

**NOTICE OF A SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
OF THE TOWN OF CLARKDALE**

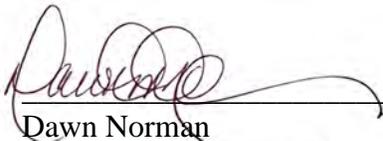
In accordance with Resolution #215 of the Town of Clarkdale, and Section 38-431.02, Arizona Revised Statutes,

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Parks and Recreation Commission of the Town of Clarkdale will hold a Special Meeting on Wednesday, January 18, 2012, at 5:30 p.m., in the Men's Lounge of the Clark Memorial Clubhouse, 19 N. Ninth Street, Clarkdale, Arizona. Members of the Clarkdale Parks and Recreation Commission will attend either in person or by telephone, video or internet conferencing. All members of the public are invited to attend.

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of this notice was duly posted on the Community Development Building bulletin board, located at 890 Main Street, Clarkdale, Arizona on the 13th day of January, 2012, at 2:00 p.m.

Dated this 13th day of January, 2012.

By:



Dawn Norman
Community Services Supervisor

ALL ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA ARE SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. PUBLIC COMMENT – The Parks and Recreation Commission invites the public to provide comments at this time. Members of the Parks and Recreation Commission may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on the agenda. Therefore, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.01 (G), action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter, responding to any criticism or scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date. Persons interested in making comments on a specific agenda item are asked to complete a brief form and submit it to the Parks and Recreation Supervisor during the meeting. Each Speaker is asked to limit their comments to five minutes.

3. MINUTES-Discussion and consideration of the minutes of the Regular Meetings held on October 12, 2011 and November 9, 2011.

4. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – A report from the Chairperson on current events.

STAFF REPORT – A report from the Community Services Supervisor on current events.

NEW BUSINESS:

5. GUIDELINES FOR PARKS AND OPEN SPACE DEVELOPMENT – Discussion and consideration regarding a recommendation to the Town Council to adopt the document: “Guidelines for Parks and Open Space Development”.

6. CROSSROADS AT MINGUS SUBDIVISION PARKS – Discussion and consideration of identification of active and passive areas in parks (Tracts F & K) within the Crossroads at Mingus Subdivision.

7. VERDE FRONT TRAILS - An update and discussion on the Verde Front Trails.

8. POOL - An update and discussion on the Clarkdale Pool.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – Listing of items to appear on future agendas.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Reasonable accommodations may be requested by contacting Town Hall at (928) 634-9591 (TTY: 1-800-367-8939) at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
OF THE TOWN OF CLARKDALE**

A Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission of the Town of Clarkdale was held on Wednesday, October 12, 2011, at 5:30 p.m., in the Men's Lounge of the Clark Memorial Clubhouse, 19 N. Ninth Street, Clarkdale, Arizona.

Chairperson: Lynda Zanolli
Commissioners: Barbara Van Wye
Debbie Pickard
Shannon Westcott
Peter Cure

Town Staff:

Human Resources and Community Services Director: Janet Perry
Community/Economic Development Director: Jodie Filardo
Interim Public Safety Director: John Wintersteen

Others in Attendance: Steve Biasini, Project Manager, Crossroads at Mingus
Joe Moore, Clarkdale Fire Chief
Kim Moore, Operations Manager, Verde Valley Ambulance
Robyn Prud'homme-Bauer, Clarkdale Chamber of Commerce Officer
and Clarkdale Centennial Committee Member
Mary Lu Estlick, Clarkdale Historical Society & Museum Board Member
and Clarkdale Centennial Committee Member

AGENDA ITEM: CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Zanolli called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m. It was noted that a quorum was present. Chairperson Zanolli introduced new Commissioner Peter Cure to the Commission. Each member introduced themselves.

AGENDA ITEM: PUBLIC COMMENT - There was no public comment.

AGENDA ITEM: MINUTES-Discussion and consideration of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 14, 2011.

Commissioner Westcott motioned to approve the Regular Meeting minutes for September 14, 2011 as written. Commissioner Pickard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – A report from the Chairperson on current events.

There was no report.

STAFF REPORT – A report from the Community Services Supervisor on current events. Community Services Department Manager Janet Perry reported on the following:

- No date has been set for the work session with Pool Fundraising Committee. Still seeking dates from P&R Commissioners for availability.
- Board & Commission Training - Monday, October 17th, 6-8 pm in the Men's Lounge. It is requested that all Board and Commission Members attend.

NEW BUSINESS:

AGENDA ITEM: CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON – Discussion and consideration of electing Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

Commissioner Westcott motioned to elect Commissioner Zanolli as Chairperson. Commissioner Pickard seconded the motion. Commissioner Zanolli accepted the nomination and was elected unanimously.

Commissioner Westcott motioned to elect Commissioner Van Wye as Vice Chairperson. Commissioner Pickard seconded the motion. Commissioner Van Wye accepted the nomination and was elected unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: CROSSROADS AT MINGUS PARK FACILITIES – Discussion and consideration of the Crossroads at Mingus park facilities.

Steve Biassini, Project Manager for Crossroads at Mingus, explained background/history of proposed park area and neighborhood. Jodie Filardo, Community/Economic Development Director, was present to add comments that came forward from a staff meeting on the project. There was open discussion on the inclusion of a bathroom facility. Community/Economic Development Director Jodie Filardo explained having a bathroom on site encourages reasonable use of the park and facilities. Possible locations for the bathroom were discussed. Interim Public Safety Director John Wintersteen shared comments about bathroom location preferences. Other items discussed included: preferred parking location; walking path; location of court; handicap accessibility; horseshoe pits; number of shade structures; type of shades used; use of grass – CC&R's had originally required lawn as a tradeoff for now allowing grass at new homes; times and issues are different now considering installing grass; possible fencing; maintenance; connecting trails; safety; security; adequacy of area allotted for parking; size & types of bathroom structures.

Vice Chairperson Van Wye suggested having a public meeting for the immediate neighborhood. Chairperson Zanolli invited Project Manager Steve Biassini back with a map updated to include ideas discussed.

AGENDA ITEM: WORKSESSION WITH CLARKDALE CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE- Work session to discuss the 2012 Old Fashioned Fourth of July event and Centennial activities and events.

Human Resources and Community Services Director Janet Perry provided the history and research of events and introduced participants in the discussion.

Robyn Prud'homme-Bauer described the importance of the centennial event. She explained that the Centennial Committee discussed including floats in the Children's Parade but have decided that they are not interested in carrying that out. The group wants to make it an extra special parade, perhaps a special theme; costumed participants; broaden beyond just having kids involved; honoring the history and special event.

Mary Lu Estlick added that in historic photos a marching band was in the parade and floats were in the parades long ago.

Vice Chair Person Van Wye inquired why they were requesting these changes. Mary Lu Estlick stated that they have received requests for military involved families.

Robyn Prud'homme-Bauer stated a band would be great. Human Resources and Community Services Director Janet Perry provided background on efforts to have a marching band in the parade but have been unsuccessful due to school being out of session and students not being able to commit to a mid-summer activity.

Interim Public Safety Director John Wintersteen explained that the Town of Clarkdale does not have resources to provide for a larger parade than what is already offered. Concerns of safety; and the challenge of coordinating stages if animals are allowed when mixing with kids and bands. His preference would be to have the dignitaries in vehicles. He expressed that he would have been very concerned if discussion was going along the path of floats, longer parades; a bigger event creates more health hazards.

Fire Chief Joe Moore stated that he reiterates what Interim Public Safety Director John Wintersteen stated. If keeping in line with children's parade, he suggests keeping the dignitaries in cars at the end of parade and to consider using historic truck at front of parade with dignitaries. He added the concern of heat issues with participants; and monitoring length of parade.

Verde Valley Ambulance Operations Manager Kim Moore agreed with Public Safety Director Wintersteen's and Chief Moore's comments; it is hard for Verde Valley Ambulance staffing on July 4th.

Chief Moore added that we are the size we are and need to be mindful of our resources.

There was open discussion on the first aid station and the first aid responses needed at past 4th of July events.

Commissioner Pickard posed if there should be a concern of putting kids and cars in the same area. Chief Moore explained that if structured properly it should be okay.

There was open discussion on:

- Horses and large animals - which was discouraged due to past personal experience of injuries caused by a horse in a parade.
- Increasing the length of the parade and adding more participants poses higher odds of problems. Challenge of resources to staff EMS.

Robyn Prud'homme-Bauer stated that she hoped everyone is aware that because of the centennial there will be bigger promotion of the parade which, in itself, might draw bigger participation. She continued that there may be staging issues with more people but will work out the details and recognizes logistics are to be worked out. She was excited to have this event – shouldn't be shy to celebrate it, just start working early to work out logistics. The Centennial Committee has raised over \$2,500 to date to help fund centennial activities.

Vice Chairperson Van Wye and Commissioner Westcott volunteered to participate in a Centennial 4th of July sub-committee with members from the Centennial Committee.

Commissioner Pickard volunteered to participate in the regular Clarkdale Centennial Committee meetings.

AGENDA ITEM: HALLOWEEN - A discussion on the 2011 Halloween event.

Human Resources and Community Services Director Janet Perry reported the following:

- Informational Packets delivered to upper Clarkdale residents on Tues. 10/11/11. Thanks to Vice Chairperson Van Wye for assisting.
- Volunteers are still needed. A current list of the open volunteer positions is posted on the Town's website.
- Two candy drop off locations -
 - Starbucks in Safeway is collecting on Town's behalf and will deliver the candy to Townhall on Thurs. Oct. 27th.
 - Clarkdale-Jerome School - Fliers and candy receptacle will be delivered on Monday, October 17th, after Fall Break.

AGENDA ITEM: FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – Listing of items to appear on future agendas.

Halloween

Blue Trails/Verde River Update

AGENDA ITEM: ADJOURNMENT-With no further business before the board and with no objection, the meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

APPROVED:

Lynda Zanolli, Chairperson

SUBMITTED BY:

Dawn Norman, Community Services Supervisor

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
OF THE TOWN OF CLARKDALE**

A Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission of the Town of Clarkdale was held on Wednesday, November 9, 2011, at 5:30 p.m., in the Men's Lounge of the Clark Memorial Clubhouse, 19 N. Ninth Street, Clarkdale, Arizona.

Chairperson: Lynda Zanolli - via internet conferencing
Commissioners: Barbara Van Wye
Debbie Pickard (Absent)
Shannon Westcott
Peter Cure

Town Staff:
Community Services Supervisor: Dawn Norman
Town Manager: Gayle Mabery

Others in Attendance: None

AGENDA ITEM: CALL TO ORDER – Vice Chairperson Van Wye called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. It was noted that a quorum was present.

AGENDA ITEM: PUBLIC COMMENT - There was no public comment.

AGENDA ITEM: INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – A report from the Chairperson on current events.

There was no report.

STAFF REPORT – A report from the Community Services Supervisor on current events.

Community Services Supervisor Norman reported on the following:

- The regular meeting scheduled for January will be cancelled and a special meeting will be held on January 18th.
- Clarkdale Stories/Exploring Clarkdale - The first Exploring Clarkdale outing to Tuzigoot National Park on 10/19/11 had 23 participants. The next session of Clarkdale Stories is scheduled for 11/16/11 at 1pm and will feature local resident and geologist Paul Handverger.
- Art in Public Places - The current exhibit features work produced by Architecture Works Green, Inc. This display will be featured through the end of December.
- Library Open House - The library will hold an open house on Saturday, December 10th, 9am-5pm, in conjunction with the Clarkdale Historical Society and Museum's Historic Building and Home Tour. There is a historic display on the Methodist Church, which was housed in the library building in the early 1900's. Also, Art in Public Places will feature a demonstration by the Verde Valley Weavers Guild. Staff is hoping to add to the day's activities.
- A non-profit group has partnered with The Clarkdale Foundation and will be applying for a grant through the Arizona Diamondbacks Foundation. The group is hoping to attain funds to renovate the Selna Ballfield. The grant deadline is December 31st.

NEW BUSINESS:

AGENDA ITEM: CLARKDALE POOL – A work session to discuss the Clarkdale Pool.

Town Manager Gayle Mabery reviewed the success of the Pool Fundraising Committee and commended that they were able to raise \$60,000 in order to open the pool for the 2011 season. She informed that approximately \$30,000 still remains in the fundraising account.

Town Manager Mabery reviewed a list of improvements and repairs that are required in order to open the pool in 2012:

- Kiddie Pool Pump replacement - current pump is out of service and would need to be replaced. Approximate cost: \$400 for pump and labor to install.
- In March of 2012 new ADA access requirements come into effect. The new regulations require a sloped entry with outlined specifications or a self-operated handicap lift chair (costs range from \$5,300 - \$10,000, determined by type of lift and its fit to our pool layout/dimensions, plus labor to install). These new regulations affect the kiddie pool as both options pose a challenge in space/installation and cost. The logical solution would be not to open the kiddie pool. The lap pool has a zero depth sloped entry but staff needs to assess whether or not the slope meets the required specifications.
- Also, the facility does not provide handicap accessible bathrooms or showers. County health codes require all patrons to use the toilet and shower prior to entering the pool. An ADA bathroom/shower would need to be built or a single modular installed.
- Plaster - The pool has not been re-plastered since it was installed in early 90's. The plaster is pitted and sharp and poses both a safety and maintenance concern due to the loose debris. The Yavapai County Health Department noted on the inspection report that the pool needs to be re-plastered. In 2008 proposals were received in the amounts of \$26,000 to \$31,500. The Town has a plaster fund which currently holds \$14,000.
- The lap pool sand filter is the original filter from the original pool. When the renovation was installed the sand filter was not replaced. Concern is that if and when the filter fails it will need to be replaced. The cost to replace the sand filter is approximately \$10,000.
- The most concerning issue at the pool is the water loss. There is a leak and the water loss is averaging approximately 6,500 gallons/operational day. Staff believes the leak is in the gutter. The life expectancy of stainless steel gutters is 20 years and we are approaching 19 years. Approximate cost to replace the gutter is \$100,000.

Commissioner Cure inquired if the Town had considered building a new pool. The Town Manager acknowledged his inquiry and continued that the Pool Fundraising Committee met and discussed these issues. The Committee is realistic that they do not have the grass roots to raise the required funds to repair or build a new pool. It is also difficult to get grants for operational costs but there are grants for capital improvements. The Committee would like to recommend to the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Council, knowing that the pool will not be able to open in 2012, to put a plan in place in order to move forward, whether it is to plan to make the needed repairs or build a new facility.

Commissioner Cure stated that he has a background in pool construction. He stated that he believed a new pool could be installed in the shell of the existing pool at a cost of approximately \$75,000. Commissioner Cure agreed to work with staff to review the plans and layout of the

existing pool and see what options could be explored, the results to be reviewed and considered by the Parks and Recreation Commission in January.

AGENDA ITEM: THE VERDE RIVER @ CLARKDALE – An update and discussion on the Verde River @ Clarkdale project.

