

May 21, 2018

TOWN OF TAOS **PARKS + RECREATION**
APPENDIX **DRAFT**

PREPARED FOR:

TOWN OF TAOS

PREPARED BY:

design office
landscape planning urbanism

with
HENRY ARCHITECTS . architecture

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Appendix A

A EXISTING CONDITIONS ASSESSMENT

Kit Carson Park

Fred Baca Park

Taos Eco Park

Taos Youth and Family Center

DRAFT

**TOWN OF TAOS
PARKS + RECREATION MASTER PLAN**
SITE ASSESSMENT



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SITE ASSESSMENT

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INTRODUCTION

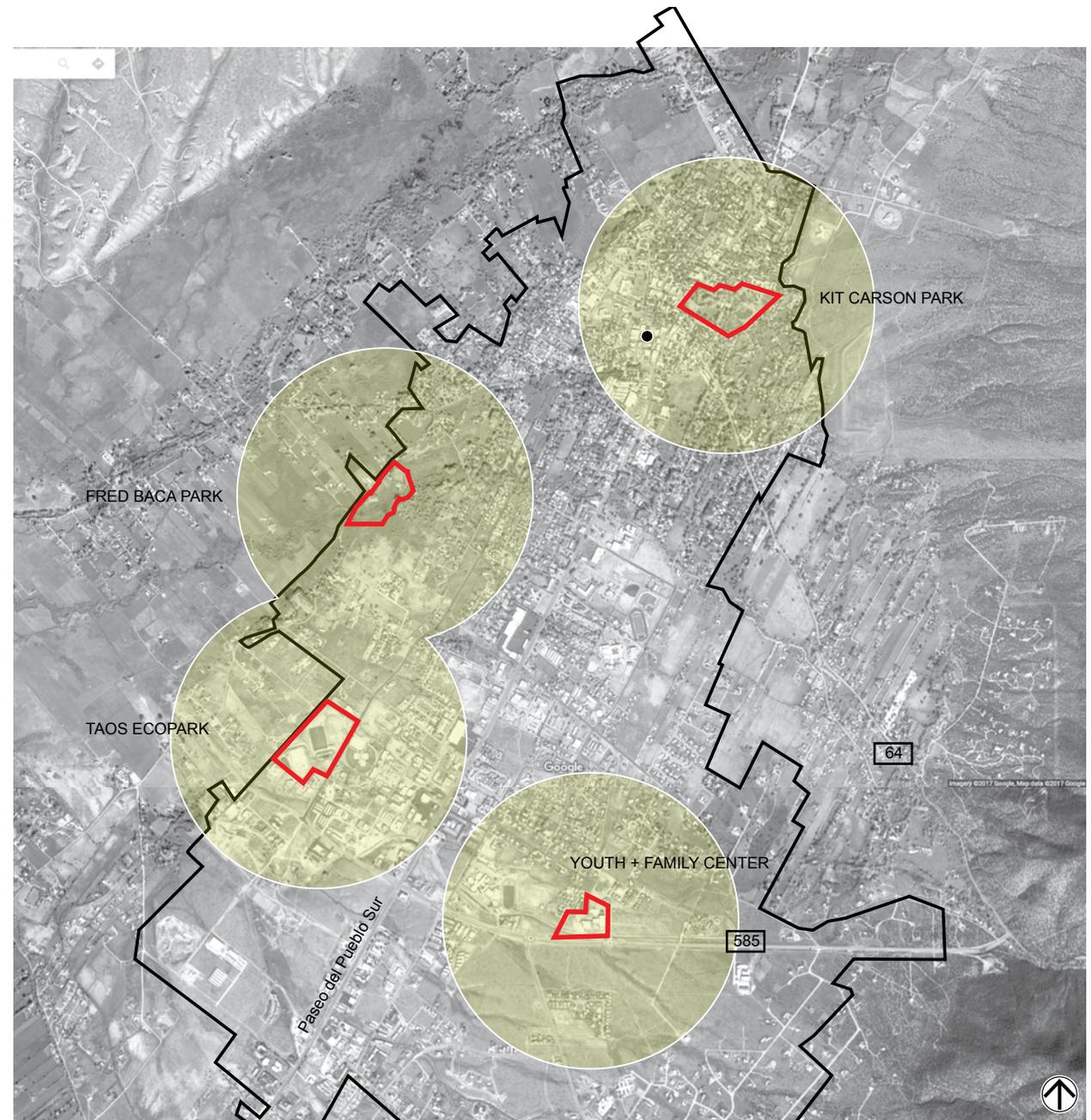
INTRODUCTION

A site inventory and existing conditions assessment was conducted in Fall / Winter 2017 to identify the extent and conditions of improvements the following Town of Taos Parks Facilities:

- Kit Carson Park
- Fred Baca Park
- Taos Eco Park
- Taos Youth and Family Center

Information collected for the site assessment was derived from visual inspections and interviews with Town of Taos staff. Recommendations for improvements are based on team site assessments with input from interviews with Town of Taos staff, focus group meetings with special interest groups, and suggestions from the general public.

Park Site Context map - Town of Taos



EXISTING CONDITIONS

KIT CARSON PARK

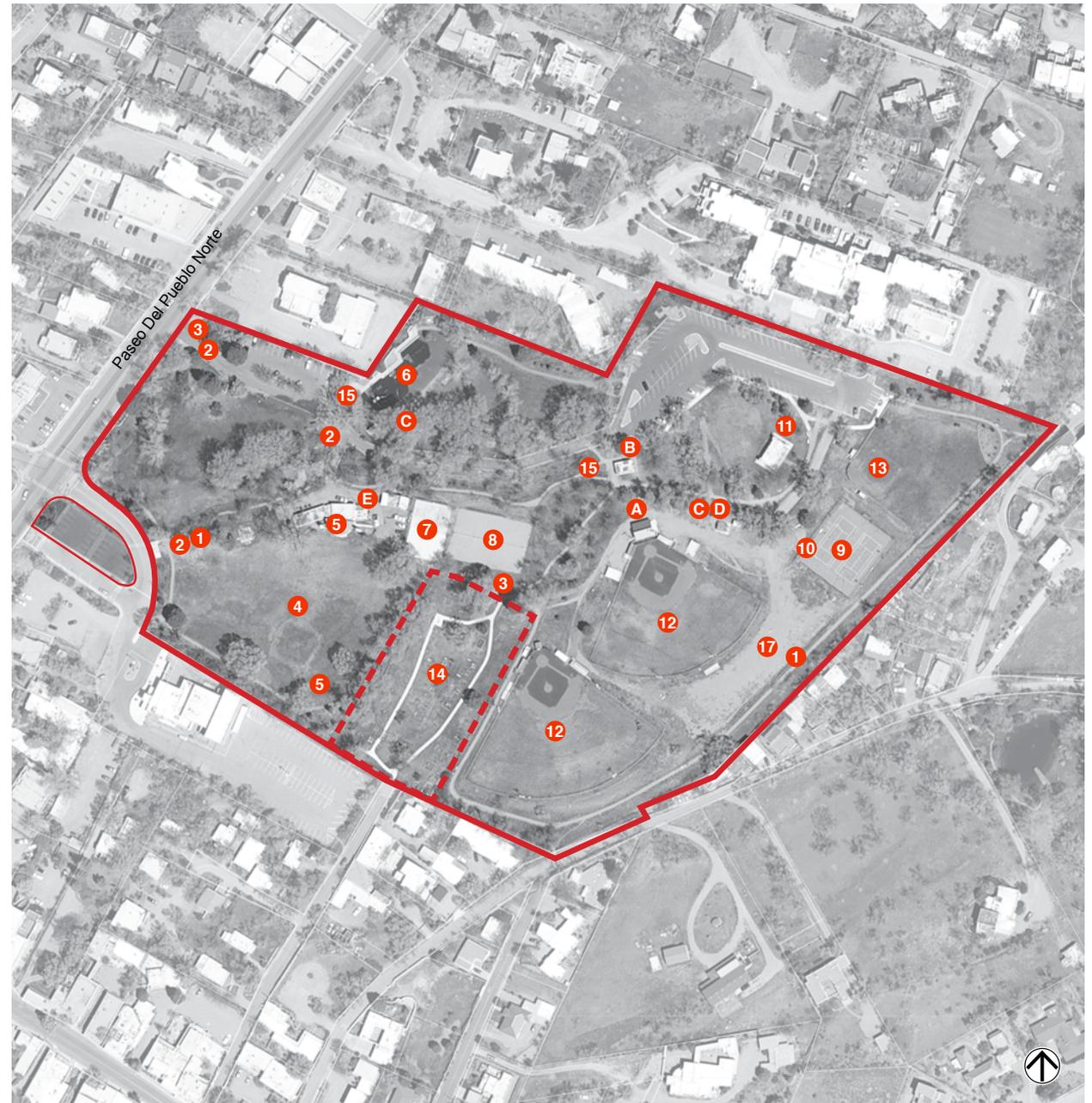
The 20.2 acre Kit Carson Park was acquired by the Town of Taos in 1988 from the State of New Mexico. The Kit Carson Memorial Cemetery, a separate x-acre tract of land owned by x within the park, is a historic cemetery and the final resting place for many prominent Taosenos. These include Christopher 'Kit' Carson, Padre Antonio Martinez, and Mabel Dodge Lujan.

Site Inventory

The following amenities exist on Kit Carson Park, see locations on aerial photo to right:

- 1 Walking Path
 - 2 Information Kiosk
 - 3 Historical Marker
 - 4 Multi-purpose Lawn
 - 5 Bandstand / Temporary Stage
 - 6 Playground
 - 7 Basketball Courts
 - 8 Volleyball Court
 - 9 Tennis Courts / Dog Run
 - 10 Batting Cage
 - 11 Gathering / Event Shelter
 - 12 Baseball / Softball Field and affiliated amenities
 - 13 Tee Ball Field and affiliated amenities
 - 14 Kit Carson Memorial Cemetery
 - 15 Drinking Fountain
- Buildings
- A Concessions
 - B Restroom
 - C Restroom - composting
 - D Equipment Storage Building
 - E Maintenance Facility

Kit Carson Park - Aerial Photo, 2016



EXISTING CONDITIONS

MULTI-PURPOSE LAWN

The multi-purpose lawn is approximately 77,500 sf (1.75 acres) and is open to other areas of the park to the north and east. It is bordered by a 6' chain link fence to the south and a split rail fence separates it from the parking area to the west. The multipurpose field shares a fence line (4' tall) with the Kit Carson Memorial Cemetery to its east. The field is often used for community events and concerts as well as for active and passive recreation.

a. Field Surface Condition

- Grass appears to be stressed and compacted due to overuse.
- The field does not have surface irrigation and is prone to drying out in the summer months.
- A cottonwood stump remains in front of the new stage and is a hazard.

b. Fencing + Access Control

- Perimeter fence: a mix of different fence types line the east, west, and south edges of the field. The east fence is wrought iron over a stone base and doubles as the cemetery fence (condition: poor to fair, needs repairs / replacement); the south fence is 6' tall chain link with barbed wire on top (condition: fair, needs weed management); the west fence is a 3.5' tall wood split rail fence (condition: fair).
- Access: a number of openings in to the west allow for pedestrian access from the Paseo and the TCA parking / access. Maintenance access is through locked double-leaf gates on the west and from the TCA back (east) parking area. A large opening in the TCA border fence by the stage allows unchecked access from the south.
- Temporary event fencing (6' tall chain link panel fencing) is added during summer months to control access to concerts.

c. Field Maintenance

- Taos aerates the fields every year and reseeds with Sports Turf Seed Mix.
- A challenge has been
- Taos crews usually do a seasonal clean up and prep in early May and minimal maintenance through summer. Maintenance includes mowing and irrigation checking.

d. Site Furnishings

- Benches: a number of recycled plastic moveable benches are positioned on the perimeter of the field.
- Trash Receptacles: trash receptacles are located at entry points to the park

e. Performance Stages

- Bandstand: one permanent semicircular performance stage (1,475 sf, 21'-8" radius) is located on the north side of the lawn and is in good condition. The covered stage faces south and sits along the southern edge of the maintenance facility building. A George Chacon mural (ca. 16' tall x 43' wide) depicting dancers is painted on the wall at the back of the stage.
- Temporary Stage: a portable performance stage (approx. 40'x40') owned by the Town is set up during summer months for concert events and movies in the park. It generally located in the southeast corner of the lawn and faces northwest. The stage has a roof and adjustable AV rigging; it is surrounded by a security fence when not in use. The stage is accessed from the TCA parking lot adjacent to the park during events. The backstage "staging area" is grass and compacted soil.
- Event Electrical Access:

f. Drainage / Acequias

- Acquias: a north/south acequia ditch runs along the east edge of the field between the perimeter path and the fence bordering the cemetery; a southwest / northeast acequia ditch runs north of the western perimeter path north of the maintenance facility.
- Drainage: the lawn slopes south and west, with the low point at the southwest corner.



Multi-purpose lawn; looking southwest



Taos Bandstand with George Chacon mural



Multi-purpose lawn and temporary performance stage

EXISTING CONDITIONS

RECREATIONAL FIELDS

On the east edge of the park there are two designated baseball (little league) fields with associated amenities and one teeball field with minor improvements, which is also used as a multi-purpose field. The fields are dominantly used by Little League during their season (April - June, All Stars: July, August).

Teeball Field / Multi-Purpose Field

The field is located at the northeast corner of the site. The field and its amenities are in fair condition and in need of more regular maintenance. The field is natural grass and has dirt base paths. Teeball amenities include partial fencing, dugouts, and a backstop.

a. Use

- The field is a multi-purpose grass field that has amenities for Teeball use in the southwest corner. Bases are 50' apart with a distance of 135' along the foul lines.
- There is no outfield fence.
- Little League uses the field for tee ball practice and games and it is also open to general use.

b. Field Condition

- Surface: grass appears to be well kept; there is no apparent sign of pests: the turf is thick and well irrigated.
- Fencing: chain link fence (4' height) runs along the west and south side foul lines and is in good condition.
- Backstop Fence: the chain link backstop (10' height) is in good condition but lacks appropriate height or angled panel to collect errant foul balls.
- Fence cap: yellow 'Poly-cap' is installed along the length of the fence line and is in good condition.

c. Dugouts

- Dugouts: one set of dugouts at the southwest corner of the teeball field are made of metal and are in fair condition.
- Dugouts are small and may not hold an entire team; they lack permanent benches or equipment racks.
- Field Access: a short chain link fence (4' height) separates players from the field. Two (4' height) pedestrian gates provide access to the field.

d. Site Furnishings

- Bleachers: none
- Benches: there 4 recycled plastic moveable benches located at the field.
- Moveable benches in the dugout are in fair condition.
- Trash Receptacles: there are two moveable trash cans - one located near each dugout.

e. Lights

- No sports lighting.

f. Miscellaneous

- Acequia: an acequia lateral runs the length of the area between the teeball field and the tennis court / dog park. Most of the acequia is open, unmarked, and a potential tripping hazard.
- Perimeter Path: a 6 ft wide paved path extends along the northern and eastern edge of the field.



Infield and outfield; looking Northeast



Dugout with field access



Acequia between Teeball field and Tennis Court / Dog Park

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Baseball Field - south

The southern field and its amenities are in fair condition and could benefit from more regular maintenance and some upgrades to enhance security. The field consists of an artificial turf infield and grass outfield. Amenities include perimeter fencing, bleachers, dugouts, a scorer's booth, and sports field lighting.

a. Use

- The baseball field is configured for Little League use. Bases are 60' apart and the distance along the foul lines to the outfield fence measures 225'.
- Little League uses the field for practice, games, and Coaches Pitch.

b. Field Condition

- Outfield: grass appears to be well kept; no visible evidence of pests; turf is thick and well irrigated.
- Infield: combination of synthetic turf grass and infield clay; the synthetic turf is highly compacted and lacks infill. Remove weeds from the infield clay / turf and rake / weed regularly to prevent weeds from spreading.
- Field access: the field is accessed via pedestrian gates at the infield and a double leaf maintenance gate in left field.
- Fencing: fence is in good condition except weeds / elms need to be removed; infield chain link fence is 6' high; outfield chain link fence is 4' high.



Infield turf, dugouts and scorer's building



Outfield looking north

e. Scoreboard

- The scoreboard is located in left-center field and appears to be in good working order (unverified).

f. Lights

- The field is lit by 4 - 25' high steel sports lighting poles each with 6 light fixtures.
- There are 2 light fixtures mounted at approx. 10' to the top of the scorer's table to light the infield.
- Security Issue: lights are easily accessible from the ground using the pegs on the post; bulbs are being stolen frequently. Access to the lights needs to be limited to maintenance staff only.

- Fence cap: yellow 'Poly-cap' is installed along the entire perimeter fence and is in good condition.
- Backstop: the backstop is in acceptable condition but attached shade material is torn and loose and needs to be removed or replaced.

c. Dugouts / Scorer's Box

- Dugouts: there are two painted CMU dugouts on the north and west side of the field. A chain link fence separates players from the field of play. Dugouts are in fair condition but require regular cleaning and fresh paint.
- Dugout amenities: no permanent benches or equipment racks.
- Security issues: dugouts face away from most park activities and are frequent locations for loitering / vandalism.
- Scorer's Box: Design Office did not have access to the building. It appears to be in good condition.

d. Site Furnishings

- Spectator Bleachers: two bleachers on either side of the baseball field are in good condition. They are not on concrete slabs. The bleachers are 5 tiers (approx. 5' high) and lack handrails; they do not meet current code requirements.
- Benches: There are no permanent benches at the baseball field or in the dugouts. Moveable benches at the field are in poor condition.
- Trash Receptacles: there is one moveable trash can located behind the backstop, a second is located in one of the dugouts.



Infield clay overgrown with weeds and grass

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Baseball Field - north

The field and its amenities are in fair condition and in need of more regular maintenance. The field consists of an artificial turf infield and a grass outfield. Amenities include full perimeter fencing, bleachers, dugouts, and a concessions building.

a. Use

- The baseball field is currently configured for Little League use. Bases are 60' apart and the distance along the foul lines to the outfield fence measures 210'.
- Little League uses the field.

b. Field Condition

- Outfield: grass appears to be well kept; no visible evidence of pests; turf is thick and well irrigated.
- Infield: combination of synthetic turf grass and infield clay; the synthetic turf is highly compacted and lacks infill. Remove weeds from the infield clay and rake / weed regularly to prevent spreading.
- Field access: the field is accessed via pedestrian gates at the infield and a double leaf maintenance gate in left field.
- Fencing: fence is in good condition except weeds / elms need to be removed; infield chain link fence is 6' high; outfield chain link fence is 4' high.
- Fence cap: yellow 'Poly-cap' is installed along the entire perimeter fence and is in good condition.
- Backstop: the backstop is in acceptable condition but attached shade material is torn and loose and needs to be removed or replaced.



Baseball field; looking Southeast



Baseball infield, dugouts and concession building



Dugout interior

c. Dugouts / Scorer's Box

- Dugouts: there are two painted CMU dugouts on the north and west side of the field. A chain link fence separates players from the field of play. Dugouts are in fair condition but require regular cleaning and fresh paint.
- Dugout amenities: no permanent benches or equipment racks.
- Security issues: dugouts face away from most park activities and are frequent locations for loitering / vandalism.
- See "Buildings" for the Concessions Building assessment.

d. Site Furnishings

- Spectator Bleachers: the two bleachers on either side of the baseball field behind the foul lines are in good condition. They are not on concrete slabs. The bleachers are 10 tiers (approx. 10' high) and have adequate handrails. An additional bleacher behind the center field fence is 5 tiers (approx. 5' high), has adequate handrails, and is in good condition.
- Benches: There are no permanent benches at the baseball field or in the dugouts. Moveable benches at the field are in poor condition.
- Trash Receptacles: there two moveable trash cans located behind the backstop.

e. Scoreboard / Flagpole

- The scoreboard is located in left-center field and appears to be in good working order (unverified).
- The flagpole is located behind the center field fence and is good condition.

f. Lights

- The field is lit by 6 - 25' high sports lighting poles each with 3 light fixtures.
- Security Issue: lights are easily accessible from the ground using the pegs on the post; bulbs are being stolen frequently. Access to the lights needs to be limited to maintenance staff only.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

RECREATIONAL COURTS

Basketball Courts

The basketball court area is approx. 60'x95'. It has 6 basketball hoops (2 on each long side and 1 on each short side).

a. Use

- The basketball court is frequently used by individuals and serves as a surface for organized group activities (stretching, games, etc.).
- The basketball court was originally designed to be an ice skating rink in winter. It is used during events a location for additional portable restrooms.

b. Condition

- The court surface is in good condition; it is not striped / painted for regulation use.
- Rims and backboards are in fair condition; nets are worn or missing.

c. Fencing + Access Control

- The courts do not have a complete perimeter fence. Errant balls may enter the volleyball court.
- The west edge of the court (adjacent to the maintenance facility) is fenced with chain link (8' height).
- The two short ends of the court have a 50' long, 8' high chain link fence
- Fences are in good condition.

d. Site Furnishings

- There are approximately 4 moveable benches facing the basketball court on the east edge.
- There are 3 moveable trash cans near the court.

Volleyball Courts

The volleyball court area is approx. 90'x125' and is comprised of 3 regulation-sized sand courts. The volleyball court is directly adjacent to the basketball courts.

a. Use

- The sand volleyball courts are well used in summer, according to the Town Parks Department.

b. Condition

- The court is in good condition and the sand appears to be well distributed and clean.
- The perimeter curbing (modular plastic edging) is missing or not visible in most places.
- Nets: eastern court - has posts but no net; center court - is rigged with a net in good condition; western court - rigged with a net in poor condition.

c. Fencing + Access Control

- The courts do not have a complete perimeter fence.
- The 2 courts nearest the basketball court have chain link fence barriers behind each court to catch errant balls. Each fence is 8' tall x 50' long. Fences are in good condition.

d. Site Furnishings

- There are no moveable benches near the court although there are some nearby on the basketball court.
- There are no trash cans near the court although there are some nearby on the basketball court.



Mutt Mitt



Batting cage entrance



Cracks in court surface



Basketball Courts; looking southeast



Volleyball Courts; looking southeast



Batting cage; looking north

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Tennis Court / Dog Run / Batting Cage

The tennis court is approximately 115'x100' and is surrounded by a 8' tall chain link fence. It is striped for 2 courts although nets and net posts have been removed and it is currently used as a makeshift dog park. Directly adjacent to the tennis courts and sharing the concrete slab, are two batting cages.

a. Use

- Tennis activities have been discontinued at the court.
- The court is currently used as a dog run.

b. Court Condition

- The court is in poor condition. It is severely cracked and the surface is peeling in numerous places. Weeds grow from the cracks.
- The nets and net posts have been removed. Post holes have been filled in with concrete.
- Synthetic turf has been placed within the batting cage area and appears to be in good condition.

c. Fencing + Access Control

- The perimeter fence is in good condition.
- The court / dog run is accessed from the north side. It has a closeable pedestrian gate.
- Each batting cage has a pedestrian gate. 1 cage is accessed from the south, 1 is accessed from the north. Neither is accessed from the tennis court.
- The batting cage 'ceiling' is chain link mesh and appears to lack rails to support it although it is in fair condition.

d. Site Furnishings

- There are 2 moveable benches located on the court.
- Trash cans: 4 moveable trash cans (1 at the entrance of the court / dog run and 1 at each batting cage entrance).
- A 'Mutt Mitt' dispenser and 'Dog Friendly' sign has been installed at the tennis court / dog park entrance.

e. Lighting

- The court / dog run is not lit for pedestrian or recreational activities.

PLAYGROUND

Playground (1996)

The ca. 3,500 sf playground is comprised of 2 age specific areas (2-5 years old and 5-12 years old) with 2 large play structures and additional play elements. Surfacing is pea gravel with rubberized surfacing for accessible routes to accessible play elements. The north and west edge of the playground is buffered by synthetic turf grass. The playground is bounded to the north, west, and south by fences and walls. An open lawn area with mature trees extends to the east. A dedication plaque to the northwest of the playground area reads: "In Honor of Ernie Blake - Ski Pioneer, Donated by the Fochin Inn - May 15, 1998".

a. Use

- The playground area is well used by different age groups and abilities.
- The playground is ADA accessible and has accessible / inclusive play features.
- There are multiple shaded places beyond the play perimeter for parents to sit and monitor children.

b. Inventory

- Large structure with access from blue rubber surfacing.
- Tot structure with access blue rubber surfacing.
- Two 'Riding' units.
- Sandbox on west side against perimeter stucco wall
- Bench against stucco wall
- Swing set, accessible swing from blue rubber surfacing.
- Ramp without handrails.
- Rubber curb around north, east and south edge of playground containing pea gravel in safety zone.
- Synthetic turf on north and west sloped surfaces of the play area.

c. Condition

- All structures are in good condition.
- The drinking fountain is not operational.

d. Site Furnishings

- There are currently 2 moveable picnic tables near the play area located on concrete slab.
- There are 2 fixed benches and 2 moveable benches near the playground.



Playground



Playground and synthetic turf perimeter



Sandbox

EXISTING CONDITIONS

GATHERING AREAS

Playground Area Lawn

An open lawn (approx. 49,000 sf grass and 5,500 sf synthetic turf) to the east of the Playground serves as an informal gathering area for family picnics and group events. It is on a first come, first served basis.

- a. Use
 - The Events shelter is used for an array of community activities including birthday parties, BBQs and picnics.
- b. Condition
 - Grass appears to be in good condition.
 - Need resolution of drainage on northeast side; large parking lot drains to this area and has damaged the pathway paving.
 - ADA access to picnic areas is missing.
 - Trees need maintenance per recommendations from tree inventory.
- c. Site Furnishings
 - Picnic Tables: a number of moveable picnic tables within this area can be reconfigured according to user needs.
 - Trash Receptacles: moveable trash receptacles serve this area.
 - BBQ Grills: 4 fixed BBQ grills are located on the east side of the lawn.
- d. Access
 - Path: a paved path runs parallel with the northern border of the lawn with a spur connecting across the internal vehicular drive in the southeast corner.
 - Gate: a wood turnstile with access to the neighboring residential complex to the north has a sign that says private property

Gathering / Events Shelter (2001)

The events shelter and lawn is in good condition and is a popular place for organized group events. It consists of a 1,400 sf open air shelter (29'x48') on a concrete slab with a large lawn to the west.

- a. Use
 - The Events shelter is used for an array of community activities including birthday parties, BBQs and picnics.
 - The shelter is reserved through the Parks Department. Reservations are posted inside the shelter.
- b. Condition
 - The structure is in good condition and the concrete slab appears to be in good condition.
 - Grass appears to be stressed and compacted due to overuse.
 - Need resolution of drainage on south side (4 canales dump on concrete).
 - No utilities are present at this structure
- c. Site Furnishings
 - There are currently 6 (8' long) and 1 (4' square) moveable picnic tables beneath the shelter.
 - No accessible furnishings. 5 trash cans.
 - A BBQ grill and slab with a picnic table are located north of the shelter near the utility pole.
- d. Access
 - Direct path is accessible (asphalt) but does not connect up to HC spots. Path is severed by access road.



Gathering shelter interior

CEMETERY

Kit Carson Memorial Cemetery (1847)

The non-Catholic cemetery is over 150 years old and is the final resting place of Kit Carson, Padre Martinez and other prominent Taoseños. The cemetery has a new concrete ADA path and historical markers describing different grave sites.

- a. Use
 - The cemetery is frequented by local walkers and frequented by tourists interested in history.
 - The cemetery has numerous historical placards for visitor's reference and is an Official Scenic Historical Marker of the State of NM.
- b. Condition and Maintenance
 - The cemetery is in good condition and well maintained. Grass appears to be thick and healthy.
 - Gravestone are well worn due to age, some are fallen over.
 - Perimeter metal fence is in fair condition, segments require maintenance.
- c. Access
 - A perimeter fence (3' height) and thick vegetation prevents access to the cemetery from adjacent park areas.
 - There is gated access at the end of Dragoon Ln. but visitor hours are not posted.
 - The cemetery is accessed from the park on its northern end.



Cemetery access from Dragoon Lane

EXISTING CONDITIONS

BUILDINGS

Restroom - East (Decommissioned, pre-2017)

The CMU building has been decommissioned as a restroom facility and is being used as storage for park functions.

a. Equipment

- The toilets urinals and sinks are not functioning.
- Paths to units are gravel, not ADA accessible.

b. Operations / Maintenance

- TOT parks utilizes the building for storage

c. Utilities

- Present utilities include only electricity. Water supply and waste are not functioning.
- 20" clear in front of the electric panel.
- There is a new pressure tank and filter system, but it does not serve anything.
- An electric unit heater is functioning in the old "break room" which is on the west side of the building.

Restroom - Waterless (pre-2001)

There are two modular waterless restroom units on the site; one is located near the playground and the other is located near the north baseball field. Both are approximately 12'x15'

The prefabricated ROMTEC wood and plastic building consists of one single occupant restroom for men and one single occupant restroom for women. It is used as a restroom facility.

a. Equipment

- The bathrooms / toilets are waterless
- ADA accessible vault toilet (2)
- Requires repair to wood siding and wood shingle roofing.
- Evidence of graffiti.
- Not ADA accessible: threshold to concrete pad is greater than 1/2" (approx. 1-2"); paths to units are gravel, not ADA accessible.
- Door hardware at east waterless restroom building is missing and needs replacement.

b. Operations / Maintenance

- TOT parks cleans the buildings daily.
- The waste is pumped every 4 months.

c. Utilities

- There are no utilities connected to this building.



Vault Restroom unit near the playground



Vault Restroom - door hardware condition; exterior paneling



Restroom Building



Restroom Interior - used as storage



Vault Restroom unit near the baseball field

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Concession Stand (2003)

The concessions stand and overhang is approx. 800 square feet (2 stories with 320 sq.ft. per level). The two-story building is owned and maintained by the Taos Little League. A building permit was issued in 2003 (Multi-Purpose State Building CID #2304820). It is stuccoed CMU block with a portal on the north/east facade. The interior of the concession building was not available to review.

a. Equipment

- The league is responsible for all concession activities and required associated equipment.

b. Operations

- The Little League opens the building during their season (May), does their maintenance to the facilities and Town staff is not responsible for the maintenance
- Town of Taos pays for electric.
- There is no written user agreement between the Little League and TOT and there is no known documented terms of care and maintenance requirements.

c. Utilities

- Present utilities include water supplied to a spigot and electricity. There is no functioning waste line from the building. The leagues utilize a bucket to collect waste water.
- No mechanical systems exist for the building.
- Water is turned off during the winter months.

Storage Units

Two metal storage units are located near the north baseball field adjacent to the restroom building. They are approx. 12'x8' and face south with access toward the field.

a. Equipment

- Units are portable.
- Metal shed with front access.
- Doors are made of metal and are lockable by padlock.
- Evidence of animal activity / access on west unit.

b. Operations / Maintenance

- Storage units are used by the Taos Little League to store baseball equipment and field maintenance equipment.
- Units are prone to graffiti and show evidence of tagging.

Little League Dug Outs

There are a total of (4) dug out buildings adjacent to the two ball fields, These are CMU construction with chainlink fencing. No accessible path is available to the dugouts or the concession stand.

- Paths to concession stand, dug outs and field are gravel, not ADA accessible.



Concessions Building



Modular Storage Containers for League Equipment



Dug Outs

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Small Maintenance Building (pre-1991)

Originally part of the ice skating complex in the park, the building consists of a recently refinished garage and storage building comprised of two rooms with separate entry points. Upgrades included electrical service, water supply, emergency exit signage, new interior drywall (in western garage). Eastern side is OSB interior. The building is stuccoed but missing color coats and there is graffiti. The exposed roof rafters require maintenance/ weather-proofing.

a. Equipment

- Stucco, 2 garage doors, 1 door (no windows)
- Electric garage door opener
- New heating unit
- The eastern storage area is more than 12' higher than the western garage. The door between rooms has an unsafe out of compliance step.

b. Operations

- The building is used to store event equipment such as chairs and banners, and tents.
- The parks department uses it for day to day operations for park maintenance activities.
- The eastern storage area is used to store landscaping tools and equipment including weed whackers and lawn maintenance equipment.

c. Utilities

- Present utilities include water, electricity
- A new heating system has recently been installed.



Small Maintenance building

Parks Maintenance Building (pre-1981)

The main parks maintenance building is an aggregate of three buildings (ca. x sf) comprised of an entry hall, office, break room, garage, storage rooms, well head and pump room, storage area, and decommissioned women/men restrooms.

a. Equipment

- ADA accessible path is problematic throughout the building and at the exterior.
- An interior water storage tank, pump system and well head are located in the building.
- This building houses the irrigation system for the western portion of the park.
- Underground electric utilities may exist within the park's driveway.

b. Operations

- The Town of Taos uses the building daily for administrative offices, employee breaks, and storage.

c. Utilities

- Present utilities include water supplied from an on-site well, electricity, and water supplied by the Town of Taos. The waste water line is not functioning from this building.
- Heating and air conditioning exist via a window unit in the office/break room and a functioning unit heater hangs in the garage space.



Parks Maintenance building



Garage interior, adjacent to office



Parks office



Maintenance building / bandstand access

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Bandstand (2002)

The open air bandstand is an exterior structure covering a raised 726 sf semi-circular performance stage. The structure was designed in 2002 to fit over a previously constructed raised platform. 2002 improvements included adding an accessible ramp to the east site to access the stage. Steps along the south edge of the stage were added more recently. The rear wall includes a large George Chacon mural (48 ft long x 16 ft high) which features a multicultural variety of dancers and performers.

a. Equipment

- The stage is equipped for stage lighting along the overhead I-Beam

b. Operations

- The Town of Taos powerwashes the stage once a week during frost free months.
- The stage is a frequent location for smaller performers, impromptu events, and a hangout for local residents.

C. Utilities

- No electrical outlets or lights; power for lighting and for events is connected to the parks maintenance building via extension cords.

Performance Stage

A portable performance stage structure (approx. 40'x40') owned by the Town is set up during summer months for large concert events and movies in the park. It is located in the southeast corner of the lawn adjacent to the Kit Carson Cemetery and faces northwest.

Plans are underway to make portions of it permanent for greater ease of setting up concert events.

a. Equipment

- Temporary Stage: The stage has a roof and adjustable AV rigging; it is surrounded by a security fence when not in use. The backstage "staging area" is grass and compacted soil.

b. Operations

- The stage is accessed from the TCA parking lot adjacent to the park during events.
- In the past, the town has held large events on this stage from May - September and disassembled it and stored it off site in the off season.

C. Utilities

- Electrical upgrades are in process to address electric needs for large and small events. A transformer is located north of the TCA building.



Stage framing plan



Stage Structure

UPGRADE RECOMMENDATIONS

General Overview

- Buildings are generally in disrepair. An interim plan should be in place for how to prioritize and fund the transition to facilities that meet building code / life safety requirements and the needs of the park.
- Upgrade paths from accessible parking to all park buildings to meet ADA code requirements.
- Confirm code compliant access to plumbing facilities for Town of Taos staff.
- IBC :2902.3 Employee and Public Toilet Facilities: Customers, patrons and visitors shall be provided with public toilet facilities in structures and tenant spaces intended for public utilization. The number of plumbing fixtures located within the required toilet facilities shall be provided in accordance with Section 2902.1 for all users. Employees shall be provided with toilet facilities in all occupancies. Employee toilet facilities shall either be separate or combined employee and public toilet facilities
- 2902.3.2 Location of Toilet Facilities in Occupancies Other than malls. In occupancies other than covered and open mall buildings, the required public and employee toilet facilities shall be located not more than one story above or below the space required to be provided with toilet facilities, and the path of travel to such facilities shall not exceed a distance of 500 feet (152 m).
- Establish maintenance protocols to properly maintain and manage buildings.
- Survey and record existing site utilities as part of park upgrades to maintain up-to-date records of existing utility infrastructure.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

UPGRADE RECOMMENDATIONS (cont.)

