



Mt. Shasta Recreation and Parks District
2023 MASTER PLAN UPDATE





**MOUNT SHASTA RECREATION AND PARKS DISTRICT
2023 MASTER PLAN UPDATE**

PUBLIC DRAFT

Prepared for:

Mount Shasta Recreation and Parks District
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July, 2023

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Ecologically-Oriented Landscape Architecture and Site Planning Services
Parks & Greenways • Trails • Ponds • Healing Gardens • Lodges & Estates
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Mount Shasta Recreation and Parks District covers 142 square miles of land, extending from the Trinity Divide to Mount Shasta Volcano, and from Black Butte to Dunsmuir. In the center of the District is the 4 square mile City of Mount Shasta. The District serves residents within the 96067 zip code, as well as visitors to the area.

The District currently manages the City Park, Shastice Park, and Youth Sports Park, all of which are within the city limits of Mount Shasta City. The District was established in 1948. Its first master plan was prepared in 1976, and updated in 2003. The vision has remained consistent, which is to fulfill its potential to provide high-quality, accessible, and diverse recreational opportunities for all local residents and visitors to the area.

The current Master Plan Update takes an approach of conducting extensive community outreach, coordinating with concurrent planning of others, taking a partnership approach, performing extensive on-the-ground inspections and reconnaissance, preparing conceptual site plans for existing and potential facilities, and proposing extensive follow-up actions by priority.

This Plan also recognizes that adequate funding is key to making these proposed actions achievable and sustainable, and that ongoing management funding is far more difficult to secure than capital improvement funding. Proposition 13 greatly reduced annual revenue to the District since its passage in 1978, and the District has been struggling ever since.

Proposed actions include improvements and additions to existing parks, potential new parks (Mill Pond Park, MS Greenway Network, pocket parks), potential District involvement in other recreational facilities (Lake Siskiyou, Cantara, etc.), and consideration of the future of recreational facilities in nearby communities (Dunsmuir, McCloud, Weed).

The Master Plan Updates ends with a discussion of the District's management capacity and next steps, and includes numerous appendices (see References).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This 2023 Master Plan Update was made possible by very generous donations from the Mount Shasta Rotary Club Foundation, Mount Shasta Trail Association, and several local residents, and by matching pro bono contributions by Tom Hesseldenz and Associates and Kim Solga Artworks.

It was also made possible by the enthusiastic and extensive involvement of our local community, much of which occurred during the COVID pandemic.

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INTRODUCTION

District History and Description

The Mount Shasta Recreation and Parks District was organized on June 21, 1948, for the purpose of providing diversified quality recreational opportunities for individuals of all ages. The District covers 142 square miles of land, extending from the Trinity Divide to Mount Shasta Volcano, and from Black Butte to Dunsmuir (Figure 1). In the center of the District is the 4 square mile City of Mount Shasta. The District serves residents within the 96067 zip code, as well as visitors to the area.

The District is classified as a “Special District,” which is an independent local governmental entity separate from the City of Mount Shasta and Siskiyou County. The District’s Board of Directors

consists of 5 board members, each serving a 4-year term. To reduce costs, instead of being elected, 3 board members are appointed by the City Council and 2 board members are appointed by the County Supervisors. In contrast, City Council members and County Supervisors are elected by residents within those respective jurisdictions. District staff consists of a District Administrator, Administrative Assistant, Maintenance Supervisor, Maintenance Foreman, and part-time seasonal workers.

The District currently operates under a \$750,000 annual budget, funded by a combination of secured annual property taxes, facilities rentals, Ice Rink and other program revenue, and a variety of other much smaller sources, all collected and held by the Siskiyou County Treasury.

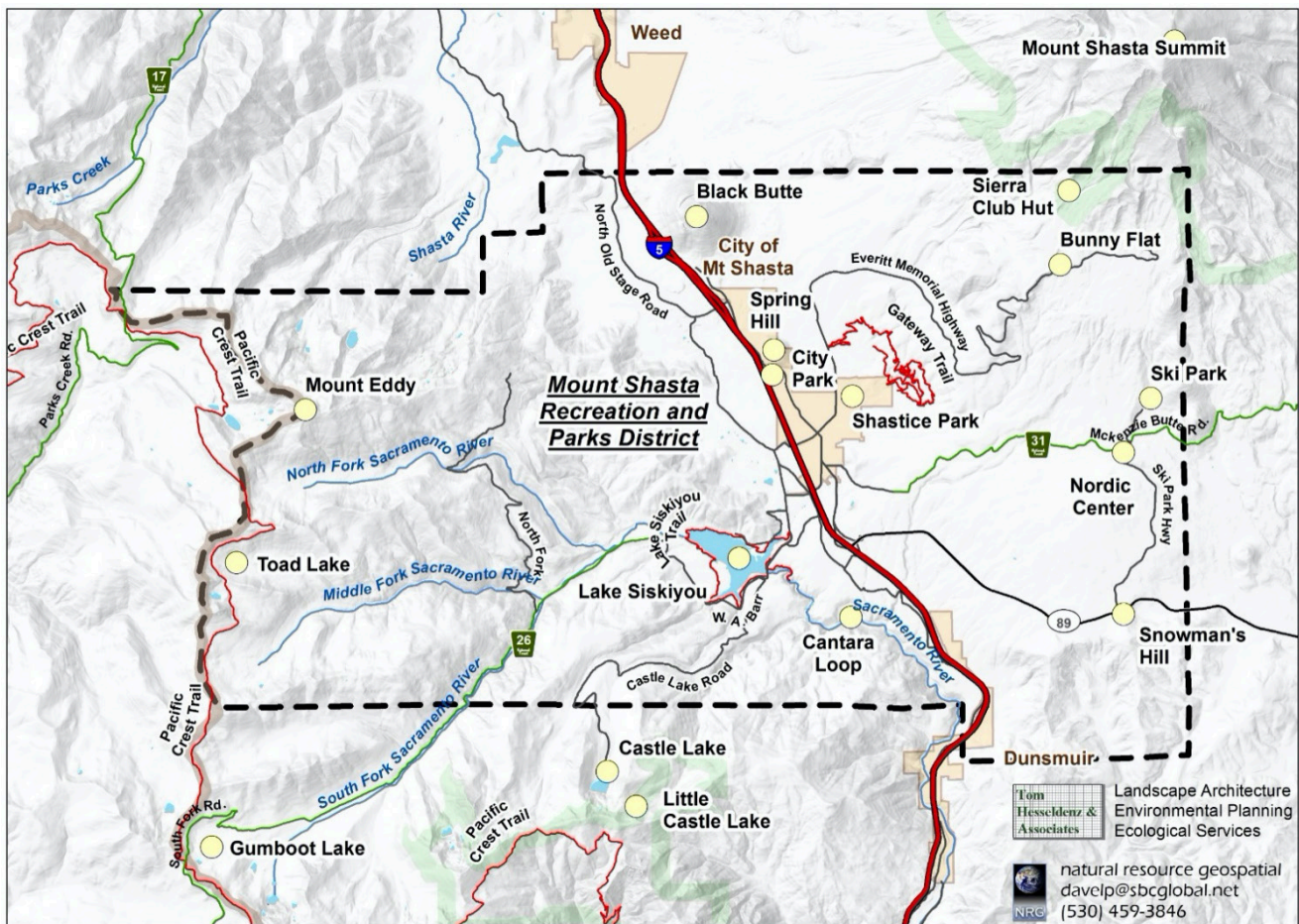


Figure 1 District boundary and locations of District parks and non-District recreational sites within and adjacent to the District.

Existing District Facilities, Programs, and Activities

The District currently manages the City Park, Shastice Park, and Youth Sports Park, all of which are within the city limits of Mount Shasta City (Figure 1).

City Park

The 27-acre City Park was originally developed as a summer school facility by the Chico State Teachers College in 1919. The school closed in 1943, and the land and facilities were donated to the City of Mount Shasta in 1947. The District assumed management of the Park after the District's creation in 1948, and the City deeded ownership of the Park to the District in 2005.

City Park facilities include 4 large multi-use buildings (including 1 with a commercial kitchen), several smaller buildings, restrooms, group and individual picnic areas, a playground, a gazebo/stage, a large lawn area, and trails along Spring Creek (Figure 2). Adjacent 13-acre and 5-acre parcels of land include additional trails connecting to the City Park that are open to the public, and the Spring Hill Trail is nearby. A primary attraction at the City Park is Big Springs, described locally as the Headwaters of the Sacramento River.

Programs and activities at the City Park include Meals on Wheels, ecstatic and Zumba dancing, yoga and tai chi, Taiko drumming, District offices and board meetings, City Council and Planning Commission meetings, annual Easter and Earth Day events, an annual fiddle festival, and a variety of smaller special events (weddings, reunions, fund raisers, meetings, fitness classes, etc.). The City Park had also been the venue for the Blackberry Music Festival, but that event was recently moved to Shastice Park. An activity unique to the City Park is viewing of the Headwaters Spring. This spring has long been a supplemental water source for hundreds of people a year who come to collect water at its source, although there are ongoing concerns about unsanitary conditions due to people and dogs frequently entering the spring pool.



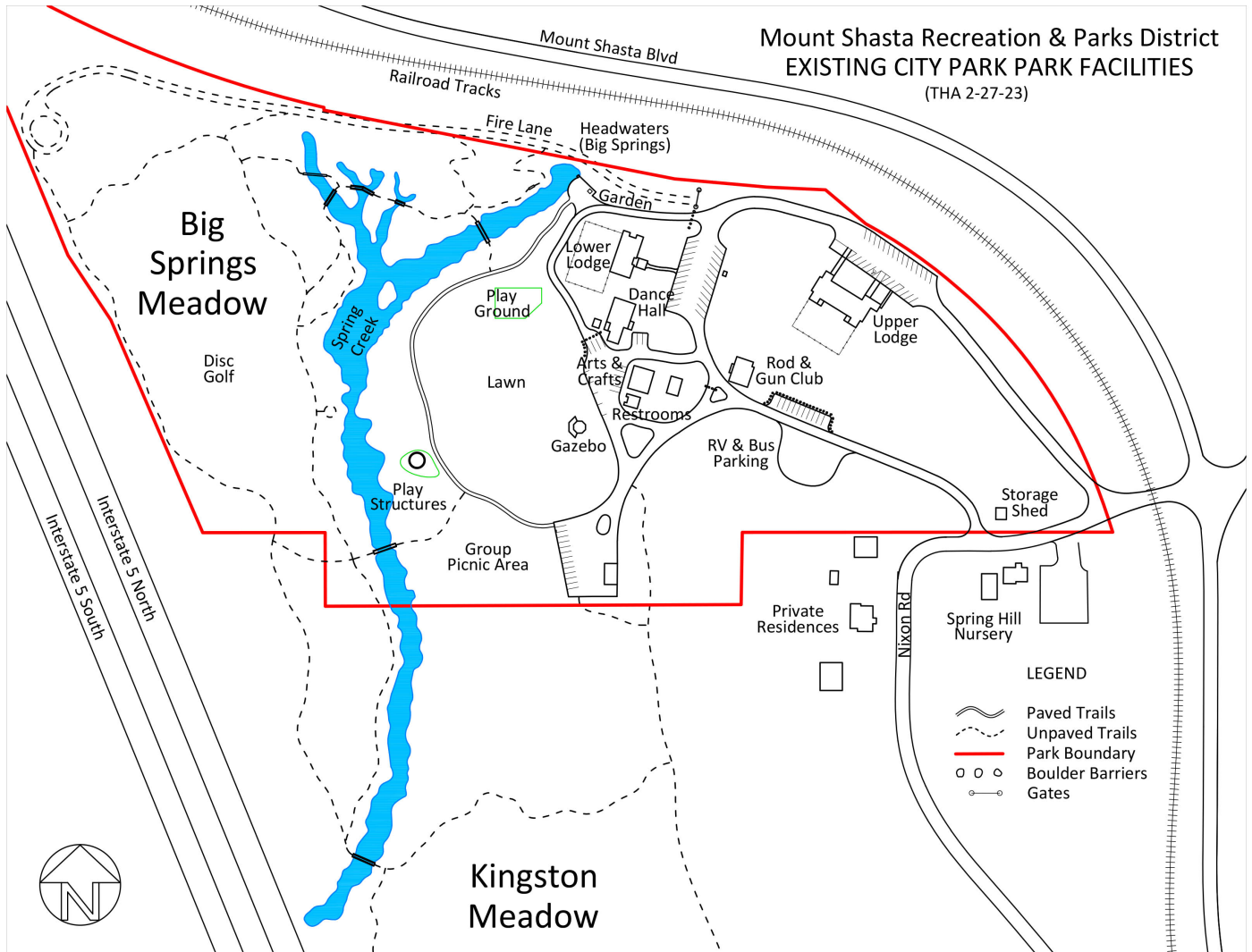


Figure 2 City Park existing facilities.

Shastice Park

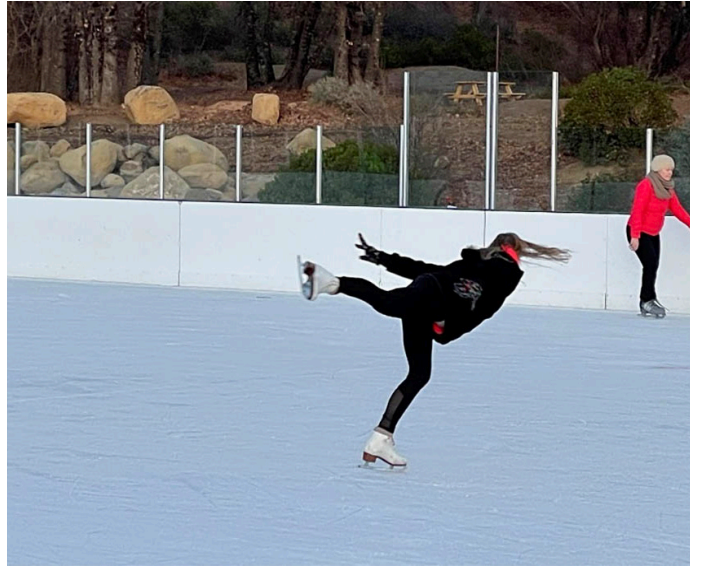
The 39-acre Shastice Park was deeded to the Rec District in 1978 by the Siskiyou Union High School District, with the intent that some of the athletic facilities would be built for use by the high school as well as the general public. Facilities include ballfields, an outdoor ice skating rink, skate park, bike park, playground, picnic areas, a small stage, restrooms, community garden, and a dog park (Figure 3).

Programs and activities at Shastice Park include baseball, softball, and soccer events, ice skating, ice hockey, skateboarding, various types of cycling, yoga, tai chi, and large events including Summer Concerts in the Park, Grinduro, and the Blackberry Music Festival.





Grinduro 2022



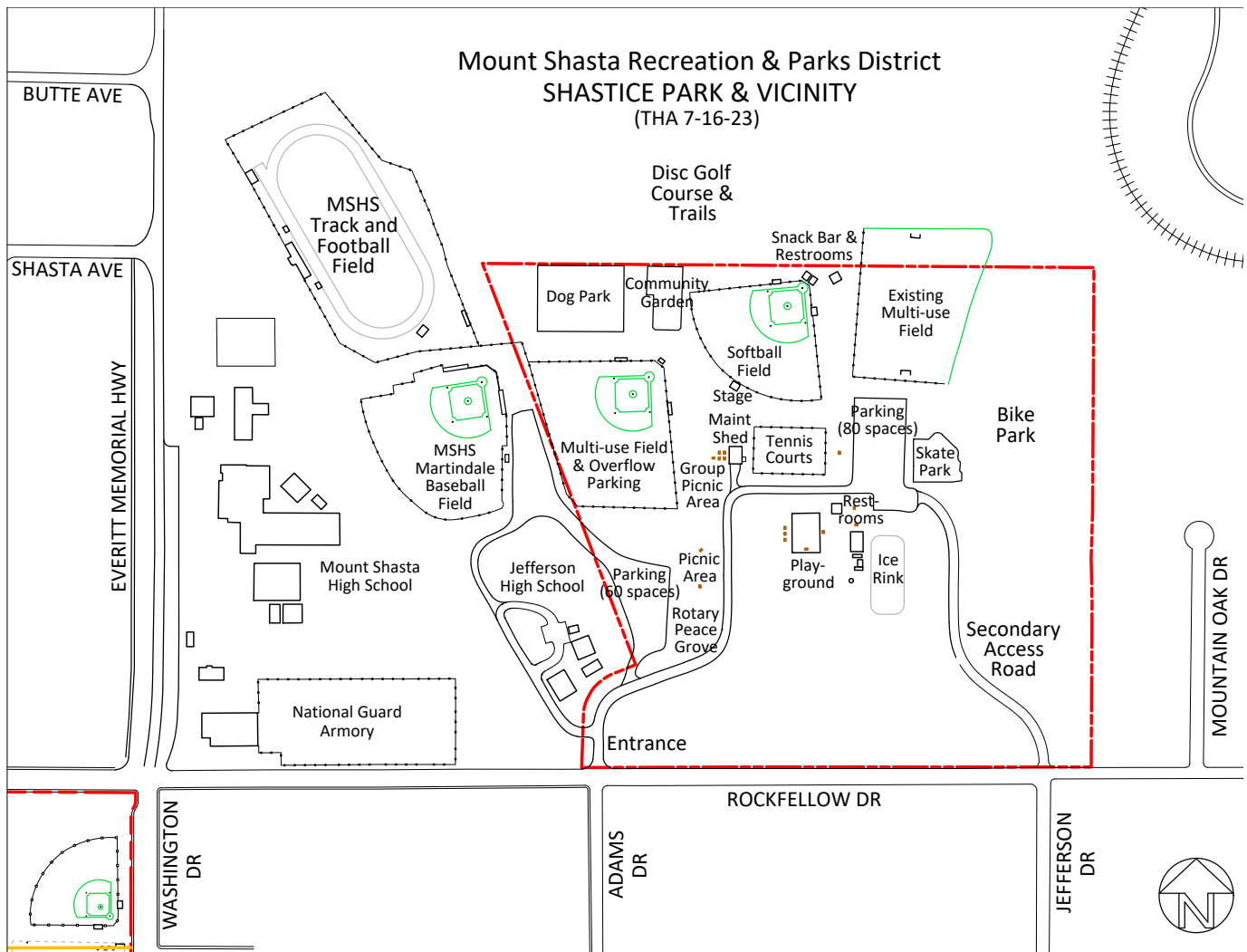
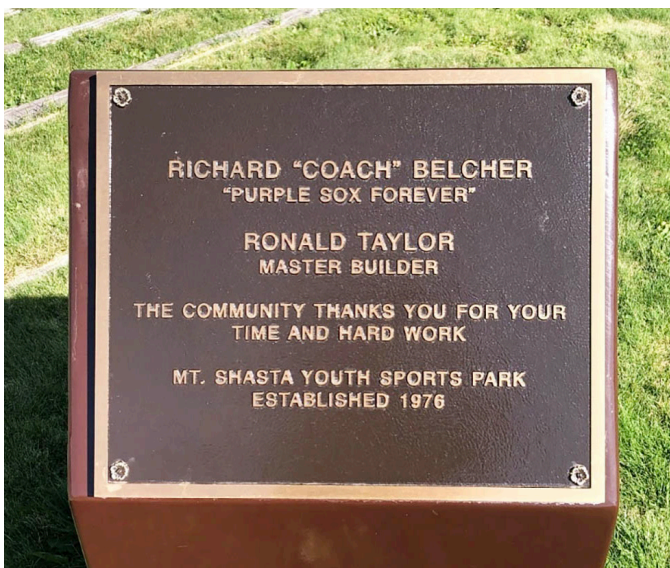


Figure 3. Shastice Park existing facilities.

Youth Sports Park

The first ballfield at what is now the 9-acre Youth Sports Park was built in 1976. The Park is now comprised of properties under long-term leases from the City of Mount Shasta (beginning in 1994) and Mount Shasta Union School District (Sisson Field--beginning in 2002). Facilities include ballfields, a small snack bar and restroom building, and picnic areas, some playground equipment, and gravel parking areas (Figure 4). Ballfield construction was funded by local donations.

Programs and activities at the Youth Sports Park include baseball, softball, T-ball, and soccer events, occasional use by the adjacent Sisson School and the Boys and Girls Club, and informal use by nearby residents. The Siskiyou Land Trust's Sisson Meadow is adjacent to the Youth Sports Park, providing walking and wildlife viewing opportunities in the center of town.



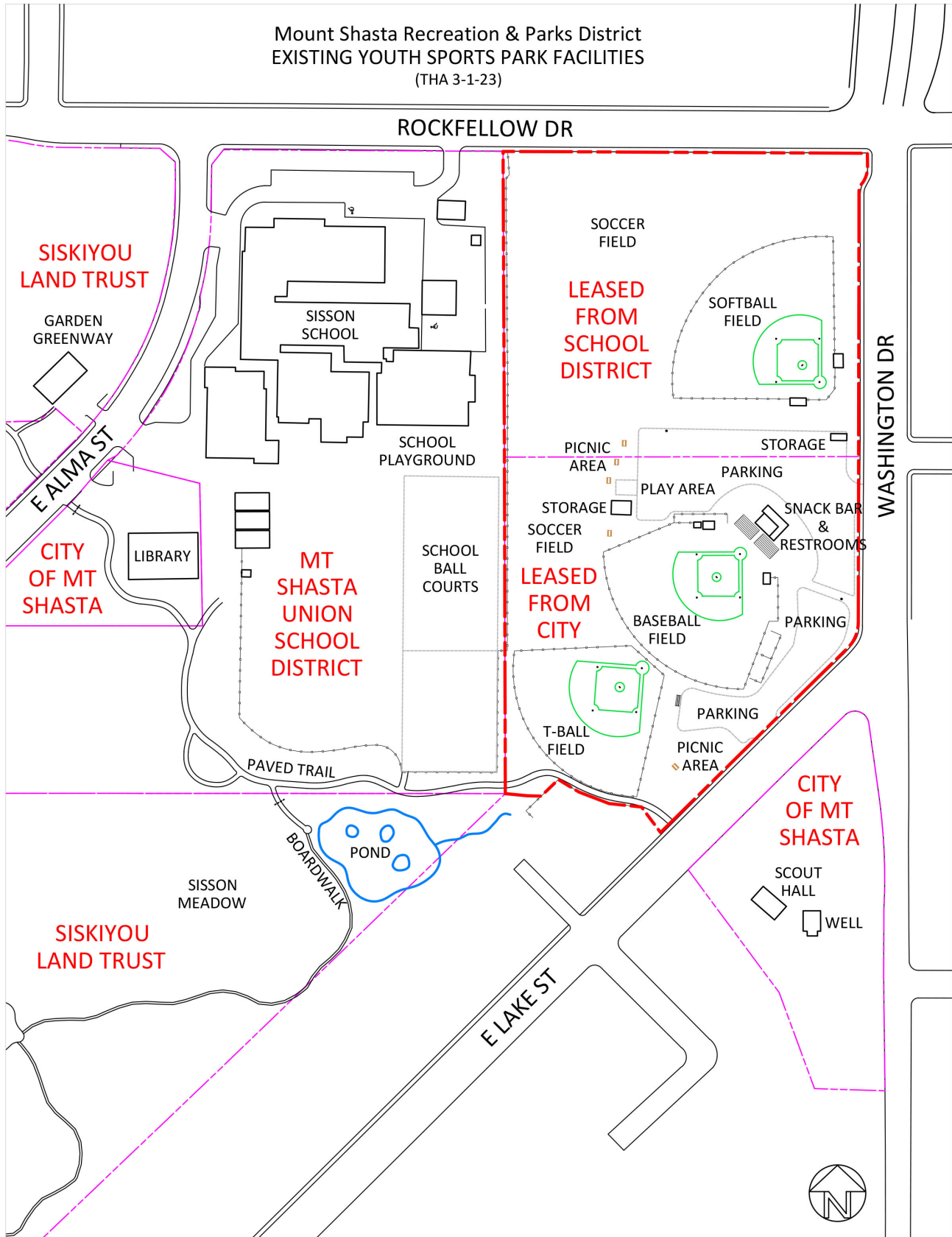


Figure 4. Youth Sports Park existing facilities.

