



City of California City

Parks & Recreation Master Plan



Pavilion at Central Park, City of California City



The City of California City

PARKS and RECREATION MASTER PLAN

The City of California City

holds professional affiliations with the following organizations:



TABLE OF CONTENTS

PLANNING TEAM	iii
TIME PERSPECTIVE OF THE CITY	iv
SECTION 1 - Introduction	
A. Introductory Statement.....	1-1
B. Report Organization.....	1-1
C. Public Involvement.....	1-2
D. Planning Process.....	1-2
SECTION 2 – Community Profile	
Introduction	2-1
A. Regional Context.....	2-1
B. Planning Area.....	2-2
C. Natural Resources.....	2-2
D. Climate.....	2-3
E. Demographic Characteristics.....	2-4
F. Land Use	2-4
SECTION 3 – Inventory of Recreation Land and Facilities	
Introduction	3-1
A. Summary of Findings.....	3-1
B. Park Definitions.....	3-2
C. Summary of Recreation Facilities within California City Boundaries and under City Jurisdiction.....	3-4
D. Summary of Recreation Areas within the Region but outside City Boundaries or City Jurisdiction.....	3-7
E. Non-Municipal Facilities.....	3-8
SECTION 4 – Existing Operations	
Introduction.....	4-1
A. Organizational Structure	4-1
B. Staffing Levels.....	4-1
C. Finances.....	4-1
D. Maintenance Costs	4-2
E. Revenue.....	4-2
F. Program Participation.....	4-2
SECTION 5 – Public Input Summary	
Introduction.....	5-1
A. Summary of Community Surveys.....	5-1
B. Summary of Public Workshops.....	5-2
C. Summary of Youth Workshops.....	5-2
D. Summary of Adaptive Recreation.....	5-3

SECTION 6 – Recreation Needs Assessment	
Introduction	6-1
A. Alternative Approaches to Identifying Needs.....	6-1
B. Methodology of Assessing Park Needs.....	6-1
C. Recreation Facility Needs.....	6-2

SECTION 7 – Recommendations and Policies	
Introduction	7-1
A. Park Facility Plan.....	7-1
B. Development Concept.....	7-1
C. Park Planning Concepts.	7-2
D. Specific Park Recommendations	7-4
E. Recreation Facilities, Golf Courses, Sports Fields, and Aquatic Facilities.....	7-7
F. Proposed Recreation Facilities, Sports Fields and Aquatic Facilities.....	7-11
G. Natural Open Space Areas/Greenways.....	7-12
H. Recreation Programs	7-13
I. Management and Operations.....	7-14
J. Parks Maintenance.....	7-14
K. Park Planning and Development Guidelines	7-15

SECTION 8 – Implementation	
Introduction	8-1
A. Capital Facilities Plan.....	8-1
B. Potential Funding Sources	8-2
C. Implementation Strategy	8-4
D. Project Priorities.....	8-4

SECTION 9 – Bicycle Transportation Plan	
Cover Page.....	9-1
Table of Contents.....	9-2
A. Background.....	9-3
B. Compliance with California Streets and Highway Code.....	9-3
C. Attachments (Maps).....	9-8

APPENDIX A – Community Profile	
A. Summary of Findings and Conclusions and.....	A-1
B. Maps.....	A-2
Regional Map.....	A-2
California City Existing Land Use Map.....	A-3
California City Central Core General Plan--Parks, Schools, Recreational Facilities and Conservation Land.....	A-4
California City Northeastern Community General Plan— Parks, Schools, Rec. Facilities and Conservation Land.....	A-5
California City Primary Bikeway System General Plan.....	A-6
California City OHV Rider Map.....	A-7
C. Natural Resources and Features.....	A-8
D. Demographic Characteristics.....	A-9

E. Land Use.....	A-11
F. Conclusions.....	A-11

APPENDIX B – Existing Resources

A. Findings and Conclusions.....	B-1
B. Park Land.....	B-1
C. Public School Facilities.....	B-2
D. Private School Facilities.....	B-2

APPENDIX C – Public Input Summary and Recreation Needs Assessment

A. Summary of Community Surveys.....	C-1
--------------------------------------	-----

APPENDIX D – California City Capital Improvement Plan

Planning Team

City Council

Mayor Jennifer Wood
 Mayor Pro Tem Chuck McGuire
 Council Member William Smith
 Council Member Rick Warren
 Council Member James Gray

update

Parks and Recreation Commission

Chairman Deanna Sutherland
 Vice Chairman Charles Hemingway
 Commissioner Wendell Fowler
 Commissioner
 Commissioner Ann Richardson

City Administrative Staff

City Manager Thomas Weil
 Public Works Director Craig Platt
 Administrative Secretary Matt Schumann
 Administrative Clerk Serina Rodarte
 Parks and Recreation Supervisor Brenda Daverin
 City Maintenance Supervisor Michael Garcia

Contributors to Master Plan Content:

Helen Dennis
 Karen Sanders
 Bill Tarvin

Tom Weil
 Michael Bevins
 iii

Mary Anne Nelson
 Brenda Daverin
 Janet Sprague

Time Perspective of the City

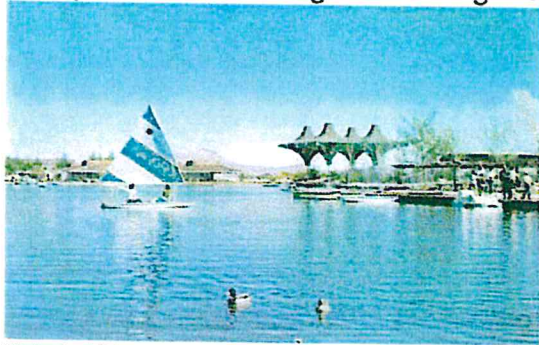
The City of California City is located in a portion of the Mojave Desert that was occupied by nomadic Paiute Indians. In 1776, the first explorers came to the area under the leadership of Father Francisco Garces and the Conquistadores are believed to have conducted mining operations in the region using Paiute labor.

During a later stage in the exploration of the area, emigrant pioneers Rogers and Manly are believed to have passed through the area in late 1849 or early 1850 in their attempt to reach help for the stranded Death Valley 49'ers. In the 1880's, the Twenty Mule Team Trail was created to carry borax ore from Harmony Borax Works in Death Valley to the railhead in Mojave. The road from Randsburg to Mojave became an important local artery for mines opening in the Randsburg/Johannesburg area. A portion of the Twenty Mule Team Trail is located in the northeast corner and runs through the city, ending in Mojave. It is designated as a National Historic Trail. At the turn of the century, sheep farming began at the Conklin Ranch, located in the present day central portion of the city. Later, generally unsuccessful agriculture, which included alfalfa and cotton production, occurred.

In 1958, private land development activities began when a group of developers started buying land in what is now the eastern portion of the city and two farms in the western portion.

During the 1960's, promotional efforts resulted in the sale of home sites to individuals throughout the United States. Community planning commissioned at the time envisioned a revolutionary new city concept and design that would encourage single family tract development, control architectural quality, and incorporate a vast area of natural desert and farmland space into a new type of living environment. The economic base of the city was predicated on continuous land sales and development activities, resulting in the employment of a significant portion of the city's population by the land developer.

On December 10, 1965, the city was incorporated with a population of 617 persons and a City Council / Manager form of government.



Historical Picture of Central Park Lake



Historical Picture of Central Park Waterfall

In the years since the City of California City was incorporated, the city has benefited from the planning of the developers of the city. They knew that to attract property owners they would have to provide excellent facilities for recreation in this desert community. As a result, they planned to develop the Central Park complex with water facilities, community multi-use facilities, and beautiful structural facilities. They also allocated land as sites throughout the 200 plus square miles within the city limits for future use as parks and open space.

Despite a current constraint on land available for active use parks, and limited funds to acquire such land, the city government is determined to continue developing those areas that it can to meet the needs of the population. The level of recreational programming is extensive, and a high percentage of California City citizens participate in the city's recreation activities. Overall, given its relatively small population and limited disposable income, the city has established a very successful recreation program and park system

The main challenge for California City in the coming years will be expanding its physical facilities to meet anticipated recreation needs. The community has expressed a desire for additional facilities, such as a teen center, regulation basketball courts and soccer fields. Additional facilities are planned for the south central and west side of California City. Sports fields are needed, particularly for soccer; and Balsitis Park needs upgrades to fulfill its function as a community park. Meeting these needs will be a challenge due to the lack of city-owned developable land suitable for active use parks.

There is also the on-going shortage of city funds to purchase new parklands and improve the existing facilities. Because the growth and development of parklands and public use areas depends on special taxes and grants or limited monies from the General Fund, the projections must be based on the availability of funds. This plan recommends realistic strategies to provide for the recreation needs expressed by the community. The plan recommends policies on natural open space, which is highly valued by California City residents. It also provides an implementation strategy based on the city's past success and recommends project priorities.

California City has developed a park system that reflects many of the community's recreation goals. This plan is intended to build upon that strong foundation. The Master Plan is intended to provide a framework for the future park and recreation system in California City. It builds on existing success to create a more livable community for the residents of today and the future.



Strata Center, Central Park



Section 1

INTRODUCTION

-
- *Introductory Statement*
 - *Report Organization*
 - *Public Involvement*
 - *Planning Process*

A. Introductory Statement

The current report discusses the findings and recommendations for meeting existing and future park and recreation service needs in the City of California City. This plan identifies and evaluates existing park and recreation areas; assesses the need for additional park land, open space and specialized facilities; establishes criteria and standards for site selection, design, and management; and recommends an approach to implementation. As a result of the community outreach process, background information critical to the decision making process was obtained. California City is aware of the drought in the State of California and will emphasize the importance of xeriscape and the reduction of water.

B. Report Organization

Due to the large amount of technical information in the plan, much of the background information is found in the Appendices at the end of the report. The main body of this report is organized into the following sections:

Section 1 - Introduction

Provides an introductory statement, reviews the document organization, discusses the opportunities for public involvement and provides an overview of the planning process.

Section 2 – Community Profile

Describes the physical and political characteristics that form the framework for the recommendations. This includes natural resources, political boundaries and population characteristics.

Section 3 – Inventory of Recreation Land and Facilities

Includes an inventory of existing park, open space, and recreational areas in California City.

Section 4 – Existing Operations

Describes the existing operations of the Parks and Recreation Department and analyzes the costs of providing park and recreation services in California City.

Section 5 – Public Input Summary

Provides a summary of each of the public input opportunities, including the community surveys.

Section 6 – Recreation Needs Assessment

Provides a summary of the methodology used to assess and quantify park and facility needs in California City.

Section 7 – Recommendations and Policies

Provides recommendations and broadly worded policies for the development or redevelopment of parks, open space, and other recreation facilities. This section also includes recommendations on operations and management.

Section 8 – Implementation

Provides a list of potential funding sources, a capital projects list and project priorities.

C. Public Involvement (See Appendix C)

To reflect the views of the community and build consensus for a master plan, public participation is an integral part of the planning process. Public involvement was achieved through the following methods:

- **Community Surveys** – Surveys were distributed to households in California City. The surveys in Section 5 combine information gleaned from surveys of the community. Surveys were also made available at public events and at community service and business organization meetings as well as on the city's website.
- **Youth Workshops** – Workshops with youth leaders at California City High School and California City Middle School were held throughout 2010-2012. A summary of the workshops are in Appendix C.
- **Public Workshops** – A series of public workshops are on-going on an as needed basis.

D. Planning Process

The planning process for the Master Plan includes four basic elements as follows:

I. RESEARCH and DATA ACQUISITION

- Community profile
- Demographic and population data
- Park inventory/evaluation

II. DEMAND AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- Public involvement (youth workshops, public workshops, community surveys)
- Service level issues for targeted populations pertaining to facility accessibility complying with the State of California Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) code
- System wide needs assessment

III. PLANNING RECOMMENDATIONS

- Existing parks improvements
- New park development
- Specialized facilities (targeted populations focused facilities)
- Sports facilities
- Open space
- Partnerships
- Management, operations, and maintenance

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

- Funding sources
- Project priorities
- Financing strategy
- Capital Improvement Plan



Arts and Community Center in Central Park

Photo by Jean Paul LeBlanc



Section 2

COMMUNITY PROFILE

- *Regional Context*
- *Planning Area*
- *Natural Resources*
- *Climate*
- *Demographic Characteristics*
- *Land Use*

INTRODUCTION

This document section outlines general information about the community of California City, including natural resources, demographic, and land use characteristics. Sources were retrieved from the 2009-2028 California City General Plan, unless otherwise noted.

A. Regional Context

- Located in the heart of Fremont Valley in the County of Kern, the City of California City is accessible to three major state highways--14, 58 and 395.
- The City of California City is situated just minutes from Edwards Air Force Base, the Mojave Flight Test Center and Spaceport, and the U.S. Borax open pit mines.
- The city's boundaries encompass over 200 square miles, offering plenty of room to grow and play.
- The city is surrounded by undeveloped land, including a 25,000 acre Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area (DTRNA) administered by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee which is located along a portion of the city's northeastern border.
- California City is the third largest city in California in land mass and offers plenty of sunshine and a low humidity climate for year-round fun in the sun.
- Listed below are approximate travel distances from California City to various destinations (see map Appendix A- 2):

Bakersfield	68 Miles
Barstow	67 Miles
Lancaster	43 Miles
Las Vegas	223 Miles
Los Angeles	110 Miles
Palmdale	50 Miles
Ridgecrest	52 Miles
Tehachapi	28 Miles

B. Planning Area

The planning area for this study is coterminous (having the same or coexistent boundaries) with the city limits of the City of California City.

C. Natural Resources

Natural resources are important to recreation planning for a variety of reasons. The topography/terrain and the existence of water impact the potential for development. While land with natural resources is often considered environmentally sensitive and has development limitations, it is often conducive to park, open space, and recreation uses as well. Aside from minimizing hazards associated with these features, the preservation of resource areas has a number of other benefits, such as protecting unique landforms, maintaining aquifer recharge areas and other hydrological functions, and preserving the riparian and vegetative cover.

In California City, many areas remain undeveloped with the natural features remaining. The city has a number of zoning designations protecting natural resource areas, restricting development, and maintaining the open character.

Topography/Terrain

California City is located in the northern part of the Antelope Valley, a triangular-shaped plain of 3,000 square miles bounded by the San Gabriel Mountains on the south, the Tehachapi Mountains and the Sierra Nevada Mountains on the west and the Rand Mountains to the north. The city is located within the Mojave Desert geomorphic province which is characterized by a gently undulating ground surface with isolated buttes and low to moderate relief across the desert floor. The topography within city limits consists of gently sloping alluvial plains with a series of steep rock buttes and several arroyos, including Cache Creek. The average elevation is 2,400 feet above sea level. The aquifer is 380'-890' below the ground surface.

Vegetation

The native flora of the region is dominated by the creosote bush scrub plant community which occurs throughout the Mojave Desert at elevations ranging from 2,300 to about 4,500 feet above sea level.

Noteworthy in this area are:

- The Joshua tree, although not considered to be a dominant species, is the indicator plant of the Mojave Desert and is found throughout the region.

- A perennial herb, desert Cymopteris, also known as desert spring parsley, appears typically on Edwards Air Force Base, southeast of the city, and is ranked by the California Native Plant Society as extremely rare.
- Common native shrubs include rubber rabbitbrush, white bursage, cholla, winterfat, buckwheat, Mormon tea, and cheesebush that commonly occur.
- Other vegetation includes grasses (rice grass, salt grass, desert needle grass), spring flowering annuals (fiddleneck, desert candle, gold field, phacelia, apricot globe mallow) and invasive/non-native plants such as tumbleweed, mustard, and red brome grass.

Wildlife

Wildlife species which inhabit the Mojave Desert and areas around California City adapt to the rolling desert plains, dry sinks, low levels of precipitation and sparse, drought tolerant vegetation. Wildlife tends to feed in the cooler hours, either on vegetation and insects or small animals.

Noteworthy in this area are:

- Mammals: antelope ground squirrel, Mohave ground squirrel (protected), cottontail, jackrabbit, coyote, kit fox, kangaroo rat, bobcat, and American badger.
- Birds: raven, water birds near city/golf course ponds (red winged blackbird and mallard), burrowing owl, mourning dove, road runner, quail, and hummingbird.
- Reptiles and amphibians: Mohave rattlesnake, horned lizard, desert tortoise (protected), and desert spiny lizard.
- Migratory birds: turkey vulture, golden eagle, Canadian goose, and many more.
- Fish in city park and golf course ponds.
- Insects and spiders.

D. Climate (see Climate Data, Appendix A)

The climate in California City is typically hot during the summer months when the annual average high temperature is 97 degrees Fahrenheit and the annual average low winter temperature is 49 degrees Fahrenheit. July and August are the warmest months and the coldest months are December and January. Annual rainfall averages 6 inches with the wettest month being February. Overall, the city's weather provides approximately 340 days of sunshine a year with low humidity, clean air, and seasonal high winds.

E. Demographic Characteristics

Demographic characteristics are important attributes because they provide a picture of the local population and allow comparisons between communities. Information about demographics also provides insight into recreational interests and participation. Factors such as age and income significantly affect the level and individual ability to pursue recreational activities. To a lesser extent, employment, education and ethnicity also play a role.

The population and demographic information for the City of California City, Bakersfield, Ridgecrest, Tehachapi, Lancaster and Palmdale is derived from the 2015 Economic Roundtable Report published by the Greater Antelope Valley Economic Alliance (GAVEA). The population and demographic information for the State of California is derived from the U.S. Census Bureau 2010 data. Tables derived from the 2010 Census data and other sources are found in Appendix A.

F. Land Use

The total land area of the City of California City is 203.4375 square miles.

Controlled development in the City of California City refers to that land designated for the express purpose of specific land development planning consistent with the goals, objectives and policies of the California City General Plan. Strong consideration shall be given to the development of park/open space and public uses which benefit the entire community.

The majority of development in the city has occurred within the area defined as the central core (first community), an area comprising approximately 18 sections of land (11,520 acres) in the southwest portion of the land area within the city's corporate boundaries.

The remaining development has occurred in the northeastern portion of the city, an area located about twelve miles northeast of the central core along the Twenty Mule Team Parkway. Growth in the northeastern portion is limited by the lack of adequate infrastructure and public services.



Scout Island Ground Breaking



Section 3

Inventory of Recreation Land and Facilities

- *Summary of Findings*
- *Park Definitions*
- *Summary of Recreation Facilities within California City Boundaries and under City Jurisdiction*
- *Summary of Recreation Areas within the Region but outside City Boundaries or City Jurisdiction*
- *Summary of Non-Municipal Facilities*

INTRODUCTION

This section of the document provides an inventory of existing recreation resources in the community. Listed below is a summary of the findings and conclusions of the inventory and analysis of the existing park and recreation resources in California City.

A. Summary of Findings

- The City of California City owns a total of 474.41 acres of park land.
 - Central Park and Par 3 18-hole Golf Course – 82.90 acres
 - 18-hole Tierra del Sol Golf Course - 157.61 acres
 - Balsitis Park - 15.01 acres
 - Borax Bill Station – 31.59 acres
 - Galileo Hill & Park "J" (leased to private interest) – 187.3 acres
 - *East Kern Historical Museum*
- Recreation facilities include: the Strata Center, the California City Arts and Community Center, the Mable Davis Senior Center, Balsitis Park, tennis courts, the Scout Island Regional Youth Outdoor Training Center and the Bob Parker Lodge, the Hermann J. Cooper Little League Fields, Inspiration Walk, and the Orion Dog Park. Other facilities include: two golf courses, Borax Bill Station, a public pool and Central Park Lake. All of the referenced facilities are located within parks established within the city. The city has very few sports fields; however there are options for adding sports fields for recreational purposes in this plan. *Add info about the museum*
- There are four school facilities serving K-12 in the City of California City. These provide some additional recreational opportunities to city residents through a joint use agreement between the Mojave Unified School District and the city.
- There is a significant amount of open space in the city, most of it is land zoned as "Open Space". This designation allows for goals and policies to acquire, preserve, and enhance parks and open space for active and passive recreation to meet the needs of existing and future residents. Some of the land zoned "Open Space" is privately owned.

