



RECREATION ELEMENT[‡]

Abundant recreational opportunities are a part of Scottsdale's image. The benefits of park and recreation amenities include social interaction, physical and mental well-being, environmental protection, and tourism enhancement.

The projected population is used to determine future park needs and locations. Scottsdale's limited land availability, changing economic conditions, and evolving demographics impose increasing demands on recreational amenities. To address this, the private sector often provides public parks when an influx of population is projected to occur as a result of new development. Parks and recreational amenities are also developed in master-planned communities and subdivisions throughout the city, although they are usually only available to the residents of those specific communities. Scottsdale does not include these private amenities in determining the number and type of facilities needed to meet current and future resident demand, but does use the location of those amenities in the development of future parks and recreation service areas. Therefore, community involvement will continue to be important for future planning and development of recreational opportunities.

Scottsdale provides recreational activities and park settings that meet the needs of diverse community members. The city's recreation facilities have been nationally accredited and received numerous awards from the National Recreation and Park Association. Scottsdale's parks planning system recommends four levels of parks[±]:

- **Neighborhood parks** provide primary recreation services and facilities that are easily accessible and available to local residents; serve a single neighborhood or several neighborhoods, depending on location; are preferably located with or next to elementary schools, neighborhood centers, or other gathering places; and are accessed primarily via pedestrians and bicycles.
- **Community parks** centralize a full range of recreational activities for major parts of the city; have the capacity to accommodate large groups; generally feature a community center building designed to meet multi-generational recreation needs, as well as lighted recreational amenities and sports fields/courts; serve several neighborhoods; are preferably located central to a group of neighborhoods and often next to elementary, middle or high schools; and are accessed primarily by automobiles and bicycles.
- **Specialty parks** provide specialized facilities and preserve significant unique features of the community, including environmentally sensitive areas; generally serve the entire city or the valley; are located where necessary to capitalize on an existing feature, facility or specialized market area; and may need a high-degree of access (e.g., a baseball stadium) or limited access (e.g., a wildlife preserve).
- **Conservation Parks** are sites that preserve natural, cultural, and historic resources. These areas provide a tranquil setting for experiences in the outdoors.
- **Trails** provide valuable recreation and transportation opportunities for residents and visitors, linking schools, residential areas, parks, employment centers, shopping areas, and other areas of interest; are located in areas that will connect neighborhoods, mountain preservation areas, or serve as destinations; and may be located next to parks that are used as staging areas to traverse into desert or mountain preservation areas.

Scottsdale is committed to continually investing in public recreation facilities and their maintenance, rehabilitation, modernization, and co-location of services and to providing new recreational opportunities in underserved areas, or where change is expected.

Through the goals and policies of the Recreation Element, the city's recreational facilities and programs will serve the leisure and fitness needs of Scottsdale's current and future generations.

Goals and Policies

Goal R 1

Acquire, design, develop, and maintain a wide range of quality recreation and park facilities and services.

Policies

R 1.1 Increase community participation in parks and recreational planning and implementation. *[Cross-reference Community Involvement Element]*

R 1.2 Regularly conduct assessments of recreational facilities and services, including quality programming, staffing, and community preferences.

R 1.3 Consider a wide range of recreational uses during park planning and design.

R 1.4 Provide a variety of opportunities for passive and active recreational activities. *[Cross-reference Open Space and Healthy Community Elements]*

R 1.5 Develop parks, paths, and trails with the participation of private development through required fees, dedication of land, and construction of facilities. *[Cross-reference Open Space Element]*

R 1.6 Where appropriate, maintain recreational facilities in public ownership to prevent potential shortages in the future.

R 1.7 Develop plans for the maintenance, renovation, and enhancement of community recreational facilities, and invest necessary resources to keep assets sustainable. *[Cross-reference Public Services & Facilities and Cost of Development Elements]*

R 1.8 Consider the impacts on nearby properties in the placement, renovation, and development of parks and recreation facilities.



Goal R 2 †

Provide and enhance recreational opportunities that meet the diverse needs of Scottsdale’s citizens and visitors.

