

APPENDIX E: LONGMONT AREA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

Chapter 5: Summary and Next Steps, provides some general guidance on making the Parks, Recreation & Trails Master Plan (Plan) compatible with other City plan documents and policies, including the Comprehensive Plan. As mentioned in this section of the Plan, there are changes that will need to be made for consistency. The Plan also recognizes that there may be opportunities to add goals, policies and strategies to the Longmont Area Comprehensive Plan (LACP). There will also likely be opportunities to reference the Plan throughout appropriate sections of the LACP. Any changes to the LACP will need to go through the amendment process and will ultimately be approved by City Council.

The following goals, policies, and strategies from the LACP appear to relate to the Parks, Recreation & Trails Master Plan (Plan). Many of the goals in the LACP are generally supportive of the vision and goals described in the Plan; these have been included in this list. There are also goals, policies and strategies, as well as general language in the LACP that may need to be modified once the Plan is adopted – including general references to the Plan, as appropriate. General information on some of those areas is provided below. As stated above, there may be additional opportunities to add new goals, policies and/or strategies to the LACP. As this information would be new, it has not been included in the list of existing goals, policies and strategies below. At a minimum, the five goals of the Plan need to be generally consistent and reinforced in the LACP. There is some overlap with existing LACP goals, so modifying existing language is likely in addition to adding new language. This information is provided to accompany the LACP amendment application that goes forward after the Plan is adopted.

Growth of the City

Strategy G-1.2(a): Prioritize, through the Capital Improvement Program, the City's expenditures into those areas where the City's residents receive the greatest benefits.

Strategy LUD-3.1(a): Plan residential neighborhood planning areas that are self-contained, have a sense of place, and are centered around schools, parks, and other services, all within walking distance of the home.

Land Use and Urban Design

Comprehensive Land Use Category Definitions – Summary of Land Use Categories

Updates are needed to reflect size, use and locational criteria changes recommended by the Plan

Parks, Greenways and Open Space	Size depends on type of facility. Neighborhood Park: 10-20 acres. Community Park: 50-100 acres.	Lands for active and passive recreation uses, natural areas, agriculture, preservation of scenic quality, trails and corridors to connect activity centers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Intended to provide for the active and passive recreational needs of the community. ▪ Conserve cultural and natural areas. ▪ Generally provided by public agencies (city, county, state or federal).
---------------------------------	---	---	--

Transportation

GOAL T-2: Provide an adequate, safe, and efficient multi-modal transportation system that is compatible with the natural, community, and economic environment.

POLICY T-2.4: Provide bikeways and walkways to encourage nonpolluting alternative means of transportation.

Strategy T-2.4(a): Design and promote the bikeway system as an important facility that serves different users, including bicyclists, pedestrians, and joggers, with different functions such as transportation and recreation.

Consider adding a strategy under LACP Goal T-2 to integrate Plan Goal 3 (Connect).

Strategy T-2.4(b): Provide convenient connections using bikeways and walkways between residential and employment centers with grade separations at major barriers such as arterials, rivers, and railroads.

Strategy T-2.4(c): Identify funding sources, including developer participation, that the City can use to complete the bikeway and walkway systems.

Strategy T-2.4(e): Continue to stripe bicycle lanes on collector and arterial streets, and place signage for designated bike routes, bike lanes, and trail heads or install "Share the Road" signage on bicycle routes where on-street striping is not possible.

Environmental Quality and Resources Conservation

GOAL E-1: Maintain and improve Longmont’s environmental quality.

GOAL E-2: Preserve environmental resources and unique natural areas.

POLICY E-2.1: Encourage a growth pattern for the City that preserves unique and sensitive natural resources and areas.

POLICY E-2.3: Encourage the use of floodplains and major drainage facilities for recreational use, open space, and other appropriate uses that preserve the natural environment and minimize the potential for property damage.

Strategy E-2.3(a): Review floodplain regulations and revise, as appropriate, to encourage recreational and open space uses within floodplains.

Parks, Greenways and Open Space

This chapter of the LACP includes a description of parks and each park type. Staff may want to consider updating this introduction for consistency and to better reflect the information in the Plan. We will likely want to add “recreation corridors” to this chapter and potentially the transportation chapter as well.

GOAL P-1: Provide adequate parks to serve the recreational needs of Longmont residents and visitors.

Evaluate the opportunity to add new policies under this LACP goal, consistent with Goal 1 (Renew) and Goal 2 (Complete) of the Plan.

POLICY P-1.1: Develop three types of parks: (1) neighborhood parks, (2) community parks, and (3) district parks, to serve the needs of residents and visitors.

