



PARKS & RECREATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT SOCIAL EQUITY DEPARTMENT POLICY

OBJECTIVE

The City of Napa Parks and Recreation Services Department recognizes there are residents who may require financial or other assistance to access parks and recreation services. The objective of this Social Equity Department Policy of the Parks and Recreation Services Department (which may be referred to herein as this “Department Policy”) is to guide the Department’s efforts to address social inequities in the City of Napa, by implementing operational practices to help identify and address barriers to access which negatively impact the quality of life of those living in Napa and to provide park and recreation services that are accessible to all residents.

This Department Policy identifies important factors that will inform analyses and recommendations that will be made by Department staff to City decision-makers in the preparation of Citywide policies and implementing actions. While this Department Policy will guide the efforts of Department staff, it does not supersede any requirements of law. While this Department Policy may be a basis for recommending updates to Citywide policies, this Department Policy does not supersede any Citywide policies until approved by the relevant City decision-maker.

POLICY STATEMENT

In alignment with the City of Napa 2040 General Plan which acknowledges the value parks, recreation and the urban forest provide as critical contributors to the environment and human health, and a focus on policy development relating to access, equity, asset management, and funding, this Department Policy intends to address opportunity gaps by ensuring equitable access for all City of Napa residents to park spaces and that assistance is available to those in the community experiencing financial barriers to participation. This policy document is an implementation step of the following 2040 General Plan policies:

- CSPR 9-1: Support programs to ensure that all residents are within a 1.5 to two-mile radius of a community-serving park, which includes the Community Park & Facility or Natural Area & Open Space categories. This replaces the quadrant method utilized in the previous General Plan

- PHE 1-1: Continue to craft proactive policies in collaboration with community members and Napa public agencies that address the design of the built environment; effective programs and services; strong partnerships with health providers and agencies; and community education and engagement. Incorporate health and equity criteria into all capital projects, such as those in the City of Napa’s Capital Improvement Program, to advance health equity through project development and prioritization (e.g., improving safe and active transportation). For example, the City of Oakland considers equity as a weighted prioritization factor when evaluating capital improvement project priorities.
- PHE 4-6: Ensure that investments in parks and recreation facilities are equitable and prioritize improvements to lower-income neighborhoods where residents may not have transportation to visit parks that are further away.
- PHE 9-4: Explore options to make access to community classes, resources, and events economically viable for those who want to participate.

Methods for creating social equity and providing access to parks and recreation services include: an effective and well-designed needs-based assistance program for those who require financial aid in order to participate in recreation services; and efforts to ensure that a public common space or place such as a park, natural area, and/or amenity is geographically accessible (within 10 min walk (or 0.5 mile) for a neighborhood park or within 1.5-2 miles for a community park) to every City of Napa household. See *Appendix C for the City of Napa parks 10-minute walk heat map.*

EQUALITY and EQUITY

A common misconception is that the terms *equality* and *equity* are the same. In the context of this policy, it is important to address the distinction and differentiation between *equality* and *equity*.



Equality speaks to providing for the equal distribution and provision of services while *equity* speaks to the methods by which the City of Napa will make efforts to provide fair and just distribution and provision of service based upon circumstance.

NEEDS BASED ASSISTANCE

The Department ensures that services are accessible to residents who may require financial assistance to access or participate in parks and recreation services. The Department will appropriate funds fairly

and equitably to support persons in financial need, with a focus on low-income households earning less than 50% of the area median income (AMI) for Napa. Funding will be made available in a manner that provides reduced rates or financial assistance to the neediest individuals and families as well as provide equitable subsidies across the system.

As part of the annual budget process, the Department will appropriate funds to its scholarship/reduced rate fund. The amount of the appropriate will be calculated based on annual projected financial aid needs, award thresholds, and anticipated total population needing to be served based upon previous year's requests and results of a needs quantification system (e.g. HUD Poverty Guidelines, individual's/family's location of residence, enrollment in local Social Services such as WIC, participation in state programs such as CalFresh or CalWORKS, etc.).

Needs based assistance awards will vary based upon the financial support requested on behalf of each individual and/or family who applies for assistance.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT BASED UPON CONDITION & EQUITY CRITERIA

The Financial Sustainability Policy guides re-investment into the park and recreation system such as in those services which require extensive and essential investment such as the maintenance, replacement, and care of physical assets and infrastructure, and addressing inequities in the community.