PREVIOUS MASTER PLANNING

1976 District Master Plan

The first District master plan was prepared by Gene Kincaid (a consultant from Yreka) and was entitled “Master Plan for Development and Program Expansion”. This plan focused on the need for additional and expanded facilities and programs to accommodate existing and anticipated future recreational demand in the District. At the time, the City Park was well underway and Shastice Park was still being planned and was given a provisional name of Rockfellow Drive Park.

New facilities proposed for the City Park that have since been completed include increased picnic facilities, natural area trails, playground equipment, and a Par Course (now abandoned). Increased parking was proposed but is not yet completed. Casting ponds were also proposed but later dropped.

New facilities proposed for the future Shastice Park that have since been completed include 2 softball fields, 3 tennis courts, restrooms, landscaping, and a well (used for irrigation). Facilities proposed but not yet completed include basketball, volleyball, and

handball courts. An archery range and golf driving range were also proposed but later installed by others near Lake Siskiyou.

New offsite recreational programs proposed that have since been completed by others include ski and winter sports (now provided by the Ski Park and Nordic Center), summer water-oriented programs at Lake Siskiyou (now provided at the Campground), and bicycle trails (now provided by the Gateway Trail Project as well as at the Bike Park at Shastice Park). Horseback riding and ORV programs were also proposed for off-site locations, and those uses have been growing, including commercial horseback riding opportunities provided by VS Esquine, LLC, but no official facilities exist within District boundaries.

District operation of the high school swimming pool for public use was also included in the 1976 Master Plan, and the program was run by the District for many years until the pool had to be demolished due to unrepairable corroded pipes and leaks resulting in unaffordable water heating costs.

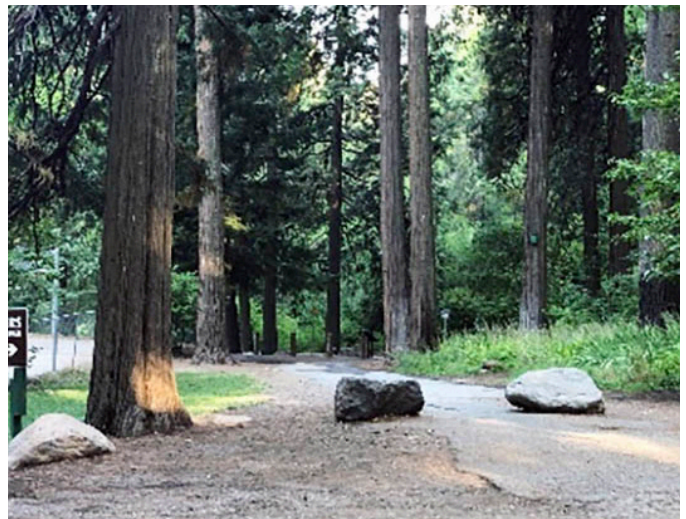
2003 District Master Plan Update

The 1976 Master Plan was updated by Schlumpberger Consulting Engineers in 2003. Entitled “Facilities Master Plan,” this plan identified a vision “to establish a well-functioning and maintained park system that enhances the quality of life by offering a diversity of recreational opportunities for people of all ages and needs.” Specific goals were:

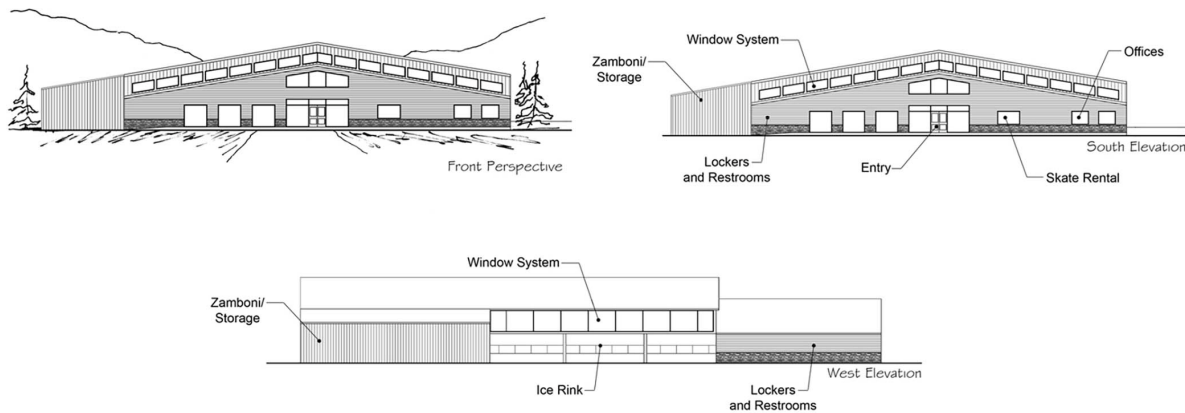
- Enhance quality of life and community livability.
- Develop a long-term strategy for financial solvency that employs a variety of funding techniques.
- Promote community involvement and stewardship through volunteer action.
- Keep all facilities safe, clean, well lit, well maintained, and vandalism free.
- Provide a variety of passive and active recreational experiences with a number of different park types.
- Regularly evaluate unmet parks and recreation needs of the community.
- Develop parks in an economically efficient manner by seeking partnerships whenever feasible.
- Take a long-term proactive and flexible planning approach.
- Provide facilities that are easily accessible for people of all ages and physical conditions.

Proposed improvements to existing City Park facilities that have since been implemented include extensive Upper Lodge and Dance Hall improvements, closure of the road next to the Headwaters Spring, installation of vehicular barriers elsewhere, and installation of a new pump for the sewage lift station. Regarding the latter, planning is currently underway to abandon the existing leach field in the City Park and connect to the City sewer system. Proposed improvements still pending are road improvements, parking expansion, storm drainage improvements, and improved water flow for fire hydrants.

The primary proposed improvement to Youth



Proposed improvements to Shastice Park facilities that have since been completed include the installation of the Skate Park and Dog Park. The Siskiyou Ice Rink was first installed in 2000, and the 2003 Master Plan Update calls for a roof to be installed, the planning for which is currently underway. Additional facilities improvements in the Master Plan Update that have not yet been implemented include playground upgrades, tennis court repairs, a new pool, a sand volleyball court, and road and parking improvements.



Conceptual design of an Ice Rink roof included in 2003 Master Plan Update.

2010 Shastice Park Master Plan

Sports Park facilities completed to date is the construction of Sisson Field. This facility is heavily used for baseball, softball, soccer, flag football, Boys and Girls Club activities, and various Sisson School activities. It also provides open space benefits to adjacent residential areas. Other proposed improvements yet to be implemented are the upgrade of restrooms and replacement of dugouts.

Additional parks and facilities mentioned as future possibilities include a park at the old mill pond on the Roseburg Property (The Landing), the Downtown to City Park Trail, Castle Street Park, and Lake Siskiyou Trail. Of those projects, the Lake Siskiyou Trail has made the most headway, but currently does not involve the District.

The 2003 Master Plan Update also included extensive structural evaluations for various buildings and other structures at all three existing parks, and a conceptual design of a roof and lobby for the Ice Rink.

A private for-profit grant writing company called National Grant Services, LLC, approached the District in 2010 to offer its services to seek grants for various improvements at Shastice Park, in exchange for being paid out of any grants received for providing grant administration services. That company retained the pro bono services of Land Image Landscape Architects from Chico, California, to prepare a master plan drawing for Shastice Park, incorporating extensive local input. In addition to existing facilities, which by then included the Dog Park, Community Garden, and small stage, the drawing also included the Skate Park, secondary road tie-in across from Jefferson Drive, a storm water detention basin near the Ice Rink, and the beginnings of the Bike Park, all of which have since been completed. That plan also included various improvements yet to be completed, including improved and additional parking, a large covered pavilion, small covered picnic shelters, a wedding pavilion, new restrooms and concession buildings, and a tot lot playground.

VISION, PURPOSE, AND GOALS OF 2023 MASTER PLAN UPDATE

The vision of the District remains generally the same as stated in previous master plans, but is updated and augmented in the following manner:

“It is the vision of the Mount Shasta Recreation and Parks District to fulfill its potential to provide high-quality, accessible, and diverse recreational opportunities for all local residents and visitors to the area.”

As part of this vision, the District wants to strive toward a future in which people can walk out the door, get on a trail, and arrive at a nearby park or other destination, including a vibrant community center. The District anticipates playing a lead role in spearheading this vision, but one that is based on partnerships with many other players, including governmental entities, nonprofit organizations, and various local economic interests.

This latest master plan update is intended to serve as a 20-year strategic action plan. Recognizing that neither the City nor the County have departments of parks and recreation, and that because of this recreational facilities have been largely maintained by public works departments, it is the intent of the District to play a more expanded parks and recreation role for the City and County. The benefits will be that (1) public works staffs will be freed up to focus on streets, sidewalks, water, and sewer; (2) District staff more experienced and skilled in parks and recreation will be responsible for such facilities and programs; and (3) the economy of scale achieved will make this expanded role more effective and sustainable for the District.

In order to achieve this, however, the District recognizes that any expanded role will be based on complete support by the City and County, that adequate funding can be found, and that a partnership approach is taken.

This master plan also recognizes the substantial variations in demographics within the District boundaries, and that these demographics are continuing to change. Most notably:

- Vacation homes and short-term rentals are on the rise.
- More people are moving out of urban areas to live here and work from home.
- Housing costs are increasing substantially, forcing workers to live outside the District boundary.
- Affordable housing is beginning to be planned, and more recreational opportunities will be needed for those residents.

Based on all of the above, the goals of the 2023 Master Plan Update are:

1. Repair, improve, and expand facilities at existing parks on a priority basis.
2. Improve and add programs and activities, as staffing and funding allow.
3. Increase and diversify funding sources, most notably for operations and maintenance, in a sustainable manner that also yields economy-of-scale benefits.
4. Increase staffing and related office and maintenance facilities and equipment commensurate with scope of services and available funding.
5. Add new parks in underserved portions of the District as opportunities allow.
6. Manage selected recreational facilities of others on a willing partnership basis, as funding allows.

CURRENT MASTER PLANNING APPROACH

Community-driven Planning and Public Outreach

Work on the Master Plan Update was launched right at the time when the COVID pandemic began. We had intended to have a series of in-person public outreach meetings, but ended up relying on a combination of Zoom webinars, online surveys, and hard-copy survey forms. Despite the pandemic, and perhaps to some extent because of it, we had an excellent response. The webinars and surveys were broken up into City Park, Shastice Park, Youth Sports Park, potential future parks, and programs and activities. One-on-one communications and in-person meetings were also held with key stakeholders.

Concurrent Planning and Outreach of Others

At the same time that the District master planning was proceeding, the City of Mount Shasta began work on updating its open space and circulation elements of its General Plan, including in-person meetings and webinars on parks and trails. The City also received a \$330,000 grant to undertake a non-motorized transportation planning effort called the Walk Bike Ride Mount Shasta Project, and retained Alta Planning and Design to perform the work.

Also at the same time, Siskiyou Outdoor Recreation Alliance (SORA) initiated a non-motorized recreational planning effort on a broader South County level (including all of the District), and the Forest Service initiated planning for all existing and potential recreational facilities from Castle Lake to Mount Eddy along the eastern flank of the Trinity Divide (western third of the District).

Partnership Approach

It is timely that other entities are concurrently undertaking recreational planning because it is the intent of the District to take a partnership approach on implementing elements of its master plan. Recreational opportunities are large and diverse in South Siskiyou County, and no one entity could manage it all. Much more can be accomplished through partnerships than approaching projects alone. Also, to the extent that future projects will involve other landowners and agencies, the District recognizes that the only way forward on those projects is to work closely with key stakeholders to achieve full buy-in first.

Facilities Inspections and On-the-Ground Reconnaissance

Structural inspections were previously conducted at all 3 existing parks as part of the 2003 Master Plan Update prepared by Schlumberger Consulting Engineers. Detailed inspections of the 4 largest buildings at the City Park were more recently conducted in 2019 by Siskiyou Inspections, and detailed inspections of all buildings and outdoor facilities for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance at all 3 existing parks was conducted in 2022 by Disabilities Action Consultants. During preparation of the current Master Plan Update, additional casual facilities inspections were conducted with District staff, including all recreational facilities.

Conceptual Site Plan Preparation of Existing and Potential District Facilities

Detailed AutoCAD drawings of all existing, proposed, and potential future recreational facilities that either already do or eventually could involve the District were prepared as part of the current master planning. The intent was not to lock-in designs of these various facilities, but rather to help visualize what could be done. To that extent, although the drawings included in this master plan are detailed, they are also conceptual and very much subject to change as planning moves forward. They are intended to capture community feedback, communicate additional design ideas, and encourage thinking. The designs are subject to change not only based on community and District desires, but also on available partnerships and funding.

Proposed Actions and Priorities

Proposed actions are given at the end of each topic of discussion in the following sections, and are prioritized in tables at the end of each section. Prioritization of proposed and potential actions are based on the extent of support and urgency conveyed during community outreach, and on the interpretation of existing and future needs by the District Board and Staff. For many of the proposed actions, the next step will be the preparation of action plans that will pin down the details of the proposed action and associated costs and funding sources. Those plans will in turn be used for negotiations with landowners and other stakeholders, and for grant writing and other forms of fund raising. Included in all follow-up projects will be careful consideration of not only initial capital improvement costs but also of ongoing operations and maintenance costs and associated funding sources.

Regulatory compliance (CEQA/NEPA processes and permitting) will be handled on a project-by-project basis. As funding allows, a programmatic CEQA

document will also be prepared that covers the entire master plan. This was not done as part of the current master plan preparation due to limited funding.

Master Plan Review and Approvals Process

The current master planning process consists of the following steps:

- Public and stakeholder outreach, District reviews, facilities inspections, and research.
- Administrative draft master plan preparation, with review by the District Board and Staff.
- Public draft master plan preparation, with review by agencies, non-profits, and the public.
- Final draft preparation, with review and adoption by the District Board.

FUNDING SOURCES

Adequate funding is key to making proposed actions in this Master Plan achievable and sustainable. And ongoing operations and maintenance (O&M) funding is far more difficult to secure than capital improvement funding. Proposition 13 greatly reduced annual revenue to the District since its passage in 1978, and the District has been struggling ever since.

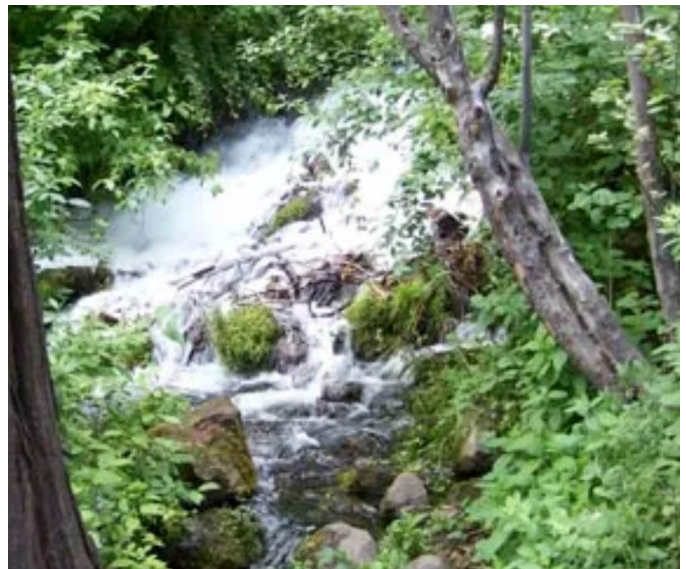
The District placed supplemental tax measures on the local ballot several times, and each time it received simple majority support, but a two-thirds majority is required for passage. The primary reasons these attempts failed were lack of public understanding of the proposed measures and lack of adequate detail as to how the money would be used. To make matters potentially worse, there is a statewide effort currently underway to prevent special districts from pursuing supplemental tax assessments.

The District's most significant accomplishments to date (Ice Rink, Skate Park, Headwaters restoration) were made possible by other entities securing the needed funding. Historic buildings at the City Park have needed maintenance and upgrades for years, but funding has been severely limited. To enable the District to grow and sustain its recreational services to the local area into the future, funding needs to be considered at every step of the way.

Existing funding sources (and percent of total annual District revenue) include:

- Secured annual property tax assessment (58%)*
- Unsecured taxes from previous years (3%)
- Fees from using park facilities, including large events like Grinduro (10%)
- Ice Rink admission fees (16%)
- Proposition 68 per capita funds (10%)
- Miscellaneous other revenue (3%)

*Each year, 1% of Siskiyou County property taxes collected within the Rec District boundary are designated for use by the District.



Potential additional funding sources include:

- Supplemental property tax measure.
- Supplemental sales tax measure.
- Transient Occupancy Tax allocation.
- Competitive public grants (some are reimbursable grants which is a problem for districts).
- Museum-library grants.
- Private grants (McConnell, Ford Family, Nancy Driscoll, Boosters Club, US Tennis Association).
- Parking fees (charge visitors; provide free sticker for residents within District).
- Management fees for managing the recreational facilities of others (County, State, etc.).
- Boys and Girls Club (national).
- Stormwater assessment fee (depends on District expansion that would include above-ground stormwater facilities like bioswales and detention basins).
- New non-profit parks association (could be grant applicant/administrator).
- Major donors and Giving Tuesday (donations through non-profits in order to be tax-deductible).
- Local non-profits (Trail Association, Rotary, Land Trust, SORA, Bike Shasta, FOR, etc.).
- Other partners involving shared facilities (Library, Museum, etc.).
- Businesses adjacent to and benefitting from parks.
- Development fees and requirements; Quimby Act.

Proposed Actions:

1. *Prepare detailed budgets for specific proposed actions in the Master Plan Update at such time that those actions are to be pursued.*
2. *Require that proposals for new facilities include adequate funding for ongoing O&M.*
3. *Package proposed actions to target specific funding sources.*
4. *Seek funding for the highest priority and/or easiest-to-implement actions first.*
5. *Try again for a supplemental tax measure to cover deferred building maintenance, transient problem at City Park, and security systems for all parks.*
6. *Periodically update fee schedule for use of District facilities.*
7. *Implement parking fee for non-District visitors.*
8. *Support concept of a non-profit parks association to help District with fund raising.*

EXISTING PARKS

CITY PARK

The proposed overall theme for the City Park is to be a natural area with mostly nature-oriented (passive) outdoor recreational and educational opportunities. This theme is based on the presence of Big Springs (Headwaters), Spring Creek, and surrounding meadows and forested areas.

Potential improvements and additions to City Park facilities are shown in Figure 5 below and summarized in Table 1 at the end of the City Park section.

Buildings

Most existing buildings at the City Park are historic (though not designated as such), dating back to when they were built in the 1920s for the Chico summer school. Nestled in the forest and built of wood with lots of windows and steep-pitched roofs, they create an ambience of being at a rustic resort high in the mountains. Their age and architecture are also liabilities, due to high maintenance needs and numerous changes in building codes.

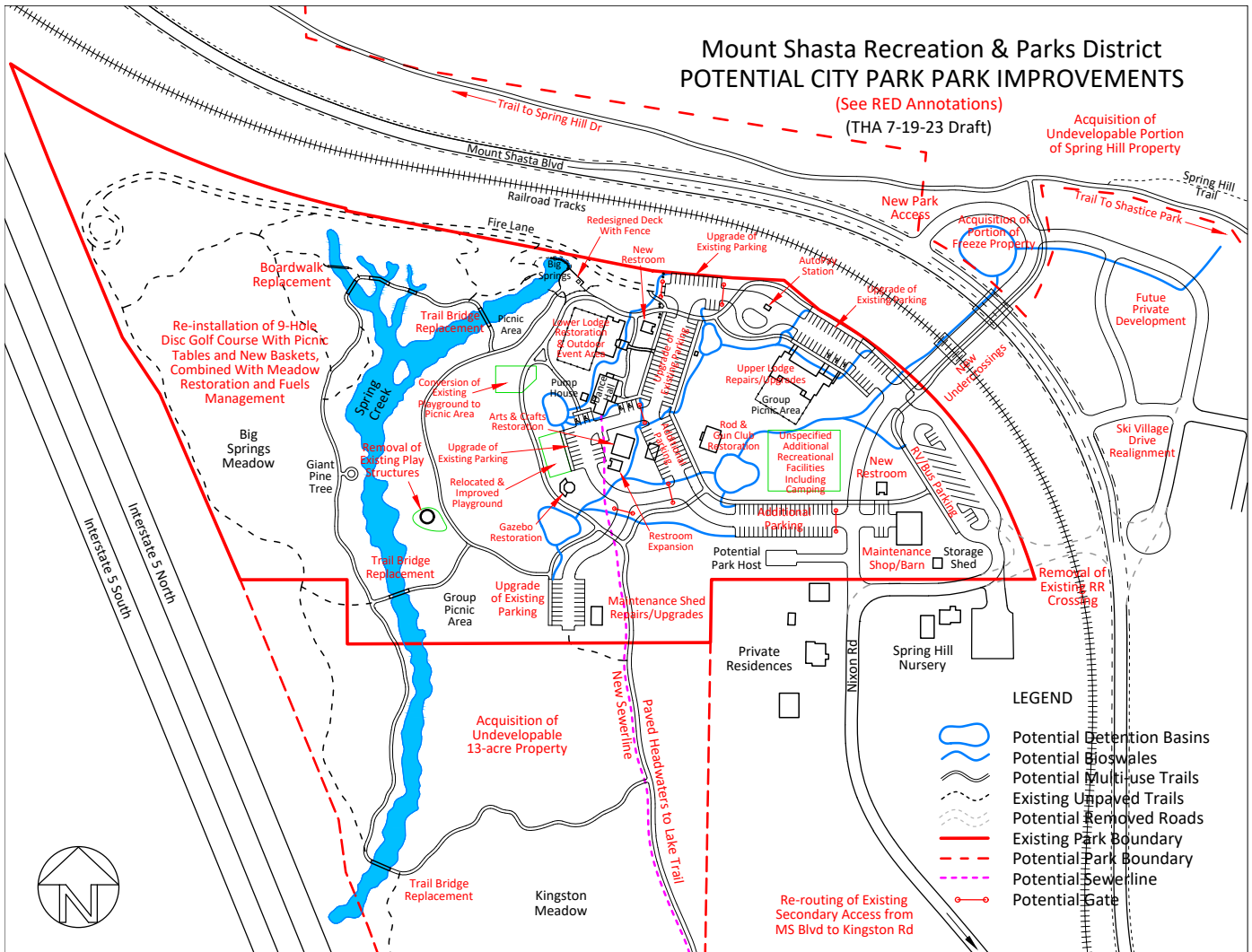


Figure 5 City Park potential improvements.