Town Manager Gayle Mabery updated the Commission on the Verde River @ Clarkdale project. She reviewed how the project came to fruition explaining the 2.2 miles of river in Clarkdale is underutilized - having only one public access point that has no signage and that many residents are not aware of the river running through Clarkdale. The Town is looking to capitalize on the river as a recreational, sustainable and economic avenue for our community.

Town Staff has had several discussions with National and State Parks and non-profit groups who are all very supportive of the project.

American Rivers, the non-profit who develops Blue Trails, water way trails, wrote and submitted a grant proposal to Walton Foundation to create a 40 mile Blue Trail on the Verde River, the first phase starting at the Verde River @ Clarkdale. The Town received word that the grant was funded. American Rivers is an independent organization who will hire a part-time project manager for three years to organize public meetings, marketing, mapping, etc. They are seeking a local candidate to fill the position. American Rivers is scheduled for their first site visit the first week in December.

Another grant opportunity is the Heritage Fund Grants through Arizona Game and Fish. The Town is submitting grant applications for access improvements, parking improvements, trail improvements and signage. There was open discussion on grants.

Town Manager Gayle Mabery informed that through many discussions with the Arizona State Parks has resulted in the opportunity for a park site on 60 acres of public land owned by Arizona State Parks. Discussions continue on developing an IGA to establish a park on Tuzigoot land. This relieves some of the challenges of acquiring land from private owners. There was open discussion on the privately owned lands and some of the challenges that remain.

AGENDA ITEM: HALLOWEEN - A discussion on the 2011 Halloween event.

Community Services Supervisor Norman reviewed the final report and implementations made to the event with the Commission. A comparison of number of trick-or-treaters, upper Clarkdale participants, donations received, and candy delivered in 2011 verses previous years was presented to the Commission. There was open discussion on the results.

2011 HALLOWEEN TOTALS					
REVENUE & EXPENSES					
Source	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
P&R Budget	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,350.00
P&R Donation Acct. Balance	\$ 285.58	\$ 575.58	\$ 495.39	\$ 564.05	\$ 524.24
Monetary Donations	\$ 1,740.00	\$ 870.00	\$ 1,323.00	\$ 1,094.00	\$ 970.00
Gift Card Donations	\$ 350.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 620.00	\$ 684.50	\$ 300.00
Coupon Donation	\$ 379.50	\$ 284.00	\$ 155.75		
10% Discount - Fry's	\$ 49.00	\$ -	\$ 173.86		
Expenditures-Candy	\$ (3,216.80)	\$ (2,713.02)	\$ (2,932.42)	\$ (2,625.16)	\$ (2,340.19)
Expenditures-Costume Contest Prizes	\$ (240.00)	\$ (240.00)	\$ (240.00)	\$ (240.00)	\$ (240.00)
P&R Donation Acct. Balance	\$ 347.28	\$ 276.56	\$ 595.58	\$ 477.39	\$ 564.05
Candy Donations Received	\$ 677.50			\$ 775.00	\$ 1,458.00
TRICK-OR-TREATERS					
2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	
1674	1842	1561	1354	1286	
CANDY REQUESTS RECEIVED					
2011	2010	2009	2008		
52	50	53	59		
BAGS OF CANDY - 300 PCS/BAG					
2011	2010				
161	184				
SURVEYS RETURNED					
2011	2010				
15	0				

Town Manager Mabery stated that the City of Cottonwood now holds 2 events on Halloween, one in Old Town and the other at the Recreation Center which may have helped with the decline in the number of trick-or-treaters.

There was open discussion on the spectacular displays and decorating done by the upper Clarkdale residents. Commissioner Westcott suggested the Commission consider issuing an award to the best decorated home next year. Staff informed that it was directed by both Council and the Parks and Recreation Commission in 2008 to not add activities that would encourage more people to attend the event.

There was open discussion on debriefing of the event and parking.

AGENDA ITEM: SANTA COMES TO CLARKDALE - A discussion on the 2011 Santa Comes to Clarkdale event.

The annual event will be held on Saturday, December 3, 11am-1pm. Children and their families can visit with Santa and have their picture taken with the guest of honor, enjoy hot chocolate and cookies, and make an ornament with some of the artists from Made in Clarkdale. The Town provides each child with a photo ornament along with a small picture to put in the frame as well as the hot chocolate and cookies. There is no cost to attend the event. There was open discussion on the activities at the annual event.

A press release was issued to the media on November 8th. Santa, Made in Clarkdale and the Lions Club have all been confirmed for the event. Staff is currently recruiting volunteers to assist with the event.

AGENDA ITEM: FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – Listing of items to appear on future agendas.

Crossroads at Mingus
Centennial Committee
Blue Trails/Verde River Update
Verde Front Recreation Area

AGENDA ITEM: ADJOURNMENT-With no further business before the board and with no objection, the meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

APPROVED:

Lynda Zanolli, Chairperson

SUBMITTED BY:

Dawn Norman, Community Services Supervisor



Staff Report

Agenda Item: **GUIDELINES FOR PARKS AND OPEN SPACE DEVELOPMENT**
– Discussion and consideration regarding a recommendation to the Town Council to adopt the document: “Guidelines for Parks and Open Space Development”.

Staff Contact: Dawn Norman, Community Services Supervisor
Gayle Mabery, Town Manager

Meeting Date: January 18, 2012

Background: As the Commission is aware, the Town has been in discussions with the developers of the Crossroads at Mingus (formerly Highlands Subdivision) with regard to the park sites in that development. The Commission has met with the developers and staff on several occasions to discuss the design and location of parks. Since the Commission’s last meeting on this topic (October, 2011) staff has received communication from neighbors in the surrounding area who expressed concern with several issues involving the park, including proposed designs, uses and activities that might take place in the parks.

Because the General Plan includes references to “active” and “passive” uses in parks, and those terms were also brought up in past discussions of these parks before the Parks and Recreation Commission, some of the issues revolved around what those terms mean, and how they might be applied to the parks in the Crossroads at Mingus Subdivision. While “active” and “passive” are planning terms that are often associated with park uses, staff has not been able to find specific definitions for those terms relating to parks. Individual organizations or jurisdictions that use those terms often describe them based on the uses that occur within areas designated as active or passive, and each jurisdiction seems to come up with definitions that meet the needs of their community or organization. There seems to be much more “gray area” surrounding active and passive definitions than a clear, “black and white” description.

What is clear, is the need for flexibility. As an example, at a past Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, a particular park site was discussed as an “active” park, even though “active” uses were not intended to occur on the entire park site. The same labeling occurred during a recent neighborhood meeting, when a number of people in attendance expressed a desire for one or another entire park site to be labeled either “active” or “passive”. At the same meeting, there was significant support for the inclusion of playgrounds and/or swing sets at both park sites. Were the entirety of a given park site considered “passive”, it would negate the inclusion of playgrounds, which seemed broadly supported if included in the right area on the site. While some future park or open space areas might work well being designated entirely for either active or passive uses, many will be appropriate for a blend of uses.

The attached “Guidelines for Parks and Open Space Development” was drafted in order to bring a little more clarity to this issue. The Guidelines are meant to provide flexibility, and also give

examples of active and passive uses. They were developed to be consistent with Chapter 5 – Open Space – of the 2012 Clarkdale General Plan (included in your packet), with consideration for the American Planning Association’s Park and Recreation Guide’s definitions for Passive and Active Use (which we have also included in your packet for background material).

These Guidelines are not limited to the discussions of the parks in the Crossroads at Mingus subdivision. They are meant to provide guidance in discussions about any future parks and open spaces in Clarkdale.

Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Commission recommend that Council adopt the attached “Guidelines for Parks and Open Space Development” for use by the Town for planning future parks and open space.

Exhibit A

Town of Clarkdale Guidelines for Parks and Open Space Development

The Town of Clarkdale should strive to develop a system of neighborhood parks, community parks, regional parks and public open space that serve the interests of our diverse population and contribute to a range of positive social benefits. This system of recreational amenities and opportunities should:

- provide opportunities for healthy, family-oriented and multi-generational activities;
- enhance the social, psychological and physical well-being of citizens;
- provide enjoyable activities and settings for people to spend their leisure time; and
- include both active and passive recreational opportunities.

While individual park sites, open space areas or recreational amenities may lend themselves to either an active or passive use, whenever it is possible and appropriate, a blend of both active and passive areas/uses should be considered when plans and uses are being developed for specific sites.

- Whenever possible, flexible spaces that accommodate a range of occasional activities or events, and allow separate activities to be enjoyed without disturbing adjacent areas should be incorporated.
- Unprogrammed spaces, or spaces that allow for multiple uses that may not be anticipated at the time of design, are desirable. (Examples of this include an unstructured area for softball, Frisbee, soccer and other pick-up games; or a terraced space in a natural area that can be enjoyed for its natural beauty, and provide a place for individuals to paint, think or write, but may also provide a space for ceremonies or performances for larger group events.)

Active and Passive Areas in Parks

In general, the term “passive”, when used in park and open space design is characterized by activities that are engaged in by individuals or small groups, and are usually not dependent on a delineated area designed for specific activities. Passive areas in parks typically capitalize on natural surroundings and terrain with little need to materially alter the landscape. Passive areas can also be used as buffer zones between active areas and other surrounding land uses.

Amenities/features that might be found in passive areas, include, but are not limited to:

- Non-motorized trails
- Wildlife or nature viewing
- Benches
- Shade structures

- Natural Water Features

In general, the term “active” when used in park and open space design is characterized by areas that are typically delineated and may serve a range of groups, from individuals to small and large groups and even organized gatherings and/or teams.

Amenities/features that might be found in active areas, include, but are not limited to:

- Formal fields, courts or courses (soft/baseball, soccer, basketball, volleyball, tennis, golf, etc.)
- Playgrounds and Play Structures
- Constructed Water Features
- Picnic Structures
- Camping
- Boat Docks/Launch Areas
- Dog Parks

Depending on location, design and other factors, both active and passive spaces may have a need for ancillary amenities, including, but not limited to:

- Parking areas
- Public restrooms
- Directional, interpretative and other signage
- Benches/Tables

The Town Council, Boards and Commissions and staff should weigh all these factors, the Town’s General Plan and community input when designing parks and open space in Clarkdale.

Passive and Active Use Definitions

Passive Parks or Passive Spaces/Areas in parks

- A basic level of passive use is viewing – views of nature, seasonal interest, and human activities
- Spaces that allow for multiple uses are called "unprogrammed space," because they allow for uses that may not be anticipated at the time of design. These spaces do not rely on active participation, but rather accommodate it. A simple, terraced lawn centered on an opening in a glade of trees can be beautiful in and of itself. It can provide a place for larger gatherings, ceremonies or performances -- or simply a place to come and paint, write, or think. Unprogrammed spaces also accommodate change of use over time, as the needs or interests of the community who uses the space change.
- Passive recreation as defined for the [park] includes "hiking, cross-country skiing, horseback riding and other non-motorized outdoor recreational activities that do not materially alter the landscape, nor degrade environmental quality, nor involve commercial recreational use." In other words, no organized sports that require athletic fields such as soccer, baseball or other types of active recreational uses
- Park is designated as a passive use park for activities that are engaged in by individuals or small groups, usually not dependent on a delineated area designed for specific activities.

Active Parks or Active Areas in Parks

- A good design will include flexible spaces that accommodate a range of occasional activities or events, and allow separate activities to be enjoyed in relative privacy without disturbing adjacent areas.
- An open, gently-sloped lawn creates opportunity for spontaneous activity such as rolling down the hill.
- Active park areas include unstructured areas for softball, soccer, Frisbee, and pick up games.
- Active park areas are characterized by formal fields, outdoor courts (basketball, volleyball, and tennis), open free play area, picnic shelters, rest rooms, event areas.

Chapter 5 OPEN SPACE

This chapter establishes a set of integrated visions, policies, goals, objectives and implementation strategies that guide decision-making and lead toward the provision of a comprehensive open space system and recreational plan for a sustainable future for Clarkdale. Furthermore, this chapter represents an important step in the Town's continuing effort to enhance the public's ability and opportunities to enjoy recreation, both active and passive, in Clarkdale. These facilities and programs enhance the social, psychological and physical well-being of the citizens by providing them with enjoyable activities and settings in which to spend their leisure time. The parks and recreation system of developed open space provide opportunities for active recreation activities. The trails and bike paths provide both a means for active enjoyment and an alternative method to get from home to work or school or play. The open space areas preserve the natural setting which the community has developed. The environmental policies establish an approach against which citizens, the Town leadership and developers can weigh decisions.



In examining the Verde Valley and the Town of Clarkdale's relationship within that regional context, the discussion always turns to open space. There is recognition of the importance of the National Forest to that community value. There is also a strong feeling of independence and the ability for the communities within the Verde Valley to exist as individual players within the larger context of the whole. For Clarkdale, as we look chapter one and the ongoing process, we see this community has a sense of environmental responsibility and internalizes its role of stewardship. Clarkdale desires to be an example of an environmentally-responsible community in balance with the natural setting of the river, the desert and the hillside ecosystem. Clarkdale seeks to reduce the community's carbon footprint and reduce the impacts on the natural environment of growth and development within this community. The goals, policies and objectives as outlined in this chapter were developed by the environmental focus group to accomplish the environmental vision Clarkdale has defined for itself.



TYPES OF PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

A comprehensive park facility master plan to serve the interests of all segments of the population of Clarkdale includes both active recreational opportunities such as play grounds, ball courts and athletic facilities, and other facilities such as picnic areas, walking paths and sitting areas. A variety of park types and facilities will serve the diverse interests of a growing population. In addition to meeting the needs of residents and visitors, it is recognized parks and recreation facilities have become standard amenities in communities across the country. Any future interest in promoting quality economic development in Clarkdale will have to contend with this fact as a consideration when competing for desirable economic development.

Neighborhood Parks

The opportunity to walk to a neighborhood park facility from each home is a desirable amenity addressing a range of quality of life issues as well as economic development concerns.



Neighborhood parks should be located within existing residential areas, and should be required as part of all new planned developments and subdivisions. Neighborhood parks are usually from one-half to five acres in size and would service an area approximately one-half mile in radius, or a convenient walking distance from surrounding homes. Each park should correspond to the prevailing interests of the nearby residents and could include amenities such as a children's play area, picnic tables, walking paths, ball courts, ball fields, pet areas and open space areas.

Community Parks

A community park would be 25 (twenty-five) to 50 (fifty) acres in size so as to serve a wider range of interests than neighborhood parks. Additional acreage may be considered if areas of open space



preservation are included with developed facilities. A Town-wide community park would have both indoor and outdoor facilities. A multi-purpose building could include recreational facilities as well as meeting space for community groups, a senior center and other community uses. Outdoor recreational facilities could include baseball, softball and soccer fields, basketball and tennis courts, a children's play area, walking trails, pet areas, covered picnic areas and quiet areas for sitting. This type of park should have adequate off-street parking and be separated from less intensive uses by adequate open space or landscaped area. Clarkdale should consider planning for a Community Park and Recreation facility to serve the entire Town.

