SPRINGVILLE CITY GENERAL PLAN



GOAL: To invest in the acquisition, preservation, maintenance, and enhancement of parks, facilities, and open spaces to provide a wide range of opportunities and healthy experiences.

6.1 The Role of Parks - Definition and Purposes

Parks and trails are typically public-held improvements providing opportunities for passive and active recreation. They may range from grassy fields and playgrounds with trees to dirt paths in a natural setting.

They provide important open space that would otherwise disappear as development occurs within the City. They are an important measure of quality of life within the community and contribute to the overall well-being of the citizens by providing places to recreate.

6.2 Park Development in Springville

Early Mormon towns typically included one or more town squares scattered throughout the plat and Springville is no exception. The Civic Center Park is the location of the original town square of Plat A. Through the years, additional acres of property have been acquired through donations and purchase.

Springville has added 21 additional parks along with several proposed and developing trails networks. The total acreage for park land in the City is currently 205 acres including proposed parks for which land has been acquired. Parks range from small

pocket park facilities of less than one acre to the proposed community park of 50 acres (see **Map 6-1 Parks and Trails**).

In Hobble Creek Canyon, the City owns just under 500 acres of parks and recreation lands, including the 108 acre Hobble Creek Golf Course. The Canyon facilities include opportunities for a wide variety of recreational activities, ranging from simple picnicking to camping. Springville's Canyon Parks are a unique asset for the citizens of our community to enjoy.

6.3 Park Standards in America

The 1950s marked the emergence of park standards for size, recreational uses, user area, and acreage per population. These standards were developed as various communities throughout the nation looked at the amount of park space located within their jurisdictions and how it was being used. From the experience of these communities, standards were developed. For over 30 years, a basic standard of ten acres per 1,000 persons was established nationally. This ten acres included neighborhood, community/specialty and regional parks.

The most recent publication of the National Recreation and Park Association dealing with park standards identifies minimum and optimal park size and user area, but does not include an acreage/1,000 population standard (Recreation Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines (1990)). The book explains that the guidelines should not be looked at as 'an exemplary measure to be used in comparison or judgment of adequacy, but as an expression of community consensus about what constitutes an acceptable level of service.



Another issue in terms of establishing these standards is determining what should be included. Parks and recreation facilities owned and operated by non-City entities, such as school districts, churches, fraternal organizations, universities and private providers are very valuable resources in a community. In Springville, the school district, LDS Church, and others provide important resources for outdoor recreation and activities.

The concern with including these in the standard mix is the limited control the City has over these entities. Schools close and land uses change. Policies of these entities may severely limit or restrict use of their properties. For these reasons, the focus of this background report is specifically on City owned and operated park facilities.

6.4 Springville City Park Standards

This plan was updated in connection with the Parks and Trails Master Plan, which includes more specific details regarding park facilities. Following the park standards will help ensure that parks in different areas of the City will have roughly proportionate facilities.

Additionally, a capital improvements plan was developed to identify costs for land

acquisition and improvements. This was then used as a part of the impact fee study.

The 2005 update of the Springville City Master Plan established a standard of nine acres of park space per 1,000 population with 2.5 acres per 1,000 of neighborhood/pocket parks (e.g. Memorial Park and Freedom Park), 2.5 acres per 1000 of community and specialty parks (e.g., Arts Park) and 4 acres per 1,000 of Regional Parks (e.g. Jolley's Ranch). Information concerning the overall acreage by park type is included in **Table 1.** A list of all existing and proposed parks for which the City owns property is listed in the **Parks, Trails and Recreation Appendix Table 1.**

6.5 Neighborhood Parks

The neighborhood park category generally provides activities for all age groups. Neighborhood parks are typically 7 to 12 acres in size. Facilities may include:

- Open areas for a variety of informal field sports
- Pocket parks
- Playgrounds
- Picnic tables
- Shelters
- Drinking fountains
- Restrooms