Park and recreation infrastructure and physical assets are financial liabilities and expenses assumed by the City of Napa and taxpayers. These assets are fundamental to delivering high quality services that meet the needs and desires of the community and are among the indirect costs associated with service delivery.

Decisions to invest in infrastructure and physical assets impose a responsibility to provide requisite funds for not only the construction of any new asset, but for necessary investment over the asset's life for preventative, short, and long-term maintenance, rehabilitation, or refurbishment. Therefore, investment decisions will be considered within the context of the City's overall budget capacity and assumed long term liabilities.

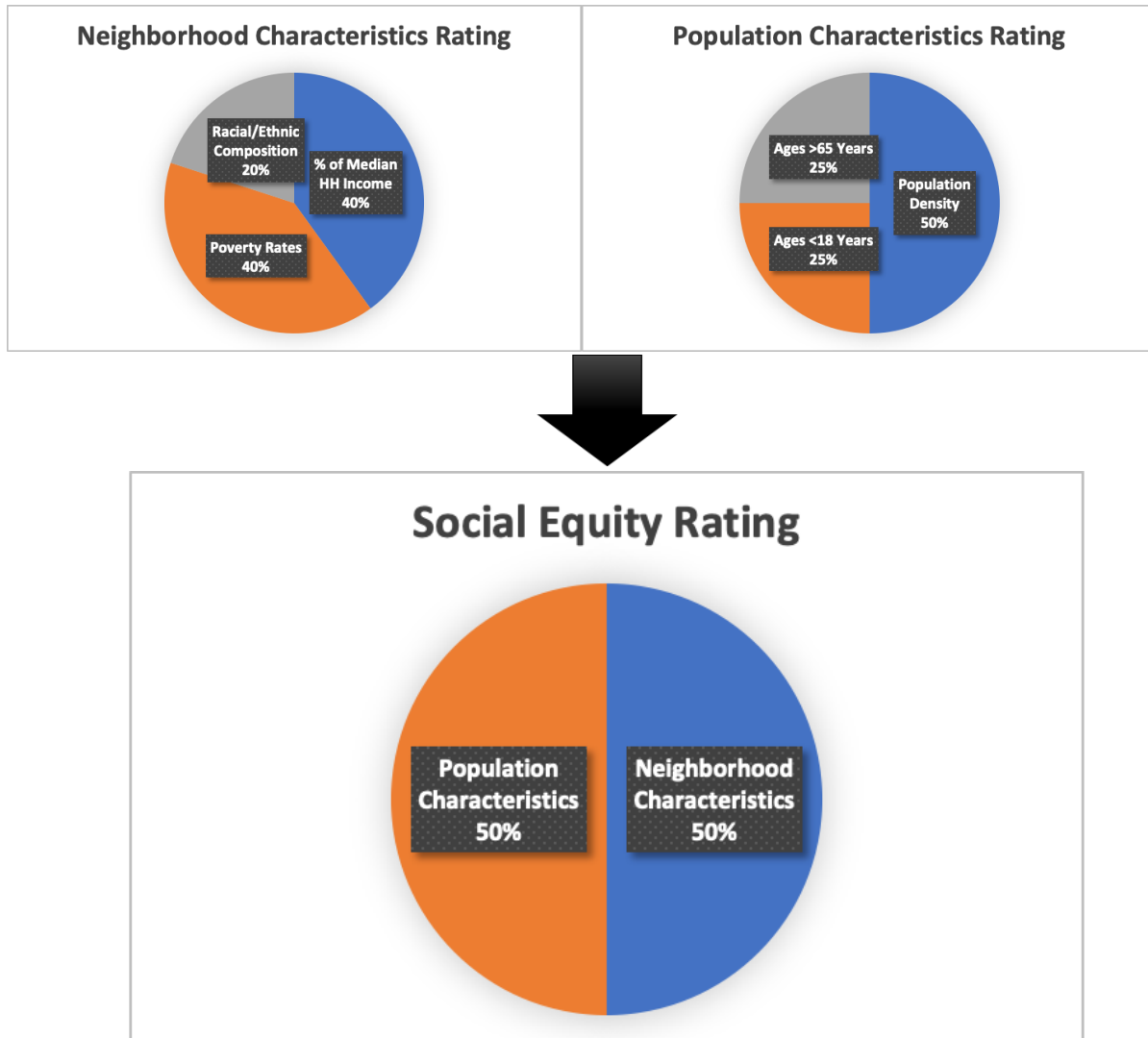
Infrastructure investments in the state of California extend beyond traditional construction and maintenance to relevant considerations like clean energy innovations, wildfire management methods and applications, drought resilience response, and social equity interests. In Napa, these issues are underscored by way of the City's Climate Emergency Proclamation and Systematic Racism Resolution.

