



THE CITY OF
BENICIA
CALIFORNIA

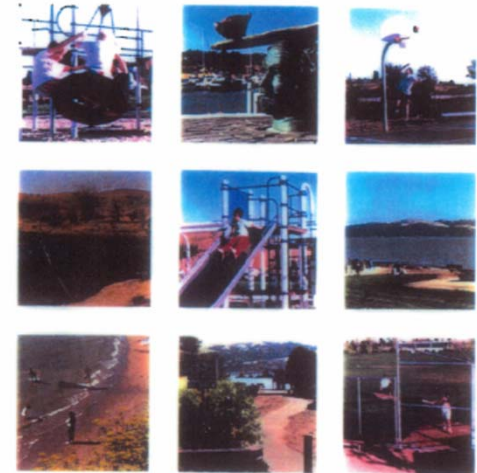
Parks, Trails & Open Space Master Plan

Community Workshop
June 22, 2022



- Current Master Plan was completed in 1997 and called for an update in 2005
- Capital Improvement Program sunset in 2010
- City Council funded concurrent PTOS MP update and Parks, Landscape & Lighting Assessment District update.
- PTOS MP includes most of the infrastructure that would be included in a Parks, Landscape & Lighting Assessment District

FINAL
BENICIA PARKS, TRAILS AND OPEN SPACE
MASTER PLAN



PREPARED FOR THE CITY OF BENICIA
PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Prepared by

EDAW, Inc.

July, 1997

1997 MASTER PLAN

Current Annual Parks Capital Budget

- Park Improvements \$200,000
- Playground Improvements \$26,000
- Building Improvements \$65,000





Completed Project

Duncan Graham Basketball Court

RECENT PROJECT SAMPLES



Completed Project

Ethelree Saraiva Play Structure

RECENT PROJECT SAMPLES



Completed Project

Benicia Community Park - Prop 68 funding
Picnic table & BBQ renovations



RECENT PROJECT SAMPLES



Completed Project

Benicia Community Park - Prop 68 funding
Phenix Dog Park Turf Renovations



RECENT PROJECT SAMPLES

The Consultant Team





MASTER PLAN PROCESS



POPULATION:

- 27,609 residents in 2020
- 0.22% Avg Annual Growth since 2010
- 28,937 residents in 2035



RACE/ETHNICITY

- 68% White
- 13% Asian
- 8% Two or More Races
- 6% Black / African American
- 5% Other
- 15% Hispanic / Latino



AGE

- Median age: 45.4
- Largest age segment: 55+
- Continued growth of 55+ through 2035



INCOME

- Median household income: \$109,854
- Per capita income: \$55,530

DEMOGRAPHICS AND TRENDS

National Participatory Trends					
Activity	Participation Levels			% Change	
	2016	2020	2021	5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
Fitness Walking	107,895	114,044	115,814	7.3%	1.6%
Hiking (Day)	42,128	57,808	58,697	39.3%	1.5%
Running/Jogging	47,384	50,652	48,977	3.4%	-3.3%
Bicycling (Road)	38,365	44,471	42,775	11.5%	-3.8%
Camping (< 1/4 Mile of Vehicle/Home)	26,467	36,082	35,985	36.0%	-0.3%
Basketball	22,343	27,753	27,135	21.4%	-2.2%
Tennis	18,079	21,642	22,617	25.1%	4.5%
Baseball	14,760	15,731	15,587	5.6%	-0.9%
Birdwatching (>1/4 mile of Vehicle/Home)	11,589	15,228	14,815	27.8%	-2.7%
Fishing (Saltwater)	12,266	14,527	13,790	12.4%	-5.1%
Kayaking (Recreational)	10,017	13,002	13,351	33.3%	2.7%
Soccer (Outdoor)	11,932	12,444	12,556	5.2%	0.9%
Trail Running	8,582	11,854	12,520	45.9%	5.6%
Backpacking Overnight	10,151	10,746	10,306	1.5%	-4.1%
Skateboarding	6,442	8,872	8,747	35.8%	-1.4%
Bicycling (Mountain)	8,615	8,998	8,693	0.9%	-3.4%
Football (Flag)	6,173	7,001	6,889	11.6%	-1.6%
Softball (Slow Pitch)	7,690	6,349	6,008	-21.9%	-5.4%
Volleyball (Court)	6,216	5,410	5,849	-5.9%	8.1%
Soccer (Indoor)	5,117	5,440	5,408	5.7%	-0.6%
Football (Tackle)	5,481	5,054	5,228	-4.6%	3.4%
Football (Touch)	5,686	4,846	4,884	-14.1%	0.8%
Pickleball	2,815	4,199	4,819	71.2%	14.8%
Bicycling (BMX)	3,104	3,880	3,861	24.4%	-0.5%
Stand-Up Paddling	3,220	3,675	3,739	16.1%	1.7%
Surfing	2,793	3,800	3,463	24.0%	-8.9%
Kayaking (Sea/Touring)	3,124	2,508	2,587	-17.2%	3.1%
Softball (Fast Pitch)	2,467	1,811	2,088	-15.4%	15.3%
Lacrosse	2,090	1,884	1,892	-9.5%	0.4%
Boardsailing/Windsurfing	1,737	1,268	1,297	-25.3%	2.3%
Rugby	1,550	1,242	1,238	-20.1%	-0.3%

NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over

Legend:	Large Increase (greater than 25%)	Moderate Increase (0% to 25%)	Moderate Decrease (0% to -25%)	Large Decrease (less than -25%)
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DEMOGRAPHICS AND TRENDS



EXISTING CONDITIONS MAPPING

APRIL 2021



LIST OF PARKS

- City of Benicia Park
- Zoned for Open Space
- City of Benicia Boundary
- Street End Parks

- 01 Channing Circle Park
- 02 Gateway Park
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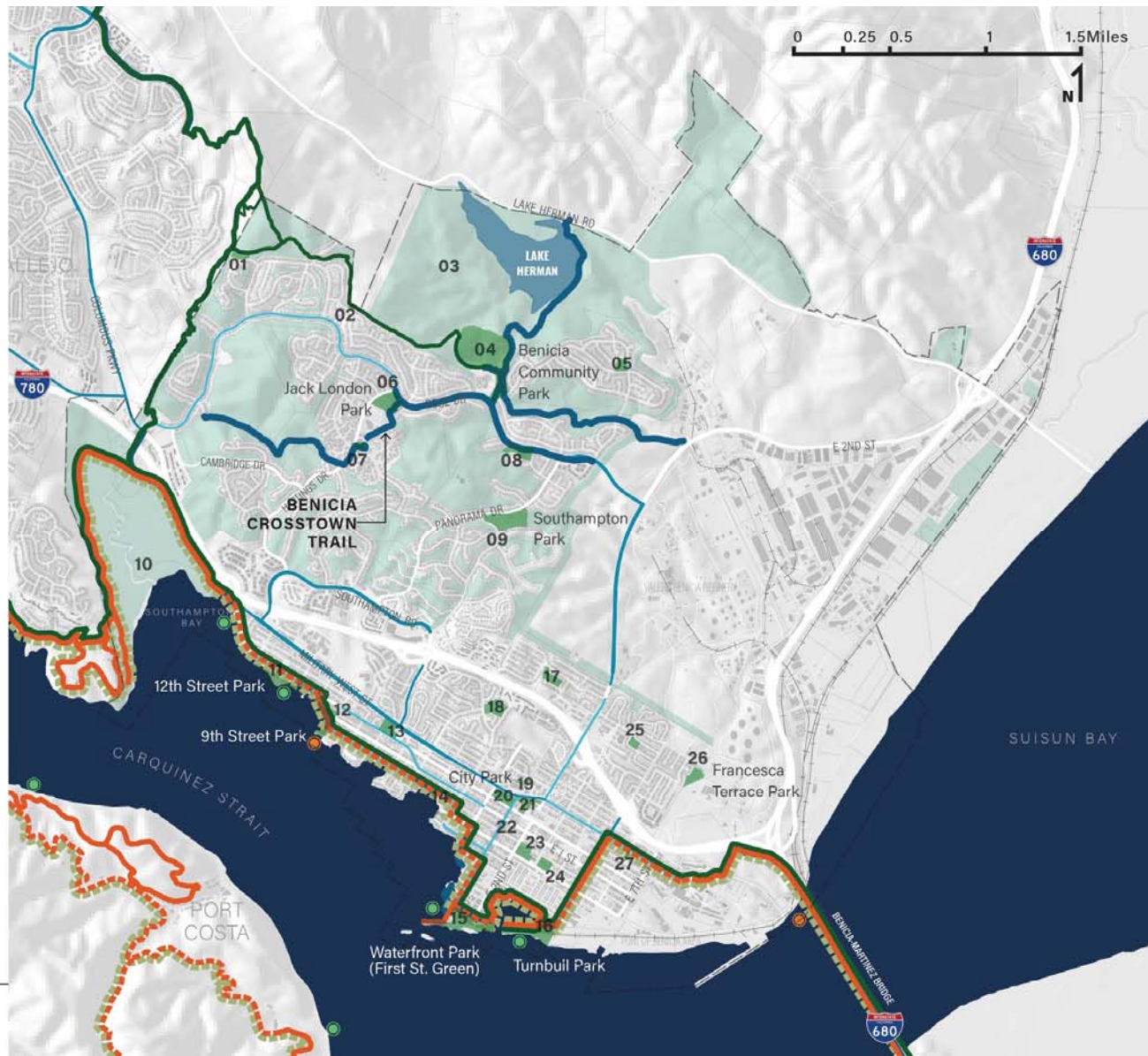