Restroom - East (Decommissioned)

- Consider rehabilitation as a functioning public restroom. In the meantime, this building could be cleaned up and utilized as temporary storage for TOT parks.
- A challenge of utilizing this building for storage is the tight entry configuration and the life/safety issue that there are hidden places where dangerous activities can occur.
- If utilized for temporary storage demolish and cap all plumbing fixtures; salvage pressure tank and pumps as possible for reuse.
- Disconnect heating; salvage heater for re-use
- Clear building of all non-usable items
- Remove toilet partitions, mirrors, accessories
- Provide built-in shelving

Waterless Restrooms

- Provide ADA accessible paths to buildings
- Repair and replace wood elements that are splintered; paint/ stain/ seal all wood surfaces
- Remove exposed nails
- Replace window that has graffiti
- Remove all evidence of fire; replace toilet
- Replace broken door hardware; add gutters and downspouts over entry, north and south; typ.
- Direct downspouts for optimal solar orientation to minimize ice.
- Secure ADA grab bars

Bandstand / Stage

- This structure is in good condition and with proper maintenance can continue to be useful
- Monitor condition of mural and repair as needed
- Provide code-compliant stairs and stage edge
- Repair (replace as required) all exposed wood elements; sand, stain seal all wood elements
- Add power supply and security lighting to the building
- Patch and restucco

Park Shelter

- This building can be maintained and continue to be useful.
- Repair (replace as required) all exposed wood elements
- Sand, stain seal all wood elements
- Add power supply and security lighting to the building
- Patch and restucco
- Address water/drainage from roof to prevent ice and water buildup; downspouts? revised site at edge of building
- Improve ADA accessible paths
- Eliminate uneven surfaces and inaccessible thresholds

Concession Stand

- Provide Accessible Path to building
- Confirm interior of building complies with ADA
- Verify egress and exits including exit signage
- Waste water connection to building
- Comply with NMED regulations for food establishment preparation / serving
- Conduct yearly Food Establishment Inspections with NMED and submit copy to TOT
- Maintain roof, wood, stucco

Little League Dug Outs

- Provide Accessible Path to dugouts
- Confirm interior of building complies with ADA
- Maintain wood, CMU
- Remove graffiti
- Lock dugouts during off season to prevent access and use by unwarranted individuals

Small Maintenance Building

- No exceptional architectural qualities, but may be useful for park maintenance and storage
- Confirm quantities and types of materials being stored and identify if any hazardous materials need to be stored; provide proper separation between occupancies
- Provide code compliant ventilation
- Add interior stair compliant with IBC 1009.3 Stair treads and risers. Stair riser heights shall be 7 inches (178 mm) maximum and 4 inches (102 mm) minimum. Stair tread depths shall be 11 inches (279 mm) minimum. The riser height shall be measured vertically between the leading edges of adjacent treads. Provide code compliant hand rails
- Remove Graffiti
- Color coat stucco
- Repair (replace as required) all exposed wood elements
- Sand, stain seal all wood elements

Parks Maintenance Building

- This building does not have any exceptional architectural qualities, but in the interim may continue to serve the TOT for park offices, maintenance and storage
- Provide Accessible Path; correct dangerous grade changes adjacent to building doors
- Provide proper separation between business occupancy and garage occupancy
- Clear building of all non-usable items
- Remove toilet partitions, mirrors, accessories
- Build in shelving
- Confirm quantities and types of materials being stored and identify if any hazardous materials need to be stored; provide proper separation between occupancies
- Provide code compliant ventilation
- Fix roof issue at well head/ pump room
- Demo restrooms on the west end of the building and eliminate the unsafe exterior walls (visibility)

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SITE ELEMENTS

Parking

There are two parking areas (total of 121 spaces) within Kit Carson Park which are accessed from the central driveway off the main entry gate at Paseo del Pueblo Norte. Two additional parking areas (total of 132 spaces) west and east of the TCA on the south side of the park exist on Town property and can be accessed from Civic Plaza Drive.

a. Paved Lots

- Entrance / Playground Parking Lot: parking capacity estimated to be 21 spaces plus 2 accessible spaces (23 total); needs restriping.
- Northeast Parking Lot: 91 spaces plus 7 accessible spaces (98 total).

b. Overflow Lot

- An unpaved basecourse surfaced / maintenance area is accessed by a gravel driveway connected to the northeast paved lot. Access is controlled by gate but is primarily left open.
- The overflow area is not striped. Railroad tie bumpers (approx. 20) line the edge of the area; capacity is estimated to be approx. 40 vehicles.

b. Off Site Parking

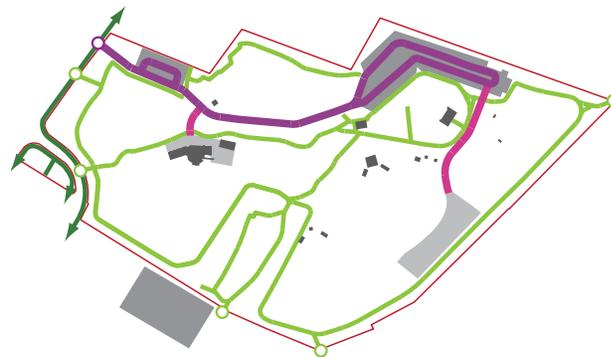
- Civic Plaza Drive Parking: 27 metered spaces plus 1 accessible space (28 total).
- TCA West Parking: 43 spaces plus 4 accessible spaces (12 total).
- TCA East Parking: 85 spaces, estimated.



Central Drive between small and large NE Parking areas



Unpaved lot



Circulation Diagram - Kit Carson Park

LEGEND

- Vehicular, Road (park access)
- Vehicular, Road (maintenance access)
- Pedestrian, Path (concrete or asphalt)
- Pedestrian, Sidewalk (concrete)
- Access Point, Vehicular
- Access Point, Pedestrian
- Parking Area
- Maintenance Area

Site Circulation

A network of paved asphalt trails connect site elements within the park. Paths are well used by visitors.

a. Vehicular Circulation

- The main internal vehicular drive is an east / west paved, narrow roadway located in the northern portion of the site and accessed from Paseo del Pueblo Norte. The two paved parking lots are accessed from this drive.
- The main entry gate and an internal gate south of the playground restrict access to this drive.

b. Pedestrian Circulation

- Paths are 3 ft. - 6 ft. wide asphalt, with some short sections of concrete paving; they are generally in poor condition (cracked or heaved) due to wear, encroaching tree roots, or drainage issues.
- Paths are not ADA accessible; a full study should be conducted to review access from accessible parking spaces and offsite access points to accessible areas within the park. Study recommendations should be implemented to ensure ADA compliance.

c. Maintenance Vehicle Circulation

- A paved maintenance drive connects to the main internal vehicular drive for access to the centrally located maintenance facility. The area around the buildings is paved in asphalt and seems to be in good condition.
- A basecourse maintenance road connects from the northeast parking lot south to the overflow lot, just west of the teeball field.
- Internal park maintenance is also presumed to utilize perimeter pathways to access areas of the park.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Site Landscape

Kit Carson Park is known for its iconic mature cottonwood tree canopy, a welcome place of green lawn and shade in the heart of downtown Taos. Vegetation exists primarily along the site's northern, western and southern perimeter and along acequias. There is limited vegetation along the site's eastern edge. Site vegetation is primarily comprised of mature trees and turf grasses.

a. Vegetation

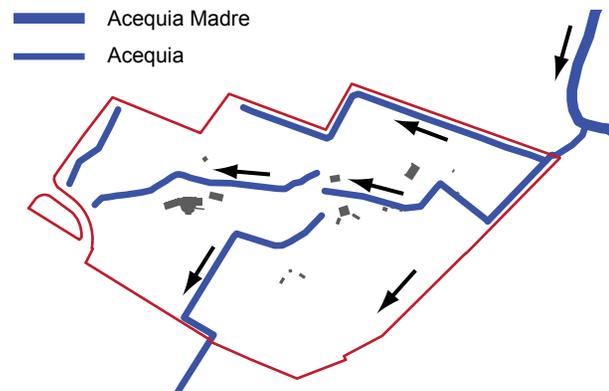
- There is a dense grove of mature Cottonwood trees along the site's central drainageway / acequia that provides shade relief for the site.
- A large stand of mature Cottonwood trees provide an ample buffer between Kit Carson Memorial Cemetery and the Community Lawn / Performance Area.
- Tree species are a mixture of dominantly deciduous species and some evergreen. A tree inventory for the park documents species, size, condition, and recommendations.
- A tree management plan for Kit Carson Park is in the approval process and will serve as a guide for tree maintenance.
- The playground area is well vegetated providing a large area of good shade.
- Many of the mature Cottonwoods and Black Locust appear stressed or aged to maturity; overly stressed or dead trees have been marked for removal by the Town.
- Tree removal efforts have left stumps in place; this is a safety hazard. Tree stumps should be removed or ground down to 6" below adjacent finish grade.
- Shrub plantings are limited on site except for a planting bed on the northeast corner of the site (at an access point) and in the front of the park adjacent to Paseo del Pueblo Norte.
- Planting is limited along the eastern edge of the site except for a few small / immature plants.
- Aside from the grass fields, the site is not irrigated.



Vegetation along central drainageway; looking west



Park vegetation; view from Civic Drive looking east



Acequia Diagram - Kit Carson Park

Acequias

Kit Carson Park has water rights off of the Acequia Madre del Pueblo, located ca. 160 ft. northeast of the property on Pueblo land. A network of major and minor lateral ditches traverse the park and originate from the northeast corner of the site.

Recent initiatives to reintegrate the acequia cultural tradition as a feature in the park have included cleaning the ditches and releasing water (5 times in 2017). The downstream runoff, however, has not been addressed, forcing proponents of acequia irrigation to monitor water flows and shut off flows at the main connection to prevent flooding off-site areas south of the park (at Paseo del Pueblo Norte, Dregon Lane, and Morada Lane).

a. Acequias

- Above ground acequia laterals range in size from narrow ditches (1'-2' wide and deep) to wide grassy, gently sloped ditches (10' wide, 4' deep).
- Culverts under pathways are missing in some locations and not adequately sized for acequia flows.
- Acequia irrigation is dictated by the Mayordomo and is restricted to Friday - Sunday during summer months (typically), a time when the park is most heavily used. Water flows are intermittent and determined by winter snowpack; unless underground storage is considered, it is not a reliable source of irrigation water.
- Consider interpretive signage and additional acequia infrastructure to communicate this cultural and historical tradition.
- Review offsite overflow to fix gaps in the system.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Fencing + Access Control

Perimeter walls and fences extend along most of the park's borders, with additional internal fences delimiting the children's playground area and lawn, the Kit Carson Memorial Cemetery, portions of the maintenance facility, and the baseball fields. Fence types range in height and material, including wood split rail fence, chain link fence, wrought iron fence, coyote fence, and masonry stucco walls. Despite the extent of fencing, the property is porous, with numerous access and egress points from adjacent properties to the park. Some access points have gates, however the majority are simple gaps in fencing.

a. Main Entry / Paseo del Pueblo Norte Edge

- A 4'-6' tall meandering stucco wall delineates the western edge of the Kit Carson Park along Paseo del Pueblo Norte.
- One main entry gate (steel double leaf gate) allows vehicular access to the park's interior parking areas and maintenance facilities.
- A gap in the wall with a dedicated sidewalk permits pedestrian access to the park from the Paseo sidewalk.
- A 4 ft. tall wood split rail fence lines the north and western edge of Civic Drive.
- Secondary vehicular gates restrict internal access. One is located along the park's interior drive by the playground, another restricts access to the maintenance facility, and a third at the end of the paved driveway restricts access to an unpaved maintenance road and baseball parking lot.

b. Northern Boundary

- The northern boundary is delineated by a range of fence types: to the church, a split rail fence lines the edge of the parking lot and a stucco wall borders the playground; to the residences, a split rail fence serves as a border; to the Wyndham Resort, a 6 ft tall coyote fence with stucco pilasters serves as the border.
- There is an access gate to the Wyndham Taos at the north edge of the primary parking lot.

- Stands of vegetation and fence of varying materiality makes an impenetrable barrier along the site's eastern edge.
 - Two pedestrian openings along this edge provide access from neighboring properties to the site.
- ### c. Eastern Edge
- A chain link fence runs the length of the eastern edge separating residential properties from the park.
 - One opening at the site's northeast corner permits access to the park.
 - 2 (5') leaf access gate to adjacent residence from tee ball field.
 - One opening at the site's southeast corner permits access to the park from Morada Lane.

d. Southern Boundary

- Access is prevented along the site's southern edge by a chain link fence in good condition. It is obscured by vegetation.
- A formal entrance from Dragoon Lane allows access to Kit Carson Memorial Cemetery and the park.
- (2) 5' wide leaf gates restrict access between the Taos Community Auditorium parking lot and the backstage area of the new Performance stage.
- A 10' wide opening (no gate) provides access from the TCA parking lot and the Community Lawn.
- There are two access points between the Taos Community Auditorium parking lot and Dragoon Lane.

e. Internal Fencing

- Kit Carson Memorial Cemetery: a perimeter 4 ft tall wrought iron fence with stone base delineates the boundary of the cemetery. A primary access gate (pedestrian and vehicular) is located to the south off of Dragoon Lane and to the north to access the park.
- Baseball Fields: chain link fence (see Recreational Field section for more detail)
- Playground / Lawn: 8 ft tall chain link fence with an access gate from the western parking lot and a locked gate on the south side by the maintenance area. East side access is open with no gates for both pedestrian and maintenance vehicle access.



Main Entry Gate + Wall along Paseo del Pueblo Norte

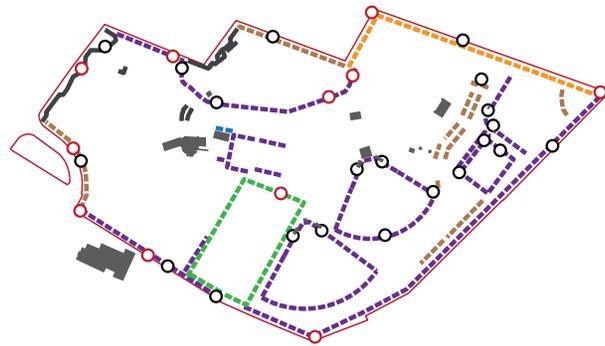


Eastern Edge Boundary Fence



Access Drive + Gate to the Maintenance Facility

EXISTING CONDITIONS



Fence Diagram - Kit Carson Park

LEGEND

- Wall, Stucco or Stone (4'- 8' high)
- Fence, Chainlink (4'-10' high)
- Fence, Coyote (6' high)
- Fence, Split Rail (4' high)
- Fence, Antique Wire (4' high)
- Fence, Wood Slat (6' high)
- Gate
- Access Point

Fence Types / Lengths

Split Rail - wood (4' high)	1,262 LF
Metal Fence - cemetery (4' high)	993 LF
Chainlink (4' high)	1,515 LF
Chainlink (6' high)	2,699 LF
Chainlink (8' high)	321 LF
Chainlink (10' high)	859 LF
Chainlink (backstops)	160 LF
Wood Slat (6' high)	50 LF
Wood Coyote (6' high)	793 LF

Site Furniture

Many pieces of site furniture exist on site. Generally, items are well worn and dated and vary in material and shape. Most pieces are moveable, but some are fixed.

a. Trash Cans

- There are an abundance of trash cans (60 total) scattered across the site, primarily near different nodes of activity. Generally, they are moveable.
- There are at least 8 different types of cans on site ranging in material (steel, wood, plastic). No recycling containers are located in the park.
- Litter is a problem after sport events and concert events.
- During the event seasons, the town supplies additional trash cans. Any litter left in cans overnight is subject to animal scavenging.

b. Picnic Tables and Seating

- There are approx. 14 picnic tables of varying sizes and materials, generally located under/near the event shelter and in the playground area lawn.
- Tables are made of metal with wood or plastic surfaces and usually 6' long, although there are some 8' long tables and 2 square tables.
- Tables are primarily moveable and in fair condition.
- Benches: there are at least 20 benches on site, primarily 6' long. A majority of the benches are moveable and made of recycled plastic. They are in fair condition but appear dated.

c. Bike Racks

- None.

d. Dog Clean-up

- There are 5 dog clean-up supply stations "Mutt Mitts" located throughout the site.

e. Barbecue

- There are 9 BBQ grills on site. They are typically found near gravel or concrete pads.

f. Bleachers

- See 'Recreational Fields'



Site Furniture of varying size and material



Anchored trash cans



Dog clean-up station

EXISTING CONDITIONS

UPGRADE RECOMMENDATIONS SITE ELEMENTS / OPERATIONS

General Comments

- ADA Access: review / meet ADA access code requirements for pathways, restroom access, parking stall counts, use area access, etc.
- Safety: remove tree stumps / path obstructions
- Utilities (safety): provide code-compliant utility hookups for events
- Site Furniture: consider updating site furniture to refresh the park; consider fixed trash receptacles with animal tamper proof lids; consider fixed benches in key locations
- Weed Management: develop and implement a weed management policy
- Fencing / Access Control: reduce number of access points along park perimeter or reconfigure to be able to manage access to park better; consider
- Main entry: consider redesign (particularly at Civic Plaza Dr.) to formalize entrance to the park and improve pedestrian access.
- Visual Access: consider ways to maintain visual access to limit hiding spaces and help with park security
- Parking: review parking count needs relative to program / use, opportunities for efficiencies
- Vegetation: implement the tree management plan and recommendations of the tree inventory for tree health and to address safety hazards; identify successional planting strategy with sustainable and drought tolerant plants
- Acequias: develop an acequia revival plan in coordination with site drainage, circulation, and landscaping to make beneficial use of this historic resource
- Art: include art in the park, or park elements to reinforce Taos tradition and values
- Events: look at area between TCA and park for opportunities to share access / programs and make it more visually appealing and functional

Lawn

- ADA Access: review / meet ADA access code requirements
- Safety: remove cottonwood tree stump by temporary stage
- Utilities (safety): provide code-compliant utility hookups for events
- Stage: recommend slab / plaza below temporary stage area; configure perimeter trail to bypass the front of the stage so the pathway can be used all times of year
- Weed Management: manage weeds

Playground

- Perform playground safety inspection
- Consider upgrades to the equipment to make it a destination playground; provide areas designed for adult socialization
- Provide accessible path to restroom building
- Provide necessary railing at ramp
- Repair water fountain

Volleyball Courts

- Edging: repair / replace missing or broken edging; maintain perimeter so a clean edge is visible
- Nets: replace damaged and missing nets

Basketball Court

- Surfacing: restripe surface for regulation play
- Nets: replace damaged and missing nets
- Backboards: monitor backboard condition, replace / repair as needed
- Fencing: consider installing fence on the volleyball side to close off the court

Tennis Courts / Dog Run / Batting Cage

- Court surface is in such disrepair, recommend demolition of the facility.
- Batting Cage: consider maintaining batting cage in current location or relocation
- Dog Run: consider constructing a designated dog park with associated amenities that is designed for dogs.

TeeBall Field

- ADA Access: review / meet ADA access and seating per code
- Weed Management: manage weeds
- Site Furnishings: consider additional permanent trash receptacles at centralized locations (develop standard); add spectator seating behind foul lines (consider moveable bleachers)

Baseball Fields - North + South

- Security Issues: consider replacing the dugout walls with see-through material (mesh) and / or adjusting the security to cut down on vagrant use of the dugouts. ** A larger initiative would be to reconfigure the baseball fields as multi-purpose fields to encourage use and activate this area beyond the baseball season.
- Light Pole Access: Limit access to maintenance staff only by installing a fence or implementing other means of access control to light poles.
- Weed Management: manage weeds, particularly in clay infield areas and along fence lines.
- Site Furnishings: consider additional permanent trash receptacles at centralized locations (develop standard).
- Dugouts: paint
- Bleachers: install safety railings on non-conforming bleachers.
- ADA Access: review / meet ADA access and seating per code

EXISTING CONDITIONS

FRED BACA PARK

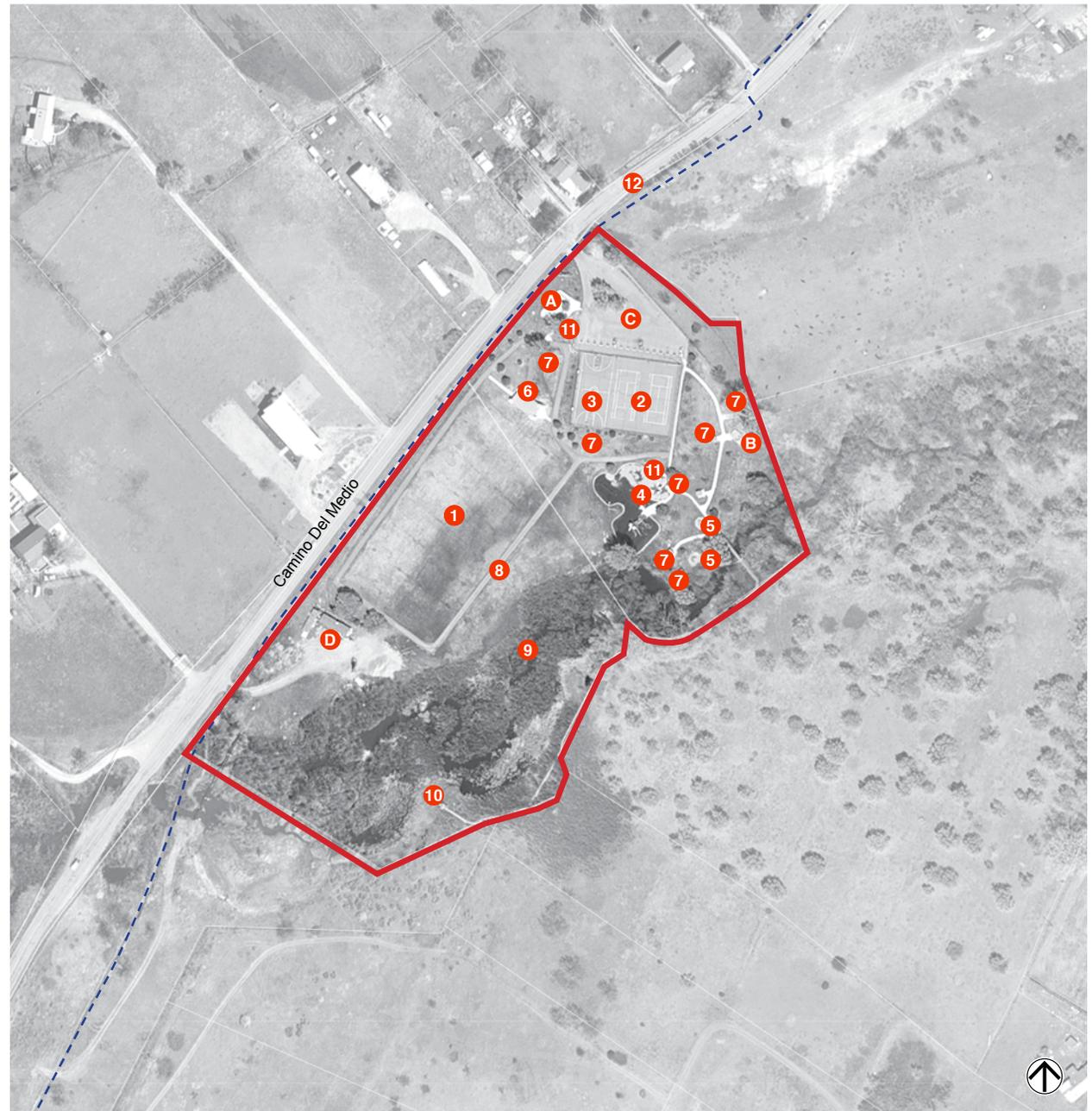
The 11.7 acre Fred Baca Park is a neighborhood park located off Camino del Medio. The Rio Fernando, which flows to the west, traverses its southern border and creates an extensive riparian habitat and associated wetland ecosystem. The park is well-used by the community for active recreation and passive use. Visitors come from afar to photograph wildlife attracted to the wetland.

Site Inventory

The following amenities exist within Fred Baca Park, see locations on aerial photo to right:

- 1 Multi-Purpose Lawn / Field
 - 2 Tennis Courts (2)
 - 3 Basketball Court
 - 4 Playground
 - 5 Exercise Station
 - 6 Large Gathering / Event Structure
 - 7 Small Shade Structure / Picnic Table
 - 8 Walking Path
 - 9 Rio Fernando / Wetland
 - 10 Wetland Viewing Platform / Boardwalk
 - 11 Drinking Fountain
 - 12 Acequia de Los Lovatos
- Buildings
- A Restroom
 - B Restroom - Vault Toilet
 - C Parking Lot
 - D Residence (Mobile Home)

Fred Baca Park - Aerial Photo, 2016



EXISTING CONDITIONS

EVENTS SHELTER

Gathering / Events Shelter

The 1,400 sf open air shelter (29'x48') north of the lawn is in good condition and is a popular place for small events and organized activities.

- a. Use
 - The Events shelter is used for an array of community activities including birthday parties, BBQs and picnics.
 - The shelter is reserved through the Parks Department; reservations are posted inside the shelter.
- b. Condition
 - The structure is in good condition and the concrete slab appears to be in good condition.
 - Nearby grass appears to be healthy and in good condition.
- c. Site Furnishings
 - Picnic Tables: 3-4' square and 2-8' long picnic tables beneath the shelter; tables are moveable; none are ADA compliant
 - Trash Receptacle: 1 moveable trash can located near the shelter.
- d. Path
 - The path is paved and in good condition and appears to meet ADA access requirements.
- e. Lights
 - The shelter has no lighting for evening use.

RECREATIONAL AREAS

Multi-purpose Lawn

The multi-purpose lawn is approximately 75,000 sf and is open to all other areas of the park. It is bordered on three sides by a 8' wide asphalt path. It is directly south of the Gathering / Events Shelter which lends itself to shared use during events.

- a. Use
 - The field is used for organized league practice and for unprogrammed uses.
- b. Field Surface
 - Grass appears to be healthy and thick.
- c. Fencing + Access Control
 - Fencing: none
- d. Walking Path
 - The path is paved and in good condition; some sections need repairs to meet ADA access code requirements.
- e. Field Irrigation
 - The field is irrigated with rotors and appears to be functioning well.

Tennis / Basketball Courts

The Tennis / Basketball court area is comprised of 2 tennis courts and 1 basketball court on a shared slab approximately 120'x165'.

- a. Use
 - The basketball court is used by primarily used by individuals.
 - The tennis court appears to be rarely used.
- b. Equipment
 - The basketball court has 4 regulation height hoops; 3 are in fair condition but are missing nets, 1 is in poor condition, missing a rim / net.
 - Tennis court net poles are in fair condition but do not have nets.
- c. Court Condition
 - The court surface is in poor condition. Weeds grow from large cracks in the surface of both the basketball court and tennis courts.
- d. Fencing + Access Control
 - Fence: a 10' height chain like fence borders the perimeter of the court; the fence is in fair condition. Some fence segments require repair.
 - Access: the basketball court and tennis courts share an entrance (pedestrian gate) on the north end by the parking lot. The entrance is in poor condition.
- e. Site Furnishings
 - There are no site furnishing on or outside the basketball court or tennis court.



Gathering / Events Shelter; looking south



Multi-purpose lawn; looking northeast



Tennis Courts

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Exercise Stations

Two exercise stations made of wood are located along the perimeter path on the east side of the playground.

f. Exercise Stations

- Hoop Climber: a hoop climber made of two hooped steel sections with lateral wood logs for climbing; the climber is set in a bounded pea gravel area. It appears in good condition.
- Monkey Bars: overhead monkey bars - wood structure with metal bars; set in a bounded pea gravel area, it appears in good condition, the area needs weed management



Exercise stations: monkey bars (foreground), hooped climber



Court entrance; basketball court (right)

PLAYGROUND

Playground

The approx. 10,000 sf playground encompasses 2 age specific areas (2-5 years old and 5-12 years old) with 4 large play components and additional singular play components. The safety surfacing is pea gravel bordered by a concrete curb. The playground appears to be ADA accessible.

a. Use

- The playground area is well used by children of different ages and abilities.
- The playground is accessible by a concrete path that appears to meet ADA codes. Accessible components / stations are accessed by a rubberized surface that connects to the concrete path, however, the safety surfacing is not ADA compliant, even though the equipment has accessible / inclusive play features.
- There are multiple shaded places beyond the play perimeter for parents to sit and monitor children.

b. Inventory

- Play Structure A: slides, ladders, 2-levels (5-12 years old)
- Play Structure B: slides, steps, tunnels, 2-levels (2-5 years old)
- Play Structure C: swing set (4 swings)
- Play Structure D: tire swing, monkey bars
- Complementary elements (3): teeter-totter, 'riders'

c. Condition

- All structures appear in good condition.
- Vegetation around playground is healthy and well kept.

d. Site Furnishings

- Trash Receptacles: 3 fixed trash cans around the playground.
- Shade Structure / Picnic Table: a shade structure with a small built-in picnic table is within close proximity to the playground.

e. Path

- Paths to the playground are paved and in good condition. It appears to be ADA compliant.

f. Lights

- A single light pole (approx. 30' tall) casts light directly on the playground.



Play Structure A (5-12 years old); looking northeast



Play Structure B (2-5 years old); looking west



Swing set and 'rider'; looking west

EXISTING CONDITIONS

WETLAND NATURE TRAIL

Wetland Boardwalk / Viewing Areas

The wetland boardwalk is a 1/3 mile scenic out and back walk within a natural riparian setting. The boardwalk meanders along the southern edge of an established wetland along the Rio Fernando de Taos and is punctuated by two viewing platforms: one with a bird blind 365 ft. from the start point, and another platform 865 ft. out.

a. Use

- The boardwalk is used by visitors to the park for bird watching, photography, and walking.
- Access is prohibited during winter months due to slippery and icy conditions along the trail

b. Components

- Boardwalk: the boardwalk is a combination of materials (recycled lumber painted with textured paint, wood, pea gravel, compacted dirt); portions of the boardwalk are suspended above the wetland and have railing on both sides.
- Bridge: a manufactured steel bridge connects the park to the trail across the Rio Fernando.
- Viewing Platform 1 / Bird Blind: this platform has a bird blind to the south and a small seating area.
- Viewing Platform 2: at the end of the boardwalk, a small viewing platform with perimeter seating provides expansive views across the wetland toward the park
- Interpretive Signs: one large introductory sign with map and 6 smaller interpretive panels along the walk describe elements of the riparian ecosystem

c. Condition

- The bridge is in good condition and well maintained.
- Wood boardwalk sections and gravel path sections are in good condition and well maintained.
- The plastic lumber boardwalk sections are faded and worn, with sagging boards that need replacing
- Signs are faded and worn and barely legible.

c. Access

- Public access is from the east side of Fred Baca park across the a steel bridge.
- Social trails connect to the pathway from the east, near the bridge.



Trail entry sign and bridge; looking east



Floating boardwalk section; looking north



Wetland views; looking north

EXISTING CONDITIONS

STRUCTURES

Restroom / Storage

The decommissioned restroom / storage building is approx. 25'x15' and is comprised of three main rooms with separate entry points. The facility has been decommissioned as a public restroom because it is not in compliance with ADA code requirements.

a. Equipment

- The urinals, toilets and sinks are not used.
- Heating is functioning
- The building houses the controls for the irrigation system

b. Operations / Maintenance

- Town of Taos uses the building for storage

c. Utilities

- Present utilities include water supplied from an on-site well, electricity, and a connection to town
- Heating system is functioning
- Lighting systems work inside the building-no lighting on the exterior of the building.



Restroom Building



Restroom Building Interior

Restroom (Waterless)

There is one modular vault restroom unit on the site, located in the northeast corner of the site. It is approx. 12'x15'.

a. Equipment

- ROMTEC modular wood structure on concrete pad
- Each unit has 2 single occupant restrooms (M + W); ADA accessible stalls / vault toilets (2)
- Units are not plumbed.

b. Operations / Maintenance

- Restroom units are cleaned daily
- Each unit has a vault accessed from the back of the building. Waste is removed / cleaned out every 4 months
- The restroom is accessible by vehicle.

c. Condition

- Fair to poor condition
- Exterior paneling requires repairs / repainting
- Graffiti removal on interior
- Roof shingle repairs / replacement

d. Access

- Threshold: not ADA accessible - threshold to concrete pad is greater than 1/2" (approx. 1-2")
- A visibly worn path is evident from the northeast corner of the recreational field to the restroom building that should be considered for paving.



Restrooms (vault toilets) near the playground

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SITE ELEMENTS

Parking

There is 1 designated paved parking lot / drop-off area on site accessed from Camino del Medio with a total of 17 spaces (16 + 1 accessible stall). A second unofficial parking area is located near the vacant mobile home on the south side of the park.

a. Paved Lot

- There are 17 striped parking spaces along the tennis court edge including 1 ADA accessible space; renovate to meet current ADA codes.
- The parking lot accommodates about 10 additional vehicles during busy times, but spaces are undefined; ad hoc parking occurs along the fence and around the landscaped island.
- A parking needs evaluation should be conducted to assess park uses and recommendations for additional parking / overflow, if needed.

Site Landscape

Landscape zones within the park can be grouped into two distinct zones: the riparian / wetland zone along the Rio Fernando, and the park landscape zone.

a. Park Landscape Zone

- Cottonwood groves: a groves of mature Cottonwood trees exist along the site's northern edge, west of the tennis courts, and on the south side of the lawn to provide shade for park users.
- Trees appear to have been strategically planted in groupings and appear to be healthy and well kept.
- Lawn area: the central lawn dominates as a large grassy recreation area and foreground to the wetlands. Shrubs line the west edge of the park along the perimeter fence.
- A diverse mix of trees around the tennis court / basketball court include cottonwood, oak, juniper, and Austrian pine.

b. Riparian / Wetland Landscape Zone

- Along the Rio Fernando and adjacent wetland, the vegetation is dense and healthy, supporting an array of species; some invasive species populate this area and should be removed to restore and enhance the native riparian habitat.
- Beaver activity / populations should be monitored to ensure a healthy ecosystem, but to protect park areas from flooding.



Parking area vegetation; looking north



Park / wetland vegetation; looking east



Parking lot



Entrance gate; looking west



Park vegetation; looking north

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Fencing + Access Control

Fencing appears to be installed strategically in discreet sections as needed, contributing to a very open park where dense vegetation serves as a barrier. Internal fencing / gates are limited to vehicular access control by the parking lot and to address safety. Fencing along property lines to the north and east limits access to the neighboring parcels. In places lacking perimeter fencing, vegetation acts as a sufficient barrier.

a. Entry Gate and Perimeter Fence

- Main Vehicular Entry Gate: one lockable main entry gate accessed off Camino del Medio. It is a steel two leaf gate (8' long, each leaf).
- Pedestrian access is permitted when gates are closed.
- Maintenance Access: bollards and a vehicular gate east of the parking lot controls vehicular access to the site's interior
- Fence - west: a 4' tall chain link fence along the west edge of the park appears in good condition
- Fence - east: a wire fence along the west edge of the park appears in fair condition; close openings to social trails
- Fence - north: a barbed wire fence with cedar posts along the north property line is in fair condition. Segments require repair.
- Fence - playground: a 215 LF section of temporary chain link fence panels separates the playground area from the wetland edge; a permanent fence should be considered in this location

Site Furniture

There are adequate amount of benches, trash cans and tables on site. Units are generally fixed and in good condition.

a. Picnic Tables and Seating

- Picnic Tables - fixed: 7 shade structures with built-in tables in fair working condition (need painting, minor repairs); while access appears to meet ADA codes, no fixed tables are ADA compliant.
- Picnic Tables - moveable: see Events Shelter site furnishings
- Benches: 2 benches, fixed

b. Trash Receptacles

- Trash Receptacles - fixed: 14 fixed receptacles are located at entry points and adjacent to fixed picnic structures; appear in fair working condition (need painting, minor repairs)
- Trash Receptacles - moveable: plastic units near events shelter

c. Drinking Fountain

- 2 drinking fountains (by restroom building, playground area) are not operational.

d. Bike Racks

- There are 2 bike racks on site in good condition.

e. Dog Clean-up

- There are dog clean-up supplies "Mutt Mitts" located on site



Shade structure / picnic table, wood frame



Shade structure / picnic table, steel frame



Drinking fountain

EXISTING CONDITIONS

UPGRADE RECOMMENDATIONS SITE ELEMENTS / OPERATIONS

General Recommendations

- ADA accessibility: review ADA access from parking to use areas; repair non-compliant path sections; provide accessible routes / surfacing to play equipment; provide ADA accessible site furniture per code.
- Safety / Security: reconstruct / resurface boardwalk with a safer surface; revegetate / install signage along Rio Fernando to keep people away from water; address security issue with remote, dead-end viewing platform at end of boardwalk; remove vacant mobile home; add permanent fencing between playground area and wetland
- Parking: add parking to meet park needs; consider parking reconfiguration for greater efficiency and/or adding parking to south side of lawn
- Site Drainage / Acequia: study realignment of the Acequia de los Lovatos to connect with the Rio Fernando further upstream (ideally within the park) to prevent flooding / icing issues along Camino en Medio
- Restoration: restore wetland ecosystem; remove invasive plants and plant more native riparian plants (coordinate w/ TLT restoration efforts)
- Site Furnishings: repair shade structures / picnic tables; add benches; repair trash receptacles; add recycling receptacles; relocate bike racks to coordinate with trail access points
- Circulation: develop master circulation plan in anticipation of future trail connections.

Wetland Nature Trail

- Path: reconstruct recycled plastic plank boardwalk sections that are slipping hazards and sagging; path just beyond bird blind needs to be wider and clearly marked as a legitimate trail so users understand the system; ensure path and viewing platforms are ADA compliant
- Signage: install more durable interpretive / wayfinding signs
- Security: address lack of visibility / security issues by providing a looped trail, game cameras, or other methods
- Restoration: clean up wetland; re-establish perimeter vegetation to provide a natural barrier against people entering the river (instead of plastic fencing)
- Access Control: reconfigure access so closures can be clearly marked and controlled.

Playground

- Safety: conduct playground safety audit to review safety issues
- ADA compliance: review access / inclusive play features and safety surfacing for ADA compliance
- Design: consider playground upgrades to transform FBP playground into a thematic destination playground that works with the strong existing site features; provide comfortable places for parent socialization
- Install fence at edge of wetland to discourage access into sensitive wetland area

Restroom + Storage Building

- No exceptional architectural qualities, but is useful to serve the TOT for park maintenance and storage
- Provide guards around interior light fixtures
- Demo interior walls as possible for more useful storage configuration
- Clear building of all non-usable items: remove toilet partitions, mirrors, accessories
- Build in shelving
- Confirm quantities and types of materials being stored and identify if any hazardous materials need to be stored; provide proper separation between occupancies
- Provide code compliant ventilation
- Fix stairs for code compliance and add handrails
- Consider creating staff restroom facility.
- Electrical Clearances: electrical clearances are not being maintained in accordance with Sec. 110-26 of the National Electrical Code (NEC) 1) Provide at least a 3-ft clearance in front of all electrical equipment, 2) Provide a 30 in. wide working space in front of equipment operating at 600V or less, 3) Provide minimum headroom clearance of 6 ft or the height of the equipment, whichever is greater.

Waterless Restrooms

- Provide ADA accessible path
- Repair and replace wood elements that are splintered
- Remove exposed nails
- Paint/ stain/ seal all wood surfaces
- Remove all evidence of fire
- Replace broken door hardware
- Add gutters and downspouts over entry, north and south; typ.
- Direct downspouts for optimal solar orientation to minimize ice.
- Secure ADA grab bars

EXISTING CONDITIONS

TAOS ECO PARK

The Taos Eco Park is a 23.2 acre facility owned and operated by the Town of Taos on land owned by Taos Municipal Schools. Originally conceived as a premier soccer facility with 3 fields and associated amenities to attract professional teams for high-altitude training and tournaments, only one field has been installed to date. A JPA agreement outlines the ownership, use, and management of the facility. In April 2011, a regulation size synthetic turf soccer field was completed that achieved a FIFA 2 Star field certification from the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA). Improvements include a parking lot, restroom building, perimeter walking path, stadium seating, sports field lighting (Musco), and solar array. A master plan for the site, completed in April 2009, includes two additional regulation-sized soccer fields and associated amenities.