Equity-based criteria direct the prioritization of capital investment by quantifiably evaluating park and recreation assets so that investments are equitably targeted and support City of Napa commitments to address inequities in the community.

Infrastructure and assets that support park and recreation service afforded to City of Napa residents and visitors include several category types, such as natural areas and open spaces; community parks and

facilities; neighborhood parks; mini parks; special use parks and facilities; civic spaces; landscape assessment districts and trails.

Criteria used to analyze these assets and determine priority-based capital investments include a combination of neighborhood and population characteristics using multiple data sources as well as asset condition characteristics.

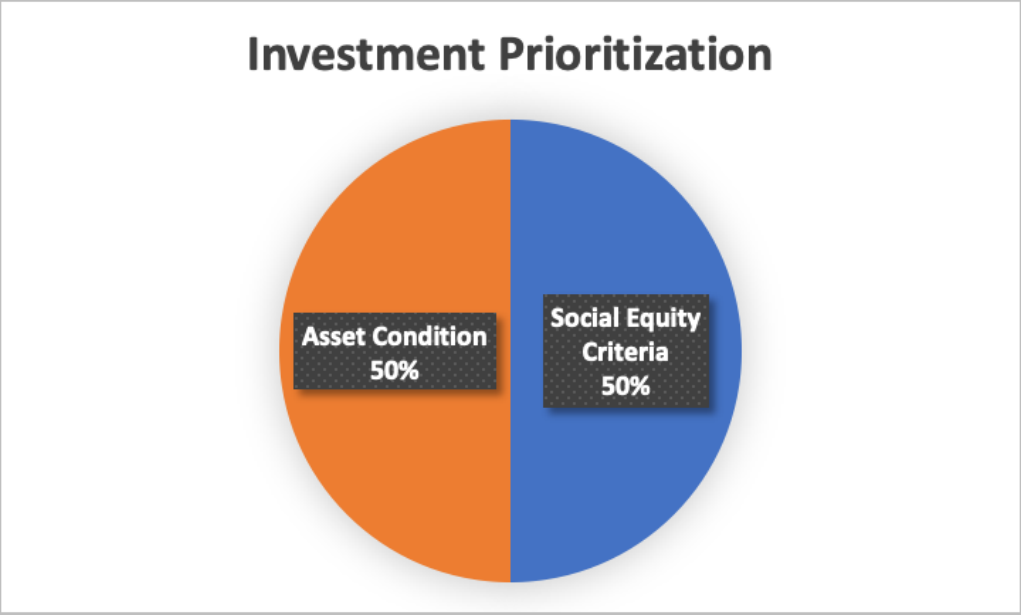


Equity Criteria

- Neighborhood characteristics include income; poverty rate; and race/ethnicity.
- Population characteristics include population density; percent of residents within the service area who are less than 18 years; and percent of residents within the service who are 65 years & over.
- Park access within a 10-minute walk and ease of access by bus line or auto.

Asset Condition Criteria

- Conditional characteristics include park condition, asset's lifespan, and park type.



INVESTMENT PRIORITIZATION

The City of Napa must decide how to invest in infrastructure (existing as well as new projects) with limited and in some cases, finite resources.

This Department Policy intends to guide the City of Napa so that social equity and asset condition criterium are the barometer by which infrastructure investment decisions are made.

REVIEW & EVALUATION

This Department Policy will be reviewed every five years using United States Census and American Community Survey data as well as review and analysis of the condition of City of Napa park and recreation assets.

All Criteria and Source Information as well as overall Social Equity Score Rankings are included in Appendices A and B.

The social equity scores produced by the policy ranged from 3.05 to 4.17. Because the condition scores were based on a 1 to 5 ranking scale, the variance was increased between the social equity scores to be consistent with the 1 to 5 scale used by the condition rating.