Upper Lodge



The 3,728 square foot Upper Lodge is the largest, best equipped, best maintained, and most used of the City Park buildings. It is used for performances and other community events, public meetings, large private gatherings, and food services such as Meals on Wheels. The Upper Lodge includes a large central area, stage, commercial kitchen, full restrooms, and the District office, and has a large outdoor unpaved fenced area in the back with picnic tables and a barbecue pit. Much repair work has been done on the building over the years, but it still needs the following:

- Sound baffles to attenuate echos during community gatherings.
- Electrical repairs and upgrades.
- Window and window frame repairs and replacement.
- Repairs to foundation, siding, trim, eaves, and roof.
- More insulation.
- Replacement of swamp cooler (nearing end of useful life).
- Replacement of noisy exhaust fans in kitchen and bathrooms.

- Replacement of kitchen flooring to meet current code.
- Replacement of walkways and patio (settling and cracking).
- Accessibility upgrades to meet ADA requirements.
- Improvements to picnic tables and barbecue pit.
- Installation of security systems.
- Potential office expansion to west (or moving to separate building).
- Potential lead paint and asbestos remediation.

Given the importance of the Upper Lodge to District functions and its relatively better overall condition compared to other City Park buildings, and given the difficulty of finding adequate funding to date to maintain and repair the other buildings, it will be important to give priority to the Upper Lodge over all other buildings at the City Park.

Proposed Actions: Prepare a cost estimate for needed repairs and improvements to Upper Lodge, find funding, and make the repairs and improvements.

Lower Lodge



The 2,080 square foot Lower Lodge is the oldest building in the Park, built in 1919. It is occasionally used for various meetings and other events, fitness classes, Surround Sound, Ecstatic Dance, and Zumba. It includes a large central area, small stage, small kitchen, and restrooms, and has a large paved outdoor fenced area in the back that was once a basketball court. It has not had much repair or improvement work done over the years, and has the following issues:

- Major electrical code violations.
- Major fireplace and chimney deterioration.
- Various foundation problems.
- Deterioration of door framing, window casing/sills, trim, fascia, siding, and deck.
- New windows are needed.
- Ridge beam is rotten, and gable and rafters are rotting where contacting roof.
- Roofing is worn and leaking; flashing around chimney and water heater vent is leaking.
- Attic and crawl space ventilation is inadequate; moisture and mold in crawl space.
- Hanging ceiling should be removed.
- Heater needs to be replaced.
- ADA compliant walkway and parking are needed.
- Pavement in outdoor fenced area is in poor condition.



Proposed Actions: Prepare cost estimates for the following options, determine which option will be pursued based on funding and additional community input, then implement the option selected:

1. *Restore existing building and convert outdoor area to group picnic with wrought iron fence.*
2. *Replace with new building having similar architecture and functions.*
3. *Replace with new building that would serve as small interpretive center and District office.*
4. *Demolish existing building, save historic fireplace, and add site to Headwaters use area.*
5. *Leave building as is for now and revisit later.*

Dance Hall



The 1,896 square foot Dance Hall was used for square dancing by the Dudes 'N Daisies Club for many years. It is now used for other types of dancing (including Ecstatic Dancing) and various other events, including weddings, conventions, and public and private meetings. The building was in need of repairs and improvements and interior painting was already underway when work on the current master plan began, but circumstances changed after a vandal broke windows, dumped paint on the new flooring, and tore up some of the flooring and paneling. The insurance settlement and some additional funding provided sufficient overall funding to complete the following:

- Repair damages to the floor and paneling.
- Replace all of the single-glazed windows with similar custom double-glazed windows.
- Replace the front door.

Based the outcome of a bidding process, funding turned out to insufficient to complete the following:

- Replace existing foundation and floor girder systems.

- Replace the back door, landing, and stairs.
- Convert the kitchen to a service area.
- Remodel the bathrooms to meet ADA standards and other codes.
- Install new HVAC and AV systems.
- Replace existing covered entrance with new roof, ADA landing, and ramp
- Install new ADA parking stalls and walkways.
- Install new secondary egress door, landing, and stairway to increase building occupancy.
- Install new roofing and roof insulation.

Proposed Actions: Prepare cost estimates for the following options, determine which option will be pursued based on funding and additional community input, then implement the option selected:

- 1. Finish upgrading existing building.*
- 2. Replace with new building having similar architecture and functions.*
- 3. Demolish existing building.*
- 4. Leave building as is for now and revisit later.*

Rod & Gun Club



As the name implies, the 1,168 square foot Rod & Gun Club building was originally used by that club. More recently, it was used as a meeting location by a variety of other groups, including Taiko Drummers, until the building's closure due to deteriorating conditions. The roof is now tarped at a cost of \$2,000/year to keep water out of the building until a decision is made as to its fate. The building has a central meeting room, small kitchen, and bathrooms. Based on inspection reports, the building has the following issues:

- Leaking roof (currently tarped); sheathing and rafter tails are beginning to rot.
- Woodpeckers and rodents living in attic.
- Obsolete and dangerous electrical (including cloth-wrapped knob-and-tube wiring).
- Access ramp lacking ADA compliance and not to code (too steep with railings too short).
- Improper propane piping in crawl space and likely by tank.
- Poor ventilation in kitchen and bathroom.
- Microwave, oven, refrigerator, and HVAC are near end of useful lives.

- Bottom of siding and floor beam are rotting and in contact with ground.
- Piers have shifted under structure and are settling; floor is uneven.
- Window glazing is failing and windows are single-glazed.
- Siding has peeling paint (likely lead-based) and holes from woodpeckers.

Proposed Actions: Prepare a cost estimate for needed repairs and improvements. If the community supports the project and funding can be found, then implement the project. If funding cannot be found then demolish the building.

Arts and Crafts



Originally used for a children’s summer arts and crafts program, this 1,152 square foot building is currently used for storage. It has the same vintage architectural appeal as the other buildings.

Proposed Actions: Prepare a cost estimate for restoration. If funding allows and other potential uses of the building warrant, pursue restoration. Otherwise, continue using it for storage until or unless circumstances change or demolition becomes warranted.

Maintenance Shed



The existing maintenance shed needs various cleanup, repairs, and improvements. A new maintenance building, large enough to park vehicles as well as maintenance equipment inside, would be desirable. Gas is currently being stolen from District vehicles parked outside. The new maintenance building should be located closer to the railroad tracks (see Figure 5) and further away from public use areas and sensitive wet-

land and riparian habitat. After the new maintenance building is completed, the existing shed could either be used for storage or it could be demolished.

Proposed Actions: Prepare a conceptual design for a new maintenance building, prepare a cost estimate for detailed design and construction, find funding, and construct a new maintenance building.

Storage Shed by Exit



This is the small concrete building that looks more like an old jail.

Proposed Action: Clean up, repair, and paint this building and keep using as is for storage.

Pumphouse Behind Dance Hall



This very small concrete building houses the water pump that draws water for lawn irrigation from the historic agricultural diversion pipe that flows from the Headwaters through the Park to the Kingston Ditch. It also still contains the now-defunct historic water pump that had originally been used.

Proposed Actions: Retain the building and old pump as historic features. If the pump building needs to be demolished in the future, salvage the old pump and place the current water pump in an in-ground vault.

Restroom Buildings



The former restroom building next to the Arts and Crafts Building is now used for storage. It is in the way of potential future road realignment and parking improvements. The current restroom building is in need of upgrades and expansion. Additional restroom buildings may eventually be needed elsewhere in the Park, depending on future Park build-out.

Proposed Actions: Prepare a cost estimate to upgrade and expand the existing restroom building, find funding, and implement the work. Remove the former restroom building and add additional restroom buildings at such time that roads and parking are improved (see below).

Utilities



Existing utilities in the Park are in need of upgrade and expansion. The most immediate need is to eliminate use of a leach field at the Park and connect to the City's sewer system. Park sewage currently needs to be pumped up to the leach field, and the system becomes overwhelmed and overflows at the lift station during high-use periods. The pump at the lift station was recently replaced at a cost of \$20,000, and two alternative routes for sewer line routing are currently being considered for connection to the City system. One route would follow the Kingston Ditch Trail to an existing manhole at the end of Kingston Road, and the other would involve a tie-in along Nixon Road.

Proposed Actions: Determine routing, design, and costs, find funding, and connect the City Park sewage system to the City sewer system.

Other needs involving the Park's existing utilities are:

- Improved water pressure (possibly coordinated with a new City water tank on Spring Hill).
- Additional fire hydrants and other improvements for fire suppression.
- Improved Internet access.
- Undergrounding of existing power, telephone, and cable.
- Improvements to the existing irrigation system.

Proposed Actions: Prepare cost estimates, find funding, and implement improvements and expansions to other Park utilities. Potentially include underground utilities work with projects in the next section.

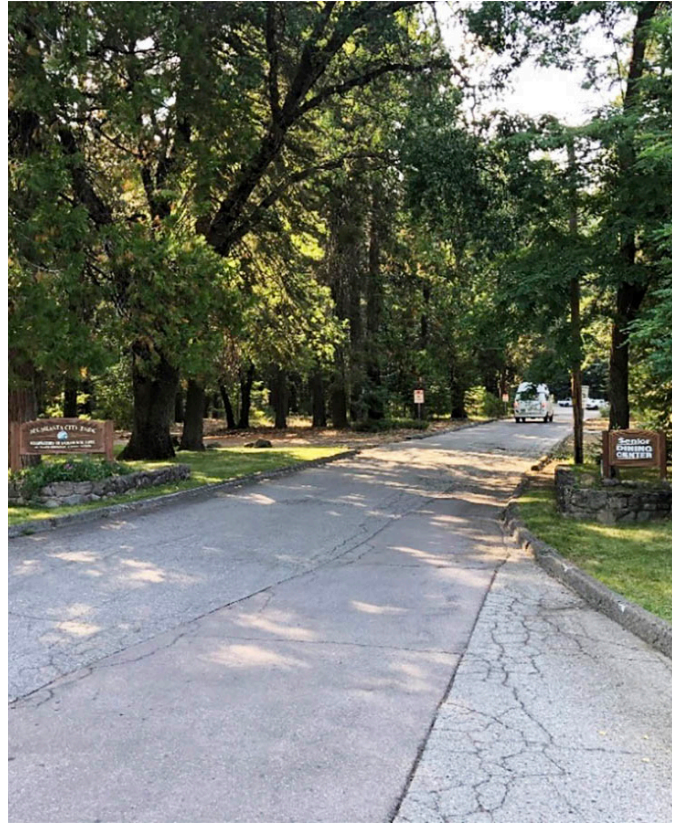
Roads, Parking, and Drainage

Existing Park roads are in poor condition, and in some cases not routed in the best locations (most notably where the main road is within several feet of the corner of the Rod & Gun Club Building). The main road is one-way and might function better if it were two-way. Parking areas need improvements, and additional parking is needed.

The 5 largest existing buildings (including the Arts and Crafts building, which is not currently in public use) total 10,024 square feet in size. Based on a City requirement of 1 parking space per 200 square feet for commercial buildings, at least 50 parking spaces would be needed just for those buildings, not counting parking for special events and outdoor park facilities.

Another way to estimate parking demand is to look at maximum allowed building occupancy levels during events. The Mount Shasta Fire Department has determined, based on California Fire Code, that the total maximum allowed occupancy level for the 3 buildings currently in use for public events (Upper Lodge, Lower Lodge, and Dance Hall) will be 755 people at one time, once needed repairs and ADA upgrades are made to the Lower Lodge and Dance Hall. This total is based on assuming that all 3 buildings are in use at the same time (which usually would not be the case). If it is also assumed that an average of 2 people would be in each vehicle, as many as 378 parking spaces could be needed. This represents an absolute maximum for the buildings, but still doesn't take into account concurrent public use of outdoor facilities.

There are currently 90 passenger vehicle parking spaces at the City Park for all uses, including recently added unpaved parking along the exit road. In addition, there is a large unpaved area that until recently had been used for stockpiling leaves and branches, but is now designated for bus and RV parking. In Figure 5 above, 203 passenger vehicle parking spaces and 8 spaces for buses and RVs are shown. Since large outdoor events are now moved to Shastice Park (see the next section below), the number of parking spaces shown in Figure 5 is likely reasonable.



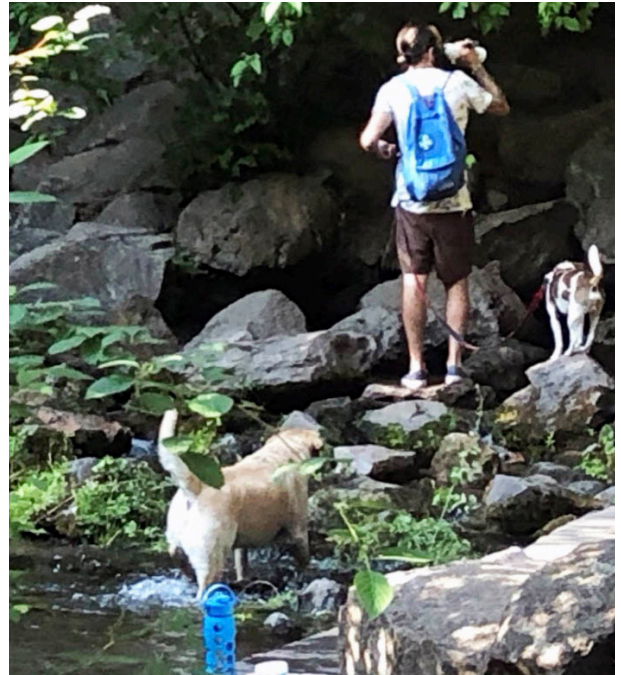
Lastly, stormwater drainage from roads, parking, and buildings is currently not adequately intercepted and routed. An existing drainage swale directs some runoff away from Spring Creek to protect water quality, but it only captures a small amount of runoff.

Regarding all of the issues discussed above, the following improvements are needed (see also Figure 5):

- Realign and repave roads, and determine whether one-way or two-way is best (affects road width and whether stalls are 90-degree or angled).
- Improve existing parking areas and add additional parking areas, including for RVs.
- Improve and expand parking area lighting.
- Improve vehicular access control and other security measures.
- Improve and expand signage re ADA, Fire Lane, types of vehicles, head-in parking, etc.
- Install network of bioswales and detention basins to resolve runoff problems.

Proposed Actions: Refine a roads, parking, and drainage plan, prepare a cost estimate, find funding, and implement the plan, most likely in phases. Potentially include undergrounding of utilities and new restrooms, as discussed above.

Outdoor Activity Areas



Existing dog problem at Headwaters.

Headwaters Area

This is the most visited area in the Park due to its beauty and its appeal as the Headwaters gush forth from the Volcano. It is also the portion of the Park in most need of improvements to better protect the visual and ecological values of the spring as well as improve the safety and experience for visitors. The spring itself was restored and a new stamped concrete deck was installed about 15 years ago, and the road next to the Headwaters was closed to vehicular traffic several years ago. Further improvements could include:

- Converting the closed road to a paved ADA-compliant trail with nearby ADA parking.
- Installing a low wrought-iron fence and gate around the Headwaters deck to discourage dogs (see above photo).

- Installing a steppingstone crossing at the head of the spring pool to reduce trampling.
- Installing a freeze-proof drinking fountain just outside the fenced area with a spigot to discourage water collecting directly out of the spring, and a lower dog water spigot to further discourage dogs in the spring area.
- Converting the old basketball court at the Lower Lodge to a group picnic area.
- Replacing the high chainlink fence with a low wrought-iron fence at new group picnic area.
- Replacement of non-native plants in adjacent garden with all native species.

Proposed Actions: Refine a Headwaters area design, prepare a cost estimate, find funding, and implement improvements to the Headwaters Area.

Playground



The existing playground is not up to current standards and is too close to the Headwaters Area. There is also a separate play structure (climbing dome) on the other side of the large lawn next to the creek. Proposed improvements include:

- Replacing the existing playground with an up-to-date inclusive playground.
- Locating the new playground closer to parking and further from the Headwaters (see Figure 5).
- Including educational play structures and natural boulders reflecting the Park's theme.
- Removing the steel play structures next to the creek.

Proposed Action: Design new a playground, prepare a cost estimate, find funding, and implement proposed playground improvements.



Gazebo



This attractive wooden structure has been used for years as an informal gathering spot and occasionally as a stage, most notably for the annual Blackberry Music Festival until the event was moved to Shastice Park last year. The Mount Shasta Rotary Club, host of the Music Festival, had been planning to upgrade the Gazebo and install a sound system until the event was moved. The Gazebo would still benefit from some repair work and repainting.

Proposed Action: Repair and repaint Gazebo.



Disc Golf



A 9-hole disc golf course was installed several years ago in Big Springs Meadow along the freeway, but was recently removed due to teasel. A long-standing 9-hole course at the Delta above Lake Siskiyou was recently shut down because it was user-installed without having an MOU with the County. There is still an 18-hole course on high school land next to Shastice Park. Disc golf has many participants in our area, but the local courses have been located

away from high-use areas, which results in the sport not being widely noticed. It is popular enough to warrant controlling teasel in order to re-open the course at the City Park. The courses at Shastice Park and Lake Siskiyou are discussed in applicable sections below."

Proposed Actions: Annually flail mow teasel (see Ecological Management section below), re-open the disc golf course, and add picnic tables nearby.

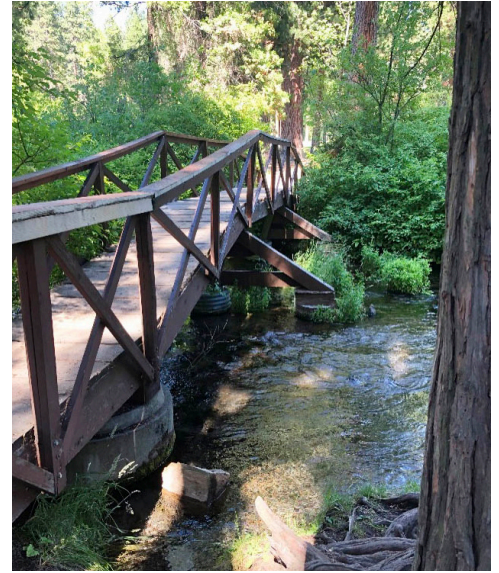
Picnic Areas

There are currently two group picnic areas with tables and large barbecue pits: one within the fenced area behind the Upper Lodge; and one at the south end of the Park in the trees. There is also an individual picnic area in the lawn along the creek near the Headwaters, consisting of tables and individual raised barbecues. All existing picnic areas need new tables, and group picnic areas need new barbecue pits. As mentioned in the Lower Lodge and Headwaters sections above, another group picnic area

could be added behind the Lower Lodge. Also, more individual picnic tables could be added at various locations, including at the current Playground location (see Figure 5). It is recommended that consistent design standards are used for picnic tables and barbecue pits.

Proposed Action: Upgrade existing picnic areas, including repair or replacement of group barbecue, and add new picnic facilities as funding allows.

Trails



Given the Park's theme as a natural area with primarily passive recreational opportunities, an extensive and diverse trail system is a key infrastructural component, including narrow and wide unpaved trails for walking and jogging, and wide paved trails for ADA compliance and bicycles. The existing trail system has been evolving for many years, but still has room for expansion and is in need of major improvements, including:

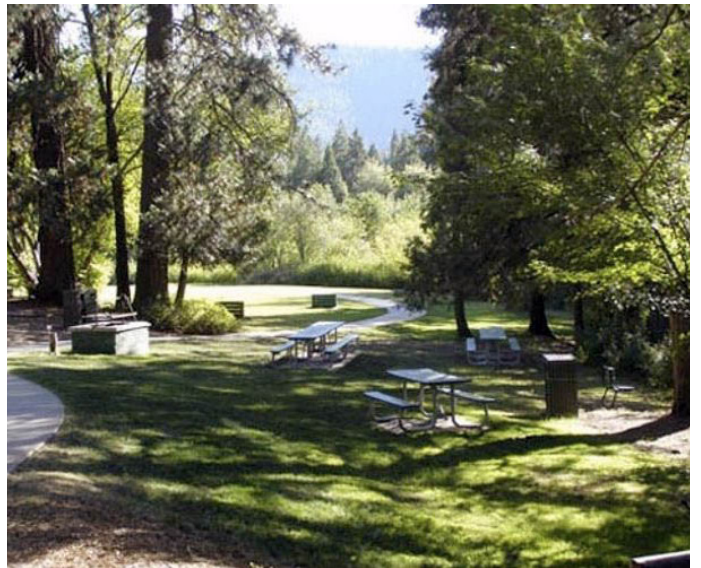
- Converting the former paved road past the Headwaters to an ADA-compliant paved trail.
- Extending that trail southward to Kingston Road and beyond (see Greenway section below).
- Extending that trail eastward to Spring Hill and beyond (see Greenway section below).
- Widening and paving selected trails along the west side of the creek for ADA compliance.
- Replacing the interim boardwalk over the creek near the freeway with an ADA compliant bridge.
- Replacing 3 existing boardwalks with ADA compliant bridges along the north side of the creek.
- Replacing 2 existing boardwalks along the north side of the creek with new boardwalks.
- Installing steppingstones at the Headwaters (as mentioned above).
- Replacing existing benches and adding new ones along trails.
- Installing trail signs.
- Installing trailhead kiosks with maps and QR

codes.

- Installing interpretive panels and plant identification markers.
- Installing bicycle racks.
- Installing pathway lighting between the Lower and Upper Lodge.
- Using consistent design standards.

Proposed Actions: Refine a plan for trail system upgrades, prepare a cost estimate, find funding, and implement upgrades.





Ecological Management



The springs in the City Park are located at the base of previous earthwork associated with railroad construction over a hundred years ago. Railroad ties and pieces of steel rail were found in Big Springs when the Headwaters area was restored about 15 years ago. Some of the other springs feeding into Spring Creek show evidence of the possibility of railroad tie and rail materials being present. Big Springs was also dammed to direct water into the diversion structure and pipe that convey a small portion of the flow to the Kingston Ditch. That dam is constructed of loose boulders, and it has deteriorated to some extent over the years. Also, Park users tend to trample riparian vegetation where trails don't exist, but the existing narrow streamside trails and boardwalks have been largely successful in minimizing trampling. Overall, the springs, creek, and surrounding riparian vegetation appear to be very healthy, including all of the natural woody debris that falls into the creek over time.

Big Springs Meadow between the creek and freeway is full of non-native teasel, and there are patches of non-native Himalayan blackberry. Manual teasel pulling is labor-intensive but very effective. Flail mowing is easier and faster, and can help control it, but mowing won't eliminate teasel. Flail mowing could help reduce wildfire danger, however, and would also benefit disc golfers.