There are bicycle pathways within the City of California City planning area. The California City Bicycle Transportation Plan (CCBTP) designates primary bicycle routes within the central core area of the city and an extended route, including existing and proposed bicycle routes, rest stops and connections with other

modes of transportation. There are many opportunities for trails and trail connections because of the quantity of open space land in California City (see Section 9 and also Appendix A-6).

B. Park Definitions

The most effective and efficient park system to manage is one made up of different park types, each designed to provide a specific recreational experience or opportunity. When classified and used properly, they are easier to maintain, create fewer conflicts between user groups and have less impact on adjoining neighbors. In order to assess the park system in California City and to address specific land needs, the existing resources have been listed based on the following classifications:

Pocket Parks, Tot Lots, and Children's Playgrounds PP

Pocket parks, tot lots and children's playgrounds (PP) are all small single purpose areas. Due to their size, the facilities are usually limited to a small open area with shade, a children's playground and/or a picnic area. The area served has a roughly one-quarter mile radius and the size is usually less than two acres.

Neighborhood Parks NP

Neighborhood parks (NP) are a combination playground and open space area designed primarily for non-supervised, non-organized recreation activities. They are generally small in size and serve an area of about one-half mile radius. Typically, facilities found in a neighborhood park include a children's playground, picnic areas, trails, open grass areas for passive use, outdoor basketball courts and multi-use sport fields for soccer and youth baseball, etc. In most communities, their size ranges from 2 -10 acres, with the optimum size of about 5 acres.

Community Parks CP

A community park (CP) is planned primarily to provide active and structured recreation opportunities. In general, community park facilities are designed for organized activities and sports, although individual and family activities are also encouraged. Community parks serve a larger area and offer more facilities. As a result, they require more support facilities, such as parking, restrooms and covered play areas. These parks usually have sports fields or similar facilities as a central focus. The service area is roughly a 1 - 2 mile radius. In most communities, the size ranges from 15 to 50 acres, with the optimum size at 30 acres.

Regional Parks RP

Regional parks (RP) are recreational areas serving the city and beyond. They are usually large in size and often include a specific use or feature that makes them unique. Typically, use focuses on passive types of recreational activities. Those located within

urban areas sometimes offer a wider range of facilities and activities.

Special Use Areas and Special Facilities SU

Special use and facilities areas (SU) are public recreation areas or land occupied by a specialized facility. Some of the uses falling into this classification include community centers, golf courses, community gardens, single purpose sites for field sports or other activities, and sites occupied by special recreation buildings.

Environmental Education Center EEC

An environmental education center (EEC) is a facility with the purpose of educating the public about natural resources and conservation.

Linear Parks LP

Linear parks (LP) are developed landscaped areas and other lands that follow linear corridors, such as abandoned railroad right-of-ways, drainage channels, power lines and other elongated features. This type of park usually contains trails, landscaped areas, viewpoints and seating areas.

Natural Open Park Spaces/Greenways NOPS

Natural open park spaces/greenways (NOPS) are defined as undeveloped land primarily left in its natural environment with recreation uses as a secondary objective. These are usually owned or managed by a governmental agency and may or may not have public access. This type of land often includes habitat corridors, wetlands, steep hillsides and other similar areas. Environmentally sensitive areas can be acquired for open space and can include wildlife habitats, stream and creek corridors, or unique and/or endangered plant species.

Recreational Bicycle and Equestrian Trails RBET

Bicycle and equestrian trails (RBET) are designed to provide bicycling and other non-motorized recreational opportunities. By providing linkages to other areas and facilities, they can provide non-vehicular options for travel throughout the community. Trails can be designed for a single use or for multiple types of users. The trails emphasized here are those that are recreational and multiple-use in nature. Bicycle routes with more emphasis on transportation are not included in this definition.

West Way Station, 20971 Wonder Avenue, near highway 14 on California City Boulevard, and College Station Park and Ride, 20750 California City Boulevard, at the intersection of California City Boulevard and Harvard Avenue, are trailheads for bicycles and for Park and Ride.

Trails may be either non-surfaced or treated with a variety of hard surfacing materials including concrete, asphalt or granite chips. Non-surfaced trails may be left in their natural condition or supplemented with decomposed granite, gravel, sand or other material. Surfacing will depend on the soil type, drainage issues, type and amount of use.

Private Parks PPK

These privately owned sites (PPK) contribute to the recreational opportunities in the area. Private parks include golf courses, facilities in private developments, and park areas owned by homeowners associations.

C. Summary of Recreation Facilities within California City Boundaries and under City Jurisdiction

The following is a listing by type of all parks and recreation areas located within the California City planning area.

- Pocket parks, tot lots, children's playgrounds
- Neighborhood parks
- Community parks
- Special use areas/facilities
- Natural open space areas/greenways
- Bicycle and pedestrian trails

One method of analyzing park land needs is to compare the amount of park land on a per capita basis. The city will base future park and recreation facilities on this method. A table of information can be found in Appendix B.

Central Park CP-1

Central Park in California City is a popular recreational complex that is host to community celebrations, corporate picnics, and year-round fun for the entire family. Central Park, which is city owned and operated, is located on 82.90 acres in the central core area of the city. The recreational facilities feature a new Arts and Community Center; the Mable Davis Senior Center; Inspiration Walk; an athletic field; and tennis, basketball, volley ball and handball courts. There are three Little League baseball fields, two of which are lighted; Emerald Hill with a waterfall; a T-ball field; restroom facilities; water fountains; and a new sports center, the Strata Center, featuring a wide range of indoor activities for residents of all ages throughout the year. The lake offers fishing for bass, carp, and catfish with a marina for boating activities, and opportunities for bird watching for migratory and nesting birds.

There is also the recently developed fenced Orion Dog Park adjacent to the Little League Field. The city's swimming pool with bath house is open during the summer months and the children's playground is particularly popular with the younger crowd. There are benches, lawns and mature pine trees that offer shade on hot days. Covered pavilions offer a great place for bands to play. There are covered picnic tables with barbecue pits scattered throughout the park. Recently added to the existing park grounds is Freedom Park with flagpole and plaques to honor our veterans.

An 18-hole Par 3 Golf Course is also part of Central Park. The Scout Island Regional Youth Outdoor Center with camping facilities is a recent addition to the Central Park complex and features independent street access.

Emerald Hill interposes itself in the center of Central Park. It was built when the lake was formed and features a view of the mountains to the west, a view of the picnic grounds, lake, and other features below in the park. Water is pumped to the top and flows into channels of water on top that feed into the waterfall. Initial plans for improvements have been made to create walking access to the top, a gazebo, renovation of the waterfall, tree plantings, and an amphitheater on the slope.

The city hopes to expand upon this park as outlined in this plan to include artwork and demonstration gardens, an amphitheater, and a splash park.

18-hole Tierra del Sol Golf Course SU-8

Adjacent to the 18-hole Par 3 Executive Course is California City's Tierra del Sol 18-hole Golf Course. The championship golf course totals 157.61 acres as it loops around the southwest quarter of the Central Park area, where it crosses over California City Boulevard by way of a bridge. Playing over 6,800 yards with long fairways, challenging bunkers and abundant water with 5 ponds, Tierra del Sol is visibly located in the center of California City. The course features a driving range, putting green and the full service pro shop hosts a restaurant and provides golf lessons by a qualified PGA instructor.

Future upgrades to Tierra del Sol facilities and golf course maintenance should be periodically reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Balsitis Park NP-1

City-owned Balsitis Park is located on 15.01 acres to the northwest of the central core area of the city. Balsitis Park is a popular neighborhood park with barbecue pits, picnic tables, pavilions, and restroom facilities. Available are lighted fields for softball and baseball, one non-lighted field, playground equipment, and restroom facilities.

A soccer field and a permanent skate park are planned. A splash park is also considered.

Borax Bill Station SU-2

California City is ranked the 12th largest OHV land use area in the state. Borax Bill Station is a city-owned and operated park consisting of three parcels totaling 31.59 acres and is located to the north of Twenty Mule Team Parkway. The amenities at Borax Bill consist of a limited number of overnight campsites and recreational vehicle day parking, restroom and shower facilities, a picnic area and power connections for recreational vehicles.

In 2010 the park received approximately 320,000 visitors. The city has a Desert Incident Response Team (D.I.R.T.) that is made up of police, ambulance, and fire department personnel dedicated to all OHV riders during long weekends and holidays. D.I.R.T. is made available through the use of grant funds designed to fund off-road activities.

More recently, an 800 square foot building was purchased and placed at the site and is seasonally equipped with a communications area, a first aid station, and educational information. An additional building has been provided with restroom and showering facilities to meet the growing needs of OHV patrons.

Eastern Kern Historical Museum Society (EKHMS) Kiosk PP-3

This city-owned Kiosk Park is 3.34 acres located to the east of the intersection of Randsburg-Mojave Road and Twenty Mule Team Parkway. The existing facilities feature a recreational vehicle waste disposal station, water, a picnic table, patio cover and a historical information kiosk.

Some additions are considered in this plan.

Mojave Unified School District (MUSD)

Schools are an important source for recreational activities; the local schools feature sports fields and gymnasiums. The City of California City and the MUSD have joint use agreements in place that permit the city to combine and or utilize gymnasiums and sports fields for recreational services outside of typical school hours. The Mojave Unified School District (MUSD) features the following schools:

- Robert P. Ulrich Elementary School
- Hacienda Elementary School
- California City Middle School*
- California City High School*

*These two school facilities are utilized for their large sports fields and large gymnasiums; the city's Parks and Recreation Department holds recreational activities open to the public utilizing these facilities made possible with joint use agreements.

Sports fields and athletic facilities are included in the master plan because the majority of sports fields in California City are located at the MUSD sites in the city. The use of the school facilities provides a wide variety of space for use by our community.

D. Summary of Recreation Areas within the Region but outside City Boundaries or City Jurisdiction

Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area (DTRNA)

Just northeast of California City's jurisdiction is a 25,000 acre Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area (DTRNA) which is administered by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The preserve does not enter the jurisdictional boundaries of the city.

The DTRNA is fenced and closed to vehicular traffic. There is no livestock grazing within its perimeter and the area is closed to numerous human activities. The DTRNA has staff on site in the spring with an information kiosk for visitors. Available are three marked and mapped hiking/walking trails, and the 1.5 mile Discovery Loop Trail.

Red Rock Canyon State Park

North of California City along State Route 14 is Red Rock Canyon State Park known for its rock formations and surrounding desert mountains. In addition to its scenic qualities, the canyon is known for its geological, archaeological and paleontological history. Off-highway vehicles are allowed on the designated four wheel drive routes located in the park. All vehicles must be registered and drivers must be at least 16 years of age and possess a valid driver's license. A limited number of recreational vehicle and camping sites are available year round. The Interpretive Center features information about the park and is located at the entrance.

Mojave National Preserve

East of California City along Interstate Route 15 at Baker, California, is the 1.4 million acres of the Mojave National Preserve in San Bernardino County. It runs from the Nevada state line southerly along Interstate Route 40, ending before Needles, California, near the Arizona state line. The Mojave National Preserve is where you will find the Rosy Boa, protected by the State of California. Sightings are rare within the Mojave National Preserve. Among other residents of the preserve are the threatened desert tortoise, red racer, Mojave rattlesnake, Mojave Desert sidewinder, gopher snake, numerous rodents, birds and mammals. Included within the Mojave National Preserve is Mitchell Caverns State Park, Granite Mountains Preserve, and Soda Springs Desert Study Center. In addition, there are tribal governments and communities historically associated within the region of the preserve. Most of the lands surrounding Mojave National Preserve are administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

Jawbone Station

Jawbone Canyon Open Riding Area and Dove Springs Open Riding Area are open-use riding areas located on state Route 14 northwest of California City. There are many miles of designated trails to travel. The Jawbone Station Visitor Center has

information about the area and a selection of books. Camping, off-road vehicle activities, hiking, bird watching, and wildlife viewing are activities offered for everyone.

Randsburg/Johannesburg/Red Mountain Mining District

The towns of Randsburg and Johannesburg are historic mining towns reached by way of Red Rock Road off Highway 14, by an off-road route from California City or by Garlock Road northeast of California City. As a living ghost town, Randsburg has antique shopping in buildings from the boom-town era as well as a museum. Randsburg is named after the famed Rand Mining District in South Africa. Johannesburg, named after a city in South Africa, has ruins of old mines as well as the old railway station. Red Mountain is still active for the mining of gold and tungsten.

E. Summary of Non-Municipal Facilities

California City Memorial Park (Public Cemetery)

California City Memorial Park (public cemetery) is a 10 acre memorial park which was dedicated as a public cemetery into the East Kern Cemetery District in April, 1975. The cemetery has a beautiful panoramic view of the surrounding desert and mountains.

Cal City Motocross (MX) Park

Cal City Motocross (MX) Park is a privately owned 10.6 acre motocross track located directly northeast of Borax Bill Station. Cal City MX is a practice and race facility with two tracks. The main track features jumps from 10 to 110 feet. The second track is a "pee-wee" track for young riders and pee-wee dirt bikes only. The park offers organized motocross events and races throughout the year. The facility has a concession stand and a pro shop.

Silver Saddle Ranch and Club

Silver Saddle Ranch and Club is a privately owned and operated recreation area comprised of nine parcels totaling 1,151.38 acres located in the northeastern portion of the city. Facilities include miniature golf, a golf driving range, surrey bikes, tennis, basketball, picnicking, rock hounding, horseshoes, bird watching, bicycles, recreational vehicle overnight parking, tent camping in tepees, horse stables, lodge facilities, a swimming pool, and hiking and riding trails.



Historic Bridge at Central Park



Section 4

EXISTING OPERATIONS

-
- *Organizational Structure*
 - *Staffing Levels*
 - *Finances*
 - *Maintenance Costs*
 - *Revenue*
 - *Program Participation*

INTRODUCTION

This section of the master plan examines the existing organizational structure for managing park and recreation services in California City, including an analysis of the existing operations, organizational structure, staffing, operating costs, revenue and maintenance.

A. Organizational Structure

The organizational structure in California City is typical of smaller California cities. Citizens of California City elect a 4-member city council and mayor; the mayor serves a two year term and the council members serve four years. The mayor presides over city council meetings, but does not have any special powers. A city manager administers the city staff and, in turn, reports to the city council.

California City provides the following services to the city:

- City Clerk/Administrative Services
- Parks and Recreation (provider of park and recreation services)
- Public Works
- Public Safety Services: police, fire, animal control and code enforcement. The city police and fire departments also maintain external agency contract support with the County of Kern.

B. Staffing Levels

In order to provide park and recreation services, the city currently employs two full-time employees. The number of staff increases during the summer months when multiple activities are scheduled to coordinate with the summer school break and opening of the city community pool.

C. Finances

The City of California City operates on a fiscal year (FY) that runs from July 1 through June 30. The functions of the Parks and Recreation Department rely on monies from the General Fund. In future years these funds may not be available.

The past operating budgets for the California City Parks and Recreation Department has been about 1% of the city's total budget. The Capital Improvement Plan in Appendix D shows a projected ten year funding plan

for parks and recreation in the City of California City.

D. Maintenance Costs

The cost of maintaining a park system is an important factor when planning for the future. In many communities, maintenance is underfunded, resulting in long-term deterioration of parks and greater costs. In July, 2012, landscape maintenance was outsourced to Sharper Landscaping, a private business in the city. Sharper Landscaping assumed the responsibility of maintaining city owned landscaping, such as the city parks, around city hall, the police and fire stations, and the median of California City Boulevard.

Based on acreage maintained, California City spends approximately \$1,800/acre of developed park land. The cost per acre for park maintenance is minimal and underfunded.

E. Revenue (Sticker Fees, Par 3 Fees, User Fees)

Although recreation fees are not a significant source of revenue to the city's general fund, costs associated with parks and recreation are partly recovered through recreation user fee revenue. Parks and recreation user fees may be found in the city's Master Fee Resolution which is amended as necessary.

F. Program Participation

In California City, the principal areas of participation in programs are listed below for FY 2015:

Strata Center (total program participation for 2015: approximately 25,000)

- Pre-school activities
- Youth training, classes and activities
- Sports
- Adult classes and activities
- Rentals
- Parties and concerts
- City planned meetings
- Holiday Craft Bazaar

- Annual Train Show
- Community Health Fair
- Community Toy Drive

Park Facilities (total program participation for 2015: approximately 20,000)

- Renaissance Faire
- Tortoise Days
- July 4th Gala
- Easter Egg Hunt

Swimming Pool (total program participation for 2015: approximately 10,000)

- Swim lessons
- Pool exercise classes
- Family and lap swim

Community Arts Center (renovated in 2012)

- Art shows
- Community activities
- Rentals
- Classes
- Meetings
- Performances
- Red Cross Blood Drive

Other

- Tours and trips
- Dog Dayz
- Outdoor sports events
- Winter break activities
- Day camp/spring break activities
- Day camp/summer day camp
- Pony rides & petting zoo
- Special events and services
- Holiday decorating contest
- Scout activities
- Bird watching activities
- Inspiration Walk--Holiday Village



View of Central Park Lake from Emerald Hill

Photo by Birdtographer



Section 5

PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY

-
- *Summary of Community Surveys*
 - *Summary of Public Workshops*
 - *Summary of Youth Workshops*
 - *Summary of Adaptive Recreation*

INTRODUCTION

In order to reflect the views of the community and build consensus support for the master plan, public participation is an integral part of the planning process. Public participation was sought in a number of ways:

- Distributions of two community surveys.
- Several public workshops and noticed public hearings.
- Youth workshops with high school and middle school students.
- Website access to surveys.

This section summarizes the results of each of these public participation efforts.

A. Summary of Community Surveys

A survey of public recreation interests and recreation participation was made in the City of California City. A total of 295 surveys were collected via multiple recreational events, special events, and at public schools during the year 2009 and 2010.

Listed below is a summary of the survey results.

- Based on the survey results, Central Park receives the most use in the community. The swimming pool in the summer and the Strata Center throughout the entire year are also well used.
- Park use varies, sometimes significantly, depending on population concentration and the season.
- Overall, respondents rated Park and Recreation Services highly.
- When asked what the most needed facilities in California City were, the three most frequently cited responses were: splash park, skate park and picnic/BBQ areas.
- There was high interest in trails and open space.
- When asked what types of trails are most needed, hiking and walking trails received the most support.
- Respondents felt more sports fields are needed in the City of California City.

- There is relatively high participation in programs community-wide, 100% of the respondents indicated they had participated in recreation programs sponsored by California City within the survey period of 2009/2010.
- When asked to prioritize 15 Park & Recreational facilities to be developed, the three that were most favored were: Splash Park (59%), snack/drink machines (55%), and modern restrooms (53%).
- When asked what improvements they would like to see in the city's parks, 62% favored restroom facilities, 52% benches and shade, and 44% would like to see children's play equipment improved.
- The activities that had the highest latent demand (defined as recreation program areas California City will emphasize in the future) included:

Special events (Halloween Carnival, Easter egg hunts, etc.) 62%

Trips & excursions (Disneyland, San Diego Zoo, Las Vegas, Huntington Library, etc.) 58%

Sports, athletics and leagues (softball, basketball, etc.) 54%

B. Summary of Public Workshops

Public meetings were held from April 2010 through June 2012. The following is a summary of the public meetings.

The first public workshop for the master plan was held on April 21, 2010, at the council chambers in city hall. The purpose of this workshop was to introduce the community to the concept of a master plan for parks and recreation facilities and to give the community an opportunity to provide their input into the future vision for the parks and recreation. The workshop began with an explanation of the process and an overview of public input opportunities.

More workshops were held at the Arts and Community Center and council chambers to discuss details of the master plan.

C. Summary of Youth Workshops

The City of California City and the Parks and Recreation Commission ensured that the adult and youth community were actively involved in the master plan process.