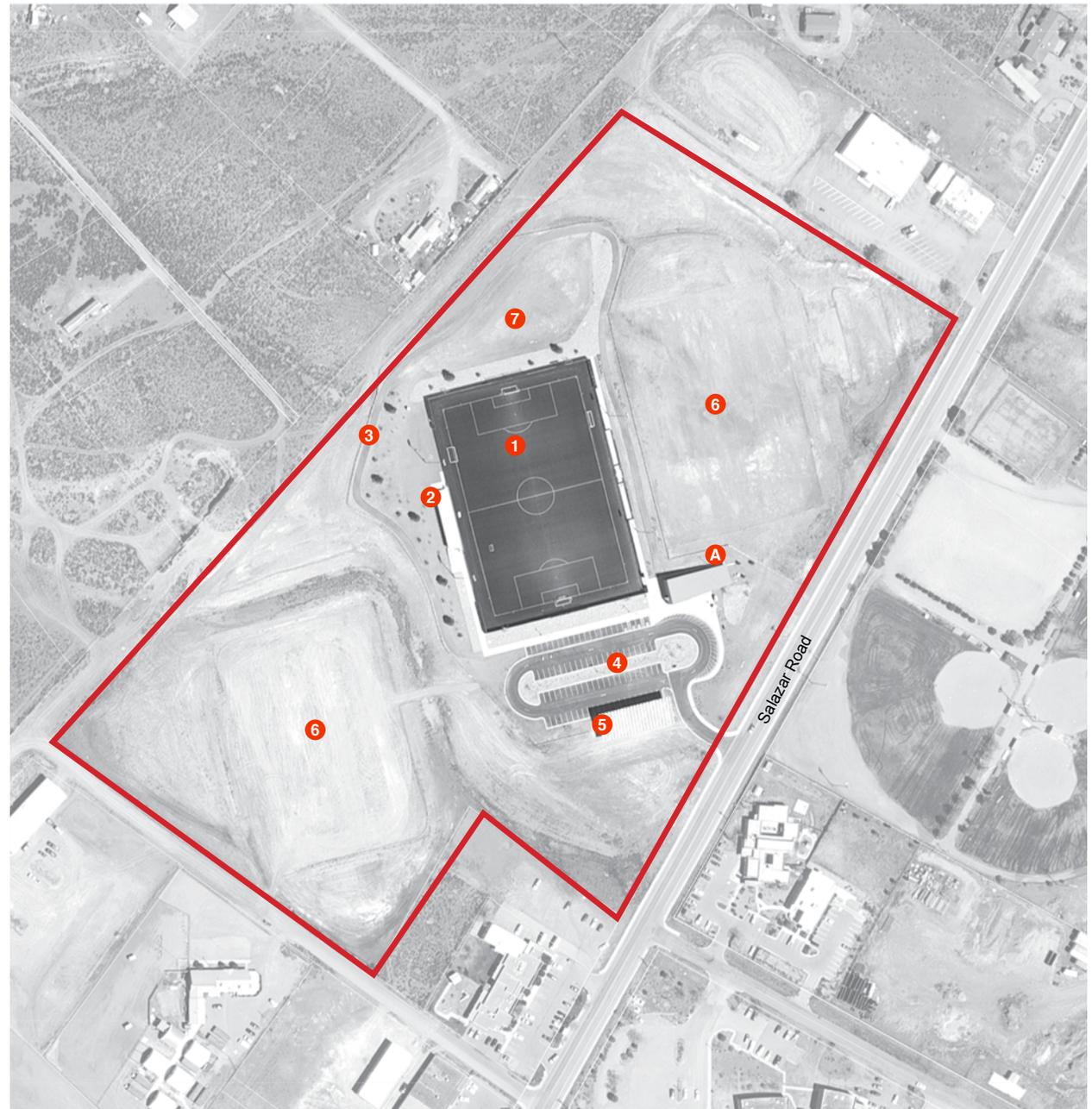
A site inventory and assessment was conducted in October 2017 to identify the extent and conditions of improvements at the site. Information collected as part of the site assessment was derived from visual inspections and interviews with representatives from the Town of Taos. This information is summarized on the following pages.

Site Inventory

The following amenities exist on the 23.2 acre Taos Eco Park, see locations on aerial photo to right:

- ① Synthetic Turf Field
- ② Grandstand
- ③ Walking Path
- ④ Parking Lot
- ⑤ Solar Panels
- ⑥ Future Field Area
- ⑦ Water Harvesting Basin
- Buildings
- Ⓐ Restroom / Storage Building

Taos Eco Park - Aerial Photo, 2016



EXISTING CONDITIONS

RECREATIONAL FIELD

Soccer Field

The synthetic turf field is 390' x 270' and is used for organized soccer activities. Scheduled use of the field accounts for an average of 625 hours of use/ year (2015-17 average). Field scheduling, previously managed by the Taos Sports Alliance, is now a volunteer and town effort.

a. Use

- The field is used by local sports teams, schools and for soccer games, practices and camps.
- Average yearly hours of use for the field is 625 hours (2015-2017).
- The field attracts professional, club and local teams for high altitude training and tournaments.

a. Field Surface

- Synthetic turf (Shaw -Sportex) and infill appear to be in good condition. First use April 2011.

b. Fencing + Access Control

- 4' chain link fences on the long edge, 10' chain link fences at each end. Fences are lined with a fabric screen.
- The perimeter fence is in good condition.
- Field access is controlled with pedestrian gates.
- There is a ball net behind each goal.

c. Furnishings

- A large grandstand on the west side of the field is ADA accessible, has appropriate handrails and is in good condition.
- There are 2 team 'dugouts' with benches on the east side.

d. Field Maintenance

- La Tierra Landscaping has maintained the field from 2011-2017. Beginning in 2018, Town of Taos maintenance staff will maintain the synthetic turf.

e. Lighting

- There are 4 sports lighting poles (60' height).



Synthetic turf field; looking northeast



Synthetic turf field; looking northwest



Grandstand, back view

BUILDINGS

Restroom / Storage

The 1,440 sf building houses a men's restroom, women's restroom, custodial closet, and a storage area. It also includes a large 28' x 40' covered patio area on the west side of the building.

a. Equipment

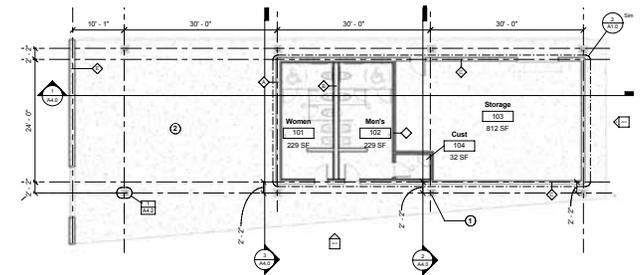
- Equipment is up to code and ADA accessible

b. Operations / Maintenance

- The building is managed by the Taos Sports Alliance.

c. Utilities

- Present utilities include water supplied from the municipal system, electricity, and a sewer system.
- Electricity is provided by solar panels on site



Restroom / Storage Building - Floor Plan



Restroom / Storage Building

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SITE ELEMENTS

Parking

There is one designated parking area with access from Salazar Road.

a. Parking

- A total of 88 striped parking spaces including 4 ADA accessible space.
- Parking areas are accessed by a loop driveway separated by a drainage swale in the middle.
- Parking lot lighting is provided.
- There is an adequate loading zone near the building suitable for a bus.
- Asphalt paving is new and in good condition.



Parking area and drainage swale



Loading zone

Landscape

Vegetation exists primarily along the field's northern side and around the parking lot. Most of the remaining site has been cleared of vegetation in preparation of future phases. Weeds and grasses now grow in this area.

a. Vegetation

- There is a small cottonwood trees at the site's entrance and a few shade trees screening the parking lot.
- Parking lot screening is primarily comprised of shrubs.
- Shade trees and evergreens planted west of the field are healthy but small.
- Ground cover (native grasses and weeds) appears to be maintained but not irrigated.
- Trees and shrubs are irrigated with effluent water.
- There is a future water harvesting basin north of the existing field to hold drainage from a future field.



Site landscape west of the field; looking north

Site Furniture / Fencing + Access Control

There is limited site furniture for public use. A perimeter fence defines the extents of Phase 1.

a. Grandstand / Team benches

- See "synthetic turf field" site assessment

b. Walking Path

- A paved walking path circumnavigates the field.

c. Miscellaneous Site Furniture

- There are no benches, tables, drinking fountains, or bike racks on site.

d. Perimeter Fence

- Split rail fence is in good condition.

e. Entry gate



Perimeter walking path



Phase 1 perimeter fence and site prepared for future field

EXISTING CONDITIONS

UPGRADE RECOMMENDATIONS SITE ELEMENTS / OPERATIONS

General Recommendations

- Parking: add parking to meet park needs; consider parking addition for greater efficiency and/or adding parking to south side of lawn
- Site Furnishings: add picnic tables and benches; add trash receptacles and recycling receptacles; add bike racks to coordinate with access points.
- Circulation: develop master circulation plan in anticipation of future trail connections.

Restroom / Storage Building

- Add locker rooms with plumbing.
- Clear building of all non-usable items.
- Build in shelving to improve storage efficiency.

Synthetic Turf Field

- Investigate FIFA 2-Star rating requirements for renewal.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

TAOS YOUTH + FAMILY CENTER

The Taos Youth and Family Center is a ±57,000 sq. ft building on a 11.4 acre site owned and operated by the Town of Taos. The center provides year round recreational and educational opportunities to area youth and works with local sports organizations to facilitate practice, events, and tournaments. The Youth and Family Center is home to Taos's only public open air ice rink (seasonal), and swimming pool. The area surrounding the building includes parking areas, a skate park, a playground and vacant land. A large drainage channel cuts across the site flowing southeast to northwest. The facility is well used by the community.

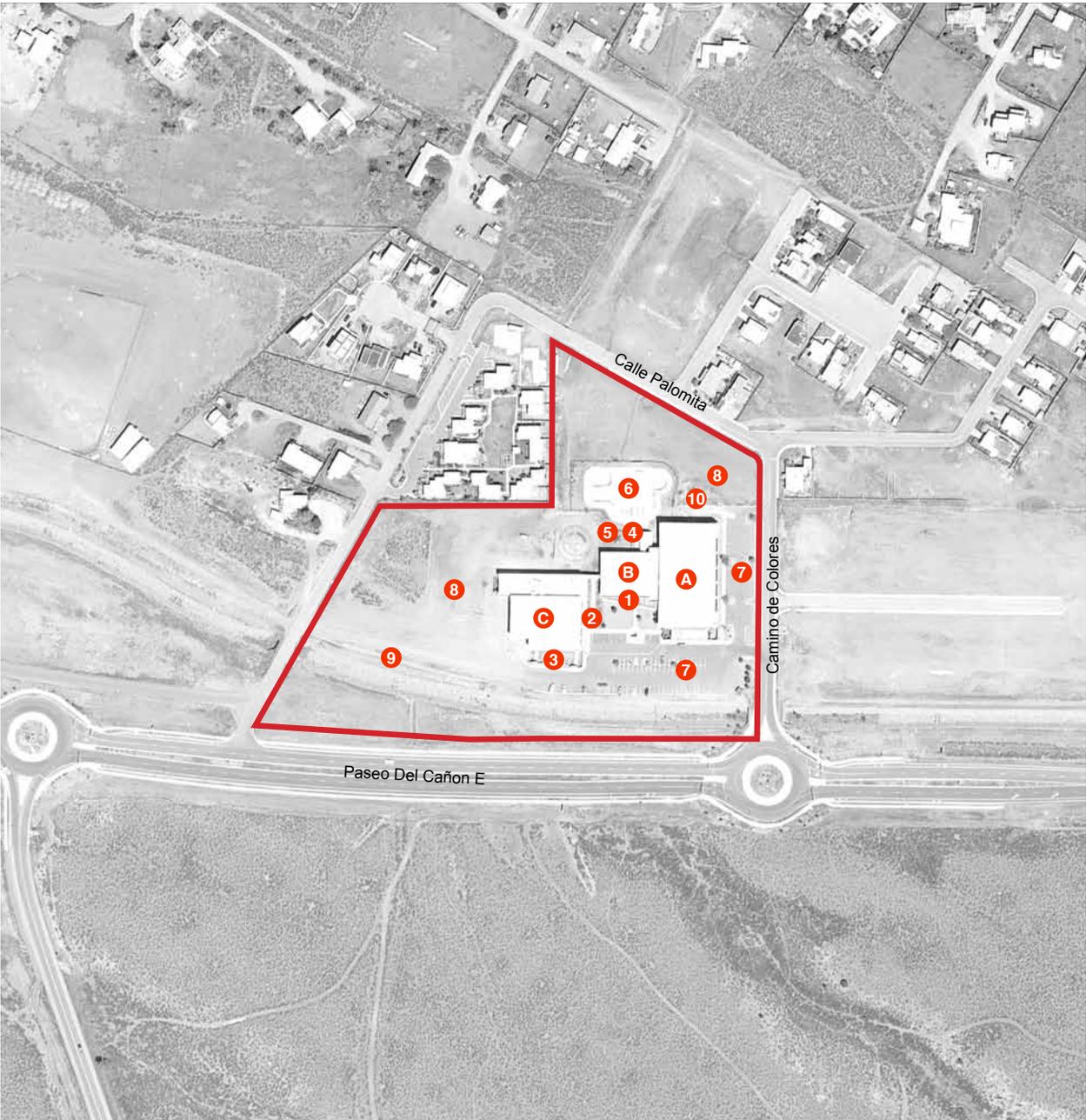
A site inventory and assessment was conducted in February and April 2018 to identify the extent and conditions of improvements at the site. Information collected as part of the site assessment was derived from visual inspections and interviews with representatives from the Town of Taos. This information is summarized on the following pages.

Site Inventory

The following amenities exist on the 11.4 acre Youth + Family Center site, see locations on aerial photo to right:

- 1 Entryway
 - 2 Promenade
 - 3 Pool Courtyard
 - 4 Shade Structure
 - 5 Playground
 - 6 Skate Park
 - 7 Parking Lot (paved)
 - 8 Parking Lot (unpaved)
 - 9 Drainage Channel
 - 10 Drainage Basin
- Building
- A Ice Rink / Arena
 - B Common Area
 - C Swimming Pool

Taos Youth and Family Center - Aerial Photo, 2016



EXISTING CONDITIONS

COMMON AREAS

Entryway

The facility's main entry faces south toward the main parking area. The landscape is sparse and lacks shade. A bus stop shelter interferes with the main pedestrian avenue.

- a. Use
 - The Entryway is the primary access point to the building and is used by families for daily pick-up / drop-offs.
- b. Site Furnishings
 - Bus Stop: 5' by 10' long structure without seating.
 - 1 picnic tables near the arena emergency exit; table is moveable but not ADA accessible.
 - Trash Receptacle: 1 moveable trash can located near the bus stop and 1 near the main door.
 - Bike Rack: 1 fixed rack; 5 bike capacity; located near the front door.
- c. Path
 - The path is paved and in good condition. It appears to meet ADA access requirements.
- d. Lights
 - There are pedestrian lights along the path for evening use.
- e. Landscape
 - Nearby evergreen trees are mature and appear to be healthy and in good condition.
 - Pathway is lined with whiskey barrel planters.
 - Groundcover is gravel and vegetation is minimal.
 - Rain gutter downspouts empty to gravel.

Promenade

A secondary entrance 'promenade' (35'x100') west of the Entryway is densely landscaped. The route is used for pool access.

- a. Use
 - The Promenade provides secondary ingress / egress to the building.
- b. Site Furnishings
 - Bench: One 6' long bench locate near the door.
 - Trash Receptacle: none.
 - Bike Rack: none.
- c. Path
 - The path is paved and in good condition and appears to meet ADA access requirements.
- d. Lights
 - The path is not lighted.
- e. Landscape
 - The path is lined with fruit trees and perennials that appear to be healthy and in good condition.
 - The path is lined with whiskey barrel planters in fair condition.
 - Groundcover is low growing vegetation but beds are primarily bare earth.
 - Plants are watered with a drip irrigation system.
 - Rain gutter downspouts empty onto a concrete stormwater drainage system.

Pool Courtyard

The 3,000 sf walled courtyard (25-35'x100') south of the pool is in good condition and is a prime place for small events and organized activities.

- a. Use
 - The Pool Courtyard is minimally used for outdoor activities.
 - The courtyard is accessed from the pool (2 doors) and from the parking lot (2 openings in the courtyard wall).
- b. Condition
 - The courtyard wall is in good condition and the concrete slab appears to be in good condition.
 - Nearby plant material appears to be healthy and in good condition.
- c. Site Furnishings
 - Picnic Table: 6' square moveable picnic table.
- d. Lights
 - The courtyard is lit by two lights on the building; it is not lit for evening use.
- e. Landscape
 - The courtyard is densely vegetated with small trees, ornamental grasses, shrubs and perennials.
 - Groundcover is low growing vegetation but beds are primarily bare earth.
 - Plants are maintained by the Taos Garden Club.
 - Plants are watered with a drip irrigation system.



Entryway; looking north



Promenade



Pool Courtyard

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Shade Structure

The 920 sf open air shelter (40'x23') is an exterior extension of the building. It is approximately 3' higher than the surrounding grade and is bordered by a handrail on two sides. A nearby ramp provides access to the surroundings. The shade structure is a good gathering place for viewing skate park and playground activities.

- a. Use
 - The Shade Structure is used as a transitional area between the building and the skate park.
 - Two doors provide access from the building to the shade structure; 1 from the common area and 1 from the ice rink / arena.
- b. Condition
 - The structure is in good condition and the concrete slab appears to be in good condition.
 - The handrail is painted and in good condition.
- c. Site Furnishings
 - There are no site furnishings under the structure.
- d. Path
 - The ramp from the Shade Structure is paved and in good condition. It is narrow and does not appear to meet ADA access requirements.
- e. Lights
 - The shelter has no lighting for evening use.



Shade Structure and playground; looking southeast

RECREATIONAL AREAS

Skate Park

The Skate Park is approximately 17,000 sf and consists of multiple features within an open concrete basin. It is surrounded by a fence and is accessed from the Youth and Family Center building and an adjacent parking lot. It is used by skateboarders, bikers, and roller bladers of all ages.

- a. Use
 - The skate park is open to the public and is the only public skate park in Taos.
- b. Surface
 - Concrete surface is well worn; evidence of concrete patching; edges are in mediocre condition.
 - Rough areas in the bowl area are a hazard.
 - The surface has been tagged with graffiti.
- c. Site Furnishings
 - Receptacle: 2 moveable trash cans in good condition.
 - Graffiti wall: 5'x7' concrete wall.
 - Picnic Table: 1 moveable table located at the Park's southern edge; table is not ADA accessible
- c. Fencing + Access Control
 - Fencing: 5' high perimeter chain link fence; vehicular access to the east.
- d. Security
 - Camera on a 20' tall pole located southwest of the Skate Park.
- e. Landscape
 - Vegetation: 2 shade trees (1 cottonwood, 1 elm).



Skate Park; looking north

PLAYGROUND

Playground

The approx. 2,500 sf playground is best suited for 2-5 years olds with 1 large play components and a separate 'riding' element. The safety surfacing is engineered wood chips and is bordered by a plastic curb. The playground appears to be ADA accessible.

- a. Use
 - The playground area is well used by children of different ages and abilities.
 - The playground is accessible by a concrete path from the building that appears to meet ADA codes.
 - The playground equipment does not have accessible / inclusive play features.
 - The safety surfaces does not appear to be the appropriate depth.
- b. Inventory
 - Play Structure A: 3 slides, 2 ladders, 1 stepping sequence (2-5 years old)
 - Complementary element: 1 riding element 'dinosaur' (2-5 years old)
- c. Condition
 - All structures appear in good condition.
- d. Site Furnishings
 - Bench: 2 moveable benches (6' long).
- e. Fencing + Access Control
 - Fencing: 6' high chain link fence along two sides.



Playground; looking east

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SITE ELEMENTS

Parking

There are two designated parking areas (paved) with access off Camino Colores. Two unpaved lots are used for overflow parking and skate park access.

a. Parking

- A total of 123 striped parking spaces including 7 ADA accessible space.
- Parking areas are linked by a driveway and have minimal parking lot screening vegetation.
- Parking lot lighting is provided.
- There is an adequate loading zone near the building entrance and a bus stop.
- Asphalt paving is in good condition.



Parking Lot East of Arena; looking northeast



Parking lot west of pool: looking northwest

Landscape

Vegetation exists primarily along the building's south side, near the Entryway, at the Promenade and at the Pool Courtyard. Parking lots have minimal shade tree coverage. Most of the remaining site has been cleared of vegetation in preparation of future phases. Weeds, grasses, and shrubs now grow in this area. A large drainage channel runs between the Youth and Family Center and Paseo del Cañon E.

a. Vegetation

- The entry way is comprised of mature evergreen trees. Ground cover is gravel.
- Vegetation diversity is focused along the Promenade and Pool Courtyard.
- Parking lot screening is comprised of small trees with narrow crowns (ex. aspen trees) and chokecherries. Parking lot shrubs are minimal to nonexistent.
- There is a stand of healthy cottonwood trees in a drainage basin at the north end of the arena.
- Ground cover (native grasses and weeds) appear to be non-maintained and not irrigated.



Typical area vegetation: looking north over skate park

Site Furniture / Fencing + Access Control

There is very limited site furniture for public use. A perimeter fence defines the extents of the skate park and a coyote fence provides screening near the south entrance of the arena.

a. Summary of Site Furniture

- 2 benches near the playground are in fair condition.
- There are two picnic tables in fair condition.
- 2 trash cans located near the skate park are in fair condition and 2 at the Entryway.
- There is 1 bike rack near the main entrance.
- There is a graffiti wall at the north end of the skate park.
- A yard hydrant is located near the shade structure.
- 3 dumpsters are located along the southern edge of the parking lot.

b. Vehicular Gates

- Chain link zamboni-access gates at the Ice Rink / Arena are in poor condition.

c. Murals

- There are 2 murals on the arena in good condition.



Arena access gate; looking southeast

BUILDING

Building Overview

The ±57,000 sf building was built in multiple phases and opened in December, 1999. The building is typically used by the community from 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM everyday of the week.

a. Use

- The YFC is used for multiple activities including skating, swimming, trainings, parties, and community events.

b. Condition

- The building has received recent renovations, but is showing wear and tear.
- Interior wood doors tend to swell and therefore have issues with closing.
- Door and window hardware is in poor condition throughout the building.
- Doors must be unlocked at the beginning of the day and locked back up at the end of the day using an Allen wrench.
- HVAC systems make it difficult for staff to manage thermal comfort in all spaces (one unit serves multiple spaces).
- Exterior stucco is cracking.
- Downspouts are in need of repair.

c. Operations / Maintenance

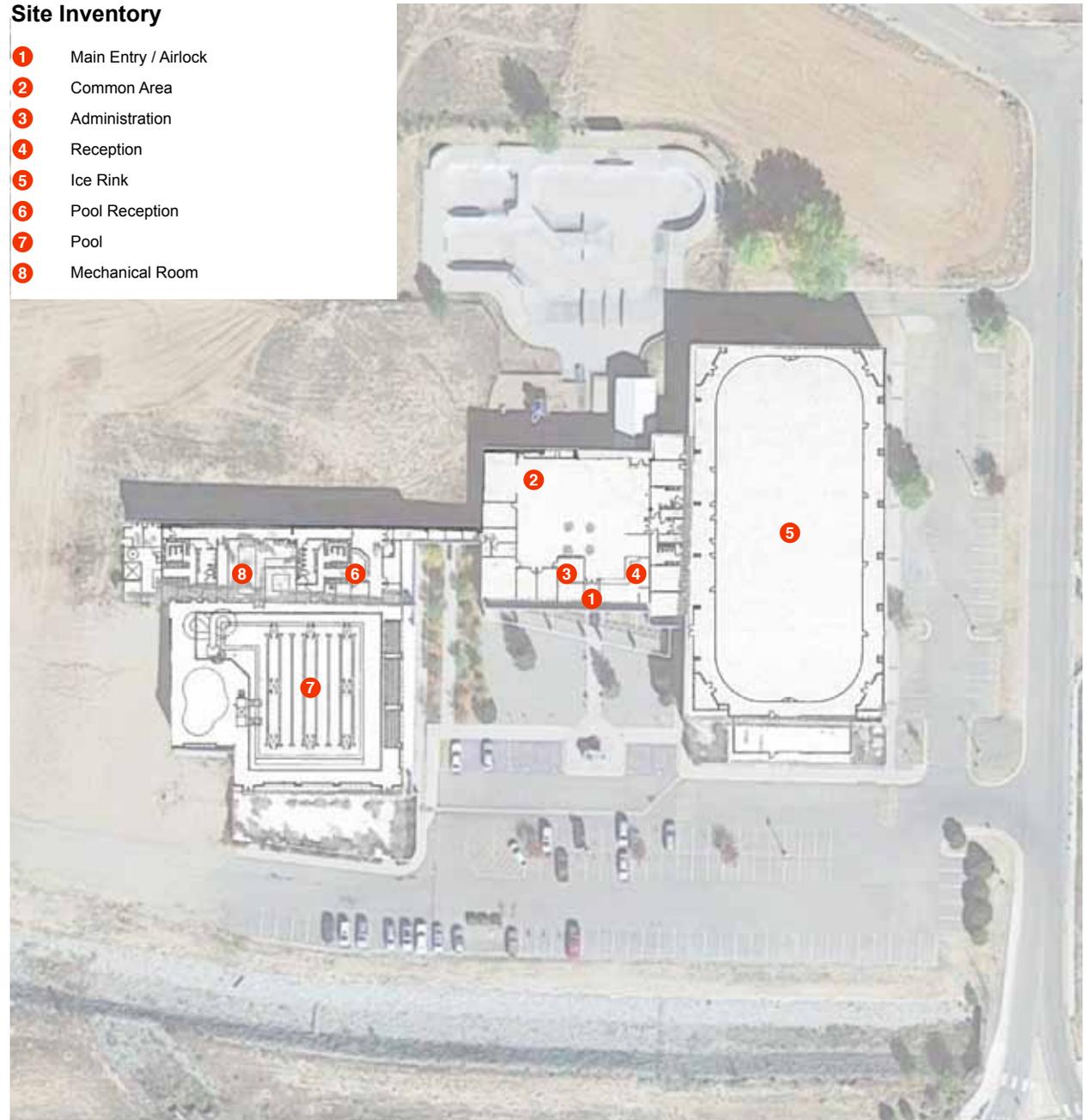
- The building is cleaned and maintained by YFC staff, with support from the TOT buildings department.
- The building interiors are painted twice a year.



Common Area

Site Inventory

- 1 Main Entry / Airlock
- 2 Common Area
- 3 Administration
- 4 Reception
- 5 Ice Rink
- 6 Pool Reception
- 7 Pool
- 8 Mechanical Room



Entry / Airlock / Reception / Common Area / Arcade

a. Use

This is the general use area for the building and multiple activities occur in this space. Community schools and social service groups use the space for general recreation, conducting trainings, meeting, performances and as a hang out space. This area includes the arcade.

b. Condition

- The airlock has issues due to the wind, and sometimes the acoustical tiles fall down, and the community bulletin board has all of the papers blown off.
- Flooring is in fair condition.
- Interior doors swell with moisture and get stuck.
- Reception is in fair condition, but there is a lack of visual connection to the entry and therefore patrons do not know where to check in.
- Arcade area has games that are furnished and maintained by a contractor. Many of the games are not working.

Administrative Offices

There are 3 offices that are currently being used by staff.

a. Use

- Staff uses the offices for business purposes.

b. Condition

- The offices are in fair condition
- Carpet is old and stained
- Doors swell and stick seasonally.
- Operable windows are missing hardware.



Administrative Offices

Classrooms A and B

There are 2 classrooms that are used by patrons and staff for events; parties, trainings, and for storage. They are used often, especially on weekends.

a. Use

- Parties / training / storage: 2-3 events per day on the weekend.

b. Condition

- Classroom B is smaller and in worse condition than Classroom A.
- VCT floor is cut up from ice skates.
- Doors swell and stick seasonally.
- Evidence of water damage on the exterior walls
- HVAC system difficult to maintain comfortable temps.
- Door hardware is damaged.
- Counters are de-laminating and showing evidence of damage from hot food pots.
- Cabinets are delaminating.



Common Area used for senior shuffleboard and school event



Arcade Area



Classroom A

Concession Area

The concession area is located in the common area and has original casework and finishes from 1999.

a. Use

- During the winter the concession area is used every weekend by the hockey / swimming groups.

b. Condition

- The casework is falling apart; delaminating and doors / hardware are broken.
- Drinking fountains have been pulled out of the wall and are temporarily secured to the wall. Staff reports there is a work order to replace them.
- Minimal prep / kitchen equipment on hand for concessions use.
- 3 compartment sink and 2 compartment sink in fair condition.
- Fan is on at all times to exhaust air for refrigerators.

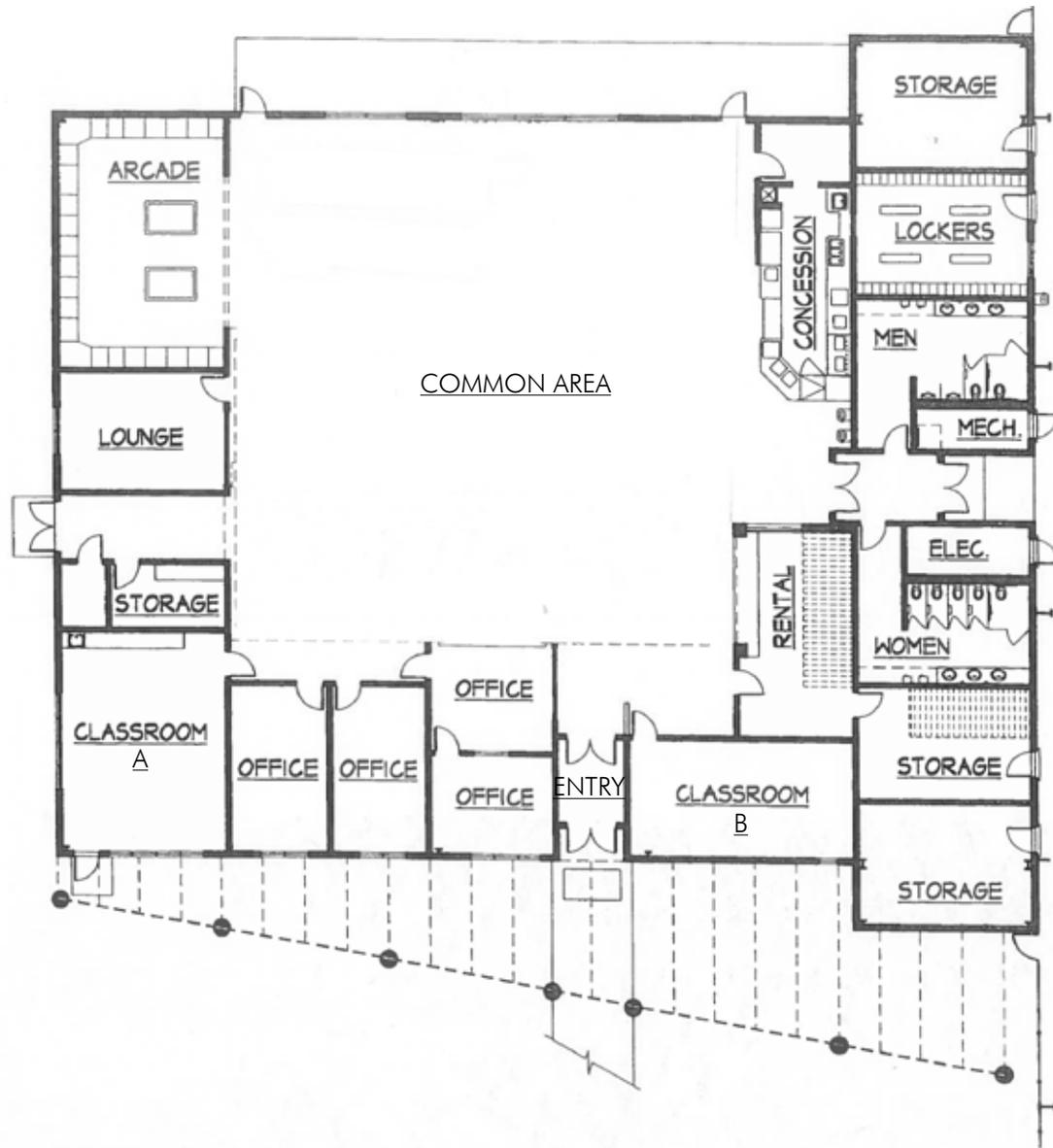
Restrooms

Condition

- Countertops are damaged.
- Toilet seats are gouged from ice skates.
- Stalls have excessive paint and need replacement.



Concession Area



Entry, Common Area and Administrative area floor plan

Skate Rental and Locker Rooms

The skate rental area is adjacent to the locker rooms.

a. Use

- Ice skate rental in the winter and in-line skate rental in the spring / summer.
- Area jointly serves as the staff break room.
- Locker rooms also serve as team rooms, and ref rooms.
- Locker room is used as storage during off seasons.

b. Condition

- Damaged switch plate covers.
- Damaged ceiling tiles.
- Skate storage rack- hand built; loose rails / boards.
- Damage to walls from equipment and athletes hitting the walls with sticks and skates.

c. Site Furnishings

- Surface mounted benches in fair condition.



Skate rack



Ice Rink



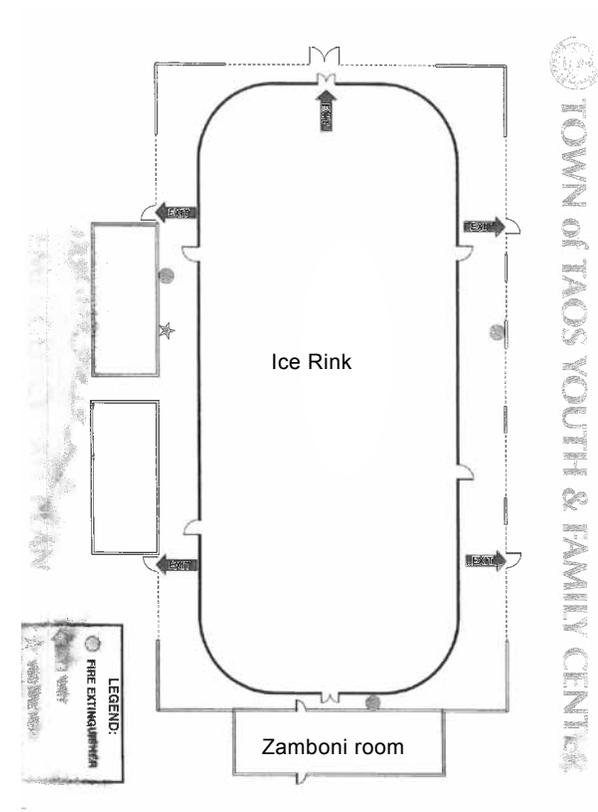
Staff break area



Locker Room



Missing plates and damage to light switch



Ice rink floor plan

Ice Rink / Arena

The ice rink / arena is a roofed area that is partially covered but open to the elements on 2 sides.

a. Use

- The ice rink is used for ice skating and hockey during winter months.
- During the spring, summer and fall the rink is used for in-line skating, basketball, dodgeball, boxing, roller derby and events.

b. Condition

- The roof has recently been replaced (2017).
- New roof screws are exposed and kids throw balls at them to pop the balls.
- Steel roof structure paint is peeling off
- The concrete slab has been painted and the paint is wearing off; no traction on the surface makes it slick and dangerous.
- Rink batter boards are leaning in and falling apart.
- Metal plate at rink entrance dulls skates.
- Extensive evidence of birds living in the roof structure; bird waste evident.
- Slab is heaving at the joints and acts as a trip hazard.
- The chain link fence is damaged along the exterior of the building and provides unwanted access.

c. Maintenance

- Fine dirt and debris blows into the arena causing dangerous, slippery floor condition; floor is swept and washed twice a week.
- Roof beams are washed prior to the ice skating season because they are dirty and will contaminate the ice if not properly washed.



Ice Rink ceiling



Rink batter boards and surface



Rink ceiling water damage

Zamboni Room

The room provides equipment ingress / egress to the rink and to the parking lot on the south of the building.

a. Use

- This space is used to house the Zamboni and for additional rink equipment storage.

b. Condition

- Walls are damaged and have moisture issues.
- Garage door has been damaged and doesn't fully open without manipulating it.
- The heater motor constantly goes out.
- Zamboni dump is dangerous because the doors open onto the parking lot sidewalk.



Chain link fence behind the grandstands



Zamboni room - damaged garage door

Pool

The pool area is comprised of an open water area (up to 7 lanes) with start blocks and water slides. It is adjacent to a wading pool. The therapy pool is located in a nearby room.

a. Use

- The pool is used year-round by different groups for exercise, recreation, lessons, teams.
- The therapy pool can be used for rehabilitation and exercise.

b. Condition

- The roof was recently replaced (2017).
- Exterior walls were renovated in 2017; work included exposing the studs, cleaning the rust, replacing the insulation and re-stuccoing.
- Paint is peeling off the skylight bays
- Exposed steel (door hardware, hinges, dead bolts, pool equipment, etc.) is rusting due to high humidity.
- Tiles are dirty at the pool edge.
- Bleachers are brittle and plastic is breaking.
- Security system is triggered because of the rusting contacts at the doors.

c. Maintenance

- The pool is shut down for a week each year for cleaning, repair and repainting.
- Every couple of years the door hardware is replaced because of corrosion.