Regional Park

Regional park facilities encompass a larger area of land and may be 50 acres in size or larger. This type of park usually serves the residents of several Towns and surrounding areas. It is in the interest of Clarkdale residents to support and participate in regional park facilities whether they are located within the Town or in a neighboring community. Regional parks may include all the things found in a Town-wide park, such as baseball and soccer fields, as well as larger developed facilities, including swimming pools, indoor recreational facilities, multi-purpose trails, an outdoor amphitheater, camping areas and larger areas of land preserved as open space.

Park Acreage Per 1,000 Population

PARK TYPE	STANDARDS	
	Town of Clarkdale	National Parks & Recreation Association
Neighborhood	1 to 2 acres	1.5 acres
Local	5 to 10 acres	10 acres
Community	20 to 25 acres	25 acres
Regional	50 + acres	65+ acres

(National Recreation and Park Association, 1996)

SUMMARY OF ECONOMIC BENEFITS FROM PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

Real Property Values

Open space and parks are desirable amenities that contribute to increased resale values and increased property values for properties located in proximity.

Tax Benefits

Increased property values result in increased sales values, increased assessments and increased property tax revenue. Studies indicate increased tax revenues can offset initial park development costs. Assessed values may lag behind market values but will eventually show results.



Multiplier Effect

Economic models indicate recreational expenditures generate 1 ½ to 3 times more to the local economy than the actual amount of direct expenses. There are direct and indirect benefits of spending on recreation uses which contribute in a chain reaction to the local economy. Management and maintenance expenditures contribute to salaries, equipment costs and material expenses.

Resident Expenditures

National studies indicate that local residents typically spend from one to a few extra dollars per day in relation to use of local parks, trails and recreation facilities, which adds up to measurable benefits.

Tourism Revenues

Parks and recreation sites can attract visitors who spend on food, lodging, fuel and various hard goods. Tourists may be encouraged to spend extra days in the area.

Sporting Events

Certain organized sporting events such as running and cycling races, kayak and canoe racing, triathlons and similar sanctioned events can generate hundreds of thousands to millions of dollars to a local economy from a single organized sporting event.

Corporate Relocation

Quality of life considerations are increasingly important in competitive relocation and retention of attractive businesses. Parks and recreation facilities are considered among the most important amenities in national surveys concerning quality of life indicators. (APA, 2002. pp 2-14)



Other Benefits

Open space and park development addresses clean air, clean water and public health benefits. Healthy residents contribute to a range of intangible personal and community benefits including lower medical expenses and higher worker productivity. Such facilities provide outstanding opportunities for healthy, family-oriented activities which ultimately contribute to a range of positive social benefits such as decreased juvenile crime and lower school drop-out rates.

OPEN SPACE GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES.



The following goals, policies and objectives provide direction and guidance for open space and recreation in Clarkdale:

GOAL 5.1: WORK TOWARD CLARKDALE HAVING A SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT THAT PRESERVES ITS OPEN SPACE AND NATURAL ASSETS WHILE PROVIDING FOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES TO HELP CITIZENS MAINTAIN A HEALTHY LIFE-STYLE.

OBJECTIVE 5.1.a Support an integrated system of open space and natural resource areas to serve the residents of Clarkdale.

Policy: Provide a park system that at a minimum is composed of a core system of parks and with 6.25 to 10.5 acres of developed open space per 1,000 people.

Policy: Provide a variety of opportunities for passive and active outdoor recreational activities.

Policy: Work with the Parks and Recreation Commission to develop a master plan reflecting the Town's commitment to open space and recreational opportunities for all ages and levels of experience encouraging healthy lifestyles.

Policy: Evaluate and pursue various funding mechanisms to improve the parks and recreation program.



OBJECTIVE 5.1.b Provide and maintain an open space network of Town-owned and private lands throughout the community.

Policy: Evaluate open space design with these primary determinants: aesthetics, public safety, maintenance needs, water consumption, drainage considerations, wildlife corridors, multi-use and desert preservation.

Policy: Encourage the use of development incentives to promote integrated open space networks within future developments.

Policy: Pursue opportunities to identify and protect natural areas in proximity to existing neighborhoods.

Policy Encourage the preservation and connection of open spaces within future developments.

Policy: Adopt standards for residential landscaping that preserves native landscaping in new developments including native plant lists, plant survey methods and related procedures.

OBJECTIVE 5.1.c Protect significant natural areas within the Town, including floodplains, the Verde River corridor, steep slopes and scenic view area.

Policy: Identify and prioritize scenic assets and sensitive lands that should be preserved including major topographic features, natural vegetation, drainage ways, wildlife habitat and travel corridors, riparian areas and vista corridors.

Policy: Develop community support for an open space preservation and acquisition program to plan, prioritize, acquire and manage open space.

Policy: Provide adequate land development standards in the Town Zoning Code to address protection of sensitive natural resource areas.

OBJECTIVE 5.1.d Develop parks and recreation facilities and an interconnected system of trails and urban pathways to meet the community's recreational needs and provide access to open space.

Policy: Explore further development of partnerships with local school districts and private interests for the joint use of recreational facilities to the ultimate



benefit of all.

Policy: Where applicable, provide linkage to and integration with other local and regional open space system.

Policy: Support regional planning efforts with local, county, state and federal governmental entities to create and maintain coordinated regional open space programs.

Policy: Support the Verde River Greenway Program.

OBJECTIVE 5.1.e Work with the United States Forest Service to ensure the preservation and stewardship of National Forest lands within and adjacent to the Town.

Policy: Provide for an urban interface beneficial to the residents and visitors of Clarkdale which protects the natural environment of the National Forest lands.

Policy: Identify uses and development standards appropriate for private lands in the urban interface with the National Forest and identify other methods of protecting the wild land character of National Forest lands adjacent to private development.

OBJECTIVE 5.1.f Work with valley communities and the county to ensure that the Verde Valley communities do not grow together. Make sure that significant open spaces are maintained between communities and along highway corridors. Jointly work to identify other priority areas that should be preserved as open space in the Valley.

Policy: Continue to participate in the regional open space planner's group that is working to implement the adopted Regional Open Space Plan for the Verde Valley.

Policy: Help to formulate an implementation strategy for preservation and acquisition of priority open space lands in the Verde Valley.

OBJECTIVE 5.1.g Work to achieve sustainability through regional cooperation on open space issues

Policy: Clarkdale must work to maintain significant open space within the Town limits while also striving to accommodate regional growth that would otherwise



contribute to sprawl in the adjoining county area.

Policy: Clarkdale must place a premium on the personal responsibility of each individual for the cleanliness and beauty of our environment.

Government, businesses, and non-profit organizations can only accomplish so much without a concerted commitment by private citizens to take individual action to attain and maintain a cleaner, healthier environment.

Policy: Implement broad-based environmental education programs for people of all ages in the community, emphasizing how individuals can contribute to the stewardship of their environment.

Policy: Establish a Sustainability Commission to advise the Council, commissions and committees on agenda matters directly related to Clarkdale's efforts to achieve a sustainable community.



OPEN SPACE IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

Objective	Policy	Action	Time Frame
<i>Provide an integrated system of open space and natural resource areas to serve the residents of Clarkdale</i>	<i>Work with the Parks and Recreation Commission to develop a master plan that reflects the town's commitment to open space and recreational opportunities for all ages and levels of experience encouraging a healthy lifestyle.</i>	Continue the process of working with the Parks and Recreation Commission to develop the Parks & Recreation Master Plan in a specific plan format.	1 year
	<i>Evaluate and pursue various funding mechanisms to improve the parks and recreation program</i>	This action should be part of the Parks & Recreation Master Plan developed with the Parks & Recreation Commission.	1 year
<i>Provide and maintain an open space network of town-owned and private lands throughout the community</i>	<i>Evaluate open space design with those primary determinants: aesthetics, public safety, maintenance needs, water consumption, drainage considerations, wildlife corridors, multi-use and habitat preservation</i>	This is an ongoing task that should be part of all development review.	Ongoing
	<i>Encourage the use of development incentives to promote integrated open space networks within future developments</i>	This requires specific council policy changes and changes to existing ordinances.	2 to 3 years
	<i>Adopt standards for residential landscaping that preserves native landscaping in new developments, including native plant lists, plant survey methods and related procedures.</i>	Complete work on the Water Conservation Ordinance including single family landscape requirements	1 to 3 years
<i>Protect significant natural areas within</i>	<i>Identify and prioritize scenic assets and sensitive lands that</i>	Develop the program and maps to accomplish this	2 to 4 years



Objective	Policy	Action	Time frame
The areas, including floodplains, the Verde River corridor, steep slopes and scenic view areas	should be preserved including major topographic features, natural vegetation, drainage ways, wildlife habitat and travel corridors, riparian areas and vista corridors	priority.	
	Provide adequate land development standards in the Town Zoning Code to address protection of sensitive natural resource areas.	Review existing codes, amend or revise as necessary to accomplish this protection.	1 to 2 years
Develop parks and recreation facilities and an interconnected system of trails and urban pathways to meet the community's recreational needs, and provide access to open space.	Develop partnerships with the school district, private interest, the national forest, other communities, the state and the county to facilitate joint recreational uses, integrated trails, and access to open space	Continue the ongoing efforts to partner in efforts to provide open space and recreational opportunities.	Ongoing.
Work with valley communities and the county to ensure that the Verde Valley communities do not grow together. Make sure that significant open spaces are maintained between communities and along highway corridors. Jointly work to identify other priority areas	<p>Continue to participate in the regional open space planners' group that is working to implement the adopted Regional Open Space Plan for the Verde Valley.</p> <p>Help to formulate an implementation strategy for preservation and acquisition of priority open space lands in the Verde Valley.</p>	<p>Continue the Town's participation and leadership in efforts to protect and preserve significant open space areas in the valley.</p> <p>Continue the Town's support for intergovernmental and other agreements that support these policies.</p>	Ongoing efforts.



Objective	Policy	Action	Time Frame
<p>that should be preserved as open space in the valley.</p>			
<p>Work to achieve sustainability through regional cooperation on shared issues.</p>	<p><i>Establish a Sustainability Commission that advises the council, commissions and committees on matters directly related to Clarkdale's efforts to achieve a sustainable community.</i></p>	<p>Research other Sustainability Commissions and develop the program for Clarkdale that accomplishes its priorities.</p>	<p>1 to 3 years</p>



2002 Clarkdale General Plan

4. OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

- 4.a Introduction
- 4.b Legislative Requirements
- 4.c Existing and Proposed Facilities
- 4.d Types of Parks and Recreation Facilities
- 4.e Economic Impacts of Parks and Open Space
- 4.f Wildlife and Plants
- 4.g Goals, Objectives and Policies
- 4.h Implementation Strategies

4.a INTRODUCTION

The Open Space Element is intended to identify and provide approaches for the preservation and enhancement of open space resources, parks, recreation areas, wildlife and natural habitat, riparian corridors, floodplains and drainageways within the Town of Clarkdale. The preservation of natural undeveloped areas within the Town provides areas for enjoyment by residents and visitors, as well as provides a context for development that adds value to the community.

Arizona Revised Statutes, under the Growing Smarter legislation, restricts the ability to designate private property as open space, recreation, agricultural or conservation lands on official planning maps without written permission. There is relatively little area within the town boundary identified as public lands except for that area of Prescott National Forest land which was annexed in 2001. The Town of Clarkdale only owns a few small parcels already developed as parks or public facilities. Since the mapping process for open space is limited by state law, the objectives of preserving and protecting open space resources may best be addressed through the establishment of goals and policies that apply to town-wide park and open space objectives.

It is a common planning tool in many municipalities to establish standards and goals for the amount of developed recreational park land and open space a community has in relation to the size of the population. These standards look at the amount of neighborhood, community-wide and regional facilities that are desirable for a certain population. The National Recreation and Park Association recommends that between 6.25 and 10 acres of park land be provided per 1,000 residents. In addition, they recommend the same amount of acreage be provided in open space. In Clarkdale, the interest in protecting an adequate amount of undeveloped open space can be addressed by identifying floodplains, major washes, steep slopes and other less developable lands.

The total amount of existing and proposed town park land is only 6.47 acres, not including the town swimming pool, the Town Hall complex, the Clarkdale-Jerome School or Yavapai College, which all have limited public access to facilities. Population estimates indicate Clarkdale will exceed 3,600 in the year 2002, for a total of 1.8 acres of park land per 1,000 population. Clarkdale would need to develop more than three to five times the amount of park facilities currently planned to meet the national standards of 6.25 to 10 acres per 1,000 population. Over the next ten years Clarkdale would have to consider development of 18 to 33 acres of developed parks to meet these standards.

4.b. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Arizona Revised Statutes places special restrictions on a municipality's ability to designate private land as open space. ARS § 9-461.06.M. is as follows:

In applying an open space element or a growth element of a general plan a municipality shall not designate private land or state trust land as open space, recreation, conservation or agricultural unless the municipality receives the written consent of the land owner or provides an alternative, economically viable designation in the general plan or zoning ordinance, allowing at least one residential dwelling per acre. If the landowner is the prevailing party in any action brought to enforce this subsection, a court shall award fees and other expenses to the landowner.

ARS § 9-461.05.D.1 defines the requirements of the Open Space Element as follows:

- (a) A comprehensive inventory of open space areas, recreational resources and designations of access points to open space areas and resources.
- (b) An analysis of forecasted needs, policies for managing and protecting open space areas and resources and implementation strategies to acquire additional open space areas and further establish recreational resources.
- (c) Policies and implementation strategies designed to promote a regional system of integrated open space and recreational resources and a consideration of any existing regional open space plans.

4.c PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IN CLARKDALE

Existing Facilities

1.	Town Park Main Street Downtown	1.92 acres	Historic gazebo Children's playground Public restrooms Picnic tables
2.	Selna Ballfield Broadway Lower Clarkdale	2.41 acres	Lighted baseball field ½ basketball court 2 picnic ramadas Volleyball court
3.	Centerville Fire Station Avenida Guillermo	0.32 acres	½ Basketball court
4.	Cabellero Park Fiesta Street Patio Town	0.14 acres	Children's play area ½ Basketball court
5.	Swimming Pool Clark Memorial Clubhouse Downtown Open summer months		Main Pool: 150,000 gallons 6 lanes Splash Pool: 2,000 gallons 8' x 10'
6.	Peck's Lake (Private) East of Verde River		Day use area: 4 covered picnic ramadas Non-motorized boating Fishing Hiking trails to Coconino National Forest
7.	Tuzigoot Bridge (Private and State Land) Verde River Area	Day use area:	Parking area, fishing sites
8.	Clarkdale Jerome School District Elementary School Main Street Upper Clarkdale		Facilities open to public use with permission: soccer / football field softball field basketball courts (indoor/outdoor) children's playground nature trail system
<u>Planned Facilities:</u>			
9.	Centerville Park	2 acre park:	Picnic ramadas, multi-use field basketball court, playground

4.d PUBLIC LANDS BY AGENCY

A variety of public lands are located within the town of Clarkdale, including local, state, federal and Indian trust lands. The Town of Clarkdale owns a number of smaller parcels developed with various uses. The State Parks Board owns a number of undeveloped parcels indicated as the Verde River

Greenway. The Town of Jerome has a parcel of land in the foothills area that is an historic cemetery. The Clarkdale Jerome School is located in Upper Clarkdale. The Verde Campus of Yavapai College is located off of Black Hills Drive. The Yavapai Apache Nation is not specifically public lands but falls under this category as part of the United States Government federal trust lands. A large area of the Prescott National Forest was annexed to Clarkdale in 2001.