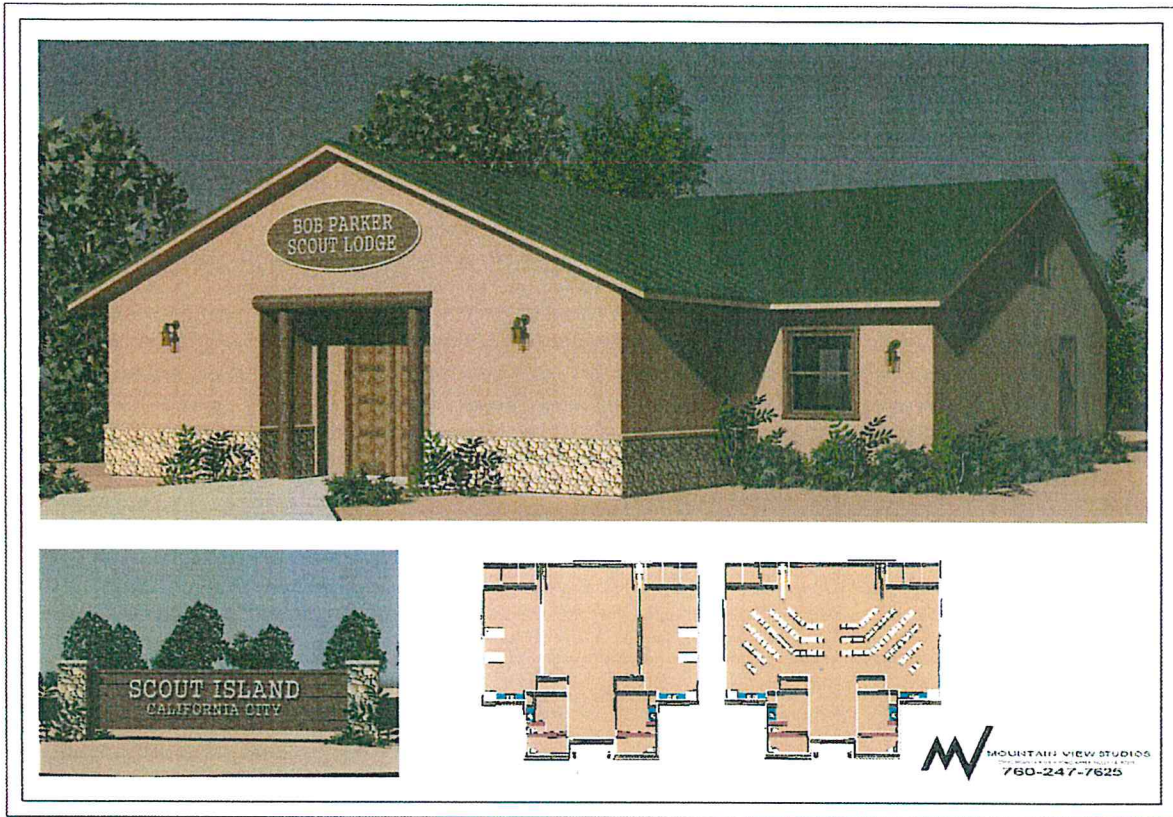
The results were to be composed of mutual ideas that would benefit all. Students were asked to participate in completing the surveys so that their preferences would be heard regarding which facilities they currently enjoy as well as those they would like to see in their neighborhoods.

A large number of the surveys received were completed from the youth community. For results of survey, see Appendix C.

D. Summary of Adaptive Recreation

California City is committed to provide reasonable accommodations to our residents with disabilities to enable them to enjoy the benefits of a variety of city programs.

The Parks and Recreation Department complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable accommodations will be made in recreation programs and facilities to offer inclusive year-round activities for individuals with developmental and/or physical disabilities.



Architectural Rendering of Scout Island Regional Complex



Section 6

RECREATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT

-
- Alternative Approaches to Identifying Needs
 - Methodology of Assessing Park Needs
 - Recreation Facility Needs

INTRODUCTION

This section summarizes the methodology and results of the recreation needs assessment. Quantifying park and recreation facility needs is difficult because many different variables influence recreation needs. Community values, participation patterns, and willingness to pay for services vary widely from one community to another.

A. Alternative Approaches to Identifying Needs

There are several approaches to estimating needs including measurement of participation levels, input from surveys and public meetings, goal setting and participation models. The analysis on the following pages uses these methods and a brief description of each is listed below.

Participation Level Analysis

Recognizing the need to reflect local conditions, the Parks and Recreation Commission began measuring per capita participation levels. Participation level is measured in terms of the number of occasions occurring in a given 30-day period when that activity is in session.

Recreation Surveys

Recreation surveys are conducted using several different methods and approaches. These include mail-in, internet, and door-to-door surveys. Each type of survey process has positive and negative attributes that include return ratios, desired information and time frame. If the questionnaires are drawn from a statistically valid sample, a good reliable sampling of information can be derived. The difficulty with surveys is converting the data to quantifiable numbers of need.

Public Meetings

General public or committee meetings can be used to identify perceived needs but often are attended by organized groups who may or may not represent the interests of the community.

Goals

In some instances, community goals are expressed as the need without quantifiable or statistical analysis to support the goal.

B. Methodology of Assessing Park and Recreation Needs

Developing a statement of land needs for parks and open space is difficult

because it depends on availability of land, financial resources and desired service levels.

To determine park and recreation needs in California City, several analytical methods were used. These included a comparison to other communities, results of the recreation survey, land availability and geographical deficiencies for parks and open space areas. It should be noted that even with all the statistical information available, a certain amount of subjective analysis and professional experience must be used to quantify the standards.

To determine land needs in California City, an analysis was made of existing conditions. Current park land was expressed in terms of a comparison of acres of existing park land to the current population. The recommended standard is based on a build-out population and is expressed in terms of acres per 1,000 people. In developing these ratios, the following population estimates were used:

Census Population (2010):	14,120
Current Population (2015):	14,924
Estimated park acres per 1000 people:	10.75 (not including Silver Saddle)

Source: GAVEA

By developing a desired level of service and applying it to a future population forecast, one can determine future needs. However, it should be noted the model used was based on a set of assumptions and desired service levels. For example, for community parks, the desired service level was to provide a community park within 2 miles of most residents.

C. Recreation Facility Needs

The establishment of the need for recreation facilities such as sport fields, swimming pools, multipurpose recreational facilities, and trails was derived from several analytical approaches. This included an analysis of present recreation participation levels, needs expressed in the community survey and at public meetings, and play/practice time requirements of sport teams.

By establishing a desired level of service and applying it to existing and future population, one can determine appropriate recommended demand and future needs. To determine the existing ratio for facilities, the population within the city was used.

The difficulty of calculating sport field needs in California City is the regional nature of organized sport leagues serving the youth. In addition, California City relies on the Mojave Unified School District to meet sports field needs in California City. Currently, we are at capacity for field and court use.

To determine the need for sports fields, a demand model was used comparing the supply of fields against the demand created by the number of teams. Within this demand model there are many variables (or service levels) that will affect the eventual need statement. These variables include:

Demand Variables

- Number of teams
- Number of games and practices permitted per team per week

Supply Variables

- Number of fields
- Number of games/practices permitted on each field per week
- Existence of lighted or unlighted fields

Specific needs for each recreational need are developed in Section 7.

Special Use Facilities

California City provides a high level of service and owns several specialized facilities for recreation use. These include: the Strata Center, the Mable Davis Senior Center, the Arts and Community Center, the public pool, the Scout Island Regional Youth Outdoor Training Center and Bob Parker Lodge, the Orion Dog Park, Inspiration Walk, the Borax Bill Park OHV Station, the Par 3 and PGA Golf Courses. Based on the results of the planning process, several additional special use facilities appear to be needed in California City. These include:

- Skate park
- Splash parks
- Soccer complexes
- Lighted basketball courts
- Additional bicycle and equestrian trails
- Hiking and walking trails
- Indoor racquetball and handball court
- Aquatic recreational facilities

Some of these special use facilities could be incorporated into other park sites or facilities.



Balsitis Park



Section 7

RECOMMENDATIONS AND POLICIES

- *Park Facility Plan*
- *Development Concept*
- *Park Planning Concepts*
- *Specific Park Recommendations*
- *Recreation Facilities, Golf Courses, Sports Fields and Aquatic Facilities*
- *Proposed Recreation Facilities, Sports Fields and Aquatic Facilities*
- *Natural Open Space Areas/Greenways*
- *Recreation Programs*
- *Management and Operations*
- *Parks Maintenance*
- *Park Planning and Development Guidelines*

INTRODUCTION

This section of the plan recommends specific courses of action to meet the needs described in the previous sections.

A. Park Facility Plan

The Park Facility Plan is a graphic representation of existing and future parks and other proposed recreation facilities. A map locating existing park sites is in Appendix A. Some important notes about the plan are:

- A letter of the alphabet and number (such as NP-4) defines each site on the layout plan. The number is for site identification only and corresponds to text throughout the plan. The letters represent the type of existing or proposed park and are keyed as follows:

Symbol Park Type:

AF	Aquatic Facilities
PP	Pocket Parks, Tot Lots & Children's Playgrounds
NP	Neighborhood Parks
CP	Community Parks
LP	Linear Parks
PPK	Private Parks
SU	Special Use Areas/Facilities
EEC	Environmental Education Centers
NOPS	Natural Open Park Space/Greenways
RBET	Recreational Bicycle and Equestrian Trails

- In Appendix A, the California City General Plan for the Central Core Community (1st community) and the Northeast Community (2nd community) indicate undeveloped park areas. The intent is to show general locations within the city that can be served in the future.
- The location and arrangement of the parks and facilities are designed to serve the city for the next 20 years.

B. Development Concept

The ideal park system for a community is one made up of a hierarchy of various park types, each offering certain types of recreation and/or open space opportunities.

Separately, each park type may serve only one basic function, but collectively they will serve the entire needs of the community. By recognizing this concept, California City can develop a more efficient, cost effective and usable park system.

However, within the city, the main factor limiting the ability to meet recreation needs is the lack of funding to build needed facilities and to purchase additional park land. California City has established a strong foundation in its current park system. The proposed park system centers on the premise that a multi-use neighborhood or community park should be located within about a two mile radius of most residents. The city will need to continue to find creative ways to meet the community's need for parks and facilities. For example, in places where park land is not available, the Mojave Unified School District (the local school district), per joint use agreement, provides some recreation facilities.

The city's core system (neighborhood and community parks) provides basic recreational opportunities. Supplementing these parks will be specialized recreation facilities and open space areas serving the entire community.

C. Park Planning Concepts

Pocket Parks, Tot Lots and Children's Playgrounds **PP**

California City has three pocket parks in its current inventory. One is the Irene Holcomb Pocket Park, located near Central Park on Heather Avenue. Another, the Eastern Kern Historical Museum Society (EKHMS) kiosk, is located at the intersection of Randsburg-Mojave Road and Twenty Mule Team Parkway. The third is Lakeview Mobile Home Subdivision Pocket Park. In other areas, pocket parks can provide park facilities to neighborhoods that would otherwise not be served. However, it is not recommended that California City seek to acquire any additional pocket parks due to the high maintenance cost and limited recreation value of this type of park. If a pocket park site is proposed, it should only be added to the city's park inventory if it meets the following policies:

- The site should be in an area not already served by a park.
- The site should be accessible to the general public and have frontage on a public street.
- It should not be located within a gated or otherwise limited access neighborhood.

This policy should apply to undeveloped park sites and developed park sites that homeowners associations or other groups wish to turn over to the city.

Neighborhood Parks NP

In most communities, neighborhood parks are located within walking distance of residents (about two miles). Balsitis Park, located in the northwest, is one of those parks. Although California City would like to provide more parks within walking distance of all its residents, there is recognition that this is an unattainable goal due to a low population density in many areas. Surveys reveal that in the southwest portion of the city many areas are not served by a neighborhood or community park. Neighborhood parks are needed in this area of California City.

Community Parks CP

Central Park is a community park. Due to land constraints, future community parks in California City will be smaller than in many other communities. Since the sites are smaller than typical, the concept for future community parks in California City is to provide at least one unique feature at each site, in addition to the basic park amenities which include:

- Children's playground
- Open multi-use grass area
- Restrooms
- Picnic areas
- Internal pathways
- Outdoor basketball court
- Site amenities (picnic tables, benches, bike racks, drinking fountains, trash receptacles, etc.)
- Parking appropriately sized for facilities included

Any park site should include enough relatively level ground to provide the facilities listed above. Other facilities are to include, if space permits: sports fields, sand or grass volleyball courts, and shelter buildings.

Southwestern California City continues to be underserved. Therefore, it is recommended that a community park offering larger scale opportunities for recreation be provided in this area. Despite the challenges in acquiring a large enough parcel, it is important to provide active recreation opportunities for residents, even if only a small community park can be provided. If an opportunity arises to secure additional park land on the southwest side, the city should act upon it quickly if the site is suitable.

Special Use Areas / Facilities SU

California City has several special use areas: Scout Island, Freedom Park, Mable Davis Senior Center, Orion Dog Park, Borax Bill Station, two golf courses, and the Arts and Community Center. Based on public input, there is community interest in additional facilities to serve community needs. Some facilities may be provided as stand-alone special use areas, while others may be incorporated into other parks or city facilities.

Natural Open Park Spaces/Greenways NOPS

California City has several natural greenway areas throughout the first and second communities. The city is developing proactivity in the protection of natural open space, both through ownership of land and through partnerships with other agencies. In addition to the acreage within the city, there are hundreds of acres of natural open space surrounding city limits owned by other agencies. It is recommended that the City of California City continues to seek protection of open space that will preserve environmentally sensitive areas, protect desert habitat and rare species. California City should continue to partner and coordinate with other agencies to provide protection of natural open space.

OHV trails, utilizing dedicated city streets, pass through natural open space areas owned by the city. In addition, there is the Twenty Mule Team Trail which is a nationally recognized historic trail. The city also has some established bicycle and equestrian trail plans (see bicycle transportation plan, in Section 9 and also Appendix A).

D. Specific Park Recommendations

The following are recommendations and suggested alternatives for the existing parks. It is important to note that the implementation of these recommendations and suggestions may vary, depending on available funds and the community's priorities for capital improvements.

Central Park CP-1

Central Park is the most developed community park in the city. The following improvements are currently identified:

- Provide ADA access improvements
- Purchase additional trees, remove dead trees and tree pruning
- Landscape around buildings
- Renovate the parking lot
- Renovate Emerald Hill
- Clarify the water in the lake
- Realign edges and dredge the lake
- Install lighting
- Upgrade sports fields and horseshoe pits
- Refurbish tennis courts
- Renovate playground and basketball court
- Purchase safety mats, additional tables and benches
- Upgrade outdoor restrooms
- Pave section from pavilion to restrooms
- Improve the irrigation system

Balsitis Park NP-1

Balsitis Park is an existing park located within an established residential neighborhood on the northwest portion of the city. The surrounding neighborhood is characterized by neighborhood housing with no sidewalks or street lighting. Access to the park is by city streets and it has off-street parking limited to the ball field area. Balsitis Park is well designed and is fairly low maintenance. Several improvements are needed at this park, some of which include:

- Improve the irrigation system
- Upgrade soccer field
- Upgrade restrooms and install drinking fountains
- Upgrade baseball field
- Build volleyball sandpit
- Build regulation basketball courts
- Improve shade structures
- Install electric score board and announcer's booth
- Landscape with shade trees
- Install a playground structure and equipment for 6-12 year olds

Scout Island SU-1

Scout Island is a regional camping and training center open for all groups and will be used throughout the year. Although Scout Island is in a good location, it is in need of the following improvements:

- Complete the building of fire pits
- Build a coping course
- Complete the training center
- Install an additional storage structure
- Landscape with shade trees and landscape foundation of training center
- Create an interpretive area of native plants and their uses
- Install benches for bird watching by the lake
- Repair bridge

Borax Bill Station SU-2

Borax Bill Station is an OHV facility with campsites, restrooms, an information center, and a first aid station. It is composed of two parcels of land totaling 30 acres for off-roading. On weekends and holidays, the population can increase dramatically to 20,000 or 30,000. The majority of funding for the maintenance and operation of this area comes from grant funds and a city fee for recreational vehicles. The following recommendations are currently proposed for this site:

- Install additional restrooms and shower facilities
- Create more RV improved campsites
- Install an additional RV dump station
- Build an interpretive center

Freedom Park SU-3

The proposed Freedom Park, is located near the Par 3 Golf Course, and is a dedicated memorial park. Other memorials in the city will be relocated to this one site and it will be used on special occasions. The following improvements are proposed for this site:

- Relocate other memorial structures in other parts of the city to this site
- Install seating benches, a podium, and multiple lighted flagpoles
- Improve landscaping and plantings

Lakeview Mobile Home Subdivision Pocket Park PP-1

The Lake View Mobil Home Subdivision incorporates one small pocket park which is in need of upgrading. Following are recommendations for this site:

- Purchase playground equipment, trash receptacles, and safety mats
- Landscape with plants
- Install BBQ, benches, and picnic tables

Irene Holcomb Memorial Pocket Park PP-2

The Irene Holcomb Memorial Pocket Park is named after a former president of the Desert Rose Garden Club of California City and is located at the corner of Heather and Conklin. It is in need of some upgrading:

- Landscape renewal of some plants
- Upgrade the irrigation system
- Purchase trash receptacle

East Kern Historical Museum Society Information Kiosk PP-3

This information kiosk is located at the juncture of Twenty Mule Team and Randsburg/Mojave Roads. It contains an information sign, a picnic shelter with bench and table, a dump station, and a monument. Suggested improvements are:

- Install paved access
- Purchase trash receptacles
- Purchase additional picnic tables

E. Recreation Facilities, Golf Courses, Sports Fields, and Aquatic Facilities

Recreation Facilities

California City has four special use facilities: the Arts and Community Center, the Strata Center, the Orion Dog Park, and the Mabel Davis Senior Center. Based on the survey results and input received at the community meetings, there is interest in additional specialized outdoor recreational facilities to serve the community's needs. These additional improvements are the following: a soccer complex, a splash park, a permanent skate park, and an amphitheater. California City residents participate in the city's recreation activities and have identified a need for additional specialized recreation facilities to serve the community.

Many of the specialized facilities identified during the planning process could be provided either in conjunction with other facilities, or as a stand-alone facility. Specific locations have been identified for some of the facilities. For others, site selection criteria are provided. The city has been successful at taking advantage of opportunities to acquire park land and facilities when they have arisen in the past. It is recommended the city continue on the same course, and be prepared to act on opportunities when they are presented.

Arts and Community Center SU-4

The Arts and Community Center is fully funded to complete the interior and to landscape the exterior as proposed in the original grant application. Additional Community Development Block Grants will be applied for annually for improvements. The following additions are recommended:

- Install additional landscaping and irrigation
- Purchase indoor furnishings
- Purchase outdoor furnishings

Strata Center SU-5

The Strata Center is a multi-use public facility with three small classrooms, two restrooms, an unfinished kitchen, two offices, and an inside basketball/volleyball court. Food concessions are available from time to time related to activities. On the exterior, two sides have a covered lighted walkway. The following additions are recommended:

- Install sports flooring in the basketball/volleyball court area
- Install drop-down basketball hoop backboards
- Install padding on the court walls

- Install standard flooring throughout the classrooms, offices, and kitchen
- Upgrade the cooling units
- Upgrade dimmer lighting
- Upgrade sports equipment
- Upgrade security system
- Upgrade kitchen
- Build a trash container enclosure
- Build a storage facility
- Install an exterior lighted sign
- Purchase tables and chairs
- Develop a summer nutrition program for children

Mable Davis Senior Center SU-6

The senior facility, built in 1993, has a lounge room, a large dining room, kitchen, office, restrooms, and a game room. A nutrition lunch program is provided through Kern County Monday through Friday. Adjacent to the center is Inspiration Walk, a low impact exercise area for seniors.