Tiles along pool edge



Corroded door hardware



Indoor pool



Pool bleachers

Pool Locker Rooms

a. Use

- Staff locker room is used for lifeguards and staff
- General public uses the pool locker rooms. They are also used during hockey tournaments as team rooms.

b. Condition

- Shower trim is generally rusty and in need of replacement.
- Tiled areas are dirty; some tiles are missing or cracked.
- Walls can have mold issues when the mechanical system isn't working

c. Maintenance

- Mold in the restrooms can occur every couple of weeks and the staff scrubs the mold on that schedule.

Pool Mechanical

a. Condition

- Dectron humidity control has recently been upgraded with new parts.
- Roof access ladder does not have a safety cage.
- Eyewash station is rusted and needs to be replaced.

General Storage

- Storage closets and storage areas throughout the building is at capacity.
- Office materials are stored in closets.
- Mechanical rooms are used for storage.
- Utility corridor is used for storage.



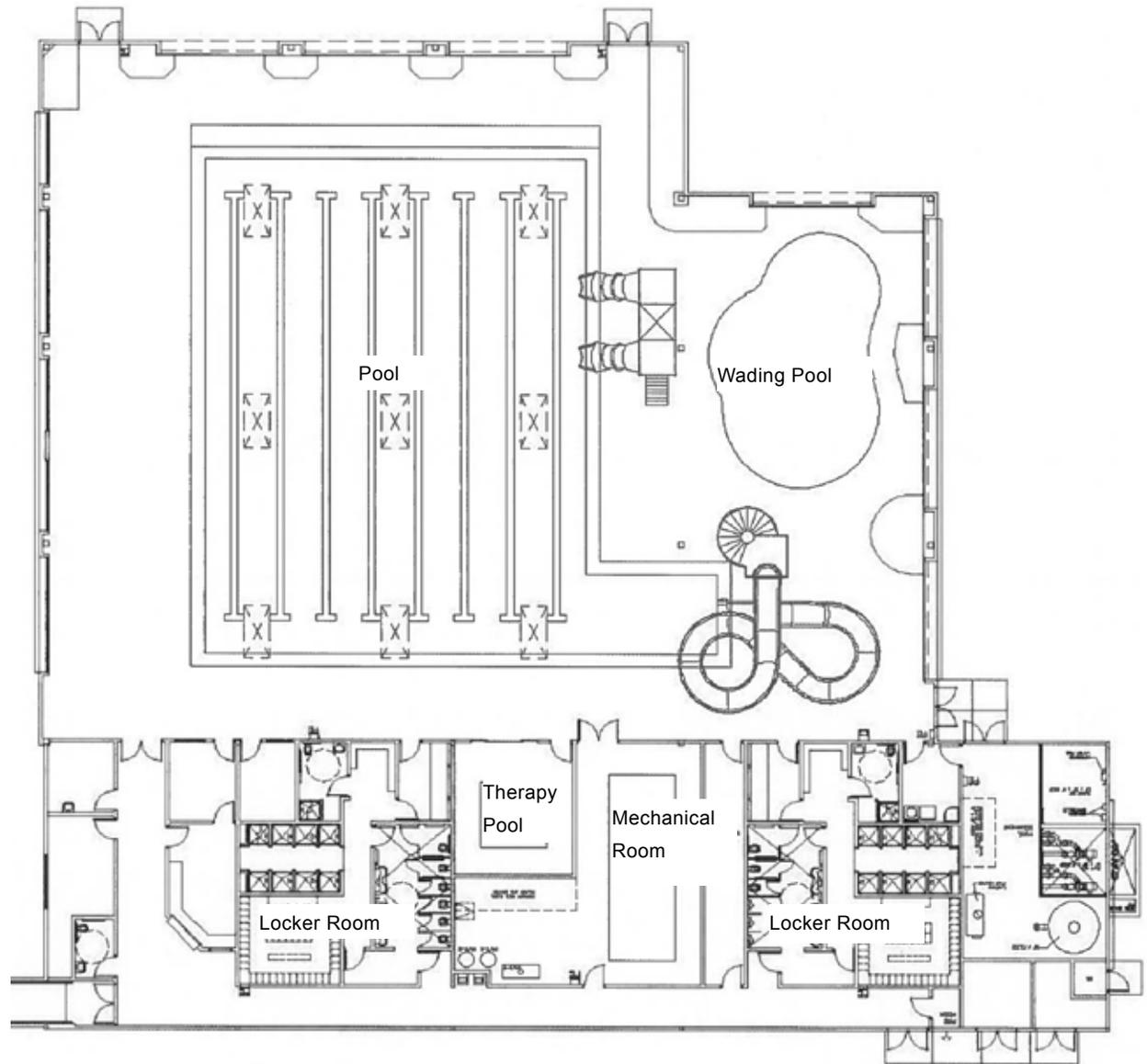
Utility corridor used for storage



Staff locker room



Damaged door hardware



Entry, Common Area and Administrative area floor plan

UPGRADE RECOMMENDATIONS SITE ELEMENTS / OPERATIONS

General Recommendations

- Visual Security: improve entry line of sight to assist site security at reception area and entrance.
- Reception: improve main entrance visibility; consider re-locating front door between pool and common area to create a centralized location; or re-configuring the existing entry to incorporate Classroom B.; create a welcoming interior / exterior environment.
- Security: provide building-wide security and life safety system upgrades including extension of the fire suppression system and strobes / emergency lights.
- Access control: re-configure access so closures can be clearly marked and controlled; update the door hardware so that in an event of a lock down, the building can be secured; fix all broken hardware.
- Remove all material that is not mold-resistant and replace with mold-resistant substrates and finishes.
- Designate specific storage areas to minimize clutter in mechanical rooms.
- Replace damaged acoustical tile ceilings throughout.
- Add rodent-proof storage for supplies, chairs / tables, etc.
- Provide building-wide intercom system / audio surround sound.
- Patch and re-stucco damage to building exterior.
- Parking: add parking to meet park needs; consider relocating dumpsters; install shade trees that are hardscape tolerant and have a broad canopy.
- Site Furnishings: add benches and tables; add trash and recycling receptacles; add bike racks to coordinate with access points.
- Circulation: develop master circulation plan in anticipation of formalizing trail connections to nearby schools.

- Landscape: increase amount of shade trees at strategic locations for pedestrians at gathering areas, recreation areas, and along primary pathways.
- Shade Structure: access to and from the shade structure and building is limited due to grades; investigate better pedestrian circulation between the shade structure and the skate park and the playground.
- Roof run-off: replace downspouts; direct downspouts and stormwater run off to designated landscape areas.
- Remove the trailer and storage area (located along Calle Palomita) from the site.

Common Area

- Repair damaged walls; re-configure space for more flexibility of spaces such as an accordion wall that can be opened up or subdivide the space.
- Classrooms: replace VCT flooring with durable floor that does not get damaged by skates; replace casework and counters with heat-resistant solid surface material; relocate playground to outside of classroom A; add security fence.
- Offices: repair damaged walls, replace flooring.
- Skate Rental: provide skate racks on wheels for easier storage of ice skates and in-line skates; replace damaged counters
- Concession: replace casework and countertops; add commercial kitchen equipment; replace drinking fountains.
- Team Locker rooms: re-configure room for better bench arrangement; upgrade wall finishes for impact resistance; add cages around lights to reduce damage; replace all plastic switch plates and receptacle covers with impact-resistant material; add locker rooms (at least double the capacity)

Ice Rink

- Ice Rink: repair ceiling damage and infill open “windows” on the south; paint ceiling, replace batterboards; fix heaving concrete; provide coating on the skate floor that is resistant to the temperature swings, yet provides slip-resistance in the non-ice rink seasons.
- Replace metal rink threshold with ice skate blade friendly material.
- Consider removable flooring tiles; address icing issue at north side of the room (fall hazard).
- Investigate chiller system upgrade requirements and repair vs. replacement costs.
- Zamboni Room; replace garage door; consider different location for Zamboni to prevent safety issue with pedestrians; repair damaged walls and install impact-resistant wall finishes.
- Repair chain link fence along ice rink perimeter.
- Investigate extending roof eaves on the east side to minimize direct sunlight on the ice and minimize wind blowing into the arena.

Pool

- Replace molded tiles surrounding the pool; replace corrosive metals with corrosion-resistant metals and insure different metals are not in contact with one another; replace the bleachers; provide Red phone in pool area for emergencies; provide UV disinfectant system; repair/ replace HVAC system for humidity control; upgrade humidity and pool filtration system as required; replace “sand-blasted” windows (damaged during wall upgrades); replace eyewash station
- Pool Locker rooms; replace moldy areas with mold-resistant materials; replace shower trim with corrosion-resistant trim; replace broken tiles.

Playground

- Safety: conduct playground safety audit to review safety issues
- ADA compliance: review access / inclusive play features and safety surfacing for ADA compliance
- Design: playground upgrades / expansion for 2-5 and 5-12 year old age groups. Consider relocating to a higher visibility area with shade and seating.
- Replenish engineered wood fiber surface to acceptable safety standard.
- Provide an inclusive play element for universal access.
- Location: consider re-locating playground away from skate park.

Skate Park

- Access: repair chain link fence and re-configure access so vehicular access and after hours access is restricted.
- Remove and replace chipped, rough concrete segments to provide a smooth rolling surface.
- Repair broken and chipped concrete edges.
- Security: utilize existing security camera.
- Construct shade element for spectators.
- Install site elements to break wind blowing from the west / southwest.

Appendix B

B PROGRAMMING / PUBLIC PROCESS

- Interest Group Meeting (NGO Sports Organizations) - Record
- Interest Group Meeting (Educational) - Record
- Interest Group Meeting (Tree Board) - Record
- Interest Group Meeting (Baseball / Softball) - Record
- Interest Group Meeting (Field Sports) - Record
- Interest Group Meeting (First Responders) - Record
- Interest Group Meeting (Maintenance + Facilities) - Record
- Interest Group Meeting (Taos Land Trust) - Record
- Interest Group Meeting (Taos County) - Record
- Interest Group Meeting (Acequias) - Record
- Interest Group Meeting (Taos Center for the Arts) - Record
- Public Input Meeting 1 (Programming) - Record
- Public Input Meeting 2 (Draft Master Plan) - Record
- Survey and Survey Results

TOWN OF TAOS PARKS MASTER PLAN

Focus Group: Sports Associations - NGO Sports

Objective: to collect information and feedback on the existing use and observations for the Taos Eco Park, Kit Carson Park and Fred Baca Park. The purpose of the meeting was to get an overall sense of the organization's experience with the Parks and to hear general thoughts on improvements or successes that may inform the master plan.

Venue: Thursday, November 16, 2017 10:00am - 11:00 am at the Taos Town Hall - Conference Room 109, 400 Camino de la Placita.

Format: Discussion

Information: Parks and Open Space Map, Kit Carson Park Aerial, Fred Baca Park Aerial, Taos Eco Park Aerial

Attendees: Ezra Bayles (Taos Pueblo), Pete French (Taos Sports Alliance), Linda Sanchez (TOT Police)
(project team: John Miller, Claudia Horn, Patrick Sinnott)

Summary

A primary focus of the conversation was the desire to improve / add facilities in order to hold sports events / tournaments as an economic development opportunity for the Town of Taos. The group envisions a range of sports tournaments as seasonal events that may bring hundreds of people to Taos on scheduled weekends. The Taos Eco Park is under-developed in their opinion and, with expansion and a revised focus on multi-purpose fields, could be a resource for hosting tournaments for different sports. Taos has multiple recreational organizations and would benefit from a larger organization acting as a clearinghouse to help organize larger events and help finance park improvements (Recreational Improvement District). They also explained that social benefits and youth participation is difficult to quantify economically but should be valued as a way to keep kids occupied and healthy.

General Notes

Master Plan Concepts

- Group concern: how do you identify funding? Taos doesn't have a parks department and maintenance is lacking so how do you realize a plan if there isn't good foundation in place.
- Design Office task is to deliver to the Town a priorities list of what people think is important in the park system so that the Town can work towards goals and funding.
- Taos Sports Alliance: we can go down a list of needs in the park, they are an embarrassment.
- Design Office looks at other comparable municipalities to help Town understand a benchmark for program elements and distribution to meet demand and public interests.

Economy and Health

- Parks and recreational fields are looked at as something done for the community without a return on investment (extra money). It would be good to shift to the public understanding that parks and recreational fields can be economic generators and that everyone benefits.
- Studies need to show economic benefits as a model. Without that connection it doesn't seem like a sustainable plan for future administrations.
- It's a dollar return and a quality of life return. Youth experience is hard to quantify but very beneficial. If its possible to quantify that somehow it is a second component to a return on investment. This has been forgotten in our local governments.
- This plan has to show how funding will come back as a benefit.
- Eco park is an example, things need to be built for economic development, but only one field was built.
- An unquantified economic benefit example is currently 3 girls that have NCAA Division 1 scholarships to play soccer. These are expenses that local families aren't paying and are a direct result of current facilities and personnel. Another example is health prevention - can it be quantified?
- The health benefit as a cost savings to public health needs to be demonstrated. For example, people use the Taos Eco Park for walking in the morning.
- Add exercise stations, which are low maintenance, low cost and have high impact in the scope of things.

- *Recommendation: demonstrate economic return for investments in parks / recreational fields for hosting tournaments as well as indirect returns such as health, youth involvement / scholarships*

Economic Generation Through Sports

- Town has done a market study for concert events.
- There is a very large softball community here and they travel out of town for events. With proper facilities, a tournament for 200 people could be held here.
- Soccer needs more fields in order to host a tournament and the locker rooms are not developed.
- Soccer, grass is preferred but given maintenance and elevation grass isn't ideal.
- Youth soccer league is run on Ranchos de Taos school fields.
- La Tierra Landscapes is contracted by the Town to maintain Eco Park to FIFA standards (\$45-\$50,000 annual maintenance cost)
- Field is approx. 6.5 years old (opened April 2011); longevity is dependent on good maintenance.
- Sports organizations could do shoulder season events that vary between sports (softball / soccer tournaments). Ideally sports events would not conflict with concerts.
- The two additional fields at Eco Park need to be designed as multi-use fields. Soccer would be open to having a multi-use field also conducive for baseball. Multi-use would be great / popular within soccer community. Soccer only is not an issue.
- TSA would like to show the benefits of a 200 people event once a month for the town so that it may act as proof for the benefits of a new economic factor. Corina at marketing department can help.
- The TSA runs the Gran Fondo (Pete French) – in August.
- Pete French recommends 3 Rivers Park program in Minnesota.
- Taos is a unique area with a broader community that has kids that want to play, call it a feeder system. Local resources pool toward park resources.
- In the fall High school gets priority to use Eco Park.
- Ideally you'd have all age groups playing around the same time.
- Soccer League would be happy to support tournaments. Burnout is that don't see support / maintenance from Town end. It needs to continue to be a 2-way street.
- If the Ranchos de Taos fields (2 fields) were maintained better and there were 3 fields at Eco and High School football field, there could be 6-7 fields which could host a very large tournament.
- *Recommendation: Taos needs 3 fields (minimum) for a tournament, 6-7 for a large tournament; 1 exists (Eco Park) - 2 others could be added at the Eco Park and agreements put in place for use of school fields (Ranchos de Taos – 2, High School – 1). New fields should be striped as multi-purpose fields to allow use by multiple sports organizations.*

Parks

- There is a social element to parks that are not team oriented. It can be a multi-cultural experience in town on the weekends and that is harder to quantify.
- Dogs are being walked on grass, lots of waste. Synthetic turf does not have this problem. – Animal control Parks are well traveled. Signage needs to be up describing rules.
- On events, there needs to be well organized and rules need to be followed.
- There is a lack of unpaved walking trails in town so it places great demands on the parks.
- Glenda would like to see a dog park. Tennis court at KC tears up dog toenails, and she sees fights.
- Vista Grande High School seniors want to help build a dog park (Shelly is the teacher).
- Events and Parks and Recreation (who would run programs like tournaments) needs to be different departments that work together.

Sports Alliance

- Used to get a grant from Town to run the Eco Park and then oversaw maintenance. Working toward developing 3 fields.
- Now TSA supports a variety of events: Bull of the Woods Trail Run, Up and Over, Gran Fondo, Ride the Rim.
 - o Holy Cross hoping to do Turkey Trot

- TSA supports local sports events in a variety of ways through promotion, etc. Gran Fondo is only one that they organize.
- TSA helps facilitate NCAA D1 soccer team camps.
- Taos has a lot of recreational organizations with independent leaders that come and go over time. A larger organization such as the TSA that could be a clearinghouse for these groups with knowledge that can help organize larger events would be helpful.
- French working on a RID (recreation improvement district) that could be county wide, separate of government, which would have funds and a populated body. Idea is that it would have a department that could support these things full time – director with a department. That way it could help with smaller, satellite communities.
- *Recommendation: Establish a sports-focused organization and organizational structure with permanence / longevity to help organize and promote events and who can also spearhead maintenance, funding, and improvements.*

Taos Pueblo Perspective

- Park use: Pueblo kids participate in the different Town leagues.
- A lot of families use Kit Carson because it is adjacent to the Pueblo. Lots of use across town.
- Sometimes Kit Carson feels unsafe because it is not lit.
- Baca is great because adults can walk and see kids at the playground. Trails need help.
- Pueblo would like to see some of these facilities on tribal land.
- Main concerns are poor maintenance. For example, the Fred Baca court is in bad condition.
- People want to be proud of their parks system; people want to have pride in where they live.
- Lots of potential in Eco Park and Fred Baca Park.
- Weimer trail – bushes growing in it.
- There needs to be accessible paths for prescription trail walking. Surface needs to be safe and for all levels activity.

Fred Baca

- Boardwalk gets slick.
- Glenda sees a lot of needles at the end of boardwalk.
- Boardwalk is not EMS accessible. Hard to respond to.
- Hard for security with poor visibility.

END OF NOTES

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TOWN OF TAOS PARKS MASTER PLAN

Focus Group: Educational Institutions

Objective: to collect information and feedback on the existing use and observations for the Kit Carson Park, Taos Eco Park, and Fred Baca Park. The purpose of the meeting was to get an overall sense of the organization's experience with the Parks and to hear general thoughts on improvements or successes that may inform the master plan.

Venue: Thursday, November 16, 2017 11:00am - 12:00 pm at the Taos Town Hall - Conference Room 109, 400 Camino de la Placita

Format: Discussion

Information: Parks and Open Space Map, Kit Carson Park Aerial, Fred Baca Park Aerial, Taos Eco Park Aerial

Attendees: Shawn Cassily (Field Institute of Taos)

project team: John Miller, Claudia Horn, Patrick Sinnott

Summary

The discussion of this meeting primarily focused on safety (maintenance) of existing parks, connectivity of the Taos Park system, and desired improvements at Taos Parks. Because trail access is a priority for FIT, they explained the importance of giving kids access to parks via non-vehicular modes of transportation. They also expressed interest in developing open space for trail systems and the need for non-traditional recreation elements such as climbing walls, or a pump track, and educational nature areas with interpretive signage.

General Notes

Field Institute of Taos (FIT)

- Focus is hands on outdoor activities that create a sense of place through the environmental study and experience. FIT utilizes different recreational mediums with different age groups. As kids get older, FIT steps up educational pieces: summer programming, overnight camps, interact with school for programming.
- FIT runs field trip for schools and works with the Taos Land Trust to facilitate these things. They use any outdoor space and have programming 10 months out of the year.
- Estimate: 45 kids a day. Addition 10-20 drop in kids at Quail Ridge per day (in summer).
- Estimate: field trips 3-5 classes a day.
- Estimate: Youth Heartline (teenagers in need of extra guidance), Dream Tree (transitional teen housing) 5-10 participants 1 day a week.

Parks

- Maintenance is 1st concern. Understand things get worn-out quickly. Things are in disrepair in the recreational sense. Example, Fred Baca courts are rough and not great.
- Connectivity second concern: Need safe routes and bike lanes that serve connectivity for kids that can get to parks without a car. Bike / pedestrian road share education with locals and visitors is challenging. Safe routes are lacking, system wide.
- The separated bike path from the Youth and Family Center to the Taos Charter School is a good example of safe route, natural surface. Approx. 8' wide. Interconnectivity between parks off road that is safe would be great.
- Typically if a developer is developing they are responsible for sidewalks.
- Schools are all centered in lower town. Connecting schools to parks generates access (non vehicular).
- Greenprint proposed trails were ground-truthed, easements and alignments are TBD. See Greenprint for prioritization. Work with John to understand. Acquisitions and route planning TBD.
- Eco Park is limited in scope, FIT doesn't really use it. Trail access is major focus of FIT. A perimeter trail around the entire Eco Park would be useful and helpful. A perimeter trail for a run or young kid bike ride would be a great aspect at the Eco Park, or adults could use when kids are there. Opportunity for interpretive signs.
- Would be nice to have a great pump track. There was once a pump track planned behind YFS. Central location, close to trails too.
- Baca expansion of boardwalk to Rio Fernando trail would be useful.

- FIT finds interpretive signs useful, value in developing a responsibility and sense of place. Signs at Baca are worn.
- An interpretive network across TLT land of riparian resource is a valuable asset.

Bikes

- Most kids have bikes. FIT provides bikes.
- No Safe Routes To Schools (SFTS) program in Taos. Requires committed leadership

Fields

- FIT now uses a large field north of sheepskin factory for activities. Previously used Kit Carson and Fred Baca fields.
- Would use field space in Town.

Community Gardens

- Not really a FIT use. Charter Schools set some up. TLT might do some on their properties.
- Unknown if there is interest in that but lots of community interested in food security.
- There is potential and interest in preserving traditions and cultures. It may be that raised beds vs. ditch irrigation is received differently.
- Reviving downtown ditches has some support.
- Trails and ditches seem like a logical association but it is ditch association dependent and there isn't a lot of support among them for trails.
- Rio Fernando North ditch, green infrastructure could act as an example of shared benefits.

Trails

- A town park trail system, outside of traditional park system would be great.
- A hiking trail town park would be nice.
- Durango, Overland trail system is an example of a successful trail system that is recreational and educational.
- Other communities have trail system parks that are town owned and managed in addition to other offerings.
- There are a lot of social trails in undeveloped land in area south of YFC and Weimer trail.

Youth and Family Center (YFC)

- There are a lot of social trails north and east of YFC that provide access to the YFC.
- YFC is easily accessed, could use some outdoor improvements.
- Skate park is pegged for improvements 2018-2019.
- A pump track needs to be a decent sized to be well used. Maybe could be in conjunction with skate park.
- YFC offerings can be improved. Accessibility is decent, but should study it to improve upon.
- May want to show arroyo trail service area on south side of town as 10 min. walk.

Teen Center

- Need came out of Greenprint.
- YFC is central to a lot of schools.
- FIT picks up the Taos Mountain Bike team at YFC, kids ride from Taos High to meet.
- Bouldering style climbing wall can help supplement traditional park elements – such as Eco Park. Helps to bring additional groups to the park that may not be using it currently.

END OF NOTES

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TOWN OF TAOS PARKS MASTER PLAN

Focus Group: Tree Board

Objective: to collect information and feedback on the existing use and observations for the Kit Carson Park, Taos Eco Park, and Fred Baca Park. The purpose of the meeting was to get an overall sense of the organization's experience with the Parks and to hear general thoughts on improvements or successes that may inform the master plan.

Venue: Thursday, November 16, 2017 1:00pm - 2:00 pm at the Taos Town Hall - Conference Room 109, 400 Camino de la Placita.

Format: Discussion

Information: Parks and Open Space Map, Kit Carson Park Aerial, Fred Baca Park Aerial, Taos Eco Park Aerial

Attendees: Paul Bryan Jones (Chair, Taos Tree Board), Ben Wright (Taos Tree Board)
(project team: John Miller, Claudia Horn, Patrick Sinnott)

Summary

The Taos Tree Board tree inventory includes Kit Carson Park and Fred Baca Park trees. They have concerns about the lack of tree maintenance at Town Parks, especially over the last three years. Their primary concern is for the safety of park goers, but they also expressed concern about the overall health of park trees and a succession planting strategy. They feel that their concerns have not been adequately addressed. The Tree Board explained that the health of the park landscape has come at the expense of large events and that the Town needs to find more of a balance in regards to parks maintenance / events maintenance.

General Notes

Tree Inventory

- 2016 comprehensive forestry assistant grant started the tree inventory process.
- GIS layer avail for trees. Kit Carson resurveyed in 2017. Baca survey done in 2011 and is in need of resurvey.
- Board resurveys every 5 years. Data is by tree.

Tree Care

- Trees in Kit Carson have been marked for removal for over 3 years. Most have not been removed, even if they are dead.
- Concern that despite potentially hazardous situations with trees / limbs have not seen a response from Town to address issues. Care for current trees is poor.
- See summary provided by Ben Wright.
- Tree care contributes to how people experience the park but see care as generally insufficient for the last couple years.

Management

- As of 2003, Paul surveyed old trees for hazards and hasn't seen recommendations from 2003 implemented.
- There is no pruning or planning or replacement schedule or plan in place for any of the parks.
- A tree management plan would be helpful and with a grant from the Tree Board, Paul is writing a tree management plan for Kit Carson and Fred Baca Park.
- Paul would like to work in conjunction with Design Office and Town to develop areas and understand management.
- Concern is that trees are added or removed without consultation or plan. Tree in front of stage was removed without consultation and stump left in place. Value of tree not taken into account in lieu of sight lines. Tree board wishes to be consulted for tree removal / assessment.
- Tree board agrees that stump removals / grinding are essential for safety.
- *Recommendation: complete and adopt a Tree Management Plan to outline maintenance schedule, tree replacement, best practices for tree health*

Obstacles

- Town needs to realize importance of trees to the overall health of the park and implement a maintenance plan.
- Town needs to prioritize plant material in the parks budget, even for care (pruning). Many trees are high risk, especially near picnic tables.
- In the past there has been a budget of \$10,000 per year for tree care by an independent contractor / arborist. Starting 3 years ago, no independent arborist was hired to address tree care issues and nothing has been done by Town maintenance to address issues. Now it is unclear where the tree care money is being used.
- Facilities Service Director is responsible for tree care.
-

Planning / Activities

- Document Safety Issues: Safety issues will be documented as part of plan to reduce hazards.
- Planting Succession Plan: Paul to help Design Office; will do a 1-5 year planting schedule (succession plan) in conjunction with Design Office Planning.
- Town of Taos designated a Tree City in 2010. Budget needs to be \$2 per capita annually. 50 trees were planted in park with a grant in 2010. It has been a progression of surveys and planning. In 2016 there was an educational component grant (11 town participants). Sees need for a training to help bring town staff up to speed. Board hosted 2 pruning workshops as part of grant.
- Arbor Day Events: every Arbor Day there is a planting event.
- Grants: recent grants for planting Eco Park, eastern edge of Kit Carson, Taos High School Orchard, Gusdorf Park Orchard
- Tree Care Plan: document in progress (anticipated adoption 2018); technical and visionary document that will outline best practices for maintenance and care of trees

Trees

- Fruit trees come from Tooley's.
- Larger trees come from Trees of Corrales.

Tree Inventory Survey

- Methodology: 'Tree plotter' (GIS with tablet technology) was used to document trees.
- Information: condition of trees, species, and relative data surveyed.
- Extents: 6000 trees on survey, includes Kit Carson Park, Fred Baca Park, Rio Fernando Park (900). Eco Park trees not on survey. Focused on historical district, included street trees along Paseo and Fred Baca, Kit Carson (resurveyed 2017) and Eco Park, Rio Fernando. Focused on public trees, some private lands included. Half the Kit Carson data came from State survey.
- General trends: park trees are in worse condition, trees are not being pruned. Trees suffer from drought stress. Dieback due to lack of acequia irrigation at KC.
-

Master Gardeners Program

- Limited relationship

Irrigation

- Board recommends irrigation first, then new tree installation.
- Kit Carson east side new planting has new irrigation.
- Parks maintenance needs to check on young plants because poor irrigation maintenance can cause tree failure.

Tree Board

- 7 member board, relatively new board, 2 high school students on board.
- Will contribute to tree screening on new hydroponic project.
- Working on new website



Concert Venue

- Concert events and chain link fences seem to change the look and feel of the park. Perhaps fencing can be managed better between restrictive fences (temp vs permanent). 6' tall chain link left up over summer is ugly.
- A concern is resolving the temporary / permanent use of the concert venue.
- Events bring in funds, but shouldn't over value importance of green areas.
- Compaction of turf during events can be detrimental to health of surface.
- As part of planning process, consider how to handle events in conjunction with the value and the health of the landscape. One shouldn't be sacrificed one over the other.
- People use parks for many things, some bring in money, some don't.
- Kit Carson is a very well used park.

General Park Use

- Concerns about loitering in Kit Carson.
- There are safety concerns stemming from people hanging out to use restrooms
- It will be a challenge to balance safety, security, with freedom to occupy space.
- Rio Fernando Park has potential to offer new programming palette to Town offering.
- Eco Park lost original 50 trees from lack of maintenance during a contract dispute. Tree board replaced them.

END OF NOTES

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TOWN OF TAOS PARKS MASTER PLAN

Focus Group: Baseball / Softball

Objective: to collect information and feedback on the existing use and observations for the Kit Carson Park, Taos Eco Park, and Fred Baca Park. The purpose of the meeting was to get an overall sense of the organization's experience with the Parks and to hear general thoughts on improvements or successes that may inform the master plan.

Venue: Thursday, November 16, 2017 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm at the Taos Town Hall - Conference Room 109, 400 Camino de la Placita.

Format: Discussion

Information: Parks and Open Space Map, Kit Carson Park Aerial, Fred Baca Park Aerial, Taos Eco Park Aerial

Attendees: Chris Baca (Taos Little League), Norm Cutliff (Adult Baseball), Jon Greehley (Recreational Baseball), Charles Bonfanto (Adult Baseball League)
(project team: John Miller, Claudia Horn, Patrick Sinnott)

Summary

The focus group discussed 3 main issues impacting the baseball community in Taos. First, the Little League fields at Kit Carson are poorly maintained and field space is inadequate to grow the league. The baseball community is interested in hosting tournaments but the quality and quantity of fields prevents them from attracting events. Second, the group expressed concern about the safety of Kit Carson, especially at evening games, due to a lack of lighting and propensity for vagrants to hang about the park. The third concern was the lack of a public baseball facility in town adequate for hardball (90' base paths). Currently there is a gap in opportunities for 13-17 year olds to continue playing baseball before joining the adult league. Representatives also expressed support for multi-use fields at Taos Eco Park.

General Notes

Taos Little League

- Participation: last year there almost wasn't a League but as leadership stepped up, numbers skyrocketed to almost 400 kids in 2017 from 200 in 2016.
- League has teams for Tee-Ball, Minor League, Major League, Coach Pitch, Softball. \$75 registration fee. ½ to uniform and insurance and approx. \$10 to league. Youth are served up through the age of 12.
- Season: April – June, then All-Star games / tournaments through end of July. Regionals and post season is in August.
- Field use: Tee ball mainly uses north field; lower field is softball and coach pitch baseball; middle minor and major boys on the large field; multi-use lawn is used for practice.
- League replaced light bulbs (\$80 each), people were stealing them for use as grow lights. Many games were canceled due to lights. Lights were being broken and there was glass on home plate.
- Condition of Facilities: Dugouts are filthy and require constant cleanout (feces, trash). Homeless live in dugouts. Pests and snakes have been found in dugouts.
- Dugouts locked by league, open during summer.
- Field condition was poor this year. Maintenance included mowing but seemed like more attention was spent toward concerts. Dry grass. Tee ball, League had to cut out base paths, field was filled with gophers. Some gophers in outfields.
- Clay infield: Town paid for new clay but the League had to coordinate to have it installed. Clay maintenance between games and lining was done by League.
- Responsibilities: Parent group (Board members) primary do cleanup labor prior to practices and games. Concessions run by board, proceeds go toward new equipment (balls, catching gear, bats, helmets, etc.) There are standards for proper equipment that are upheld at a District level. Town was good at taking out trash and providing clay.
- Hope to use high school fields for older kids this year.

Expansion

- Hard to fit all games into 1 week that is necessary to meet qualifications for All Stars.
- It would be a challenge to grow the Little League program on current fields.
- Filemon Sanchez is sized right but adult softball is usually using it during little league season.
- All Stars tournament locations rotate. Taos may host 2018 or 2019 games. Concern about safety and quality of play on current fields. Large economic generator- Taos Raton Clayton: 8-9 teams per age group (3)
- Would like to see capacity to host state level tournaments, a dedicated complex.
- It would be ok to split games among multiple facilities but its nice to have in 1 location.
- There is no Town facility for 13 year-old and older baseball (which use 90' base paths). Would need to use Taos High School, which has its challenges. League would like to expand facilities to address this gap where kids don't have resources to play....can be a reason to stop being active or involved.
- Safety concerns: #1 concern is ambient security lighting. There are no lights between park entrance and lower field. Kids not playing disappear into darkness. League paid to have concessions lighting installed. When movie night is on, there is a lot of back and forth which is a concern.

Adult Baseball / Taos High School Field

- Only place in town for fast pitch, hardball, with 90' base paths. Owned and maintained by the schools.
- The Adult baseball league (1 team 18-75 year old players) uses the field in exchange for maintenance work / field upkeep (cut grass, provide bases, etc.). There is no formal agreement with the school.
- Adult league considers lack of facilities for 13-17 year old players as a major gap and one of the reasons for small adult league numbers. A strong continuous LL program supports the sport down road.
- Adult baseball season: first of June (schools out) end of September. Season would start earlier (beginning of May) if possible with fields.

Little League / Baseball Needs

- A centralized complex that has a range of baseball field sizes (4 minimum needed for tournaments); ability to host events / regional tournaments
- 1 larger field at Eco Park for adult and older juniors with moveable bases to accommodate a range of teams.
- Surfacing: preference for grass, since synthetic turf gets very hot, but the field is more important than the surface. Synthetic turf Infield at Little League is poorly maintained (weeds, sand).
- Infield Surfacing: A good clay infield is important in conjunction with a synthetic outfield. Good clay paths with synthetic infield is ok.
- Surfacing maintenance costs: estimate \$7,000 for synthetic annually at HS football, estimate \$3,000-\$4,000 for the grass field at High School.

Eco Park

- Park is not used by Little League / Baseball since it doesn't have facilities for them.
- Older kids and adults would require a dedicated baseball / softball field (adjustable base paths)
- A multi-use field synthetic could work for Little League.

Economic Development

- Regional tournaments could be attracted to Taos.
- Would only need 1 more field (adult) to attract a tournament. There is a designated field at Questa that could be used. 3 fields would be sufficient to host.
- Junior and Senior leagues would share that space.

Filemon Sanchez

- 1 more field would be a great complex.
- Softball fields too small for fast pitch, outfield not large enough, too big for LL.

Misc

- Pueblo has field space at Powwow location. Unknown how it is used. Most Northern Pueblos have adult leagues, but Taos does not.



- There is a legacy of baseball in Taos: Adult league played Santa Clara, unique competition 2 years ago.
- Parking is very poor at Kit Carson but there is plenty of parking at Eco Park and Filemon Sanchez.
- LL is more flexible, because big fields can be shrunk for LL use
- Filemon Sanchez is sized for softball. Outfield is in poor condition.
- Fred Baca is in LL safety plan, used for practice.

Hockey

- Is a good example of economic development in town due to good coaches, leadership, and a track record of hosting successful tournaments.
- Need to give people reasons to come here.
- Taos has a reputation as a high altitude training facility for sports.

END OF NOTES

The record herein is considered to be an accurate depiction of the discussion and/or decisions made during the meeting unless written clarification is received by **design office** within five (5) working days upon receipt of this meeting record.

TOWN OF TAOS PARKS MASTER PLAN

Focus Group: Field Sports

Objective: to collect information and feedback on the existing use and observations for the Kit Carson Park, Taos Eco Park, and Fred Baca Park. The purpose of the meeting was to get an overall sense of the organization's experience with the Parks and to hear general thoughts on improvements or successes that may inform the master plan.

Venue: Thursday, November 16, 2017 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm at the Taos Town Hall - Conference Room 109, 400 Camino de la Placita.

Format: Discussion

Information: Parks and Open Space Map, Kit Carson Park Aerial, Fred Baca Park Aerial, Taos Eco Park Aerial

Attendees: Lee Backer (Taos Youth Soccer League), Nickie McCarthy (Taos High Athletics), Chris Painter (Taos Soccer Club), Cat Legere (Taos Eco Park / Soccer)
(project team: John Miller, Claudia Horn, Patrick Sinnott)

Summary

The focus group was interested in developing tournament opportunities in Taos and is interested in the expansion / completion of the Taos Eco Park. Additional fields, they explained, would be an economic driver to the town and two additional fields would not need to be FIFA 3 star fields. The group was interested in making two additional fields multi-use. The completion of the locker rooms would help with hosting higher level teams / tournaments.

General Notes

Taos Youth Soccer

- League started in 70s, age 4-14 with 450 players in 2017.
- Primarily use field behind Ranchos which is a general use field maintained by the School. Field was originally built by Soccer Federation grant for soccer.
- Also use Taos Eco park in spring when Taos High School is not using. Typically U12 and U14 use the Eco Park.
- Youth Soccer is typically a fall and spring league.
- Had a peak of 700 kids 4-5 years ago. Now consistently 450. Drop off was likely due to football league startup at that time.
- Would like to be more involved with NM State soccer and would like to host tournaments. Taos has climate that could make it a summer soccer facility when it is too hot in TX or southern NM. Summer soccer could attract interest in Taos. Completion of Eco Park (general use fields and or soccer fields would be great).
- Tournaments (talk to Michael Hensely) would need 3 fields for a 12 team tournament over a weekend. Ranchos
- Lee was high school team coach years ago.
- Ranchos has potential to be used but it requires more resources to bring it up to standard. Ranchos is not in good enough condition to host games in current state. It is ok now for rec league youth soccer.