Policies

R 2.1 Provide neighborhood parks that are easily accessible to local residents and provide recreational opportunities reflective of the surrounding neighborhood’s needs and preferences. *[Cross-reference Open Space Element]*

R 2.2 Locate community parks where they are accessible from relatively long distances. Community parks concentrate a broad range of recreational and human service activities for major parts of the city. *[Cross-reference Healthy Community and Public Services & Facilities Elements]*

R 2.3 Maintain and enhance our vibrant aquatic community that offers programs in water safety, swim lessons, competitive swimming, diving and synchronized swimming, and water recreational activities at our aquatics facilities. *[Cross-reference Healthy Community and Public Services & Facilities Elements]*

R 2.4 Provide unique recreational and educational opportunities that have regional appeal through specialty parks, such as McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park. *[Cross-reference Open Space Element]*



R 2.5 Develop and maintain a citywide interconnected network of trails to provide valuable recreation and fitness opportunities for residents and visitors. Where possible, trails should connect to neighborhoods and serve major destinations. *[Cross-reference Open Space and Bicycling Element]*

- R 2.6** Provide multi-generational recreation programming and facilities, that consider the full spectrum of community and special social or physical needs, interests, and financial resources. *[Cross-reference Healthy Community and Housing Element]*
- R 2.7** Offer quiet spaces in parks, recreation facilities, libraries, and public spaces to accommodate passive recreation. *[Cross-reference Open Space; Character & Design; and Public Services & Facilities Elements]*
- R 2.8** Enhance transportation access to all major recreation facilities. *[Cross-reference Circulation and Bicycling Elements]*



JENNY LIN RD.

CIRCLE MOUNTAIN RD.

HONDA BOW RD.

ROCKAWAY HILLS RD.

DESERT HILLS DR.

JOY RANCH RD.

STAGECOACH PASS

CAREFREE HWY.

DOVE VALLEY RD.

LONE MOUNTAIN RD.

DIXILETA DR.

DYNAMITE BLVD.

JOMAX RD.

HAPPY VALLEY RD.

PINNACLE PEAK RD.

DEER VALLEY RD.

LOOP 101

UNION HILLS DR.

BELL RD./FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT BLVD.

GREENWAY PKWY.

THUNDERBIRD RD.

CACTUS RD.

SHEA BLVD.

DOUBLETREE RANCH RD.

McCORMICK PKWY.

INDIAN BEND RD.

LINCOLN DR.

McDONALD DR.

CHAPARRAL RD./CAMELBACK RD.

CAMELBACK RD.

INDIAN SCHOOL RD.

THOMAS RD.

McDOWELL RD.

LOOP 202

McKELLIPS RD.

BARTLETT DAM RD.

RIO VERDE DR.

CAVE CREEK RD.

TATUM BLVD.

PALISADES BLVD.