Regarding fuels management, a major effort to thin and limb conifers and woody riparian vegetation was successfully undertaken several years ago, using Deadwood Conservation Camp personnel funded by the Mount Shasta Rotary Club and Mount Shasta Trail Association. It not only reduced encroaching conifers in riparian areas and reduced fire danger, it also reduced privacy for illegal campers that had become a problem in recent years.

Proposed Actions, contingent upon finding funding:

1. *Undertake a teasel removal program, and seasonally use flail mowing in the interim.*
2. *Remove Himalayan blackberry vines.*
3. *Continue periodic fuels reduction.*

Potential Additional Facilities

In addition to repair, upgrade, and expansion of existing facilities at the City Park, there are some additional facilities that are worthy of further consideration (see Figure 5).

Park Security



Park host in Bandon City Park, Oregon.

Because of the draw of the Headwaters, the lack of gates to close the Park at night, and the vagabond lifestyle of many of the visitors to the Park, a significant amount of unauthorized overnight parking and camping occurs at the Park. This use could be curtailed by increased patrolling coupled with closing gates at specified times (allowing for authorized evening uses of Park buildings), or it could be accommodated by installing overnight parking and camping areas for this use. These areas could be located away from buildings, day use areas, and sensitive wetland and riparian areas, and users could be charged a modest fee for overnight stays.

Park security could also be improved by implementing a park host program. Park and campground host programs have been hugely successful around the country. These programs consist of mostly retirees traveling in RVs who volunteer to stay at a particular location for a month or more at a time to provide an onsite presence and help with operations and light maintenance in exchange for a free place to stay in a beautiful setting. They do not do enforcement, but rather call for help if enforcement is needed. Duties

could include opening and closing Park gates. Multiple hosts are often present at one time to provide each other company and assistance. It is proposed that 2-3 RV spaces be provided at the City Park and Shastice Park, with full hookups and picnic tables, so that such a program can be started here.

Other ways to increase security have also been considered, including:

- Installing security cameras around buildings, in parking areas, and at the Headwaters.
- Installing an entrance kiosk with an autopay system (District residents get free annual passes).

Proposed Actions:

1. *Find funding for installing security cameras, and install them.*
2. *Further research installing park host hookups and initiating a park host program.*
3. *Further research installing an entrance kiosk and charging non-residents for entry.*
4. *Further research adding overnight RV parking and tent camping areas to the park.*

New Park Entrance and Secondary Access



The existing Park access utilizes an at-grade railroad crossing, which can be dangerous. At-grade crossings also require train engineers to use the horn as they approach the crossing. The Park also does not currently have a secondary access that could be relied upon if a stopped or derailed train blocks the at-grade crossings at both ends of Nixon Road. The grades are such that it would be feasible to have a new park entrance that would start on the east side of Mount Shasta Boulevard and circle underneath new bridges for Mount Shasta Boulevard and the railroad tracks. This would not only improve safety and eliminate the loud horn-blowing, it would also physically tie the Park to Spring Hill via a trail and road. Also, the existing at-grade crossing at the south end of Nixon Road would serve as a secondary access for the Park.

A grant was applied for to acquire the affected private property about 15 years ago from a willing seller, but the grant was not approved. The current landowner has stated that he will support the idea. Figure 5 shows the new entrance road routing and remaining private land that could be used for future development. This could tie-in to potential District acquisition of Spring Hill itself, as discussed below.

Another component of improved safety and reduced noise would be to eliminate the second at-grade crossing at the south end of Nixon Road next to the bulk fuels plant and propane facility. It would be replaced by an emergency road connecting through the propane facility and property owned by Dignity Health to tie-in at the end of Kingston Road. This route would also benefit residents on Kingston Road by giving them an emergency evacuation route, and would benefit Dignity Health by making their property developable. Dignity Health would also benefit from this road, in concert with the new road passing under Mount Shasta Boulevard and the tracks, by providing a route for ambulances coming from the east side of town getting past a stalled or derailed train that could block all at-grade crossings in town. If such a multiple crossing blockage were to happen, ambulances would currently need to go to either Abrams Lake or Highway 89 to get around the train.

Proposed Actions: Continue to work with affected landowners, including residents and businesses, to pursue improved Park primary and secondary access. If adequately supported, prepare plans, find funding, and implement in phases.

Park Expansion



View from Siskiyou Land Trust's Kingston Meadow parcel.

The 13-acre parcel immediately south of the Park is protected by an openspace easement, and trails across that property are allowed under a permanent trail easement. The openspace easement was conveyed to California Trout as part of a legal settlement associated with townhouse development on Kingston Road, at a time when CalTrout was working with the State on upgrading the Mount Shasta Hatchery which is fed by Spring Creek. More recently, Dannon acquired the property to obtain a water right to the Kingston Ditch. The property was eventually acquired by Crystal Geyser, which donated a trail easement across the property to the Siskiyou Land Trust. The Land Trust also acquired the 5.5-acre parcel between the 13-acre parcel and the end of Kingston Road, with funding from the Mount Shasta Trail Association and the Mount Shasta Rotary Club. Crystal Geyser recently sold all of its Mount Shasta properties to a group called One Shasta, LLC. Since the 13-acre property has no



Spring Hill Trail.

development potential, it is hoped that the District can eventually acquire it and add it to the Park, along with the Land Trust property.

Crystal Geyser also conveyed a trail easement to the Land Trust for the trails on Spring Hill. Spring Hill is mostly too steep for development, unlike surrounding lands formerly owned by Crystal Geyser that have tremendous development potential. Spring Hill would pair very well with the existing City Park at its base from which Big Spring emerges, and the public trails on Spring Hill are very popular. For these reasons, it is hoped that the District can eventually acquire this property and add it to the Park.

Proposed Actions: Initiate negotiations with One Shasta, LLC, to acquire its 13-acre and Spring Hill properties for the purpose of adding them to the City Park. If successful, determine the costs, find funding, and implement the acquisitions.

Proposed Additional Programs and Activities

In addition to the large number and diversity of existing programs and activities at the City Park, the following potential additional programs and activities have been proposed that would be consistent with the natural area theme of the Park:

- A return of arts and crafts, most notably nature-based (adult, youth, and mixed).
- Interpretive and other educational programs.
- Citizen Science projects (water quality monitoring, plants, wildlife).

- Involvement with the Mount Shasta Museum in the annual Science Festival.
- A localized version of TED Talks.
- Expanded volunteer program (maintenance, educational/interpretive, security).

Proposed Action: Add new programs and activities as interest and funding allow.

Unauthorized and Illegal Activities



The biggest challenge facing the City Park is with unauthorized and illegal activities associated with transients drawn to the City Park because of the Headwaters and the natural setting. These activities are driving away other park users, most notably families with small children. Unauthorized and illegal activities include:

- Overnight camping and parking
- Campfires
- Littering
- Using the forest as a bathroom (and lack of personal hygiene)
- Drug use

- Dogs off-leash and in Headwaters (and dogs are often unfriendly)
- People bathing in Headwaters
- Smoking and sage burning
- Selling crafts

Proposed Actions:

- *Vigorously enforce laws and regulations to curtail unauthorized and illegal activities.*
- *Install gates and lock them at night.*
- *Consider implementing a daily parking fee.*

**Table 1. Proposed City Park Improvements and Additions by Priority
(contingent upon funding, availability of which could affect priorities)
(priorities to be revisited periodically)**

FACILITY	PROPOSED ACTIONS
VERY HIGH PRIORITY:	
Upper Lodge	Repair/upgrade existing building
Sewage System	Replace leach field with connection to City Sewer
Headwaters Area	Implement ADA access trail/parking, fencing, stepping stones, etc.
Security Cameras	Install around buildings, in parking areas, and at Headwaters area
Unauthorized/Illegal Activities	Resolve these issues
HIGH PRIORITY:	
Current Restrooms Building	Upgrade/expand existing building
New Maintenance Shop/Barn	Install new maintenance shop/barn by new RV/bus parking
Other Utilities	Improve water supply and Internet access; underground power, etc.
Existing Roads, Parking, Drainage	Improve and expand existing Park roads, parking, and drainage
New Park Access	Pursue entrance under MS Blvd/tracks and secondary access to Kingston Road
Playground	Move near parking and away from Headwaters; replace play structures
Trail System	Upgrade and expand trail system
Park Hosts	Install several Park Host RV pads/hookups and recruit seasonal park hosts
Fuels Build-up and Tree Maintenance	Continue periodic fuels reduction and tree maintenance
MEDIUM PRIORITY:	
Dance Hall	Finish remodeling, including ADA compliance
Lower Lodge	Determine course of action then pursue it
Park Expansion	Initiate negotiations to acquire 13-acre parcel and Spring Hill
Entrance Kiosk and Autopay	Research having entrance kiosk and charging non-residents to park
LOW PRIORITY:	
Rod & Gun Club	Determine course of action then pursue it
Arts and Crafts	Leave as is for storage unless funding can be found to repair/upgrade
Former Restrooms Building	Remove when roads/parking are improved and expanded
New Restrooms	Install 1 or 2 new restrooms as expanded site plan evolves
Existing Maintenance Shed	Repair/improve existing building and clean up premises
Pumphouse Behind Dance Hall	Replace it with in-ground vault if in the way; otherwise leave it
Gazebo/Stage	Repair and repaint
Disc Golf Course	Add picnic tables
Picnic Areas	Upgrade existing picnic areas and add new picnic facilities
Overnight RV Parking & Camping	Further research installing these facilities
Teasel and Himalayan Blackberry	Eradicate in Big Springs Meadow; seasonally mow in interim
New Programs and Activities	Implement new programs and activities as interest and funding allow

SHASTICE PARK

The proposed overall theme for Shastice Park is to be an outdoor sports and large events venue.

Potential improvements and additions to Shastice Park facilities are shown in Figure 6 below and summarized in Table 2 at the end of this section.

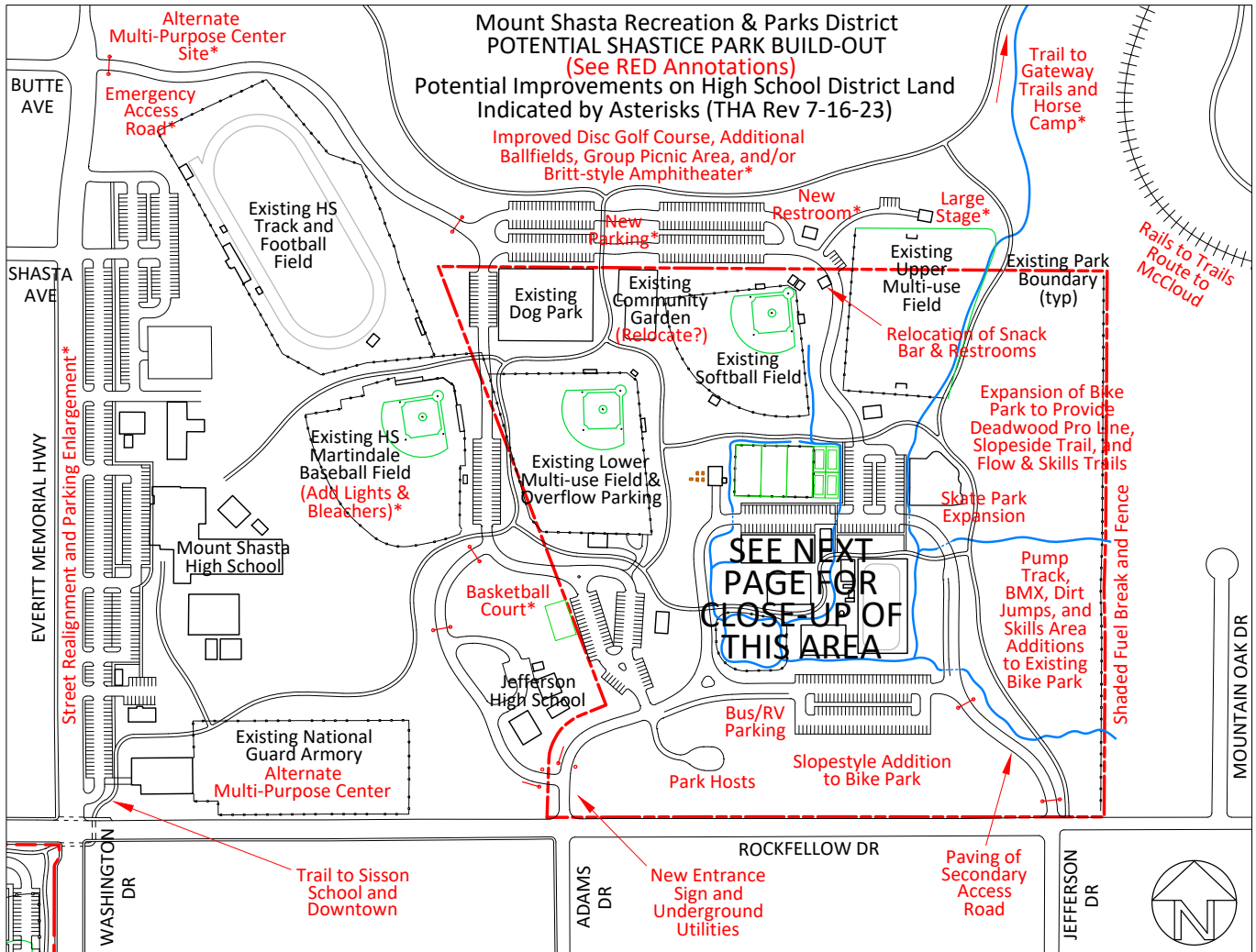
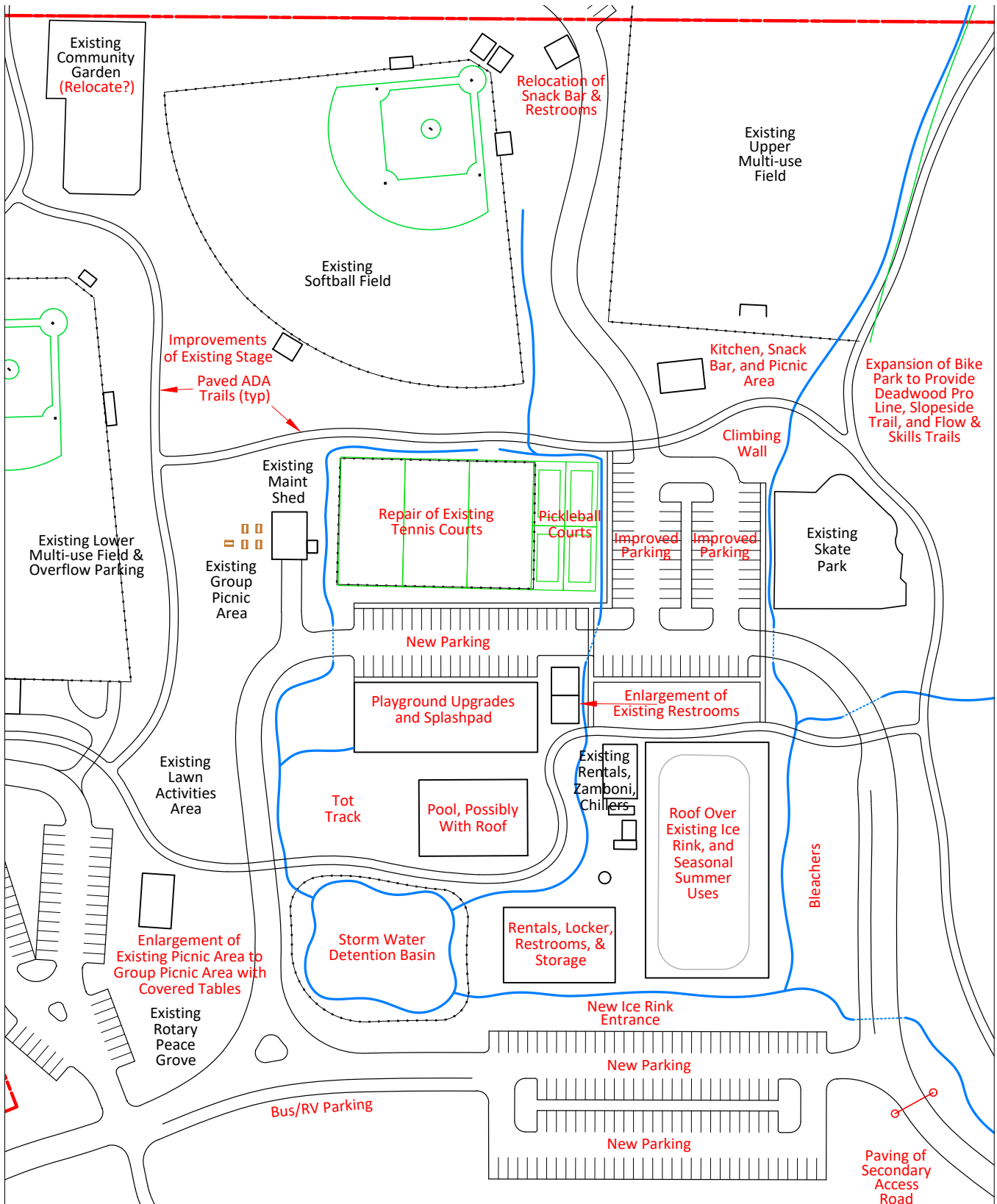


Figure 6 Shastice Park potential improvements.



**Mount Shasta Recreation & Parks District
 POTENTIAL SHASTICE PARK BUILD-OUT CORE AREA
 (See RED Annotations) (THA Rev 7-16-23)**

Proposed Improvements to Existing Facilities

Ice Rink



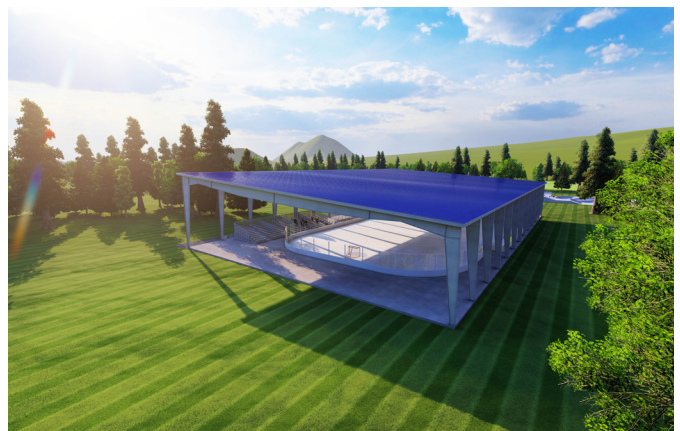
The Siskiyou Ice Rink is currently the largest non-tax income generator for the District, but also the most expensive to operate. The primary improvement needed is a roof to prevent snow build-up on the ice and rain and sun damage to the ice. A roof would significantly extend the season, thereby increasing user enjoyment and revenue, and substantially reduce operations costs (ice grooming and power consumption by the chiller). Various options have been considered for a roof, including:

- Solid roof and walls (fully enclosed, like in Redding and Medford; required for year-round use).
- Solid roof only, with open sides.
- Tarp roof and walls (like seasonal rink at Lithia Park in Ashland).
- Tarp roof only, with open sides (like Bill Collier Ice Arena in Klamath Falls).

Given the high amount of snowfall in Mount Shasta, the tarped roof approach is not feasible. A year-round facility with a solid roof and walls in a small town like Mount Shasta would not generate enough income to cover ongoing expenses. Since the Ice

Rink is only operated in the winter, and air temperatures at that time are fairly cold, enclosed walls are not needed. In addition, having open walls would preserve some of the ambiance and views (including of the Mountain) associated with skating in an outdoor setting. The roof could be kept high enough to maintain views, and could be designed in a manner to reflect the rustic mountain setting of the rink and town.

Other benefits of a solid roof are that photo-voltaic panels could be installed to help offset the costs of operating the chiller and a solid roof would provide shade and rain protection for various summer uses such as roller skating, BMX bicycle lessons for kids, basketball, and pickleball. Several designs for an Ice Rink roof are currently under consideration, an example shown in the accompanying illustration.



Ice Rink Shed Roof Design favored by respondents in 2022 survey by Friends of the Rink.



Snow removal on the Siskiyou Ice Rink in Mount Shasta.



Ashland Rotary Ice Rink in Ashland, Oregon

Another needed improvement at the Ice Rink is a new building that would house lockers, bathrooms, and storage, the latter of which could include not only skates and hockey equipment but also bicycles for the nearby Bike Park. The existing skate rental operation could also be housed in the new building, and food service facilities to provide hot drinks and snacks could be included.

The concrete slab of the Ice Rink also needs to be re-done due to spalling and cracks. Improved and expanded ADA-compliant bleachers, an improved fire pit with nearby firewood storage, and a freeze-proof drinking fountain would also be desirable. Improved and expanded nearby parking is also needed, including for buses and RVs, and is addressed in more detail in the Roads and Parking section below.

Proposed Actions: Coordinate with Friends of the Rink and other local organizations to pin down final designs for a roof, locker building, needed slab repairs, and improved/expanded outdoor facilities, obtain funding, and implement these projects, possibly in phases.

Bike Park



The existing Bike Park is very popular, but its users want more diversity, more challenges for expert riders, and more opportunities for young kids and beginners. Potential additions include:

- Deadwood Pro Line: Experts-only Whistler-level riding consisting of big gaps, drops, and riding features.
- Dirt Jumps: BMX and hard-tail focused, consisting of a series of tabletop and gap jumps which progressively increase in size, with separate lines (routes) for beginner, intermediate, and advanced.
- Skills Area: Learning zone with ladder bridges, rock features, and technical riding features, progression-oriented in safe organized space.
- Pump Track: Paved interconnected loops of rollers and berms where riders build and sustain momentum by pumping bikes.
- Tot Track: A much more gentle version of a pump track where very young riders can experience small rollers and berms in a safe manner, near the Playground (see below) and away from the more challenging cycling facilities.

- Slopestyle Trail: Big mountain riding along an intermediate-advanced line (route), packed with riding features such as jumps, wall rides, drops, and elevated ladder bridge.
- Staging Area: Work bench, tools, air for tires, picnic table, bike racks, and either bike storage in a container in the staging area or separately in the new Ice Rink locker building.

Proposed Actions: Coordinate with Bike Shasta and other local organizations to design and diversify the Bike Park, obtain funding, and implement the improvements.



Skate Park



The Skate Park is also very popular, and appears to mostly satisfy demand, although some “regular-foot” skaters (left foot forward) have observed that the existing Skate Park favors “goofy-foot” skaters (right foot forward). For this reason, they have suggested expanding the Skate Park to better serve both types of skaters. Other recommended improvements include:

- Addition of stairs as a technical feature for skateboards.
- Nearby covered picnic area with a freeze-proof drinking fountain.
- Prevention of night use to curtail partying.

Proposed Actions: Coordinate with local organizations to design Skate Park improvements, find funding, and implement improvements.

Tennis, Pickleball, and Basketball Courts



The existing Tennis Courts were originally installed for the High School tennis team as well as for the general public. Over the years the courts have fallen into disrepair, apparently due to a combination of a poorly-constructed subgrade and a high water table resulting in part from adjacent upslope lawn irrigation. High School and public tennis players must now travel to use the courts by Lake Siskiyou.