High School

- Eco Park reduces demand on High School field. Eco Park: land is school's, facility is Town's.
- 55-75 football players use the Taos High School synthetic turf field.
- Eco Park is a great field and expanding capacity would be beneficial to the soccer community, including school system.
- School hosted tournament: 4 boys teams, 6 teams girls, all day 9am-7:30pm.
- Eating food, lodging, revenue would be beneficial for town.
- School charges for games, supports spring teams. Challenge is that restrooms are not nearby. Changing rooms / lockers needed. Would like a ticket booth and better layout for charging for games / team entry.
- Teams love the Eco Park Field, more fields and locker rooms would make it an amazing destination.
- NCAA camps require tents for locker rooms.

Adult Soccer

- State organization would like Taos to host a tournament.
- Might be able to host with 2 fields, 3 fields would be better. Ideally late spring tournament between ABQ league.
- Numbers vary 60-130 adults; recent decline may have been due to cost \$65. Also solicits sponsorships.

Taos Eco Park

- It is a really fancy field for community use since the field is not being scheduled for high altitude professional training / play as originally intended. Additional fields combined with active marketing / scheduling would make it more of an economic driver.
- Town has not been terribly supportive of further developing Eco Park.
- Other two fields don't have to be as great as FIFA 3 star. High School turf field is slick when wet, not as good as Eco Park.
- Eco Park turf: Shaw Sportex - Cat can clarify.
- There is a desire and requirement for grass and synthetic. Natural grass is desirable. Example, national teams wouldn't come to play on synthetic. Eco Park is designed with water catchment.
- Grass is cheaper, gopher maintenance long term is the trouble.
- Still need a warm up pitch so no lapse between games to host a tournament. Currently they would be transported.
- ABQ would like to host an aspect of their tournament in Taos, require 4 fields. Currently there are not 4 fields that could be used (Taos HS, Eco, Ranchos). Getting spread out is not ideal for resources.
- Anaya field (Taos High School)
- Sports tourism and sports training means local services could be lower cost (example league fees)
- Change of administration caused a funding priority shift, which sunk growth of Eco Park.
- An investor and Town understanding the value of finishing this project would help get this done. Need to demonstrate to Town that fields are not being left vacant.

Eco Park Use

- June through August - High demand: 20-30hrs / week
- August through November - Very High demand: 30 hrs / week (min).
- November through April - Limited demand: not organized
- April through May - High demand: 20 hrs / week (College and spring youth league)
- Other incident time in addition to weekly estimates. People book fields for alternative usage. Walking paths are used often.
- Games are usually done by 9pm
- Soccer is generally amenable for shared use as long as it is built to regulation size.
- Cat sees most economic impact via soccer and original vision for Soccer. Multi-purpose is great but maybe there is an alternate plan for a high altitude economic soccer in conjunction with.
- Cat believes that multi-purpose would compromise goal of getting high altitude higher caliber teams.
- Personnel at the Town do not have the expertise in this area, they have expertise in events and that is the direction they are going.
- Charter schools use Eco Park for physical education classes.
- Walking path is used at all hours of the day.
- Lack of locker room prevents people from booking. There is \$300,000 set aside for locker room. Cat used to be director of TSA. There was discrepancy on what to build so it remains un-built.
- Maybe if the town doesn't want it, there could be an outside plan.
- 2016 Town stopped funding Sports Alliance to book the Eco Park, now Cat does it as a volunteer so that it can't be neglected.
- No fee for youth or adults to use Eco Park.
- NCAA teams visiting, Highlands University they were billed but there was no mechanism to collect funds from organizations so they use the park for free.
- Even with 1 field, handicap with locker room and a volunteer organizer, people are starting to call to use the fields so economic generation is on the cusp. Taos is a destination.



Fred Baca

- Youth Soccer and, Youth Football uses it. First come first serve. Not scheduled. No agreements.

Indoor Facility

- Only 1 gym available for town yet there is great demand. Clubs would like to do an indoor soccer league, can't schedule a time, due to other activities (boxing, church events, basketball).
- Guadalupe Gym at the Guadalupe Church downtown is the only indoor gym facility. Get key at Youth and Family Center. People want to play in the winter.
- A multi-purpose bubble, even a basketball gym / multi-use facility would be great.

Kit Carson

- Adult Soccer used to use lawn. 8v8 grew from limited field space and now still uses.
- Challenge is that it's not great when people loiter there. Troubling for youth sports.
- Youth soccer practices there occasionally. Games used to be played here. Quality of field and accessibility of field has gone down with more concert use.
- There are no agreements for field space. No fees required. They don't require insurance. They don't have personnel.

END OF NOTES

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TOWN OF TAOS PARKS MASTER PLAN

Focus Group: Town of Taos Law Enforcement / First Responders

Objective: to collect information and feedback on the existing use and observations for the Kit Carson Park, Taos Eco Park, and Fred Baca Park. The purpose of the meeting was to get an overall sense of the organization's experience with the Parks and to hear general thoughts on improvements or successes that may inform the master plan.

Venue: Thursday, November 17, 2017 9:00 am - 10:00 am at the Taos Town Hall - Conference Room 109, 400 Camino de la Placita.

Format: Discussion

Information: Parks and Open Space Map, Kit Carson Park Aerial, Fred Baca Park Aerial, Taos Eco Park Aerial

Attendees: Julie Skansie (TOT Code Enf.), Erik Oiesen-Vreeke (TOT Fire Marshal), Linda Sanchez (TOT Police)
(project team: John Miller, Claudia Horn, Patrick Sinnott)

Summary

The focus group expressed concern about current safety issues facing the park, especially Kit Carson. The group explained that the lack of visual corridors present security challenges and that there is much loitering, drug use, and vandalism in Kit Carson Park (especially in the baseball field dugouts). One problem is that there are many access points at so it can be easy for violators to flee the scene. Another issue is that the police do not feel empowered by ordinance / policy to disperse people loitering. They must witness an illicit act in order to respond. The group also expressed concern over the Fred Baca Park boardwalk, which is one-way and has limited access.

General Notes

Kit Carson

- Drug use paraphernalia, drug dealing, alcohol containers, feces, graffiti, destruction. Park is a mess. These are reoccurring issues.
- Winter isn't as bad as the other seasons. Lots of vandalism.
- Dugouts are a major problem area. Heroin, and defecation.
- Issue is that there is a lot of closed in areas where you don't have visual access to trouble.
- Nothing to help promote fitness, beyond walking paths. Bodyweight structures would be nice. Good for kids and adults.
- Maintenance clean up issues.
- Its easy to see irrigation not working in places.
- Would be good to have more ADA playground equipment at KC. When there are vagrants and drugs and drinking somewhere, it's not a safe environment for kids.

Vagrants

- Homelessness is a larger town issue. There is an opinion that now that there is a shelter people stay instead of passing through. Feels like the problem has gotten worse the last couple years.
- There is a split between people in town how to deal with it, to empower police or let people be - so nothing is done.
- There is not a policy in place to get people to leave, it requires an illicit act to respond. Plus police force is limited (3 on duty at a given time).
- Drugs / alcohol are issues throughout Kit Carson park.

Baca

- Needles near walking path. Access is an issue.
- First responders have hard time accessing the boardwalk. Vegetation is dense.
- Needles are a concern all over town.
- Fire Marshall does not take kids to parks around Town.
- Homeless seen bathing in wetlands

Misc

- More drinking fountains and restrooms would be better at parks.
- Police do not have teeth through ordinance or resolution to remove loiterers from Park, this could contribute to the solution. Hard to define loitering.
- Public has responded that they feel safer when FD is running in the park in the mornings, vagrants stay away at that time.
- Police does not have staff to monitor parks beyond current amount.
- There are drug deals at auditorium. It's an easy exchange access.
- Vagrants have gone into Eco park
- Fred Baca, nearby house has been taken over by vagrants (north)
- People have taken showers via drinking fountain in KC.

Eco Park

- Get calls, mostly animal issues. There are drug deals there in the parking lot.
- Linda parks at Thrift store above the park where she can see the entire park.
- There is less vandalism than at KC and FB.

Julie Scansie

- Former head of facilities.
- Maintenance used to have an office / residents at KC.
- Fred Baca Park used to have designated cleaning crew up until last year. There are fewer transients at FB
- Once staffing was changed, there tends to be more loitering at boardwalk.
- KC can have staff on site and fights will still break out.
- Things are in disrepair in the recreational sense.
- With a shift in staffing changes, there seems to be more vagrants over the last couple years.

Security

- If there was a way to provide access to water that wasn't in plain site.
- Open layout might be helpful.
- Removing stage might be helpful. Removing buildings for visual corridors might helpful. But it still would be helpful to have an equipment staging area.
- Snow removal (for parks) is based out of there for sidewalks and plaza, for plow and 4 wheelers.

Misc

- Access to area behind baseball is a challenge.
- Where there are movies on the green, people move to cemetery and loiter in trees.
- Cemetery fence area presents challenges because people loiter and police have to access by gates. Removing cemetery fence would be a touchy subject.
- Dugouts are a problem because security sees backside first and can't see access. Tee ball dugouts (chain link) not abused as much as CMU structures.
- Tennis court to dog park was a political decision. There is one at the shelter.
- Stray Hearts shelter near Eco Park is an animal shelter.
- There may be a need to have a dog park at each park.
- A lot of people walk their dogs in KC from local neighborhood.
- Dogs are not allowed on the fields but people do. Signs about dogs are constantly ripped off.
- KC has so many access points it can be a challenge. Foot pursuit is difficult, lots of escape out the 'back'
- Access points need to have rules signage.
- Volleyball gets mediocre use. Play area east is not well used due to shade and uphill. Fence is a challenge because it prevents access and limits use to that area.
- People come in from all over to visit wetland. It's a major attraction.
- Town does not use cameras.
- There are not enough dog stations and signage



END OF NOTES

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TOWN OF TAOS PARKS MASTER PLAN

Focus Group: Maintenance + Facilities

Objective: to collect information and feedback on the existing use and observations for the Kit Carson Park, Taos Eco Park, and Fred Baca Park. The purpose of the meeting was to get an overall sense of the organization's experience with the Parks and to hear general thoughts on improvements or successes that may inform the master plan.

Venue: Thursday, November 17, 2017 11:00 am - 12:00 pm at the Taos Town Hall - Conference Room 109, 400 Camino de la Placita.

Format: Discussion

Information: Parks and Open Space Map, Kit Carson Park Aerial, Fred Baca Park Aerial, Taos Eco Park Aerial

Attendees: Mitch Miller, Cuauhtema Herrera, Judy Esquibel, Linda Montoya, Pamela Pacheco,
(project team: John Miller, Claudia Horn, Patrick Sinnott)

Summary

The Town's Facilities + Maintenance Department explained the structure of their department and their current staffing constraints. Despite a desire to improve Town Parks, significant resources are spent on facilities and events. Staff does all the prep work and rigging for concert events and hosts an array of other community events, which demand most of their time (+25% of staff time). Park maintenance knowledge is still being developed and team is eager to better understand their roles. Facilities does not have a strong relationship with the Leagues around town since they do not reserve, collect fees, or permit use of the facilities but are open to developing a better line of communication. The department expressed interest in a Park public advisory board to help with public interface.

General Notes

Park Master Plan

- Mitch's understanding of the project is to know park standards and community needs in order to address parks going forward.
- Facilities department wishes to be at ground level to provide input on resources and budget etc. Concerned about having a master plan that the department can't support.

Staffing

- Facilities + Maintenance Staff:
 - Director: Mitch – Facilities + Special Events Director
 - Parks: 6 full time plus Linda and Pam – 8 total. Linda - Supervisor for Parks, Pamela - Foreman, Judy - Community Events Coordinator, Moises - Scheduling.
 - Building Custodial Staff: 4 full time. Quato - Building Facilities Manager
- Concern is long-term budgeting commitment. Feels like the department is currently 25% understaffed and does not have the resources to take on more tasks.
- Parks Advisory Board could be useful to help interface with the community.

Operations

- Department is responsible for parks maintenance, facility custodial / maintenance, and events. They understand that they are not parks experts yet, still trying to figure out roles and how to be involved with Leagues (currently no relationship exists). Depth of knowledge and education in this regard is still being developed and team is eager to better understand their roles and implementation of bigger picture. Would be nice to have a FAQ resource.
- Kit Carson Fields: Little League has first right of refusal for baseball field use. They turn on lights, Town just mows and waters. Town is not involved with whether or not Little League is using a field for a tournament, practice, or typical game.

- Fee Schedule: There is not a mechanism or a fee schedule to collect fees for League / recreational use of park facilities. Town is not involved scheduling park use for recreation or tournaments, only for events / event rentals.
- Recreational Scheduling: Although Eco Park could generate \$2,000-\$3,000 in revenue annually, it would cost more to have staff responsible for scheduling. Facilities dept. does not feel like it has resources to take on more things; YFC might be able to help with programming.
- There is not a sports events entity in Town to help coordinate events among sports.
- Eco Park Maintenance: Town takes care of restrooms and irrigation system. Starting in 2018, town will assume synthetic turf field maintenance (previously subcontracted with La Tierra Landscapes at \$45-50K/year). Town has a groomer and will work with Shaw to get a sweeper. Town estimates 30 hours of use before it needs to be groomed. Expect to hire staff for this.

Events

- Responsibilities: Judy coordinates community events; Mitch coordinates concert events.
- Community Events:
 - Plaza – Tree lighting, New Years Eve, Halloween, and other private events.
 - Kit Carson Park - 4th of July, Mother's Day, Movies on Green
- Private Events (outside promoters): Barn Dance (Sept), Concerts
- Private Event Economic Revenue: Barn dance sold 2,100 tickets and contributed \$6.3 million to local economy; Alabama Shakes sold 8,000 tickets and contributed \$4 million to local economy.
- Event Setup: Any events with Town sponsorship requires Facilities staff – typically 2 weeks set-up, 1 week take-down. Town staff sets up fencing and rigging. Temp staff is not hired. Events take 25% of time (minimum). Town provides assets like trashcans, fencing, maintenance. Estimate \$30,000 for Town to put on a show.
- Scheduling: Holiday events are pre-scheduled but promoted shows have unpredictable timing. This unpredictability is a challenge because it is difficult to work around them and still provide needed basic services for parks + facilities. Town is not involved with tournaments.
- Event Fee Structure: A fee-based structure is forthcoming for events. Fees have not yet been implemented. Estimate 3-5\$ per ticket. Mitch recommends that sports be organized through YFS, not through Parks.

Growth

- Would like to see Parks at a higher level of maintenance.
- Youth and Family Center acting as more of a park feature facility might be helpful.
- Gravel pit was once proposed for EMS training but currently not planned for anything. There is a disc golf course on it, only a few baskets now. Very dusty when windy.
-

Kit Carson Park

- Maintenance: Team walks park often to assess maintenance needs; Team is there every day and doesn't feel like they are walking away from problems, despite public perception. Town bought trailers restrooms in lieu of porta potties.
- Safety: Sees vagrant problem; Staff has seen people beaten up, stabbed in park. There have been vigilantes in the park who beat up a drug dealer. Police has asked that staff not engage, for safety sake. Mitch has only seen 2 needles.
- Maintenance Buildings: Currently maintenance is spilt between Kit Carson and a second facility south of town (not Town owned). Would be happy to remove existing buildings. Request a 60,000 sf building in KCP (possibly NE corner). New centrally located facility would warehouse equipment, fencing, etc. **Mitch to outline storage needs (actual equipment) and facilities for maintenance building for inclusion in MP document; include expectations for additional employees, etc.**
- Acequia: due to the unreliability (4-5 times/year) and timing of water availability (Friday – Sunday), the acequia cannot serve as a permanent irrigation source for the park. Flooding the park needs to be examined; recommend maintaining existing ditches and developing interpretive opportunities around acequia. **Team to review water delivery schedule / water storage with Acequia Association and talk about receiving water different days.**



- Trees: sees cottonwood trees as coming to the end of life cycle and prefers a native, more drought tolerant replacement tree. Goal to replace every tree with 2.

Eco Park

- Practice fields would be helpful. Sees need for additional field. Needs a locker rooms and possible opposing team locker rooms in order to attract tournaments.
- Facility expansion would not need to be FIFA certified to cut down on costs (\$100,000 for FIFA rating for 5 years, up in 1 year). A multi-use grass field might be nice.

Misc

- **John and department to meet to hear needs.**
- **Team to provide list by email or needed information.**

END OF NOTES

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TOWN OF TAOS PARKS MASTER PLAN

Focus Group: Taos Land Trust

Objective: to collect information and feedback on the existing use and observations for Fred Baca Park and plans for the Rio Fernando Park. The purpose of the meeting was to hear general thoughts on coordination opportunities between the Rio Fernando Park and Fred Baca Park

Venue: Thursday, November 17, 2017 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm at the Taos Land Trust office

Format: Discussion

Information: Fred Baca Park Aerial

Attendees: Kristina Ortiz de Jones (TLT, Executive Director)
(project team: John Miller, Claudia Horn, Patrick Sinnott)

Summary

Kristina explained the vision for the Rio Fernando Park as a place for cultural preservation and passive recreation, a place with park programming that focuses on traditional agriculture, acequia culture, and community / ecological health. She is interested in jointly master planning the two properties, since they share a waterway and common border, and looking at sharing resources / access. There are opportunities with these properties to cross cultural boundaries through recreation and that resources that provide more access to more people benefit the overall health of a community. The TLT is looking into developing a 'Friends of' group that will help with programming and maintenance efforts and offered Taos Land Trust resources.

General Notes

Rio Fernando Park

- TLT has embarked on a master planning effort for the park, which will extend well into 2018 with a target completion date of August 2018. There is funding both for planning and implementation through a grant secured by TLT. Project scope includes: fencing, trails, wetland restoration, agricultural fields, acequia / water right revitalization, master planning.
- Town is a major partner.
- May be beneficial to consider Town owned lot adjacent to Fred Baca in planning. There are trails on the town property south of Fred Baca that people use. At least define type of development, or conservation is appropriate for the site in relationship to Fred Baca Park and Rio Fernando Park
- TLT is happy to host meetings and coordinate with Town Master Plan.
- A friends of park group would be helpful so that Town employees aren't only resource to maintain the facilities. TLT could help facilitate the creation of a friends group and provide a location for meetings, etc.
- Parking is a major issue. Parking and access could be from Fred Baca. Open to purchasing area from adjacent neighbors. Open to having a loop with boardwalk.
- Current building facility could be caretaker residence...could be a new facility elsewhere on land for community gardens, etc.
- TLT will do wetland restoration, there could be restoration expansion through Fred Baca. Will need to protect perimeter and wetland access.
- There are lots of holes in fences currently between properties.
- Might be interesting to have a bike / hike access only point.
- Open to recreation on TLT land, for example, disc golf.

Parks

- Bathrooms are always filthy at any of the parks
- Need more benches at Eco Park, Baca could use benches, structures are strange.
- Surveillance: may have to post that there are cameras in use.
- Fred Baca signage, courts, pathways need improvement
- Better signage would be helpful at all parks.



- Penny Park, Silver City: very nice play features, very large. Different skills and ages and ability varieties, lots of places to sit, hang, etc. Very imaginative. A play environment, it becomes a destination. Important to have a comfortable place for adults. Fred Baca playground could have more relationship to wetland.
- Could there be a temp food cart at Fred Baca during soccer weekends.

Misc

- It would be nice to capitalize on the climbing culture in Taos. It represents Anglo culture but it is a destination activity and a popular activity. YFC location for a climbing wall? It would be nice to program climbing to open culture to more people in Taos. Invest in new recreational resources in Town.
- It shouldn't be a challenge to get kids to the outdoors and using parks. Recreational facilities can be used to make access and people of unique cultures familiar with different activities. For example, when you see people who look like you do something, it generates an interest, which can lead to an outdoor lifestyle.

END OF NOTES

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TOWN OF TAOS PARKS MASTER PLAN

Focus Group: Taos County

Objective: to collect information and feedback on the existing use and observations for the Kit Carson Park, Taos Eco Park, and Fred Baca Park. The purpose of the meeting was to get an overall sense of the organization's experience with the Parks and to hear general thoughts on improvements or successes that may inform the master plan.

Venue: Thursday, November 17, 2017 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm at the Taos Town Hall - Conference Room 109, 400 Camino de la Placita.

Format: Discussion

Information: Parks and Open Space Map, Kit Carson Park Aerial, Fred Baca Park Aerial, Taos Eco Park Aerial

Attendees: Mark Flores (Taos County Parks, School Board Member)
(project team: John Miller, Claudia Horn, Patrick Sinnott)

Summary

The Filemon Sanchez Park (3 fields, parking, picnic area) is heavily used by adult softball during the summer. The County has a plan to improve it to comply with USSSA guidelines, but has yet to allocate funds for a full renovation (a ca. \$3 million project). 2018 improvements will focus on installing a permanent restroom / concessions building. Given the popularity of softball in the region, Mr. Flores sees weekend tournaments in Taos as a potential economic generator but acknowledged the need improve the field quality first. The County and Town could devise a way to improve the recreational fields and amenities within Filemon Sanchez and the Taos Eco Park sharing resources to serve the Taos community and surrounding constituents.

General Notes

Taos County / Filemon Sanchez

- Mark oversees and manages Filemon Sanchez Park, a 10 acre park constructed in 1979, highly utilized for M's and W's adult softball (18 + years old), May through August.
- Summer League: 18 M's teams (12 per team) 6-8 W's teams (12 per team)
- Fall League: Dean Silva started a fall league this year which runs August through October, 5 teams (COED)
- Games run 6pm-9:45pm. 2-3 games per night on each field. Parking lot is full; Parking is self organized.
- Youth football practices there too, on Saturday mornings, which is not scheduled.
- Sometimes Girls softball High School uses fields, youth softball organization has had games here too.
- There is a gap in teams avail in middle school age 13-15.
- Softball has 65' base paths.
- County has been in discussion last 3-4 years to renovate the facility to US Specialty Sport Association specifications. LDG did a plan layout for 3 regulation-sized fields. County sees economic benefit of weekend tournaments that would attract teams from all over with improved facilities. Taos County would like to make the fields official sizes to attract major teams. Park resources are antiquated. Distance between bases and to outfield fence is slightly inadequate. Estimate renovation would cost ca. \$3 million dollars.
- 2018 improvements include installing a prefab restroom / concessions building for \$175K. Building siting takes into account the future upgraded field layout. Utilities (electric, water, sewer) will be realigned to connect off of Chavez Road.
- Current maintenance is ok. Irrigation and turf needs to be upgraded.
- County sees benefit of families at park all night, promote activities, instead of being out at night.
- There is drinking that goes on at the park as well.
- There is a State Police officer living on site (near playground). Property to the north belongs to the Sheriffs Posse. Lot gets totally full during rodeo.
- Would be nice if County and Town could partner to make more of a recreation area with the Eco Park and Filemon Sanchez. Maybe County could give Town the property? County could run? Need to look at future development of recreation in Taos County.
- County is happy to serve public but there is not a big push to fund upgrades in the immediate future. Two government agencies could help make a recreational hub. Economic development is there.



- Filemon Sanchez Park Fee Structure.
 - o Rentals: by weekend, day or month. League rents by month. Tournaments rent by day (\$75), weekend (\$100), month (\$200). Costs cover barely enough for materials to maintain grass. Estimate \$3,000 usage fees among leagues for the season. County makes money off lodger's tax from people who come to tournaments.
 - o Rate structure currently under review. County is looking at raising fees.
 - o Leagues run concessions. County has considered taking over concessions.
- Other
 - o Basketball courts on site are in good condition, but underutilized. Mark coaches basketball. Doesn't see many people using it. 3 on 3 tournaments could be held there. It would become parking if fields were realigned.
 - o Gets calls for tennis courts on site. People go to Tennis Club or Quail Ridge.
 - o Softball events are family events. People spend a lot of time and money in area but often the economic development is underappreciated. Town gets most of the funding benefit when people shop.
 - o Would be nice to have resources for young female team sports.
 - o Would like to see collaboration between government agencies.
 - o Could definitely have capacity for Little League games on these softball fields. Problem is overlapping seasons.
 - o Not all fields are utilized by some tournaments.
 - o M's leagues uses field Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday.
 - o W's league uses fields Monday, Tuesday.
- Financing
 - o County has more room on Gross Receipts tax than Town.
 - o County has not worked with Sports Alliance, deals directly with Leagues.
 - o Commissioner Fanbro is an advocate of Little League and youth sports. Challenge is that there are large districts and interests to have resources in smaller town.
- Gusdorf Park
 - o Now Regional Housing Authority (took it over due to embezzlement issue?)
 - o County used to manage it and wanted to improve it.
 - o There is open space near the HSS.
- Alternative resources at Fillemon
 - o Picnic area is used but not reserved.
 - o Homeless congregation is not a problem recently, used to hear of dugout problems.
 - o County staff on site every day, and services it 3 days a week.
 - o Police vehicle may be deterrent.
 - o There is not a gate currently, people cut the locks or rammed gates.
 - o Vandalism is not an issue, credited to community partnership.
- School Board
 - o Mark is VP of board, 5 years on board.

END OF NOTES

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TOWN OF TAOS PARKS MASTER PLAN

Acequias – Focus Group Session

Objective: to convey focus group summaries and discuss findings with the project team.

Venue: Wednesday, January 17, 2017 3:30 pm - 4:45 pm at Kit Carson Park.

Format: Discussion

Information: Kit Carson Park Aerial

Attendees: Fritz Hahn, Mark Henderson, John Miller, Claudia Horn, Patrick Sinnott

General Notes

- General Observations
 - o 2017 was the first time in a long time there was water running through the KC acequias.
 - o Water ran on Sundays, 4 weeks last year.
 - o 'Duck pond' could be used as storage – requires further research for OSE restrictions.
 - o Town would like to see surface water used for beneficial use so that rights are not rescinded.
 - o Town sees potential to connect KC lateral to the network downstream.
 - o Town would like to see water reach area of well# 5 to help recharge it.
 - o A volunteer group in conjunction with Facilities dept. would be responsible for managing water releases.
 - o A vienta is an unofficial ditch with the OSE. There may be restrictions when modifying such a ditch.
 - o KC is irrigated by the Kit Carson Lateral off the Acequia Madre on Pueblo Land.
 - o The Pueblo regulates the surface water delivery.
 - o Hydrograph from Peter Vigil identifies surface water areas and laterals.
 - o Adults are always on hand when acequias are running
 - o Well #5 is the town's hardest working well. It is located behind McDonalds. The KC lateral runs behind the cemetery to Dragoon Lane. Fritz would like to see water flow along Dragoon Lane and make it to Cow's pasture / well # 5 eventually. Goal is to help recharge aquifer and help sustain large tree canopy.
 - o Acequias provide a cultural relic for the park. Dragoon Lane connecting cemetery to museum could be an improved walkway experience with existing interpretive signage.
- Flood irrigation
 - o Fritz is working with Mitch to install culverts between the 'duck pond' and the play area so that the area could potentially be flooded.
 - o Not all fields could be flooded currently due to topography patterns and recreation elements.
 - o KC event lawn is severely compacted and would be difficult to flood.
 - o Flooding could have conflicts with events.
 - o Flooding requires dry-out time before people could use the lawn. Areas may need to be roped off or public notified of closures.
 - o Acequia along eastern edge of park does not exist. Fields may once have had surface rights to them but do not have current access.
 - o Tee ball is floodable but overflowing channel.
 - o Swale is floodable but does not currently have an outlet. Mark believes there is a culvert under the parking lot across Paseo del Pueblo Norte.
 - o A unknown ditch runs along western edge of park. It does not take water (may connect under driveway) but it has a culver toward Martyr's across the street.
 - o The tennis court sits on land that has surface rights and risks losing them.

END OF NOTES

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TOWN OF TAOS PARKS MASTER PLAN

Taos Center for the Arts – Focus Group Session

Objective: to convey focus group summaries and discuss findings with the project team.

Venue: Wednesday, January 17, 2017 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm at the TCA Offices – 133 Paseo del Pueblo Norte.

Format: Discussion

Information: Kit Carson Park Aerial, TCA Walk through of Kit Carson Park (notes)

Attendees: Deborah McLean (Executive Director), Andy Johnson (President), Trisha Fong (Board Member), Claudia Horn, Patrick Sinnott

General Notes

- General Observations
 - o TCA Board supplied walk through notes of their observations / concerns regarding Kit Carson Park (see attached).
 - o TCA would like to see the Auditorium better integrated with the park.
- Parking
 - o Safety, lighting and poor conditions of behind the TCA are primary concerns.
 - o TCA has a storage trailer behind building.
 - o Perimeter fencing is an issue along the TCA / Kit Carson edge. Cyclone fencing is unfriendly and collects trash.
 - o TCA would be happy to integrate the building (and its parking) with the Park. Emergency access from the building to the park would be beneficial.
 - o Utility hole between KC and TCA is a safety hazard. Kids have been found playing in the hole.
- Restrooms
 - o There needs to be working restrooms in the park that are clean and safe for the public.
 - o When people realize there are no restrooms they attempt to use the TCA gallery, which is generally open. This causes a potential theft / security challenge for TCA gallery employees.
- Safety / Security
 - o Basic maintenance and safety (potholes) are a concern across the park.
 - o Vagrants often loiter by stage. Drug dealing in the park is well known.
 - o Schools and community organizations, occasionally use the stage.
 - o Would like to see video surveillance (with signage) in the back parking lot. Tie-in and utilities exists at building. Having signage could help dissuade loitering.
 - o TCA has started to close gate to parking lot access which helps reduce unwanted traffic / parking behind the building. TCA would like to have signage on the gate and better orchestrate the access.
 - o Exterior of auditorium is unsightly (equipment, graffiti, etc.)
- Events
 - o TCA tries to coordinate access to the TCA during large concerts. TCA tenants and employees need access so the TCA hires its own security staff to regulate their access. This works ok.
 - o TCA would like to see improved coordination when the two facilities are planning events so they do not conflict (i.e. planning committee or better communication). Large events are coordinated ok but smaller events (i.e. car show) need to be coordinated so there are not parking lot or sound conflicts.
 - o TCA books 1 year out. Large concerts are booked 3-4 months out and often trump events at the TCA (TCA is used as a green room during large concerts).
 - o TCA supports the large concerts but would prefer less scheduling conflicts.
 - o Wednesday nights – Chamber Music and the park goes 'dark'
 - o The current stage orientation is less loud in the TCA auditorium then previous stage orientations.
- Miscellaneous
 - o It is important that the park look like a park and not a stage center.



- Kit Carson Park is an important 'cultural park' due to the music, events and cemetery. It should be designed as such.
- TCA manages auditorium and has a liquor license for the TCA lobby only.
- There is a need for a large green room at the TCA which could be used by Town during large concerts.
- TCA sees need for additional office space at the auditorium. Space to expand exists behind building.
- TCA likes their current office building because it provides permanence. They would be hesitant to move into the auditorium building office space.
- TCA would like to have a courtyard that could be secured. They would use it for events.
- TCA would like to have more of a connection with the park and sees potential of using KC for event space.

END OF NOTES

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Purpose

A public involvement meeting for the Town of Taos Parks Master Plan was held on Wednesday, December 13, 2017 to collect public input on needed improvements to the park experience, program offerings, and facilities in order to generate park programs for each park.

Meeting Summary

The public meeting was held at the Town of Taos Coronado Hall (Town Council Chambers) 120 Civic Plaza Drive on Wednesday, December 13, 2017 between 5:30 and 7:00pm. 52 individuals signed in at the meeting with an estimated 60 people attending. Attendees were asked to respond to a short demographic survey to collect basic information on age, ethnicity, and income (see below). Members of the project team in attendance included: John Miller (Town of Taos Senior Planner), Claudia Horn and Patrick Sinnott (Design Office), and Alix Henry (Henry Architects). Additional Town representatives in attendance included: Dan Barrone (Mayor), Fritz Hahn (Council Member), Darien Fernandez (Council Member), Rick Bellis (Town Manager), Mitch Miller (Facilities + Events Director), Karina Armijo (Marketing + Tourism Director), and Lynda Perry (Grants + Revenue Development Director).

The meeting began with an open house (ca. 35 minutes) where attendees could view analysis maps and provide input on each park (Kit Carson Park, Fred Baca Park, Taos Eco Park and the Youth and Family Center). The open house was followed by a presentation of the project purpose and work completed to date (ca. 30 minutes), presented by Claudia Horn. Claudia was introduced to the public by Mayor Barrone, who opened the meeting. After the presentation, the public was asked to revisit the open house where project boards with basic project information (Project Vision, Population and Demographics Map, Survey Responses, Ownership Map, Gaps in Local Park Map, Parks, and the Open Space and Trails Map) were on display for public interaction (see attached). The public was encouraged to offer input at 4 park planning stations (Kit Carson Park, Fred Baca Park, Taos Eco Park, and the Youth and Family Center). Each station was comprised of multiple interactive boards for public feedback including: Park Program, Park Character, Park Aerial, and "I would love the park if....". Public responses on these boards are attached.

The presentation provided an overview of the project purpose and timeline, vision and guiding principles, park system analysis, park inventory assessment overview (for the 4 parks), public survey result overview, team observations, and how the public can engage with the planning effort. The presentation was made available to the public after the meeting on the Town's website.

Public Comment Summary

Public comments were collected by documenting preferences and feedback at each park station and on project information boards. There were opportunities for the public to engage with the project team and explore program element locations using aerials and program pieces. Input was documented by written comment and email correspondence. In general, the public engagement was amicable with most of the attendees were supportive of planning efforts.

Some of the primary concerns raised by those who gave comments were:

- the perceived lack of maintenance of existing park elements
- interest in improved trail connectivity between parks
- a feeling of being unsafe when visiting Town parks
- concerns about drug use and homelessness at Kit Carson Park
- interest in improved facility conditions and offerings

Meeting Attendee Demographics

Information was collected via stickers attached to demographic boards upon arrival at the meeting. Results are as follows:

1. I am a..... County Resident (30), Town Resident (18)
2. My age is..... Between 45 and 65 (29), Between 18 and 44 (10), Greater than 65 (10), Less than 18 (1)
3. I describe my ethnicity as..... Anglo (39), Hispanic (10), Other (4), Native American (0)
4. My annual household income range is..... < 35K (14), 50K - 75K (12), 35K - 49K (11), > 75K (11)

Meeting Advertisement

The meeting was advertised and communicated as follows:

13 days in advance (1.December.2017):

Email: Town of Taos, focus group attendees, survey respondents, interested individuals
Announcement: Town website, social media site

7 days in advance (06.December):

Email: Town of Taos, focus group attendees, survey respondents, interested individuals
Announcement: Town website, social media site

5 days in advance (08.December):

Announcement: Radio interview (KRZA Taos / Alamosa)

1 day in advance (12.December.2017):

Email: Town of Taos, focus group attendees, survey respondents, interested individuals

Comments + Suggestions – from the Public

Following are comments / suggestions from the public. These comments were collected in the following manner:

- Written comments on Comment Sheets (collected on 12/13/2017)
- Written comments on Presentation Boards – Demographics (collected on 12/13/17)
- Written comments on Presentation Boards – Analysis Maps (collected on 12/13/17)
- Written comments on Presentation Boards – Park Stations (collected on 12/13/17)
- Email correspondence (collected until 12/20/2017)

SUGGESTIONS FROM COMMENT BOX

Written comments collected on or after the meeting on comment sheets are as follows:

1. Look to Chavez (Santa Fe) Center to expand Youth and Family Center. Indoor activities for 5 months of cold weather!
2. Paths and trails along Acequias through Town.
3. Better bike lanes needed throughout the Town! Important for connectivity, let alone safety. Kit Carson Park severely deteriorated over the last 2 years. Sprinklers broken, trees cut down. The only reason there was grass this year it the rain. Half the lawn area has no grass due to heavy truck use for nonexistent concerts. It feels neglected. Park workers too busy working for “Events” to take care of it. This Park is too beautiful to neglect. Get someone who cares to take care of it.
4. Consider acquiring Couse Pasture Cunningham Pueblo Sur property ABC Lock – acequia / RF right of way to connect KC to FB.
5. Thanks for hosting this event love that we are planning! Keep listening + we will keep getting the word out to the community.
6. Quiet shaded areas w/ walking paths + benches for elders----- maybe near Senior Center. 48% of survey respondents over 45----
7. Taos needs to ID + purchase land for more parks. We will need 2-4 more in the future. Plan ahead.
8. The Youth and Family Center swimming pool is a wonderful facility. I swim laps there regularly. Great staff + water quality. Might try some early evening lap swim times. Granted they could fix the suit dryer.
9. Need a park or green space in the area of Couse Pasture or Senior Center.
10. Connect all the parks with paths / trails or green space.
11. *Tennis + Pickleball courts*
12. Connectivity natural areas. Safety. Sustainability. Complete Tree Management Plan for the Parks! This Tree Mgmt Plan is a process that is grant funded. Paul Bryan Jones
13. The court area at Baca Park is an eyesore + un-useable. It could be a tennis court, a pickleball court, and a basketball court. I realize to fully do it over is an expensive proposition, but an over-paving of the existing court area could buy a few years. The Mayor knows an anonymous donor who would help with that.