Prior to the annexation of Prescott National Forest land:

Approximately 360.37 out of 4,640 acres indicated as public lands: 7.8% public land

After the annexation of Prescott National Forest lands:

Current Status: Approximately 2,077.38 acres out of 6,500 acres: 32% public land

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Town of Clarkdale	44.30
Town Park	1.92 acres
Selna Ballfield	2.41
Cabellero Park	0.14
New Centerville Park	2.00
Centerville Fire	0.32
Public Works/ Fire	1.31
Town Hall complex	6.34
Cemetery	20.00
Wastewater Treatment Plant	9.86
State Parks Board	68.49
Verde River Greenway	28.9
	1.31
	15.90
	22.38
Town of Jerome	29.32
Yavapai College	120.85
Clarkdale Jerome School	40.48
Yavapai Apache Trust Lands	56.93
United States Forest Service	1,717.01
TOTAL	2,077.38 acres

4.e TYPES OF PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

A comprehensive park facility master plan to serve the interests of all segments of the population of Clarkdale includes both active recreational opportunities, such as play grounds, ball courts and athletic facilities, and other facilities, such as picnic areas, walking paths and sitting areas. A variety of park types and facilities will serve the diverse interests of a growing population. In addition to meeting the needs of residents and visitors, it is recognized that parks and recreation facilities have become standard amenities in communities all across the country and any future interest in

promoting quality economic development in Clarkdale will have to contend with this fact as a consideration when competing for desirable economic development.

Neighborhood Park

The opportunity to walk to a neighborhood park facility from each home is a desirable amenity that addresses a range of quality of life issues, as well as economic development concerns. Neighborhood parks should be located within existing residential areas, as well as required as part of all new planned developments and subdivisions. Neighborhood parks are usually from one-half to five acres in size and would service an area approximately one-half mile in radius, or a convenient walking distance from surrounding homes. Each park should respond to the prevailing interests of the nearby residents but could include a children's play area, picnic tables, walking paths, ball courts, ball fields, pet areas and open space areas.

Community Park

A Community Park would be 25 to 50 acres in size so as to serve a wider range of interests than neighborhood parks. Additional acreage may be considered if areas of open space preservation are included with developed facilities. A town-wide community park would have both indoor and outdoor facilities. A multi-purpose building could include both recreational facilities, as well as meeting space for community groups, a senior center and for other community uses. Outdoor recreational facilities could include baseball, softball and soccer fields, basketball and tennis courts, a children's play area, walking trails, pet areas, covered picnic areas and quiet areas for sitting. This type of park should have adequate off-street parking and be separated from less intensive uses by adequate open space or landscaped area. Clarkdale should consider planning for a Community Park and Recreation facility to serve the entire town.

Regional Park

Regional park facilities generally encompass a larger area of land and may be 50 acres in size or larger. This type of park usually serves the residents of several towns and surrounding areas. It is in the interest of Clarkdale residents to support and participate in regional park facilities whether they are located within the town or in a neighboring community. Regional parks may include all the things found in a town-wide park, such as baseball and soccer fields, as well as larger developed facilities, including swimming pools, indoor recreational facilities, multi-purpose trails, an outdoor amphitheater, camping areas and larger areas of land preserved as open space.

4.f ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

A number of studies have evaluated the economic impacts of open space, greenways and trail systems in proximity to developed areas. The studies conclude that open space systems provide positive economic benefits for nearby property values and local economies. The benefits are measured in terms of assessed valuations, business impacts, and social and environmental impacts. Individual projects have to be looked at in detail but overall when certain accepted principles are addressed there is a high likelihood of realizing positive benefits. In general, park areas should be compatible with surrounding development in terms of the scale of development and the expectation of neighbors. Such amenities are shown to increase nearby property values and

this can ultimately lead to an increase in local tax revenues. Increased spending on parks and recreation-related activities can also assist local businesses. Quality of life improvements, such as parks and recreation facilities and open space systems, are critical components of a strategy for attracting new quality economic development, as well as for assisting with business retention and expansion efforts.

A common concern of property owners is that the installation of parks, trails and open space systems will increase crime and vandalism and decrease property values. Although individual property owners and residents will experience unique experiences, there is ample evidence to show that in general such facilities provide positive or neutral impacts on surrounding properties. Impacts are relative to the expectations of individual residents. In more developed neighborhoods residents may expect a certain amount of activity or noise; in remote areas residents expect more solitude. Perceptions are just as important to evaluate as measurable statistics and residents concerns should be included in any proposals for development of public parks and facilities.

Economic Study Reports

Economic Impacts of Protecting Rivers, Trails and Greenway Corridors: A Resource Book, by the National Park Service, Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, 1995.

The Impacts of Rail-Trails: A Study of User and Property Owners From Three Trails, National Parks Service, RTCA, 1992.

Evaluation of the Burke-Gilman Trail's Effect on Property Values and Crime, City of Seattle Engineering Department, 1987.

Trails and Greenways: The Quintessential Sustainable Development Public Works Project, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, STPP Progress, February 1999.

SUMMARY OF ECONOMIC BENEFITS FROM PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

Real Property Values.	Open space and parks are desirable amenities that contribute to increased resale values and increased property values for properties located in proximity.
Tax Benefits.	Increased property values result in increased sales values, increased assessments and increased property tax revenue. Studies indicate increased tax revenues can offset initial park development costs. Assessed values may lag behind market values but will eventually show results.
Multiplier Effect.	Economic models indicate recreational expenditures generate 1 ½ to

3 times more to the local economy than the actual amount of direct expenses. There are direct and indirect benefits of spending on recreation uses which contribute in a chain reaction to the local economy. Management and maintenance expenditures contribute to salaries, equipment costs and material expenses.

Resident Expenditures. National studies indicate that local residents typically spend from one to a few extra dollars per day in relation to use of local parks, trails and recreation facilities, which adds up to measurable benefits.

Tourism Revenues. Parks and recreation sites can attract visitors who spend on food, lodging, fuel and various hard goods. Tourists may be encouraged to spend extra days in the area.

Sporting Events. Certain organized sporting events, such as running and cycling races, triathlons and similar sanctioned events can generate hundreds of thousands to millions of dollars to a local economy from a single organized sporting event.

Corporate Relocation. Quality of life considerations are increasingly important in competitive relocation and retention of attractive businesses. Parks and recreation facilities are considered among the most important amenities in national surveys concerning quality of life indicators.

Other Benefits. Open space and park development addresses clean air, clean water and public health benefits. Healthy residents contribute to a range of intangible personal and community benefits, including lower medical expenses and higher worker productivity. Such facilities provide outstanding opportunities for healthy, family-oriented activities, which ultimately contributes to a range of positive social benefits, such as decreased juvenile crime and lower school drop-out rates.

4.g WILDLIFE AND PLANTS

A variety of plant and wildlife is found within the town limits of Clarkdale. The natural plant and wildlife found in Clarkdale provides enjoyment for both residents and visitors alike and should be protected as important and valued features of the community.

Wildlife

Some species of wildlife are permanent or semi-permanent residents; others are migratory, seasonal or infrequent visitors. There is a range of mammals, birds, reptiles, fish and other animals that may be found in Clarkdale. A partial list is included to illustrate the diversity of wildlife found in the area.

Mule deer
Antelope
Mountain lion
Black Bear

Javelina
Gray Fox
Coyote

Beaver
River otter
Muskrat
Raccoon

Skunk
Jackrabbit
Cottontail rabbit

Blue heron
Turkey vulture
Gambel's quail
Ducks and Geese
Bald eagle
Rattlesnake
Tarantula
Lizard

Plant Communities

There are three major plant communities identified in Clarkdale. Plant communities are not always clearly defined with strictly delineated boundaries. Various species may well inhabit two or more different such communities. Plant communities or associations are typically dependent on or affected by such factors as geographical location, soil types, precipitation rates, angle and direction of slopes, elevations, microclimates and successional considerations, and thus it is not uncommon to find a particular plant or grouping of plants growing outside what would be thought of as its customary habitat if some of the above factors are advantageous to that growth. Depending upon what sources you refer to, there are many different types of plant communities defined. For Clarkdale this has been simplified as (1) Chaparral, (2) Upper Sonoran Desert Scrub, and (3) Riparian Woodland.

1. Chaparral. The dry rocky slopes above 3,500 feet elevation are characterized as a chaparral-type plant community. Here grasses are mixed with succulent plants, including agave century plants and prickly pear cactus. Tree-like mesquite and catclaw shrubs are dominant in some areas. There are scattered stands of larger shrubs, including crucifixion thorn, mountain mahogany, shrub live oak and ceonothus. Dense shrub thickets grow in pockets along the rolling dry rocky slopes and smaller drainage washes. The shrubs and small trees are drought-tolerant, tough and woody; they are typically 6'-12' or so high, and have deep roots for collecting moisture.

2. Upper Sonoran Desert Scrub. The desert scrub plant community is generally located below 4,000 feet elevation and includes large stands of mesquite, catclaw, crucifixion thorn and many smaller shrubs, grasses and cacti.

3. Riparian Woodland. The riparian plant communities along the major washes, the Verde River and Pecks Lake area are characterized by a wider range of plant types, including cottonwood, willow and sycamore trees. A greater concentration of plant and wildlife of all kinds is typically found within the riparian zone due to the availability of water.

Native Plants

Native plants are generally identified as those that were naturally growing here before modern settlement arrived in the nineteenth century. They are the best adapted to the local environment and climate, including hot summers, cold winters, generally poor soils, little annual rainfall and long periods of drought. Native plants help define the southwest environment that has drawn so many

people here in the first place and are strongly encouraged for landscaping within developed areas. Some native plants are difficult to establish through propagation or transplanting and are not typically available through commercial nurseries, therefore the best practice for native plants in the Clarkdale area is to preserve them in their natural habitat at the time of development.

Adaptive Plants

Adaptive plants are those that are appropriate for the area because of low water use, an ability to grow in the cold winter and hot summer climate, and to thrive in generally poor soils. Many common plants, such as the ubiquitous and quintessential western tumbleweed, which is actually Russian thistle, were non-native plants brought to this area either accidentally or on purpose by early pioneer settlers. A range of both native and adaptive drought-tolerant plants are commercially available and are encouraged for landscaping plants.

Clarkdale Area Landscape Plant List

The Clarkdale Area Landscape Plant List includes both native and adaptive plants that are appropriate for landscaping in the area of Clarkdale, Arizona. Native plants are indigenous to this area and are the best suited to the climate and location. Other low water use plants that may be suitable for this climate and environment are said to be adaptive. Water conservation is a major consideration in the selection of drought tolerant and low water use plants. In addition, plants should be adapted to hot summers and cold winters, as well as generally poor soil conditions.

The Landscape Plant List has been developed to address those plants which are both commercially available and the best suited to this environment. This list does not include all native or adaptive plants that may be available from different sources at all times nor does it guarantee survivability of individual plants in any given location. Understanding the criteria for proper selection, installation and maintenance of landscaping plants should be considered in any location. Various types of trees can be transplanted in this area but special attention should be given to the unique concerns of the local environment. Transplanted trees, including drought tolerant varieties, usually require more watering for the first several years until their roots become established. Trees that grow in riparian habitats, meaning near rivers and streams, typically need to be near deep water sources and are not recommended for planting in non-riparian desert areas.

NATIVE TREES FOR THE CLARKDALE AREA

Common Name	Botanical Name	Size	Water Use	Notes
Arizona Alder	<i>Alnus oblongifolia</i>	25-50'	mod.	riparian
Arizona Ash (Velvet)	<i>Fraxinus velutina</i>	30-40'	mod.	riparian

Arizona Cypress	<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>	30-40'	very low	dry soils, evergreen
Arizona Sycamore	<i>Platanus wrightii</i>	40-100'	mod.	riparian
Box Elder	<i>Acer negundo</i>	40-60'	mod.	riparian, invasive
Common Chokecherry	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	20-30'	low mod.	high canyons
Fremont Cottonwood	<i>Populus fremontii</i>	50-100'	low mod.	common, riparian
Narrowleaf Cottonwood	<i>Populus angustifolia</i>	to 60'	low mod.	riparian
Desert Willow	<i>Chilopsis linearis</i>	10-25'	low mod.	riparian edge, washes
Neatleaf Hackberry	<i>Celtis reticulata</i>	20-30'	low	riparian edge
Alligator Juniper	<i>Juniperus deppeana</i>	20-50'	low	high mtn. areas
One-seed Juniper	<i>Juniperus monosperma</i>	15-35'	very low	dry mesas, hillsides
Utah Juniper	<i>Juniperus osteosperma</i>	15-30'	very low	one main trunk, dry areas
Bigtooth Maple	<i>Acer grandidentatum</i>	10-40'	low	high washes with shade
Velvet Mesquite	<i>Prosopis velutina</i>	15-25"	low	riparian edge
White Oak	<i>Quercus arizonica</i>	20-50'	very low	typically above 5,500'
Emory Oak (Live Oak)	<i>Quercus emoryi</i>	20-50'	low	lower slopes, evergreen
Gambel Oak	<i>Quercus gambelii</i>	20-50'	low	typically above 5,000'
Blue Palo Verde	<i>Cercidium floridum</i>	20-50'	low	below 4,000', low desert
Singleleaf Pinon	<i>Pinus monophylla</i>	20-25'	low	above 4,000, rocky hills
Western Soapberry	<i>Sapindus saponaria</i>	20-30'	low	open slopes
Arizona Walnut	<i>Juglans major</i>	30-40'	low mod.	stream banks, riparian edge
Gooding Willow	<i>Salix goodingii</i>	30-50'	low mod.	riparian, invasive roots

NATIVE SHRUBS AND BUSHES FOR THE CLARKDALE AREA

Common Name	Botanical Name	Size	Water Use	Notes
Algerita (Barberry)	<i>Berberis fremontii</i>	3-10'	low	Fremont barberry
Catclaw Acacia	<i>Acacia greggi</i>	4-10'	very low	common shrub or small tree
Beargrass	<i>Nolina microcarpa</i>	4-6'	very low	Agave family, tall stalks, high slopes
Arizona Cliffrose	<i>Purshia subintegra</i>	3-6'	very low	Endangered Species, limestone outcrops
Cliffrose	<i>Cowania mexicana</i>	10-15'	low	dry, rocky, steep slopes
Shrubby Coldenia	<i>Tiquillia canescens</i>	8"	very low	dry mesas, dome-shaped mound
Creosote Bush	<i>Larrea tridentata</i>	4-8'	very low	roots emit repellents
Crucifixion Thorn	<i>Canotia holocantha</i>	8-12'	very low	common, dry slopes

