

My Neighborhood...



Name MOUNICA RAO



Open Space and Recreation Element

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Introduction

The Open Space and Recreation Element describes the present status of parks and open space in the City of Chandler and provides a strategy to enable the City to support the residents with recreational opportunities. The City of Chandler considers its developed parks to be the same as recreational open space and this will be the manner in which open space is addressed in this element.

Current Situation

According to the figures released for 2000 U.S. Census, the population of Chandler was 176,581 persons. This figure will rise to a projected 266,500 people by 2020. In addition, a large component of the population growth will be young families. Supporting Chandler with the appropriate quantity and quality of parks will remain the primary purpose of this Element of the General Plan.

A Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update 2000 was developed by Arizona State University in cooperation with the City. This Plan is based on extensive public input and survey and was developed for a five-year planning period. The overall goal of the Plan is to provide a high level of quality service to persons of all ages and strive to provide recreation programs to give citizens an opportunity to learn new skills for lifetime pursuits. The Parks and Open Space Element augments this Plan with updated information on the status of parks development and emphasizes the goals that have been previously established.

The City of Chandler adopted a Bicycle Plan in 1999 in order to provide a comprehensive plan for bicycle transportation and recreation. The Bike Plan identifies facilities that are necessary to create a Citywide bicycling system and link Chandler with Tempe, Mesa, and other communities throughout the Valley. Bicycle planning issues are discussed further in the Bicycle Element of this Update.

The following classes of parks make up the Chandler Park system:

Neighborhood Parks

The Neighborhood Parks serve the residents of each square mile and should be located next to schools, when possible. These parks are vital to Chandler and are primarily funded through Residential Development Taxes paid by developers. Neighborhood Parks are 7 to 15 acres and service a one square mile area.

Community Parks

The Community Parks have a higher level of facilities such as lighted sports fields, picnic pavilions, and lakes or ponds for fishing or boating. Community Parks are 25 to 50 acres and service a one to two-mile radius.

Regional Parks

Regional Parks are designed to provide a variety of cultural and sporting activities and are 70 acres or larger. These parks may contain theme recreation areas, as well as, the activities that are available at the smaller parks. Regional Parks serve the entire City.

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Special Use Parks and Facilities

Special Use Parks and Facilities provide activities that are specialized and may include cultural or historic features. These specialized facilities could include skate parks, dog parks or aquatic centers.

School Facilities

Chandler provides many recreation opportunities to the community through the use of school recreation facilities during non-school hours. There are four public school districts that cooperate with Chandler to provide shared facilities.

Figure 4 provides the locations of parks and open space within the City of Chandler.

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Parks and Open Space Inventory

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update 2000 inventory identified 30 developed Neighborhood Parks (from 7 to 15 acres), seven undeveloped Neighborhood Parks, and one partially developed Neighborhood Park. Four developed, one undeveloped, and three partially developed Community Parks (between 25 to 50 acres) are also identified. Six Special Use Parks, including the Chandler Paseo and Bear Creek Golf Course are listed in the Plan, as well as, two recreation facilities. Tumbleweed and Snedigar Parks are Regional Parks.

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Table 14
City of Chandler Park Facilities