SUGGESTIONS FROM PRESENTATION BOARDS – ANALYSIS MAPS

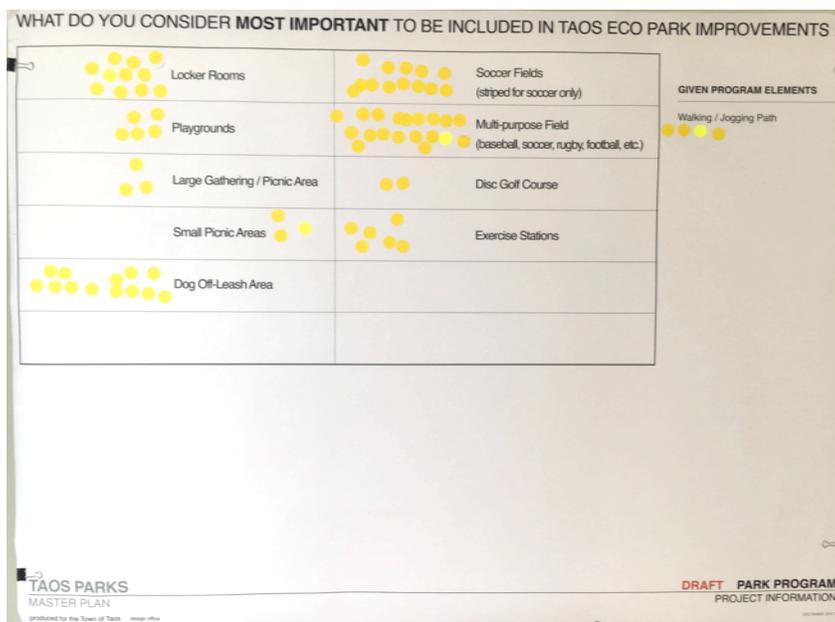
Written comments collected via sticky-notes attached to presentation boards during the meeting are as follows:

1. Survey Responses
 - a. Survey results of proximity to park doesn't match reality - non driving access is an issue
 - b. Survey wasn't easily available - need more promotion
2. Ownership Map
 - a. Asphalt is your last crop
3. Gaps in Local Park Access Map
 - a. Consider acquiring Couse Pasture Cunningham property on Pueblo Sur and ABC Lock
4. Park, Open Space, and Trails Map
 - a. Off-road walking trails – connecting pars and facilities (Fred Baca Park)

SUGGESTIONS FROM PRESENTATION BOARDS – PARK STATION **TAOS ECO PARK**

Public preferences and comments collected via stickers attached to presentation boards and written comments during the meeting are as follows:

1. I would love the Eco Park if...
 - a. There were more trail connectivity to other places. Ditto.
 - b. More landscaping
 - c. Bicycles and open spaces
 - d. More soccer fields. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto.
 - e. Dog park promised to be built there.
 - f. Dirt jogging trail all around the perimeter away from the noise and crowds, somehow!
 - g. Locker rooms for teams!
 - h. More trails.
 - i. Bike and sidewalk connectivity to other parks.
 - j. Dog park.
 - k. I love it now but it needs development, 3 field plan, lockers / training facility, improvements to attract high caliber soccer teams to Taos for benefit of youth and economy.
 - l. Amenities, fields, locker rooms, adult league.
 - m. Benches / picnic tables!!
 - n. Water the trees so they can be future picnic areas (shade / rest / play)
 - o. Develop and implement a Tree Management Plan for each park
2. Park Program: What do you consider most important to be included in Taos Eco Park improvements? Multi-purpose Field / Baseball, Soccer, Rugby, Football, etc. (19), Soccer Fields / Striped Soccer Only (13), Dog Off-Leash Area (13), Locker Rooms (11), Exercise Stations (6), Playgrounds (5), Large Gathering / Picnic Area (3), Small Picnic Areas (3), Disc Golf (2).



3. Park Character: How do you envision Taos Eco Park in the future?



SUGGESTIONS FROM PRESENTATION BOARDS – PARK STATION FRED BACA PARK

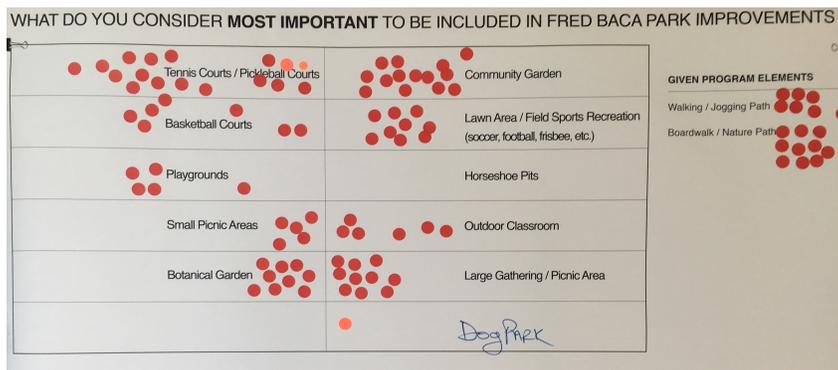
Public preferences and comments collected via stickers attached to presentation boards and written comments during the meeting are as follows:

1. I would love Fred Baca Park if...

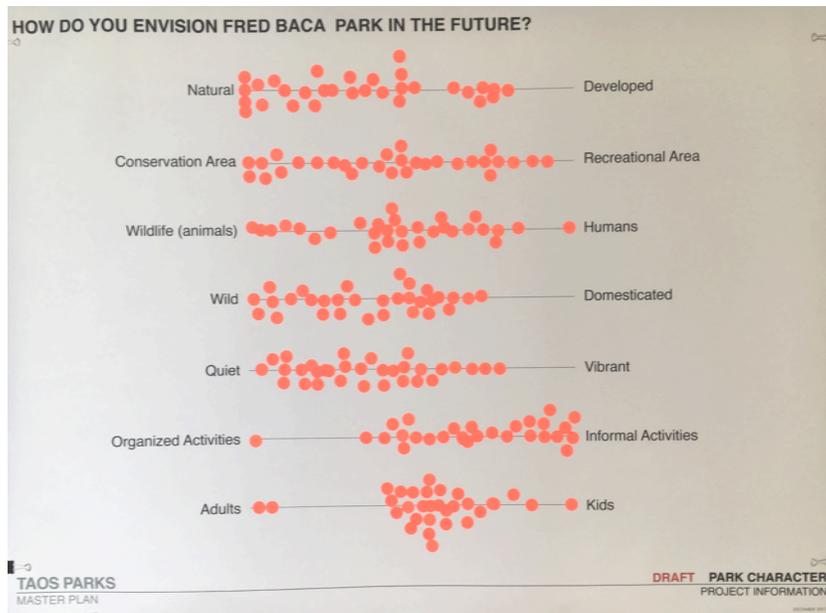
- a. Connection to Taos Land Trust and additional acre owned by T of T. I agree with this. This sounds like a great idea. Agree.
- b. Dog Park.
- c. The boardwalk was open in the winter too. Yes! Me Too!
- d. One can have a quiet vibrancy or noisy vibrancy.
- e. There was an historical and ecological / environmental education component.
- f. Plant more trees!!
- g. Had less dog poop.
- h. Walking area for elders.
- i. Resurface tennis / basketball courts
- j. Stage shouldn't be permanent.
- k. Fencing needs removal after events.
- l. If the wetland trail extended to Rio Fernando and other town properties.
- m. Best maintained park!
- n. Tree management plan in process!

2. Park Program: What do you consider most important to be included in Fred Baca Park improvements?

Tennis Courts / Pickleball Courts (17), Community Garden (14), Large Gathering / Picnic Area (10), Lawn Area / Field Sports Recreation – soccer, football, Frisbee, etc. (9), Botanical Garden (9), Basketball Courts (7), Outdoor Classroom (6), Playgrounds (5), Small Picnic Areas (5), Dog Park (1), Horseshoe Pits (0).



3. Park Character: How do you envision Fred Baca Park in the future?



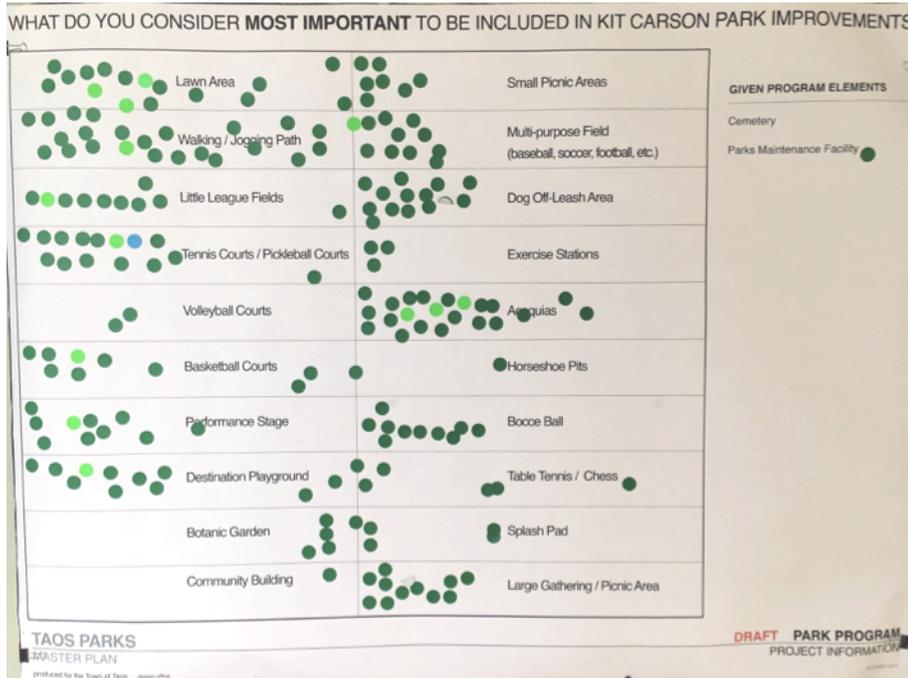
SUGGESTIONS FROM PRESENTATION BOARDS – PARK STATION KIT CARSON PARK

Public preferences and comments collected via stickers attached to presentation boards and written comments during the meeting are as follows:

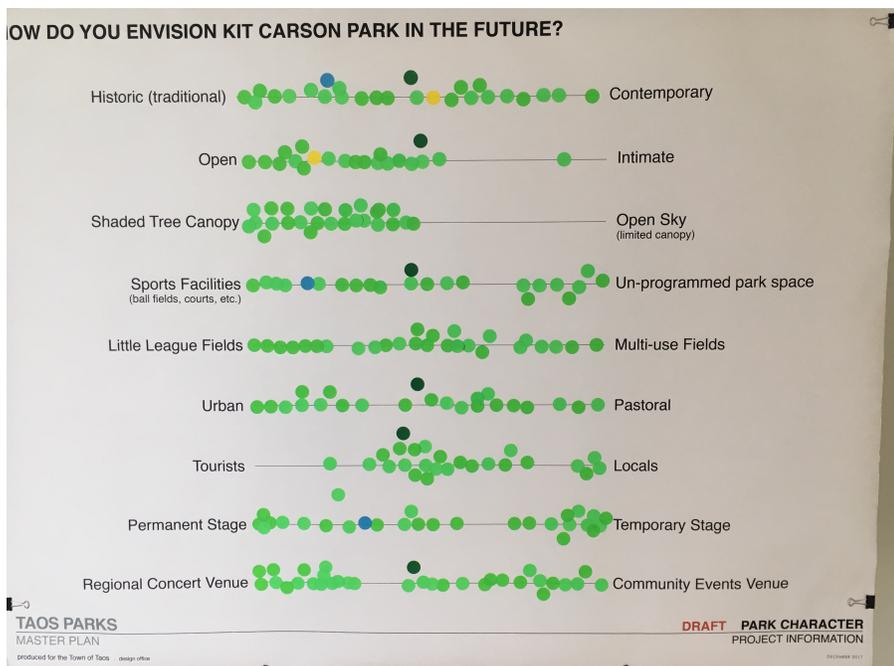
1. I would love Kit Carson Park if...
 - a. If it were cleaned up and maintained! Yes!
 - b. If it felt safe for kids and youths.
 - c. Felt safer
 - d. Pickleball courts
 - e. Tennis courts
 - f. Trees before events. Yes!
 - g. Connection / Extension of Plaza. X2. Ditto.
 - h. Spaces for youth. Yes!
 - i. Jogging path – (dirt). Yes!
 - j. Trees cared for properly. Yes. Yes.
 - k. A time and area for dog off-leash to throw Frisbee. Yes.
 - l. Walking path left free of concert equipment (sidewalk) some of us walk / run this daily. Yes!
 - m. Safer area.
 - n. All bushes, lilacs, chokecherries had not been cut down.
 - o. Like Taos Inn is living room of Taos, the park becomes backyard more / different seating gathering. Small music venue as large chessboards / food courts....
 - p. Can't believe tree was cut for stage! Outraged!!! Second that!! Thirded! Fourth!
 - q. Better maintenance, paths and trash – and pls keep doggie bags always accessible.
 - r. If we had temporary large events stage. If equipment was not stored throughout. If equipment was not stored on basketball courts, etc. Need to hire events staff and keep par staff to care for the parks. Stop cutting down good trees.
 - s. Better maintenance of landscaping
 - t. Dogs on leash.
 - u. Less dog poop.
 - v. Develop and implement a tree management plan for each park.
 - w. Remove fences and stage, post events.
 - x. Make it botanical park (some of it).
 - y. Stage should not block path.
 - z. Maintain existing facilities!!
 - aa. Speaker's Corner (like Hyde Park in London)
 - bb. On that note- "readers / poets nooks" stone benches? Fountain?
 - cc. Acequias.
 - dd. Linkage to history in the cemetery. Exhibits – docents on history / landscape. Volunteers to assist in maintenance and safety.
 - ee. Stop driving trucks onto muddy fields.
 - ff. It had more trees.

- gg. Water the trees and grass! Fix sprinkler system. Leaks waste a lot of water. Fix ball court. Make it nice, gets a lot of use.
- hh. More signage.
- ii. Green infrastructure at parking areas.
- jj. I love it now. Take care of what we have. It's a good site for the more ornamental plantings and education about plants.
- kk. Remove fencing + stage after events. Stage shouldn't block path.

2. Park Program: What do you consider most important to be included in Kit Carson Park improvements? Walking / Jogging Path (23), Acequias (22), Lawn Area (16), Tennis Courts / Pickleball Courts (15), Dog Off-leash Area (14), Destination Playground (12), Large Gathering / Picnic Area (11), Multi-purpose Field baseball, soccer, football, etc. (11), Basketball Courts (10), Performance Stage (10), Little League Fields (9), Small Picnic Areas (7), Botanic Garden (5), Table Tennis / Chess (5), Splash Pad (4), Exercise Stations (3), Volleyball Courts (2), Community Building (1), Horseshoe Pits (1).



4. Park Character: How do you envision Fred Baca Park in the future?



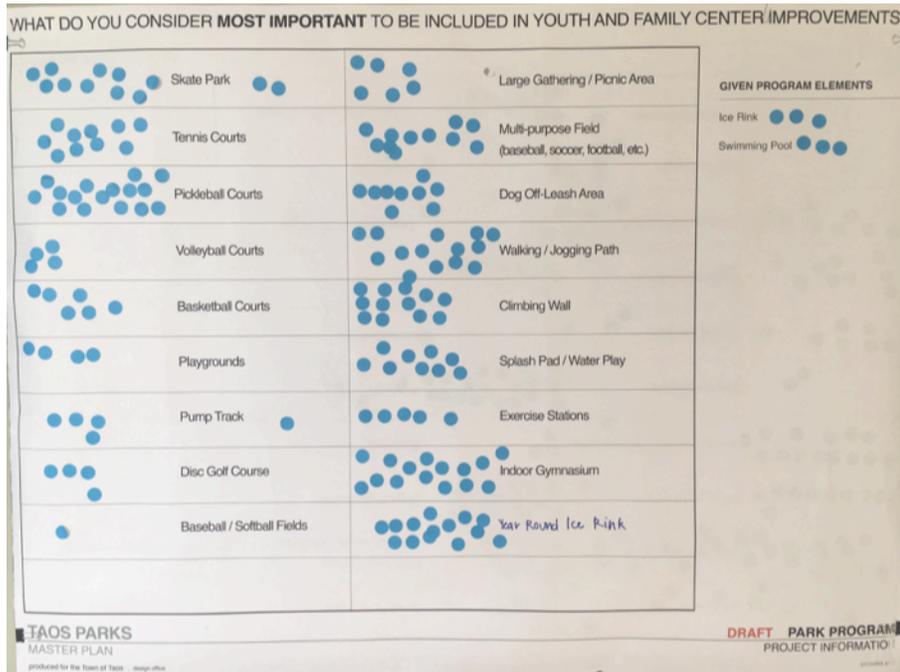
SUGGESTIONS FROM PRESENTATION BOARDS – PARK STATION YOUTH AND FAMILY CENTER

Public preferences and comments collected via stickers attached to presentation boards and written comments during the meeting are as follows:

1. I would love the Youth and Family Center if...
 - a. Pool was cleaned more often and correctly. Yes!
 - b. Better locker / shower facilities.
 - c. Advertise facilities for public access – trail users, sports facilities w/o access.
 - d. Bathing suit dryer.
 - e. Aqua aerobics.
 - f. Skate park repaired.
 - g. Children playground moved away from skate park.
 - h. Grass / playground / front of fac.
 - i. More recreational swim time for youth, especially during breaks from school / summertime.
 - j. As above, more recreational swim time, including morning.
 - k. Year round ice rink would eliminate rollerblading off season / roller derby (use current rink as rollerblading and indoor field and pickleball. Add year round rink)
 - l. Adult only swim hours.
 - m. Improve locker rooms – they are awful.
 - n. More indoor swim times. Swim club has too much time.
 - o. Year round rink and maint. / repairs.
 - p. More recreational swim time for youth.

2. Park Program: What do you consider most important to be included in Youth and Family improvements?

Pickleball Courts (16), Indoor Gymnasium (15), Walking / Jogging Path (14), Year Round Ice Rink (14), Climbing Wall (12), Skate Park (12), Multi-purpose Field baseball, soccer, football, etc. (11), Tennis Courts (10), Dog Off-Leash Area (9), Splash Pad / Water Play (9), Large Gathering / Picnic Area (6), Pump Track (5), Basketball Courts (6), Exercise Stations (5), Volleyball Courts (4), Playgrounds (4), Disc Golf Course (4), Baseball / Softball Fields (1).



SUGGESTIONS FROM EMAILS

Written comments collected prior to or after the meeting (until December 20, 2017) by email are as follows:

1. December 12, 2017 at 3:38 pm from Emelie Olson:

I think this article is very relevant to tomorrow night's meeting on the Taos Town Parks Master Plan. I found it very interesting, actually exciting. Gardeners have used compost for a long time, but its promise for commercial agriculture and other large-scale projects is new to me. As someone said, it is a win-win application: good for the plants/trees and the soil, and good for removing some carbon from the atmosphere. And it only takes 1/4-1/2" application of good compost to be effective. Here is the link.

https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/02/opinion/sunday/soil-power-the-dirty-way-to-a-green-planet.html?_r=0

I plan to be at the meeting tomorrow night, but wanted to place this in the record now as well.

2. December 12, 2017 at 6:15 pm from Pete French:

I am unable to attend. Please reiterate, emphasis the point that unless there is a strong budget line item for maintenance and capital reserve fund for all the parks everything else will be for naught!

3. December 11, 2017 at 11:21 am from Lee Backer:

I wanted to contact you as the president of the Taos Youth Soccer League (TYSL) and ask for your support in the upcoming Parks and Rec Master Plan Decisions. My concern is with respect to the continuation and ultimate completion of the Taos Eco Park. As it stands now the Eco Park is a center piece of youth sports and recreation in the Taos community. Between the HS and the TYSL there is literally only a few months out of the year where Eco Park usage is very minimal. From March through the middle of November the Eco park plays a vital role in our ability to provide a quality soccer venue to the youth of this community. Our numbers in the TYSL have consistently been around 450 participants between the ages of 4 & 14. We rely on the Eco Park as a mainstay of our league and its viability, without it we would be taking a use step backwards. Continued support from the town in the maintenance of this facility is imperative.

In addition I believe the future completion of the Eco Park would be a benefit to the economic development of the Town of Taos. Taos is a venue that people want to come to and with a 3 field facility we could host numerous soccer tournaments throughout the summer bringing in teams from all over the state and beyond. Personally I think a huge opportunity for economic development lies in our ability to market Taos as a sports destination if we had the right facilities. People are willing to travel for sports tournaments it's a proven fact. With the right investments into our sporting facilities we would have the ability to bring in large player pools and their families for weekend tournaments. This would be a huge boom for the town and one that I feel should be seriously considered. With respect to the Eco Park all of this has been well documented. The research has been done, the numbers are available, many hours of time and energy have already gone into the Eco Park and the potential it holds if we can finish the project. Please if you'd like any of the back history regarding where we came from, how we got here and why it stalled don't hesitate. I have access to whatever information you may need. Thank you for your careful consideration in this matter and we are faced with important decisions about the Parks and Recreation future of our beloved town.

4. December 13, 2017 at 9:42 am from Linda Malm:

My main concern is the removal of invasive plants/trees and the use of natives where possible, especially because of climate change. If practicable, I would like to see this approach further enhanced by plant identification markers and other educational information to enrich the public's experience with their parks.

5. December 13, 2017 at 9:08 am from Tom Myers:

Just got your message about the meeting tonight concerning our parks. I hope that there are plans to mitigate and solve the problems of drug dealing. Also, it is recommended that I call John Miller for assistance if I am disabled 4 days in advance of the meeting, which is today, the same day I received the message.

6. December 13, 2017 at 9:39 am from Tom Myers:

I can get to the Council Chambers easily. It was just the four day advance notice that had my chortling. I watch the Council meetings through the Town website live on the internet. It would be excellent if your meeting was also live as well.

7. December 14, 2017 at 2:17 pm from Joe Riter:

I wanted to provide some input beyond what I provided at last night's meeting. Kit Carson is a unique opportunity for the town of Taos. My view is there is opportunity to expand upon the concert venue and make the park essentially an extension of the town Plaza. This should be the place that events and day to day socializing occur. So while the large concerts and weekly movie night should continue on that main stage, there should be opportunity for small music gatherings as well. Currently arts and crafts fairs the wool festival etc happen there. That should be expanded, I think this space can serve much as Santa Fe Railyards. I envision small seating areas, "chess" tables, opportunities for food trucks, pop up events.

Safety and security at the park happens in many ways. I get the single woman, child or elderly person being scared off by "that weird looking dude". I don't want to see us restricting the parks, or limiting times they are open to accommodate that fear. If the park is full of people all day every day, then that "dude" is no longer a threat. Bathrooms need to be available and clean. Sharps disposal at every bathroom. Doggie bags throughout the parks. Perhaps stricter ordinance and enforcement of cleaning up after dogs, but not banning them. I heard dog park as a primary interest. And I also heard the designer indicate maybe that needed to be not in the current park. Consider this. The zoning in the historic district of R12 (12 units per acre) is encouraging dense development. No building has happened in several years, but when it takes off, you are going to see 50-70 year olds living in dense housing with dogs. These folks want the pets to play not just walk on leash. The dog parks need to be grass, maintained and cleaned. And those parks (yes plural) need to be in close. If Kit Carson doesn't make sense, then

very close proximity. I go to either Kit Carson or Fred Baca literally every day. The dog owner population is always at the park. The sports teams show up for an hour twice a week for 10 weeks a season.

I listened to the survey results and understand trails and paths are high priorities. I am involved in the trails development as well. I look at the survey results that indicate people view they are 5 miles from a park, and drive when they go to park. One of two things is likely happening with that response when understanding your demographic maps showing 1/2 mile radius to most of the town to parks. Folks from the county are responding more than town residents. As a town taxpayer I am interested in meeting the town residents needs first! Also folks believe the park is further than it is, because access is difficult. So as trails and paths connect town to the parks I think that view will change. I also believe folks will less feel need for these existing parks to provide trails and paths if paths are throughout town. I mention this because if the parks become a maze of trails, there is no opportunity for other programming. I personally would rather see money going to providing trail access to parks, than developing trails within the parks.

The ECO park can be developed into a venue that would support economic development through soccer tournaments. I was involved in the soccer community in Albuquerque for 15 years. 3 fields is probably the minimum to run a tournament. The big complex in Sandavol county had 22 fields i think. They kept those things full all weekend plus many weeknight evenings. While locker rooms would be awesome, I don't think they are essential to a successful venue. If you wish to incorporate a baseball field or two "overlying" the soccer fields, reach out to the county for similar accommodations across the street at the county park. I think it is reasonable for some multi programming happening here, but I'd rather see Taos try to do "one thing" well than dilute trying to meet all needs.

I think as you have noted there may be a gap in the area near the high school. Of course a small addition of resources to what is at the school property may meet the needs of that part of the community. Finally I hope we program at Kit Carson activity that will appeal to the pre teen / teen young adult crowd. I am not sure what activity that is today, and am almost certain it will change within a few years. That being said, money spent on a climbing wall, small skate park or like "individual" activity gets my support. I appreciate the opportunity to provide input.

END OF NOTES

Purpose

A public involvement meeting for the Town of Taos Parks Master Plan was held on Saturday, February 24, 2018 to collect public input on proposed master plans for Taos Eco Park, Fred Baca Park, and Kit Carson Park.

Meeting Summary

The public meeting was held at the Town of Taos Coronado Hall (Town Council Chambers) 120 Civic Plaza Drive on Saturday, February 24, 2018 between 10:00am and 2:30 pm. 77 individuals signed in at the meeting with an estimated 85 people attending. Members of the project team in attendance included: Rick Bellis (Town Manager), John Miller (Town of Taos Senior Planner), Claudia Horn and Patrick Sinnott (Design Office), and Alix Henry (Henry Architects). Additional Town representatives in attendance included: Dan Barrone (Mayor), Fritz Hahn (Council Member), and Mitch Miller (Facilities + Events Director).

The meeting was organized into three 1-hour segments, which each segment focusing on one of three Taos parks (Kit Carson Park, Taos Eco Park, Fred Baca Park). Preceding the individual park plan presentation / Q+A sessions was an open house (ca. 30 minutes) where attendees could view analysis maps and provide input on proposed master plans for each park, and an overview Taos Parks Master Plan presentation (ca. 30 minutes), presented by Claudia Horn. This initial presentation provided an overview of the project purpose and vision, park system analysis, league use and participation, park inventory assessment overview, funding mechanisms, and public survey result.

The open house room provided interactive opportunities for attendees to provide comment and input on proposed master plans for the three parks and analysis boards. Attendees were also asked to identify park elements that they would like to see funded for improvements and provide input on their age, income, ethnicity, and residency. Project boards on display with basic project information included: Project Vision, Funding Mechanisms, Program Allocation / Distribution, Population and Demographics Map, Survey Responses, Ownership Map, Gap Analysis - Park Map, Parks Open Space and Trails Map. Project boards for proposed park master plans included 7 presentation boards: Taos Eco Park Existing Conditions, Taos Eco Park Master Plan, Fred Baca Park Existing Conditions, Fred Baca Park Master Plan, Kit Carson Park Existing Conditions, Kit Carson Park Master Plan – Short Term Improvements, and the Kit Carson Park Master Plan – Long Term Improvements.

Immediately following the Master Plan overview presentation, Claudia Horn presented the Taos Eco Park master plan (ca. 40 minutes) proposed layout and answered questions from the audience. The plan transitions the additional field outlined in the previous master plan (2011) from soccer only fields to multi-use fields and adds amenities for sports and the community at large. The presentation addressed reasons for consolidating and sharing field resources at Taos Eco Park and illustrated locations for future improvements.

The second presentation by Claudia Horn (ca. 20 minutes) focused on proposed Fred Baca Park improvements. The presentation identified park layout improvements and suggested the park be used as a pilot project for the first segment of the Rio Fernando Trail. Ms. Horn identified a proposed location for a new town dog park and explained the rationale for locating it within the vicinity of Fred Baca Park and the Rio Fernando Park. Kristina Ortez de Jones (Executive Director of the Taos Land Trust) briefly explained the Taos Land Trust's planning goals for the adjacent Rio Fernando Park.

The third presentation by Claudia Horn (ca. 30 minutes) focused on proposed changes at Kit Carson Park. The presentation outlined proposed short term and long term plans to transform the park into a more open and versatile place for a broader array of activities to address public desires for a more open, safer park. Long term plans propose transitioning the ball field areas into multi-purpose lawn space, with ball fields relocated at the Eco Park.

The presentations were made available to the public via a live stream and afterward on the Town's website.

Public Comment Summary

Public comments were collected by documenting the question and answer session, collecting written comments, and collecting written feedback on meeting boards. Input was also documented from email correspondence. In general, the question and answer session was amicable with most of the attendees communicating the need to make changes or improve Taos parks.

Some of the primary concerns raised by those who gave comments were:

- concerns about Eco Park scheduling and functionality with multiple sports using the fields.
- comments about the wetland at Fred Baca being a sensitive resource near a dog park.
- interest in further engaging acequia commissioners when revitalizing or relocating acequias.
- comments about how to envision Kit Carson acequias in park design and for water use.
- interest in engaging School and County representatives to support the plan.

Meeting Advertisement

The meeting was advertised and communicated as follows:

15 days in advance (9.Feb.2018):

Email: Interested community organizations, educational organizations, acequia organizations, Hispanic community leaders, media outlets, sports non profit organizations, sports leagues, survey respondents, public meeting #1 attendees, interested individuals and focus group attendees.

12 days in advance (12.Feb.2018):

Website: Meeting notification posted on the Town website.

11 days in advance (13.Feb.2018):

Social Media: Meeting notification posted on social media outlets (Facebook and AllEvents).

8 days in advance (16.Feb.2018):

Email: Interested community organizations, educational organizations, acequia organizations, Hispanic community leaders, media outlets, sports non profit organizations, sports leagues, survey respondents, public meeting #1 attendees, interested individuals and focus group attendees.

2 days in advance (22.Feb.2018):

Newspaper: Taos News article (pg. A6)

Social Media: Meeting notification reposted on social media (Facebook).

1 day in advance (23.Feb.2018):

Email: Interested community organizations, educational organizations, acequia organizations, Hispanic community leaders, media outlets, sports non profit organizations, sports leagues, survey respondents, public meeting #1 attendees, interested individuals and focus group attendees.

Radio: Alix Henry interview broadcasted on True Taos Radio (KNCE 93.5).

Comments + Suggestions – from the Public

Following are comments / suggestions from the public. These comments were collected in the following manner:

- Response Board – “Where Would You Spend Money on Parks?” (collected on 2/24/2018)
- Response Board – Attendee Demographics (collected on 2/24/2018)
- Question & Answer Session (recorded during the public meeting)
- Written comments on Comment Sheets (collected on 2/24/2018)
- Written comments on Presentation Boards (collected on 2/24/2018)
- Email correspondence (collected until 3/05/2018)

RESPONSE BOARD – “WHERE WOULD YOU SPEND MONEY ON PARKS?”

Each attendee was given 6 stickers to be placed on the program elements listed below. Responses were as follows:

- (36) Eco Park: New Multi-Use Field - Soccer, Little League, Football, Lacrosse
- (27) Kit Carson: Walking Trail Upgrades
- (25) Eco Park: New Multi-Use Field - Hardball, Soccer, Little League, Tee ball, Football, Lacrosse
- (19) Kit Carson: Enhance Acequia Corridor Landscape
- (19) Eco Park: Building Expansion / Locker Rooms
- (19) Fred Baca: Rio Fernando Trail Connection
- (18) Kit Carson: Restroom Improvements
- (13) Fred Baca: Rio Fernando Wetland Family Picnic Area
- (13) Kit Carson: Relocate Maintenance Yard / Remove Buildings
- (11) Fred Baca: Dog Park and Parking Area
- (9) Fred Baca: Restroom Improvements
- (8) Kit Carson: Activity Plaza / Playground
- (8) Eco Park: Playground
- (7) Kit Carson: Events / TCA Area Improvements
- (7) Kit Carson: Basketball Court Upgrade
- (7) Kit Carson: Orchard
- (6) Eco Park: Exercise Equipment
- (5) Fred Baca: Playground Updates
- (5) Kit Carson: Boulevard Parking
- (4) Eco Park: Parking Expansion
- (4) Kit Carson: Volleyball Court Upgrade
- (1) Fred Baca: Expanded Parking

RESPONSE BOARD – ATTENDEE DEMOGRAPHICS

Each attendee was given 4 stickers to be placed on boards to collect basic background information on public meeting attendees. Response are summarized below:

Tell us about yourself!

I am a.... Town Resident (40), County Resident (29)

My age is.... Less than 18 (6), Between 18 and 44 (13), Between 45 and 65 (30), Greater than 65 (24)

I describe by Race/Ethnicity as.... Hispanic (6), Anglo (51), Ethnicity Native American (1), Ethnicity Other (9)

My annual household income range is.... Less than 35K (9), Between 35K and 49K (4), Between 50K and 75K (22), Greater than 75K (23).

QUESTION + ANSWER SESSION RECORD (from Public Meeting: February 24, 2018)

The regular (non-italicized) text is a record of comments and questions from the public. Italicized text is a record of responses from the design team. Please note that the following record is a summary of public comment and responses and is not transcribed verbatim.

Taos Eco Park

Soccer is concerned that their numbers were not accurately reflected, it may be under represented.

- The graphics shows league use, not school use.

There is soccer use throughout the year, indoors.

It would be nice to study how a tournament could impact the town.

The soccer community wants to host more tournaments and have more fields. More fields are required to host tournaments.

Who got the survey? Who was it sent to? The survey seems like a small number of responses.

- The survey went out through social media, town website, and email. It was a pretty good response rate in our experience, especially given the population of the town. We add to contact lists at meetings and sent it to leagues to send out.

Seems like most participants at the parks are children. What effort did you use to engage youth to get responses? I see kids running and using the parks throughout the year. Are you incorporating the numbers of children using the parks?

- We relied on leagues to understand youth membership and who uses parks for these formal activities. 20% of survey responses were from age group 18 and under. Going forward, we recommend that the Town track incidental usage at the parks to understand use demographics. The Youth and Family Center was easier to get input from because it's a controlled resource.

There seems to be inequity of how people are represented in the County and who uses resources in the Town. A lot of services exist in the Town but the County needs to step to the plate to help carry the burden on these resources. The County should be invited and should be here. Until we find a mechanism for funding we can study it all we want.

- As a public member it's important to engage your commissioner. We recognize that it is an issue, but please remember that our client is the Town.

Would the fields be striped for football?

- Yes, but that is another layer of design. It could use tick marks and be striped for use.

Football doesn't fit on a soccer field.

- Our studies show that it can fit here.

It is important to look at bus parking.

- Good point. Bus parking needs to be planned for.

Are you aware that there is funding for the locker rooms?

- We have heard that.

Of 762 responses how many people live in the Town of Taos? I would like to see how many here are from the TOT if you can please stand up?

- We did not have a question on the survey of who lived in Town or the County. We are trying to collect that information at the public meetings. You are welcome to put dots on demographic boards today.

The County needs to pitch in on this. County people need to contact Commissioners and Mayors to get involved in this. These are community parks.

If we reinstated the park board would you have to be a Town resident?

- People here today were on the board and live in County.

You mentioned that the Taos Eco Park was used 600 hours a year? I see incidental use.

- The numbers are for use of the field (Cat provided them). Incidental park use is higher and has also been tracked and estimated.

Could you elaborate on the relationship of Town of Taos with Taos High School?

- The schools own the land and the Town funded improvements and is responsible for maintenance. The High school uses the facility for practice and games.

There is a JPA. Schools have priority on the park when they are in season. Priority is money generation, tournaments, then public use.

- Schools will definitely need to weigh in on this.

Schools are all for additional fields, parking and locker rooms. This proposed plan is closer to what we thought was going to happen at the park. The Eco Park is a great blessing. We though there were going to be additional fields. The need in the community is multi-use fields. This seems to be best of both worlds. Walking trails, football, and Little League seems ok to share. School is the legal representative and it is up to the superintendent to approve any plans.

- We can reach out to the School Board and Superintendent more formally.

It is important to note that we can't service all the use in town with one soccer field. If you add other field uses who is going to supervise the scheduling? Counting the High School and Adult League there are probably over 700 people using. We could have doubled numbers with more field space. We could hold tournaments which would be an economic generator.

- That will be a recommendation. There needs to be a person scheduling the fields. Even with single use there are scheduling needs and there will be even more if it is multi-use. Maybe there needs to be more flexibility with more users.

It's a challenge sharing with schools though.

People feel that it's a park and they should have access whenever they want. And it can be a problem for the schools.

We had the Sports Alliance that did scheduling before. Now it's volunteer. Cat puts in volunteer hours and it needs to be formalized. I feel like people don't understand how much this park is used.

It would be nice to have shade structures given the limited landscape.

- That would be good to include. Spectators need accommodation and better-shaded landscape too.

The Eco park seems like a business / revenue potential for the town. Currently it is a lost revenue for the town. Leagues can bring in large tournaments; book 100 rooms per night on weekends. Tournaments are a lost opportunity. Town needs to hire a professional to manage it. Need a town officer to help generate Town revenue through scheduling.

I was involved with hockey. I agree there is potential. We have a hockey rink that relies on good recruiting and organization to have good tournaments. We don't want to reinvent the wheel. One person needs to manage the scheduling. There is huge potential at the Eco Park but don't rely on parent volunteers to organize events because there is turnover year to year. We want 1 person to coordinate this for the Town to bring in revenue.

- Yes, and for other park facilities as well.

I am part of the adult baseball league. To use the one field (high school) we trade maintenance labor. We have 50 people that play baseball - youth and adults. There are 225 people at YFC at today's swimming tournament plus hockey tournament. These people spend the night and spend money. There are only 50-60 in the baseball league but we travel and there are great tournaments. We have many great baseball players in the community. People travel from all over the world to play baseball and they know about Taos' baseball heritage. People would like to come to Taos to play in a tournament. 1 field in addition to the High School field would be a great benefit to host tournaments. We could host 3-4 days and bring many people to town. We do need the fields and there is a desire.

Mayor Barrone: Thanks for everyone showing up and providing comments. We need to improve our infrastructure in town (water and sewer) which we continue to move forward. I have coached and it's great to see participation. We need and want this sort of thing. It's the future of our community and our kids' future. Even our elders need this. It's important to hear what type of direction to go and where to focus funding. It's a good opportunity to plan for funding. We know kids in school need more resources and infrastructure. We can say it's going to attract GRT but until we get there and fund it, it's a large expense. We need to find funding. We are the highest in the state with GRT currently. First we get a plan and then we find out how to fund it. Thanks for your input. Let's make it happen.