Desert Broom	<i>Baccharis sarothroides</i>	3-6'	very low	common, disturbed soil
Feather Dalea	<i>Dalea formosa</i>	1-2'	very low	dry, rocky slopes
Graythorn	<i>Ziziphus obtusifolia</i>	6-10'	very low	riparian edge, grasslands, bird habitat
Manzanita (pointleaf)	<i>Arctostaphylos pungens</i>	4-6'	low	dry hillsides above 4,000'
Mariola	<i>Parthenium incanum</i>	3'	very low	dry, rocky, well-drained soils
Mesquite, Velvet	<i>Prosopis velutina</i>	10-25'	low	washes, riparian edge below 4,000'
Mountain Mahogany	<i>Cercocarpus montanus</i>	15'	low	high slopes
Mormon Tea	<i>Ephedra viridis</i>	2-6'	very low	dry soil
Ocotillo	<i>Fouquieria splendens</i>	8-15'	very low	steep hillsides, needs drainage
Shrub Live Oak (Scrub)	<i>Quercus turbinella</i>	6-10'	very low	high slopes, dry washes
Palmer Oak (Dunn)	<i>Quercus palmeri. dunnii</i>	10-15'	very low	washes and canyons, large acorns
Range Ratany	<i>Krameria parvifolia</i>	1-2'	very low	dry hillsides, mesas
Four-wing Saltbush	<i>Atriplex canescens</i>	4-6'	very low	common, wildlife habitat
Broom Snakeweed	<i>Gutierrezia sarothrae</i>	2-4'	very low	common, over grazed areas
Smooth Sumac	<i>Rhus glabra</i>	4-8'	very low	well-drained soils
Sugar Sumac	<i>Rhus ovata</i>	2-15'	very low	part shade, dry slopes
Wait-a-minute Bush	<i>Mimosa biuncifera</i>	4-6'	very low	(catclaw mimosa)
Winter Fat	<i>Eurotia lanata</i>	2-3'	very low	(white sage) open rangeland

NATIVE CACTI AND SUCCULENTS FOR THE CLARKDALE AREA

Common Name	Botanical Name	Size	Water	Notes
Century Plant	<i>Agave americana (parryi)</i>	4-6'	very low	tall flower stalk
Plateau Cholla	<i>Opuntia whipplei</i>	2-4'	very low	long branching sections
Claret Cup Hedgehog	<i>Echinocereus triglochidiatus</i>	1-2'	very low	dense mounds of stems
Fendler Hedgehog	<i>Echinocereus fendleri</i>	6"-1'	very low	small clumps, rocky slopes
Desert Prickly Pear	<i>Optuntia phaeacantha</i>	2-5'	very low	dry hillsides
Banana Yucca	<i>Yucca baccata</i>	2-3'	very low	dense flower clusters
Soaptree Yucca	<i>Yucca elata</i>	2-15'	very low	tall single trunk, flowering spike

ADAPTIVE SHRUBS AND BUSHES FOR THE CLARKDALE AREA

Common Name	Botanical Name	Size	Water	Notes
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Angel's Hair	<i>Artemisia schmidtiana</i>	2'	very low	fine silver leaves
Bird-of-Paradise Bush	<i>Caesalpinia gilliesii</i>	4-6'	moderate	tree var. 12'
Butterfly Bush, Fountain	<i>Buddleia alternifolia</i>	8-12'	low	long flower clusters
Cotoneaster, Spreading	<i>Cotoneaster divaricata</i>	5-6'	low	hardy deciduous
Dusty Miller	<i>Artemisia stelleriana</i>	2-3'	low	hardy in cold areas
Elaeagnus	<i>Elaeagnus ebbinger</i>	10-12'	low	evergreen shrub
Heavenly Bamboo	<i>Nandina domestica</i>	6-8'	low	some water, shade
Juniper	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i>	2-15'	very low	evergreen
Juniper	<i>Juniperus sabina</i>	2-4'	very low	evergreen
Pittosporum (Tobira)	<i>Pittosporum tobira</i>	6-15'	low	best some water
Photinia, Chinese	<i>Photinia serrulata</i>	6-12'	low	water to establish
Pyracantha (Firethorn)	<i>Pyracantha coccinea graberi</i>	6-12'	low	trains to fence
Rosemary	<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	2-6'	very low	needs drainage
Santolina, Gray	<i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i>	1-2'	low	evergreen
Santolina, Green	<i>Santolina virens</i>	1-2'	low	good ground cover
Tower-of-Jewels	<i>Echium wildpretii</i>	4-10'	low	tall flower clusters
Toyon (California Holly)	<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>	6-10'	low	coastal native
Viburnum, various	<i>Viburnum</i>	4-12'	low to mod	partial sun
Xylosma	<i>Xylosma congestum</i>	8-10'	low	heat tolerant

ADAPTIVE TREES FOR THE CLARKDALE AREA

Common Name	Botanical Name	Size	Water	Notes
Cedar, Deodar	<i>Cedrus deodara</i>	60-80'	very low	evergreen, check varieties
Cherry, Carolina Laurel	<i>Prunus carolinianna</i>	15-20'	low	drops fruit & litter
Chinaberry	<i>Melia azedarach</i>	30-50'	low	grows in poor soil
Crabapple, Flowering	<i>Malus, varieties</i>	6-30'	low-mod.	check avail. local varieties
Elm, Siberian	<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	20-40'	moderate	hardy growth, brittle wood
Gum, Sweet	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	40-60'	low	good street trees
Honeylocust, Thornless	<i>Gleditsia, triacanthos</i>	35-70'	low	check avail. local varieties
Locust, Idaho	<i>Robinia idahoensis</i>	30-40'	very low	aggressive roots
Mulberry, White	<i>Morus alba</i>	25-35'	low	from China (silkworms)
Olive, Russian	<i>Elaeagnus angustifolium</i>	15-20'	mod.	invasive, riparian, dry areas
Pine, Aleppo	<i>Pinus halepensis</i>	30-60'	low	hardy to heat, aridity, wind
Pine, Pinon Nut	<i>Pinus edulis</i>	10-35'	very low	hardy in desert mountains
Pine, Singleleaf Pinon	<i>Pinus monophylla</i>	10-25'	very low	hardy in desert mountains

Pine, Calabrian	Pinus brutia	30-80'	very low	hardy, does not tolerate cold
Plum, Flowering	Prunus, varieties	20-30'	low	requires maintenance
Redbud, Western	Cercis occidentalis	10-20'	low	below 4,000'

4.h

OPEN SPACE GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES.

The following goals, objectives and policies provide direction and guidance for open space and recreation in Clarkdale:

GOAL 4-A PROVIDE AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM OF OPEN SPACE AND NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS TO SERVE THE RESIDENTS OF CLARKDALE.

Objective 4-A. a.

Encourage policies to identify and protect open space resources within existing and proposed developed areas by ensuring appropriate standards for compatible development.

Policy Encourage the use of development incentives to promote integrated open space networks within planned developments.

Policy Pursue opportunities to identify and protect natural areas in proximity to existing neighborhoods.

Policy Adopt standards to encourage preservation of native landscaping in new developments, including native plant lists, plant survey methods and related procedures.

Objective 4-A. b.

Protect significant natural areas within the Town, including floodplains, the Verde River corridor, steep slopes and scenic view area.

Policy Provide adequate land development standards in the Town Zoning Code to address protection of sensitive natural resource areas.

Policy Provide public access opportunities to open space and river areas.

Policy Encourage development policies for floodplains and major drainage courses that allow such areas to be preserved in their natural condition to the greatest extent possible while meeting flood control objectives.

Objective 4-A. c.

Encourage policies to identify and preserve regional open space resources.

Policy Where applicable, provide linkage to and integration with other local and regional open space systems.

Policy Support regional planning efforts with local, county, state and federal governmental entities to create and maintain coordinated regional open space programs.

Policy Encourage development to be compatible with protection of Verde River riparian resources and major drainage washes through the town.

Policy Support the Verde River Greenway Program.

Objective 4-A. d.

Encourage citizen and agency participation in planning efforts to identify, implement and maintain open space and recreation resources for Clarkdale residents.

Policy Encourage neighborhood representatives, sports groups, schools, business

representatives and others to participate in open space and recreation planning efforts.

GOAL 4-B PROVIDE A SYSTEM OF PARK AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES TO MEET THE NEEDS OF CLARKDALE RESIDENTS.

Objective 4-B. a.

Increase the supply of park land in Clarkdale.

Policy Develop a Parks and Recreation Master plan for the coordination of short and long range objectives, that includes various levels of park development, funding mechanisms and implementation strategies.

Policy Evaluate and pursue various funding mechanisms to improve the parks and recreation program.

Policy Support efforts to develop neighborhood park and recreation facilities in all areas of Clarkdale, including existing neighborhoods and new developments.

Policy Support efforts to locate, design, fund, implement and manage a community park and recreation facility to address long-range, town-wide needs.

Policy Participate in regional efforts to ensure the development of adequate parks and recreation facilities for use by Clarkdale residents.

4.i OPEN SPACE IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

Implementation measures for the Open Space Element are presented in response to the proposed Goals, Objectives and Policies. The suggested implementation measures are meant to provide general guidelines as examples to assist with understanding the scope of possible action and are not meant to be considered as a specific operations plan. The Implementation Strategies are organized with the following information:

Description of Implementation Measure

1. **Revise development standards to include incentives for open space preservation.**

Planning Division

Parks and Recreation Commission

0-2 Years General Fund

2. **Revise development standards to include native plant landscaping procedures and policies.**

Planning Division

0-2 Years General Fund

3. **Develop a Parks and Recreation Master Plan.**

Planning Division

Parks and Recreation Commission

1-3 Years General Fund

Heritage Fund Grant

4. **Identify opportunities for neighborhood park development in existing areas.**

Parks and Recreation

Planning Division

Ongoing General Fund

5. **Identify and pursue development of improved public access opportunities at the Verde River and other open space areas.**

Planning Division

Town Council

Ongoing General Fund

6. Develop standards to encourage preservation of floodplains and major drainage courses in their natural condition to the greatest extent possible without compromising flood control and public safety objectives.

Planning Division

Public Works

0-2 Years General Fund

Open Space Implementation Strategies

Implementation Measure	Department or Program	Time Frame (Years)	Possible Funding Source
1. Revise development standards to include incentives for open space preservation.	Planning Department Parks & Recreation Commission	0-2 Years	General Fund
2. Revise development standards to include native plant landscaping procedures and policies	Planning Department	0-2 Years	General Fund
3. Develop a Parks and Recreation Master Plan.	Planning Department Parks & Recreation Commission	1-3 Years	General Fund Heritage Fund Grant
4. Identify opportunities for neighborhood park development in	Parks and	Ongoing	General Fund

existing areas.	Recreation Planning Department		
5. Identify and pursue development of improved public access opportunities at the Verde River and other open space areas.	Planning Department Town Council	Ongoing	General Fund
6. Develop standards to encourage preservation of floodplains and major drainage courses in their natural condition to the greatest extent possible without compromising flood control and public safety objectives.	Planning Department Public Works	0-2 Years	General Fund



Staff Report

Agenda Item: **CROSSROADS AT MINGUS SUBDIVISION PARKS** – Discussion and consideration of identification of active and passive areas in parks (Tracts F & K) within the Crossroads at Mingus Subdivision.

Staff Contact: Dawn Norman, Community Services Supervisor
Gayle Mabery, Town Manager

Meeting Date: January 18, 2012

Background: On February 9, 2011, Steve Biasini, Project Manager for PTM Enterprises, LLC presented the Commission with proposed revised development plans for the Highlands Subdivision. During a period of several months following this meeting, the development went through a process to amend both the PAD and Final Plat of the subdivision before the Planning Commission and the Council. During that process, the project was officially renamed as the Crossroads at Mingus. As had been discussed at the February 9, 2011 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, the final amendments to the project resulted in two park sites in the development. Tract F is located at the intersection of Old Jerome Highway and Mescal Spur and is approximately 3.8 acres in size. Tract K is located on Skyline Boulevard in a U-shaped area between the two points where Sable Ridge Road intersects Skyline Blvd. and is approximately 2.83 acres in size.

The February 9, 2011 minutes from the Parks and Recreation Commission read as follows:

There was open discussion on the proposed revised plans:

- *All of the parks in the development would be transferred to the Town of Clarkdale and would be open to the public for use.*
- *Exhibit 4 - pedestrian system, there will be a granite walking surface for the 'conceptual walking' trails.*
- *Fencing and property line for lots 130-139.*
- *Park 5/Tract K - Passive park with benches, ramadas, tables and playground.*

The Commission proposed:

- *Omitting Park 5/Tract E in exchange for Lots 1&2.*
- *Tract F and Lots 1 and 2 be incorporated into Park 3/Tract S.*
- *The Commission's proposed Park 3 (Tract S, Tract F, and Lots 1 &2) be included in Phase 1 of the development.*

Project Manager Biasini expressed that the Commission's proposal was probable.

There was open discussion on the Commission's proposed Park 3 (Tract S, Tract F, Lots 1 & 2):

- *5-10 Parking Spaces*
- *Grass*
- *Basketball Court*
- *Bathrooms with running water*
- *Picnic Tables/Plaza*
- *Active Park*

Project Manager Biasini will review the original park plans and facilities and incorporate into the new Park 3. He will not duplicate the facilities offered in Park 5/Tract K. He will then bring back the new design for the Commission to review.

On October 12, 2011, the Commission reviewed and discussed the proposed parks. The minutes read as follows:

Steve Biasini, Project Manager for Crossroads at Mingus, explained background/history of proposed park area and neighborhood. Jodie Filardo, Community/Economic Development Director, was present to add comments that came forward from a staff meeting on the project. There was open discussion on the inclusion of a bathroom facility. Community/Economic Development Director Jodie Filardo explained having a bathroom on site encourages reasonable use of the park and facilities. Possible locations for the bathroom were discussed. Interim Public Safety Director John Wintersteen shared comments about bathroom location preferences. Other items discussed included: preferred parking location; walking path; location of court; handicap accessibility; horseshoe pits; number of shade structures; type of shades used; use of grass – CC&R's had originally required lawn as a tradeoff for now allowing grass at new homes; times and issues are different now considering installing grass; possible fencing; maintenance; connecting trails; safety; security; adequacy of area allotted for parking; size & types of bathroom structures.

Vice Chairperson Van Wye suggested having a public meeting for the immediate neighborhood. Chairperson Zanolli invited Project Manager Steve Biasini back with a map updated to include ideas discussed.

On January 5, 2012, in accordance with the desire from the Parks and Recreation Commission to see additional public input, a neighborhood meeting was held. There were approximately 40 people in attendance, including homeowners from the Mescal Spur/Cholla Lane area, owners of lots in the Crossroads at Mingus, and several people from other areas of Clarkdale.

Leading into the neighborhood meeting, staff received communication from neighbors in the surrounding area who expressed concern with several issues involving the park, including

proposed designs, uses and activities that might take place in the parks. Because the General Plan includes references to “active” and “passive” uses in parks, and those terms were also brought up in past discussions of these parks before the Parks and Recreation Commission, some of the issues revolved around what those terms mean, and how they might be applied to the parks in the Crossroads at Mingus Subdivision.