Park Land Facility Classification	Park Land Standards	Current Acres	Stnd 2008 Pop. 28,772	Exceeds Or Deficient (existing)	Stnd Build- out Pop. 60,000	Total Defi- cient Needs at Build- out
Total System	9 ac/1000	696	259	437+	540	156+
Regional Canyon Parks	4 ac/1000	475	115	360+	240	235+
Neighborhood Parks	2.5ac/1000	69	72	3-	150	81-
Community Parks & Trails	2.5ac/1000	145	72	73+	150	5-

Table 1 Springville City Park Land Inventory and Needs at Adopted Standards: Source: Springville City Planning



SPRINGVILLE CITY GENERAL PLAN

- Horseshoe pits
- Sand Volleyball Courts,
- Benches,
- Tennis
- Hard-surfaced play areas for basketball

These parks are designed as walk-to facilities and do not include large parking lots or any on-site parking if the site is small (see Map 6-2 Neighborhood Parks).



Figure 6-1 Spring Creek Park is a neighborhood park located at 555 East 600 North

6.6 Community/Specialty Parks

The community parks category generally is designed to provide a wide variety of recreation opportunities for all residents and vistors. Community parks are generally between twelve to sixty acres in size. In addition to facilities found in neighborhood parks, a community park may include regulation baseball, football, and soccer fields, multiple tennis courts, multiple picnic pavilions, amphitheaters, and parking lots.

Specialty parks and facilities consist of and usually provide unique services to the wider community, such as swimming pools, art museums, and amphitheaters (see Map 6-3 Community, Regional and Specialty Parks).



Figure 6-2 Arts Park is a community park located at 700 South 1300 East

6.7 Regional Parks

The regional park category is a large recreation area that serves an entire City or region. The regional park can exceed fifty acres in size and often includes multiple special use facilities, such as golf courses, campground areas, nature centers, botanical gardens, outdoor theaters, trails, a zoo, shorelines, lakes or a broad expanse of natural scenery or open space.

Regional parks are designed to accommodate large numbers of people for a variety of activities. If possible, they should be developed around a unique or significant resource or emphasize regional recreational interests. Regional parks can also serve as buffers and separations between communities or other urban areas (see Map 6-4 Canyon Parks).



Figure 6-3 Sledding at Jolley's Ranch, a regional park located in Hobble Creek Canyon



Figure 6-4 Hobble Creek Golf Course

6.8 Trails

The trails system includes areas along natural and manmade corridors, such as creeks, the Bonneville Shoreline, and the power line corridor in the Westfields Community (see Map 6-5 Trail Corridors). The areas east of 1700 East and west of 400 West, along with the Bonneville Shoreline Trail, were included in an earlier plan adopted by the City in the late 1990s. The original trails Master Plan was adopted by Springville City in the late 1990s and was amended in 2005 to include several areas adjacent to creeks in the Westfields and along Hobble Creek (see Figure 6-5).

Trails are identified as a part of the Westfields Community Plan along portions of Dry Creek and the 1200 West power line corridor, along with Hobble Creek. The trails system is not included as a part of the impact fee and will need to be funded through the general fund, grants, donations, and other funding mechanisms.



Figure 6-5 Portion of Hobble Creek Trail

6.9 Future Springville Park Space

Following current standards for small neighborhood parks would result in an additional 65-80 acres added to the current inventory at build-out. Neighborhood parks range from 7 to 12 acres and are intended to serve areas within ½ to ¾ mile, depending largely on the density of neighboring residential development. These centrally located parks should be surrounded by streets or natural edges such as, creeks or hillsides.

The current community parks standard is 2.5 acres per 1000 residents. Springville will need 135-150 acres of community park space at build-out. Springville currently owns 145 acres for community parks. Once all community parks are built, Springville will meet the existing park standard.

6-4 16 May 2011

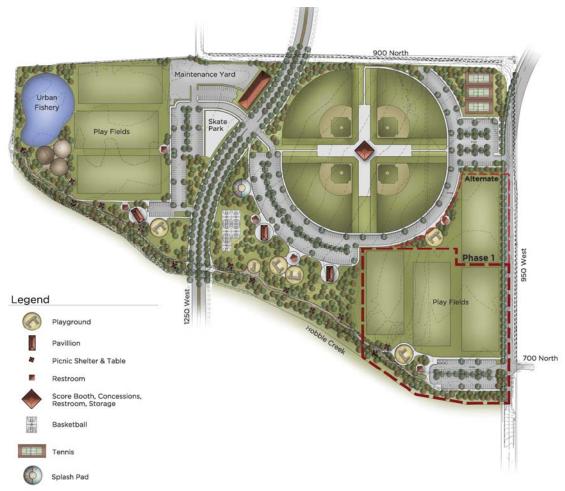


Figure 6-6 Proposed Community Park located at 900 North 950 West.