PARK	PARK TYPE	PARK	PARK TYPE
A.J. Chandler	Special Use	Mountain View	Neighborhood
3 S. Arizona Avenue		575 S. Twelve Oaks Boulevard	
Amberwood	Neighborhood	Navarrete	Neighborhood
2327 W. Calle Del Norte		501 W. Harrison Street	
Apache	Neighborhood	Pecos Ranch	Neighborhood
1300 N. Hartford		1555 W. Maplewood St.	
Armstrong	Special Use	Pequeno Park Site	Neighborhood
399 N. Delaware		777 N. Coronado Road	
Arrowhead Meadows	Community	Pima	Community
1475 West Erie		625 N. McQueen Road	
Ashley	Special Use	Pine Shadows	Neighborhood
629 N. Tower Avenue		5300 W. Galveston St.	
Bear Creek Golf Course	Special Use	Price	Neighborhood
500 E Riggs Road		475 S. Kenwood Lane	
Boys & Girls Club	Neighborhood	Provinces Park	Neighborhood
300 E. Chandler Boulevard		1258 E. Orchid Lane	
Brooks Crossing	Neighborhood	Pueblo Alto	Neighborhood
1345 W. Calle Del Norte		3948 W. Calle Segunda Street	
Chuckwalla Park Site	Neighborhood	Quail Haven Park Site	Neighborhood
4600 East Doral Drive		East of McQueen and south of Ocotillo	
Chuparosa Park Site	Community	Ryan Park Site	Neighborhood
2400 South Dobson Road		Queen Creek/Alma School Road	
Desert Breeze	Community	San Marcos	Neighborhood
660 N. Desert Breeze Boulevard		712 W. Fairview Street	
Desert Oasis Aquatic Facility	Neighborhood	Santan	Neighborhood
1400 W. Summit Place		2301 E. Frye	
Dobson	Neighborhood	Shawnee	Neighborhood
1625 West Ryan		1500 W. Mesquite Street	
East Mini	Neighborhood	Snedigar Sportsplex	Regional
605 East Erie		4500 S. Basha Road	
Elgin	Neighborhood	Stonegate	Neighborhood
150 East Elgin		1650 N. Ithica	
Folley	Community	Summit Point	Neighborhood
601 E. Frye Road		528 W. Boxelder Street	
Fox Crossing Park	Neighborhood	Sundance	Neighborhood
3572 S. Sandpiper		933 S. Roosevelt Avenue	
Gazelle Meadows	Neighborhood	Sunset	Neighborhood
500 N. Exeter Street		4700 W. Ray Road	
Harter	Neighborhood	Thude	Neighborhood
665 N. Country Club Way		Galveston/Price Road	
Homestead Park Site (north)	Neighborhood	Tumbleweed	Regional
Cooper Road		2250 S McQueen	
Homestead Park Site (south)	Neighborhood	TUHSD Park Site	Community
Pecos Road and Cooper Road (NWC)		250 S. Kyrene	
Hoopes	Neighborhood	Vagabond Park Site	Community
601 W. Mesquite Street		Knox Road and Union Pacific Rail	
Jackrabbit	Neighborhood	West Chandler Aquatic Center	Special Use
1750 E. Thatcher Blvd.		250 S. Kyrene Road	
LaPoloma Park	Neighborhood	West Mini	Neighborhood
6579 S. Amanda Dr.		395 W. Erie Street	
Los Altos Park	Neighborhood	Windmills West	Neighborhood
Flint Street and Los Altos Dr. (SWC)		1233 N. Windmills Boulevard	
Los Arboles Park Site	Neighborhood	Winn	Neighborhood
S. McQueen		56 N. Morelos Street	
Maggio Ranch	Neighborhood	Xeriscape Garden	Special Use
1500 W. Maggio Way		400 N. Arrowhead Drive	

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Planning Issues

- According to the 1995 Census, the median age of Chandler's population is less than the Maricopa County median.
- About 31% of the population of Chandler is comprised of persons under the age of 18 compared to about 27% for the County. At the other extreme, the percentage of Chandler residents over the age of 55 is about half of the County percentage over 55.
- The challenge for Chandler is to provide the range of services for all ages of residents in our community.

Goals, Objectives and Policies

GOAL: CONTINUE TO PROVIDE A NEIGHBORHOOD PARK SYSTEM FOR CHANDLER RESIDENTS THAT ENHANCES THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE.

OBJECTIVE: Continue to design a system of Neighborhood Parks that provides at least one Neighborhood Park per each residential square mile.

Policy: In new areas, acquire this land prior to development or construction of neighborhoods. In addition to purchase, the City should strive to acquire the land through partnership arrangements including donations, dedication, density transfers and trades, and/or development agreements.

Policy: Continue to invest in the renovation and expansion of amenities within existing Neighborhood Parks, and develop existing parcels dedicated to future park development.

Policy: Continue to monitor growth trends and planning for undeveloped areas within the City's planning area.

Policy: Continue to create opportunities for Neighborhood Park land acquisitions, as appropriate, prior to development pressure.

Policy: Continue to acquire Neighborhood Parks, guided by the conceptual plan displayed on the Neighborhood Park Service Zones Map included in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update 2000.

Policy: Continue to consider dedication and development of Neighborhood Park parcels of less than ten (10) acres under certain circumstances.

Policy: Continue to consider land banking to ensure the development of future recreation opportunities.

Policy: Continue to consider full support capacities for active recreation uses in the design of Neighborhood Parks.

Policy: Continue to upgrade or replace amenities at existing Neighborhood Parks as needed to meet professional standards and citizen service expectations.

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GOAL: CONTINUE TO PROVIDE COMMUNITY PARKS FOR CHANDLER RESIDENTS THAT ENHANCE THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE.

OBJECTIVE: Continue to design a system of Community Parks that will provide at least one Community Park within a two-mile radius of most residential areas of the City.

Policy: In new areas, acquire this land prior to development or construction of neighborhoods. Continue to acquire the land through partnership arrangements including donations, dedication, density transfers and trades, and/or development agreements.