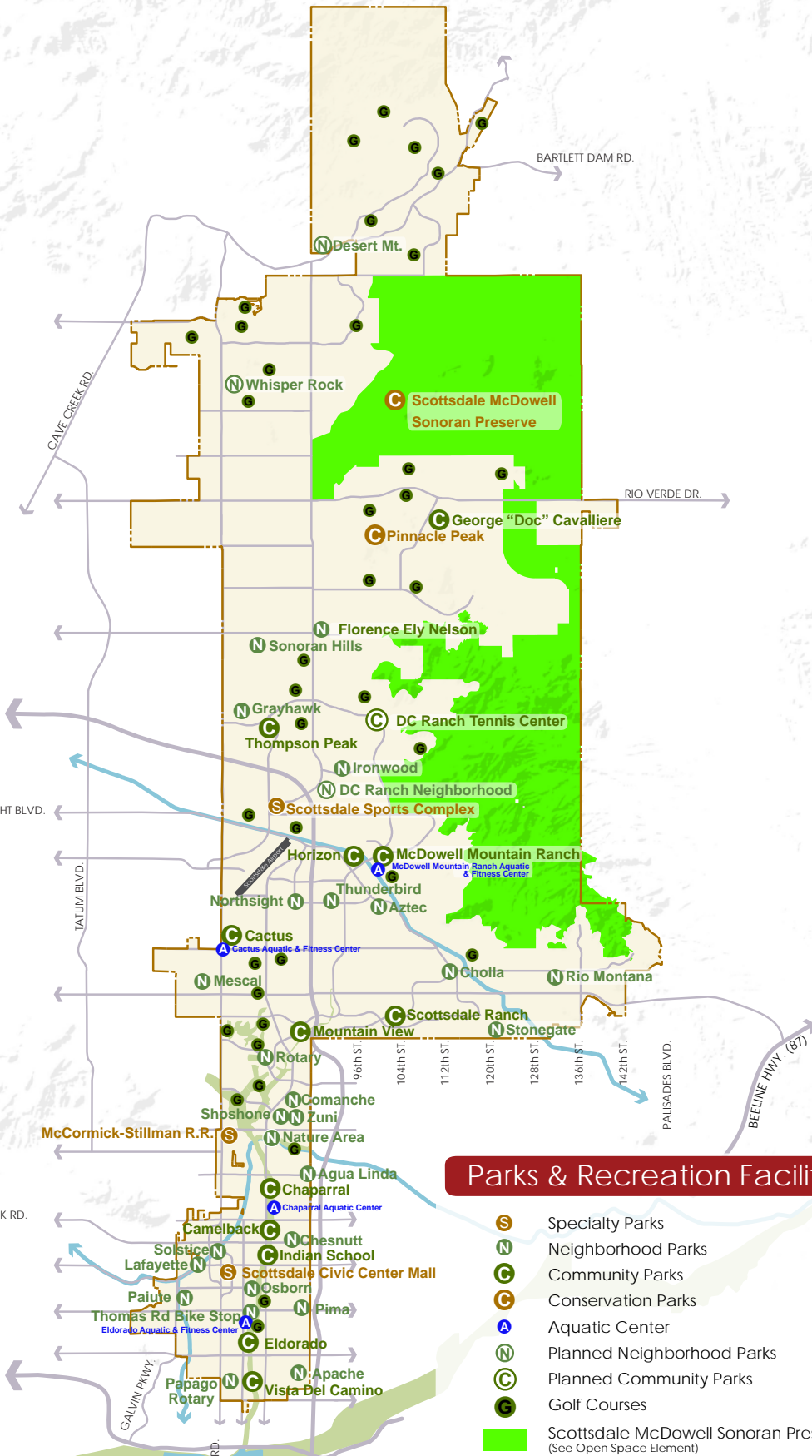
BEELINE HWY. (87)

McCormick-Stillman R.R.

Parks & Recreation Facilities†

-  Specialty Parks
-  Neighborhood Parks
-  Community Parks
-  Conservation Parks
-  Aquatic Center
-  Planned Neighborhood Parks
-  Planned Community Parks
-  Golf Courses
-  Scottsdale McDowell Sonoran Preserve
(See Open Space Element)

†Scenic Corridors and Scenic Drives are displayed on the Visually Significant Roadways Map (See Open Space Element).



JENNY LIN RD.

CIRCLE MOUNTAIN RD.

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THOMAS RD.

McDOWELL RD.

LOOP 202

McKELLIPS RD.

BARTLETT DAM RD.

CAVE CREEK RD.

RIO VERDE DR.

TATUM BLVD.

PALISADES BLVD.

BEELINE HWY. (87)

56th ST.

64th ST.

SCOTTSDALE RD.

HAYDEN RD.

PIMA RD.

LOOP 101

GALVIN PKWY.

96th ST.

104th ST.

112th ST.

120th ST.

128th ST.

136th ST.

142th ST.

Trails & Trailheads[†]

- Existing Trails Outside Preserve*
- Planned Trails Outside Preserve*
- Preserve Trails
- Maricopa Trail** (Regional)
- Sun Circle Trail** (Regional)
- Park Trailhead
- Existing Preserve Trailhead
- Planned Preserve Trailhead
- Scottsdale McDowell Sonoran Preserve (See Open Space Element)

* More detail can be found in the Transportation Master Plan.
 ** Regional Trail alignments provided by Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department



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