As a result of the significant discussion in the community and among staff about the terms active and passive, and at the suggestion of the Mayor, it was determined that there was a need to have more specific discussion and guidelines about what those two terms mean and how they might be applied to the two park sites in the Crossroads at Mingus.

Park design is an issue of importance to everyone in Clarkdale, and certainly to the people who will use the parks and live near them. A condition of approval for the Crossroads at Mingus parks was that both the Parks and Recreation Commission (P&R) and the Design Review Board (DRB) play roles in the design and approval process. Because our current codes are not definitive on the relationship between the DRB and the P&R Commission’s action relating to park design, we’ve developed a process, as follows:

- P&R will be the commission to work through the park design process.
- As a first step, P&R will develop and recommend a guideline that can be used when applying the terms “active” and “passive” with regard to parks and open space areas in Clarkdale.
- At the same time, P&R will recommend the areas within the two parks at the Crossroads at Mingus that are appropriate to consider as “active” and “passive”.
- Those two recommendations will be forwarded to the Town Council for final action (if P&R agrees on a recommendation at the Jan. 18, 2012 meeting, then the Council will consider the recommendations at their February 14, 2012 Council meeting).
- Following action by the Council on those two issues, P&R will consider specific amenities for each of the parks.
- Once the amenities and site plan design have been recommended by the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Site Plan will be subject to the approval of the DRB.

It is important to note that both P&R and DRB are standing bodies established by Town ordinance and appointed by the Town Council to provide ongoing citizen input on major policy areas. Just as they have to date on issues relating to these parks, the public will have the opportunity to provide input during these public meetings. As you all know, we ask our Boards and Commissions to focus attention on specific issues, weigh community values in making recommendations to the Town Council, and thoroughly research and review alternatives to accompany formal recommendations to the Town Council. We know that our Board and Commission members take this responsibility seriously, that you welcome citizen engagement in the process, and will give due consideration to the suggestions you hear about the design of the parks in the Crossroads at Mingus from the public, the recommendations that you receive from

staff, and the guidance provided in the General Plan, as you try to make a balanced decision about park designs.

During the Neighborhood Meeting held January 5th, the staff conveyed the process that will be used (identified above) as we move forward with park design and approval. We anticipate and welcome continued participation from members of the public who have an interest in how these parks develop.

At this time, in accordance with the process we've conveyed to the public and the Town Council, staff requests that the Commission review the park sites at the Crossroads at Mingus and identify appropriate active and passive areas in each of the parks. Although the Guidelines that you have reviewed give examples of specific amenities that will be appropriate in both active and passive areas, you will not be selecting those amenities during this agenda item. The specific amenities will be identified at a later date.

Staff has included the following exhibits to aid in your discussions at the meeting:

- Exhibit A – The subdivision layout for Crossroads at Mingus that shows the location of Tract F and Tract K in association with the entire subdivision.
- Exhibit B – A proposed designation of “active” and “passive” areas in Tract F.
- Exhibit C – A proposed designation of “active” and “passive” areas in Tract K.

Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Parks and Recreation Commission delineate active and passive designations for Tracts F and K in the Crossroads at Mingus, and forward those recommendations to the Town Council.

Exhibit A

Crossroads at Mingus Subdivision and Surrounding Area

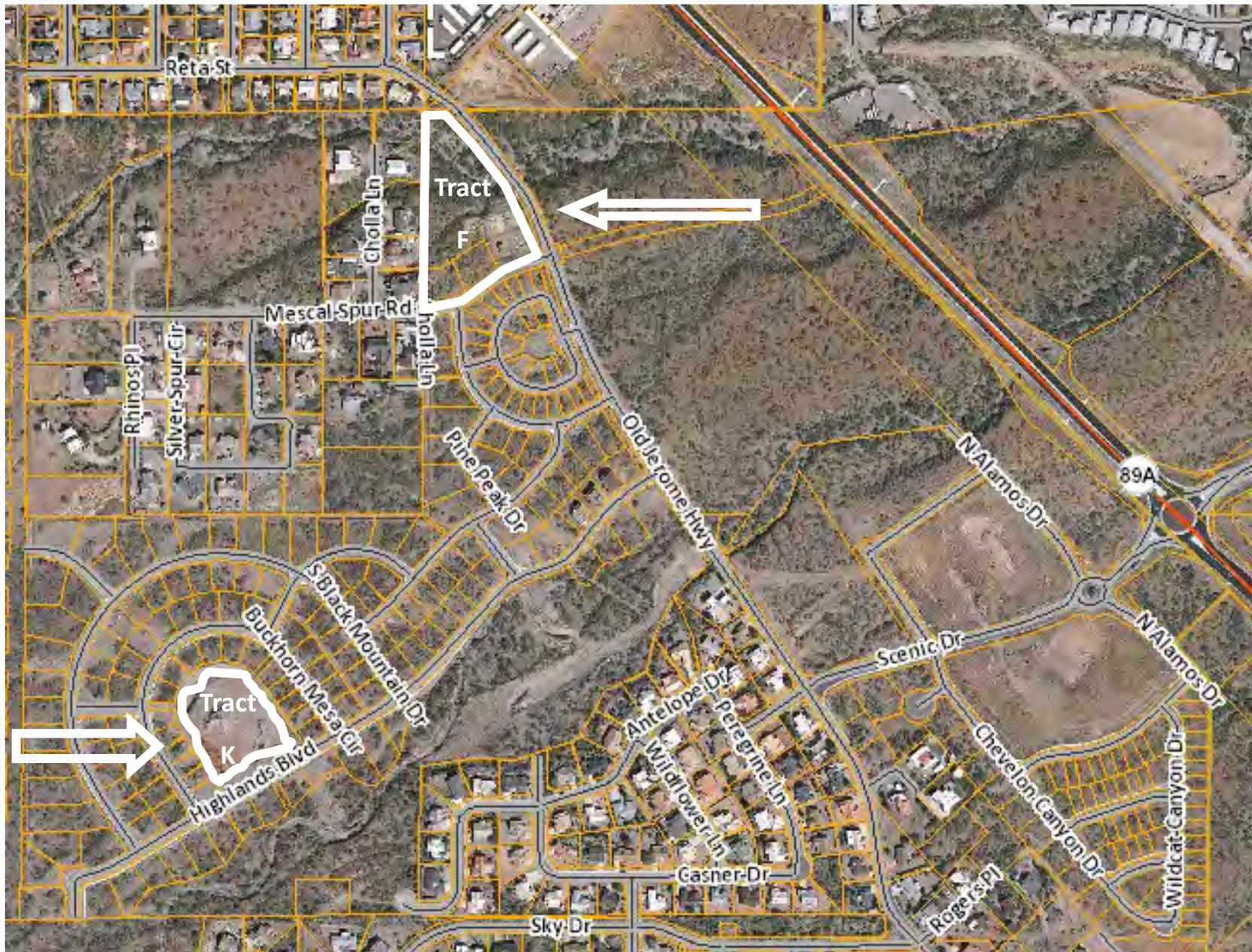


Exhibit B

Tract F—Proposed Designations for Active and Passive Areas



Exhibit C

Tract K—Active and Passive Areas





Staff Report

Agenda Item: **VERDE FRONT TRAILS** – An update and discussion on the Verde Front Trails.

Staff Contact: Dawn Norman, Community Services Supervisor

Meeting Date: January 18, 2012

Background: The Verde Front program is a multi-agency public planning process that began in 2009. The effort focuses on the area generally located from Cottonwood, Clarkdale and Jerome at the north to below Camp Verde at the south, and from the Verde River Greenway corridor to the upper reaches of the Black Mountain range. The Verde Front program is part of a forest-wide recreational planning effort that includes three sub-areas of the Prescott National Forest. In February 2011, the Forest-wide Recreational Strategy Coordinating Team, which includes representatives from the three planning sub-areas, released an 8-part Sustainable Recreation Strategy for Central Arizona. Trails and Open Space is one of the focus areas for the strategy. The Verde Front Trails Steering Committee was formed in May 2011, to review and prioritize potential trail facility improvements. This committee is comprised with many representatives from throughout the Verde Valley, including Yavapai County, Town of Clarkdale, City of Cottonwood, Town of Camp Verde, Town of Jerome, Arizona State Parks and Prescott National Forest.

The City of Cottonwood and Yavapai County agreed to serve as co-conveners of the Verde Front Trails Steering Committee. At their August 31, 2011 meeting, the Verde Front Trails Steering Committee endorsed two trail system proposals as top priorities. These proposals will be presented as recommendations to the Prescott National Forest, who will then make the final decision on any proposed activity in these areas:

Recommended Priority Projects:

1. West Mingus Avenue Recreation Area proposal: (Cottonwood/Clarkdale)
2. Copper Canyon trail improvements: (Camp Verde)

The next Verde Front Trails Steering Committee meeting will be held January 25, 2012, 3:00 p.m. at the Cottonwood Recreation Center.

Recommendation: This item is scheduled as an update only, and no official action is necessary from the Commission.

Verde Front Trails

West Mingus Avenue Recreation Area Proposal

The Verde Front program is a multi-agency public planning process that began in 2009. The effort focuses on the area generally located from Cottonwood, Clarkdale and Jerome at the north to below Camp Verde at the south, and from the Verde River Greenway corridor to the upper reaches of the Black Mountain range. The Verde Front program is part of a forest-wide recreational planning effort that includes three sub-areas of the Prescott National Forest. In February 2011, the Forest-wide Recreational Strategy Coordinating Team, which includes representatives from the three planning sub-areas, released an 8-part Sustainable Recreation Strategy for Central Arizona. Trails and Open Space is one of the focus areas for the strategy. The Verde Front Trails Steering Committee was formed in May 2011, to review and prioritize potential trail facility improvements.

The City of Cottonwood and Yavapai County agreed to serve as co-conveners of the Verde Front Trails Steering Committee. At their August 31, 2011 meeting, the Verde Front Trails Steering Committee endorsed two trail system proposals as top priorities. These proposals will be presented as recommendations to the Prescott National Forest, who will then make the final decision on any proposed activity in these areas:

Recommended Priority Projects:

1. West Mingus Avenue Recreation Area proposal: (Cottonwood/Clarkdale)
2. Copper Canyon trail improvements: (Camp Verde)

THE WEST MINGUS AVENUE RECREATION AREA PROPOSAL.

- Rehabilitation and restoration of the area past the end of West Mingus Avenue would include a non-motorized trail network and new trailhead parking area. The area has been used for many years for unmanaged recreation uses, off-road vehicle use, target shooting and illegal dumping of trash. A portion of the area includes the old town dump site.
- Phase 1 of the proposal includes almost 3 miles of trails for different abilities ranging from easy to challenging. 80% of the proposed trails are already existing in the form of old forest and mining roads.
- The area is located within the town limits of Clarkdale with the project area entirely in the Prescott National Forest. Cottonwood and Yavapai County also share boundaries with the project area.
- Primary access would be from FR 493 (the extension of West Mingus Ave) from a new parking area with potential secondary trail access from surrounding properties.
- Project requires installing new fencing and access barriers along Forest Road 493.
- The new parking area would include additional fencing, barriers and signs.
- Trail access points could be from the Mesquite Hills subdivision which would connect to the Cottonwood Ranch development, as well as to Yavapai College campus or other points in Clarkdale.
- Relocation of the target shooting area and restoration of that area will be required.

THE PROCESS

- Letters of support are requested from the surrounding properties, various agencies and stakeholders, including: Town of Clarkdale, Yavapai County, Yavapai College, Arizona Game & Fish, Mesquite Hills, Cottonwood Ranch, and various user groups, such as mountain bicyclists and equestrians.
- PowerPoint presentation and additional background material are available.
- Concerns, issues, questions or problems should also be addressed at this point.
- The City of Cottonwood has agreed to help coordinate the submittal of the proposal to the Forest Service. Agencies are invited to work together to accomplish these goals.
- The Prescott National Forest will review and make the final decision on project proposals. Public outreach and input will continue through this process.
- The Forest Service will make the determination on the NEPA environmental review process. Final project design will be developed as part of the process.

Potential Partners/Stakeholders for the West Mingus Avenue Recreation Area Proposal.

- Prescott National Forest
- City of Cottonwood
- Town of Clarkdale
- Yavapai County
- Yavapai College
- Mesquite Hills
- Cottonwood Ranch
- Various user groups, such as mountain bicycle, hiker and equestrian representatives.

SUSTAINABLE RECREATION STRATEGY IN CENTRAL ARIZONA

The goals and strategies developed through the Forest-wide effort are organized in eight categories. Each category includes a recommended outline for implementation. Separate Action Teams are proposed to prioritize implementation strategies.

- COMPREHENSIVE INVENTORY
- TRAILS, ACCESS AND OPEN SPACE
- EDUCATION AND INFORMATION
- UNMANAGED RECREATION
- INCREASE VOLUNTEERISM
- RIVER AND RIPARIAN RECREATION
- FACILITIES
- SUSTAINABILITY – INSTITUTIONAL, FINANCIAL, SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL

PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA:

Following the synthesis of all input, Zone Leadership Teams prioritized the strategies according to three initial prioritization criteria:

- 1) Identified need by the community, will solve a problem, or move towards desired future.
- 2) Volunteer/partner energy and capacity to implement this strategy.
- 3) Will further overall goal of Sustainable Recreation (social, economic, ecological).

FOREST-WIDE RECREATION STRATEGY PLANNING - THREE PHASES:

The Prescott National Forest (PNF) initiated a Forest-wide sustainable recreation planning process in September of 2009. The goal of the PNF was to serve as a catalyst for a landscape-scale “all hands all lands” approach to addressing common recreation challenges and enhancing the joint capacity of land managers, communities and recreationists to implement shared recreation goals. The draft Goals and Strategies were developed through a collaborative process with input from a wide cross section of community members, recreation interests, as well as local government and state and federal agencies. The analysis of all inputs revealed that the key goals desired by each zone are very similar.

Phase 1 - Identify Current Situation and Desired Future: Community meetings were held in each zone to learn more about local recreation interests. Similar meetings were also held with agency representatives, PNF employees, and youth reps. **2009 - 2010**

Phase 2 - How to Reach our Desired Future - Strategy Development: Based on the results of Phase I meetings, the zone leadership teams developed the Recreation Strategy vision which includes a set of draft goals and strategies for various categories. **2010 - 2011**

Phase 3 - Action Planning: Zone leadership teams (including key agencies/local jurisdictions) will coordinate prioritization of proposed strategies, broader sharing, input and expanding participation. The current structure is proposed to transition into an area-wide recreation coalition for ongoing coordination, monitoring and support. **2011 - 2012**

SUMMARY

The overall Forest-wide Recreation Strategy process is now at the Action Planning phase. Several Action Teams have been formed. The Education and Volunteer efforts have been organized on a Forest-wide basis. The Trails and Open Space efforts are organized on a sub-area basis. The multi-agency Verde Front Trails Steering Committee was formed in May 2011 to identify possible projects and implementation strategies.