The two community parks which are not yet built are located in the Westfields Community, and near the mouth of Hobble Creek Canyon. The City has purchased the properties for both of the proposed community parks. A design for the community park proposed north of the Westfields is included in **Figure 6-6**.

With a build out of 60,000 persons, Springville will have the park space needed in order to meet the 2.5 acres/1000 standard. The additional acreage needed to meet current standards could best be met by enlarging existing or proposed parks. Another resource for Springville is the regional parks up Hobble Creek Canyon. The current regional parks standard is 4 acres per 1000 residents. There are 475 acres of this type of parkland, which is 235 acres more than the total land needed at buildout. Jolley's Ranch consist of 360 acres, but only around 47 acres is developable land; the remainder is hillside. Regional parks meet current standards. There are no additional regional parks planned.

6.10 Recreation Facilities

Springville City Recreation carries out its programs at the City-owned parks, pool, and senior center. Other facilities are used

as a result of interlocal agreements, primarily with Nebo School District. (See Parks, Trails and Recreation Appendix Figure 1 for a list of City-owned and other recreation facilities used for the programs).

Springville City recreation programs provide the area a variety of youth, adult, and family recreation programs. Over 5,000 young people participate in the City's Youth Programs. The greatest number of children participate in soccer and baseball/ softball. Over 1,000 adults participate in programs, such as softball, basketball, volleyball, and water activities (See all programs listed in Parks, Trails and Recreation Appendix Table 3.

Family programs include a variety of summer and winter activities ranging from movies and concerts to snow shoeing, cross country skiing, and tubing. Jolley's Ranch began hosting winter activities in 2008.

Another source of recreation in Springville is Hobble Creek. Residents enjoy fishing, swimming, tubing, and trails along the creek.

Recreation opportunities which reflect the 'Art City' Motto include the play house, art museum, art classes, and the World Folkfest.

The City has continuously monitored the interest in city-owned recreation facilities. The most recent survey (2009) indicates that the majority of citizens would support a new recreational center with the three top venues being a sports/fitness center, indoor aquatics, and an indoor track. A location for such a facility has not been decided, but it will be important that it be



Figure 6-7 Baseball and softball programs are popular recreation programs in Springville.

located on a collector or arterial street and that it be as centrally located as is feasible.

6.11 Concerns

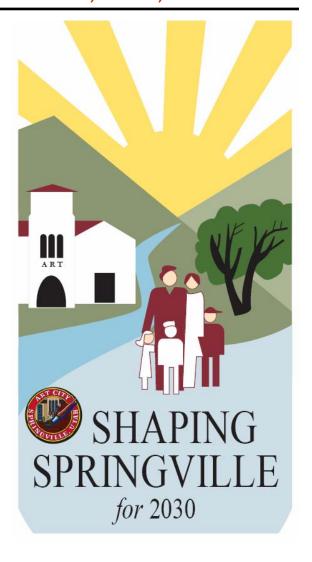
As Springville continues to grow, important decisions will need to be made regarding our park system. Access, equal facilities, and maintenance are all concerns regarding parks. To provide access to parks, they should be bordered by streets or natural borders such as streams or hills and should be centrally located.

Maintenance of existing and new parks and the completion of planned parks are important parts of future plans. This will require commitment by the City and our citizens, along with efforts to ensure these facilities are useful, beautiful, and carefully designed to help ensure maintenance costs are affordable.



6.12 Goals, Objectives, and Strategies

The goals, objectives, and strategies section is comprised of specific goals and actions for Springville during the next 20 years. The following pages present the goals, objectives, and strategies for this element.



OBJECTIVE 1

Continue development of and improvement to Springville's parks and trails system.