Improvements to be considered for the Senior Center are:

- Install new flooring
- Install new window treatments
- Repaint the Interior

Recommendations for **Inspiration Walk** are:

- Install a covered patio
- Purchase picnic tables and benches
- Landscape a dry waterfall and dry streambed
- Plant draught tolerant ornamental trees and shrubs, and a memorial rose garden
- Install irrigation
- Install a drinking fountain and signage
- Install lawn games and equipment

Orion Dog Park SU-7

The Orion Dog Park is a highly used fenced-in park located on the corner of Scout Island Drive and California City Boulevard. It has shade, signage, a water station, and benches. The following item is needed:

- Install an additional clean-up station.

Golf Courses


18-hole Tierra del Sol Golf Course SU-8

The golf course is part of the original planning of the city and is still used by local and regional golfers with tournaments and day use. It is in need of upgrading and improvements in order to attract more attendance, protect the grounds, and conserve energy. Recommendations for improvements are:

- Install energy conserving pumps
- Install a new irrigation loop system to conserve water
- Purchase equipment—rough mower, sand pro, tri-plex greens mower, tri-plex approach mower, verticutter
- Extend and build new cart paths
- Improve and upgrade clubhouse—replace trellised patio, repaint or stucco the exterior
- Reline all ponds and reinforce pond bank on #17 green
- Install a security lighting system for cart barn, clubhouse, and maintenance yard
- Replace and/or plant new shade trees and shrubs
- Redo practice facility to accommodate junior golfers
- Install a storage container for maintenance equipment
- Install perimeter fence to stop trespassers and vandalism
- Hire full-time golf course superintendent to oversee grounds maintenance

Par 3 Golf Course SU-9

The Par 3 Golf Course was the first golf course to be established in California City. It is utilized by local high school and church groups, youth and senior groups, and holds up to ten tournaments a year. It is in need of upgrading to attract more usage. These are:

- 
- Install a regulation handicap ramp to the clubhouse
 - Install security lighting outside the clubhouse
 - Install an office and bathroom inside the clubhouse
 - Reinstall lighting on the course to return to night golfing.
 - Install t-box yardage signs
 - Purchase 18 small trash cans, 9 new benches
 - Modernize the irrigation system

Sports Fields

Central Park

The Herman J. Cooper complex includes: a T-ball field, a soft ball field, minor league field, major league field, and a practice field.

Balsitis Park

The sports fields at Balsitis Park include: a lighted regulation softball field, a lighted regulation baseball field, and a practice field.

Aquatic Facilities

The hot summers in California City make swimming a popular activity. The only public pool in California City is at Central Park. There is also a need for year-round swimming for athletes in the public high school.

City Pool at Central Park AF-1

The outdoor pool is 6 lanes and measures 75' x 45'. It is heavily used by residents in summer months and is the site of the city's swim instruction and family swim times. Aquatic exercise also occurs in the pool. The swim programs are popular and generate some revenue. Revenues generated from the facility do not completely cover the cost of operating the pool or cover life guard salaries.

The following are recommendations for improvements of the city pool:

- Replace pool pumps with energy saving technology and install timers
- Update disinfectant system
- Install new anti-slip decking
- Install self-latching gates
- Construct wrought iron fencing with motion sensors

Central Park Lake

Central Park has a lake surrounded by reeds, cattails, shrubs, and trees for shade. It is a prime attraction for migratory birds in spring and fall along with aquatic birds and others that stay in the summer to nest. The lake is seen from Emerald Hill, from Scout Island, and from the marina. People come to fish, view and identify birds, feed the ducks, and picnic nearby.

Recommendations for improvements of the lake:

- Reline the edges of the lake and remove invasive and excessive plant growth
- Dredge the lake and install new liner

- Plant non-invasive plants adapted for wildlife and birds
- Clarify the water

F. Proposed Recreation Facilities, Sports Fields, and Aquatic Facilities

Recreation Facilities

New Park in Southwest NP-2

The southwest portion of the city is not presently served by a neighborhood or community park that would offer opportunities for recreation. When suitable land becomes available for park land use in this area, the city should act quickly to acquire a large enough parcel.

Emerald Hill SU-10

This hill captures a view of the park and the lake, and the mountains to the west. Channels of water course their way towards a waterfall, creating a center island. Future plans are for a gazebo on the island for weddings and special events, a bridge over the channels, fencing, a handicap ramp, an olive grove, landscaping, and slope plantings.

Amphitheater SU-14

The amphitheater will be in Central Park, incorporating part of Emerald Hill, design to be determined. It will have seating, power, and lighting.

Sports Fields

There is a shortage of sports fields in California City and additional fields are needed to meet the city's needs. The following recommendations address future recreational sports fields and facilities' needs:

Soccer Complex SU-12

This will be a stand-alone facility with 6 or 8 fields to be located on newly acquired land suitable for regional tournaments as well as local use. Lighting, seating area will need to be available as well as restrooms, drinking fountains, a snack bar, and a parking area.

Permanent Skate Park SU-13

The Skate Park will be an in-ground concrete area located in Balsitis Park with ramps, jumps, and signage.

Aquatic Facilities

Mist Parks AF-2

This small activity area is to be located at Central Park adjacent to the swimming pool. It will be a concreted area with water conservation misting jets, drainage, and seating. Another misting feature is needed at Balsitis Park.

Future Community Swim Center AF-3

The Community Swim Center will be located at the California City High School. This facility would be developed through a Memo of Understanding (MOU) between the City of California City and the Mojave Unified School District (MUSD). It will be Olympic dimensions with lanes and diving platforms for joint use between the MUSD and the Parks and Recreation Department of California City.

G. Natural Open Space Areas/Greenways

The City of California City incorporates several areas which include but are not limited to:

- Green belts in various parts of the city
- Cache Creek

In addition to the open space acreage owned by California City, there are also many large open space areas near the city, such as the Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area (DTRNA) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands.

According to input received during the planning process, citizens in California City place a high value on open space and also value natural area trails. It is recommended the city maintain a ratio of open space land inventory to what it has now, which is about 10.75 acres per 1,000 population. This includes city-owned open space only. To maintain the current standard of open space protection as the city's population grows, it is projected that at least 16, 290 additional acres (non- prison) of open space should be purchased for recreational development by the year 2030. This should be considered a minimum, given the interest among community members to protect open space.

Open Space Responsibility

Currently, no single department at the City of California City is assigned responsibility for open space and natural areas. With the interest among citizens and elected officials, a continued commitment to open space protection is likely.

It is suggested that by 2030, a Natural Resources Manager position should be established with responsibility for the city's open space areas and natural area trails. In the course of preparing the Park and Recreation Master Plan, it became apparent there was a need for this role for oversight and management of open space areas in the city's inventory.

Trails in Natural Areas

Accessibility and public awareness of trails are important from a recreation perspective. During the planning process, community members identified additional trails as one of the recreation needs in California City. Unpaved hiking and walking trails are a desired type of trail, with trails in natural areas being the most desired.

During preparation of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, California City prepared a Bicycle Transportation Plan (see Section 9 and also Appendix A). The Trails Plan will provide guidelines for trail development, maintenance, and management.

The recommendation below focuses on increasing opportunities for access to natural area trails:

- Establishing signage should be considered. The map of the local trails will increase public awareness of the trail opportunities in California City.

H. Recreation Programs

The City of California City offers an extensive variety of recreation programming and special events, and there is a high rate of participation among residents in programs. Of all park and recreation services, recreation programs provide the most benefit for the money spent because they reach many participants and generate revenue from the service provided. In California City some recreation facilities operate at a loss but most are sustained through a master fee schedule.

City staff has developed a successful means for developing programming that is popular with the public and a very effective parks brochure and monthly newsletter to publicize the available programs. More than half of survey respondents found out about recreation programs through the monthly park newsletter as well as the city's website (<http://www.CaliforniaCity.com>).

I. Management and Operations

Cultural Arts Staff: Currently, several major cultural arts events are put on in California City by the California City Arts Commission (CCAC) on a volunteer basis. However, there is no staff devoted specifically to cultural arts activities. There is a need for at least part-time staff to provide assistance to the CCAC for on-going programs such as the Renaissance Faire and art shows. The city is relying on volunteers to accomplish these popular activities.

J. Parks Maintenance

Maintenance in the community's parks has always been an issue due to lack of funding. However, a strong effort has been made to improve maintenance in our city's parks. Overall, the maintenance procedures currently in place are basic but there are improvements that need attention.

Contracted Maintenance Services: The outside contractor should continue to do the mowing and general grounds-keeping in the parks. This is a cost-effective means of accomplishing the general grounds-keeping in California City parks. Proposed new parks and facilities do not warrant bringing in-house the maintenance function or the associated cost of equipment.

Increase Staffing: Public Works currently oversees the contracted maintenance in the park system. The workload should be evaluated to determine if there is a need for seasonal maintenance staff during the busy summer months to keep up with trash removal and cleaning tasks. There is a need for an employee who has the ability to oversee the tree and shrubbery maintenance, irrigation, lawn improvements, and maintenance of equipment. This person should work directly under the Public Works Director.

Evaluation of Maintenance Needs: Maintenance staffing needs will be considered for additional staff, whether full-time, part-time, or seasonal. Each time additional parks and recreation facilities are brought on line, maintenance staffing should be considered as well as present unmet needs.

Pool Maintenance: If additional aquatic facilities are added, pool maintenance will need to be considered. This can be done by contract services.

Future Budget Allocations: As new facilities are brought on line, additional maintenance dollars will need to be budgeted to maintain the new parks and facilities. The costs will be reflected in terms of additional staff, supplies, and new maintenance equipment. In addition, the maintenance of specialized facilities can be expensive.

Since California City has plans for several specialized facilities, maintenance costs should be considered in the initial design and construction.

Storage: Adequate storage facilities for maintenance should be incorporated into the design of new parks and facilities. Coordination with maintenance staff should occur to ensure that storage needs are addressed.

K. Park Planning and Development Guidelines

The following recommendations are intended to help guide the planning, design and use of existing and future park sites in the city. These guidelines follow the basic concepts for the park system as defined in Section 3-B, Park Definitions.

Pocket Parks, Tot Lots and Children's Playgrounds PP General Development and Use Guidelines.

These facilities should only be added to the city's park inventory if they meet the following policies:

- The sites should be in an area not already served by a park.
- The sites should be accessible to the general public and have frontage on a residential street.
- They should not be located within a gated or otherwise limited access neighborhood.
- Public sites should be visible from adjoining streets and have at least 100-150 feet of street frontage.
- Tot Lots and children's playgrounds should include a children's playground with open area with shade, picnic sites, and amenities such as picnic tables, benches, bike racks, drinking fountains, trash receptacles, etc.

Neighborhood Parks NP General Development and Use Guidelines.

- Due to constraints on the city's ability to purchase parkland, it is unlikely that many new neighborhood parks can be developed.
- Future sites should be central to the neighborhood they are intended to serve. If possible, walking/bicycling distance to the park should not exceed two miles for

the area it serves. Access should minimize physical barriers and the crossing of major arterials.

- Recommended sites would be visible from adjoining streets. Access to a site should be via a local residential street and should have at least 200 feet of frontage along the street. If located on a busy street, buffers and/or barriers should be incorporated to reduce vehicular hazards. These sites should be consistent with the city's building and zoning codes. Appropriate facilities should include:
 - Unstructured open play areas
 - Children's playground (tot and youth) with covers
 - Picnic areas
 - Shelter building (small)
 - Trails and/or pathways
 - Natural open space
 - *• Site amenities (picnic tables, benches, bike racks, drinking fountains, trash receptacles, etc.)
 - Sports courts
 - Permanent restrooms
 - Shade trees
- Adequate parking for stand-alone neighborhood parks. Design should encourage access by foot or bicycle.
- Active and noise producing facilities, such as tennis and basketball courts, should be located away from homes.

Community Parks CP

General Development and Use Guidelines.

- Two-thirds of the site should be available for active recreation and adequate buffers of natural open space should separate active use areas from homes.
- If possible, walking or bicycling distance should not exceed two miles for the area it serves.
- The site should be visible from adjoining streets.
- Access to the site should be from a collector or arterial street.
- Appropriate facilities may include:
 - Special recreation facilities
 - Tennis courts

- Sand or grass volleyball courts
 - Outdoor basketball courts
 - Designated sport fields - softball, baseball, soccer, etc.
 - Shade trees and shelter structures
 - Open multi-use grass area
 - Children's playground (tot and youth)
 - Restrooms
 - Picnic areas with amenities such as shelters, BBQ areas, picnic tables, benches, bike racks, drinking fountains, trash receptacles, etc.
 - Pedestrian pathways within parks
- Adequate parking requirements depend on facilities. Generally, provide 5 spaces/acre of active use area and 50 spaces/ball field.
 - Permanent restrooms are appropriate for this type of park but should be located in visible areas and near public streets.

Special Use Areas and Special Use Facilities SU General Development and Use Guidelines.

- Prior to the addition of any special use area or facility, the city should prepare a detailed feasibility and cost/benefit analysis for each proposed site considered.
- Size and location of facility will depend on the function of the facility being considered.
- Design criteria will depend upon the facilities and activities proposed.
- Parking requirements depend on the activities offered.

Natural Open Spaces/Greenways NOPS General Development and Use Guidelines.

- When open space is acquired, a determination should be made on the level of recreation use permitted. In some cases, public access may not be desired due to environmental sensitivity or other concerns. Other open space areas may be appropriate for trails, viewpoints, or interpretive activities.
- Where feasible, public access and use of these areas should be encouraged through trails and other features, with environmentally sensitive areas protected from overuse.

- Within open space areas with public access, improvements should be kept to a minimum, with the natural environment, interpretive and educational features emphasized.
- Natural open space areas with public access should be designed and managed for a sense of solitude, separation, or environmental protection.
- If public access is to be allowed, parking and overall use should be limited to the numbers and types of visitors the area can accommodate, while retaining its resource value, natural character, and the intended level of solitude.

Recreational Bicycle and Equestrian Trails RBET

General Development and Use Guidelines.

- Recreation trails should be separated from the roadway.
- Trails should be planned, sized, and designed for multiple uses.
- Multi-use trails are preferred to provide opportunities for a broad range of uses for walkers, hikers, runners, equestrian users and bicyclists. Trails should be multi-use except where environmental or other constraints preclude this goal.
- Recreation trails should be interesting to the user and maximize the number and diversity of enjoyable viewing opportunities.
- Trails should be looped and interconnected to provide a variety of trail lengths and destinations. They should link various parts of the community, as well as existing park sites.
- Trails should be designed to minimize contact between motorists and trail users. If possible, crossings should be at intersections.
- Trails should be placed where personal security is not a concern.



The Playground – Central Park



Section 8

IMPLEMENTATION

-
- *Capital Facilities Plan*
 - *Potential Funding Sources*
 - *Implementation Strategy*
 - *Project Priorities*

INTRODUCTION

This section of the report identifies implementation strategies for funding park and facility improvements.

A. Capital Facilities Plan (See Sections 7-D, E, F, G and their headings)

Capital Projects List Park and Recreation Master Plan

PARK REHABILITATION AND UPGRADES

Central Park	CP-1
City Pool	AF-1
Balsitis Park	NP-1
Scout Island	SU-1
Borax Bill Station	SU-2
Freedom Park	SU-3
Lakeview Mobile Home Subdivision Pocket Park	PP-1
Irene Holcomb Memorial Pocket Park	PP-2
East Kern Historical Museum Society Information Kiosk	PP-3
Arts and Community Center	SU-4
Strata Center	SU-5
Mable Davis Senior Center	SU-6
Orion Dog Park	SU-7
18-hole PGA Golf Course	SU-8
18-Par 3 Golf Course	SU-9

PROPOSED PARK/FACILITIES

Emerald Hill	SU-10
Soccer Complex	SU-11
Permanent Skate Park	SU-12
Amphitheater	SU-13
Bicycle Trails	RBPT-1
Mist Park	AF2
Community Swim Center	AF3
New Park in Southwest	NP-2

B. Potential Funding Sources

The following are possible funding sources for developing, upgrading and maintaining parks and other recreational facilities in California City.

General Fund

This is the city's primary source for operating funds. Major sources of general fund revenue are grants, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding, federal and state funding, private funding, foundations, donations, and property taxes levied on property within city limits. During fiscal year 2014-15, parks and recreation services received \$756,849, including carry-over funds. The general fund provides about 100% of the cost for park and recreation services. In future years, funding for Parks and Recreation will be dependent upon the status of the general fund.

Capital Improvement Plan

A CDBG grant for 2011-2013 and other city funds provided money for the city's new Arts and Community Center, pavilion, and landscaping. The city has been successful at obtaining funds from grants and other sources to help pay for capital improvements.

Donations/Sponsorships

The donations of labor, land, or cash by service agencies, private groups or individuals are a popular way to raise small amounts of money or in-kind service for specific projects. Service agencies often fund small projects such as playground improvements. The city has been effective at obtaining donations. For example, the Latter Day Saints (LDS) Stake from Lancaster took on a major cleanup and restoration activity to revitalize Central Park. Other examples are the cooperative agreement between youth organizations and the city to develop Scout Island, and the Desert Rose Garden Club (DRGC) of California City to beautify the California City Boulevard median and parks.

Exchange of Property

If the city has an excess piece of property with some development value it could be traded for a private piece of property more suitable for park use.

Partnerships

California City has been very successful at using partnerships to leverage its recreation resources. The city has developed strong relationships with the Mojave Unified School District (MUSD) and has created Memoranda of Use (MOU) of recreational facilities. Instructors provide recreational programs and activities augmenting city staff.

Joint Public/Private Partnership

This concept is relatively new to park and recreation agencies. The basic approach is for public entities to enter into a working agreement with a private corporation to help fund, build, and/or operate a public facility, for example, the Chamber of Commerce, local clubs and organizations. While the public agency may have to give up certain responsibilities or control, it is one way of obtaining public facilities at a lower cost.

Private Grants and Foundations

Private grants and foundations provide money for a wide range of projects. They are sometimes difficult to find and equally difficult to secure because of the open competition. Private foundations typically have specific interest areas they fund, and grant proposals need to fall within those interest areas. Private grants and foundations often fund unique projects or ones of extreme need.

TEA-21 and Reauthorization

Through the years, California City has received considerable revenue for pedestrian and bicycle trail related projects. Originally called the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA), this federal transportation funding source also funded a wide variety of transportation related projects, including regional trail systems. In 1998 this program was modified and renamed TEA- 21 (Transportation Efficiency Act for the 21st Century). The money can be used for both maintenance and capital construction. In 2004, TEA-21 was reauthorized and called SAFE-TEA.

Land and Water Conservation Funds

This grant program is funded by the National Park Service and administered by California State Parks. Annually, about \$14 million is distributed to state and local agencies for land acquisition and park development. The grant requires a 50% match.

State Bicycle Funds

This is revenue from state gas taxes distributed to each city for the development of bicycle lanes. This is an appropriate funding source for developing bicycle lanes or paths.

Other State Grant and Bond Funds

California City has been effective at capitalizing on state grant and bond fund opportunities. There are several grant programs California City may be able to take advantage of.

Special Tax

Voters approved a measure for a fixed annual parcel tax which was heavily relied upon to fund the Parks and Recreation Department. In 2012 it was changed to a safety tax, and Parks and Recreation funds are now covered by the general fund.

C. Implementation Strategy

California City has been careful in its financial policies, and has built high quality facilities. The original development company, California City Development Company, was instrumental in building the original Central Park complex. The city has been effective at identifying and successfully pursuing grants to assist in funding projects. The lighting system was established in Balsitis Park and the Arts and Community Center was constructed with grant funding. The Recreation Department has been effective at obtaining donations, ranging from a donation of individual time and labor for sidewalks (Inspiration Walk), shade structures, and the establishment of the Orion Dog Park.

The city should continue on the same path to implement the recommended improvements. This means using general fund monies, aggressively seeking grants, seeking partnerships and donations, and capitalizing on opportunities when they arise.

It is also recommended the city set up a 501(c)(3) Parks Foundation. The purpose of this foundation is to seek grants and to provide an opportunity for citizens to make tax-free donations. Since many of the proposed facilities are the type that would attract donations, it would be good to establish this foundation as soon as possible.