- Thank you for your input. Please provide input and feedback. There is another presentation in 25 minutes.

What is the next step?

- We are delivering the plan and recommendations to the Town. The Town in coordination with the community needs to decide what to move forward with. Our schedule for delivery is April. There is momentum for plan but is up the community to have it implemented.

Fred Baca Park

How close is dog park? Dog waste isn't good for wetland areas.

- You can see the flood plain map and perceived wetland perimeter. From that we have a 100' buffer. We'd recommend a way to filtrate runoff at the low end of the park. Bioremediation with plants could be helpful. We don't want to adversely affect the wetland.

One of the benefits of that area is that there is a berm on the low end where the vegetation ends. It seems like a good spot for a dog park.

Just because it's fenced doesn't mean that dogs only use that area.

- Yes it will be fenced. One of the benefits, if it's executed and managed correctly, is that dog walkers in Taos Land Trust land or at Fred Baca Park, can be referred to use the designated location. Intention is that there would not be dogs in Rio Fernando Park due to sensitivity of the land.

Yes, Rio Fernando Park hasn't been master planned yet but it's a sensitive area and if it's agricultural, we wouldn't want dogs. The dog park gives people a place to go.

Part of it is better enforcement.

- It's always a problem but at least there would be a designated option for people to go to.

One thing on Fred Baca Park: children who play soccer there, they camp out at the big gazebo. Wind there is a major issue to be considered. Under the gazebo it can be pretty miserable.

- Wind usually SW to NE. We can consider a buffer.

Have you looked at relocating the ditch? Can you show the realignment?

- A new alignment hasn't been studied. It needs major coordination. Maybe able to relocate it, but this is just a recommendation that needs to be figured out.

Property owners need to be consulted. They already have issue getting water.

- That hasn't been solved. It's a recommendation to figure it out and study it.

Has there been consultation with the commission?

- We reached out to them and they are interested in studying the problem. We understand this an idea or recommendation. We aren't showing realignment. But there is an introduction of the idea to the Majordomo and Commission.

I hadn't heard the idea of moving the ditch. The commission should be adequately involved.

Could you outline where the Vigil y Romo ditch is?

- Ditch identified on aerial (off of Town of Taos property).

Have you incorporated anything along the southern edge of the boundary? Have you looked at a tree nursery in that area?

- We have kept it open. We have heard the idea and there is room for both.

- Rick Bellis: we need to get the water there first.

What type of surface is the dog park and what sort of water application is available?

- Dog owners want grass but in our environment it often becomes dirt or crusher fines surface. It doesn't make for a very interesting dog park but if it ends up being 2.5 acres it would need a lot of design work to strategically place shade, certain grass areas, etc.

My concern is that some of that area the Town has water rights for irrigation in that area. Pasture area might fit permitted water use in that area. Shade trees that are irrigable crops might be compatible as well. Not all of the town's property has water rights and it could be potentially important to use or move water rights with Commission approval.

There are some water rights on the land that the dog park is planned for.

I want to make clear that there is jurisdiction on the ditches.

- Of course this is understood.

Who is Fred Baca and why is his name on the park?

- I don't know. We can try to find out.

He was a former mayor.

- Walking trails might be good to extend all the way around.

Kit Carson Park

We thought about running water from the duck pond to the area to the north.

- We kept the area to the north open. It does not have a specific use. It could accommodate water overflow.

My suggestion then, is to show water going to the north on the acequia map. Water can help the trees that are dying. Please show acequia on the north edge.

- Yes we can include that ditch. The main central one was highlighted.

The lateral to the north serves other properties. It waters owners to the north.

- We can accommodate the routes so they are not severed.

Is there a problem culverting to the north?

- Rick Bellis: There might be a gravity issue.

The tree line would benefit from water in that northern ditch.

I am concerned about saturating the ground and mud might be a problem. Challenge is the flooded lawn area when gatherings come in.

You may need a storage area to control water flow over a time period.

Just filling the ditch does good. A lot of water soaks into the ground under the ditch.

- From a park standpoint, having the acequias more properly designated is our recommendation. Surface irrigation isn't a reliable source for turf and plant irrigation but utilizing the ditches and highlighting them as a historic cultural component is important.

We talked about having a historical acequia area with a walkway.

You could flood irrigate portions of each field.

It might be possible to get the water Sunday night. That might be a better time so to minimize impact to the public. This might be a tradeoff because taking water at the weekend is a way to highlight it.

The design seems like it's a way to celebrate the culture, art and history. I would love to see sculptures. Another way is to celebrate the spiritual element. It can be a refuge. It is a sanctuary. Maybe with more water flow, maybe have a place for meditation or alternative Japanese gardens. Or a tea house. If you suggest the flow of water, even when dry, you create a perception and inviting places around it. Then when you have water it is ready to highlight the flow. This strengthens the park. I am also a big fan of our historical cottonwoods. I know they have maintenance challenges, but maintaining cottonwoods in Taos is important to me. I am also concerned with the viewscape. How do trees affect the views?

- Thanks, we think that resonates with what we are thinking. There is an opportunity to mark or showcase the acequias. It can be subtle.

So many of the paths follow the acequia, it is set up for that already. The town doesn't run the cemetery, but I love the historic cemetery. It is quirky but it is a value added feature of Taos. It is one more room to come into. Each of these places has their roles. I am pleased by the idea of strengthening what is there. I am happy that this maintains the green space. I can see the need for more parking. Protecting our green space is very important.

- Yes this plan provides more green space than you have now. Balancing openness with a sense of rooms / areas is important. Part of the iconic landscape of Kit Carson is the cottonwoods. We recommend them be planted and maintained in Kit Carson Park. They survive drought, and inundation. There needs to be a plan for successional planting and they need to be maintained, but they are important. We recommend not planting monocultures. There is a digital inventory of what is there now. When this becomes a project, the Town needs to study what trees are to be kept or removed. Also, about openness: it is not clear along Paseo that there is a park there. We recommend extending the park to the edge. This would need to be worked out with events. Removing the wall could be beneficial, think of it as rolling out the red carpet to the public.

Who owns the land in the small red area?

- The Town owns the area in red but the larger area needs to be studied in conjunction with the Taos Center for the Arts for improved efficiency.

I like the feel of the adobe wall that is unique to Taos. It can create a sense of enclosure and protection.

I've seen a lot of dog walkers in KC. Dog park was high on the list? Did you consider putting one here?

- We recommend a small fenced designated dog park. Yes, people would have to drive to other dog parks.

People live in the area would want a dog area. And there are visitors that stay in the center of town that would use it.

- There are areas that could be good areas at KC. There is certainly a need, but not a lot of land. There are some possibilities though.

All these plans are overwhelming? Would they be done at once? It seems like too much.

- These ideas are all dependent on funding and would be done in smaller pieces. We want to know where you would want to spend money on parks.

At one time it was clearly stated that there would be a dog park at the Taos Eco Park. Then the idea stopped. I see a lot of dogs at the parks.

- Rick Bellis: Stray at Heart is right there and has a dog park. It has been there a couple years.

I'd like a little dog park at KC. Funding always comes up in conversation. Please consider that there may be volunteers who like to contribute. For example, gardening, sanctuary design, donation of materials, and acequia contributions: this helps encourage participation and sense of ownership. There is volunteer willingness for the park.

- It is difficult for municipalities to organize volunteers, but harnessing community power is great. Non profits can do a better job of mobilizing volunteers effectively.

I like trail connectivity within the town. Have you considered connections with schools?

- John Miller: Yes, we've looked at connections within Taos and the broader area. We have online tools to help understand needs. Hospitals, schools, etc all will be looked at.

- Rick Bellis: This is a 20 year time frame. The idea is to have a trails plan, conservation plan, and a parks plan that all work together so that it helps inform future development and appropriate locations to conserve. We have planning initiatives but we want to get County buy-in and

School Board buy-in so things can be implemented in smaller chunks. Then we will have a citizen's committee that will have input on prioritization. This won't happen soon but we want to know where things could go so they wouldn't be removed down the line.

It seems like running a culvert might be premature.

SUGGESTIONS FROM COMMENT BOX

Written comments collected on or after the meeting on comment sheets are as follows:

1. Please preserve our night skies. Some ballpark lights are just way to much! Can see them from everywhere in the whole valley.
2. Take a look at ALB pickleball park at Manzano Mesa! 18 dedicated courts very nice.
3. Year round ice rink
4. You need to build pickleball courts at the Youth and Family Center park as soon as possible!!!
5. Native Landscape. Lights down word placement all parks >\$ for keeping trash cleaned up!
6. Year round ice rink!!!
7. At a public meeting – first people should be instructed how to use a micaphone. You talk into the microphone – expensive screens should be tested and someone should know how to use them. – lots of people are hard of hearing. –stick with the agenda. – have a facilitator.
8. Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in US and Europe. It is played by all ages. The courts are smaller than tennis in fact 4 p.b. cts will fit on a single tennis court. Albuquerque has a recently completed p.b complex that will host a national championship in 2019. P.b. striping could be placed on Baca and Kit Carson tennis courts but this in less desirable than dedicated p.b. courts. Angle Fire has an annual p.b. tourney with striping on existing tennis courts – last A.F tourney drew players from 8 states. Currently, there are p.b. courts only at private facilities (Quail Ridge) and more that 60 players are part of p.b. clubs and 12 to 24 players play 3 days / week. In nature area of Fred Baca is a real jewel for bird watchers – I worry that the proposed dog area will impact habitat. You should consult with local experts such as Meg Petersen and Robert Templeton re the potential adverse impact of "improvements" to bird habitat. Perhaps dog area could be located at the Youth and Family Center. Fred Baca Park – Nature area / trail is listen in NM Birding Hotspots – it is a tru nature treasure and heavily used. Eco Parks – dogs would serve the everyday dog walking from the Stray Hearts facility located nearby – all dog walking from Stray Hearts is by volunteers.
9. Thrilled to see so much in the works! Go!
10. The data collected from survey does not reflect what is currently happening at ECO park – especially with regard to usage. Eco gets used way more than 600 hours per year!!! In fact, ECO is not enough to support current soccer needs that are April through Nov. Please correct your usage data!
11. Archery and shooting range. Not sure of the best location.
12. Please inform yourself with current funds available and allocated for ECO Park!
13. More dog friendly features please.
14. ECO Park trail lights on in winter til 700p so folks can walk after work. Thanks!
15. Please involve County in this Master Plan building!! Better to involve all partners early in the process. Most usage is from County not just Town residents.
16. Indoor Rink!
17. Trying to insert hardball baseball field into ECO Park is ill-advised. Suggest going to Filemon Sanchez instead with baseball field enhancements. It also looked like Little League fields need to rotate 180 degrees so outfields are pointing away from each other...
18. With a focus on Native Tree species – near existing Acequia Channels a sufficient Irrigation System with strategically placed Fire Hydrant to mimic spring flood water during drought periods. Also the Irrigation systems at Kit Carson Fred Baca and Eco Park should be upgraded and maintained. Weekly Inspection is highly recommended. Paul Bryan Jones
19. ECO PK Need shelter structure (locker rooms, etc.) that meet the requirements for shelter from lighting, i.e. four walls, roof, grounded electrical / plumbing system.

SUGGESTIONS FROM PRESENTATION BOARDS

Written comments collected via sticky-notes and stickers attached to presentation boards during the meeting are as follows:

- 1. Taos Eco Park:** Heard the term "lights" – they had better comply with Dark Skies; Yes; Dog Park or "rest" area; Bus Parking; There are 30 new trees here. Protect them. Add more trees along new walking paths; Please change lighting to Dark Sky ordinance at night and lights for events to shine only on areas of fields; Need benches and trash cans all around current and future areas; Shaded viewing areas?; Expand the walking paths; Look at area of existing leach field; Expand the walking path to / around all 3 fields; Prioritization of fields? Soccer vs baseball vs other?; Solar, etc., for any electric.
- 2. Fred Baca Park:** Irrigated turf without is thorns thistle + the usage will fall off; I love this proposed off-leash dog park- and I don't even have a dog; Only fenced dog parks; If you put a dog park at Fred Baca locate it away from wetland to avoid water contamination and disturbing wildlife; Fence in dog park and enforce leash laws in rest of park; Big Dogs; Off leash?; Little Dogs; No dog park near birding areas otherwise...no birds. Speaking of birds, we birders need a bird blind; One tennis court + one bball court?; Please find a way to keep the wetlands walkway open in winter too; Rerouting acequia from east of La Posta Rd. just past wooden fence.
- 3. Kit Carson Park – Short Term:** Keep ball field; Banks of lower ball field could be beautified by Garden Club; Why not move T-ball to other sports locations, diminishes the need for parking; archery shooting range; Keep baseball fields here; Handicap areas, benches by trees maybe; Place benches all around- bus stop area- lights Dark Sky ordinance! – Trash cans (more); What happens here? Impromptu performance? Hang out in sun with friends?; It was a much better park before more parking was added and ball fields added. Please focus on walkability, not cars!
- 4. Kit Carson Park – Long Term:** Please don't cut these trees; Integration with TCA parking here rather than cut down trees along park road; Bird aviary in cemetery?; Natural plantings that do not use much water; There is seriously no need for this much parking; Conservation, Naturalized Gardens; Orchard Great Idea, labeled plantings; Stop using as a dumping ground; Love the orchard ideas; Either repair or remove derelict tennis court. Dogs can't run there, too rough; Trees are losers in this plan, trees and events go together, people like trees, trees make a park; mucho parking menos park de versa?; Ridiculous amount of parking – we want more green and trees, it's a park!; Need more trees, not more cars!; Parking should be at TCA areas not within park; Pickleball courts; Bad for dogs to run on cement / asphalt; Don't encourage driving over walk or bike; Encourage parking in existing municipal lots!
- 5. Park Program Distribution:** Where is the binoculars logo for birders?; Dogs not allowed now???; Include equestrian trails and programming for Ag. Related rec.; Rodeo grounds?; Connect them all by trail; LaPosta too narrow often crowded w/bikers + walkers; Protected walkways for walkers between parks; Include Couse Field as green space park?; Multiple dog parks.
- 6. Gaps in Local Park Access:** Very high gap in Sunset Park?; Imagine a continuous green corridor from Kit Carson to Plaza to future duck pond (where Smiths is a black mold issue) all the way to Fred Baca!; Gusdorf Park is here and needs Improvement; Ditto that; Easy walk means high gap? Open walkway to ease access; We need wind breaks for tennis and pickleball, please and thank you; Where is a park on the south side?; Add a little playground in Higgins Grove (Town-owned 1 acre); It is easy to say that park is theoretically a 5 or 10 min walk away but practically is different. Lack of sidewalks, bike trails often impacts access.
- 7. Project Funding:** RTP (Recreational Trails Program); US Soccer Foundation; Money is already allocated for locker rooms; Nope!
- 8. "How Would You Spend Money on Parks?"- Kit Carson:** Move loud music elsewhere; Water features like Lumina Gallery sculpture and benches and a sense of place; trash removal and regular maintenance – putting things away and out of site after events; Pickleball; Tennis; Orchard-yes; Yes w/ design principles like Frederick Olmstead Jr's Central Park w/ rooms; And Vineyards; Yes- relocate maintenance yard and remove buildings; Keep baseball fields; Keep and improve Little League Fields; Trash under and around event stages attracts trash; Shade trees, Cottonwoods; Dog exercise area in all town parks; trash pickup?; More green less concrete; No- Boulevard Parking; Yes- Walking Trail upgrades; Meditation = reflective like Japanese Tea Garden; No huge concerts in the park; Don't use the park like a storage area; Safety; The people who used to take care of the park did it with pride, what happened?; No chain link fencing stored in the park; No chain link fencing!; No more concerts in park, no more temporary chain link fences, I agree; The park has become a trashy place where fencing and equipment for events is all over the place. It's ugly, unsafe and attracts trash.

9. **“How Would You Spend Money on Parks?”- Fred Baca Park:** Tennis Court Upgrades; Basketball Court Upgrades; Off Road Bicycle Trails.
10. **“How Would You Spend Money on Parks?”- Taos Eco Park:** Support a parks revenue would finance town park projects; Trees!; Eco Park would be great place for fenced off dog park; \$400K already locked in an account to build locker rooms?; No we don't.

SUGGESTIONS FROM EMAILS

Written comments collected prior to or after the meeting (until March 5, 2018) by email are as follows:

1. February 26, 2018 at 1:23 pm from Hank Friedman:
 Claudia and John,
 Thank you for the presentation on all the parks on Saturday. It was very interesting and informative. To follow are my comments about the Eco Park.
 1. There is a need (for both functional and safety reasons) to have locker rooms at the park. Need: Hosting higher levels of team (professional, international sides, etc.). Safety: Proper shelter during lightning storms. Basically proper shelter is a structure that is considered safe if it has electrical and plumbing pipes that offer a ready electrical pathway to ground. Adding lightning protection in the form of Air Terminals, Conductor Cables and Ground Rods would greatly increase the safety of any structure.
 2. Soccer field dimensions should be 115 yards X 75 yards. That is the dimensions of the current field at the Eco Park. The different governing codes (NFHS, NCAA, FIFA) allow a range of dimensions. The 115 yards X 75 yards is the ideal field size.
 3. A concession stand for each field. This would be a concrete pad, with a shed type structure to serve food, that has electricity (for lighting, hot pots, etc.) and running water. The concrete pads would extend out in front of the service window so that people aren't standing in water, mud... I really like the idea for food trucks for bigger events but for HS soccer games, local sports leagues, etc. the concession stand provides the ability to sell water, candy bars, frito pies and such and therefore giving the various leagues another source of revenue.

Thank you very much for your time and attention.
 Hank Friedman
 Taos Sports Alliance/ Treasurer
 Taos High School Assistant Soccer Coach (Boys & Girls)
2. February 27, 2018 at 8:31 am from Trisha Fong:
 We met at TCA last month regarding the Kit Carson Park. Thanks for the Parks Master Plan presentation on Saturday, it was informative. I was unable to stay for the remaining Q&A regarding Kit Carson Park and was hoping you might have some time in the afternoon to briefly talk. I have a TCA Board meeting at 3:30pm today and was hoping to enlighten them on the progress of Kit Carson in conjunction with TCA and understand why the design plans will be separate from the Parks Master Plan, in addition to getting a grasp of timing. Unfortunately I missed the presentation regarding the placement of the pickleball courts. I would like to get the update on this as well and to understand what the reasoning was in location.
3. February 28, 2018 at 1:41 pm from Alana Benjamin
 Hi Claudia,
 Thank you for your presentation in Taos this past weekend. There were some really great ideas and I am excited for this vision for improving the major parks in town and hope that we can find funding to make it a reality! I am passionate about this issue both as a mother to two young girls and as a family physician who regularly prescribes exercise to my patients of all ages.
 As I mentioned in our brief discussion, in addition to the plans you presented, I think it would be worthwhile to give some attention to creating and improving smaller parks throughout the community, especially in the "gap" areas that you identified on one of your maps. Having smaller playgrounds and common outdoor spaces where people could easily go on a daily basis would do so much to improve the health of our community.
 I have attached maps of two potential areas for neighborhood parks, Higgins Grove and the Gusdorf Place Play Area. Higgins Grove is in the Weimer neighborhood (near where I live for the sake of full disclosure). This is a small plot of land that is owned by the town. It was landscaped with shrubs a few years back, but is not really used in any meaningful way by the community currently. Here is a website with a little more info and history about this plot of land <http://higginsgrove.blogspot.com/> but as you can see the last entry was in 2010. A small playground in this location would served the fast-growing southern end of town where there are many young families. I believe it could be designed to incorporate much of the existing landscaping as well.
 The Gusdorf Place Play Area is already a decent-sized park but is desperately in need of renovation. Again, this is an area of town that doesn't have many walkable play areas and has a lot of population growth and young families.
 My hope is that in the excitement of renovating our bigger parks, we also remember the importance of creating and improving smaller neighborhood parks. I would be more than happy to discuss these ideas further with you.
 Thanks for your consideration and for all of your hard work on this project,
 Alana

MEETING MATERIALS

See attached:

END OF NOTES

TOWN OF TAOS – PARKS MASTER PLAN SURVEY 11/3/17

Thank you for participating in this brief survey. The information you provide will be used in the master planning process for the Town of Taos park system and help inform its future use.

1. **First, how did you find out about this survey?**
 - Email
 - Flyer
 - Conversation
 - Website (Town of Taos)
 - Social Media (Facebook, etc.)
 - Other (Please specify) _____
2. **What is your gender?**
 - Male
 - Female
 - Other
3. **What is your age?**
 - 18 or under
 - 19-25
 - 26-35
 - 36-45
 - 46-65
 - 66+
4. **Are you White, Black or African-American, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Asian, Hispanic or Latino, or some other race?**
 - White
 - Black or African-American
 - American Indian or Alaskan Native
 - Asian
 - Hispanic or Latino
 - Of multiple races
 - Some other race (please specify) _____
5. **What type of household do you live in?**
 - Single Adult with Children
 - Couple with Children
 - Single Adult with no Children
 - Couple with no Children
 - Other (please specify) _____
6. **How many children who live in your household are the following ages? (circle a number)**
 - 0 to 5 years old (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
 - 6 to 12 years old (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
 - 13 to 18 years old (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
7. **How close do you live to a Town of Taos Park?**
 - .5 to 1 Mile
 - 1 to 2 Miles
 - 2 to 3 Miles
 - 5 + Miles
8. **What parks / recreation facilities do you currently use?** (choose ALL that apply)
 - Taos Plaza
 - Kit Carson Park
 - Sunset Park
 - Public land trails
 - Other (please specify) _____
 - Fred Baca Park
 - Taos Youth and Family Center
 - Filemon Sanchez Fairgrounds Park
 - Taos Eco Park
9. **What are your primary reasons for visiting a park?** (choose ALL that apply)
 - Walking, jogging, bicycling, or another form of non-structured exercise
 - Exercising my dog
 - So my children can play there
 - To participate in sports and organized recreational activities (such as leagues and clubs)
 - To observe sports and organized recreational activities (such as leagues and clubs)
 - To attend other types of events (picnics, informal activities / gatherings)
 - To attend organized sponsored events (fairs, concerts)
 - To relax and just be outdoors
10. **How often during the average month do you visit a park?**
 - 20 or more times
 - 10-19 times
 - 5-9 times
 - 2-4 times
 - 1 time
 - Never
11. **How do you get to the parks?** (choose ALL that apply)
 - Walk / Run
 - Skate
 - Car / Truck
 - Other (please specify) _____
 - Bicycle
 - Public Transportation
12. **What features of the current parks (Kit Carson, Fred Baca, Taos Eco Park, Youth and Family Center) are the MOST important to keep, if any?**

13. **Are there any issues with the current parks? If so, please describe.**

14. **On a scale of 1 (very good) to 5 (very bad), how would you rate the condition of play equipment and courts?**
1 2 3 4 5
15. **On a scale of 1 (very good) to 5 (very bad), how would you rate the condition of sports fields (soccer, baseball, etc.)?**
1 2 3 4 5
16. **On a scale of 1 (very good) to 5 (very bad), how would you rate the cleanliness of the parks?**
1 2 3 4 5

MORE QUESTIONS ON THE BACK

17. On a scale of 1 (very good) to 5 (very bad), how would you rate the cleanliness of the restroom facilities located in the parks?

1 2 3 4 5

18. On a scale of 1 (very good) to 5 (very bad), how safe do you feel while visiting the parks?

1 2 3 4 5

19. Which of the following league or club sports do you participate in? (choose ALL that apply)

- Outdoor Soccer
- Indoor Soccer
- Baseball
- Softball
- Tennis
- Hockey / Ice Skating
- Volleyball
- Basketball
- Swimming
- Pickleball
- I do not participate in league or club sports
- Other (please specify) _____

20. What other sports or types of programs would you like to see offered in the parks?

21. Which additional park facilities are MOST needed within Taos Parks? (choose all that apply)

- Playgrounds
- Walk / Stroll Paths
- Jogging / Exercise Paths
- Bike Trails
- Dog Off-Leash Areas
- Shade / Seating
- Picnic Tables
- Public Art
- Field Sports (Soccer, Rugby, Lacrosse, etc.)
- Baseball / Softball Fields
- Tennis Courts
- Basketball Courts
- Volleyball Courts
- Disc Golf Course
- Skate Park
- Botanic Garden
- Horseshoe Pits
- Other (please specify) _____

22. What community spaces would MOST attract you to the Parks? (choose all that apply)

- Community Garden
- Large Gathering / Picnic Area
- Market Space
- Performance Space
- Sports Fields (League Play)
- Other (please specify) _____

23. What park elements would you like to see prioritized for future funding? (please RANK top 3 in order of importance)

- ___ Playgrounds
- ___ Walk / Stroll Paths
- ___ Jogging / Exercise Paths
- ___ Bike Trails
- ___ Dog Off-Leash Areas
- ___ Shade / Seating
- ___ Picnic Tables
- ___ Public Art
- ___ Field Sports (Soccer, Rugby, Lacrosse, etc.)
- ___ Baseball / Softball Fields
- ___ Tennis Courts
- ___ Basketball Courts
- ___ Volleyball Courts
- ___ Disc Golf Course
- ___ Skate Park
- ___ Botanic Garden
- ___ Horseshoe Pits
- ___ Community Garden
- ___ Large Gathering / Picnic Area
- ___ Market Space
- ___ Performance Space

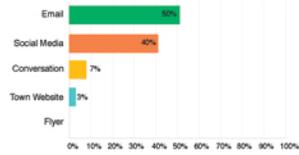
24. How can the Town of Taos provide exceptional community facilities for the citizens of Taos and Taos County?

25. Do you have any additional thoughts about Kit Carson Park, Fred Baca Park, or Taos Eco Park that you would like to have considered in the design of the parks master plan?

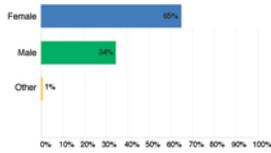
Thank you for taking the time to fill out this survey. We look forward to incorporating your suggestions into the Taos Parks Master Plan. If you would like to be kept informed of further progress made on the Taos Parks Master Plan, including dates for future public meetings, please provide your email address below:

DEMOGRAPHICS

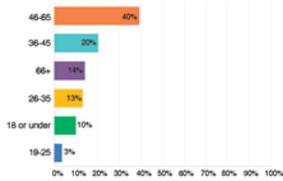
Survey Solicitation



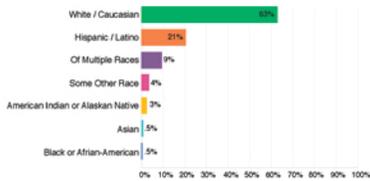
Respondents



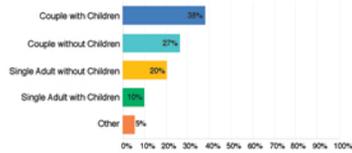
Age



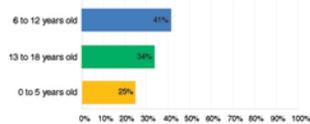
Ethnicity



Household Type

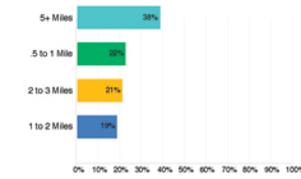


Age of Children in Households

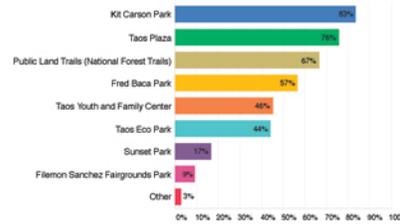


CURRENT USE

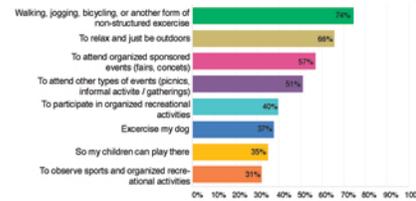
Proximity to Taos Parks



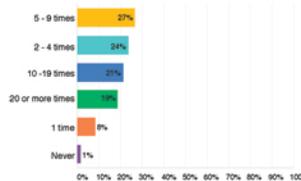
Current Recreation Facility Use



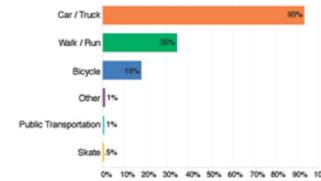
Reasons for Visiting Taos Parks



Frequency of Visits per Month



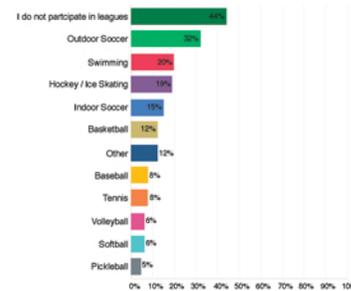
Mode of Travel to Parks



Qualitative Rating of Facilities

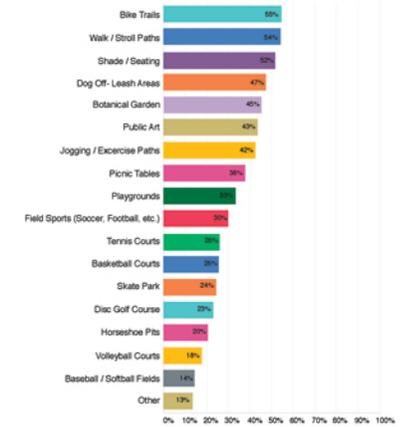


League Participation

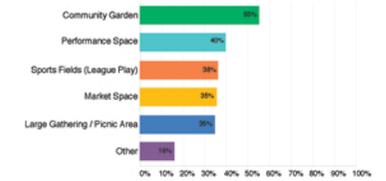


NEEDS / DESIRES

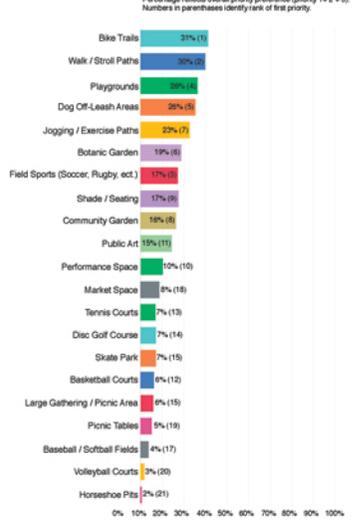
Facilities Most Needed



Community Spaces Most Desired



Program Prioritization



Appendix C

C SITE ANALYSIS MAPS

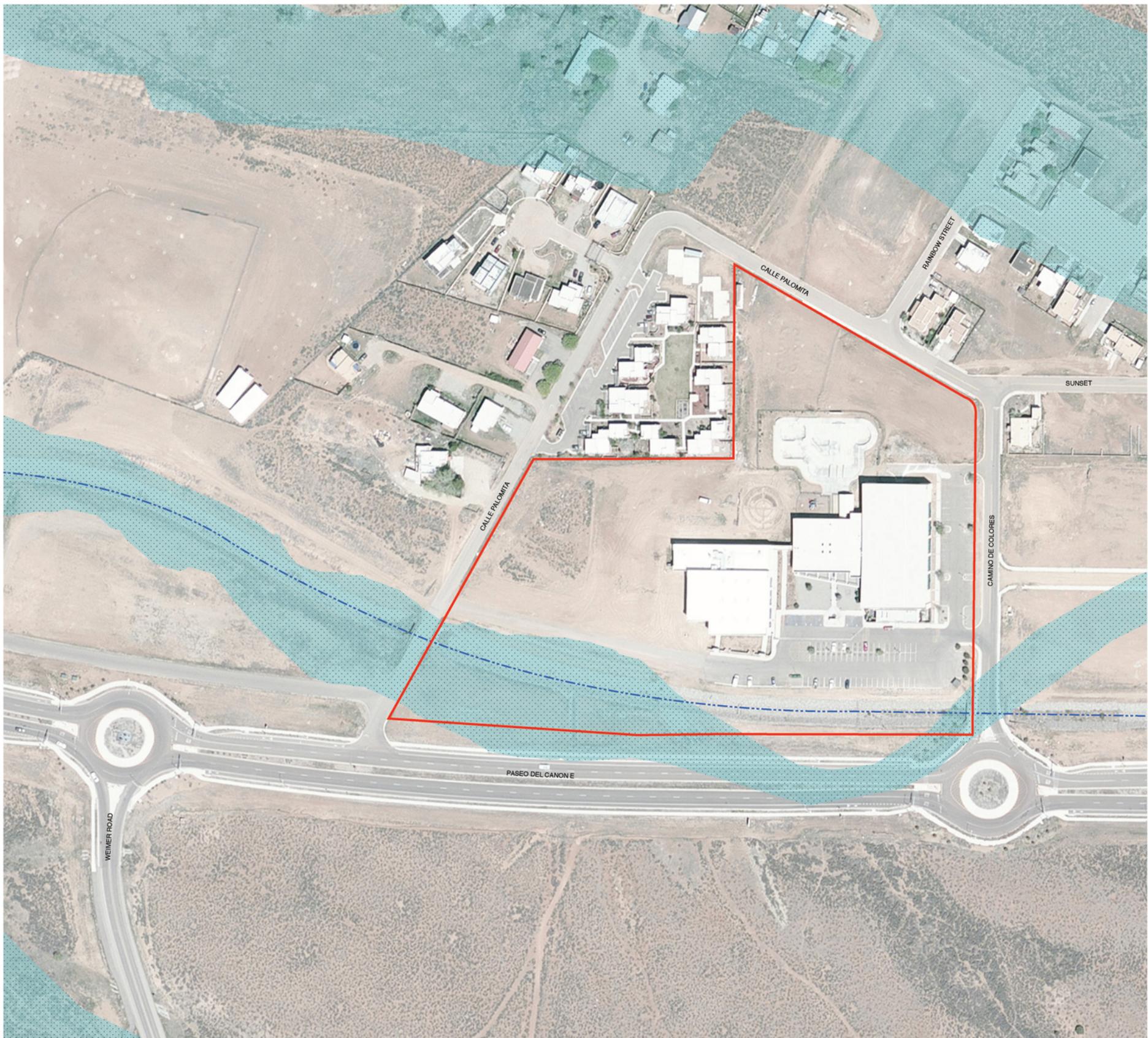
- Ownership
- Open Space and Trails
- Zoning
- Census Data
- Population + Demographics
- Gaps in Local Park Access
- Land Characteristics
- Cultural Landscape Characteristics
- Kit Carson Park - Site Analysis
- Fred Baca Park - Site Analysis
- Taos Eco Park - Site Analysis
- Youth and Family Center - Site Analysis

TAOS PARKS

MASTER PLAN

LEGEND

- Master Plan Project Boundary
- - - Town of Taos Boundary
- Drainageway, Major
- - - Drainageway, Acequia
- ▨ 100-year Flood Hazard Zone, Zone A

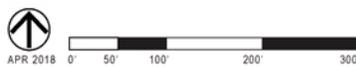


Source Data
 Aerial, revised October 2017. Aerial
 Town of Taos, Planning Department 2017. Parcel Boundaries, Water Features, Drainage Features, Utility Features, Drainage, Alignment, Land Use, and
 Infrastructure, Town of Taos, 2017.
 FEMA, National Flood Hazard Data Center 2017. National Flood Hazard Data Center.