SYNOPSIS

Springville City currently owns just under 700 acres of parkland, with just under 200 acres being located within the City boundaries, and the rest being located in Hobble Creek Canyon. Springville has adopted a park standard of nine acres per 1,000 residents. This means at build-out Springville should have 495-540 acres of parkland.

Springville currently has a deficit of neighborhood park land. The City has currently acquired sufficient land to meet community park needs for build-out.

As the City continues to grow, the need for park improvements has become more pronounced, and the opportunities for acquiring land for parks becomes more important. Additionally, it is important that existing parks be completed.

In 2005 a <u>Parks, Trails, and Recreation</u> <u>Master Plan</u> was adopted by the City Council. It is important that this plan is regularly updated.

In addition to the Master Plan, a capital improvements program is an important step to help ensure that adopted City standards for parks, (which include trail systems) and recreational facilities are identified and a time frame for completing them is established.

In addition to the capital facilities improvements, it will be essential that appropriate maintenance standards be adopted, along with adequate funding, to accomplish those standards and ensure that parks are maintained in an attractive and safe manner.

STRATEGIES

1A Update a Parks and Recreation Master Plan for Springville City at least every five years.

Implementation: City Staff, Parks & Recreation Board, Planning Commission, City Council.

1B Update a Capital Improvements Plan for parks and recreational facilities, which shall be reviewed as a part of the annual capital improvements program.

Implementation: City Staff, Parks & Recreation Board, Planning Commission, City Council.

1C Update the parks and recreation impact fee ordinance as needed, based on the adopted capital improvements plan.

Implementation: City Council

1D Work with Nebo School District to develop joint use plan for shared parks and recreation facilities.

Implementation: City Council

1F Follow the park acreage standard of nine acres per 1000 residents.

Implementation: City Staff, Parks & Recreation Board, Planning Commission, City Council.

1G Define and implement a parks and trails maintenance standard for Springville City.

Implementation: City Staff, Parks & Recreation Board, Planning Commission, City Council.

1H Include opportunities for historical, cultural and other similar resources in City parks.

Implementation: City Staff, Parks & Recreation Board, Planning Commission, City Council, Historical Society.

11 Evaluate open space design with consideration to aesthetics, public safety, maintenance needs, water consumption, drainage consideration, and multi-use potential.

Implementation: City Staff, Parks & Recreation Board, Planning Commission, City Council.

OBJECTIVE 2

Develop a system of functional and attractive neighborhood parks throughout the City.

SYNOPSIS

Springville City currently has 69 acres of neighborhood parks located throughout most developed portions of the City.

These parks range from small pocket parks of less than an acre to traditional neighborhood parks of up to nine acres. An analysis of residential densities associated with various zoning designations indicates a minimum neighborhood park size of seven acres.

As Springville grows, it will be necessary to add more neighborhood park space. In order to accommodate the variety of activities associated with neighborhood parks, it will be important that the new parks be sufficiently sized and include appropriate improvements. Improvements such as restrooms, drinking fountains and lighting have been frequently mentioned as concerns.

Previous standards for Springville varied, although the current neighborhood park standard is 2.5 acres per 1,000 residents. At build-out Springville will need 135-150 acres of neighborhood parks, so an additional 65-80 acres will be needed. Springville will need a higher percentage of neighborhood park space for the projected build-out population than other types of parks. This can be achieved as neighborhoods are developed in the

Westfields and communities west of I-15.

It is also important that neighborhood parks be very visible and accessible to all and be located with park patrons in mind, especially in the neighborhood context. Park boundaries should be surrounded by streets to provide visibility and to provide a transition space between residents and the park space. In cases where parks abut a natural feature (e.g., creek or hillside), full street frontage may be reduced.

STRATEGIES

2A Follow the neighborhood park area standard of 2.5 acres per 1,000 residents with a minimum park size of seven acres for new parks.

Implementation: Parks & Recreation Board, Planning Commission, City Council.

2B Centrally locate neighborhood parks as a focal point in the neighborhoods they serve with frontage on at least one collector street and with street frontage surrounding the park boundary.

Implementation: City Staff, Parks & Recreation Department, Parks & Recreation Board, Planning Commission, City Council.