REGIONAL TRAILS+CITY BIKE NETWORK

- The Carquinez Strait Scenic Loop Trail is the shared alignment of the San Francisco Bay Trail, Bay Area Ridge Trail, and Great California Delta Trail around the Carquinez Strait.
- The waterfront of Benicia also provides access to the Bay Area Water Trail with several other planned access points.
- The Rollye Wilkerson Trail is a spur of the Ridge Trail and connects several parks on the north side of Benicia.
- Within the city limits, the Benicia Crosstown Trail is a separated multi-use path connecting much of the Southamptton neighborhood and ends at the industrial area to the east.
- There are planned trails and bikeways reflected in the 2020 Active Transportation Plan (not shown on this map), which was adopted by Solano Transportation Authority, but has not yet been adopted by the City of Benicia."

-  Benicia Crosstown Trail
-  Existing Bike Network
-  Class I Multi-Use Path
-  Class II Bicycle Lane
-  Class III Bicycle Route
-  Carquinez Strait Loop Trail Corridor
-  SF Bay Trail (Existing)
-  SF Bay Trail (Planned)
-  The Great California Delta Trail (Planned)
-  Bay Area Ridge Trail
-  Rollye Wilkerson Trail (Ridge Trail Spur)
-  Existing SF Bay Water Trail Access Point
-  Planned SF Bay Water Trail Access Point

 WRT BENICIA PARKS, RECREATION, TRAILS, & OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN UPDATE



SERVICE AREAS

BENICIA RESIDENTS WALKING TO ALL CITY PARKS

- Service areas are defined in this map as walking distance to Benicia parks along roads and sidewalks.
- The downtown area has the most consistent access to parks.
- The Lake Herman Regional Park and the Benicia State Recreation Area have sufficient access by regional trails, which was not reflected in this map.
- Though there is a gap in service areas around the 780 and Southampton Road corridors, there is limited public access available to tennis courts, ballfields, and basketball courts at Benicia Middle School.
- Benicia also serves residents in Vallejo and beyond.

Walking Distance

- 1/4 Mile
- 1/2 Mile
- School

WRT BENICIA PARKS, RECREATION, TRAILS, & OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN UPDATE





PUBLIC OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

Strengths identified by focus groups

- **A lot of parks for number of residents**
- **Excellent park system and well maintained**
- **Robust programs**
- **Residents love the parks**
- **Extensive Open Space system**
- **Parks support a range of uses by sports groups**
- **Access to the waterfront**
- **Strong community support**
- **Strong and talented staff team**
- **Great views from the hills and shoreline**

Opportunities and Top Priorities identified by focus groups:

- **Trails access, wayfinding, and connectivity**
- **Increase access for dogs**
- **Consider lighting, surfacing and other improvements to increase use of sports fields**
- **Passage of the PLLAD is critical to successful implementation of the Master Plan**
- **Right size the amount of Parks and Open Space**
- **Build partnerships with BUSD and other partner agencies**
- **Increase access to pickleball, tennis and bocce courts**
- **Increase shade and seating in parks and along trails**
- **Improve access to great views from hilltops and key vistas**
- **Increase shoreline access**
- **Evaluate opportunities to implement innovative all abilities playgrounds**
- **Look at opportunities to integrate public art and performance space in park projects**
- **Upgrade and Repurpose existing park facilities to meet current needs**
- **Consider opportunities to increase park access for the East Side**

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://www.lovebeniciaparks.com>. The page features the City of Benicia logo and navigation links for "Skip Navigation", "Select Language", and social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Below the navigation is a main banner with a sunset background. A dark green box contains the text "BENICIA PARKS TRAILS & OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN". Large white text on the banner reads "2,000+ users", "5,700 page views", and "170 comments". Below this, it says "April 1 – December 1, 2021". To the right of the text are several small images of parks and trails. Below the banner is a section titled "ABOUT THE CITY OF BENICIA" with a paragraph of text and a sunset landscape image.

