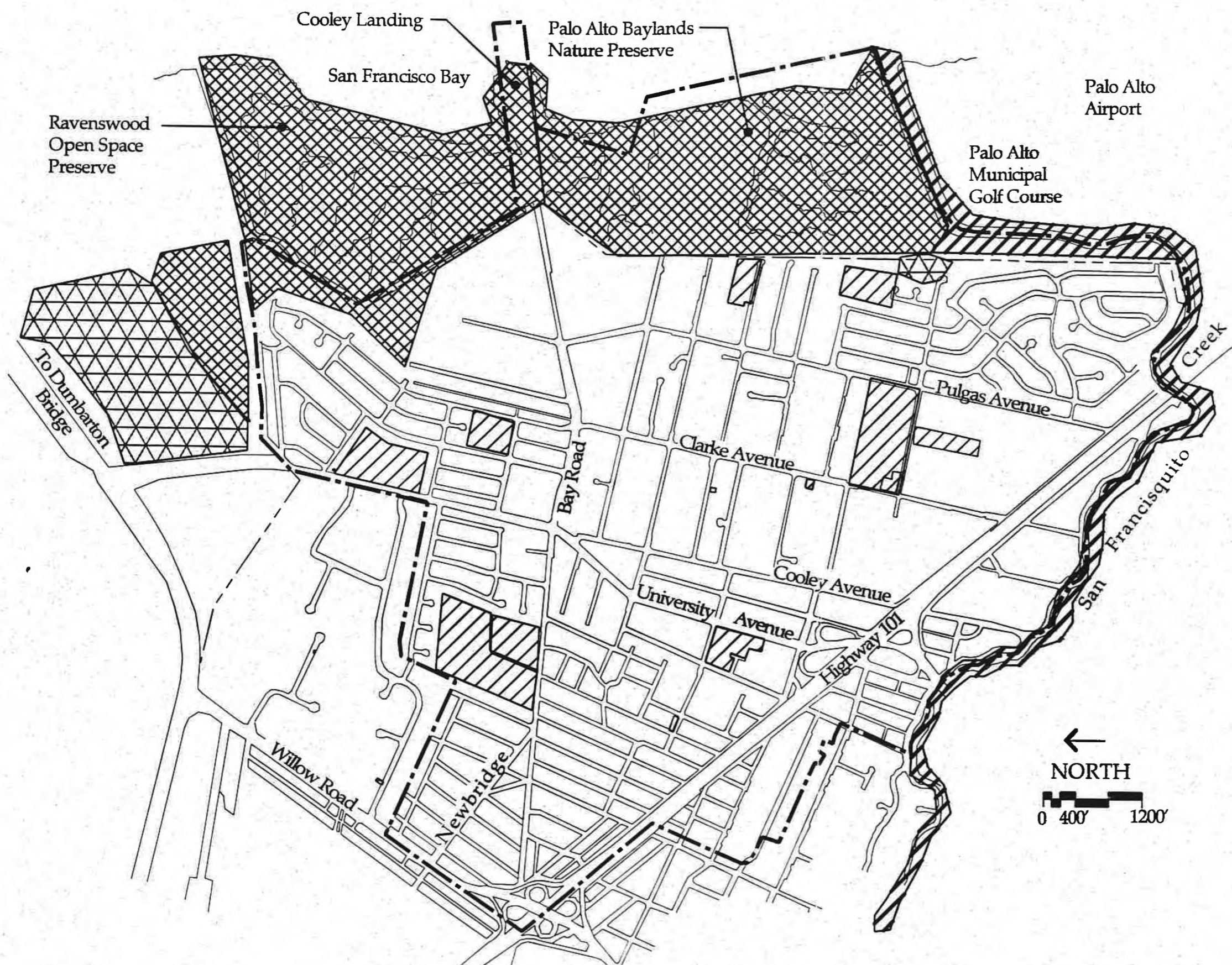
Trail and Streetscape Systems

PARK AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEMS







CITY OF EAST PALO ALTO

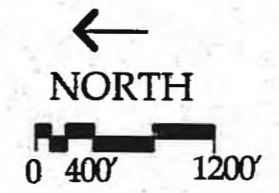
A Project for: The Trust for Public Land
 Prepared by: Sokale/Landry Collaborative

