

WHERE DO WE START?

As compared to our peer cities, Surprise is behind on the amount of parks and open space needed to meet future needs of our residents. It is very difficult to gain ground, especially for developed parks since land has been parceled out and land either not available or the land cost make acquisition very difficult. Open space availability, on the other hand, is available to meet the City’s need for open space, through developing partnerships with the underlying County and Federal owners.

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan is a high-level document, identifying a framework for the parks, open space and facilities development through the full buildout of the City. The next 15-years outline the development of 354-acres of new parks, including 6 new Community Parks and 1 new City Park, and the addition of 847-acres of open space.

The CRS identified four immediate priorities for Park and Recreation Master Plan:

- **Improve Residents’ Quality of Life by Reinvesting in our Existing parks**
- **Promote Active Recreation, Sports and Tourism**
- **Provide a Connected Park Experience through the Development of an Overall Park System**
- **Pursue Opportunities to Create New Parks and Open Space**

In meeting these priorities, a detailed timeline and budget for each of the master plan components has been developed as a companion document to the master plan. This detail, referred to as the Scoreboard, identifies specific park and open space improvements, land requirements and budgetary estimates. The Scoreboard is intended to be a working document for the City allowing modifications to reflect changing priorities, available funding and planning of Capital Improvement Projects.

The projected cost for reinvestment in existing parks, new park construction and open space development represent over \$260,000,000 investment by the City over the next 15-years.

A summary of the projected park development cost and land acquisition through 2030 is as follows:

Improvements	2020	2025	2030	TOTAL
Existing Park Reinvestment	\$4.	\$4.	\$0.9	\$8.9
New Parks	\$9.8	\$13.0	\$46.7	\$69.5
New Facilities	\$45.5	\$70.1	\$46.9	\$162.5
Open Space/Greenways	\$5.0	\$8.4	\$5.7	\$19.3
Total Cost (Millions)	\$64.5	\$95.5	\$100.2	\$260.2
New Park Lands	63.0	316.0	25.0	404.0
New Open Space	482.0	322.0	9.0	813.0
Total Land (Acres)	545.0	368.0	34.0	1,217.0

THE NEXT 5 YEARS

A 5-year planning horizon was identified so that specific, measurable tasks can be identified to meet the immediate goals of the master plan. Also, the 5-year horizon instills a sense of urgency for the City to identify funding and land acquisition strategies in order to get ahead of growth in developing the City’s park system. The following focuses on specific action items to meet goals set for 2020, all within the context of the 2030 Master Plan. The following is a summary of the actions to be completed by the City through the year 2020:

REINVEST AND COMPLETE OUR EXISTING PARKS

The main theme of CRS and the Surprise Parks Department is to deliver a high quality park and recreational experience. A thorough inventory of all the existing parks was conducted and a list of existing amenities was ranked regarding their condition and possible repair or replacement. In addition, possible amenities to be added or renovated were identified for each of the parks. The following represents the reinvestment in existing parks.

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| • 3 Star Park | Replacement Playground |
| • Bicentennial/Lizard Run | Replacement Ballfield Lighting |
| • Hollyhock Community Pool | Replace Deck and Re-plaster Pool |
| • Surprise Recreation Campus | 8-Acre Park Fencing |
| • Pickleball Expansion | 8-10 Additional Courts |
| • Countryside Recreation Center | Replace Gym Floor |
| • Bullard Aquatic Center | Replace Deck and Replace Slide |
| • Stone Brook Park | Replace Playground |
| • Parks/Campus Maintenance | Expansion of Current Facility |

ACTIONS:

1. **Assess Improvement Priorities**
 - a. Assess priorities as part of Capital Improvement Project budgets and determine funding schedule. Complete by 2016.
 - b. Improvements to be complete by 2020 – year end.

NEW PARKS

The City will focus on developing Community Level Parks, providing the greatest diversity of recreation and activities for the resident. The park size will be between 25-50 acres in size and provide a level of programming and amenities that are not currently being met by neighborhood level and private parks within master planned communities. A major focus for the next 5-years is to acquire park land for future community parks.