BENICIA PARKS TRAILS & OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

2,000+ users
5,700 page views
170 comments

April 1 – December 1, 2021

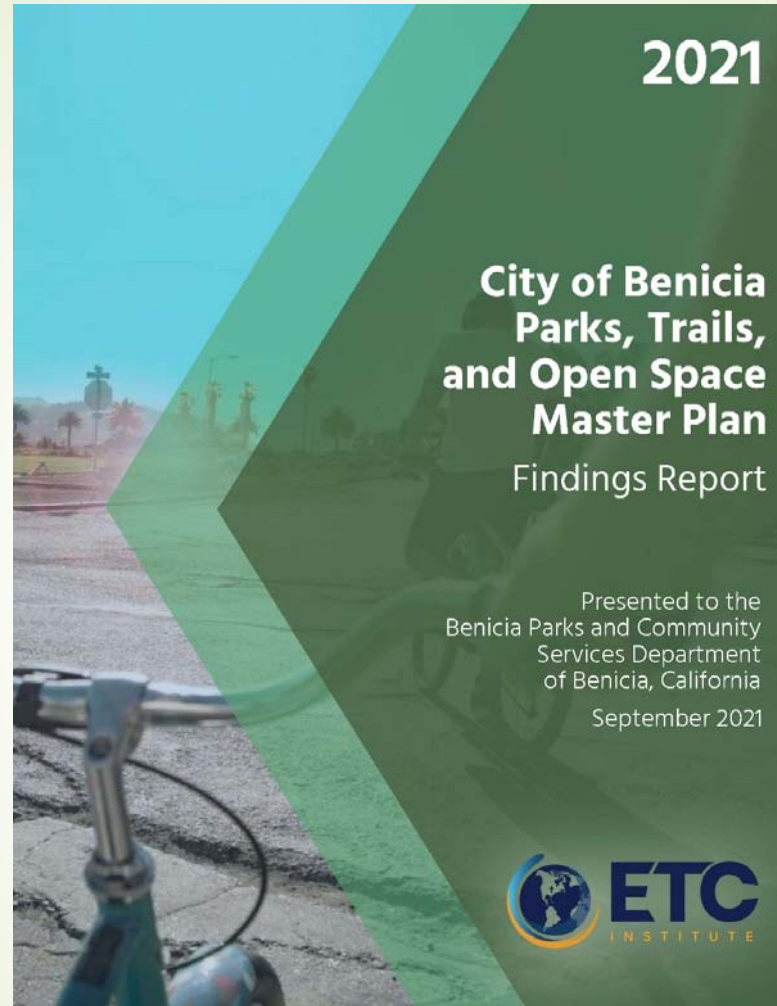
ABOUT THE CITY OF BENICIA

A hidden gem of the San Francisco Bay Area, Benicia is located between San Francisco and Sacramento on the Carquinez Strait.

As a waterfront city of 28,000, Benicia is known for its small-town charm, history and high quality of life, offering an abundance of leisure and recreational activities for all who live, work and play in Benicia.

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

CROWD SOURCING PROJECT WEBSITE



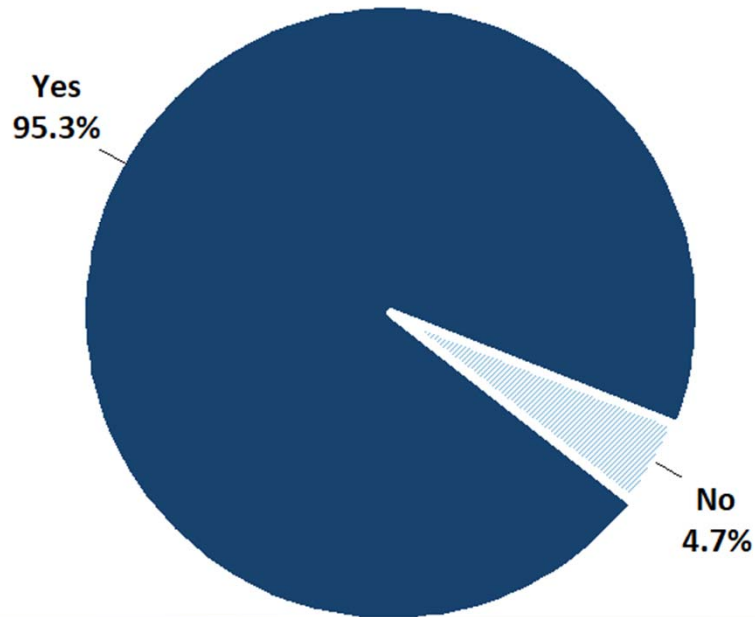
PUBLIC OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

STATISTICALLY-VALID SURVEY

Topic #1 – Usage and Ratings of Parks and Trails

Q1. Have you or any member of your household visited any City of Benicia parks or trails during the last 2 years?