D. Project Priorities

update

The priorities listed below are based on community input, as well as the results of the needs assessment. This list will be revised continually.

- Fund new pool house at Central Park
- Revitalize Central Park Lake
- Upgrade facilities at Balsitis Park *found 2 of prop 68*
- Construct a permanent skate park site at Balsitis Park
- Develop a mist park in Central Park and in Balsitis Park
- Implement improvements and replace playground equipment at Central Park *done*
 - *replace playground eqpt at old trailer park*
 - *add small dog park area*
 - *add drinking water foundation*

- Add elementary school playground equipment at Balsitis Park
- Make improvements to Inspiration Walk
- Make improvements to Emerald Hill *Anna Richardson*
- Upgrade restrooms, drinking fountains, and trash receptacles at Central Park and at Balsitis Park *done*
- Upgrade all sports fields, basketball court, ^{lighted} soccer facilities, and tennis courts *{ lighting basketball*
- Construct a handball court at Balsitis Park
- Add BBQ, seating, and shade structures throughout the park system as needed
- Implement and continue joint use agreements with MUSD for use of their recreational facilities
- Develop more hiking and walking trails
- Begin seeking park site locations for the southwest side of the city and secure property when a suitable site becomes available, and seek funds to be available when an opportunity arises
- Proceed with planning for an aquatic pool through a joint use agreement with the MUSD
- Create a natural resources manager position (see Section 7-D, page 7-13)
- Prepare a map of existing recreational trails
- Hire and recruit volunteer staff for visual, performing, and cultural arts activities
- *admit equip*
- *Parking lot and lighting*
- *Tennis Court lighting & pickle ball*
- *update*



Bridge over Central Park Lake



Section 9

Bicycle Transportation Plan
prepared by Public Works Department
October 2008, Updated January 2010

- *Table of Contents*
- *Background*
- *Compliance with California Streets and Highways Code Section 891.2*
- *Attachments (Maps)*

CITY OF CALIFORNIA CITY
BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

OCTOBER 2008
UPDATED JANUARY 2010

City of California City
21000 Hacienda Boulevard
California City, CA 93505

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section 1. Background

Section 2. Compliance with California Streets and Highways Code
Section 891.2

Section 3. Attachments

Attachment No. 1 – General Land Use Map

Attachment No. 2 – Bicycle Plan Map

Attachment No. 3 – Map showing End-of-Trip Bicycle Parking Facilities
and Bicycle Transport / Parking Facilities for Connection with and Use of
Other Transportation Modes

Certified copy of Resolution No. 01-10-2368 dated January 19, 2010 by
the City Council of California City adopting the Bicycle Transportation
Plan

SECTION 1 BACKGROUND

The citizens of City of California City use bicycles to commute to work, schools and shopping. The Bicycle Transportation Plan is necessary to plan for and support the continued growth of bicycle transportation in California City. It is part of the City's overall plan to encourage non-motorized modes of transportation including pedestrian, bicycles, equestrian. Bicycle Transportation Plan is being updated January 2010 to include Airway Boulevard as a bike route and rest stop.

SECTION 2 Compliance with California Streets and Highways Code Section 891.2

This Bicycle Transportation Plan for the City of California City addresses the required elements that comprise a Bicycle Transportation Plan, as identified in the California Streets and Highways Code Section 891.2

- a. **The estimated number of existing bicycle commuters in the plan area and the estimated increase in the number of bicycle commuters resulting from implementation of the plan.**

Response: The City of California City is a community with a population shown in the 2000 census of 8,385. A verifiable estimate of the number of bicycle commuters in the City of California City is not available because no formal survey has been conducted. Estimates for future use of bicycle facilities were provided by the City Planning Department, City Police Department, City Parks and Recreation, Mojave Unified School District, Girl Scouts Joshua Tree Council #617 District Office in Bakersfield and Boy Scouts Districts Office in Bakersfield.

SOURCE	ESTIMATED BICYCLES
Robert P. Ulrich Elementary School	10
Hacienda Elementary School	25
California City Middle School	20
California City High School	25
Boy Scouts (Desert District - California City Boron, Mojave, Edwards, Ridgecrest)	430
Girl Scouts (Boron, California City, Mojave, Edwards)	166
Annual Bike Rodeo 2008 (CHP/City PD)	30
Registered through PD (non-mandatory)	10
Quarterly Bike-a-thon - 300 per event	1200
Annual Leisure / Recreation	1000
ANNUAL TOTAL	2916

The City's goal is to increase ridership with the provision of safe bikeways, approximately 75 miles of bicycle circuitry including both sides of California City Boulevard from Highway 14, along Twenty Mule Team Parkway to Rutgers Road, and California City Boulevard to Highway 58, including Park and Ride Rest Stops near Central Park, Highway 14, Highway 58 and Rutgers Road. Cooperation and coordination with the County of Kern will be required for some areas outside the City limits to accomplish the connection with Highway 58 and the proposed Park and Ride Rest Stop.

Safe bikeways are also proposed as an 8 mile loop in the central core of the City which, with laps around the loop and to Highway 14, Highway 58 and Rutgers Road, would accommodate the Boy Scouts of America 50-mile and 75-mile Merit Badge Bicycle Ride Program. Approximately 30 riders are anticipated in an Annual Bike Rodeo sponsored by the California City Police Department, California Highway Patrol and Parks and Recreation. Girl Scouts of America has an Adventure Sport Merit Badge Program featuring bicycling as an option. The City also anticipates hosting quarterly Bike-A-Thons sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Department with anticipated 300 riders per event.

- b. A map of description of existing and proposed land use and settlement patterns which shall include, but not be limited to, locations of residential neighborhoods, schools, shopping centers, public buildings and major employment centers.**

Response: A generalized land use map of the City California City is shown on Attachment 1. Generally, commercial activities are located along California City Boulevard. Single family residential zones are located throughout the City. The two elementary schools and middle school are located south of California City Boulevard, and the high school is located in northern California City. The public buildings such as City Hall, post office, police station, library, restaurants and shops are in central California City. The community center and parks are located east of the public offices. Highway 14 lies on the western boundary of the city limits, Highway 58 lies to the south, Twenty Mule Team Parkway and Rutgers Road is in the northeastern portion of the City.

- c. A map and description of existing and proposed bikeways.**

Response: Existing and proposed bikeways are shown on Attachment 2. The goal of proposed bikeways are to connect areas of the City for work and recreational purposes, as well as provide several Park and Ride Rest Stops including on California City Boulevard near Highway 14, Highway 58, Central Park, Twenty Mule Team Road at Rutgers Road, and a truck Park and Ride at Mendiburu Rd at Mitchell Road.

- d. **A map and description of existing and proposed end-of-trip bicycle parking facilities. These shall include, but not be limited to, parking at schools, shopping centers, public buildings, and major employment centers.**

Response: The locations of end-of-trip bicycle parking facilities are shown on Attachment 3. Bicycle racks are currently at the two elementary schools, middle school, high school, city hall, police department, post office, library, community center pool, McDonald's and Rite Aid. The City has future plans for a public parking area for five Park and Ride Rest Stops as previously discussed that would include bike vaults, drinking fountain, roofed picnic table, pay phone or highway emergency phone, unisex restroom and vehicle parking. These locations are shown on Attachment No. 3.

- e. **A map and description of existing and proposed bicycle transport and parking facilities for connections with and use of other transportation modes. These shall include, but not be limited to, parking facilities at transit stops, rail and transit terminals, ferry docks and landings, park and ride lots, and provisions for transporting bicyclists and bicycles on transit or rail vehicles or ferry vessels.**

Response: Currently, Kern Regional Transit has bus stops across the street from City Hall and at Aspen Mall with routes to Mojave, Ridgecrest, Inyokern, Boron, North Edwards, Bakersfield, Keene, Tehachapi, Rosamond and Lancaster. Kern Regional buses have bike racks on the front of the bus. The City has future plans for five Park and Ride Rest Stops that would include bike vaults, drinking fountain, roofed picnic table, pay phone or highway emergency phone, unisex restroom and vehicle parking. The City also has plans for a truck Park and Ride lot. Locations are shown on Attachment No. 3.

- f. **A map and description of existing and proposed facilities for changing and storing clothes and equipment. These shall include, but not be limited to, locker, restroom, and shower facilities near bicycle parking facilities.**

Response: Lockers, showers and restrooms are provided at the pool near the community center in Central Park. There are currently no other such facilities in California City.

- g. **A description of bicycle safety and education programs conducted in the area included within the plan, efforts by the law enforcement agency having primary traffic law enforcement responsibility in the area to enforce provisions of the Vehicle Code pertaining to bicycle operation, and the resulting effect on accidents involving bicyclists.**

Response: The Mojave Unified School District representative Mr. Keith Gainey indicated that there is no set bicycle safety program at the schools. There have been occasional programs or events in the past. Mr. Gainey indicated that more bicycle

facilities would increase the number of bicycle riders and the school district could respond with the appropriate bicycle safety programs.

An annual Bicycle Rodeo is sponsored by the Police Department, California Highway Patrol and Parks and Recreation Department with an estimated participation of 30 riders. The Parks and Recreation Department proposes quarterly bike-a-thons on the new bikeways with an estimated participation of 300 per event, or 1200 annually. The Parks and Recreation Department estimates 1000 bicyclists per year to use the bicycle facilities for leisure and recreation. Additional bicycle safety programs and materials may be provided in the future. Bicycle safety is also addressed through Boy Scouts (430 participants) and Girl Scouts (166 participants) in the local area and surrounding communities of Boron, Mojave, Edwards and Ridgecrest.

h. A description of the extent of citizen and community involvement in development of the plan, including but not limited to, letters of support.

Response: Community involvement was received from the City staff, Police Department, Parks and Recreation Department, Mojave Union School District and the District Boy Scout and Girl Scout groups for local and surround communities that would use the facilities. The Bicycle Transportation Plan is presented for City Council approval. After City Council approval, it will be sent to Kern Council of Governments for approval and then to California Department of Transportation Bicycle Unit for final approval.

i. A description of how the bicycle transportation plan has been coordinated and is consistent with other local or regional transportation, air quality, or energy conservation plans, including but not limited to, programs that provide incentives for bicycle commuting.

Response: This Plan is consistent with the Circulation Element of the General Plan which addresses Bikeways System, which targets pathway design and location to serve major traffic generators in the City, commercial areas, schools, recreational facilities, and major public facilities. The plan is also consistent with the goal of the General Plan to minimize the adverse impact of truck traffic in residential neighborhoods with the proposed Truck Park and Ride lot.

Improving bicycle travel is consistent with County-wide goals to reduce vehicle travel and emissions. Specifically, transportation control measures in the Regional and State Implementation Plan for air quality support plans and programs encouraging pedestrian, bicycle, equestrian and other non-motorized modes of transportation. The encouragement of alternative modes of transportation through this Plan is also consistent with the goals of the Transportation Enhancement Act and the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Programs.

j. A description of the projects proposed in the plan and a listing of their priorities for implementation.

Response: The City has many projects shown on Attachment 2 and 3 to provide more bikeways, five Park and Ride Rest Stops for vehicles and one Park and Ride for trucks.

The priority of the proposed projects is as follows:

1. Westbound California City Blvd. – pavement and striping from Isabella to Highway 14
2. Park and Ride Rest Stop near California City Blvd. and Hwy. 14 (Wonder Acres)
3. Airway Blvd. – paving, striping from Sequoia Blvd. to Hwy. 58 with rest stop
4. Eastbound Twenty Mule Team Parkway to Rutgers Road (paving and striping)
5. Park and Ride Rest Stop southwest corner of Twenty Mule Team Parkway and Rutgers Road
6. Southbound/Northbound California City Blvd. to Highway 58 – paving and striping (coordinate with Kern County)
7. Park and Ride Rest Stop near California City Blvd. at Highway 58
8. Park and Ride Rest Stop near Central Park
9. Striping / Signage in the central core of the City (North Loop / South Loop)
10. Striping /Signage in Rancho Loop (Hacienda Blvd. south to Twin Buttes)
11. Park and Ride for trucks near the airport

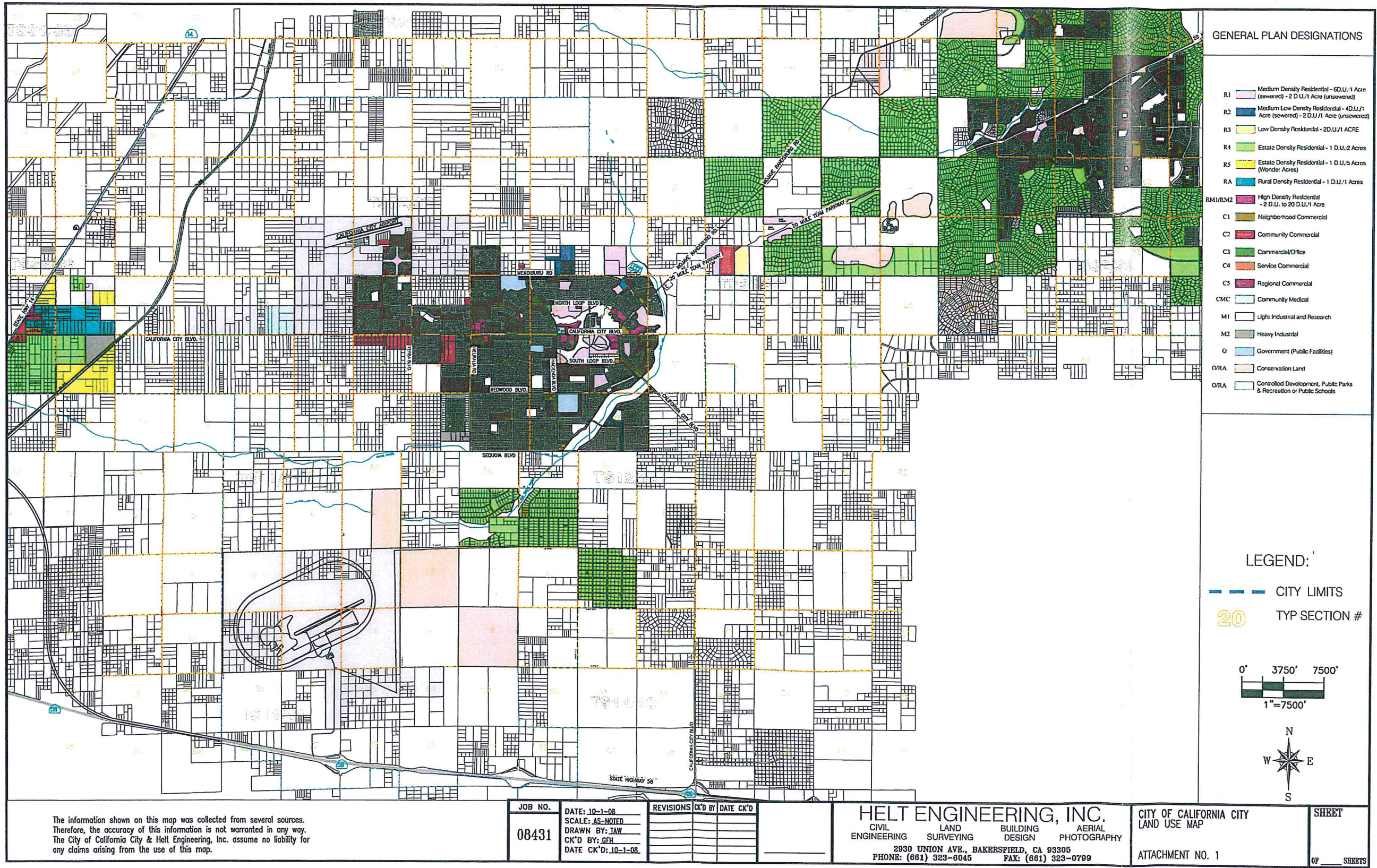
k. A description of past expenditures for bicycle facilities and future financial needs for projects that improve safety and convenience for bicycle commuters in the plan area.

Response:

Bicycle lane striping has been included in road construction projects completed in the past. The City has limited bicycle facilities due to funds allocated to other essential needs such as roadways, sidewalks and public utilities. The City will continue to seek supplementary grants, such as the Bicycle Transportation Act funding through California Department of Transportation, to fund bicycle facility projects to continue to expand and enhance the bikeways in California City.

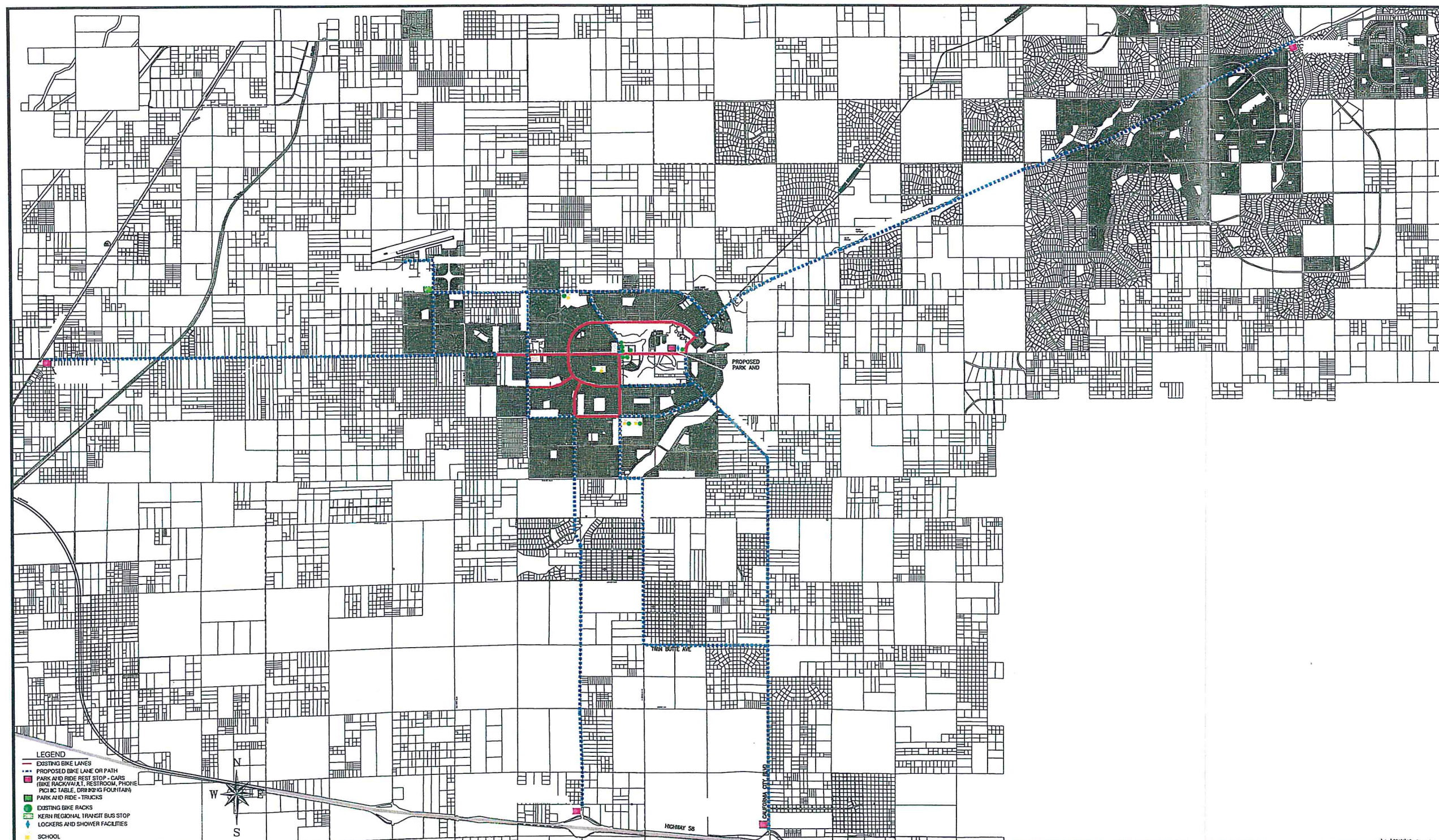
Attachment No. 1

General Land Use Map

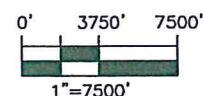


Attachment No. 2

**Bicycle Plan Map showing
Existing and Proposed Bikeways**



The information shown on this map was collected from several sources. Therefore, the accuracy of this information is not warranted in any way. The City of California City & Helt Engineering, Inc. assume no liability for any claims arising from the use of this map.