Strategy P-1.1(a): Using the following criteria, develop at least one neighborhood park within each neighborhood planning area to serve its residents and visitors with facilities such as playgrounds, non-lighted playfields, and picnic areas:

- A. *Provide 2.5 acres of neighborhood park for each 1,000 residents. Consider removing this criterion as it is no longer applicable.*
- B. *Size each neighborhood park in the range of 10 to 20 acres, depending on the physical attributes of the site, the facilities the City will provide,*

- and the configuration of an adjacent school site's play area. Update size guidelines in LACP to reflect updated size information from Plan.*
- C. Locate each neighborhood park to have a service radius of ½ mile, generally within the boundaries of arterial streets or railroad lines. Update locational criteria to better reflect desired travel distance.*
 - D. Generally, locate neighborhood parks adjacent to elementary schools and on collector streets. Consider updating this criterion, as needed, to better reflect language in Plan.*
 - Consider the acreage of an adjacent elementary school's developed play area in calculating the size needed for that neighborhood park to determine whether its size can be within the lower end of the acreage range.*
 - Do not require or build neighborhood parks in residential areas when the planned residential population is too low to support a neighborhood park.*

Strategy P-1.1(b): Using the following criteria, develop community parks to serve residents and visitors of several neighborhood planning areas with improvements such as indoor recreation facilities, lighted athletic complexes, or other facilities that the City cannot functionally provide within neighborhood parks.

- A. Provide 4.5 acres of community park for each 1,000 residents. Consider removing this criterion as it is no longer applicable.*
- B. Size each community park in the range of 50 to 100 acres depending on the physical attributes of the site and the facilities the City will provide. Update size guidelines in LACP to reflect updated size information from plan*
- C. Locate each community park to have a service radius of 1 to 1½ miles. Update locational criteria to better reflect desired travel distance.*
- D. Locate community parks on or near arterials either in nonresidential neighborhoods or on the edge of residential neighborhoods with the intent of minimizing the impact of organized recreational activities on residences. Consider updating this criterion, as needed, to better reflect language in Plan.*

Strategy P-1.1(c): Using the following criteria, develop district parks to serve the residents and visitors of the City and surrounding area with facilities that primarily promote low-impact, passive outdoor recreation and that also take advantage of the natural and cultural features of the site:

- A. Size each district park so that it includes sufficient area in which to locate recreational facilities so they are compatible with and protect the natural and cultural environment. Evaluate whether or not to add additional information on sizing based on language in the Plan.*

- B. *Locate each district park to encompass the specific natural feature that is its focus.*
- C. *Configure district parks to provide access from arterial or collector streets when feasible.*

Policy P-1.2: Provide recreational facilities and programs to meet the needs of different segments of the population and to foster tourism.

Strategy P-1.2(a): Develop recreational facilities as appropriate to meet the needs of different segments of the population, such as youth, seniors, and people with disabilities.

Strategy P-1.2(b): Develop recreational facilities that will be attractive to both Longmont residents and visitors.

Consider adding a new policy or strategy or modifying P-1.2 and associated strategies to better reflect Goal 4 (Distinguish) of the Plan.

GOAL P-2: Develop a greenway system of linear public open space that encompasses utility corridors, rivers, lakes, ditches and creeks used for storm water drainage, provides for the multiple uses of storm drainage corridors, assists in their efficient maintenance, accommodates trail-oriented recreation, and connects residential areas to the bikeway network and with community activity areas.

POLICY P-2.1: Designate primary greenways that encompass utility corridors, rivers, lakes, ditches, and creeks that carry urban storm drainage when they can integrate with the bikeway system and can connect residential areas with community activity areas.

POLICY P-2.2: Develop secondary greenways, corridors that accommodate a bikeway, in residential neighborhoods to provide short links to primary greenways, bikeways, parks, and schools.

Strategy P-2.2(a): Locate secondary greenways during the subdivision review process in residential development when necessary to connect to primary greenways, bikeways, parks, and schools.

Consider modifying Goal P-2 and associated policies and/or strategies or adding new policies and/or strategies to better reflect Goal 3 (Connect) of the Plan.

POLICY P-3.4: Designate trails and other links to connect useable open space lands, stream corridors and scenic entryway corridors with other public areas to provide access to these areas.

Strategy P-3.4(a): Establish designated trails and other links through a variety of appropriate methods.

Consider adding a new goal to this chapter to better reflect Goal 5 (Sustain).

Role of Government

GOAL RG-1: Enhance the quality of life for those who live in, work in, or visit Longmont.