by percentage of households

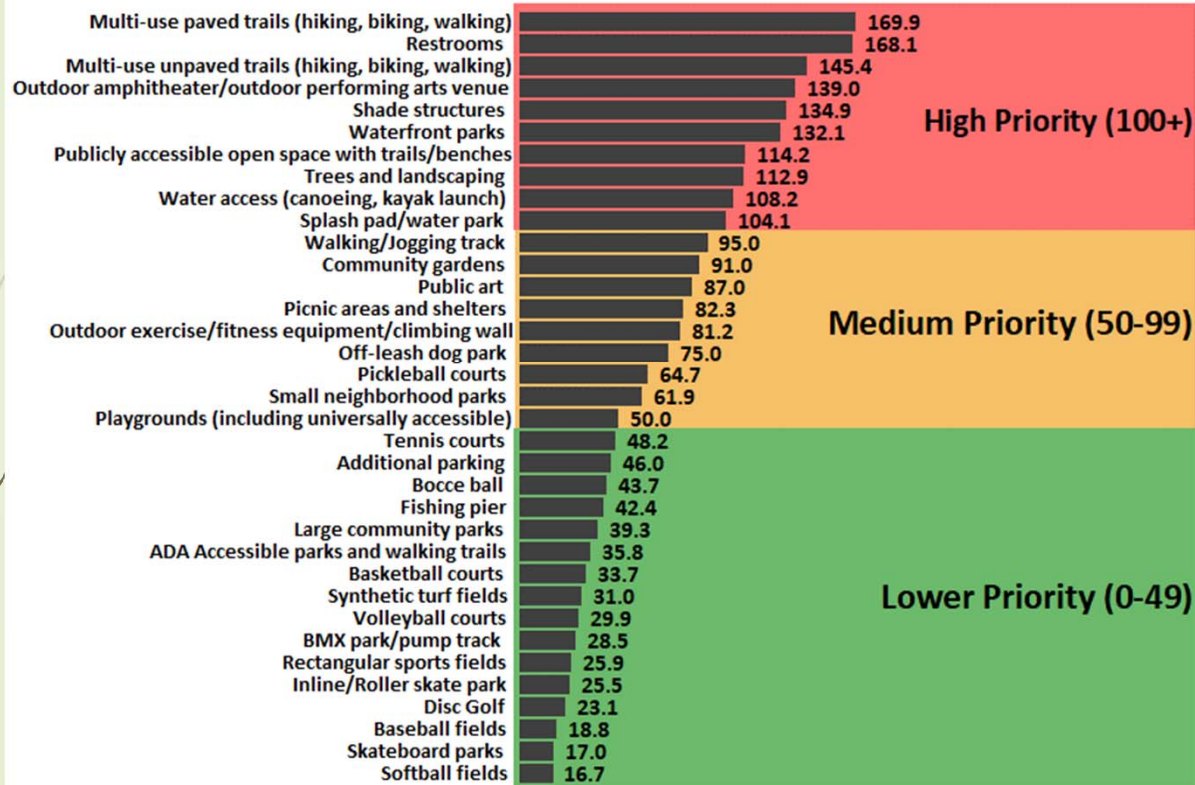


95% of Households Have Visited Parks/Trails in the Past 2 Years; Significantly Higher Than the National Average of 75%

95% of Households Have Visited City of Benicia Parks/Trails in the Past 2 Years

Top Priorities for Investment for Recreation Facilities & Amenities

Based on the Priority Investment Rating (PIR)



Top Priorities for Investment for Facilities/Amenities:

- 1) Multi-Use Paved Trails
- 2) Restrooms
- 3) Multi-Use Unpaved Trails
- 4) Outdoor Amphitheater/ Performing Arts Venue
- 5) Shade Structures
- 6) Waterfront Parks

Summary



- **Online Community Survey conducted through SurveyMonkey**
- **Survey was open from July 12th –September 13th 2021**
- **Received 477 responses**
- **Findings were fairly similar to the Statistically Valid Survey results. In many instances, the results mirror each other. However, it was noted that strong support was expressed for soccer field improvements.**