JOB NO.
08431

DATE: 9-29-08
SCALE: AS-NOTED
DRAWN BY: JAW
CK'D BY: GEH
DATE CK'D: 9-30-08

REVISIONS	CK'D BY	DATE CK'D

HELT ENGINEERING, INC.
CIVIL ENGINEERING LAND SURVEYING BUILDING DESIGN AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY
2930 UNION AVE., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93305
PHONE: (881) 323-6045 FAX: (881) 323-0799

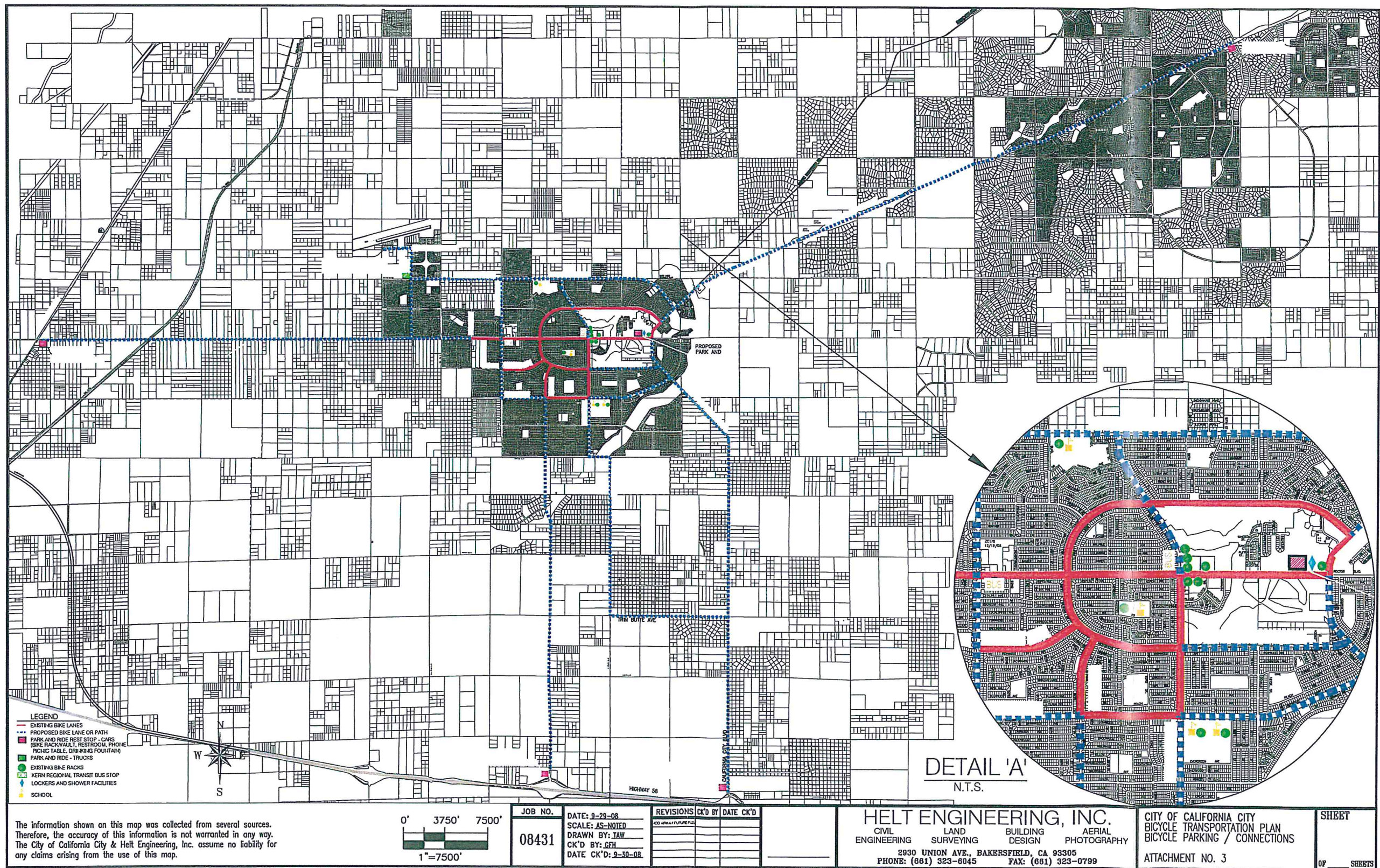
CITY OF CALIFORNIA CITY
BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION PLAN
EXISTING AND PROPOSED BIKEWAYS
ATTACHMENT NO. 2

SHEET
OF SHEETS

Attachment No. 3

Map showing

**Existing and Proposed
End-of-Trip Bicycle Parking Facilities
and
Existing and Proposed
Bicycle Transport and Parking Facilities
for Connection with and Use of
Other Transportation Modes**





The World's Largest Swim Lesson at Central Park Swimming Pool www.worldslargestswimminglesson.org



Appendix A

COMMUNITY PROFILE

- *Summary of Findings and Conclusions*
- *Maps*
- *Natural Resources and Features*
- *Demographic Characteristics*
- *Land Use*

A. Summary of Findings and Conclusions

The following is a sourced summary of the community profile. It includes the regional context, demographics and other information.

Regional Context and Planning Area

The City of California City is located in East Kern County and is mainly a residential community. Highway 14 provides access to the south towards Lancaster and Palmdale and to the north towards Ridgecrest. Highway 58 provides access to Bakersfield to the west and Barstow to the east. There is a large amount of publicly owned land in and around the city.

The planning area for the project is the city limits, about 204 square miles in size. California City is located at the northern end of the Antelope Valley north of Los Angeles in eastern Kern County.

Natural Resources and Features

The Sierra Nevada Mountains and the Tehachapi Mountains are the key natural features to the west of the city. Edwards Air Force Base is to the south. The city lies in the Mojave Desert. Due to the accessibility and flatness of the area around the city, it is a popular magnet for off-roaders. The importance of this is that many trail opportunities means more trail activity.

Demographic Characteristics

The demographics of the city show approximately 30% of the adult population has a college education with relatively moderate income levels. The city is predominantly populated by working class adults with young children. We have a relatively high population of active duty and retired military persons, being adjacent to Edwards Air Force Base. A high number of residents are employed outside the city and commute to work.

Land Use

California City was incorporated on December 10, 1965. There is an abundance of land in the city for growth and development.

Conclusions

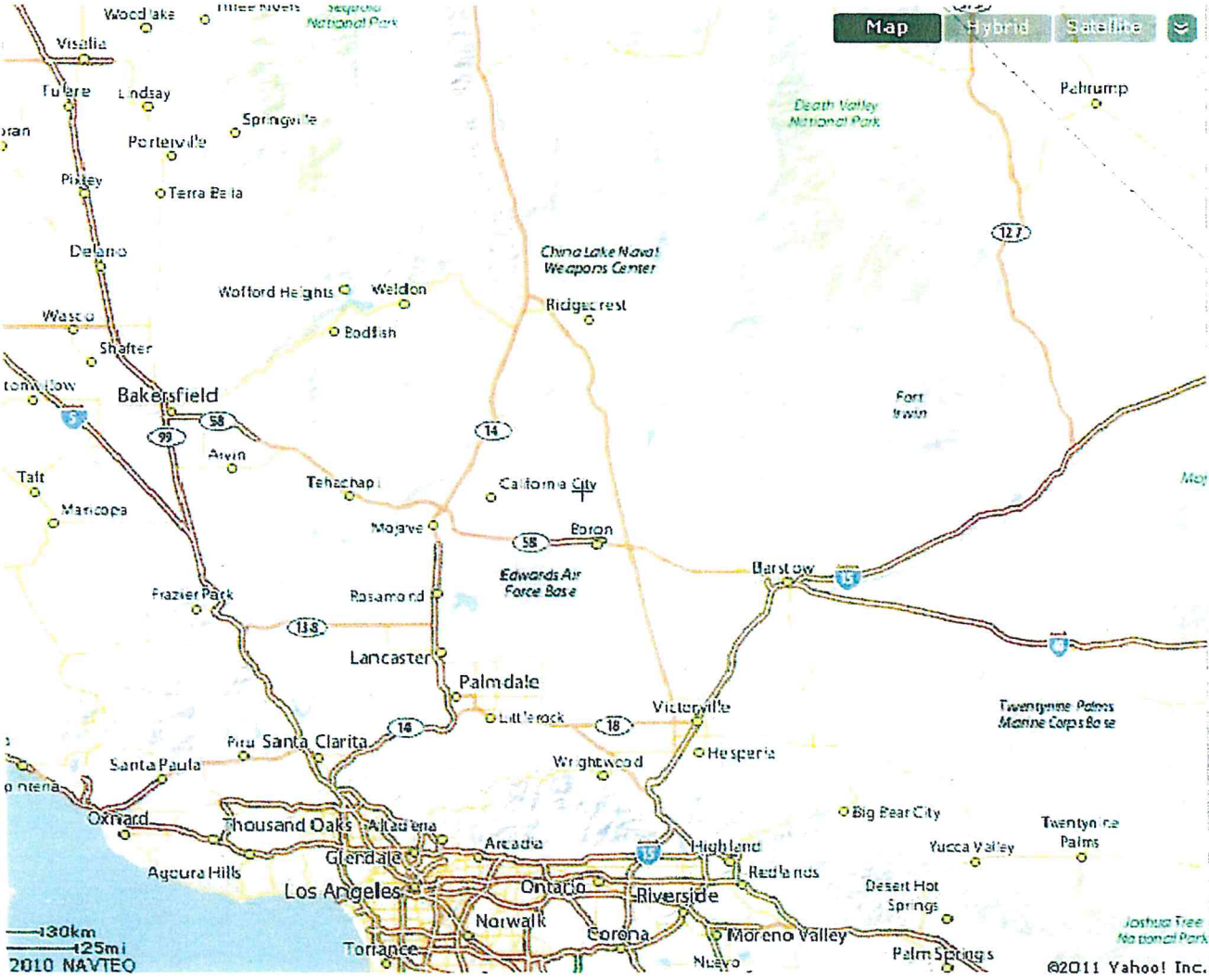
California City is a master planned community with approximately 475 acres of developed parks including several special facilities.

B. Maps

Sequence of Maps:

Regional Map.....A-2
California City Existing Land Use Map.....A-3
California City Central Core General Plan.....A-4
California City Northeastern Community General Plan.....A-5
California City Primary Bikeway System General Plan.....A-6
California City OHV Rider Map.....A-7

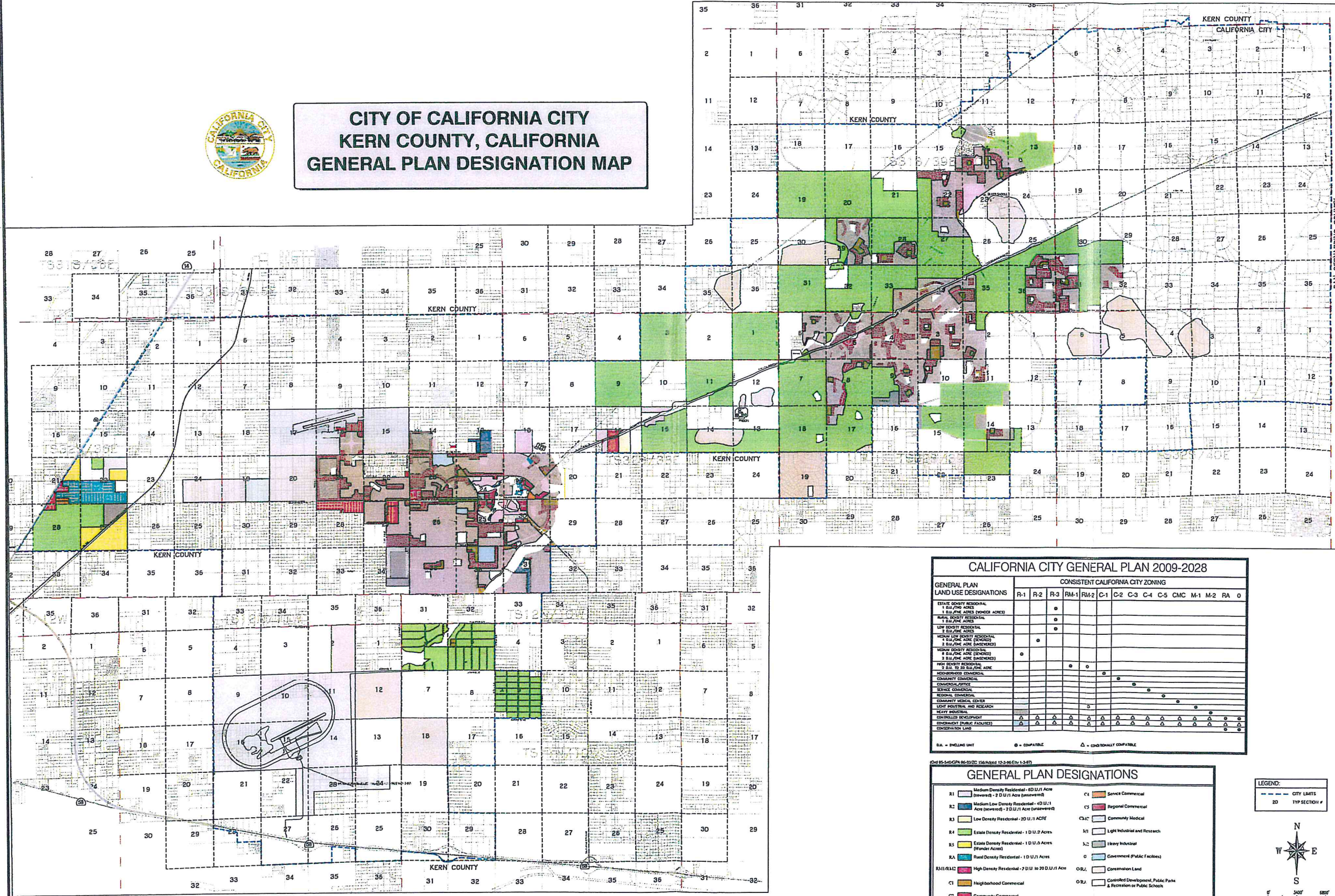
Regional Map



Regional Map Showing California City's Proximity to Surrounding Areas



CITY OF CALIFORNIA CITY KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA GENERAL PLAN DESIGNATION MAP



CALIFORNIA CITY GENERAL PLAN 2009-2028													
CONSISTENT CALIFORNIA CITY ZONING													
GENERAL PLAN LAND USE DESIGNATIONS	R-1	R-2	R-3	RM-1	RM-2	C-1	C-2	C-3	C-4	CMC	M-1	M-2	RA 0
ESTATE DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 1.5 B/L/ACRE (MINOR ACRES)													
ESTATE DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 1.5 B/L/ACRE (MINOR ACRES)													
LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 1.5 B/L/ACRE													
MEDIUM LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 1.5 B/L/ACRE (MINOR ACRES)													
MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 3 B/L/ACRE (MINOR ACRES)													
HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 3 B/L/ACRE (MINOR ACRES)													
INDUSTRIAL 1.5 B/L/ACRE (MINOR ACRES)													
COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL 1.5 B/L/ACRE (MINOR ACRES)													
COMMUNITY OFFICE 1.5 B/L/ACRE (MINOR ACRES)													
RETAIL COMMERCIAL 1.5 B/L/ACRE (MINOR ACRES)													
COMMUNITY MEDICAL CENTER 1.5 B/L/ACRE (MINOR ACRES)													
LIGHT INDUSTRIAL AND RESEARCH 1.5 B/L/ACRE (MINOR ACRES)													
HEAVY INDUSTRIAL 1.5 B/L/ACRE (MINOR ACRES)													
CONTROLLED DEVELOPMENT 1.5 B/L/ACRE (MINOR ACRES)													
CONSERVATION LAND 1.5 B/L/ACRE (MINOR ACRES)													

GENERAL PLAN DESIGNATIONS

R1 Medium Density Residential - 10 U/I Acre (sewered) - 2 D U/I Acre (unsewered)	C4 Service Commercial
R2 Medium Low Density Residential - 40 U/I Acre (sewered) - 2 D U/I Acre (unsewered)	C3 Regional Commercial
R3 Low Density Residential - 20 U/I Acre	CMC Community Medical
R4 Estate Density Residential - 1 D U/I Acre	LI Light Industrial and Research
R5 Estate Density Residential - 1 D U/I Acre (Minor Acres)	HI Heavy Industrial
RA Rural Density Residential - 1 D U/I Acre	G Government (Public Facilities)
RA1/RA2 High Density Residential - 2 D U/I to 20 D U/I Acre	ORL Conservation Land
C1 Neighborhood Commercial	ORL Controlled Development, Public Parks & Recreation or Public Schools
C2 Community Commercial	
C3 Commercial Office	

LEGEND

CITY LIMITS
TYP SECTION #

N
W E
S
SCALE 1"=300'

California City General Plan Designation Map

Showing residential density, commercial types, industrial light and heavy, government land, conservation land, public parks and recreation, and schools.

The enlarged boxes below are shown on attached map.