Interest in tennis has also waned to some extent, but there is still enough interest at the High School and in the general public to repair the existing courts but not expand. Due to a rapidly increasing interest in pickleball, it would be warranted to add some courts at Shastice Park. Four such courts would fit on the east side of the existing Tennis Courts. There is also an interest by pickleball players to have seasonal courts on the Ice Rink concrete once a roof is installed, as a place to play in the shade on hot summer days. The Ice Rink could also accommodate 4 pickleball courts.

Repair or replacement of the existing Tennis Courts needs to include excavation of a drainage swale around the uphill side of the courts to intercept surface runoff, and a curtain drain below the ground surface on the same side to intercept groundwater. It may also be warranted to install a French drain network under the courts to further ensure that groundwater cannot compromise the court surfaces. The courts will also need resurfacing, and possible removal of the subgrade and installation of a more competent subgrade.

An alternative would be to build new Tennis Courts at the High School and use the existing Tennis Court site for other Park uses, such as the proposed pump track or swimming pool (see New Facilities below), but community and High School input indicates that there is more interest in restoring the existing courts at their current location.

There is also community interest in having a basketball court, which could potentially be located adjacent to Jefferson High School (pending High School District approval), and/or seasonally at the Ice Rink.

Proposed Actions:

1. *Coordinate with local organizations to finalize a plan, obtain funding, restore or replace the existing Tennis Courts, and install adjacent pickleball courts.*
2. *Determine a location, find funding, and install a basketball court (and/or use the Ice Rink).*



Playground



The existing Playground is small and antiquated.
Proposed improvements include:

- A more durable, safe, and inclusive ground cover.
- Inclusive playground equipment.
- Climbing boulder.
- Splash pad.
- Tot track (strider track) bike area for 2-5 year olds.
- A shade structure.
- More nearby picnic tables, including under the shade structure.
- Nearby parking for parents to keep an eye on kids (see Roads and Parking Section below).



Proposed Actions: Design playground improvements, find funding, and implement improvements.



Ballfields



Shastice Park currently has 3 ballfields: a softball field with an infield, dugouts, bleachers, lights, snack bar and restrooms; a multi-use field with bases, dugouts, and small beachers; and a multi-use field with no improvements other than movable soccer goals. Nearby, the High School has a baseball field (the Martindale Field) with an infield, dugouts, and lights, but no bleachers. The lawn area between the softball field and lower multi-use field is used as an outdoor concert venue, with a small stage located along the outfield fence of the softball field with a backdrop of an expansive view of the Mountain (see the Stage section below).

Proposed ballfield improvements include the following:

- Replacing the now defunct snack bar and restrooms at the Softball Field with a new snack bar and small kitchen near the Skate Park, and a new restroom between the Softball Field and new outdoor concert venue.

- At the Martindale Baseball Field, which is currently under lease from the High School District, installing bleachers, improving parking, and making the Field available to Little League, Minor League, and other teams in addition to continued High School use, contingent upon High School District approval.
- Exploring with the High School District the possibility of additional ballfields on the High School's undeveloped land to meet increasing demand.

Proposed Actions: Coordinate with local organizations and the High School District to finalize plans for various ballfield improvements, find funding, and implement improvements in phases.

Community Garden



The 0.3 acre Shastice Community Garden is operated and maintained through the Mount Shasta Bioregional Ecology Center. The Garden is currently limited by access and shade. Garden users pay a modest annual fee to the Ecology Center for a plot, with the funding being used to maintain the Garden. Proposed improvements include:

- Better access (see Roads and Parking section below).

- Removal of one of the oak trees to provide more sun.
- Adding fruit trees.
- Practicing permaculture.
- Potential relocation outside Park, and use of site for a picnic area, botanical garden, etc.

Proposed Actions: Coordinate with the Ecology Center to either improve the Community Garden at Shastice Park or move it to another location.

Dog Park



Proposed improvements to the 0.8 acre Dog Park include the following:

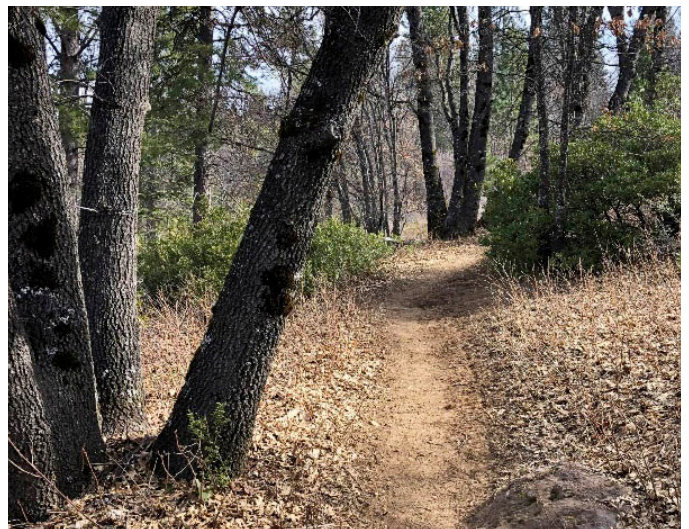
- Providing better access (see Roads and Parking section below).
- Replacing the 4 foot high chainlink fence with a 5 foot high fence.
- Having multiple fenced areas to separate different types of dogs.
- Installing dog play equipment such as platforms and logs.
- Having some sod (needs irrigation).
- Having some rounded river rock (good on paws; mud washes through).
- Including a large sandbox for digging.
- Avoiding wood chips (causes splinters).
- Providing picnic tables inside and outside.
- Considering lighting for night use (may not be a demand for this in Mount Shasta).
- Identify trails suitable for dog walking nearby.

Proposed Actions: Coordinate with Dog Park users to obtain funding and make improvements.

Disc Golf

Local disc golf enthusiasts had installed a user-maintained 18-basket course on the 46-acre undeveloped High School District property on the north side of Shastice Park, using baskets provided by one of the players and constructing tees and connecting paths. The basket owner recently moved and took 9 of the baskets with him, but they have since been replaced. The Rec District could take over and improve the disc golf course, subject to approval of the High School District. The associated narrow unpaved trail network is also used by hikers and the High School crosscountry team, thereby providing additional recreational benefits.

Proposed Actions: Coordinate with disc golf users and the High School to obtain funding and improve and maintain the 18-basket disc golf course and associated trails.



Stage

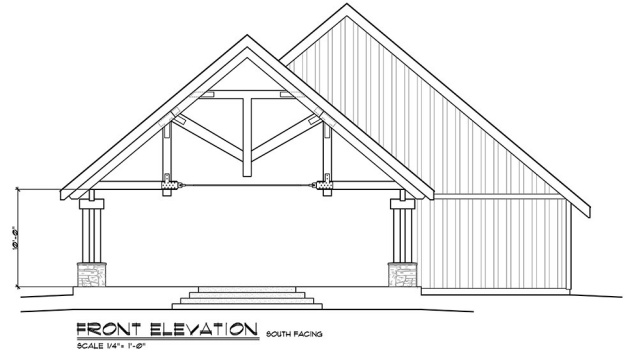
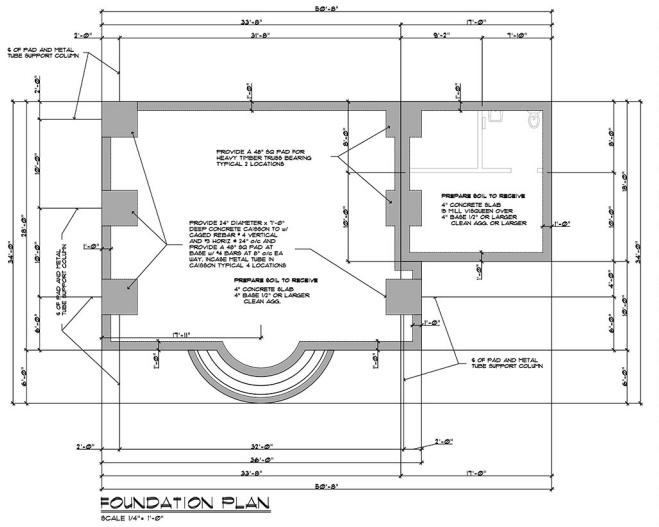


The existing stage is very small and consists of only a concrete deck and metal frame for a removable awning. Based on a proposed theme for Shastice Park that would include large outdoor events such as a continuation of the Summer Concerts in the Park series, the recently relocated Blackberry Music Festival from the City Park to Shastice Park, the hosting of cycling events like Grinduro and the Castle Crags Century, and the likelihood of even larger outdoor concert events, the following options are being considered:

- Improving the existing stage in its current or nearby location in the near future, providing ADA compliance, and planting some additional shade trees that don't block views.
- Eventually constructing a larger second stage on High School District land at the back of the Upper Soccer Field (subject to their approval), where there is more room and is more to the side of other Park activities. A larger stage could include a sound system, performers' restroom and backstage area, and vehicular access to the

stage. Seating would be on the lawn, and the ballfields could continue to be used when concerts weren't being held. The larger stage could provide a venue for various types of performing arts, and would be available for High School use.

- Constructing an entire amphitheater similar to Britt in the middle of the High School land, subject to High School District approval and consent from neighbors, as well as an economic analysis to determine if it would be sustainable.
- Providing nearby parking, including ADA compliance (see Roads and Parking Section below).
- Providing nearby food service (see Food Service section below).



Foundation plan and elevation for replacement stage at Shastice Park, as proposed by Mt. Shasta Community Concerts LLC.

Proposed Actions:

- 1. Coordinate with Mount Shasta Community Concerts on interim improvements to the existing stage.*
- 2. Coordinate with local organizations, performers, teachers, advocates of a local performing arts center, and the High School District to explore the best route forward to create a larger outdoor performance venue, and pursue funding and implementation of the option selected.*

Rotary Peace Grove



The Mount Shasta Rotary Club recently planted 14 deciduous ornamental trees in a lawn area near the Park entrance to become a shaded Peace Grove as the trees grow. Some of the tree species are flowering and most will turn brilliant fall colors. The next step is for Rotary to install benches and a plaque dedicating the grove to world peace.

Proposed Action: Coordinate with the Rotary Club for continued development and maintenance of the Peace Grove, to be funded by the Rotary Club.

Picnic Areas



Picnic areas are currently limited to a couple individual tables, small barbecues, and drinking fountains near Jefferson High School, a few individual tables by the Playground and Tennis Courts, and a small Group Picnic Area next to the Maintenance Shed. The following improvements are proposed:

- Expand the picnic area by Jefferson High School into a large group picnic area, based on the large size of the area, ample parking, existing shade trees, and great views of the Mountain. Add one or more large barbecue pits and repair or replace existing drinking fountains, and include a large covered pavilion with long tables and power receptacles.
- Consider another group picnic area with open air tables and either a large pavilion or several smaller shelters, barbecue pits, water, and power receptacles in the oak woodland next to the proposed parking area by the Community Garden (subject to High School District approval). This picnic area would have shade from trees and structures, and views of the Mountain, and would serve users of all of the existing and proposed facilities in that portion of the Park, most notably the proposed use of the area for large concerts. As such, this picnic area could be included as part of the eventual larger stage discussed above.
- Add a small picnic area by the existing Skate Park for skaters, cyclists, and tennis and pick-

leball players. Include several open-air tables, a shelter with a power receptacle, and drinking fountain. Also include an air pump and cabled or chained repair tools. Shade trees are present in that area.

- Re-organize existing open-air picnic tables and provide one or more shelters or other form of shade structures next to the Playground as part of Playground improvements (see above). Include a drinking fountain and power receptacle.
- Consider dismantling the existing small group picnic area installed by the Rotary Club next to the Maintenance Shed and using the tables elsewhere. This site is not large enough, and is not as aesthetically pleasing or as close to other recreational facilities as the other existing and proposed picnic areas. This location could also be used for ADA parking and viewing associated with the improved stage.

Proposed Actions:

1. *Coordinate with the Rotary Club and other local organizations to design, fund, and install a large group picnic area, including a covered pavilion, in the large lawn area near Jefferson High School.*
2. *Coordinate with Skate Park, Bike Park, and Pickleball users to obtain funding and install a picnic area next to the Skate Park.*
3. *Include picnic area facilities, as described above, in plans for Stage and Playground improvements.*

Food Service and Restrooms

The existing snack bar and restrooms building behind the Softball Field is in poor condition. A new restroom is proposed nearby, and a new more central food service facility might make sense between the Upper Multi-use Field and the Skate Park. The new food service facility would require power, water, and sewer hookups, and could serve all of the ongoing sports activities in that area, but would not be intended to serve large events. Those events are now mostly relying on vendors for food service, in part due to increasing State and County regulations on food service outlets.

The existing restrooms next to the Playground and Ice Rink are in need of upgrading, and as mentioned above, the existing restrooms at the Softball Field are in need of replacement. Given the proposed substantial sports and event facilities expansion at Shastice Park, providing adequate restroom facilities will be essential. The following improvements are proposed:

- Improved and expanded restrooms by the Playground, serving all Park visitors in that portion of the Park.
- New restrooms in the proposed locker building at the Ice Rink, serving those who are using the locker building.
- A performers' restroom as part of the future large stage facility.
- A new public restroom between the Upper Multi-use Field and existing Softball Field, as mentioned above, replacing the existing restrooms at the Softball Field and serving all visitors in that portion of the Park.

Proposed Actions: Coordinate with local organizations to finalize plans for a small replacement food service facility and improved and additional restrooms, find funding, and implement improvements in phases coordinated with other projects.

Utilities

Proposed utilities improvements include the following:

- Fire hydrant installation (one already exists by the maintenance building).
- Undergrounding and extension of power, phone, and cable.
- Improved/expanded lighting.
- Improved Internet service.
- Revamped/expanded irrigation system (there is an existing well by the maintenance building).
- Expanded water and sewer as needed for additional facilities.

Proposed Actions: Prepare a plan for utilities improvements and expansion, prepare a cost estimate, find funding, and implement the plan in concert with other facilities improvements.



Roads and Parking



The existing access road at Shastice Park is narrow, has sharp turns, is lined with unsightly railroad tie post barriers, and does not access key facilities such as the Community Garden, Dog Park, Disc Golf Course, and the backsides of ballfields in that vicinity. It also lacked a secondary outlet until last spring when an unpaved road was constructed from the parking area at the end of the access road to Rockfellow Drive at the Jefferson Drive intersection. Also, parking areas are very limited in size, number, and proximity to recreational facilities. The following road and parking improvements are proposed:

- Widening of the main access road, softening of turns, and replacement of existing railroad tie barriers with boulder barriers.
- Extension of the main access road past the Ice Rink and Skate Park, between the Upper Multi-use Field and Softball Field to the undeveloped High School property beyond those fields (subject to High School District approval), looping around behind the Community Garden and Dog Park, and back between the Lower Multi-use Field and Martindale Baseball Field to reconnect with the main road.
- Installation of culverts and paving of the recently-constructed secondary access road connecting between the Ice Rink Parking and Rockfellow Drive.
- Construction of a connector road between the main access road and secondary access road on the south side of the Ice Rink.
- Construction of an emergency access road extending from the vicinity of the Dog Park to Everitt Memorial Highway around the north side of the High School Football Field (subject to High School District approval).
- Installation of gates on secondary and emergency roads to prevent vehicular use except during special events and emergencies, and installation of entrance gates to provide the option of closing the park at night after sanctioned nighttime uses (such as the Ice Rink and concerts) are over.
- Improvement of existing parking areas by the Ice Rink, at the Martindale Baseball Field, and at the picnic area near Jefferson High School
- Construction of additional parking areas on the south side of the Ice Rink (as a new entrance to the Ice Rink and including parking for school buses and RVs), between the Tennis Courts and Playground, and behind the Community Garden and Dog Park (to provide parking for those facilities, adjacent ballfields, and outdoor concerts and large events, subject to High School District approval).

As a separate project that could be taken on by the City and the High School District, the existing wide paved area in front of the High School including Everitt Memorial Highway could be re-designed to provide more parking for High School students and events as well as for large concerts and events at Shastice Park. This entire area is paved, with the roadway routed down the center. The current design is very inefficient. By moving the roadway to the western portion (City-owned) and adding more parking on the rest of the paved area (High School District owned), a substantial increase in overall parking could be created without any significant additional paving. There would still be parallel parking along the western side of the realigned roadway, thereby preserving curbside parking for adjacent private residences.

Proposed Actions: Refine a roads and parking plan in conjunction with the High School District, prepare a cost estimate, find funding, and implement the plan in phases in concert with build-out of other facilities.

Drainage

There are existing drainage issues along the east side of the Upper Multi-use Field and uphill side of the Tennis Courts. A small detention basin was installed at the southwest corner of the Ice Rink when it was built, but that basin is in the way of expanding Ice Rink facilities. In order to better mitigate existing runoff as well as mitigate increased runoff from expanded roads, parking, and facilities, it is proposed that a network of bioswales be installed that lead to a large central detention basin at the downslope location west of the Ice Rink. The bioswales and basin will enable runoff to be filtered by vegetation and soak into the ground to replenish groundwater onsite, rather than running offsite and contributing to downstream flooding and contamination of Cold Creek and Lake Siskiyou.

Proposed Action: Install drainage features in phases in concert with build-out of roads, parking, and other facilities.

Ecological Management

A small population of non-native hound's tongue (an invasive plant species) has become established in the area between the front parking area and lower multi-use field. This plant has Velcro-like burrs that stick to clothing and animal fur and can be easily spread to other areas. Scotch broom is also present along the edge of the Park fronting on Rockfellow Drive. It would be very desirable to eradicate both of these species on Park property soon by manual pulling, which works quite well.

Concerns for fire safety along the southern and eastern Park boundaries have led to fuels reduction in recent years, and more is proposed. Private residential lots along Mountain Oak Drive back up to the eastern boundary, and landowners would like a fence to better delineate the property line, identify the limit of fuels reduction activities, and reduce trespassing. A fire-resistant low-maintenance wildlife-friendly fence is proposed, consisting of metal T-stakes spaced every 10 feet along the property line and No Trespassing signs placed on every fifth post (50-foot spacing).

Signs

Replacement and augmentation of existing signage will be needed throughout the Park, including:

- New entrance sign
- New road and parking signs
- New trail signs
- New signs for specific facilities
- New rules and warning signs

Proposed Actions: Prepare a sign schedule and standards, and include signage improvements in the design, funding, and implementation of other projects in the Park, including roads and trails.



Ground squirrels have proliferated in the Park, and their burrows damage lawn areas and create safety hazards.

Proposed Actions:

1. Eradicate small hound's tongue population.
2. Eradicate Scotch broom.
3. Continue/expand periodic fuels reduction along the Park's eastern and southern fringes.
4. Install T-stake posts and signs to mark eastern property line.
5. Continue controlling ground squirrel populations and filling burrows.

Potential Additional Facilities

In addition to repair, upgrade, and expansion of existing facilities at Shastice Park, there are a number of additional facilities that are either proposed or worthy of further consideration (see Figure 6 above and Table 2 at end of section).

Pool

The Rec District managed an outdoor community pool on High School property for many years, but the plumbing corroded to the point where it became too costly to heat the pool so it was filled-in. More recently, local swimming pool advocates worked with USA Swimming to prepare an Enterprise Plan for an indoor aquatic center. There is strong community and school support for a new pool, and a tentative location has been identified at Shastice Park next to the current Playground site. Having a pool would yield a variety of opportunities, including children's water play, swim lessons, lifeguard training (Red Cross), lap swimming for exercise, and school competitive water sports such as racing, diving, and water polo.

Design considerations for a new pool include:

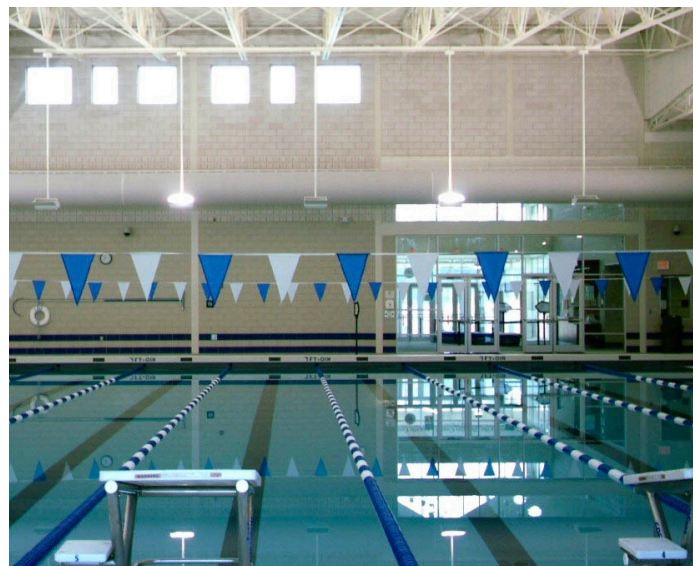
- **Outdoor vs Indoor:** An outdoor pool would yield benefits such as sun, views, and a sense of freedom of being outdoors, but in Mount

Shasta the season would be somewhat short (6-7 months). An indoor pool would yield benefits year-round. A compromise would be a retractable roof, such as at Juniper Center in Bend, Oregon.

- **Size and Shape:** To accommodate lap swimmers and races, there should be around 8 lanes at 25 meters in length. A deep area would be needed for diving, and a shallow area could be provided for children. A water slide could also be provided. If a retractable roof is included, it might limit the size and shape of the pool.
- **Paired with Ice Rink for Energy Savings:** The Ice Rink chiller produces heat as a by-product. Some facilities, such as Edora Park Ice and Pool (EPIC) in Fort Collins, Colorado, have paired its ice rinks (2) with a large indoor pool under the same roof in order to use this heat to warm the pool.



Outdoor pool in Ashland, Oregon.



West Mesa Aquatic Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico.



Juniper Swim and Fitness Center, Bend, Oregon.



Juniper Swim and Fitness Center, Bend, Oregon.

Key considerations are cost of installation and cost of operations and maintenance. A group of residents in Yreka recently obtained a State Proposition 68 grant for \$8.5 million to build a new indoor pool on City-owned land. The City Council requested that staff take a close look at costs, and staff determined that pool installation could cost as much as \$28-33 million, and ongoing operations and maintenance costs could run between \$300,000 and \$500,000 annually. The Dunsmuir Pool (an outdoor pool) costs \$15,000 to \$20,000 annually, but it is only open 6-8 weeks during the summer, then drained for the rest of the year.

Alternative solutions have been raised, including bus-ing kids to either the Dunsmuir or Weed pools, and/or using Spini Cove at Lake Siskiyou.

Climbing Wall

Members of the community have asked for a climbing wall (in addition to a climbing boulder for children to be located in the Playground). The climbing wall could be located outdoors either behind the proposed pickleball courts or next to the proposed picnic area by the Skate Park. It could also be located indoors if an indoor pool is pursued.

The 1976 District Master Plan included the District’s use of Lake Siskiyou for swim programs. For small children, a proposed splash pad is included in the Playground discussion above.

Proposed Actions: Work with pool advocates and local organizations to conduct a feasibility study of various types of indoor and outdoor pools, include consideration of not only construction costs, but more importantly ongoing operation and maintenance costs, and compare operations and maintenance costs to projected ongoing annual income from the pool. If a financially viable solution can be found and sufficient community support exists, apply for construction funding and build the pool. Otherwise, explore other alternatives including using the Dunsmuir and/or Weed pools and/or using Lake Siskiyou.