Approach to Capitol Projects

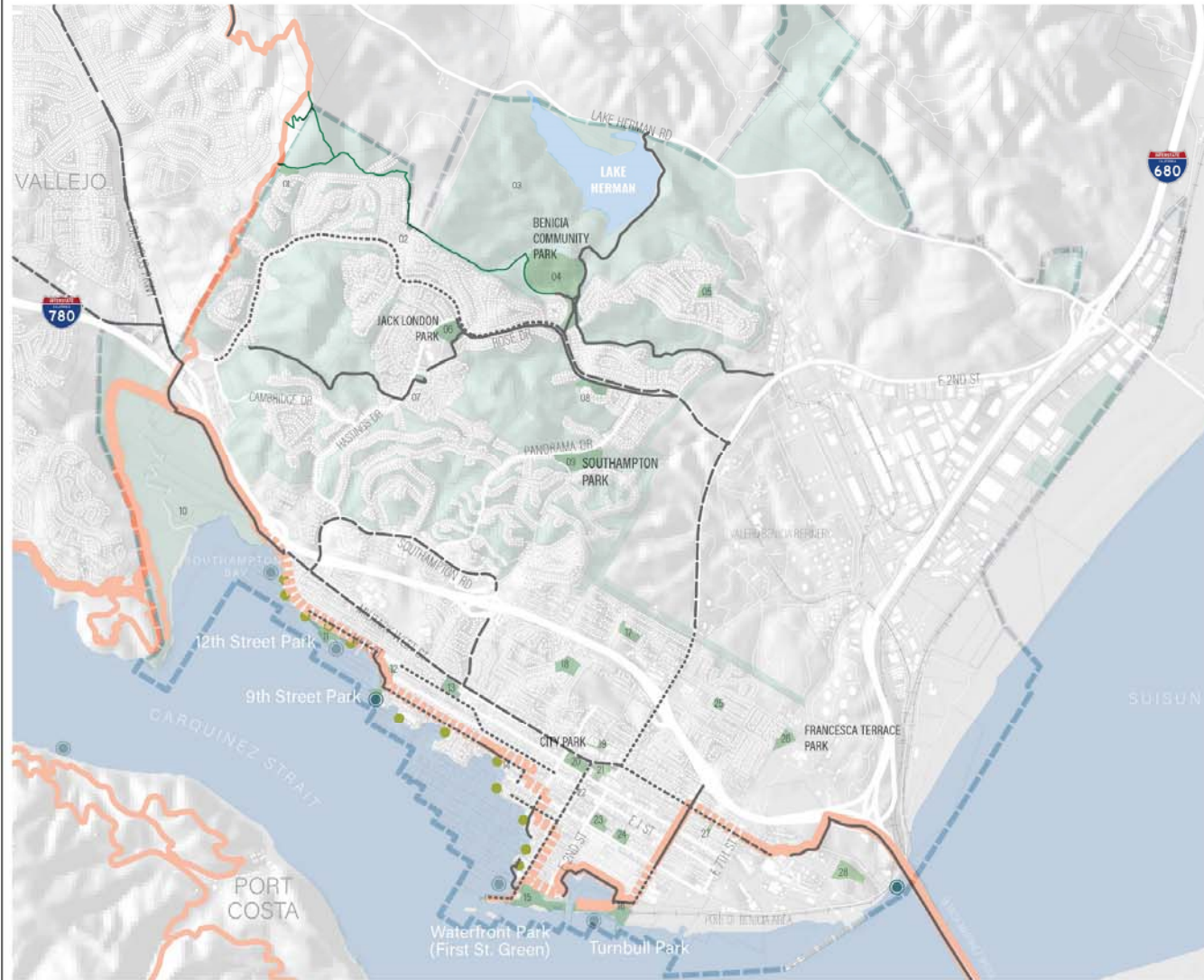
- Focus on maintaining existing infrastructure
- Ensure adequate funding
- Right size if and where necessary
- Develop a clear Capital Improvement Program
- Ensure long-term system sustainability
- Create efficiencies

Potential projects for next 10 years

- Capitol reinvestment throughout the system
- Soccer and ballfields at BCP (synthetic turf and lighting)
- Pickleball Courts
- Trails (Lake Herman, gap closure on Crosstown Trail, improvements on Ridge Trail and Rollye Wilkerson Trail, shoreline/CSSLT wayfinding and signage)
- Parks that need a Master Plan (Bridgeview Park, Ninth Street Park, St. Paul's Square, City Park, Lake Herman Regional Park)

Additional potential projects for next 10 years

- Amphitheater
- Community garden
- Off-leash dog park
- Outdoor Fitness Equipment
- Pathways
- Playgrounds
- Public Art
- Restrooms
- Shade structures
- Splash Pad
- Trees and landscaping



EXISTING TRAILS

- City of Benicia Park
- Zoned for Open Space
- City of Benicia Boundary
- Street End Parks
- Regional Trail Network
- Regional Trail Network, Constrained ROW
- Hiking Trail
- Existing SF Bay Water Trail Access Point
- Planned SF Bay Water Trail Access Point
- Existing Bike Network**
- Class I Multi-Use Path
- Class II Bicycle Lane
- Class III Bicycle Route
- Recommended Bike Network (1997)**
- Class I Multi-Use Path
- Class II Buffered/Bicycle Lane
- Class III Bicycle Blvd/Route

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THE CITY OF
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Parks, Trails, and Open
Space Master Plan