APPENDIX A – TABLE OF CRITERIA & SOURCE INFORMATION

Appendix A - Table of Criteria & Source Info	
Population Density	
Source: Census	
Estimated number of people per square mile, between 2015-2019.	
Number of people	Rating
9,528 or higher	1
5,465 - 9,527	2
3,582 - 5,464	3
1,121 - 3,581	4
1,120 or less	5
% of Population Less than 18 yrs old	
Source: Census	
Estimated percent of all people under 18, between 2015-2019.	
% of people	Rating
26.86 or greater	1
23.41 - 26.85%	2
20.69 - 23.40%	3
17.29 - 20.68%	4
17.28% or lower	5
% of Population 65 yrs old and over	
Source: Census	
Estimated percent of all people 65 or older, between 2015-2019.	
% of people	Rating
24.13% or greater	1
19.40 - 24.12%	2
16.26 - 19.39%	3
12.70 - 16.25%	4
12.69% or lower	5

% Median HHI

Source: ACS & Policy Map

Local Median Household Income as a share of Area Median Household Income between 2015-2019.

% share	Rating
30% or less	1
31 - 50%	2
51 - 80%	3
81 - 120%	4
121% or more	5

Poverty

Source: Census

Estimated percent of all people that are living in poverty as of 2015-2019.

% of people	Rating
19.64% or higher	1
14.02 - 19.63%	2
9.28 - 14.01%	3
5.41 - 9.27%	4
5.40% or less	5

Racial/Ethnic group

Source: Census

Note: No other racial or ethnic groups % besides Hispanic scored high enough on the scale.

Predominant racial or ethnic group between 2013-2017.

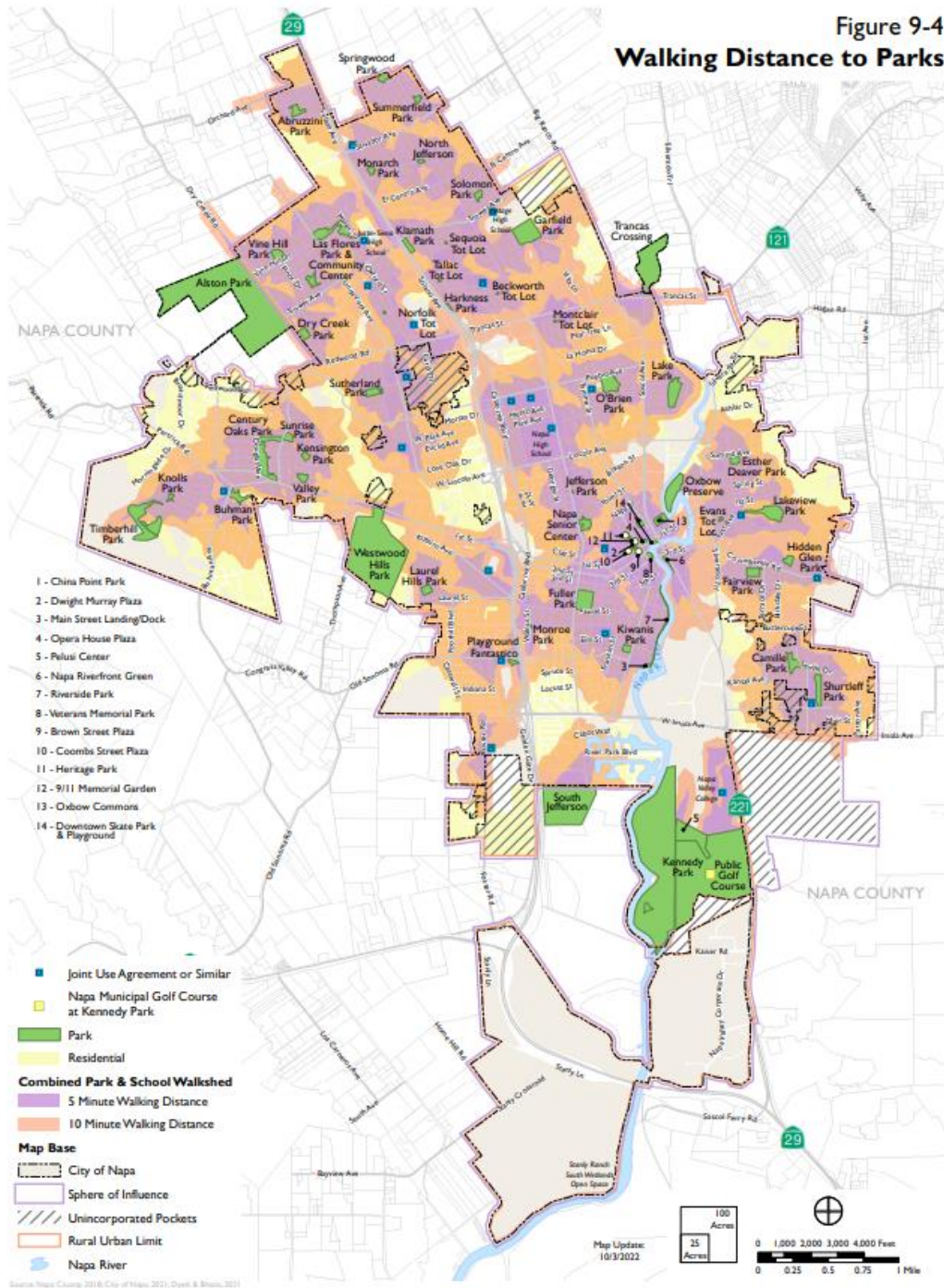
% of people	Rating
70% or more Hispanic	1
50 - 70% Hispanic	2
Less than 50% White or Hispanic	3
50% or more White	4
70% or more White	5