Figure No. 2

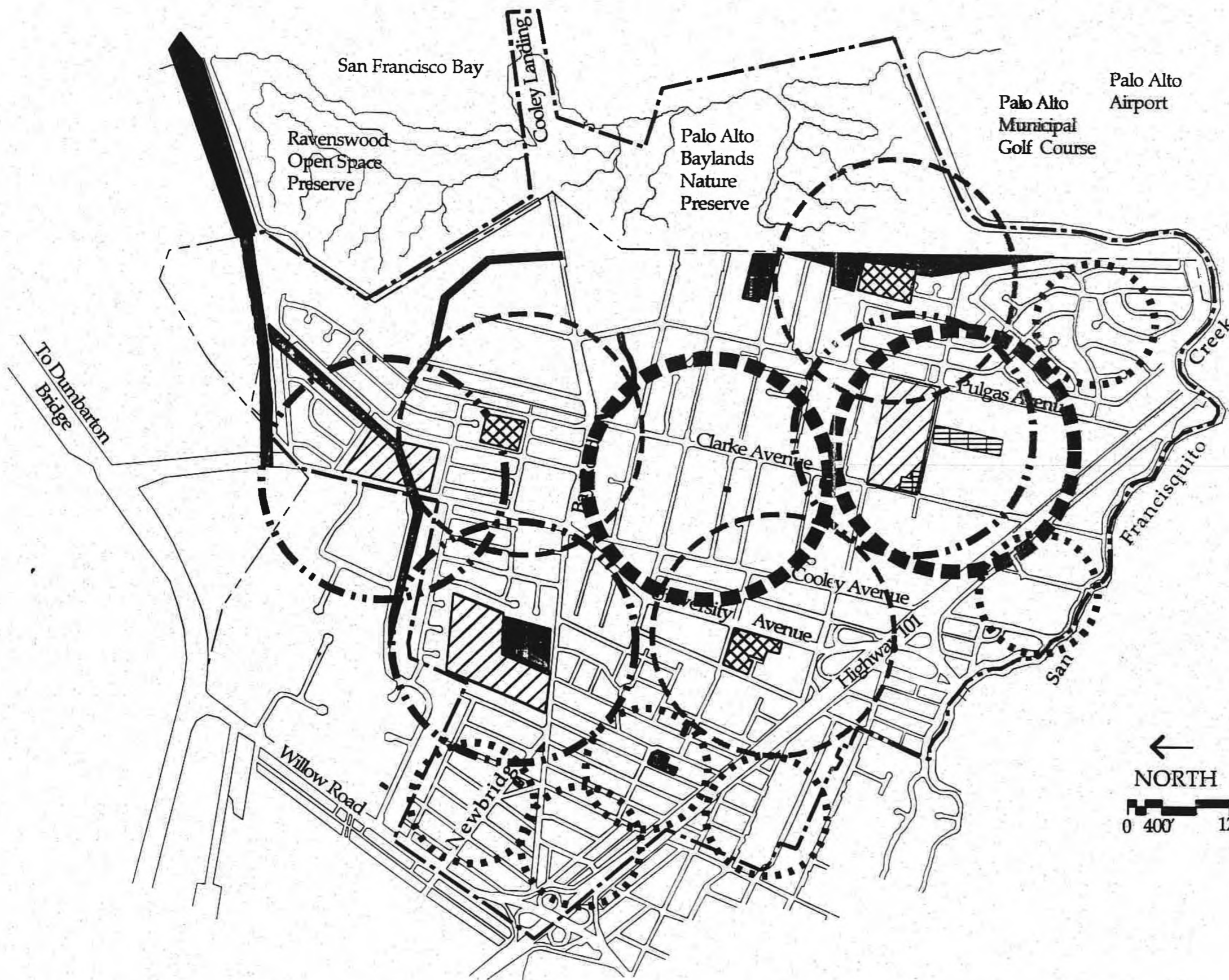


LEGEND


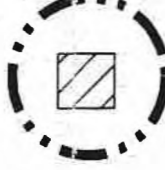



-  City Boundary
-  Urban-developed Habitat
-  Herbaceous Habitat
-  Tree-dominated Habitat
-  Aquatic Habitat
-  Parks and Schools

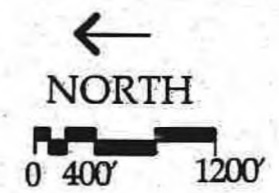


Natural Resources Map
PARK AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEMS
CITY OF EAST PALO ALTO
 A Project for: The Trust for Public Land
 Prepared by: Sokale/Landry Collaborative
 Figure No. 3



LEGEND

-  Existing Park Service Areas
-  Proposed Public School Service Areas
-  Proposed Mini-Park Service Areas
-  Proposed/Planned Neighborhood Park Service Areas
-  Public/Semi Public Land



Park and Recreation Service Area Map
PARK AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEMS
CITY OF EAST PALO ALTO
 A Project for: The Trust for Public Land
 Prepared by: Sokale/Landry Collaborative
 Figure No. 4