Trail Concept Plan

**RECOMMENDED BIKE
TRAILS (1997)**

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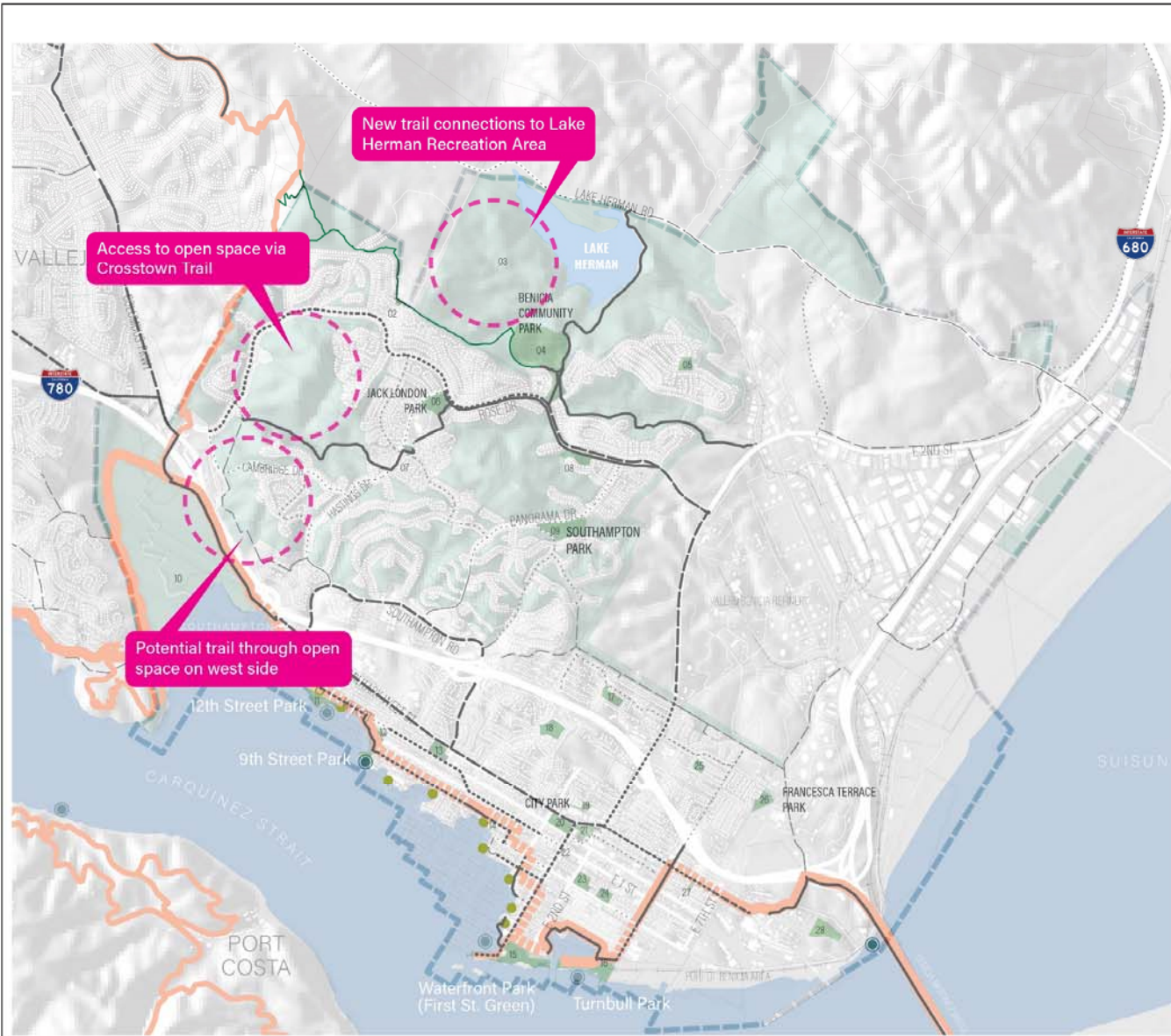
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Fig. No. 20120