Policy: Continue to invest in the renovation and expansion of amenities within existing Community Parks.

Policy: Continue to monitor growth trends and planning for undeveloped areas within the City's planning area, and create opportunities for Community Park land acquisition as appropriate prior to development.

Policy: Continue to consider land banking to ensure the development of future recreation opportunities.

Policy: Continue to explore the possibility of a joint Community Park and wastewater recharge facility in Southeast Chandler. Amenities at this site should provide opportunities for environmental education and passive nature activities.

Policy: Continue to upgrade or replace amenities at existing Community Parks as needed to meet community expectations.

GOAL: CONTINUE TO PROVIDE REGIONAL PARKS FOR CHANDLER RESIDENTS THAT ENHANCE THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE.

OBJECTIVE: Continue to develop the Tumbleweed Regional Park and Snedigar Sportsplex as major focal points for providing a range of recreational opportunities to meet the needs of a diverse, dynamic, and growing City.

Policy: Ensure development of open space, natural areas, and water-based features to reflect interests of Chandler residents.

Policy: Continue to upgrade or replace amenities at the Regional Parks as needed to meet expectations. Reflect the design interests of Chandler residents as expressed through citizen participation.

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GOAL: PROVIDE SPECIAL USE PARKS AND FACILITIES FOR CHANDLER RESIDENTS THAT ENHANCE THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE.

OBJECTIVE: Continue to develop Special Use Parks and facilities to fulfill demand for specialized support services such as community centers, historical parks, golf courses, cultural parks, and public art display areas.

Policy: Continue to provide specialized recreational opportunities through Chandler's existing Special Use Parks.

Policy: Encourage the construction of a Citywide system of satellite recreation centers that offer more residents a close-to-home opportunity to participate in organized leisure time activities.

Policy: Continue to expand and renovate the City's aquatic centers to meet the needs of a growing population. Public and private school district partnerships should be explored to deliver low-cost, expanded aquatics-based services.

Policy: Continue to develop private-public partnerships that encourage the private sector to complement public facilities in or adjacent to the City's park sites.

Policy: Expand collaborative, partnership-based efforts with school districts to provide use of indoor school recreation facilities for after-school public use.

GOAL: CREATE OPEN SPACE NETWORKS THAT CONTINUE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF CHANDLER RESIDENTS.

OBJECTIVE: Create a network of pathways, trails and open spaces throughout the City as an important element of recreation, transportation and life quality enhancement for Chandler residents.

Policy: Create Neighborhood, Community, and Regional Parks linked with trails and paths to schools and other public areas, retention areas, and linear parks.

Policy: Consider instituting design guidelines that conserve environmental resources and enhance and complement the City's open spaces and parks.

Policy: Continue to integrate the Consolidated Canal as a primary connector between Neighborhood and Community Parks in Southeast Chandler.

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Policy: Continue to acquire selected areas adjacent to the Consolidated Canal or reserve areas through dedications to protect access and open space for the pathway system. Introduce landscaping, lighting, gateway areas, community, art, shaded rest areas, informational interpretation, and historical and environmental interpretation.

Policy: Continue to examine the feasibility of establishing an east-west bikeway, jogging, and pedestrian trail system to feed into the Paseo Trails System.

Policy: Continue to implement recommendations of the Chandler Bike Plan Update that are related to parks, recreation, and open space development.

Policy: Continue to link Chandler parks to local and regional bikeways.

Policy: Continue to link the City's Regional Parks, Community Parks, and the Paseo Trails system with bike lanes on the City's major thoroughfares and with adjacent communities through the regional bikepath system.

Policy: Continue to explore opportunities along other waterways throughout the City to provide trails with linkages to parks and bikeways.

GOAL: CREATE PUBLIC PLACES AND SPACES THAT CONTINUE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF CHANDLER RESIDENTS.

OBJECTIVE: Continue to coordinate with appropriate City departments to ensure that streetscapes along major thoroughfares contribute to open space imagery and demonstrate environmentally sensitive qualities.

Policy: Where feasible, develop City gateways or focal points with a motif or theme that builds a unique community identity at major entry points to the City.