APPENDIX B – OVERALL RANKING BY PARK CATEGORY

	Community Parks	SE Score
1	Fuller Park	1.62
2	Kennedy Park	1.79
3	O’Brien Park	1.82
4	Century Oaks Park	2.47
5	Las Flores Park	2.68
	Open Spaces & Natural Areas	SE Score
1	Oxbow Preserve	1.27
2	Oxbow Commons	1.48
3	Trancas Crossing	1.75
4	Westwood Hills	1.85
5	Alston Park	2.88
6	Timberhill	4.28
	Neighborhood Parks	SE Score
1	Laurel Park	1.17
2	Camille Park	1.48
3	Shurtleff Park	1.48
4	Lake Park	1.68
5	Solomon Park	2.44
6	Sutherland Park	2.54
7	Klamath Park	2.71
8	Monarch Park	2.88
9	Fairview Park	2.91
10	Esther Deaver Park	3.29
11	Springwood Park	3.39
12	Summerfield Park	3.46
13	Vinehill Park	3.50
14	Vineyard Park	3.50
15	Abruzzini Park	3.60
16	Lakeview Park	3.63
17	Dry Creek Park	3.67
18	Valley Park	3.94
19	Kensington Park	4.01
20	Sunrise Park	4.35
21	Buhman Park	5.00

	Mini	SE Score
1	Montclair Tot Lot	1.27
2	Harkness Park	1.31
3	Beckworth Tot Lot	1.72
4	Tallac Tot Lot	2.06
5	Norfolk Tot Lot	2.13
6	Sequoia Tot Lot	2.54
7	North Jefferson Park	2.98
8	Evans Tot Lot	3.63
	Civic Spaces	SE Score
1	Napa Riverfront Green	1.99
2	Harry T. Price Riverwalk	1.99
3	9/11 Memorial Garden	2.13
4	Brown Street Plaza	2.13
5	Dwight Murray Plaza	2.13
6	Heritage Park	2.13
7	Opera House Plaza	2.13
8	Veterans Memorial Park	2.13
9	China Point Park	2.16
	Special Use & Facilities	SE Score
1	Playground Fantastico	1.44
2	Napa Senior Center	1.62
3	Kiwanis Park	1.72
4	Riverside Park & Boat Ramp	1.96
5	Main Street Landing/Dock	1.96
6	Downtown Napa Skate Park	2.13
7	Garfield Park	2.54
8	Las Flores Community Center	2.68
	Not Developed	SE Score
1	Monroe Park	0.44
2	Jefferson Park	0.44
3	South Jefferson Park	0.60
4	Hidden Glen Park	3.88
5	Knolls Park	5.00

APPENDIX C – HEAT MAP OF 10 MINUTE WALKING DISTANCE TO CITY OF NAPA PARKS



In reference to the 2040 General Plan policies CSPP 9-3, CSPP 11-3, and CSPP 11-4, given that the City has sufficient parkland and parkland distribution to meet the needs of the City’s existing and projected population, develop an asset management plan that prioritizes access improvement projects in gap areas seen on this map to meet the needs of residents of all ages. The analysis shows 87% of Napa residents live within a 10-minute walk of a park (national average is 55% according to the Trust For Public Land).