The local agencies have an opportunity to work together with the Forest Service to create a new vision for this outstanding but overlooked landscape that forms the backdrop for our community. Documenting support for the proposal from the various agencies and stakeholder groups will help move this idea forward. Identifying partnership opportunities and any challenges to the proposal is part of the next step to this process. The essential point is that we have an opportunity to work together to create a new vision for this landscape next to our communities that provides a positive, beneficial and sustainable relationship for present and future generations.

CONTACT:

Charlie Scully, Long-Range Planner
City of Cottonwood
cscully@cottonwoodaz.gov (928) 634-5505 ext. 3323



Town of Clarkdale

P.O. Box 308
Clarkdale, AZ 86324
(928) 639-2400 phone
(928) 639-2409 fax

December 19, 2011

Celeste Gordon
Verde District Ranger
Prescott National Forest
PO Box 670
Camp Verde, Arizona 86322

RE: Letter of Support, "West Mingus Avenue Recreation Area Proposal"

Dear Ms. Gordon,

On behalf of the Town of Clarkdale, it is my pleasure to submit this letter in support of the *West Mingus Avenue Recreation Area Proposal*. The project area is located in the Clarkdale town boundaries, on the Prescott National Forest. The Clarkdale Town Council recently adopted the 2012 Clarkdale General Plan, which identifies support for the trails system for the *West Mingus Avenue Recreation Area*.

We are also supportive of the ongoing, multi-agency, public planning process identified in the proposal and our desire to continue to work in collaboration with the Forest Service and others towards the identified objectives. In fact, this project fits well under the objectives and policies of the Clarkdale General Plan, which support regional planning efforts with local, county, state and federal agencies to create and maintain coordinated regional recreation and open space programs.

The *West Mingus Avenue Recreation Area Proposal* is located in the beautiful chaparral-covered foothills at the base of Mingus Mountain. This is an outstanding project that will support the long term goals of ensuring a healthy landscape by transforming a generally unmanaged and overlooked area into an attractive recreational resource for the entire region. The proposed improvements will provide beneficial uses for residents, visitors and the general public in the form of safe, environmentally sustainable, non-motorized trails and outdoor recreational opportunities.

Sincerely,

Gayle Mabery
Town Manager

Sustainable Recreation Strategy in Central Arizona

DRAFT Vision, Goals, and Strategies

February, 2011

Introduction

The Prescott National Forest (PNF) initiated a sustainable recreation planning process in September of 2009. The goal of the PNF was to serve as a catalyst for a landscape scale “all hands all lands” approach to addressing common recreation challenges and enhancing the joint capacity of land managers, communities and recreationists to implement shared recreation goals. Two support teams were engaged to provide recreation planning expertise and design and facilitate the process – Independent Resources, a FS enterprise team, and Southwest Decision Resources, an independent facilitation firm contracted through an interagency agreement with the US Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution.

Existing collaborative groups interested in recreation agreed to lead this effort in each of three geographic zones (based on a previous social network mapping project that identified natural versus jurisdictional borders): 1) southern – Upper Agua Fria Watershed Partnership (UAFWP), 2) western/northern – PNF Stewardship Forum, and 3) Verde Valley – Verde Front Group. An area-wide multi-stakeholder coordination team has been leading the process. The overall geographic scope is referred to as the “area” and the sub-regions as “zones.”

The planning effort has three general phases:

Phase 1 - Current Situation and Desired Future: Two-three community meetings were held in each zone to learn more about local recreation interests. Similar meetings were also held with agency representatives, PNF employees, and youth.

Phase 2 - How to Reach our Desired Future - Strategy Development: Based on the results of Phase I meetings, the zone leadership teams developed the vision below and a set of draft goals and strategies (this document)

Phase 3 - Action Planning: We are about to begin Phase 3 for Zone leadership teams (including key agencies/local jurisdictions) prioritization of proposed strategies, broader sharing, input and expanding participation through 2nd set of community meetings. The current structure will also transition into an area-wide recreation coalition for ongoing coordination, monitoring and support.

DRAFT Recreation Strategy Vision

The Vision is a very broad statement describing your shared desired future.

Adapted from community landscape visions developed by 11 communities in the area during 2007-2008

The communities in and around the Greater Prescott National Forest Area will value the area for the many recreational services that it provides its residents and visitors. Recreationists will respect and utilize the public lands and surrounding lands in harmony with each other and the environment. The Greater Prescott National Forest Area landscape will be a place where outdoor experiences abound and all people will have the opportunity to enjoy and help conserve the rural and community character, natural beauty, cultural resources and history of the area.

Through ongoing dialogue among land managers, recreation providers, and communities, a thoughtful and sustainable balance of social, economic and environmental benefits will be achieved.

A comprehensive sustainable recreation strategy, area-wide, will conserve ecosystem health, promote robust economies in our cities and towns, and protect cultural resources. An informed and engaged citizenry will actively participate in an ongoing collaborative process of recreation opportunity provision that ensures the area’s landscape will be enjoyed by generations to come.

DRAFT Area-wide Goals and Strategies

Introduction

The following draft Goals and Strategies were developed through the collaborative process with input from a wide cross section of community members, recreation interests, as well as local government and state and federal agencies. The analysis of all inputs revealed that the key goals desired by each zone are very similar. Note that the convening agencies and organizations that are listed are only those initially proposed.

Following the synthesis of all input, Zone Leadership Teams prioritized the strategies according to three initial **prioritization criteria**:

- 1) Identified need by the community, will solve a problem, or move towards desired future
- 2) Volunteer/partner energy able to focus on this strategy
- 3) Will further overall goal of Sustainable Recreation (social, economic, ecological)

Prioritized strategies are shown on the following page.

Input Sources for Draft Recreation Goals and Strategies

- Community Recreation Strategy Workshops in each Zone, held in the following communities:
 - Zone 1: Black Canyon City, Mayer, Crown King
 - Zone 2: Prescott, Prescott Valley, Chino Valley
 - Zone 3: Cottonwood, Camp Verde
- Area Youth workshop (Youth Conservation Corps)
- PNF employees workshop
- Interagency Meetings
- Zone leadership team meetings
- Area-wide Recreation Strategy Coordination Team meetings
- Area Wide Recreation Supply and Demand Information
- Recent Tourism Studies
- 2008 Arizona Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)
(based on public survey and recommendations)

Community Prioritized Strategies - Draft (top 6 per zone)

Strategy	Zone		
	1	2	3
Goal: Enhance <u>trail</u> user experiences			
Collaboratively develop a Master Trails Plan (non-motorized and motorized) - to address user needs, trail connectivity, new trails, conflicts, etc.	X	X	X
Early in Master Trails Planning process, identify trail plans that can be implemented in short term	X	X	X
Develop a collaborative trail maintenance effort	X	X	X
Goal: Increase user access to relevant recreation <u>information</u>			
Assess, plan, and improve Trails and Public Lands Information (signs, website, trailheads, maps)	X	X	X
Goal: Provide quality <u>outdoor education</u> opportunities			
Promote hands-on, field-based educational opportunities with heritage and natural resources	X	X	?
Goal: Better address <u>unmanaged recreation</u>			
Assemble coalition strategy team to study, recommend improvements, set up coordination system for more effective inter-agency law enforcement (OHV, recreational shooting, etc.)	X	X	
Goal: Increase <u>volunteerism</u> in order to offer recreation benefits while addressing more on-the-ground recreation project needs.			
Area Wide Recreation Volunteer System , including a trail host program		X	X
Develop/strengthen citizen science programs as a form of recreation which also helps the government agencies and facilitates learning and on the ground collaborative problem solving	X	x	
Goal: Enhance <u>river and riparian recreation</u> opportunities while maintaining necessary protection			
Area-wide comprehensive river and riparian recreation assessment (Verde, Agua Fria, including river access, facilities, etc.	X		
Coordinate with and support Verde River Greenway effort , including possible interagency agreement(s) to support Dead Horse Ranch State Park operations			X
Goal: Improve user <u>facilities</u>			
Develop multi-jurisdictional recreation facilities master plan (for all users)			x

Zone 1 = Agua Fria / Southern Zone 2 = Prescott / Western Zone 3 = Verde / Eastern

Summary of Thematic Areas, Goals and Strategies

A. COMPREHENSIVE INVENTORY

Assess status of all recreation related amenities (trails, trailheads, campgrounds, facilities, access, etc.)

B. TRAILS, ACCESS AND OPEN SPACE

Goal 1: Enhance trail user experiences

- a) Collaboratively develop **sub-regional Master Trails Plans** (non-motorized and motorized) - to address user needs, trail connectivity, new trails, conflicts, etc.
- b) Early in Master Trails Planning process, identify trail plans that can be implemented in **short term**
- c) Develop a collaborative **trail maintenance** effort

Goal 2: Address public land access and open space issues

- a) Conduct a multi-jurisdictional **open space study**, identify key recommendations to address open space concerns, and begin implementation.
- b) Conduct a multi-jurisdictional **access study**, identify key recommendations to address access concerns, and begin implementation.

C. EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

Goal 1: Increase user access to relevant recreation information

- a) Assess, plan, and improve **Trails and Public Lands Information** (signs, website, trailheads, maps)

Goal 2: Expand and improve outdoor education opportunities

- b) Collaborate to expand and improve **youth nature-based education programming**
- c) Support and expand **youth on-the-job training programs**
- d) Promote **hands-on, field-based educational opportunities** to increase local and visitor knowledge of heritage and natural resources (all ages)
- e) Support **Highlands Center expansion into Verde** and potential use of riverfront parcel for to develop second facility to better reach area youth
- f) Enhance **scenic and driving opportunities**

D. UNMANAGED RECREATION

Goal 1: Better address unmanaged recreation

- a) Assemble coalition strategy team to study, recommend improvements, set up coordination system for **more effective inter-agency law enforcement** (OHV, recreation shooting, etc.)
- b) Enhance recreational experiences through a **trash and dumping mitigation and clean-up program**

E. INCREASE VOLUNTEERISM

Goal: Increase volunteerism in order to offer recreation benefits while addressing more on-the-ground recreation project needs.

- a) Area-Wide **Recreation Volunteer System**, including *trail host* and *citizen science* programs

F. RIVER AND RIPARIAN RECREATION

Goal 1: Enhance river and riparian recreation opportunities while maintaining necessary protection

- a) Area-wide **comprehensive river and riparian recreation assessment** (Verde, Agua Fria, etc), including river access, facilities, protection, etc.
- b) Coordinate with and support **Verde River Greenway effort** (Zone 3)
- c) Develop **interagency agreement(s) to support Verde River Greenway** operations
- d) **Enhance existing river facilities**, and develop new facilities where needed and if sustainable.

G. FACILITIES

Goal 1: Improve user facilities

- a) Develop multi-jurisdictional **recreation facilities master plan** (for all users)

Goal 2: Enhance camping opportunities

- a) Conduct area wide **camping inventory**, execute coordination and improvement actions (all types)

Goal 3: Address recreation fee issues

- a) Conduct area wide analysis and recommendations for more **streamlined recreation fee process**, including consideration of area/zone single pay pass options, and common fee amounts

H. SUSTAINABILITY – INSTITUTIONAL, FINANCIAL, SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL

Goal 1: Build necessary agency support, including integration into agency plans

Goals 2: Secure and coordinate necessary funding to ensure staff and other support for follow-up planning, implementation, and coalition coordination

Goal 3: Design and establish Collaborative Recreation Coalition for ongoing communication, coordination, and monitoring

- Overall goals, purpose, scope
- Leadership, structure and participation
- Timeline, milestone events

Goal 4: Utilize sustainability criteria for program planning and monitoring

A. COMPREHENSIVE INVENTORY

Strategy	Assess the status of all recreation related amenities (trails, trailheads, campgrounds, facilities, access, etc.) PRECURSER TO ALL SUBSEQUENT STRATEGIES
Actions	Gather all existing data (secondary research), identify information gaps Create additional GIS layers or other user friendly way to share and analyze info
Resources	
Geography	Area wide
Who	InRe/PNF, Yavapai County, land management agencies, local municipalities, tourism/chambers

B. TRAILS, ACCESS AND OPEN SPACE

Goal 1: Enhance trail user experiences

a. Strategy	Collaboratively develop sub-regional Master Trails Plans (non-motorized and motorized) - to address user conflicts, trail connectivity, new trails, etc.
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine connectivity, loop trails to trail heads, trail engineering, trail quality vs. quantity, recreational value, dead end trail mitigation, low value trails , cost/benefit analysis, etc. Consider connectivity in terms of user groups Consider Yavapai County Loop Trail Need designated non-motorized trails on the Verde Front Mitigate user group conflicts when designating trails (incl. non-motorized conflicts, such as bikes and horses) Explore opportunity to link trails and wildlife corridors (AZGF)
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased education Maintenance component required GIS Time and input of agency coordination Volunteer coordination staffing – financial support
Geography	Landscape scale but sub-regional approach, while ensuring relevant linkages between zones
Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zone 1: Black Canyon Trail Coalition (BCTC), BLM, local communities, Prescott Valley, Dewey-Humboldt, Crown King, Yavapai County, UAFWP, AZGF, user groups Zone 2: no convener yet identified Zone 3: City of Cottonwood*, Yavapai County*, all local municipalities, AZ State Parks, PNF, BLM, NPS, AZGF, user groups Area-wide: State Lands
b. Strategy	Early in Master Trails Planning processes, identify trail plans that can be implemented in the short term
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build on planning work already completed (e.g., VV Trails Plan) Work at 2 scales: regional/area-wide and local Focus on one or two trails (motorized and non) Gather user groups together Focus on one or two projects to build success/momentum, such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rails to Trails via MacMoRan (Jerome-Clarkdale; right-of-way below Mayer, etc). Black Canyon City Trail to Black Canyon National Recreational Trail, Alto Pit, Circle Trail
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County Maps Evaluate the possibility of completing the General Crook Trail from Ash Creek to Ft. Whipple

Geography	Sub-regional
Who	Relevant land management agencies* (Zone 1 and 3 yes; Zone 2 unclear)
c. Strategy	Develop collaborative trail maintenance effort
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer opportunities • Adopt-a-Trail • Link to Community Forest Trust (CFT)/PNF volunteer program
Resources	Volunteers, agencies, contractors, shared staff/agreements
Geography	All zones
Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Zone 1:</i> BCTC?, BLM, local communities, AZGF • <i>Zone 2:</i> CTF, PNF, local communities, user groups, AZGF • <i>Zone 3:</i> ???, local municipalities, NPS, AZGF • <i>All:</i> Audubon? Backcountry Horsemen? YC Trails Assoc? CFT?