Proposed Action: Coordinate with local rock climbing enthusiasts and outfitters (Fifth Season and Sportsman’s Den) to design, find funding, and build a climbing wall, potentially in combination with an indoor pool.

Trails



Sisson Overlook Trail behind City Library.



McCloud River Railroad tracks.

Wide paved ADA-compliant multi-use trails are proposed within Shastice Park, connecting between various Park facilities, and beyond the Park connecting to the High School, adjacent neighborhoods, Youth Sports Park, Sisson School, City Park, and elsewhere. These connecting trails beyond Shastice Park are part of the proposed Mount Shasta Greenway Network discussed below in a separate section.

At such time that the Great Shasta Rails to Trails Project is able to secure the portion of the former McCloud River Railroad Tracks between McCloud and Mount Shasta and convert it to a trail (with paving proposed), paved multi-use trail connections could also be made between Shastice Park and that trail.

Narrow unpaved trails are also proposed within the Disc Golf Course and extending beyond to connect to the Gateway Trail network and Sierra Club Hut via the historic Sisson-Southern Trail. The McConnell Foundation is currently working on acquisition of a key private parcel. Approvals would also need to be obtained from the High School District and McCloud River Railroad.

Additional needed trail-related facilities include:

- Trail benches
- Trail directional and warning signs
- Trailhead kiosks with maps and QR codes
- Interpretive panels and plant identification markers
- Bicycle racks
- Consistent design standards

Proposed Actions:

1. *Develop paved ADA-compliant multi-use trails and associated trail-related facilities within Shastice Park and connecting to the High School and Youth Sports Park.*
2. *Build an unpaved trail connecting the Park to the Gateway Trail Network, contingent upon landowner approvals.*

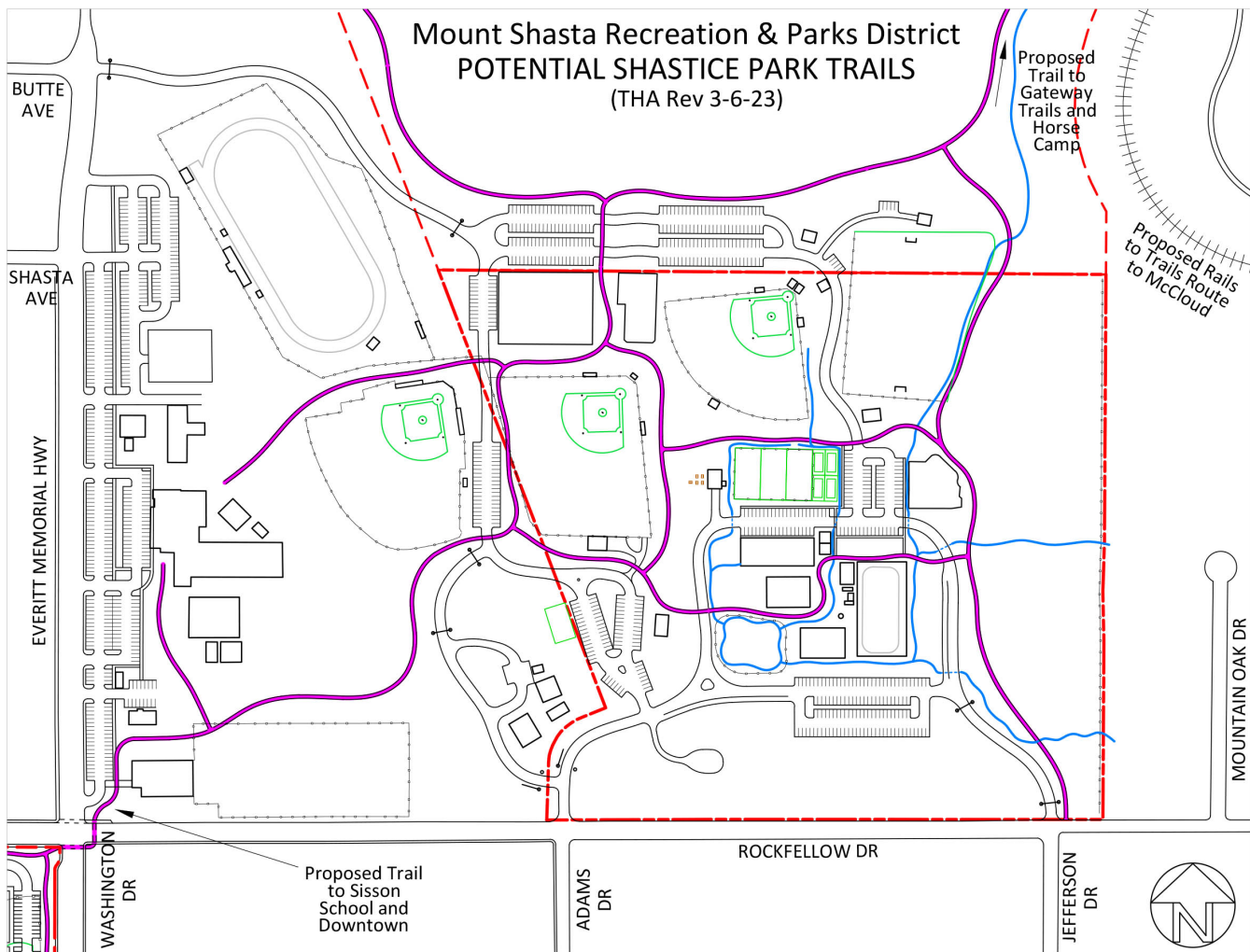


Figure 7 Potential paved trails (purple) within and adjacent to Shastice Park.

Park Security

One very effective method of providing park security would be through implementing a park host program. Park and campground host programs have been hugely successful around the country. These programs consist of mostly retirees traveling in RVs who volunteer to stay at a particular location for a month or more at a time to provide an onsite presence and help with operations and light maintenance in exchange for a free place to stay in a beautiful setting. Multiple hosts are often present at one time to provide each other company and assistance. It is proposed that 2-3 RV spaces be provided at Shastice Park and the City Park, with full hookups and picnic tables, so that such a park host program can be started at each park.

Other ways to increase security have also been considered, including:

- Installing security cameras around buildings, in parking areas, and at activity centers.
- Installing an entrance kiosk with an autopay system (District residents get free annual passes).

Proposed Actions:

1. *Install security cameras.*
2. *Install park host hookups and initiate a park host program.*
3. *Further research installing an autopay entrance kiosk and charging non-residents for entry.*

Proposed Additional Programs and Activities



Grinduro 2022.

In addition to the large number and diversity of existing programs and activities at Shastice Park, the following potential additional programs and activities have been proposed:

- Increased ballfield sports events
- All-star tournaments
- Large concerts (eg., Reggae); see Ashland permit system
- Silent DJ events
- Weddings (include installation of a wedding gazebo)
- Potential relocation of Farmers Market from Castle Street
- Expanded cycling events/activities (post-Grinduro mountain bike events, including cyclocross)
- Castle Crags Century (a new sponsor is needed)
- Recreational equipment for kids who can't afford it (bikes, skates, etc., via SORA and Mount Shasta Gravity).
- Recreational swimming, swim lessons, MSHS competitive swimming/water polo (if pool)
- Pickleball, restored recreational tennis and competitive tennis, basketball

- Rugby
- Disc golf on improved 18-hole course
- Interpretive and other educational programs
- Outdoor ping pong and chess (on weatherproof concrete tables)
- Hiking and cycling on connector trail to Gateway Trails and Sisson Southern Trail
- Volunteer Program (maintenance; educational/interpretive; security; including SORA)

Proposed Action: Add new programs and activities as interest, funding, and facilities allow.

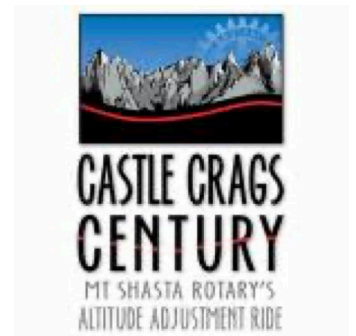


Table 2. Proposed Shastice Park Improvements and Additions by Priority (contingent upon funding, availability of which could affect priorities)	
FACILITY	PROPOSED ACTIONS
VERY HIGH PRIORITY:	
Ice Rink	Install roof and locker room; re-do slab, and improve outside facilities
HIGH PRIORITY:	
Bike Park	Add pro line, slopeside trails, flow & skill trails, pump track, & BMX track
Playground	Upgrade with inclusive structures, climbing boulder, splash pad, tot track
Restrooms	Upgrade and expand
Ballfields	Improve bleachers,
Existing Stage	Improve stage per Bike Shasta's plan; plant shade trees in periphery
Paved ADA Trails	Develop paved trails within park and to High School and Youth Sports Park
Electrical	Increase capacity; extend to lower park; underground distribution lines
Other Utilities	Implement improvements/extensions of other utilities
Roads and Parking	Upgrade roads/parking in phases with buildout of other facilities
Drainage	Install drainage in phases in concert with buildout of other facilities
Signs	Replace and augment signage throughout Park
Security Cameras	Install around buildings, in parking areas, and at Headwaters area
Park Hosts	Install several Park Host RV pads/hookups and recruit seasonal park hosts
Hound's Tongue	Eradicate small hound's tongue population near front parking area
Fuels Build-up	Continue/expand periodic fuels reduction in south and east areas
MEDIUM PRIORITY:	
Skate Park	Improve and Skate Park facilities
Pickleball Courts	Install 4 pickleball courts next to tennis courts
Tennis Courts	Restore/replace surfacing, resolve groundwater problem
Basketball Court	Install a basketball court next to Jefferson HS or use Ice Rink
Dog Park	Add play logs/boulders, smooth pebble and lawn areas, sandbox, lighting
New Large Stage	Install larger venue on high school property pending HS approval
Skate Park Picnic Area	Install a picnic area for use by the Skate Park, Bike Park, and Pickleball
Group Picnic Areas	Install large covered group picnic area by entrance parking
Unpaved Trail to Gateway Trail	Build a connecting trail to Gateway Trail, contingent on landowners
Entrance Kiosk and Autopay	Research having entrance kiosk and charging non-residents to park
Ground Squirrel Control	Continue controlling ground squirrel population and filling burrows
LOW PRIORITY:	
Pool	Resolve O&M costs and build pool or use Dunsmuir, Weed, or L. Siskiyou
Community Garden	Remove large oak for more sun or relocate garden in town
Disc Golf	Replace baskets; upgrade to official 18-hole course pending HS approval
Food Service	Demolish existing snack bar and install new one by Skate Park
Rotary Group Picnic Area	Relocate, expand, and include covered pavilion
Rotary Peace Grove	Add benches and a plaque on a boulder
Climbing Wall	Install a climbing wall
Eastern Property Line	Install T-stake posts and signs to mark eastern property line
New Programs & Activities	Add new programs and activities as interest, funding, and facilities allow

YOUTH SPORTS PARK

The proposed overall theme for the Youth Sports Park is currently what the name states: a sports park for youth. It also provides a venue for Sisson School outdoor activities and open space for nearby residential areas.

Proposed improvements and additions to Youth Sports Park facilities are shown in Figure 7 below and summarized in Table 3 at the end of this section.

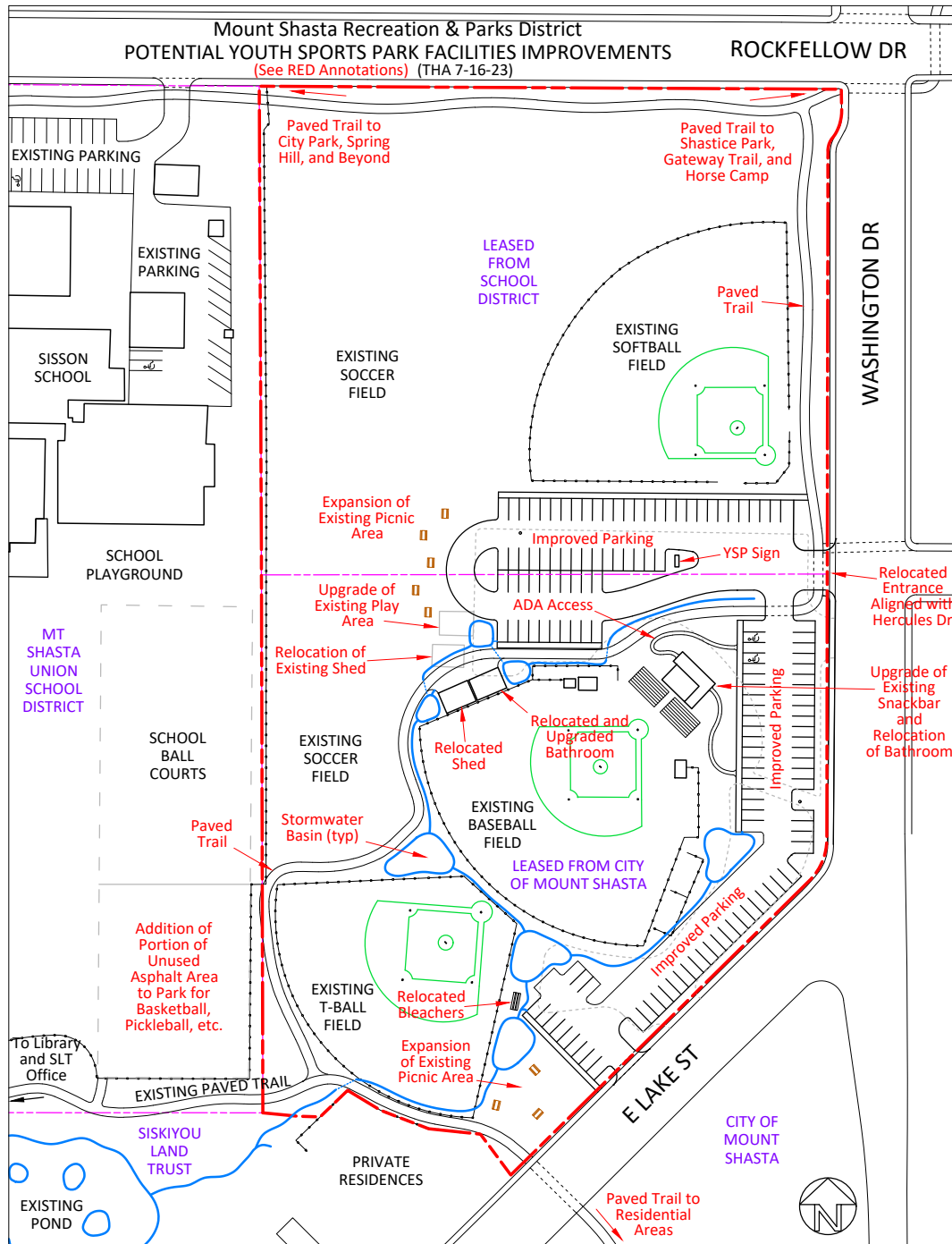


Figure 8 Youth Sports Park proposed improvements.

Potential Improvements to Existing Facilities

Buildings

The Snack Bar and Restroom Building needs upgrades, including ADA compliance for not only the building but also the location on top of a large mound constructed to support in-ground bleachers. Instead of upgrading both functions in one building, a new restroom building is proposed in the vicinity of the existing Maintenance Shed, the snack bar portion of the existing building is proposed for upgrade



and expansion, and ADA-compliant walkways are proposed for access to the remodeled snack bar. In order to best site the new restroom and improve the parking area (see below), it is also proposed that the Maintenance Shed be moved next to the new restroom, as shown in Figure 7. Since the property is leased from the City and Mount Shasta Union School District, the Rec District will need their approvals to make the proposed improvements.

Proposed Actions: Prepare final plans, obtain City and School District approvals, prepare cost estimate, and obtain funding to do the following:

1. Upgrade/expand existing snack bar, eliminate restroom, and install ADA-compliant access.
2. Install new/expanded ADA-compliant restrooms by the Maintenance Shed.
3. Move existing Maintenance Shed next to new restroom.

Outdoor Activity Areas

Play Area, Picnic Areas, and T-Ball Bleachers

The existing small Play Area next to the Maintenance Shed needs to be upgraded and expanded. The existing picnic areas by the Play Area and T-Ball Field could be enlarged by adding more tables. The existing metal bleachers at the T-Ball Field need to be moved in order to make room for the upgraded parking area (see below).

Proposed Actions: Prepare final plans, obtain City and School District approvals, prepare cost estimates, and obtain funding to improve/expand the picnic areas and Play Area and move the T-Ball bleachers.

Wide paved ADA-compliant multi-use trails with benches and signage are proposed within the Youth Sports Park to connect between various Park facilities, to the existing Sisson Overlook Trail, and along Rockfellow Drive. It is also proposed that a wide

Trails



ADA-compliant multi-use trail be constructed to the High School and beyond to Shastice Park. These connecting trails beyond the Youth Sports Park are part of the proposed Mount Shasta Greenway Network discussed below in a separate section.

Proposed Actions: Prepare final plans, obtain City and School District approvals, prepare cost estimates, and obtain funding to improve/expand the picnic areas and Play Area and move the T-Ball bleachers.

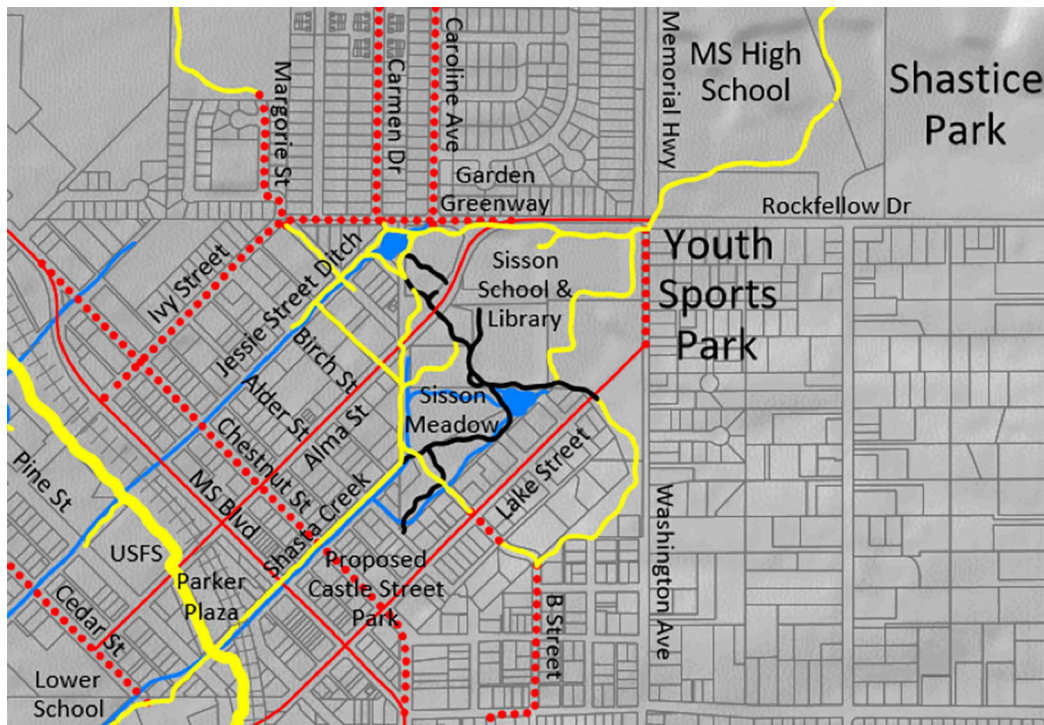


Figure 9 Existing trails and boardwalks (black), potential paved trails (yellow), existing bikeways (solid red), and potential bikeways (dotted red) within and adjacent to Youth Sports Park.

Parking and Drainage

Existing parking areas consist of gravel areas with no defined parking stalls, poorly defined points of ingress-egress, and no drainage features. These parking areas could be improved by:

- Paving and striping.
- Adding curbs and sidewalks.
- Improving lighting.
- Installing bioswales and detention basins.
- Realigning the main ingress-egress with Hercules Drive.
- Adding applicable signage.

Proposed Actions: Prepare final plans, obtain City and School District approvals, prepare cost estimate, find funding, and improve parking areas at Youth Sports Park.

Park Security

The existing Snack Bar and Restroom Building was recently vandalized. It would be important to have security cameras in place, with applicable signage, to discourage vandalism in the future.

Proposed Action: Install security cameras at buildings and in parking areas.



Potential Inclusion of Other Adjacent Properties

In the future, if the Siskiyou Land Trust were to conclude that it would like help with improvements and maintenance of Sisson Meadow, the Meadow could be added via lease to the Youth Sports Park. Improvements to Sisson Meadow could include deepening the pond, replacing the boardwalks with wider and more durable boardwalks with more gentle meanders, and completing an ADA-compliant boardwalk tie-in to Alder Street, all consistent with the original design for Sisson Meadow. The pond at Sisson Meadow could be used for Middle and High School outdoor educational activities and Citizen Science projects involving water quality and waterfowl.

The wetland portion of School District land adjacent to Sisson Meadow could also be included in the lease, subject to School District approval. A multi-

use trail is proposed through that land as part of the Mount Shasta Greenway Network. Also, a portion of existing multi-use trail next to the Library would need to be re-routed onto that land if the Library is expanded, and small detention basins could be installed on that land to mitigate runoff from adjacent buildings and parking areas.

If the Land Trust were to conclude in the future that it wanted help with improvements and maintenance of the Garden Greenway land surrounding its office, that land could also be added to the Park. It would include routes for some of the proposed multi-use trails, as described in the Mount Shasta Greenway Network section below, and could also be used for a bioswale and detention basin to mitigate runoff from the nearby residential area.



Figure 10 Land ownership within and adjacent to Youth Sports Park.

The City owns land across Lake Street from the Youth Sports Park where there are currently a City water well and an old house used for Boy Scout meetings. The City has considered relocating City Hall, the Police Department, and the Fire Department to this property. If the City decides not to relocate City Hall, the Police Department, and/or the Fire Department onto this property, and instead were willing to add the property to the Park lease, the water well and Boy Scout hall would remain and other recreational facilities could be added. Whether or not the property were added to the Park, a multi-use trail could be extended through it as described in the Mount Shasta Greenway Network section below.

The City also owns the Library and the land on which it is located. The existing Sisson Overlook Trail runs through the Youth Sports Park and the Library properties. The Library land could potentially be included in the Park. The Sisson Overlook Trail is included

in a lease involving the Rec District, School District, City, and Mount Shasta Rotary Club. If one or more adjacent properties were added to the Park, some form of shared management would make sense. This could include the following entities:

- Mount Shasta Recreation and Parks District
- Mount Shasta Union School District (Sisson School)
- City of Mount Shasta
- Siskiyou Land Trust
- Mount Shasta Library
- Mount Shasta Rotary Club
- Boys and Girls Club

Proposed Action: Explore with the Land Trust, School District, City, and Library the inclusion of adjacent properties in the Youth Sports Park, possibly involving shared management.