In addition, land for a New City Park will be identified. A City Park is a new designation of park for the City of Surprise and the largest of the parks at 100+ acres. The location of the new City Park represents forward thinking by CRS so that a large parcel of land can be identified and secured for future expansion of the park system. The City’s growth pattern, 10-mile service area and compatible land



use may direct a possible location along the Central Arizona Project (CAP) east of the State Route 60. Similar to Reach 11 Recreation Area in the City of Phoenix or Westworld in Scottsdale, the northern bank of the CAP is in a floodplain creating a condition that is unsuitable for development, but appropriate for recreational uses and open space preservation. The CAP is managed and operated by the Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAWCD) and owned by the United States Department of Interior's Bureau of Reclamation (BOR). Title 28 of the Federal Water Project Recreation Act of 1965 allows for cities to enter into Recreation Land Use Agreements along the CAP.

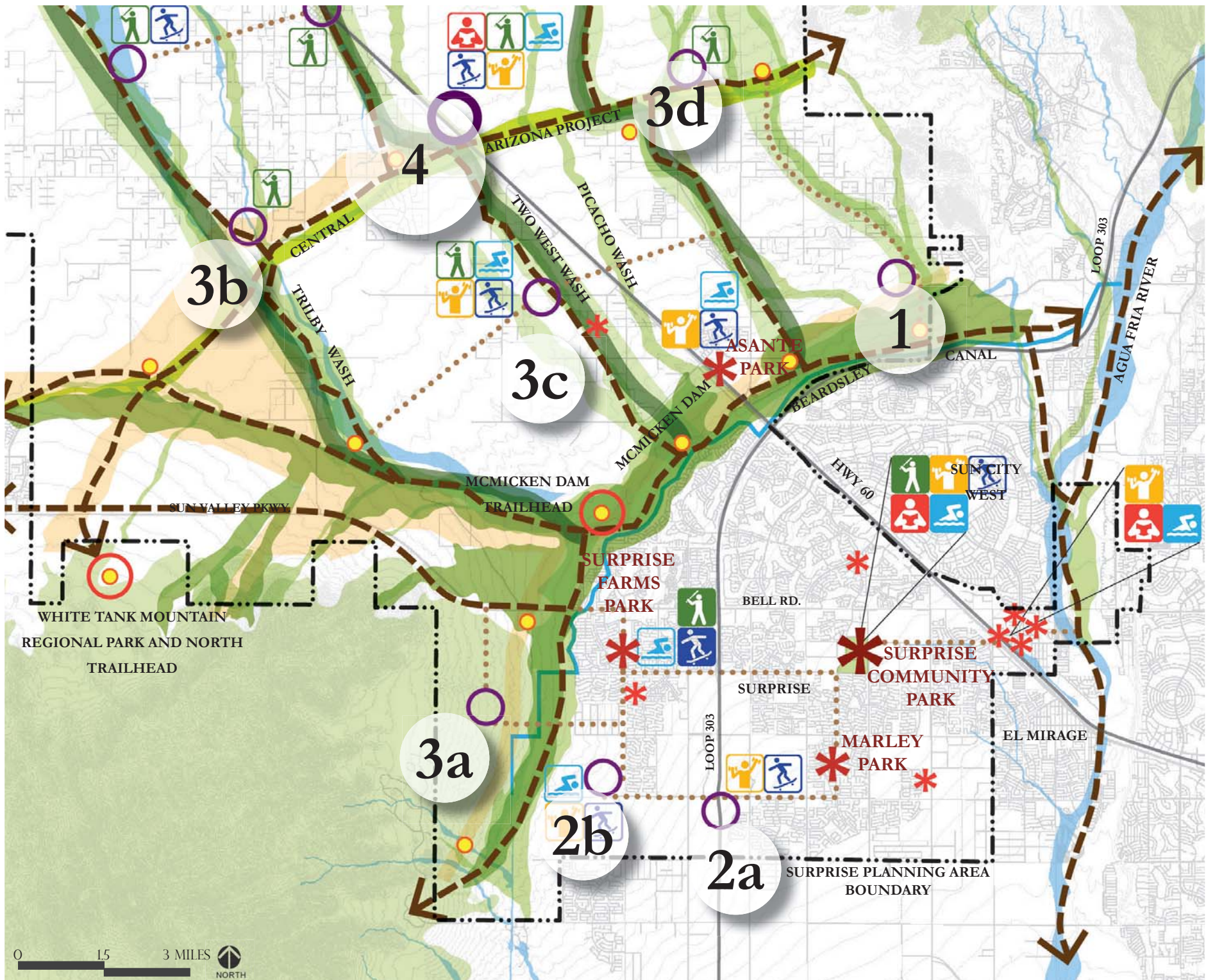
ACTIONS:

1. **Rancho Mercado**
 - a. Rancho Mercado Community has deeded 13-acres to the City for the establishment of a park. The property is currently vacant and not funded. The City will evaluate the level of park and determine potential programming, improvement cost and needs for the park. A Master Plan to be completed by 2017. Construction completed by 2019, if funding is available.
2. **Prasada or Sycamore Farms Community Parks**
 - a. Establish a new 25-50 acre Community Park within Prasada and/or Sycamore Farms Community. Current planning for the land parcels is unknown, but the anticipated residential development and service area will support one Community Park and further the Parks department mission of supporting a diversity of activities and recreation programming. Land acquisition through Developer donation to be complete by 2017. Preparation of a master plan to be complete by 2018. Construction to be complete by 2020 if funding is available.
3. **Future Community Park Land Along Greenways**
 - 3a. White Tank Mountain Community Park. Establish a 25-50 acre park along the McMicken Dam western boundary or along a major wash leading from the White Tank Mountains to McMicken Dam. Strategic location of the park will provide trail access to the White Tank Mountains and access to the Maricopa Regional Trail. Land acquisition through developer donation to be completed between 2016-2020.
 - 3b. Trilby Wash Community Park. Establish of a 25-50 acre park along the northern boundary of the CAP or along the eastern boundary of Trilby Wash to take advantage of the floodplains created by the CAP. Land acquisition through developer donation to be completed between 2020-2025.
 - 3c. 2 West Community Park. Establish a 25-50 acre park along 2 West Wash will take advantage of the future Greenway. Land acquisition through developer donation to be completed between 2018-2023.
 - 3d. Picacho Wash Park. Establish a 25-50 acre park along the northern boundary of the Central Arizona Project and along the Picacho Wash corridor. Land acquisition through developer donation to be completed between 2020-2025.
4. **City Park (200-Acres)**
 - a. Meet with BOR and CAWCD representatives to discuss possible partnerships associated with establishing a Recreation Land Use Agreement along the CAP. Complete by 2016.
 - b. Evaluate the location of a new City Park, east of Highway 60 along the CAP and prepare a concept master plan. Complete by 2017.
 - c. Develop an agreement process guideline, timetable and budget for CRS consideration. Complete by 2017.
 - d. Present to City Council with a recommended action to partner with BOR in establishing a new City Park. Complete by 2018.
 - e. Complete Memo of Understanding (M.O.U.) and begin evaluation and design process under Title 28 requirements. Complete requirements by 2023.
 - f. Construction of new City Park scheduled for 2026.

NEW COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Providing a place to gather, play, socialize and learn instills Community for the residents our City. Three major community facilities are planned for completion by 2020, including a new Aquatic Center, a new Fieldhouse and a new Library or expansion to the existing Northwest Regional Library.

Aquatic Center – Master planned for Surprise Farms northeast of the ballfields



will be a recreational, non-competitive pool. The facility will include dual use play/lap pool, water slides and water play features, bathhouse and parking. The aquatic center will substantially complete the last phase of Surprise Farms Park.