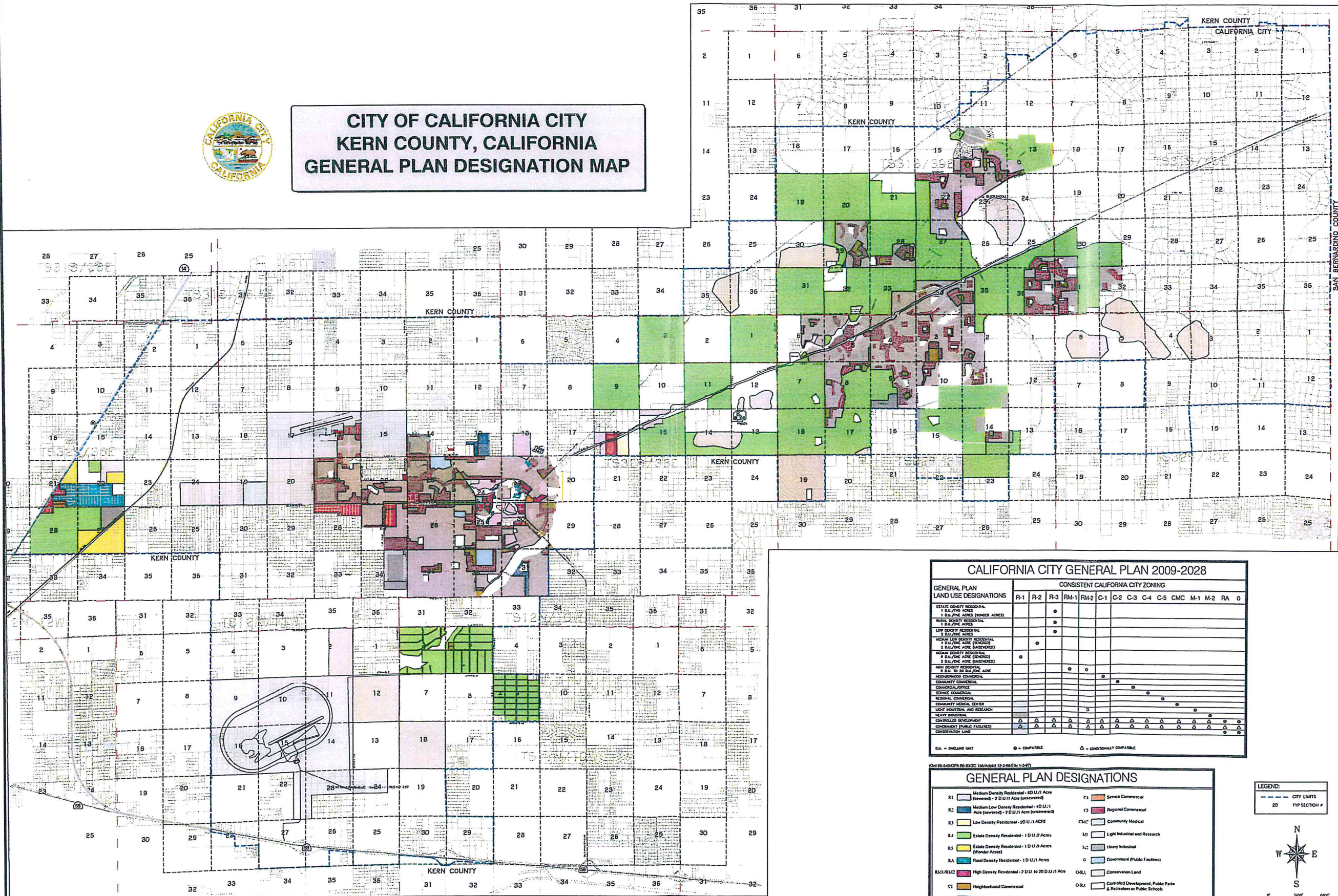
CALIFORNIA CITY GENERAL PLAN 2009-2028																
GENERAL PLAN LAND USE DESIGNATIONS	CONSISTENT CALIFORNIA CITY ZONING															
	R-1	R-2	R-3	RM-1	RM-2	C-1	C-2	C-3	C-4	C-5	CMC	M-1	M-2	RA	O	
ESTATE DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 1 D.U./TWO ACRES 1 D.U./FIVE ACRES (WONDER ACRES)			●													
RURAL DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 1 D.U./ONE ACRES			●													
LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 2 D.U./ONE ACRES			●													
MEDIUM LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 4 D.U./ONE ACRE (SEWERED) 2 D.U./ONE ACRE (UNSEWERED)		●														
MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 6 D.U./ONE ACRE (SEWERED) 2 D.U./ONE ACRE (UNSEWERED)	●															
HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 2 D.U. TO 20 D.U./ONE ACRE				●	●											
NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL						●										
COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL							●									
COMMERCIAL/OFFICE								●								
SERVICE COMMERCIAL									●							
REGIONAL COMMERCIAL										●						
COMMUNITY MEDICAL CENTER											●					
LIGHT INDUSTRIAL AND RESEARCH					●							●				
HEAVY INDUSTRIAL													●			
CONTROLLED DEVELOPMENT	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	●	●
GOVERNMENT (PUBLIC FACILITIES)	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△
CONSERVATION LAND															●	●
D.U. = DWELLING UNIT ● = COMPATIBLE △ = CONDITIONALLY COMPATIBLE																

(Ord 95-540/GPA 96-03/ZC 156/Adptd 12-3-96/Eftv 1-3-97)

GENERAL PLAN DESIGNATIONS			
R1	Medium Density Residential - 6D.U./1 Acre (sewered) - 2 D.U./1 Acre (unsewered)	C4	Service Commercial
R2	Medium Low Density Residential - 4D.U./1 Acre (sewered) - 2 D.U./1 Acre (unsewered)	C5	Regional Commercial
R3	Low Density Residential - 2D.U./1 ACRE	CMC	Community Medical
R4	Estate Density Residential - 1 D.U./2 Acres	M1	Light Industrial and Research
R5	Estate Density Residential - 1 D.U./5 Acres (Wonder Acres)	M2	Heavy Industrial
RA	Rural Density Residential - 1 D.U./1 Acres	G	Government (Public Facilities)
RM1/RM2	High Density Residential - 2 D.U. to 20 D.U./1 Acre	O/RA	Conservation Land
C1	Neighborhood Commercial	O/RA	Controlled Development, Public Parks & Recreation or Public Schools
C2	Community Commercial		
C3	Commercial/Office		



CITY OF CALIFORNIA CITY KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA GENERAL PLAN DESIGNATION MAP



CALIFORNIA CITY GENERAL PLAN 2009-2028													
GENERAL PLAN LAND USE DESIGNATIONS	CONSISTENT CALIFORNIA CITY ZONING												
	R-1	R-2	R-3	RM-1	RM-2	C-1	C-2	C-3	C-4	C-5	CMC	M-1	M-2
ESTATE DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 1 B.U./1/1 Acre													
ESTATE DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 1 B.U./1/1 Acre (unsewered)													
LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 1 B.U./1/1 Acre													
LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 1 B.U./1/1 Acre (unsewered)													
MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 1 B.U./1/1 Acre (sewered)													
MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 1 B.U./1/1 Acre (unsewered)													
HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 1 B.U./1/1 Acre (sewered)													
HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 1 B.U./1/1 Acre (unsewered)													
NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL 1 B.U./1/1 Acre													
COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL 1 B.U./1/1 Acre													
REGIONAL COMMERCIAL 1 B.U./1/1 Acre													
HEAVY INDUSTRIAL 1 B.U./1/1 Acre													
GOVERNMENT (PUBLIC FACILITIES) 1 B.U./1/1 Acre													
CONSERVATION LAND													

GENERAL PLAN DESIGNATIONS

R1 Medium Density Residential - 1 D.U./1 Acre (sewered) - 2 D.U./1 Acre (unsewered)

R2 Medium Low Density Residential - 4 D.U./1 Acre (sewered) - 2 D.U./1 Acre (unsewered)

R3 Low Density Residential - 20 U./1 Acre

R4 Estate Density Residential - 1 D.U./2 Acres

R5 Estate Density Residential - 1 D.U./3 Acres (unsewered)

RA Rural Density Residential - 1 D.U./1 Acre

R311/R312 High Density Residential - 2 D.U. to 20 D.U./1 Acre

C1 Neighborhood Commercial

C2 Community Commercial

C3 Commercial Office

C4 Service Commercial

C5 Regional Commercial

C312 Community Medical

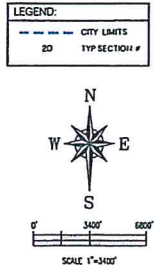
X1 Light Industrial and Research

X2 Heavy Industrial

G Government (Public Facilities)

O/R1 Conservation Land

O/R2 Controlled Development, Public Parks & Recreation or Public Schools



The information shown on this map was collected from several sources. Therefore, the accuracy of this information is not warranted in any way. The City of California City & Helix Engineering, Inc. assume no liability for any claims arising from the use of this map.

SHEET
1
CITY OF CALIFORNIA CITY
KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
GENERAL PLAN 2009-2028
LAND USE DESIGNATION MAP

HELT ENGINEERING, INC.
CIVIL ENGINEERING
LAND SURVEYING
BUILDING DESIGN
AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY
2930 UNION AVE., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93305

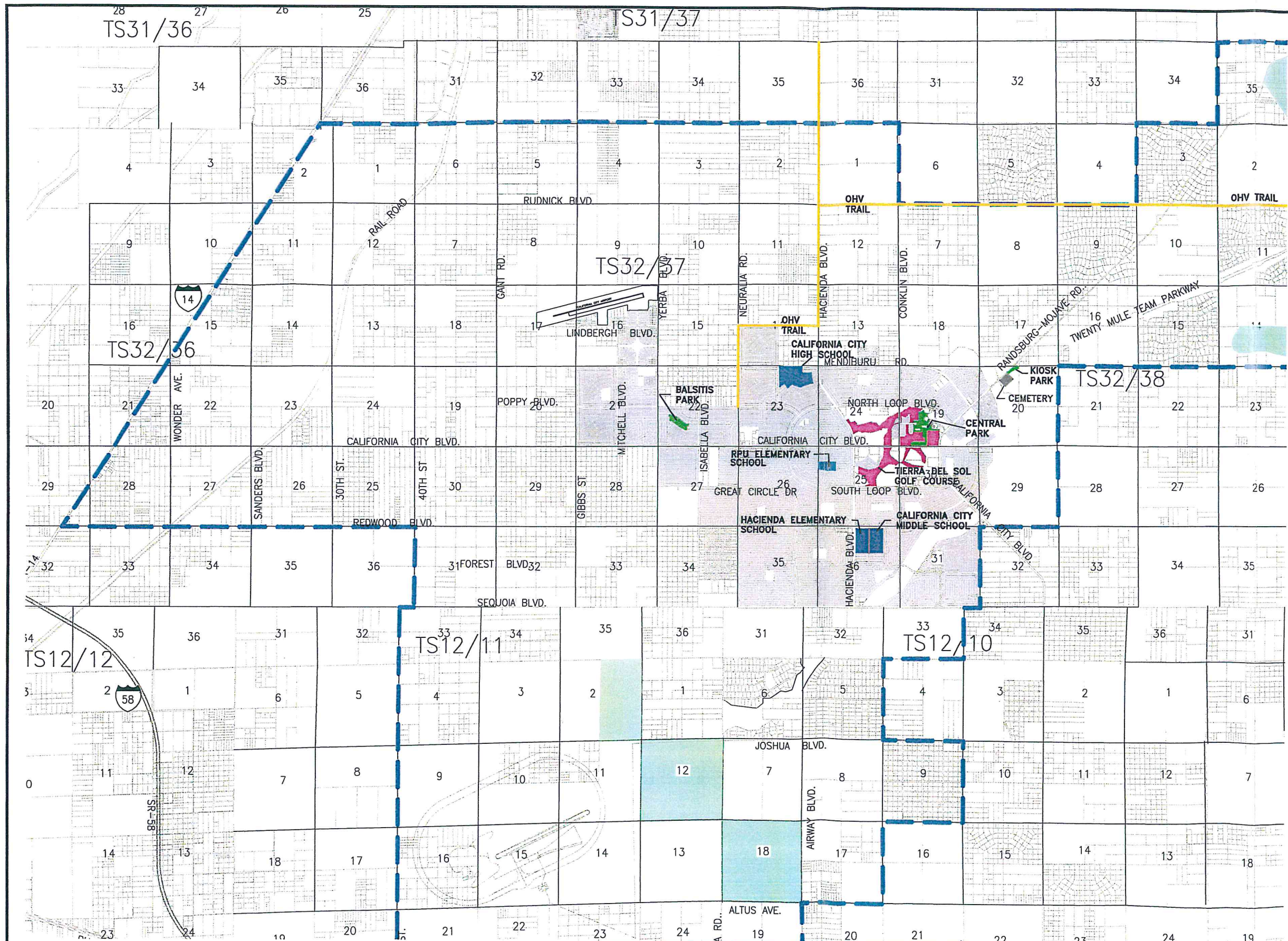
DATE: 05/18/10
SCALE: AS-SHOWN
DRAWN BY: BP
CHECKED BY: BG
DATE: 05/17/10

REVISIONS
NO. BY DATE
1 BY 05/17/10
2 BY 05/17/10
3 BY 05/17/10
4 BY 05/17/10
5 BY 05/17/10
6 BY 05/17/10
7 BY 05/17/10
8 BY 05/17/10
9 BY 05/17/10
10 BY 05/17/10

04427

California City Central Core General Plan (see attached)

Showing central core parks and recreation areas, golf course, cemetery, schools, OHV trails, and conservation land.



CENTRAL CORE

CALIFORNIA CITY GENERAL PLAN PARKS, SCHOOLS, RECREATION FACILITIES & CONSERVATION LAND



LEGEND:

- EXISTING CITY LIMITS
- SCHOOLS
- PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS
- GOLF COURSE
- CEMETERY
- CONSERVATION LAND
- OHV TRAIL



FIGURE 5-1a

The information shown on this map was collected from several sources. Therefore, the accuracy of this information is not warranted in any way. The City of California City & Helt Engineering, Inc. assume no liability for any claims arising from the use of this map.

JOB NO.
04427

DATE: 06/05/09
SCALE: NTS
DRAWN BY: DSO
CK'D BY: RP
DATE CK'D: 06/05/09

REVISIONS	CK'D BY	DATE CK'D

HELT ENGINEERING, INC.

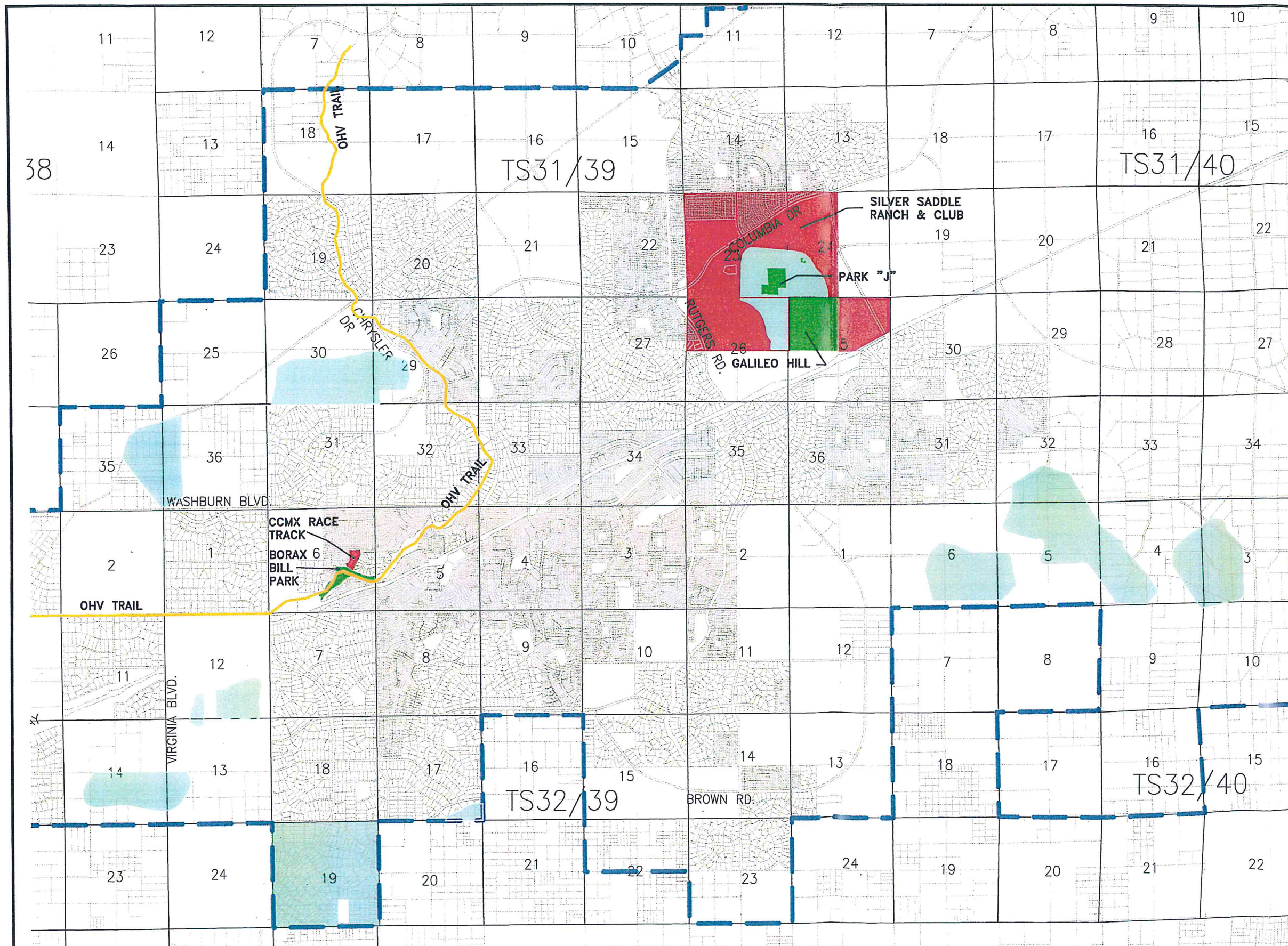
CIVIL ENGINEERING LAND SURVEYING BUILDING DESIGN AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY
2930 UNION AVE., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93305
PHONE: (661) 323-6045 FAX: (661) 323-0799

CITY OF CALIFORNIA CITY
KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
GENERAL PLAN
PARKS, SCHOOLS, RECREATION
FACILITIES AND CONSERVATION LAND

SHEET
1

California City Northeastern Community General Plan
(see attached)

Showing northeastern community parks and recreation areas, OHV trails, Borax Bill Park, Silver Saddle Ranch & Club, Galileo Hill, CCMX Race Track, and conservation land.



NORTHEASTERN COMMUNITY

CALIFORNIA CITY GENERAL PLAN PARKS, SCHOOLS, RECREATION FACILITIES & CONSERVATION LAND



LEGEND:

- EXISTING CITY LIMITS
- SCHOOLS
- PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS
- GOLF COURSE
- CEMETERY
- CONSERVATION LAND
- OHV TRAIL
- PRIVATELY OWNED



FIGURE 5-1b

The information shown on this map was collected from several sources. Therefore, the accuracy of this information is not warranted in any way. The City of California City & Helt Engineering, Inc. assume no liability for any claims arising from the use of this map.

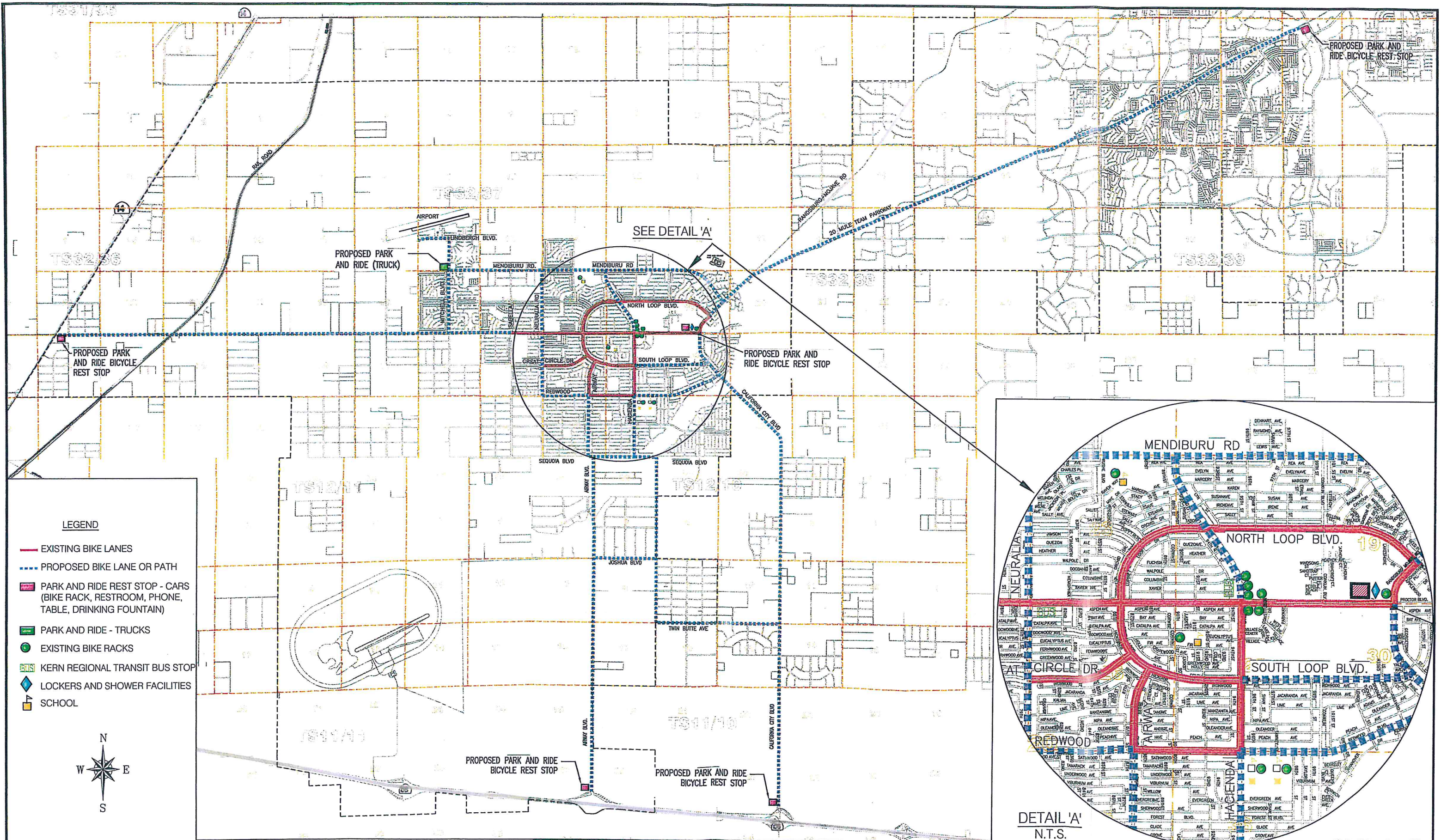
JOB NO.	DATE: 06/05/09	REVISIONS	CK'D BY	DATE CK'D
04427	SCALE: NTS			
	DRAWN BY: DSO			
	CK'D BY: RP			
	DATE CK'D: 06/05/09			

HELT ENGINEERING, INC.
 CIVIL ENGINEERING LAND SURVEYING BUILDING DESIGN AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY
 2930 UNION AVE., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93305
 PHONE: (661) 323-6045 FAX: (661) 323-0799

CITY OF CALIFORNIA CITY
 KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
 GENERAL PLAN
 PARKS, SCHOOLS, RECREATION
 FACILITIES AND CONSERVATION LAND

California City Primary Bikeway System General Plan
(see attached)

Showing existing bike lanes, proposed bike lanes or paths, park and ride rest stops, existing bike racks, and schools.