DRAFT

YOUTH AND FAMILY CENTER

SITE ANALYSIS MAP



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 design office

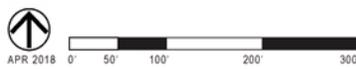
TAOS PARKS MASTER PLAN

- LEGEND**
- Master Plan Project Boundary
 - Town of Taos Boundary
 - Drainageway, Major
 - Drainageway, Acequia
 - 100-year Flood Hazard Zone, Zone A



Source Data
 Aerial, revised October 2017. Aerial
 Town of Taos, Planning Department 2017. Parcel Boundaries, Water Features, Utilities, and other information, drainage, alignment, and other data
 and information, Town of Taos, Planning
 Department 2017. FEMA National Flood Hazard Data Center

DRAFT
TAOS ECO PARK
 SITE ANALYSIS MAP



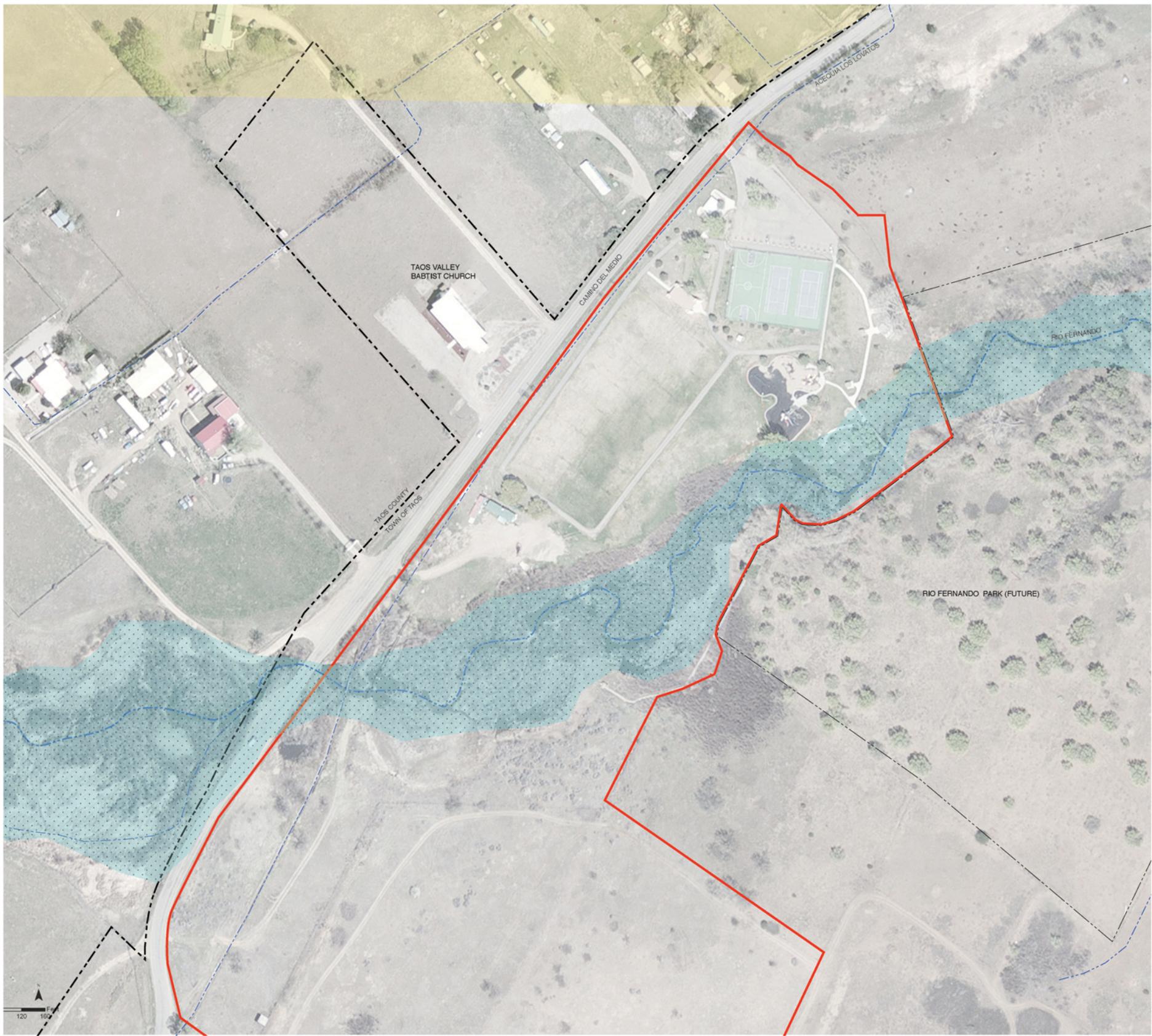
Produced for the Town of Taos
 design office

TAOS COUNTY ECONOMIC
 DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

TAOS PARKS MASTER PLAN

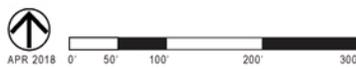
LEGEND

- Master Plan Project Boundary
- Town of Taos Boundary
- Taos Land Trust Easement
- Drainageway, Major
- Drainageway, Acequia
- Trail, Proposed
- 100-year Flood Hazard Zone, Zone A
- Area of Underdetermined Flood Hazard, Zone D



Source Data
 Aerial, received October 2017. Aerial
 Town of Taos Planning, received October 2017. Physical Boundaries, Master Plan Boundaries (shown in black), drainage and acequia (shown in blue)
 Flood Hazard, received October 2017. Flood Hazard (shown in blue)
 Town of Taos Boundary, received October 2017. Proposed Trail
 Town of Taos, received October 2017. Proposed Trail

DRAFT FRED BACA PARK SITE ANALYSIS MAP



TAOS PARKS MASTER PLAN

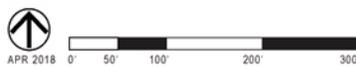
LEGEND

- Master Plan Project Boundary
- Town of Taos Boundary
- Drainageway, Major
- Drainageway, Acoquia



Source Data
Aerial, updated October 2017. Aerial
Town of Taos, updated October 2017. Parcel Boundaries, Master Plan Boundary, Drainageway, and other information provided
aerial photography, Town of Taos Boundary.

DRAFT KIT CARSON PARK SITE ANALYSIS MAP

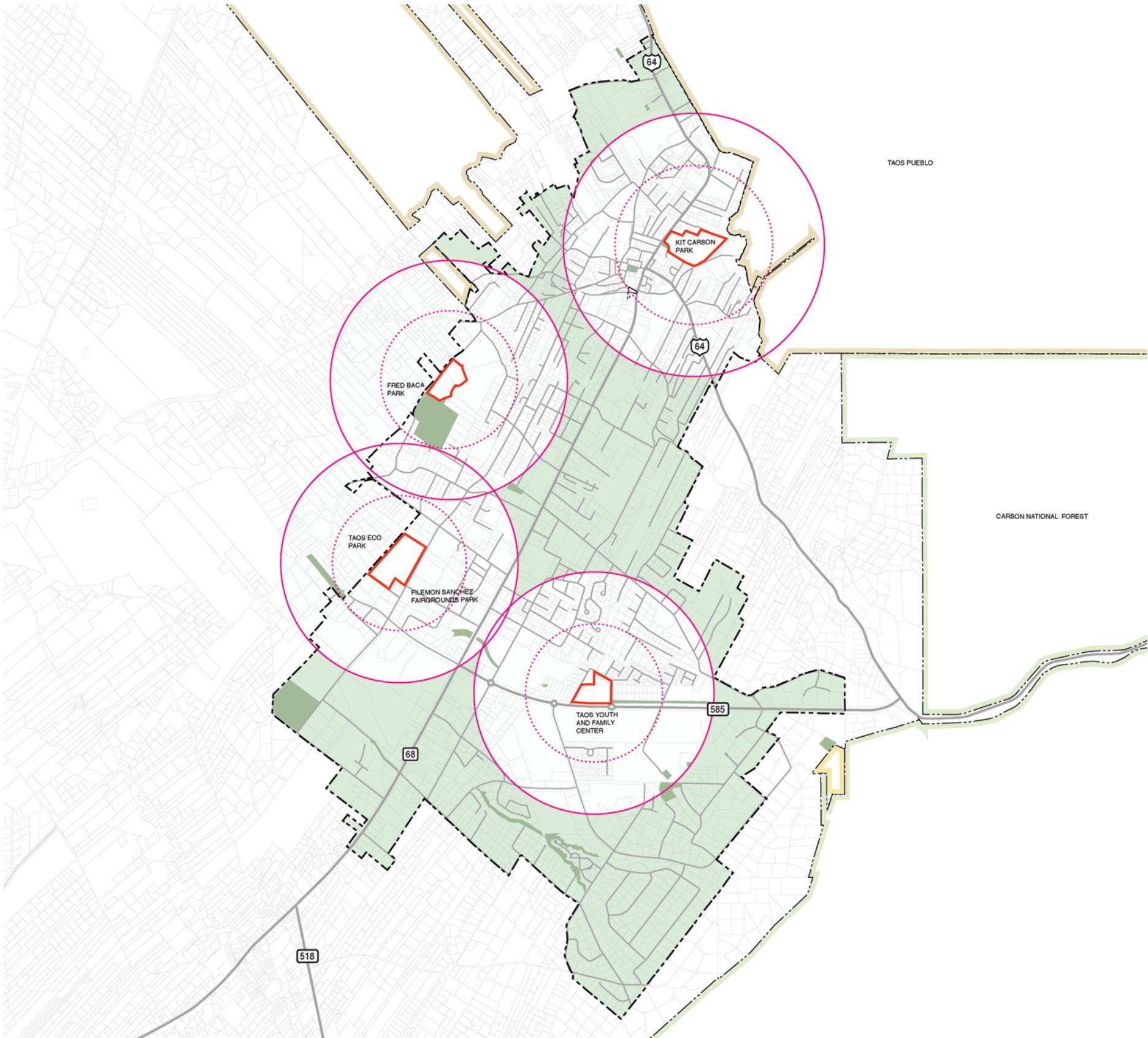


Produced for the Town of Taos
design office

TAOS PARKS MASTER PLAN

LEGEND

- Master Plan Project Boundary
 - Town of Taos Boundary
 - Taos Pueblo Land
 - BLM Land
 - USFS Land
 - Road, Major
 - Road, Minor
 - Drainageway, Major
 - Drainageway, Minor
 - Community Park Walk Area (10 min. walk)
 - Neighborhood Park Walk Area (5 min. walk)
- Gaps in Local Park Access
- Gap Area



Source Data
This Planning, Community and Economic, master/outline 2017 Plan Boundary, Town of Taos Boundary, Road Centerlines, Landmarks and other data from aerial photography, Geo-Data, Boundary, 2017/2018/2019/2020/2021/2022/2023/2024/2025/2026/2027/2028/2029/2030/2031/2032/2033/2034/2035/2036/2037/2038/2039/2040/2041/2042/2043/2044/2045/2046/2047/2048/2049/2050/2051/2052/2053/2054/2055/2056/2057/2058/2059/2060/2061/2062/2063/2064/2065/2066/2067/2068/2069/2070/2071/2072/2073/2074/2075/2076/2077/2078/2079/2080/2081/2082/2083/2084/2085/2086/2087/2088/2089/2090/2091/2092/2093/2094/2095/2096/2097/2098/2099/2100/2101/2102/2103/2104/2105/2106/2107/2108/2109/2110/2111/2112/2113/2114/2115/2116/2117/2118/2119/2120/2121/2122/2123/2124/2125/2126/2127/2128/2129/2130/2131/2132/2133/2134/2135/2136/2137/2138/2139/2140/2141/2142/2143/2144/2145/2146/2147/2148/2149/2150/2151/2152/2153/2154/2155/2156/2157/2158/2159/2160/2161/2162/2163/2164/2165/2166/2167/2168/2169/2170/2171/2172/2173/2174/2175/2176/2177/2178/2179/2180/2181/2182/2183/2184/2185/2186/2187/2188/2189/2190/2191/2192/2193/2194/2195/2196/2197/2198/2199/2200/2201/2202/2203/2204/2205/2206/2207/2208/2209/2210/2211/2212/2213/2214/2215/2216/2217/2218/2219/2220/2221/2222/2223/2224/2225/2226/2227/2228/2229/2230/2231/2232/2233/2234/2235/2236/2237/2238/2239/2240/2241/2242/2243/2244/2245/2246/2247/2248/2249/2250/2251/2252/2253/2254/2255/2256/2257/2258/2259/2260/2261/2262/2263/2264/2265/2266/2267/2268/2269/2270/2271/2272/2273/2274/2275/2276/2277/2278/2279/2280/2281/2282/2283/2284/2285/2286/2287/2288/2289/2290/2291/2292/2293/2294/2295/2296/2297/2298/2299/2300/2301/2302/2303/2304/2305/2306/2307/2308/2309/2310/2311/2312/2313/2314/2315/2316/2317/2318/2319/2320/2321/2322/2323/2324/2325/2326/2327/2328/2329/2330/2331/2332/2333/2334/2335/2336/2337/2338/2339/2340/2341/2342/2343/2344/2345/2346/2347/2348/2349/2350/2351/2352/2353/2354/2355/2356/2357/2358/2359/2360/2361/2362/2363/2364/2365/2366/2367/2368/2369/2370/2371/2372/2373/2374/2375/2376/2377/2378/2379/2380/2381/2382/2383/2384/2385/2386/2387/2388/2389/2390/2391/2392/2393/2394/2395/2396/2397/2398/2399/2400/2401/2402/2403/2404/2405/2406/2407/2408/2409/2410/2411/2412/2413/2414/2415/2416/2417/2418/2419/2420/2421/2422/2423/2424/2425/2426/2427/2428/2429/2430/2431/2432/2433/2434/2435/2436/2437/2438/2439/2440/2441/2442/2443/2444/2445/2446/2447/2448/2449/2450/2451/2452/2453/2454/2455/2456/2457/2458/2459/2460/2461/2462/2463/2464/2465/2466/2467/2468/2469/2470/2471/2472/2473/2474/2475/2476/2477/2478/2479/2480/2481/2482/2483/2484/2485/2486/2487/2488/2489/2490/2491/2492/2493/2494/2495/2496/2497/2498/2499/2500/2501/2502/2503/2504/2505/2506/2507/2508/2509/2510/2511/2512/2513/2514/2515/2516/2517/2518/2519/2520/2521/2522/2523/2524/2525/2526/2527/2528/2529/2530/2531/2532/2533/2534/2535/2536/2537/2538/2539/2540/2541/2542/2543/2544/2545/2546/2547/2548/2549/2550/2551/2552/2553/2554/2555/2556/2557/2558/2559/2560/2561/2562/2563/2564/2565/2566/2567/2568/2569/2570/2571/2572/2573/2574/2575/2576/2577/2578/2579/2580/2581/2582/2583/2584/2585/2586/2587/2588/2589/2590/2591/2592/2593/2594/2595/2596/2597/2598/2599/2600/2601/2602/2603/2604/2605/2606/2607/2608/2609/2610/2611/2612/2613/2614/2615/2616/2617/2618/2619/2620/2621/2622/2623/2624/2625/2626/2627/2628/2629/2630/2631/2632/2633/2634/2635/2636/2637/2638/2639/2640/2641/2642/2643/2644/2645/2646/2647/2648/2649/2650/2651/2652/2653/2654/2655/2656/2657/2658/2659/2660/2661/2662/2663/2664/2665/2666/2667/2668/2669/2670/2671/2672/2673/2674/2675/2676/2677/2678/2679/2680/2681/2682/2683/2684/2685/2686/2687/2688/2689/2690/2691/2692/2693/2694/2695/2696/2697/2698/2699/2700/2701/2702/2703/2704/2705/2706/2707/2708/2709/2710/2711/2712/2713/2714/2715/2716/2717/2718/2719/2720/2721/2722/2723/2724/2725/2726/2727/2728/2729/2730/2731/2732/2733/2734/2735/2736/2737/2738/2739/2740/2741/2742/2743/2744/2745/2746/2747/2748/2749/2750/2751/2752/2753/2754/2755/2756/2757/2758/2759/2760/2761/2762/2763/2764/2765/2766/2767/2768/2769/2770/2771/2772/2773/2774/2775/2776/2777/2778/2779/2780/2781/2782/2783/2784/2785/2786/2787/2788/2789/2790/2791/2792/2793/2794/2795/2796/2797/2798/2799/2800/2801/2802/2803/2804/2805/2806/2807/2808/2809/2810/2811/2812/2813/2814/2815/2816/2817/2818/2819/2820/2821/2822/2823/2824/2825/2826/2827/2828/2829/2830/2831/2832/2833/2834/2835/2836/2837/2838/2839/2840/2841/2842/2843/2844/2845/2846/2847/2848/2849/2850/2851/2852/2853/2854/2855/2856/2857/2858/2859/2860/2861/2862/2863/2864/2865/2866/2867/2868/2869/2870/2871/2872/2873/2874/2875/2876/2877/2878/2879/2880/2881/2882/2883/2884/2885/2886/2887/2888/2889/2890/2891/2892/2893/2894/2895/2896/2897/2898/2899/2900/2901/2902/2903/2904/2905/2906/2907/2908/2909/2910/2911/2912/2913/2914/2915/2916/2917/2918/2919/2920/2921/2922/2923/2924/2925/2926/2927/2928/2929/2930/2931/2932/2933/2934/2935/2936/2937/2938/2939/2940/2941/2942/2943/2944/2945/2946/2947/2948/2949/2950/2951/2952/2953/2954/2955/2956/2957/2958/2959/2960/2961/2962/2963/2964/2965/2966/2967/2968/2969/2970/2971/2972/2973/2974/2975/2976/2977/2978/2979/2980/2981/2982/2983/2984/2985/2986/2987/2988/2989/2990/2991/2992/2993/2994/2995/2996/2997/2998/2999/3000/3001/3002/3003/3004/3005/3006/3007/3008/3009/3010/3011/3012/3013/3014/3015/3016/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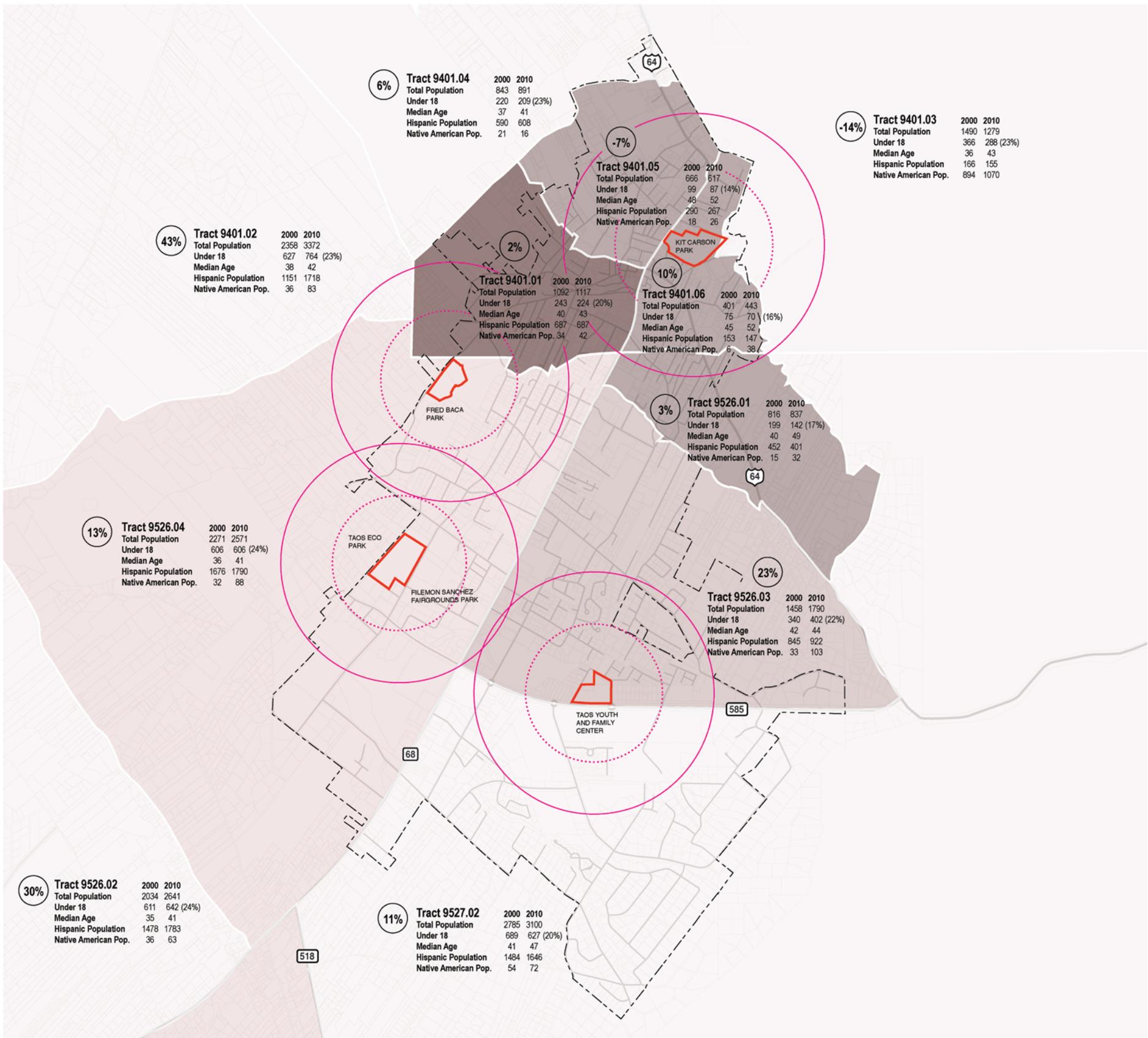
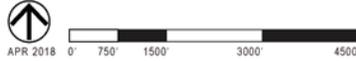
TAOS PARKS MASTER PLAN

LEGEND

- Master Plan Project Boundary
- Town of Taos Boundary
- Road, Major
- Road, Minor
- Drainageway, Major
- Drainageway, Minor
- Community Park Walk Area (10 min. walk)
- Neighborhood Park Walk Area (5 min. walk)
- 2010 People per Acre 0-0.50
- 2010 People per Acre 0.51-1.00
- 2010 People per Acre 1.01-1.50
- 2010 People per Acre 1.51-2.00
- 2010 People per Acre 2.01-2.50
- % Population Growth Rate, Percentage Increase from 2000 to 2010

Source Data
 The Planning, Community and Economic, revised October 2017. Park Boundaries, Town of Taos Boundary, Road Centerlines, and other information derived from aerial photography. © 2018 Taos Parks, All Rights Reserved. Prepared for the Town of Taos.
 US Census Bureau, November 2010. Total Population, Population by Sex Group, Median Age, Population by Age, Hispanic Population, Median Age (Hispanic), and Native American Pop.

DRAFT POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS MAP ANALYSIS MAP



TAOS PARKS MASTER PLAN

LEGEND

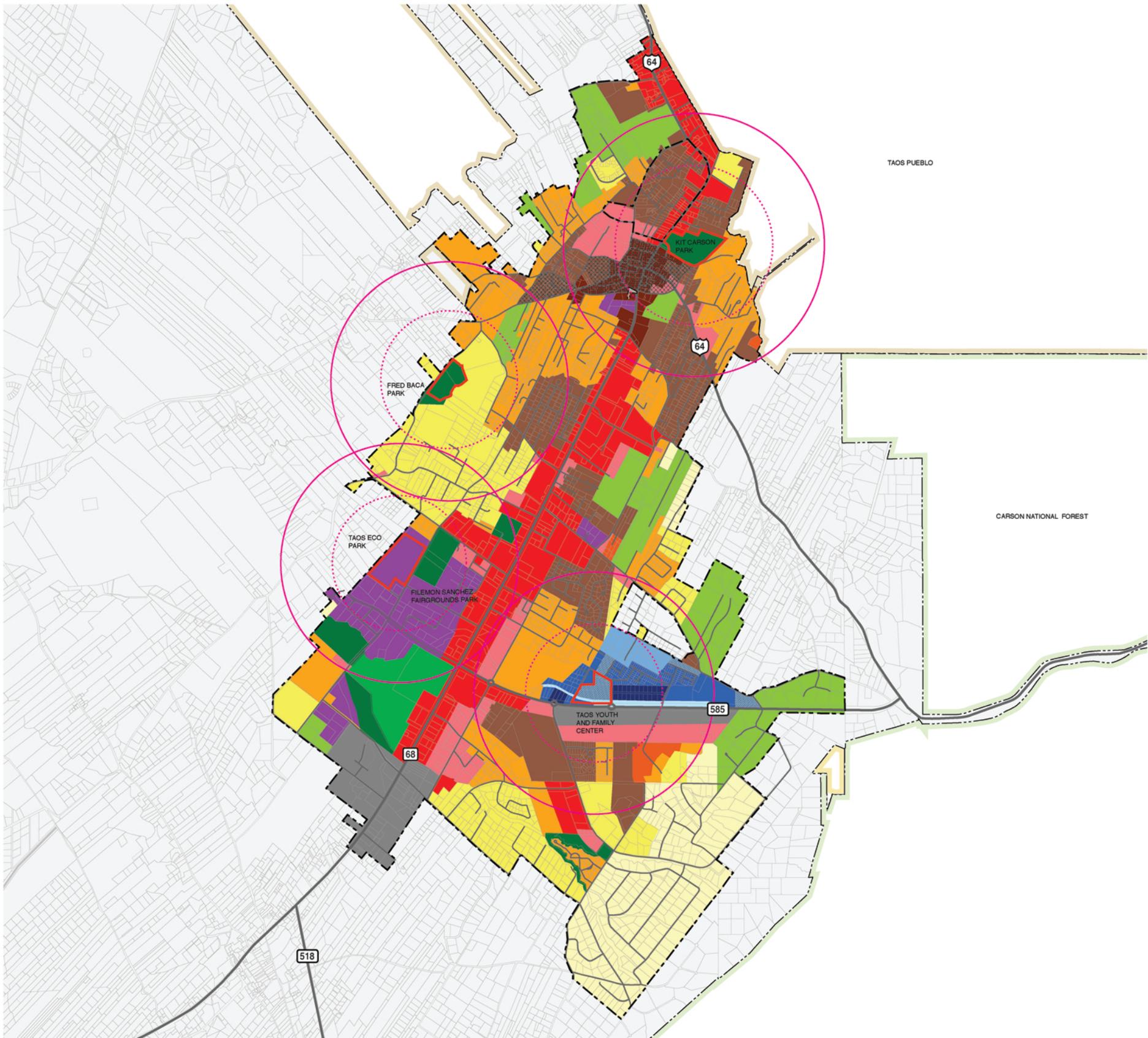
- Master Plan Project Boundary
 - Town of Taos Boundary
 - Taos Pueblo Land
 - BLM Land
 - USFS Land
 - Road, Major
 - Road, Minor
 - Drainageway, Major
 - Drainageway, Minor
 - Community Park Walk Area (10 min. walk)
 - Neighborhood Park Walk Area (5 min. walk)
- Town Zoning**
- Historic Overlay Zone
 - ARO (Agriculture, Recreation, Open Space, Floodzone)
 - RA-20 (1 du / 20ac)
 - RA (1 du / 3 ac)
 - R-1 (1 du / 1 ac)
 - R-2 (2 du / 1 ac)
 - R-4 (4 du / 1 ac)
 - R-6 (6 du / 1 ac)
 - R-14 (14 du / 1 ac)
 - CIVIC (Civic Zone)
 - T1 (Natural Zone)
 - T3 (Sub-urban)
 - T4 (General Urban)
 - T5 (Urban)
 - C-1 (14 du / 1 ac)
 - C-2 (14 du / 1 ac)
 - CBD (29 / du / 1 ac)
 - M-1 (Light Manufacturing)
 - HCPD (max lot coverage 60% by all structures)
- County Zoning**
- Taos County Jurisdiction

Source Data
This Planning, Community and Economic, and/or Other (CPE) Study Report includes data provided by the Town of Taos, Taos County, and other local government entities. The data is provided for informational purposes only and is not intended to be used for any other purpose. The data is provided for informational purposes only and is not intended to be used for any other purpose. The data is provided for informational purposes only and is not intended to be used for any other purpose.

DRAFT ZONING MAP ANALYSIS MAP



Produced for the Town of Taos
design office



Appendix D

D SUPPLEMENTAL PLANS

Alexander Gusdorf / Taos Eco-Park (Living Design Group, April 2009)

Filemon Sanchez Park & Softball Fields (Living Design Group, 2017)

FILEMON SANCHEZ PARK & SOFTBALL FIELDS

PROPOSED SITE PLAN

TAOS COUNTY FACILITIES - N.T.S.

Salazar Road, Taos, NM

ESTIMATED COST OF CONSTRUCTION

- FIELDS - \$3,050,100.00 (\$1,016,700.00)
- PARKING AREA - \$425,238.00
- RESTROOMS / CONCESSION - \$350,000.00
- PICNIC AREA - \$250,000.00
- PLAYGROUND - \$200,000.00
- DUGOUTS & BLEACHERS - \$150,000.00
- FIELD LIGHTS - \$1,200,000.00 (\$400,000.00 per field)
- UTILITIES - \$120,000.00
- TOTAL = \$5,745,338.00**



Alexander Gusdorf Eco-Park Master Plan | Site Plan

Taos, NM



Appendix E

E PROGRAM AREA ESTIMATES

Kit Carson Park
Fred Baca Park
Taos Eco Park

PROGRAM AREA ESTIMATES - KIT CARSON PARK

Includes Construction, NMGR, and Contingency

DRAFT March 7, 2018

- A** **Acequia Landscape / Activity Zone (\$1,850,000)**
An improved and widened landscape highlighting the shaded acequia corridor includes a major pathway aligned with the acequia, a new playground and revitalized restroom building. The park street edge is opened to encourage pedestrian activity. Includes a community orchard and shade structure.
- B** **Plaza / Playscape (\$1,000,000 - \$1,500,000)**
Building removal and iconic art / play plaza installation.
- C** **TCA / Entry (TBD)**
TCA plaza, green room, vehicular access, and parking improvements are dependent on joint land planning between the Town and the TCA.
- D** **Parking / Dog Park (\$1,250,000)**
Realigned driveway and boulevard parking with landscape buffer, street trees, lights, and connecting pathways upgrades. Dog park installation.
- E** **Northeast Activity Zone (\$400,000)**
Rehabilitation of existing turf, relocation of volleyball courts and re-configuration of tee ball field.
- F** **Destination Playground - East (\$400,000)**
Large play area with multiple structures for multiple age groups.
- G** **Southeast Meadow (\$900,000)**
Community lawn for recreation and event activities. Includes landscaping, site furnishings and realigned pedestrian circulation.



PROGRAM AREA ESTIMATES - FRED BACA PARK

Includes Construction, NMGRT, and Contingency

DRAFT March 7, 2018

- A Rio Fernando Trail - 1/4 mi. (\$175,000)
Urban trail linking the park to future trail connections.
- B Wetland Family Picnic Area (\$765,000)
Picnic area within landscaped wetland zone. Includes shade structure, restroom building, pathways and a parking lot.
- C Dog Park (\$700,000)
Large dog park and small dog park with perimeter fencing, pathways and shade. Includes a landscape buffer, parking lot and pedestrian bridge to Fred Baca Park.
- D Playground Expansion (\$150,000-\$400,000)
Existing playground improvements and installation of a secondary playground for younger children.
- E Revitalizing Existing Park Amenities (\$950,000)
Expanded parking area and improved site circulation between program elements. Tennis courts are relocated to the Youth and Family Center and the court is resurfaced to accommodate basketball and pickleball. Restroom facilities are rehabilitated or removed.
- F Wetland Restoration (TBD)
Rio Fernando corridor restoration and nature trail improvements.

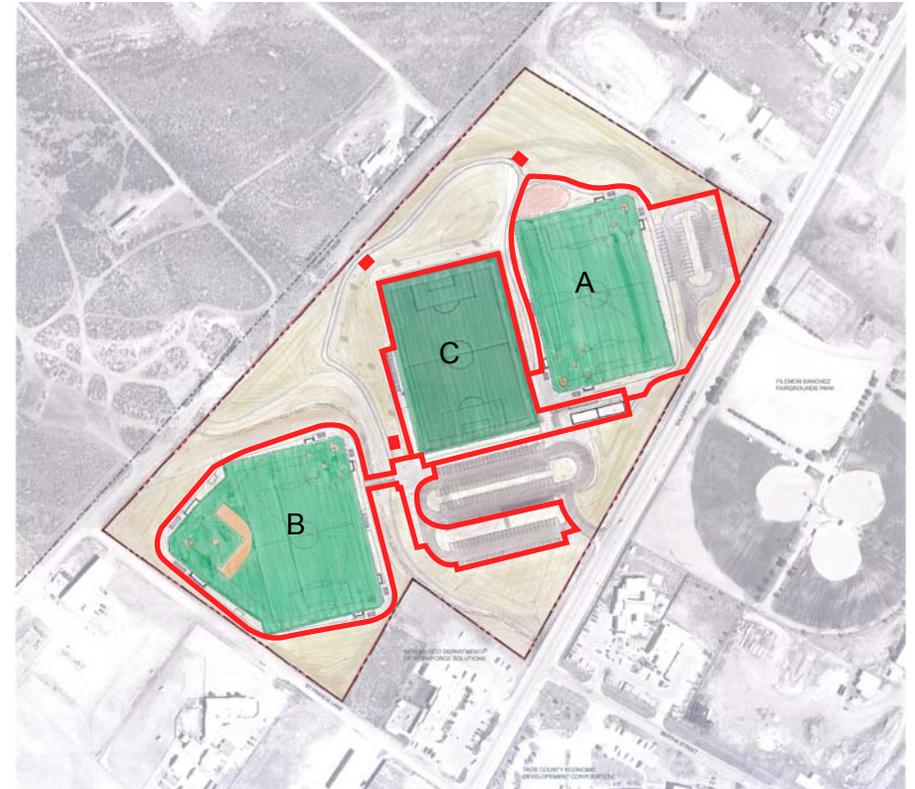


PROGRAM AREA ESTIMATES - TAOS ECO PARK

Includes Construction, NMGRT, and Contingency

DRAFT March 7, 2018

- A** Northeast Multi Use Field (\$3,000,000)
Artificial turf field striped for multiple sports includes site amenities, dugouts and field fencing. A new playground and asphalt parking lot is included.
- B** Southwest Multi Use Field (\$4,000,000)
Artificial turf field striped for multiple sports and expanded to accommodate hardball. Includes site amenities, dugouts, field fencing, circulation pathways, pedestrian bridge and an enlarged asphalt parking lot.
- C** Championship Field (\$1,500,000)
Resurfacing of synthetic turf, FIFA recertification, shade shelter for the existing grandstand, locker room expansion, and exercise stations along the pedestrian pathway.



Appendix F

F PARK METRICS / BENCHMARK COMPARISONS

TOWN OF TAOS | PARKS MASTER PLAN
 PARK METRICS / BENCHMARK COMPARISONS DRAFT

8 May 2018

Description	Smaller Agency (<20k Residents) National Average	Typical Park* / recreation agency National Average*	Town of Taos / Taos County, NM	City of Salida / Chaffee County, CO	Gunnison City / Gunnison County, CO	Town of Breckenridge / Summit County, CO	Village of Ruidoso / Lincoln County, NM
Town Information							
website	https://www.mpa.org/	https://www.mpa.org/	http://www.taosgov.com/recreation/parks.php	http://salidarec.com/parks/	http://www.cityofgunnison.co.gov/departments/parks_and_recreation/parks.php	http://www.breckenridgecolorado.com/	https://www.ruidosoparksandrecreation.com/
acres - town / municipality			3434.88	1689.6	2662.4	3833.6	8960
sq. mi. - town / municipality			5.367	2.64	4.16	5.99	14
population per sq. mi.			1065.0	1893.3	1407.2	757.9	573.5
population - town / municipality (2010 census)			5716	5235	5854	4540	8029
population - county (2010 census)			32937	17809	15324	27994	20497
Park Information**							
number of public parks			4	6	9	4	7
park per residents	1331	2266	1429	873	650	1135	1147
public park acreage			65.9	19	41.85	47.35	78.3
public park acreage % of town			1.9%	1.1%	1.6%	1.2%	0.9%
park acres per 1000 residents	10.5	29.6	11.5	3.6	7.1	10.4	9.8
Parks Department Information							
parks department staff (full time)			6 full time in facilities Aquatics 4 FTE 2 FTE 5 Temp Recreation 8 FTE 3 Temp Recreation budget carries both the Admin position and the Director position.	(4) full time staff, (3-4) seasonal employees- maintenance / run out of the public works department. (4) full time staff for the pool / recreation including 2 lifeguards, seasonal part time staff help	(4) full time parks staff, (1) of which is assigned to the ice rink from Oct-March. Allocate 6700 hours for part time temp work in the summer. (7) recreation and facilities	(8) full time staff, (15) summer seasonal staff, (2) winter seasonal staff. Maintenance of synthetic field, skate park, 10 acres of turf, streetlights, hanging baskets, 44 irrigation systems, weeds, 7 playgrounds, 25 flower beds, landscape for 13 town buildings. winter maintenance includes 23 miles of sidewalk and a sledging hill.	(12) full time staff - Pool manager, pool supervisor, parks director, administrative assistant, maint supervisor and grant coordinator, maint foreman, (6) maint workers. Additional (3) part time maint workers in the summer. Administrative staff also manages custodial duties for Village of Ruidoso.
ice rink / pool organized programs			ice rink, pool events, computer area, swim classes, youth programs	pool events, exercise classes, swim lessons, pickleball, summer programs, camps, sports leagues, preschool programming, ski bus, etc	ice rink, pool events, swim programs, recreation programs, senior fitness, summer camps, gymnastics, pickleball, dance, raft trips, boxing, baseball, tae-kwon-do, softball, mountain biking, etc.	ice rink, pool events, summer and winter programming, swimming, skateboard programs, climbing programs, leagues, taekwondo, fitness classes.	pool events, recreation leagues, tournaments, permits + reservations online, summer camps, trail runs, ping pong tournaments, lifeguard training, manages 2 lakes for boating and kayaking too and manages lots of trails, etc.
park reservations National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) membership			No No	Yes	Yes Yes, when planning to attend conference otherwise CPRA.	Yes No	Yes Yes, NMRPA
Comments							
				good website for park reservations, holds concerts / events, amphitheatre, system parks and trails map, public pool facility	good website, aquatic center, municipal open space for trails, ice center, park rental online	sponsorship opportunities, good website, ice arena, rec center, parks and trails	good website, outdoor aquatic center, open space and trails, permits and park reservation by downloaded form
Programmed youth leagues participation							
				no response	no response	Soccer- Our youth and adult soccer leagues are contracted out to a local nonprofit called High Country Soccer- I estimate they have over 1000 participants in their programs Baseball- Summit Youth Baseball has 3 teams that use various fields in the county. They play the majority of their games down on the front range due to the spring snow season up here. Softball- Summit County Softball plays 4 nights a week with men's and coed leagues. There are approximately 60 teams in the county across all leagues Hockey- Adult hockey	Baseball - 297 Football- 174 Softball - 113 Soccer - 256 Football - 174 Swim lessons - 130-140 Participants for all of these sports are usually about 50% Ruidoso residents and 50% county residents.
Parks Department Annual Budget							
			My breakdown for the Parks Division is as follows: facilities+parks=\$316,217 YFC=\$560,521 Pool=\$449,702 total= \$1.32 million	Recreation Operating Budget is \$858,513 and Capital is \$535,809 Parks Operating is \$548,893 and Capital is \$781,569. Two things to know about our Capital Budget; there is quite a bit of grant money included and we have an Occupational Lodging Tax that is dedicated to Parks, Recreation, Trails and Culture. So these numbers vary greatly from year to year. We also have the Conservation Trust Fund which is made up of Lottery funds that are directed to us annually on a per capita basis, that is about \$50,000 a year. We redid all of our playgrounds, one at a time, using those funds.	Our budget has many facets , Parks, Rec Programs, Rec Administration, Rec Center, Ice Rink, Ski Area. Total is 3.2 million.	no response	FY 17-18 Operating Budget-\$410,000 Personnel Budget: \$811,000 Total \$1,221,000

* National Recreational and Parks Association (NRPA) Park Metrics, 2017
 **Note that national benchmarks for parks are no longer set by NRPA in acknowledgment that communities are different and will set benchmarks in response to community needs and site conditions
 ***Park information includes formalized program areas. Lakes, trails, open space recreation areas are not accounted for.

Appendix G

G TAOS YOUTH AND FAMILY CENTER MASTER PLAN