TABLE 3. PROPOSED YOUTH SPORTS PARK IMPROVEMENTS AND ADDITIONS BY PRIORITY (contingent upon funding, availability of which could affect priorities)

FACILITY	PROPOSED ACTIONS
VERY HIGH PRIORITY:	
Existing Snack Bar & Restroom	Upgrade/expand snack bar and eliminate restroom
New Restrooms	Install new/expanded restrooms by maintenance shed
Existing Maintenance Shed	Move shed next to new restroom (see site plan)
Security System	Install security cameras at buildings and in parking areas
HIGH PRIORITY:	
Parking	Upgrade parking areas; align entrance with Hercules Dr.
Lighting	Install parking lighting; direct lighting downward
Signage	Add directional, facility, and warning signage
Drainage	Add bioswales and detention basins as shown on drawing
MEDIUM PRIORITY:	
Play Area	Upgrade/expand in same area
Picnic Areas	Add more picnic tables to both picnic areas
T-Ball Bleachers	Move closer to T-ball fence
Trails	Install paved ADA-compliant multi-use trails within/beyond Park
LOW PRIORITY:	
Inclusion of Adjacent Sites	Explore with applicable partners the inclusion of adjacent sites

POTENTIAL NEW PARKS

MILL POND PARK

This 19-acre park, including a 3-acre restored mill pond, would provide a nearby park for residents living in the southern half of the City (Figure 11 on next page). All three existing parks are located in the northern half of the City. The Mill Pond Park was first proposed in the mid-1980s when Roseburg Lumber Company donated the old mill site to the City, followed by the City Council creating an advisory committee to determine the best uses for the property. The potential park site was included as one of those uses. The pond basin was full of bark when first donated, but it has since been removed. Several areas of soil contamination were also identified and are in the process of being removed. Urban runoff from the south 25 percent of Mount Shasta City drains into Mill Creek, much of it through the mill pond basin.



Potential Facilities

As shown in Figure 11, facilities could include:

- Restored pond with a wildlife island and natural stream outlet.
- Fringing emergent wetland and riparian vegetation for wildlife habitat.
- Retrofitted culvert outlet to enable pond to also serve as a stormwater attenuation basin.
- Bioswales and small detention basins to intercept, filter, slow down, and infiltrate runoff.
- ADA-compliant paved trails around the pond and connecting to Greenway trails (next section).
- A paved parking area.
- A lawn, playground, and restroom near the parking area.
- Park host hookups.
- Potential ballfields on adjacent land.
- Potential site for a multi-purpose center on adjacent land.

Potential Programs and Activities

The Mill Pond Park could provide the following programs and activities:

- Walking, jogging, and nature observation (most notably birds, nesting island).
- Watching Fourth of July fireworks at Lake Siskiyou.
- Catch-and-release fishing.
- Playground activities.
- Cycling on the Greenway trails and southern link to the Gateway Trail.
- Citizen Science projects (water quality, plants, wildlife).
- Park host program.
- Other volunteer programs.

Proposed Actions: Finalize the design for the Mill Pond Park, prepare a proposal that includes construction and operations and maintenance costs and proposed funding sources, seek funding, and if successful work with the City to implement.

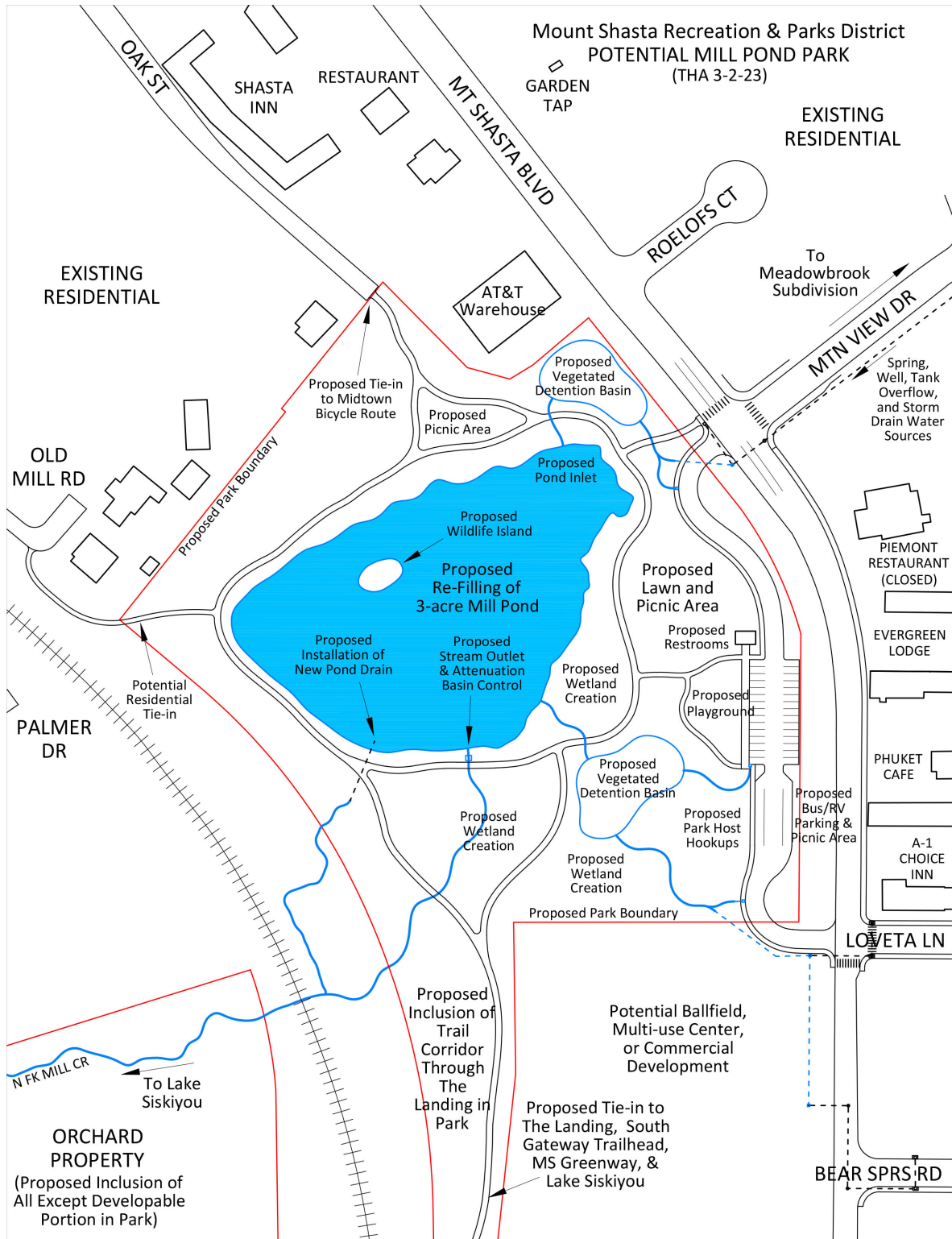


Figure 11 Potential Mill Pond Park design.

MOUNT SHASTA GREENWAY NETWORK



Background

The concept of a Mount Shasta Greenway Network began in the early 1990s with the proposed Downtown-to-City-Park Trail as part of an outdoor healing facility called the Nepenthe Project, initiated by Mercy Medical Center Mount Shasta. The name was changed to the Mount Shasta Greenway Project in the early 2000s to include adjacent open space lands and small streams, bioswales, and detention basins, and more recently the concept was expanded to include a network of greenway segments providing linkages through town and beyond (Figure 12). The Mount Shasta Trail Association, Mount Shasta Rotary Club, and Siskiyou Land Trust, in coordination with the Mount Shasta Recreation and Parks District, have been very active in implementing the portion of Greenway extending from the City Park to Kingston Road, including the securing of permanent trail easements from Crystal Geysers (now One Shasta LLC) over its 13-acre parcel and fee title ac-

quisition of 5.5 acres of land. In addition, the Rotary Club and Rec District worked with the City of Mount Shasta, Sisson School, and Land Trust to implement the Sisson Overlook Trail extending from Alma Street to Lake Street as part of the existing Youth Sports Park and future Greenway Network.

Concurrently, the City, through its Active Transportation Committee (ATC), has been active in planning and implementing the Midtown Trail (perhaps better called the Midtown Bikeway) and other on-street and off-street non-motorized transportation routes through town, and the Mount Shasta Trail Association has been active in planning and implementing the Lake Siskiyou Trail, Box Canyon Trail, Spring Hill Trail, and Gateway Trail. The Greenway Network will connect to these other routes and trails, as shown in Figure 12 below. The main route of the Greenway Network is now being called the Headwaters to Lake Trail. Greenway routes are also envisioned to connect with Weed, Dunsmuir, and McCloud.

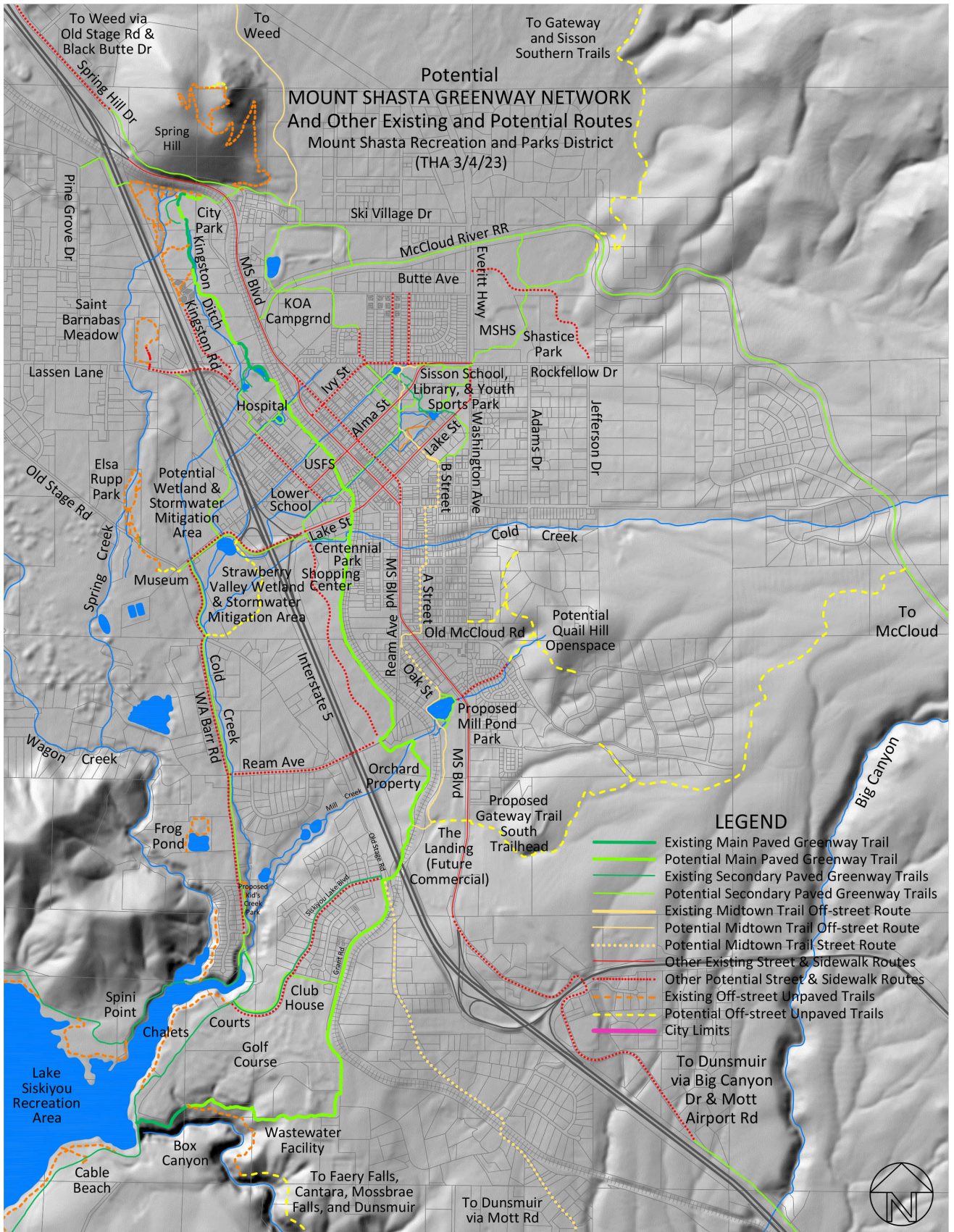


Figure 12 Potential Mount Shasta Greenway Network Design

Description

When completed, the Mount Shasta Greenway Network will consist of off-street paved multi-use ADA compliant trails, adjacent open space buffers (mostly wetlands), restored above-ground drainages (often also conveying urban stormwater runoff), constructed bioswales and detention basins for mitigating urban runoff, and various site furnishings such as benches, picnic tables, interpretive panels, and bicycle and e-bike repair and charging stations. In combination with on-street and sidewalk routes to be managed by the City, the Greenway trails will provide safe off-street non-motorized transportation linkages between parks, hiking/biking trailheads, schools, businesses, and residential areas (including new affordable housing projects), as well as routes for exercise, wildlife viewing, and other passive recreational activities. The Greenway Network will not only benefit local residents, but will also enhance the tourism-based local economy, improve wildlife habitat and water quality, and help reduce the local area's carbon footprint, thereby promoting sustainability.

Management

It is proposed that the Greenway Network be developed and managed as a single park, under a partnership approach between the Rec District, City/ATC, Trail Association, Siskiyou Land Trust, Siskiyou Outdoor Recreation Alliance and Rotary Club. Since the City does not have a parks department, this arrangement will reduce the operations and maintenance burden of the Public Works Department, while at the same time helping to fulfill the District's mission of providing recreation and park facilities and programs in the local area.

Proposed Actions:

1. Work with the City to finalize the overall Greenway Network design, responsible parties, and potential funding sources for build-out and operations/maintenance.
2. Given the extent of wetlands involved, prepare a programmatic CEQA document to facilitate regulatory permits and mitigation to be needed for Greenway build-out.
3. Identify and acquire land tenure where needed.
4. Obtain build-out funding and implement build-out in phases.

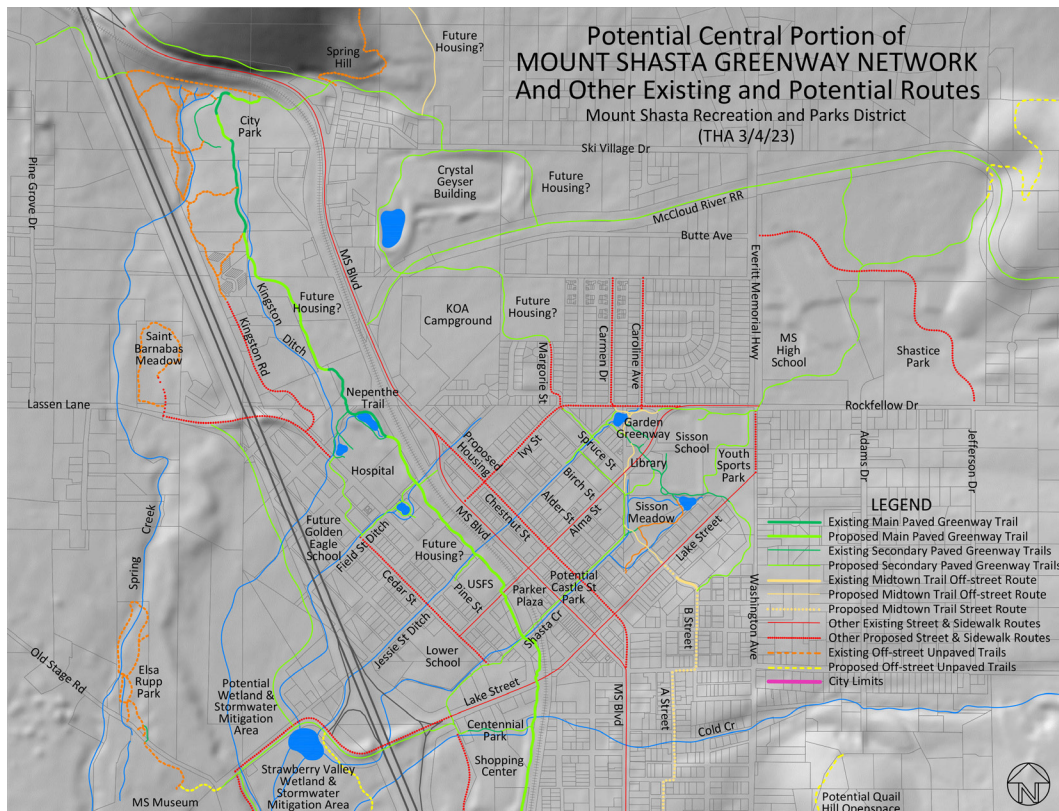


Figure 12 Detail Mount Shasta Greenway Central Portion

POCKET PARKS

The concept of pocket parks is to provide small openspace areas with varying extents of site furnishings (even just a single bench), in some cases inclusion of simple children’s play structures, and located at numerous locations around town in close proximity to housing.

Potential Locations

Potential locations for pocket parks could include:

- Saint Barnabas Church property (trail, benches, labyrinth, tot lot play structures)
- Timber Hills/Davis Place area
- Deetz Road/Quail Meadow area
- Shasta Acres/Monte Shasta area
- South Washington Avenue area
- Berry/Water Streets area (possibly at the existing Berryvale garden)
- Meadowbrook Subdivision
- Big Canyon area (Sun Mountain Subdivision)
- Holiday 1 Subdivision (on 11-acre County land across W.A. Barr Road)
- Siskiyou Lake Highlands Subdivision (at existing park site next to water tanks)
- Future housing areas (Spring Hill, Moss property, DANCO site, Artemis property, etc.)

Management

Management could be shared between the Rec District, various homeowners associations (where they exist, such as at Holiday and Siskiyou Lake Highlands Subdivisions), owners of new large apartment complexes that include pocket parks, other private landowners (such as Berryvale Grocery), non-profit organizations, and the City and County on lands owned by them. On Saint Barnabas Church property, there is already a half-mile trail around a restored meadow open to the public, and the church is receptive to adding a labyrinth and tot lot play structures. The Rotary Club may take it on as a project.

Proposed Actions: Work with affected landowners and neighborhoods to design and secure land tenure for specific pocket parks. Pursue funding and implement specific pocket parks as opportunities allow.

MULTI-PURPOSE CENTER

Concept

The concept for a Multi-Purpose Center grew out of a recognition that there are a number of existing and proposed facilities in town that could all benefit from either being combined into a single building or at least clustered on a shared campus. Those facilities are:

- A Forest Service proposed regional interpretive center called the Discovery Center that was to be located along the recently designated Volcanic Legacy Scenic Byway at the old mill site (The Landing) at the south end of town. That project ended up being dropped due to lack of adequate utilities connections and insufficient support at the time. The rationale for having such a facility remains, however, given the incredible diversity of our region, located at the intersection of the Klamath Mountains, Cascade Range, Sierra Nevada, and High Desert. It would be modeled after High Desert Museum near Bend, Oregon, and Monterey Bay Aquarium, including outdoor exhibits.



- The Mount Shasta Museum, which faces challenges with various use restrictions, aging facilities, and potential rent increases at its current location on the State-owned Mount Shasta Hatchery property, despite the Museum's huge success.



- The Mount Shasta Library, which has been exploring the feasibility of doubling the size of the facility but has run into site constraints due to adjacent wetlands and limited parking. Also, there is a nationwide trend underway to combine museums and libraries to bolster the success of both, and substantial funding is available to facilitate such mergers.



- A proposed Performing Arts Center, which has been in the proposal phase for many years but has yet to have a chosen location, agreed-upon conceptual design, or adequate funding.
- The City's need for a new facility with adequate size and acoustics for City Council meetings, Planning Commission meetings, and various public hearings, in addition to other special meetings and events. A new multi-purpose center could serve as a new Community Center, complete with a commercial kitchen. The Upper Lodge at the City Park and the existing Community Center have not worked out well due to inadequate size and very poor acoustics.
- The Boys and Girls Club's desire to have a facility for its functions, with such a facility also serving as a Teen Center.

Potential Locations

The following locations have been suggested for further consideration:

- Originally proposed Discovery Center site at south end of old mill property.
- Next to proposed Mill Pond Park on old mill property.
- Unused portion of Sisson School paved play field below Youth Sports Park.
- Armory next to Mount Shasta High School.
- Uphill side of High School on along Everitt Memorial.
- Elementary School (Lower School) if K-4 grades are moved to Sisson School.

If the Multi-Purpose Center is to consist completely or mostly of a single large building with a dominant regional interpretive center theme, then views of Mount Shasta, Black Butte, Mount Eddy, and the Trinity Divide should be considered, since those geographic features are key components of the region to be interpreted. Other considerations in building siting that have been suggested are:

- Close to Sisson School and the High School (for educational purposes)
- On the route to Mount Shasta Volcano (for interpretive reasons)
- Close to Downtown (for economic reasons and centralization of City functions)
- Close to residential areas (for additional benefits to local residents)
- Reasonably close to Interstate 5 (for convenience and to maximize visitation/income)

Regarding the existing Library, if it were to be housed as a wing of the new building, the existing Library building could either be traded to Sisson School for School land used for a Multi-Purpose Center, or it could be conveyed to the Boys and Girls Club. If the Library stays at its current location, it could still be part of the multi-purpose theme under a campus approach if other facilities were located nearby. The Museum currently uses a portion of the Library for storage, so in either case if the Museum is integrated with the Library, its storage needs could be incorporated into its new venue.

Shared Management

If some version of potential Multi-Purpose Center were implemented, some form of shared management would make sense. This could include the following entities:

- Mount Shasta Recreation and Parks District
- Mount Shasta Union School District (Lower School and Sisson School)
- Siskiyou Union High School District
- U.S. Forest Service
- City of Mount Shasta
- Siskiyou Land Trust
- Mount Shasta Museum
- Mount Shasta Library
- Performing Arts Center
- Siskiyou Outdoor Recreation Alliance
- Boys and Girls Club

Proposed Actions: Explore with potential partners the location, composition, size, start-up costs, long-term operations and maintenance costs, and ongoing income generating potential of a multi-purpose regional interpretive center. If enough interest exists and the financials pencil out, pursue funding and build a facility (either as a single building or as a campus of smaller buildings).



The Monterey Bay Aquarium is a very successful example of a regional interpretive center.