LEGEND

- EXISTING BIKE LANES
- PROPOSED BIKE LANE OR PATH
- PARK AND RIDE REST STOP - CARS (BIKE RACK, RESTROOM, PHONE, TABLE, DRINKING FOUNTAIN)
- PARK AND RIDE - TRUCKS
- EXISTING BIKE RACKS
- KERN REGIONAL TRANSIT BUS STOP
- ◆ LOCKERS AND SHOWER FACILITIES
- SCHOOL



The information shown on this map was collected from several sources. Therefore, the accuracy of this information is not warranted in any way. The City of California City & Helt Engineering, Inc. assume no liability for any claims arising from the use of this map.

JOB NO.
04427

DATE: 3-23-2010
SCALE: 1"=7500'
DRAWN BY: JAW
CK'D BY: RG
DATE CK'D: 3-23-2010

REVISIONS	CK'D BY	DATE CK'D

HELT ENGINEERING, INC.
CIVIL ENGINEERING LAND SURVEYING BUILDING DESIGN AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY
2930 UNION AVE., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93305
PHONE: (661) 323-6045 FAX: (661) 323-0799

CITY OF CALIFORNIA CITY
PRIMARY BIKEWAY SYSTEM
GENERAL PLAN
FIGURE 3-2

SHEET
1
OF 1 SHEETS

California City OHV Rider Map (see attached)

Showing BLM property, dirt OHV roads, CC designated trails, campsites, water tanks, and RV dump station.

California City Area



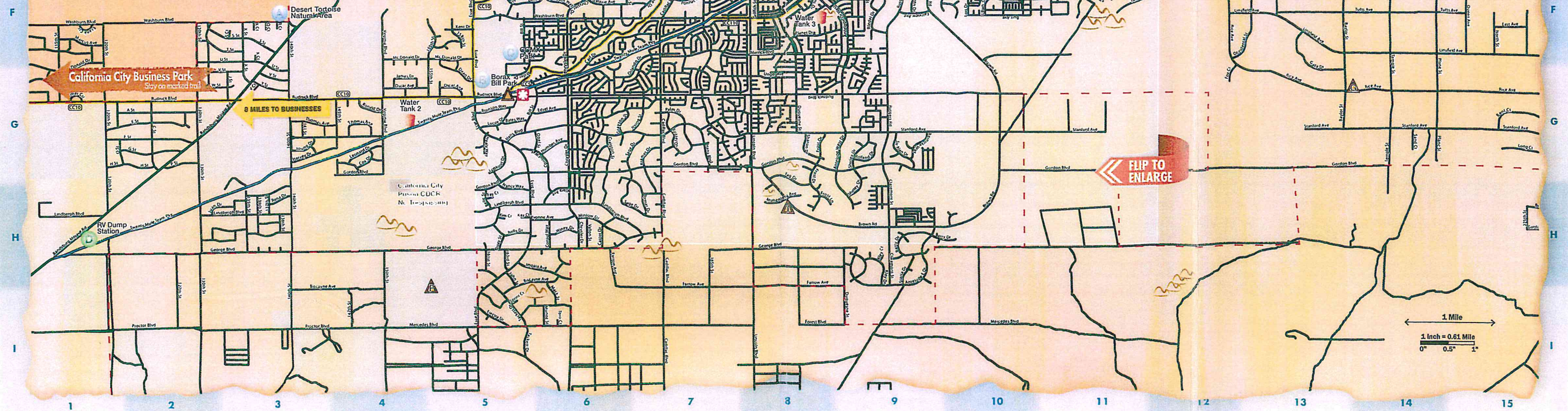
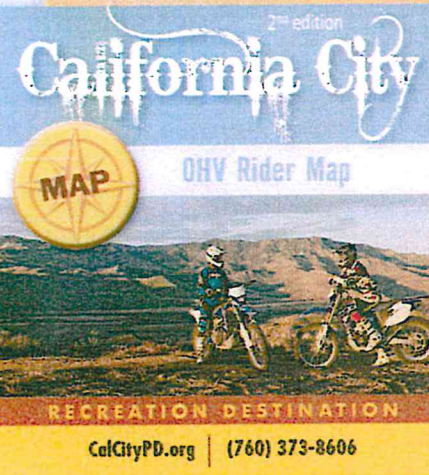
RESPONSIBLE RIDER CHECKLIST

The Yamaha OHV Access Initiative promotes responsible off-road vehicle riding. Please take the following Responsible Rider Checklist into consideration before operating any off-road vehicle.

1. Learn and follow all of your local riding area and national forest laws and regulations including sound levels, safety gear requirements, age limits and safety course recommendations and requirements.
2. Use up-to-date location travel and trail maps to ensure you only ride on permitted areas and on designated open trails.
3. Inspect and clean your vehicle before arriving at a new location to remove seeds, weeds and other vegetation to prevent the transfer of non-native invasive species.
4. Follow your vehicle manufacturer's recommended maintenance schedule and regularly check for air fluid leaks or problems that might negatively impact the environment or your vehicle's performance.
5. Set a positive example, especially when riding in the presence of younger or less experienced riders, and always leave your riding area in better shape than when you found it.
6. Be aware of animal habitats including streams, food sources and nesting areas, and stay off sensitive terrain.
7. Watch out for, and be considerate of, others in the area including private property owners, hunters, hikers, campers, horseback riders and other off-road vehicle riders.
8. Never chase or harass animals from your off-road vehicles and never hunt or shoot a firearm from your vehicle.

LEGEND

- Street Legal Road
- Dirt OHV Road
- CC Designated Trails
- BLM Property
- Hilly Terrain
- Campsite
- Water Tank
- Gate
- Emergency Services
- Discovery Point
- RV Dump Station
- City Limit



C. Natural Resources and Features

Water Features

Cache Creek is a dry stream bed that comes out of the Tehachapi Mountains, runs west through city land, and eventually drains into Koehn Lake. Koehn Lake, a dry lake bed located north of the city contains some water runoff from the Red Rock Canyon hills in heavy winter.

The Fremont Valley Basin is 380-890 feet below the ground surface, providing ample water to serve the city.

The golf course and Central Park have a total of six man-made ponds. Water from the lake in Central Park is pumped to the top of Emerald Hill for the purposes of aeration and feeds the waterfall before returning back into the lake.

Nearby Silver Saddle has a pond for recreational boating and for visual effects.

Climate

Similar to most communities in the Mojave Desert, the climate in California City can be characterized as cold with occasional rains in the winters, and hot and dry in the summers. Precipitation averages six inches a year. This type of climate encourages recreation activity year-round.

Climate data for California City, CA

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Average high °F (°C)	58 (14)	62 (17)	66 (19)	72 (22)	81 (27)	91 (33)	97 (36)	96 (36)	90 (32)	79 (26)	66 (19)	58 (14)	76.3 (24.6)
Average low °F (°C)	34 (1)	37 (3)	41 (5)	46 (8)	54 (12)	62 (17)	67 (19)	66 (19)	59 (15)	49 (9)	39 (4)	33 (1)	48.9 (9.4)
Precipitation inches (mm)	1.34 (34)	1.51 (38.4)	1.13 (28.7)	0.22 (5.6)	0.15 (3.8)	0.05 (1.3)	0.16 (4.1)	0.27 (6.9)	0.28 (7.1)	0.28 (7.1)	0.43 (10.9)	0.81 (20.6)	6.63 (168.4)

Source: The Weather Channel, 2011

- The average warmest months are July and August.
- The highest recorded temperature was 118°F in 2011.
- On average, the coolest months are December and January.
- The lowest recorded temperature was -5°F in 1966.
- The maximum average precipitation occurs in February and March.

D. Demographic Characteristics

Population

TOTAL POPULATION	
State of California	37,253,956
Los Angeles	3,792,625
California City*	14,120
Bakersfield	347,462
Lancaster	156,633
Palmdale	152,750
Ridgecrest	27,616
Tehachapi	14,414

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010

*Includes inmates from the California City Correctional Facility, a private prison within city limits.

Population Projections Related to California City Zoning Map

Development Potential in Housing Units by 2030—numbers	Full Name—Percent by 2030
RI-----916	Single Family Residential-----76.5%
O/RA---100	Open Space/Residential Agricultural---8.5%
RM2---180	Residential Multiple Family-----15.0%
TOTAL NUMBERS---1196	TOTAL PERCENTAGE---100%

Source: CC Zoning Map

Age %

	Under 5	Under 18	Ages 19-64	65 & Over
State of California	6.7	24.6	63.7	11.7
Los Angeles	6.6	23.1	65.4	10.5
Bakersfield	9	31.5	60.1	8.4
California City	7	24.4	67.2	8.4
Lancaster	8	30.1	61.8	8.1
Palmdale	8.3	33.1	61.3	6.6
Ridgecrest	8.2	27.3	60.3	12.4
Tehachapi	5.2	18	73.2	8.8

Source: extrapolated from 2010 U.S. Census

2011 Race and Ethnic Background %

2011 Census Data	California City	Kern County	State of California
White Persons	65.1	83.0	57.6
Black Persons	15.2	6.3	6.2
American Indian & Alaska Native Persons	0.9	2.7	1.0
Asian Persons	2.6	4.7	13.0
Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander Persons	0.4	0.3	0.4
Persons Reporting Two or More Races	5.6	3.0	4.9
Persons of Hispanic or Latino Origin	38.1	50.0	37.6
White Persons not Hispanic	39.9	37.9	40.1

Source: 2011 U.S. Census Bureau.gov

2015 Race and Ethnic Background for California City %

2015 Population by Race	California City
White Alone	60.3%
Black or African American	16.8%
Native American	1.0%
Asian	2.2%
Pacific Islander	0.4%
Some Other Race	12.8%
Two or More Races	6.5%

Source: GAVEA 2015

Income

Average Household Income Levels

Area	2010 Household Income
State of California*	\$61,632
Los Angeles*	\$50,028
California City	\$62,029
Bakersfield	\$54,656
Lancaster	\$62,559
Palmdale	\$67,166
Ridgecrest	\$73,610
Tehachapi	\$69,941

Source for State of CA, Los Angeles, Bakersfield data derived from: U.S. Census Bureau gov. 2007-2011 data
Source for California City, Lancaster, Palmdale, Ridgecrest, Tehachapi data derived from: GAVEA 2015

Education

Area	High School Graduate or Higher	Bachelor's Degree or Higher
State of California	80.8	30.2
Los Angeles	73.9	30.5
California City	82.2	14.8
Bakersfield	77.8	19.8
Lancaster	81.9	16.6
Palmdale	74.1	15.4
Ridgecrest	91.1	26.6
Tehachapi	85.8	17.0

Source for State of California, Los Angeles, Bakersfield derived from U.S. Census Bureau.gov: 2010
Source for California City derived from: GAVEA 2015

E. Land Use

The total land area of the California City is approximately 204 square miles. The developed area of the first community within the city limits is approximately 867 acres.

Most of California City is residential. Commercial areas are located on California City Boulevard.

Most of the available jobs are in the service sector, and a high percentage of these employees are in the low to moderate income ranges. Others work outside the city limits.

Residential areas need parks to fulfill active and passive recreation needs and provide open space for local residents. Vacant land is important in terms of locating future park and recreation facilities.

F. Conclusions

California City is a master planned community with approximately 475 acres of developed parks including several special facilities. There is ample space for new residential development, commercial development, and new recreational facilities in the future.



Par 3 Golf Course Benefit Tournament



Appendix B

EXISTING RESOURCES

- *Findings and Conclusions*
- *Park Land*
- *Public School Facilities*
- *Private School Facilities*

A. Findings and Conclusions

The following is a summary of the existing park and recreation resources within California City plus a listing of local public and private schools. See Appendix A, California City Park Layout Map for 1st and 2nd Communities.

B. Park Land

California City owns approximately 470 acres of park land. This includes three pocket parks, one community park, one neighborhood park, eight special use areas/facilities, and several greenbelt areas as well as recreational bicycle and equestrian trail plans.

City of California City Park Land Type, Symbol, and Acreage

Symbol	Park Land Type	Acreage
AF	Aquatic Facilities	14.03
PP	Pocket Parks, Tot Lots, & Children's Playgrounds	.30
NP	Neighborhood Parks	15.01
CP	Community Parks	82.90
SU	Special Use Areas & Special Facilities	0
NOPS	Natural Open Space Areas/Greenways	5.89
RBPT	Recreational Bicycle & Equestrian Trails	10.99*
	OTHER	129.12

*18.14 miles (RBPT)

C. Public School Facilities

Hacienda Elementary School
19950 Hacienda Blvd
California City, CA 93505
760-373-5824
Fax: 760-373-5787
Grades: 3, 4, & 5

Robert P. Ulrich Elementary School
9124 Catalpa Ave.
California City, CA 93505
760-373-4824
Fax: 760-373-3309
Grades: K - 2

California City Middle School
9736 Redwood Blvd.
California City, CA 93505
760-373-3241
Fax: 760-373-1355
Grades: 6, 7, & 8

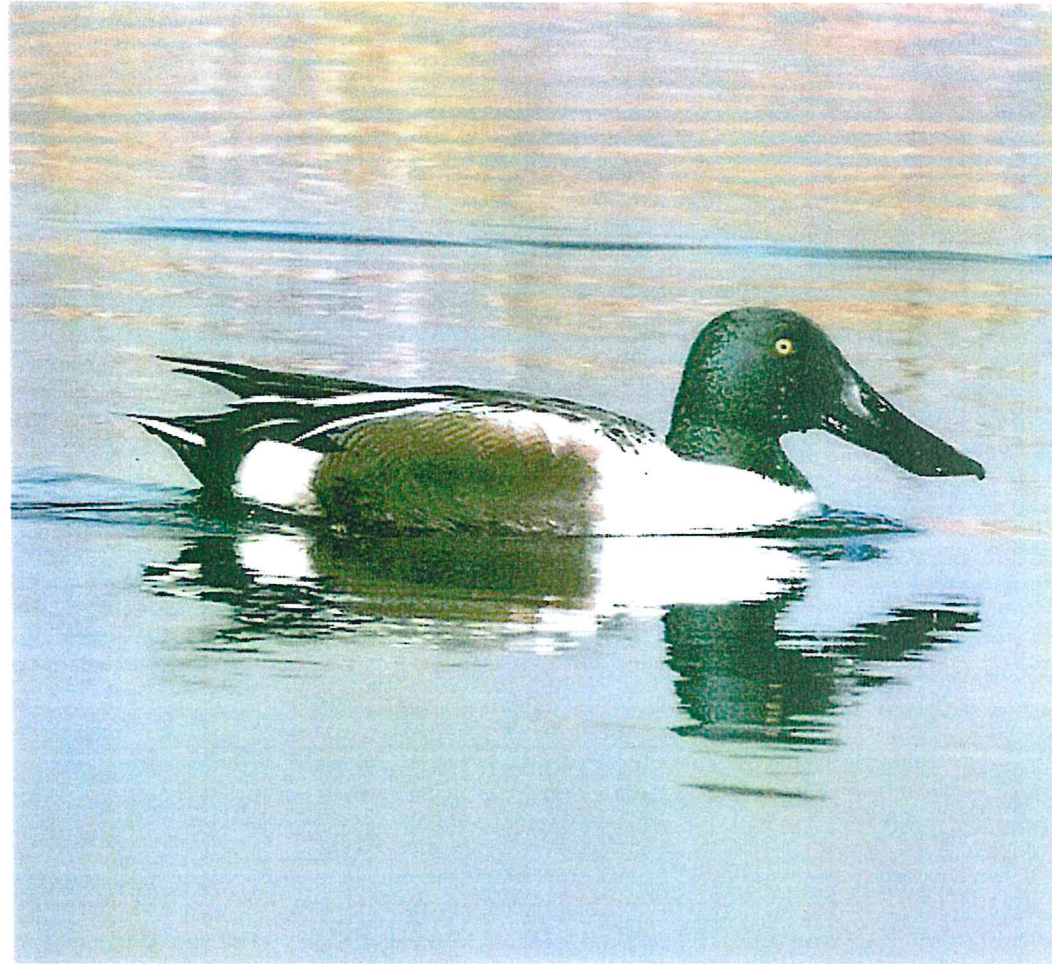
California City High School
8567 Raven Way
California City, CA 93505
760-373-5263
Fax: 760-373-9028
Grades: 9, 10, 11, & 12

D. Private School Facilities

Calvary Bible Christian Academy
8770 Lupine Loop
California City, CA 93505
(760) 373-4967
Grades: 2-8

Cerro Coso Child Development
10179 Heather Avenue
California City, CA 93505
(760) 373-1070
Grades: preschool

Western Education Center
9100 California City Boulevard
California City, CA 93505
(760) 373-9112
Grades: 4-8, 11



Male Northern Shoveler on Central Park Lake

photo by Birdiographer



Appendix C

PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY & RECREATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT

-
- *Summary of Community Surveys*

A. Summary of Community Surveys

Public meetings were held from 2010 - 2012 at Council Chambers in City Hall to introduce the community to the concept of a master plan for the parks and recreation facilities in the city. More workshops were held at the Arts and Community Center to further discuss details of the master plan. Youth workshops were also held at California City Middle School and California City High School where students were asked to complete surveys.

A total of 295 surveys were collected via multiple recreational events and special events during 2009 and 2010. Following are the listed preferences from surveys:

Favored Facility Developments

Splash Park	59%
Snack/Drink Machine	55%
Modern Restrooms	53%

Favored Park Improvement

Restroom Facilities	62%
Benches & Shade	52%
Playground Equipment	44%

Favored Latent Demand

Special Events—Halloween Carnival, Easter Egg Hunt, etc.	62%
Trips & Excursions--Disneyland, San Diego Zoo, Las Vegas, Huntington Library, etc."	58%
Sports, Athletics & Leagues--Softball, Basketball, etc.	54%



Renaissance Faire at Central Park



Appendix D

CALIFORNIA CITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

-
- *Ten Year California City Funding Plan*

A. Ten Year California City Funding Plan

update

2015-2016

Children's Playgrounds

2016-2017

Emerald Hill

2017-2018

Central Park Lake Restoration

2018-2019

Additional Sports Fields and Courts

2019-2020

New Restrooms at Balsitis and Central Park

2020-2121

Central Park and Balsitis Parking Lots

2021-2022

Skate Parks

2022-2023

Par 3 Golf Course

2023-2024

Strata Center Upgrade

2024-2025

Restore Fish Island