Fieldhouse – A 124,000 square foot facility that will host basketball, volleyball and cheer competitions. The City of Surprise has developed sports facilities that garner local, regional and national attention. The goal of developing a top level court facility is to attract top level amateur and professional tournaments, furthering the recognition of the City as a hub of sports tourism, while providing residents with superior sports facilities.

Library – Current funding is available for a possible new library or an expansion to the existing Northwest Regional Library. A feasibility study will be developed to determine the best option for providing additional library services.

ACTIONS:

1. Aquatic Center:

- a. Develop program and preliminary design for Aquatic Center to determine the site and cost parameters. Complete by 2017. Construction complete by 2019 if funding available.

2. Fieldhouse:

- a. Develop a program and preliminary design for the Fieldhouse and assess possible site locations to determine cost parameters. Complete by 2017. Construction complete by 2021 if funding is available.

3. Library

- a. Commission a feasibility study to determine the options for a new library or a library expansion. Complete by 2016. Construction to be complete by 2018 based on available funding.

4. Funding

- a. Assess funding and consideration for Parks Improvement Bonding. Bonding analysis complete by end of year 2016.

NEW OPEN SPACE AND GREENWAYS

The Greenways establish the connected backbone for the City and the overall park system. One of the big moves in establishing a signature open space for the City, the Greenways take advantage of the primary washes as major path and trail corridor while preserving and maintaining the water conveyance of the major washes. The opportunity to develop a signature open space system for the City relies on the City's unique to the region: to work with private land owners to plan and develop their land so that it opens up the wash corridors as a public amenity. The opportunities include preservation of the natural wash character and/or developing the corridors as linear parks similar to Indian Bend Wash while protecting and buffering critical wildlife corridors.

Additionally, the Maricopa County Regional Trail along McMicken Dam provides an east-west open space connection for the terminating washes. The Maricopa County Parks Department currently manages the Maricopa Regional Trail along the northern boundary of the McMicken Dam pool area. This established trail system provides an opportunity to partner with the County Agencies to expand and enhance the regional and local network.

ACTIONS:

1. Establish Greenways:

- a. Prepare conceptual level Greenway Master Plans for Trilby, Surprise and Picacho Greenway corridors. The master plans will establish wash edges, parallel roadways and major arterial crossings, path and trail alignments, trailheads and linear park locations. Master Plans to be completed by 2017.
- b. Acquire land for 2-miles of Trilby Wash, 2-miles of Surprise Wash and 2-miles of Picacho Wash Greenways. Land acquisition through developer donation to complete by 2018.
- c. Construct demonstration projects along Trilby Greenway and Surprise Greenway consisting of a continuous path and trail, lighting and trailheads. Construction to be complete by 2021 if funding is available

2. Establish McMicken Dam Conservation Area & Trailhead (467-acres):

- a. Meet with the Maricopa County Parks Department and Flood Control District of Maricopa County to discuss partnerships, joint use and access to the Maricopa Regional Trail System and establishment of a McMicken Dam Conservation Area. Complete by 2016.
- b. Establish Memorandum of Understanding (M.O.U.) with County agencies to secure and promote open space agreements for recreation and conservation easements. Complete by 2017.
- c. Present finding to CRS and City Council with recommended action. Complete by 2017.
- d. Establish an Intergovernmental Agreement to create the McMicken Dam Conservation Area by 2020

3. White Tank Mountain Regional Park - North Trailhead

- a. Meet with the Maricopa County Parks Department to discuss partnerships, joint use and establishment of a north trailhead along the White Tank Mountain Regional Park. Trailhead location to align with the County's Master Plan (2014-2034) at approximately 243rd Avenue and Wild Rose Road Parkway (future development). Complete by 2017.
- b. Establish Memorandum of Understanding (M.O.U.) with County to secure and promote open space agreements for recreation and trail access. Complete by 2018.
- c. Prepare a conceptual level master plan for a major trailhead. Complete by 2018.
- d. Present finding to CRS and City Council with recommended action. Complete by 2018.
- e. Establish an Intergovernmental Agreement to create a North Trailhead at the White Tank Regional Park. Complete by 2019.