2C Follow adopted improvement standards for new parks and work towards upgrading existing parks.

Implementation: City Council

2D Provide links between neighborhood parks and the Citywide trails systems.

Implementation: Parks & Recreation Board, Planning Commission, City Council.

2E Work to ensure neighborhood parks are located no further than 3/4 of a mile away from the majority of City residents.

Implementation: Parks & Recreation Dept., Parks & Recreation Board, City Council.

OBJECTIVE 3

Develop a Community Park System that will meet the current and long-range needs of the City.

SYNOPSIS

Springville City has adopted a community park standard of 2.5 acres per 1,000 residents. With this standard Springville will need 135-150 acres at build-out. Springville currently has 145 acres built or proposed for community parks. Once the proposed community parks are finished, Springville will meet the existing park standard. If additional park space is needed, the option of adding to existing parks is encouraged.

The proposed 50 acre full-sized community park will be constructed over the next few years, and will include a wide variety of recreational and leisure uses. This park will be located along a major collector street on the edge of residential developments in the Westfields. Intense use areas (e.g., playing fields, especially with lights, amphitheaters, outdoor aquatic centers) should be sited in such a way as to lessen impact on neighboring residential areas.

STRATEGIES

3A Follow the community park standard of 2.5 acres per 1,000 residents.

Implementation: Parks & Recreation Board, Planning Commission, City Council.

3B Complete and maintain proposed community parks.

Implementation: City Staff, Parks & Recreation Department, Parks & Recreation Board, Planning Commission, City Council.

3C Provide links between community parks and the Citywide trails systems.

Implementation: Parks & Recreation Board, Planning Commission, City Council.

3D Site community parks with frontage on a major collector or arterial streets to provide better visibility and accessibility for park users.

Implementation: Parks & Recreation Dept., Parks & Recreation Board, City Council

3E Consider possible expansion of existing community parks located within the City to meet future growth requirements and to provide better visibility and access.

Implementation: Parks & Recreation Dept., Parks & Recreation Board, City Council



OBJECTIVE 4

Acquire property that meets the size and location requirements for parks and trails, and as appropriate, other City needs.

SYNOPSIS

Park land is an important City asset that should be chosen wisely to ensure that it best meets the needs of our City now and in the future. As land prices increase and development results in less land available for parks, it is essential to secure adequately sized parcels in a timely manner.

Throughout the past, land donations have been an important part of property used for parks and trails. It is important that land donated in the future adequately meets the needs of the overall master plan for Springville's parks and trails system. For this reason, a specific policy statement needs to be developed by the City, to focus on the ultimate goals relating to parks and trails for Springville.

There are times when opportunities for multiple uses of the land, such as places for water detention, communication towers, and other public needs should also be considered. When multiple use of park property occurs, it is important that maintenance responsibilities for facilities are clearly defined.

STRATEGIES

- 4A Develop and adopt a policy relating to land donations for park and trail space that assures such donations are in keeping with the Parks and Trails General Plan and Master Plan in terms of size and location.
 - Implementation: Parks & Recreation Board, Planning Commission, City Council.
- 4B Include appropriate City departments and advisory bodies in the consideration of locating City parks, in order to identify optimal sites and better coordinate multiple use of park facilities.
 - Implementation: Mayor, City Council, Public Works, Power, Parks and Recreation Board, Planning Commission, Administration
- 4C Develop a maintenance policy for multiuse areas within City parks (e.g. detention basins) to ensure appropriate maintenance of these facilities is implemented.

Implementation: Administration, Parks and Recreation Dept., Public Works, Power, Community Development Departments, Parks and Recreation Board and Planning Commission.

OBJECTIVE 5

Develop an integrated system of trails to meet the recreational and transportation needs of users.

SYNOPSIS

As the population of Springville increases and the use of the trails increase, it will become important to complete the overall trail system. This will provide both recreational space and contribute to the overall transportation/circulation system of the City by providing alternative routes for pedestrians and non-motorized vehicles.

The Springville Trail system consists of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail that borders the eastern edge of the City, along with the Hobble Creek Trail, which runs diagonally through the City. Additionally, there are several other more limited trail sections along Canyon Road, Dry Creek, Spring Creek, and the Westfields Power Line Corridor (see **Figure 6-6**).