MAY 2022



EXPANDED VISION FOR TRAILS

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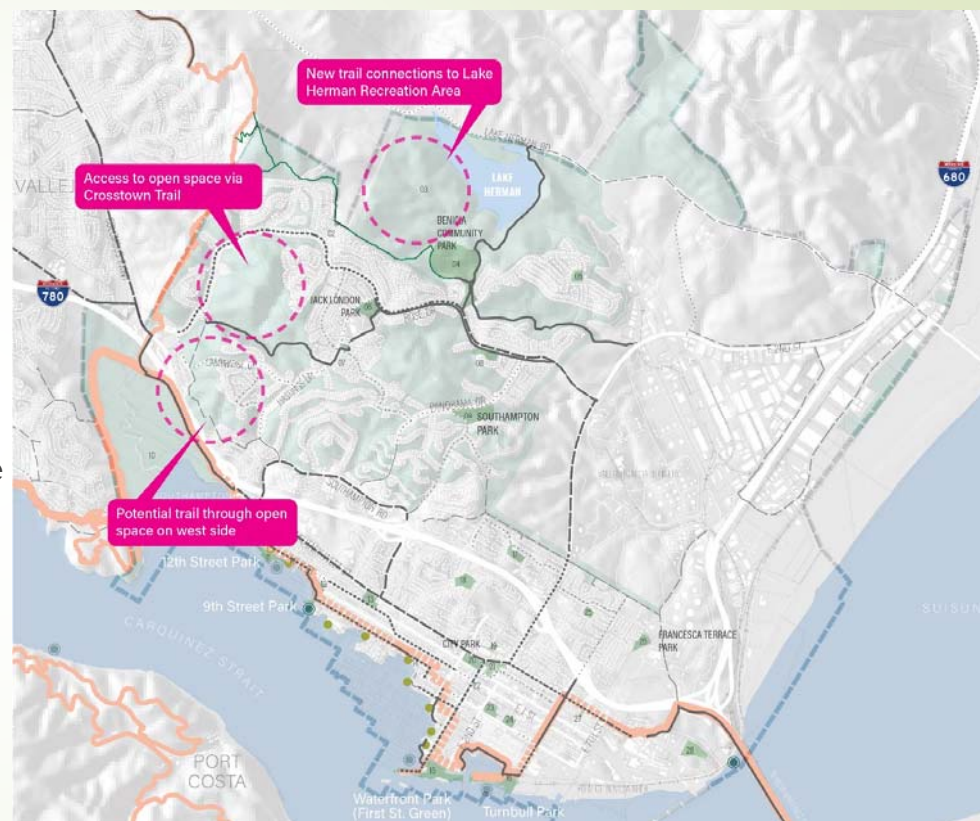
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Key Trail Opportunities

- ▶ **Carquinez Strait Scenic Loop Trail**
 - Shared Bay, Ridge, and Delta Trail shoreline alignment
- ▶ **Bay Area Ridge Trail**
 - Shoreline and Benicia-Vallejo Open Space Buffer alignment
- ▶ **Crosstown Trail**
 - Benicia State Recreation Area to Lake Herman and Waters End
- ▶ **Lake Herman Regional Park Trails**
 - Trail system potential
- ▶ **Open Space Trail Opportunities**
 - A range of Open Space trail opportunities throughout the city



ACCESS SITES



Proposed

1. Benicia State Recreation Area
2. Matthew Turner Park
3. Benicia Marina
4. First Street Pier



Designated

West 9th St Boat Launch



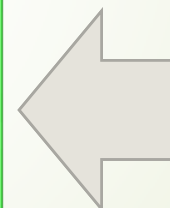
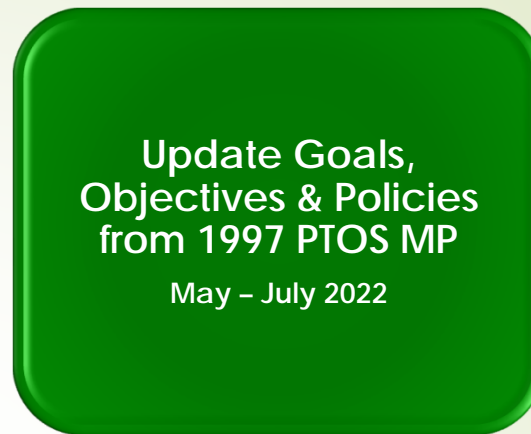
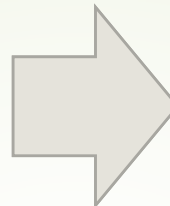
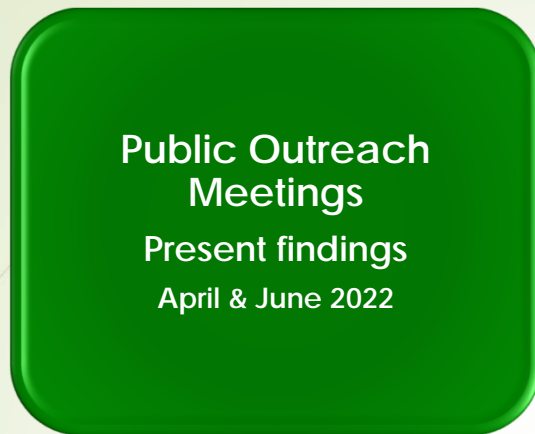


Lake Herman Park



Crosstown Trail





NEXT STEPS



CONCEPT PLAN REVIEW AND COMMENTS

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