TABLE 4. POTENTIAL NEW PARKS FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS BY PRIORITY (Contingent upon funding, availability of which could affect priorities)	
FACILITY	PROPOSED ACTIONS
MEDIUM PRIORITY:	
Mill Pond Park	Finalize design, prepare proposal, pin-down funding, and implement
MS Greenway Network Pre-Constr'n	Finalize design/roles, conduct CEQA, acquire tenure, ID funding
Multi-Purpose Center Pre-Constr'n	Work with potential partners on concept, design, location, funding
Saint Barnabas Pocket Park Install	Interface with Rotary Club on design, funding, and build-out
LOW PRIORITY:	
MS Greenway Network Implement	Obtain grant funding and build-out in phases
Multi-Purpose Center Implement	Pursue as opportunities allow
Other Pocket Parks	Pursue as opportunities allow

POTENTIAL DISTRICT COLLABORATION IN OTHER RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

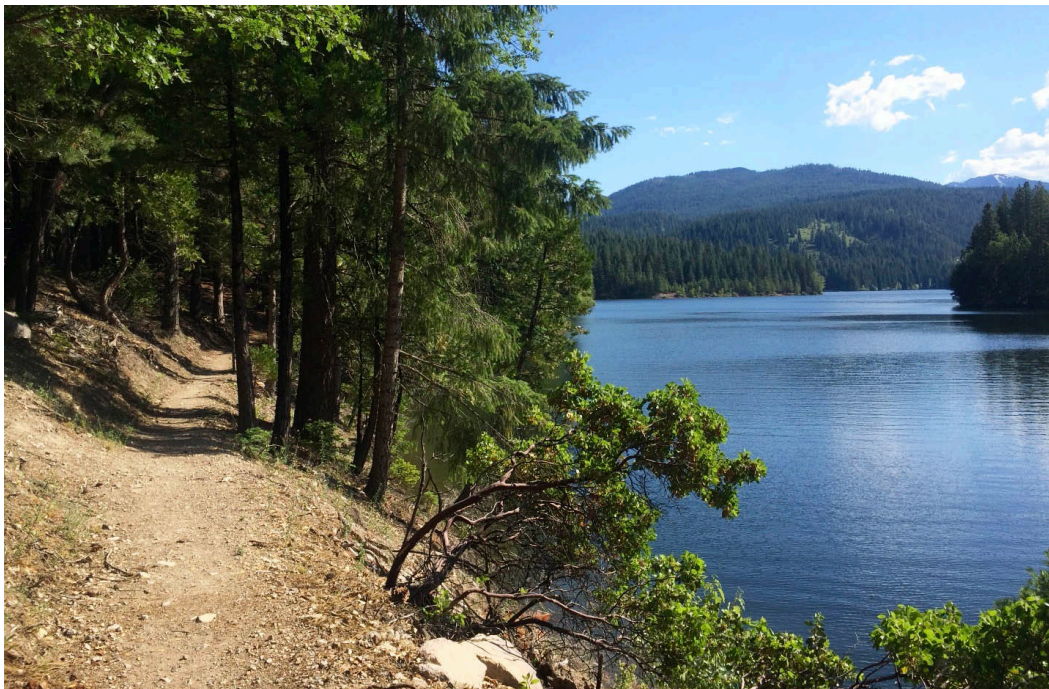
As described above, the Mount Shasta Recreation and Parks District is 142 square miles in size, but existing and proposed parks and related programs and activities are mostly within the 4 square mile City of Mount Shasta. Also, as mentioned above, not only does the City of Mount Shasta not have a department of parks and recreation, but neither does the County. It would make sense for the Rec District to be more involved outside the city limits, not only in playing more of the role it was created for, but also because through an economy of scale and more diversified funding and partnerships the District could afford more staffing and equipment, and could do its work more efficiently and completely. In doing this, it could also provide more and higher quality recreational opportunities for local residents and visitors than are currently available in the District.

Getting involved in other recreational facilities will require collaboration and partnerships, and most importantly, a receptivity of existing recreational facility owners to embrace the involvement of the District.

LAKE SISKIYOU

A great place to start would be at Lake Siskiyou. The 434-acre lake was created in 1968 for primarily recreational purposes, yet to this day is still called the Box Canyon Project rather than being designated a County park. The lake is surrounded by around 1,850 acres of land, and both the lake and surrounding land are owned and managed by the Siskiyou County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.

Lake Siskiyou has become a major ongoing funding source for the County's General Fund, through income derived from the Campground, Chalets/Golf Course and Hydro concessions, and from periodic timber sales. Management staffing is provided by the County's Department of General Services, with Lake Siskiyou's management being combined with management of the County's solid waste transfer stations.



Potential Rec District Roles

As shown in Figure 13 below, one of the Rec District's roles could be to partner with the County on recreational facilities management, improvements, and expansion on 293 acres of County-owned land along the shoreline of the Lake, along Box Canyon, and along Cold Creek and Wagon Creek. Existing and potential recreational facilities could include:

- Lake Siskiyou Trail (7-mile main trail plus several shoreline loop trails)
- Box Canyon Trail (1 mile)
- Parking areas (7) and associated trailheads with kiosks, restrooms, picnic tables, etc.
- Fishing, swimming, and hand-carry paddle craft access points (the latter in progress)
- Disc golf course above Delta
- Tennis and pickleball courts near Golf Course
- Fuels/meadow/shoreline management/restoration along lakeshore

Potential additional recreational facilities could include:

- Cold Creek Trails (across road from Holiday Subdivision)
- Expanded parking Cable Beach
- ADA improvements for fishing, swimming, and hand-carry paddle craft access
- Sand beaches at North Shore, Spini Cove, and Cable Beach (contingent on keeping Lake full)
- Summer camp facilities
- Horseback riding and camping facilities headquartered along Lower Red Hill Road
- Fuels management along Box Canyon and Cold/Wagon Creeks
- Improvement/paving of North Shore Road and parking areas

Rec District involvement in shoreline recreation could include the following programs and activities:

- Swim lessons and lifeguard training at Spini Cove (and possibly also Castle Lake Creek Cove)
- Sailing lessons
- Paddlecraft lessons and activities (paddleboards, kayaks, and canoes)
- Nature studies and activities
- Citizen Science projects (water quality, fish, wildlife, invasive plants, etc.)
- Park ranger program (paid non-deputized rangers on bicycles with radios)
- Park host program stationed near Chalets (utilities present for hookups)
- Volunteer program
- Assistance with July Fourth Fireworks, Tinman Triathlon, and trout pens
- Archery lessons (at existing range along Red Hill Road on County land)
- Horseback riding lessons

Another Rec District role could be to take over the Campground concession when its lease expires in 2028. If the Rec District were to manage the campground rather than a for-profit concessionaire, the County would receive a larger share of the gross income from the Campground since a profit margin wouldn't be factored in, just the District's operations and maintenance costs. Rec District involvement would also help ensure that the entire focus of Campground facilities, programs, and activities would be directly for the public benefit.

Despite Rec District involvement along the shoreline and/or at the Campground, the County would still be in charge of maintaining roads around the Lake and managing timber and fuels on 1,800 acres of surrounding timberlands. The County would continue to oversee the Hydro, Chalet, and Golf Course leases. In effect, the Rec District would become another leaseholder/concessionaire.

- Campground Concessionaire
- Chalets/Golf Course Concessionaire
- Holiday Subdivision Homeowners Association
- Mount Shasta Trail Association
- Mount Shasta Rotary Club (fish pens and paddlecraft ramp)
- Siskiyou Outdoor Recreation Alliance (trailhead hosts)

Potential partners in the Rec District's involvement at Lake Siskiyou could include:

- Siskiyou County
- City of Mount Shasta (owns land downriver from County along Box Canyon)

Proposed Action: Negotiate with the County on potential Rec District involvement in Lake Siskiyou recreational management, including potential Campground management, contingent upon adequate funding sources being identified to cover Rec District involvement.

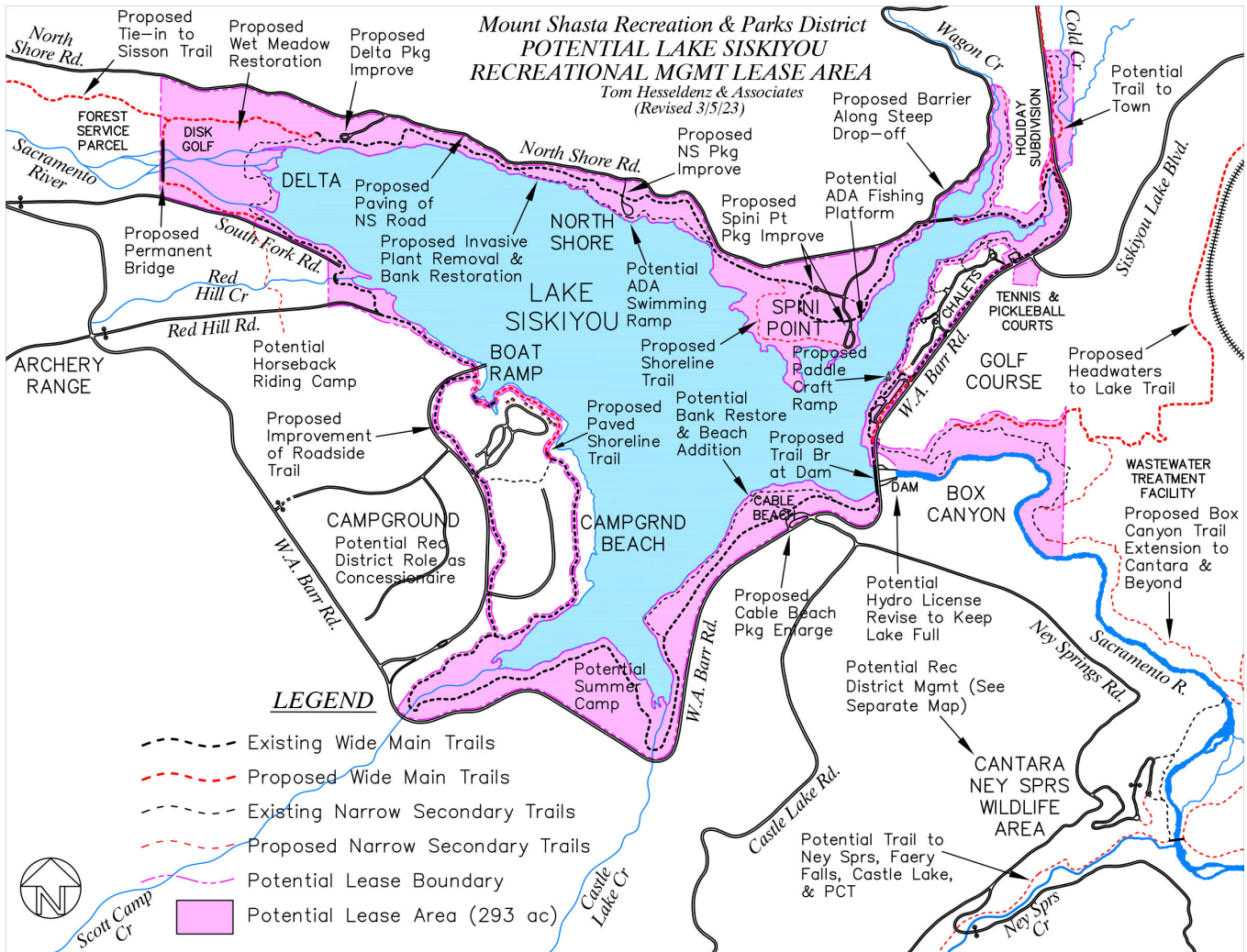


Figure 13 Potential District lease area and facilities at Lake Siskiyou and Box Canyon.

CANTARA NEY SPRINGS WILDLIFE AREA

State of California involvement in the Cantara Ney Springs portion of the Upper Sacramento River Canyon began in 1980 when the Aiello Family on the east side of Box Canyon sold a conservation easement to the State including 126 acres of land along one-half mile of river. The State subsequently purchased adjoining parcels at the end of Cantara Road, at the confluence of Ney Springs Creek, and at Cantara Loop, totaling 150 acres of land along three-fourths mile of river. Upstream on Ney Springs Creek, the Forest Service acquired 110 acres of land, including the Ney Springs historic site and Faery Falls. See Figure 14 below.

Existing recreational activities at the Wildlife Area include fishing, hiking along the river, whitewater boating, and rock climbing. Recreational activities on the adjacent Forest Service parcel include visits to the historic site and hiking to Faery Falls. Contingent upon landowner approvals, Box Canyon Trail could potentially be extended to Cantara (and

ultimately to Mossbrae Falls and Dunsmuir), and a trail bridge over the river and trail up to Faery Falls could potentially be built.

The State recently indicated that it would be receptive to turning over management of the Wildlife Area to the District. Potential partners in the District's involvement could include:

- State of California
- Siskiyou County
- City of Mount Shasta
- Aiello Family
- U.S. Forest Service
- Mount Shasta Trail Association
- Siskiyou Outdoor Conservation Alliance

Proposed Actions: Negotiate with the State on potential District involvement in Wildlife Area management, contingent upon adequate funding sources being identified to cover ongoing District involvement.

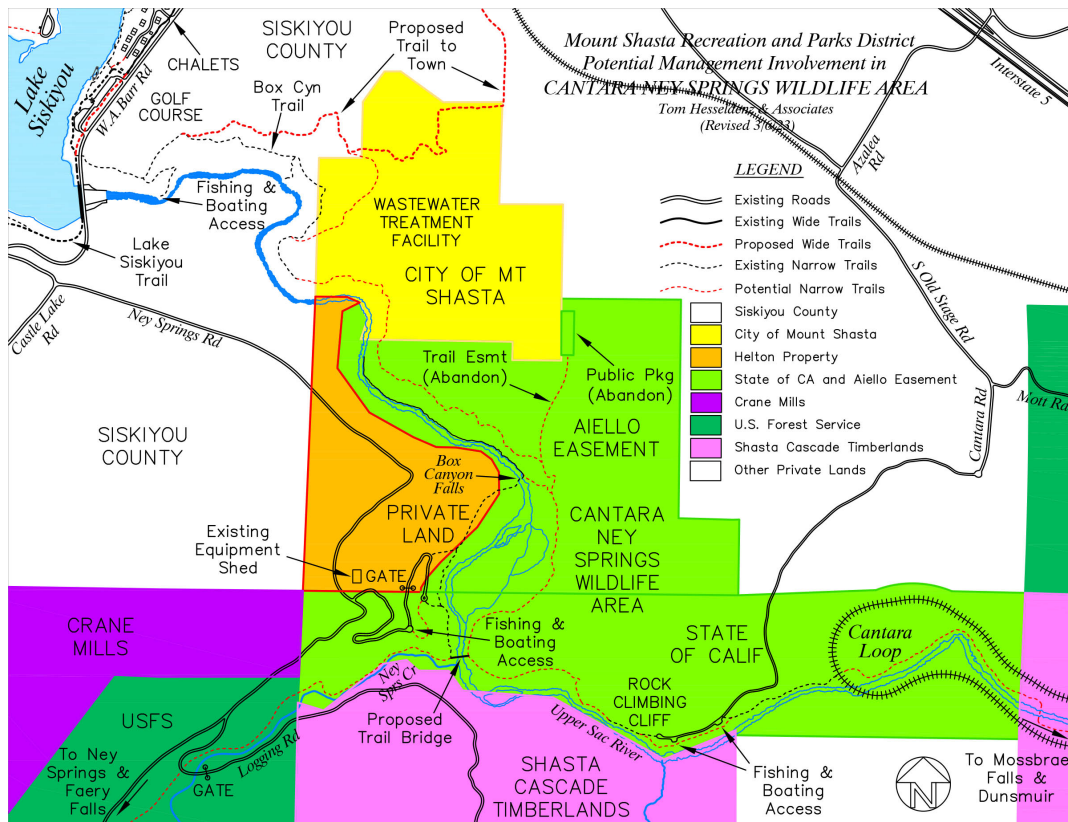


Figure 14 Cantara Ney Springs Wildlife Area and vicinity, including existing and potential facilities.

POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL RECREATIONAL FACILITIES THAT COULD INVOLVE DISTRICT

The District could also potentially be involved in the following additional recreational facilities within District boundaries:

- Parker Plaza and Castle Street Park (City of Mount Shasta)
- Sisson Meadow and Garden Greenway (Siskiyou Land Trust)
- Elsa Rupp Park (State of California)
- Frog Pond (Siskiyou County Department of Education)
- Strawberry Valley Wildlife Area (currently privately owned but could be purchased)
- Quail Hill (currently privately owned but could be purchased)
- Gateway Trail Network (U.S. Forest Service and McConnell Foundation)
- McCloud River RR route to McCloud (currently private but acquisition efforts underway)

Proposed Actions: Discuss with applicable recreational facilities owners/managers the potential mutual benefits of having the Rec District involved.

TABLE 5. POTENTIAL COLLABORATION IN RECREATIONAL FACILITIES OF OTHERS BY PRIORITY (Contingent upon funding, availability of which could affect priorities)	
FACILITY	PROPOSED ACTIONS
MEDIUM PRIORITY:	
Lake Siskiyou Shoreline	Negotiate with County re potential District involvement and funding
Cantara Ney Springs Wildlife Area	Negotiate with CDFW re potential District involvement and funding
LOW PRIORITY:	
Lake Siskiyou Campground	Explore with County the mutual benefits of Rec District involvement
Other Recreational Facilities	Discuss with entities the mutual benefits of District involvement

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IN NEARBY COMMUNITIES

Mount Shasta, Dunsmuir, and Weed Recreation and Parks Districts had for many years shared the same staff but each had a separate board. Proposals to combine the districts into a single district were considered but not acted upon.

There is a lot to be said about trying again to combine all three districts into a single district, perhaps calling it the South Siskiyou County Recreation and Parks District. It's always seemed odd that the South County had three districts while the rest of the County had none. The Community of McCloud is in itself a community services district, since it is not incorporated, and it manages Hoo Hoo Park through the CSD. It would make sense also include McCloud in a combined South County Recreation and Parks District. It's interesting to note that efforts are already underway in the South County to combine police, fire, and most recently city planning. There has also been talk off-and-on about combining some of the schools. Consolidation of special districts can be cumbersome, involving LAFCO and the County, but the first step is for the affected special districts and local communities to determine if it should be pursued.

Recreational facilities within the Dunsmuir Recreation and Parks District boundary include:

- Castle Lake (USFS)
- Hedge Creek Park (City)
- Mossbrae Falls Trail (City and UPRR; approvals being pursued)
- City Park and Arboretum (City)
- Dunsmuir Pool (Rec District)
- Tauhindauli Park (City, Caltrans, Pacific Power, UPRR, and CDFW)
- Little League Ball Park (City)
- Proposed Centennial Park on Pine Street (City)
- Potential Upper Sacramento River Trail (mix of City, CDFW, and private)

Recreational facilities within the McCloud Community Services District boundary include:

- Hoo Hoo Park (CSD)
- Potential Panther Creek Greenway (mix of private and Caltrans)

Recreational facilities within the Weed Recreation and Parks District boundary include:

- Weed Community Center (District)
- Charlie Byrd Park (District)
- Bel Air Park and Benton Pool (District)
- Carrick Park (District)
- Youth Sports Complex (Sons Park and Lobis Field; District)
- Potential Boles Creek Greenway (mix of private and City)

Proposed Action: Explore with the other Districts the pros and cons of consolidating into a single South Siskiyou Recreation and Parks District.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS FOR ALL PARK FACILITIES

As existing outdoor facilities are improved and new facilities added at the District's existing and potential new parks, it is important for the District to establish guidelines to achieve a consistent theme, maintain high quality, and minimize maintenance regarding the materials and styles used for various outdoor facilities. Given that the Mount Shasta region consists of small mountain communities nestled in the forest, it is recommended that a rustic theme be used, resembling those of state and national parks and national forests.

Facilities for which design guidelines could be established are:

- Trails
- Trail bridges and boardwalks
- Picnic tables
- Benches
- Trash and Recycling Receptacles
- Bicycle racks
- Individual and group barbecues
- Drinking fountains
- Interpretive panels
- Signs, signboards, and kiosks
- Fencing, gates, and barriers

Proposed Action: Prepare a facilities design guidelines document.

MANAGEMENT CAPACITY

In order to provide high-quality, diverse, and expanded facilities, programs, and activities, it is essential to have adequate management capacity. That capacity needs to include adequate staffing, office and maintenance spaces, equipment and supplies, funding, partnerships, and volunteers. A key function of management is ongoing operations and maintenance. It is usually far easier to get grant funding to build something than get the necessary funding to keep it going over time.

One factor that can help is economy of scale. As the District takes on more, the opportunities to increase and diversify operations and maintenance funding and assistance from partners and volunteers can come with it.

At this point in time, the District has two full-time office staff and two full-time maintenance staff. A key next step would be to find a way to add security staff, especially at the City Park but also at potential new facilities such as at Lake Siskiyou. And the more security staff is shared between multiple facilities with multiple funding sources, the more affordable it becomes. Having an ongoing volunteer park host program would also help greatly with security, not through enforcement but by having an onsite presence.

Additional actions that could help management:

- Collecting user data (traffic counters, stop/ask, parking counts, licenses/states)
- Creating a Friends of the Parks or South Siskiyou Parks Association
- Working with the City Council to establish an ongoing Parks Advisory Committee
- Continuing to develop closer ties with City Police and Fire
- Utilizing SORA's Stewardship Corps Program (community ambassadors)
- Integrating City and District ordinances and event permit applications
- Developing a policy and procedure handbook/manual (underway)

Proposed Action: Prepare a District management plan that details current and potential future needs, designed to grow with the District in a flexible manner as it takes on more responsibilities.

NEXT STEPS

Given the deteriorating condition of the City Park buildings, it would make sense to pursue their restoration and upgrades or removal as the highest-priority next step. In order to fund that work, it would also make sense to make another attempt at securing a supplemental property tax assessment, including details on the proposed uses of the funding and a sunset provision.

To varying degrees, other proposed actions in this Master Plan Update will require CEQA compliance. To avoid potential future problems with perceived piece-mealing of the implementation of the Master Plan Update, it is recommended that a programmatic EIR be prepared for the Master Plan Update in combination with project-specific CEQA compliance for the first proposed action that will require CEQA compliance. In doing this, future project-specific CEQA compliance will be easier and less expensive because it will tier to the programmatic EIR.

As time goes on, master planning will also need to consider funding changes, continued demographic changes, a likely increase in population, and climate change. It is the intent of this Master Plan Update to be flexible, recognizing that it will need to be amended as changes occur. Nonetheless, this

Update will provide an essential roadmap for the District for the foreseeable future.

Proposed Actions:

1. *Undertake City Park building repairs and upgrades first, contingent upon passage of a supplemental tax measure to fund the work.*
2. *Combine programmatic EIR and project-specific CEQA compliance when pursuing implementation of the first project that will require CEQA compliance, and include the cost of the programmatic EIR component in the funding request for that project.*
3. *Implement remaining proposed and potential future actions on a priority basis and as opportunities and funding allow, acknowledging that many proposed and potential actions will require the approval and ongoing participation of other entities.*
4. *Support outside efforts to set up a non-profit local parks and recreation association, so that it can assist in fund raising, volunteer recruitment, and general support for the District.*
5. *Work with the City Council to further advance the mission and goals of the District.*

TABLE 6. ACTIONS REGARDING MANAGEMENT CAPACITY AND NEXT STEPS BY PRIORITY	
FACILITY	PROPOSED ACTIONS
VERY HIGH PRIORITY:	
District Management Plan	Prepare mgmt plan that details current and future needs
Supplemental Tax Measure	Pursue a supplemental tax measure to fund deferred maintenance
HIGH PRIORITY:	
Combining Districts	Explore with other District the pros and cons of consolidation
Master Plan Programmatic EIR	Include in the next grant-funded project requiring CEQA compliance
MEDIUM PRIORITY:	
Parks and Rec Advisory Committee	Work with City to set up parks & rec advisory committee
South County Parks Association	Support concept (recognizing that non-profit is independent)

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