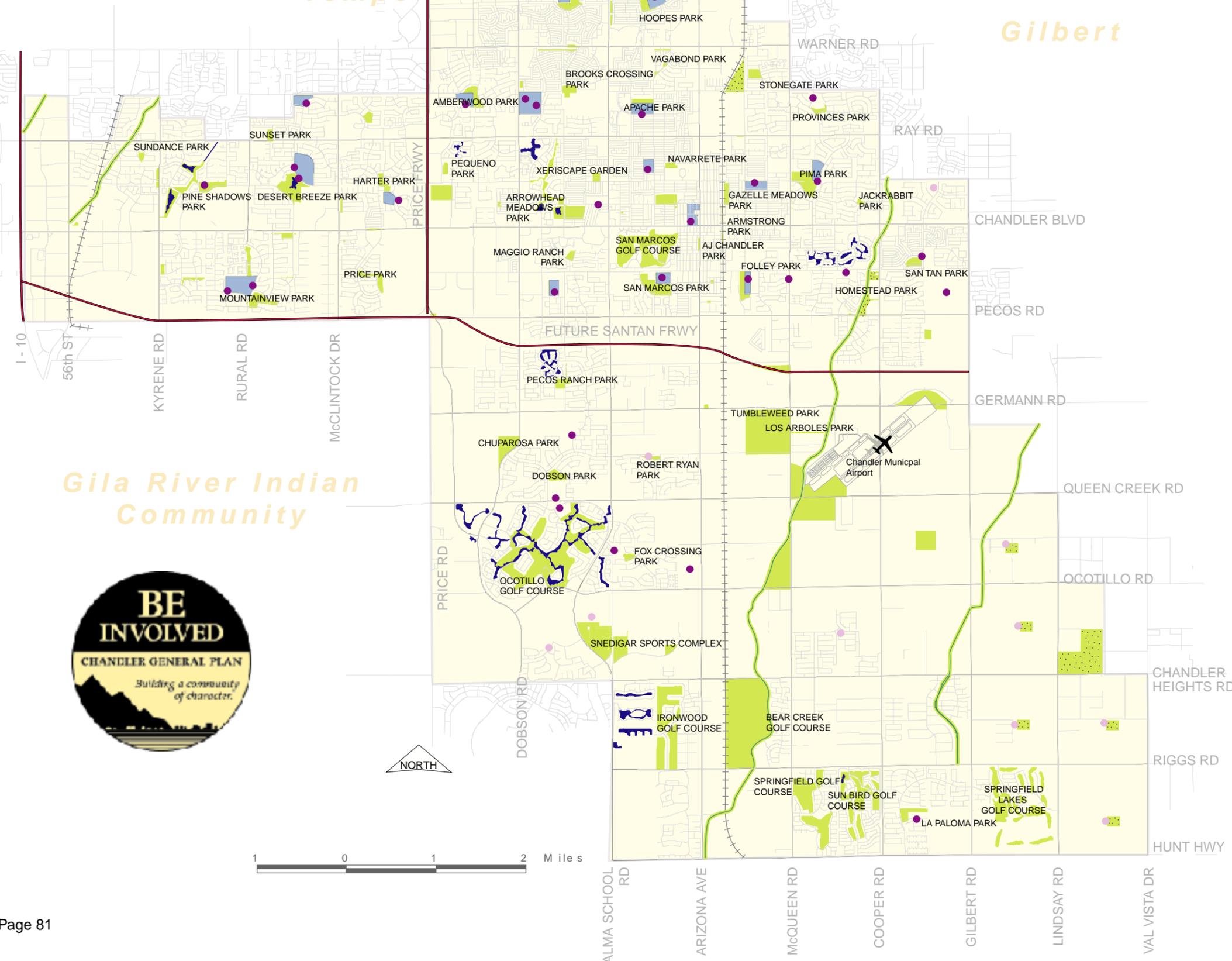
Policy: Develop standards for ensuring that all commercial and industrial projects reflect community expectations for open space, abundant landscaping, pathway connections, and functional pedestrian plazas. Ensure adequate landscape buffering between projects, adjacent land uses, and adjacent collectors or arterial streets.

OBJECTIVE: Ensure that retention areas and basins are designed to provide useable open space – serving as additional open space adjacent to parks and schools, as linear parks and greenspaces, as areas for both passive and active recreation, as a means for enhancing connectivity among neighborhoods through pathway systems.

Policy: Consider combining retention areas with City parks or consolidate retention basins in neighborhoods as a way to provide needed open space, recreation, and parkway opportunities, where viable.

Parks and Open Space Map

Figure 4



Parks and Open Space Map

The Open Space Map shows Chandler's open space, including parks, recreation facilities, canals, golf courses, and retention basins.



- Open Space**
Includes public parks, golf courses, passive open spaces, retention basins and recreation facilities.
- School Sites**
Locations of public school buildings and grounds.
- Canals**
- Water**
- Schools**
- Planned Schools**
- Proposed Parks**
Parks are planned for these sections, however not necessarily in the locations or of the size as shown.

Gila River Indian Community