The Bonneville Shoreline Trail is largely established with several shorter lengths still missing. The Hobble Creek Trail has several small sections which have been completed, but the majority of this system still needs to be acquired and developed. It will be important to work with property owners adjacent to the creek for locating and finishing the trail system.

Proposed trail systems included the easement under the Westfields power

lines at 1200 West and the 100 year flood line along Utah Lake.

Developing the complete master plan trails system will take decades to build due to the cost and timing of land acquisition and trail building. In Utah, the use of eminent domain to obtain trails is illegal. Springville will acquire land for new trails acquires as they become available through bonus densities, donations, purchase or other methods.

STRATEGIES

5A Use the Utah County trail standard in development of trails throughout the City.

Implementation: Mayor, City Council, Planning Commission, City Staff, Parks & Recreation Board.

5B Work towards establishing trail heads or trial access at distances of no greater than one-quarter mile.

Implementation: Mayor, City Council, Planning Commission, City Staff, Parks & Recreation Board.

5C Ensure that trail sections are continuous and include a public access point at each end of the section.

Implementation: Mayor, City Council, Planning Commission, City Staff, Parks & Recreation Board.



5D Integrate the trail system into the overall transportation/circulation system of Springville City.

Implementation: Mayor, City Council, Planning Commission, City Staff, Parks & Recreation Board.

5E Explore opportunities to relocate the Hobble Creek Trail from existing rights-of-way to areas adjacent Hobble Creek, throughout the City.

Implementation: Mayor, City Council, Planning Commission, City Staff, Parks & Recreation Board.

5F Utilize wide sections of trail corridors, such as the Westfields' Dry Creek Corridor, for outdoor recreational space, such as playing fields, along with associated parking space.

Implementation: Mayor, City Council, Planning Commission, City Staff, Parks & Recreation Board.

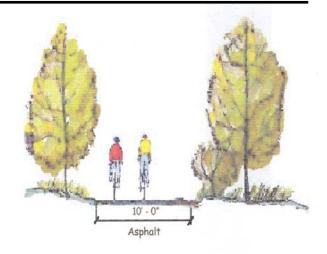


Figure 6-6 Cross section of the Utah County Trail Standard utilized by Springville City. Source: Springville City Planning and Utah County Trails.

OBJECTIVE 6

To provide recreation that creates lasting memories, provides diverse opportunities, builds unity, and provides safe and fun experiences for all age abilities and interest.

SYNOPSIS

Springville City Recreation carries out its programs at the City-owned parks, pool and senior center, along with Nebo School District facilities located in the City. As the City continues to grow, new facilities will be needed to accommodate organized and individual recreation needs. The majority of citizens are very interested in a new recreation center that includes swimming facilities, a gymnasium and other facilities.

Both Springville's youth and adults participate in a variety of recreation programs. Soccer and baseball programs are the most popular. Other programs are offered throughout the City including concerts, golfing, and winter activities at Jolley's Ranch.

Springville City's recreation program offers a diverse variety of programs. What is needed and who to serve must continually be evaluated due to the change in population and trends.

STRATEGIES

6A Work towards construction of a new recreation center that is designed to meet the needs of potential users in a fiscally-responsible manner.

Implementation: Mayor, City Council, Planning Commission, City Staff, Parks & Recreation Board.

6B Continue to assess the recreation needs of Springville.

Implementation: Mayor, City Council, Planning Commission, City Staff, Parks & Recreation Board.

6C Prioritize use of available City owned facilities to ensure Springville City recreation programs are given first priority.

Implementation: Mayor, City Council, Planning Commission, City Staff, Parks & Recreation Board.

6D Create a marketing package to strengthen the image of the canyons park as a recreation destination for residents and neighboring communities.

Implementation: Mayor, City Council, City Staff, Parks & Recreation Board.



6E Enhance the recreation opportunities that reflect the 'Art City' Motto by building Springville's performing and visual arts.

Implementation: Mayor, City Council, City Staff, Parks & Recreation Board, Arts Commission