Goal 2: Address public land access and open space issues

a. Strategy	Conduct multi-jurisdictional open space study , identify key recommendations to address open space concerns, and begin implementation.
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at maintaining/enhancing wildlife connectivity & habitat corridors in new road construction. • Identify current hot spots (Chino Valley and Bradshaw Ranger Districts) • Build on existing open space studies • Prioritize, identify areas of impact • Get community buy-in
Resources	Grants for easement purchase
Geography	All Zones, but possible zone level studies
Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Zone 1:</i> BLM, local communities • <i>Zone 2:</i> Central AZ Land Trust, local communities • <i>Zone 3:</i> Verde Valley Land Preservation Institute (VVLPI), NPS, local communities • <i>Area wide:</i> AZGF (working on linkages, corridors, easements, etc), TNC, PNF, State Lands, Central Az Grasslands Coalition
b. Strategy	Conduct multi-jurisdictional access study , identify key recommendations to address access concerns, and begin implementation.
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine easements through new developments (state land) • Identify current hot spots (Chino Valley and Bradshaw Ranger Districts) • Build on existing studies • Prioritize, identify areas of impact • Get community buy-in
Resources	Grants for easement purchase
Geography	All Zones
Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Zone 1:</i> BLM, local communities • <i>Zone 2:</i> Central AZ Land Trust, local communities • <i>Zone 3:</i> Verde Valley Land Preservation Institute (VVLPI), NPS, local communities (incl. Jerome) • <i>Area wide:</i> State Lands?, Yavapai County?, AZGF? (working on linkages, corridors, easements, etc), TNC, PNF

C. EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

Goal 1: Increase user access to relevant recreation information

a. Strategy	Assess, plan, and improve Trails and Public Lands Information (signs, website, trailheads, maps, etc.)
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider coordination between county, cities, and PNF to provide cross agency maps County • Look at web development, maintenance and cross connections • Develop trail guides that balance logistic and interpretive information; improved maps • Include recreation behavior (rules and ethics) • Include heritage and natural resources • Examine signage on access roads • Partner with chambers, tourism, hotels, real estate for distribution of newcomer info • Communication between agencies and other groups • Do ground-truthing (correct info for current conditions and opportunities)
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attract people with web skills; GIS and web • Volunteers (to check trails, rec. sites and collect data)
Geography	All Zones
Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Zone 1:</i> BLM, user groups • <i>Zone 2:</i> CFT?, PNF, chambers/tourism, BLM, local municipalities, user groups • <i>Zone 3:</i> PNF, local municipalities, chambers/tourism, user groups • <i>Area-wide:</i> Yavapai Trails Association?, Yavapai County?, Sierra Club?. land management agencies, AZGF

Goal 2: Expand and improve outdoor education opportunities

a. Strategy	Collaborate to expand and improve youth nature-based education programming
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at existing youth forest programs in other regions • Re-engage the education working group to identify other partners • Start an education working group on the Verde Front
Resources	
Geography	Zone level collaborative groups?
Who	Potential Co-conveners and participants – Highlands Center for Natural History (HCNH), NRCS, Orme Summer Program, Chauncey YMCA and other camps, Yavapai County Cooperative Extension, Youth Education Working Group, NPS on Verde side, State Parks, Friends of the Verde River, local teachers, AZGF, Audubon, etc.
b. Strategy	Support and expand youth on-the-job training programs
Actions	<p>Youth Conservation Corps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate 2010 program • Re-engage the education working group to identify new YCC partners • Assist in future proposals for YCC program • Examine options to expand program <p>Student Conservation Association</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner with BLM, Dept of Labor, Prescott Valley Parks and Rec, and others to bring an SCA program to the region
Resources	
Geography	Area wide
Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YCC: Yavapai County Educational Service Agency, PNF, State Parks, local camps, youth organizations (e.g., Big Brothers-Big Sisters), communities, NPS (zone 3), AZGF

- SCA: **BLM**, Dept of Labor, PNF, Prescott Valley

c. Strategy	Promote hands-on, field-based educational opportunities to increase local and visitor knowledge of heritage and natural resources (all ages)
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train volunteer facilitators/leaders/interpreters • Create Programs on invasive species, riparian systems, ranges issues, respect for multi-use, fire in ecosystems, and bird walk field trips • Coordinate w/ NGO's and community resources; chambers, hotels, tourism • Improve Website and point resources/ website looks • Consider Programs on invasive species, riparian systems, ranges issues, respect for multi-use, fire in ecosystems, and bird walk field trips
Resources	Financial resources to offer and develop programs
Geography	All Zones w/ regional focus and communication
Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zone 1: UAFWP?, HCNH?, Friends of the Agua Fria, Prescott Valley, BLM? • Zone 2: HCNH, youth education working group, local municipalities/tourism/chambers/museum historical society, Prescott Valley, • Zone 3: HCNH?, NPS, local municipalities/tourism/chambers/museums/ historical society • Area wide: AZGF, PNF (participate), Coop Extension, Audubon
d. Strategy	Support Highlands Center expansion into Verde and potential use of riverfront parcel for to develop second facility to better reach area youth
Actions	
Resources	Grants or large donors to support the HCNH programs
Geography	
Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Convener: HCNH (lead and do NEPA) combine with Verde Greenway effort • Participants: NPS, State Parks, Friends of Verde River, BLM, AZGF
e. Strategy	Enhance scenic and driving opportunities
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify areas, near roads that have unique features, consider scenic-by-way status and funding, develop interpretive signs/brochures - Consider signage and day use area improvement upgrades (road access and day use facilities)
Resources	- Coordination between ADOT county, PNF, NPS and cities
Geography	All Zones w/ regional focus and communication
Who	Potential Co-conveners: ADOT, Chamber, community groups, county Participants: local government, tourism boards...

D. UNMANAGED RECREATION

Goal: Better address unmanaged recreation

a. Strategy	Coalition task team to study, recommend improvements, set up coordination system for more effective inter-agency law enforcement (OHV, recreational shooting, etc.)
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create the list of key law enforcement officers (LEO) to make up task team • Identify cross jurisdictional issues and opportunities for enhanced coordination • Develop interagency agreements for law enforcement • Look to volunteer host program for volunteer patrol presence • Get shooters and other users together to disseminate safety etiquette information and develop strategies for locations, ways to reduce conflicts with other recreationists.
Resources	Inventory signage, informational brochures
Geography	All zones

- Who**
- Potential Conveners: **AZGF?**, County, PNF, CFT
 - Participants: PNF, BLM, Stewardship Forum, sportsman clubs, Jerome (fire and rescue), CV

b. Strategy	Enhance recreational experiences through a trash and dumping mitigation and clean-up program
Actions	Organize a team with most effected agencies
Resources Required	Map of sites
Geography	All zones
Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Zone 1:</i> [convenor?], BLM • <i>Zone 2:</i> CFT, local municipalities • <i>Zone 3:</i> Stewards of Public Lands, CFT?, local municipalities (inc Jerome) • <i>Area wide:</i> Yavapai County, other agencies, Waste Management, AZGF

E. INCREASE VOLUNTEERISM

Goal: Increase volunteerism in order to offer recreation benefits while addressing more on-the-ground recreation project needs.

a. Strategy	Area-Wide Recreation Volunteer System , including <i>trail host</i> and <i>citizen science</i> programs
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Align and streamline volunteer processes between agencies and create agreements • Sharing of data/resources • Safety and etiquette training for OHV users • Build successful models • Develop processes, training, tools • Educations programs (forest regulations, natural history) • Reduce user conflicts and better manage uses • Develop/strengthen citizen science programs as a form of recreation which also helps t agency and facilitates learning and on the ground collaborative problem solving • Link to volunteer monitoring of recreation strategy progress as well
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedicated and effective staff working both in agencies and non-profit • Task team • Deep buy in! • Staff time • Tools, radios, uniforms • Kiosks, informational literature, showing trails and appropriate uses
Geography	All zones
Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Zone 1:</i> UAFWP, CFT, Friends of the Agua Fria?, BLM, local municipalities, user groups • <i>Zone 2:</i> CFT, local municipalities, user groups • <i>Zone 3:</i> CFT, NPS, local municipalities, user groups, NPS? • <i>Area wide:</i> PNF, BLM, AZGF, CFT, Yavapai County, Cooperative Extension, HCNH?

F. RIVER AND RIPARIAN RECREATION

Goal: Enhance river and riparian recreation opportunities while maintaining necessary protection

a. Strategy	Area-wide comprehensive river and riparian recreation assessment (Verde, Agua Fria, etc), including river access, facilities, protection, etc.
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inventory existing river access/facilities with improvement recommendations. • Monitor conditions and flows • Create a task force (information, education)
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GIS mapping • Funding • People • River recreation examples
Geography	All zones
Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Zone 1:</i> BLM, Friends of the Agua Fria, UAFWP • <i>Zone 2:</i> ? • <i>Zone 3:</i> Verde River Greenway (State Parks, County, TNC), local municipalities (incl. Camp Verde), Friends of the Verde River Greenway, Coconino NF?, PNF • <i>Area wide:</i> Land management agencies, land owners, non profits, AZGF
b. Strategy	Coordinate with and support Verde River Greenway effort (Zone 3)
Actions	Organize and coordinate overall effort (Nature Conservancy)
Resources	Organization and coordinator
Geography	Zone 3
Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Co-conveners:</i> State parks, Yavapai County, TNC • <i>Participants:</i> VV cities, county, Friends of Verde River Greenway, PNF, Coconino National Forest, NPS, landowners, AZGF
c. Strategy	Develop interagency agreement(s) to support Verde River Greenway operations
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine Forest Service and other federal and state park agency co-operating techniques • Look at Service First agreement options for collaborative operations • Prepare a draft collaborative operating agreement for consideration
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data/statistics from park operations • Funding sources
Geography	Zone 3
Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Co-conveners:</i> State Parks, TNC, Yavapai County • <i>Participants:</i> NPS, local municipalities, HCNH, BLM, AGFD-yes, CFT, PNF
d. Strategy	Enhance existing river facilities, and develop new facilities where needed and if sustainable.
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope out river access points/ camp ground • Develop trail enhancement along rivers • Maps
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding • Availability of sites
Geography	All zones
Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Zone 1:</i> • <i>Zone 2:</i> • <i>Zone 3:</i> Verde River Greenway (State Parks, County, TNC)*, local municipalities (incl. Camp

- Verde), Friends of the Verde River Greenway, Coconino NF?, PNF, NPS, landowners
- *Area wide:* PNF, AZGF

G. FACILITIES

Goal 1: Improve user facilities

a. Strategy Develop multi-jurisdictional recreation facilities master plan (for all users)

Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inventory existing facilities to determine deficiencies, duplication, and conditions • Assess demand by user group • Create a plan for new facilities and upgrades to existing facilities • Assess and monitor demand equestrian emphasis in Zone 2 • Look for ways to address communication challenges if doing an area wide process
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data/statistics from all affected agencies, businesses, and organizations • Funding sources • Design capabilities • MOUs, IGAs, partnerships • City of Cottonwood has bike plan and has allocated money to create trails
Geography	All Zones
Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Convener: Yavapai County, community leaders, Verde Greenway, other key agencies • Participants: Yavapai County, City of Prescott and other local municipalities, HCNH, BLM CFT, PNF

Goal 2: Improve camping opportunities

a. Strategy Conduct area-wide camping inventory, execute coordination and improvement actions

Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note: not timely budget-wise; include camping within overall inventory (see A); Verde Greenway effort may be addressing along Verde • Needs inventory; quality vs. quantity; services & location; availability of infrastructure. • Create a plan with public and private campground providers • Consider new camping opportunities along the Greenway
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inventory of public and private campgrounds • Data/statistics from all affected agencies, businesses, and organizations • Funding options • Design capabilities of agencies • Partnerships
Geography	All zones Zone teams
Who	Potential Convener - ? Participants – County, City of Prescott and other cities, CFT

Goal 3: Address recreation fee issues

a. Strategy Conduct area wide analysis and recommendations for more streamlined/improved recreation fee process, including area/zone single pay pass options

Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review all fee mechanisms in place and assess • Create scenarios of various new options • Enter into agreements w/ partners • Identify barriers that prevent collaboration • Enhance donation opportunities
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at need for a recreation fees consultant? • Get chambers of commerce and tourism bureaus involved

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need technical means of tracking number of times pass is used at each facility to do accounting.
Geography	All zones
Who	Potential Convener - Cities Participants - Cities, AGFD, BLM, State (PNF to hold off, no new fees per Secretary)

H. SUSTAINABILITY – INSTITUTIONAL, FUNDING, SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL

1. Build necessary agency support, including integration into agency plans
2. Secure and coordinate necessary funding to ensure staff and other support for follow-up planning, implementation, and coalition coordination
3. Design and establish Collaborative Recreation Coalition for ongoing communication, coordination, and monitoring
 - a. Overall goals, purpose, scope
 - b. Leadership, structure and participation
 - c. Timeline, milestone events
4. **Socio-ecological-economic sustainability: utilize sustainability criteria for program planning and monitoring**

Draft Evaluation Criteria

1. Will help secure sustainable funding?
2. Will assist planning for growth/secure open space?
3. Will help resolve conflicts?
4. Will improve collaborative planning and partnerships?
5. Responds to the needs of special populations and changing demographics?
6. Will help protect natural resources
7. Will help protect cultural resources?
8. Will assist communication with and educate the public?
9. Will involve youth?

Rating/Ranking/Priority/Scoring

- Priority criteria could include:
 - Feasibility for the relevant land management agencies (staff time, funding, current agency priority, etc.)
 - Identified need by the community, will solve a current problem or move towards a common desired future
 - Partner volunteer energy able to focus on this strategy
 - Will further the overall goal of sustainable recreation (including not compromising social, ecological and economic sustainability)
- By Zone Leadership Groups and Area-Wide Leadership Group
- Use Phase 1 (1-2 yr), or Phase 2 (3-5 yr) for Feasibility and Priority Ranking
- Once potential strategies are built use sustainable recreation criteria* to evaluate options

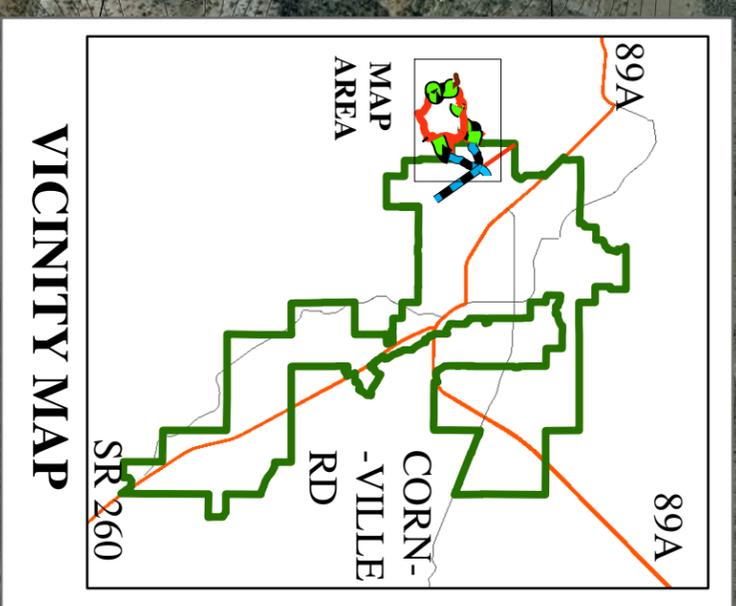
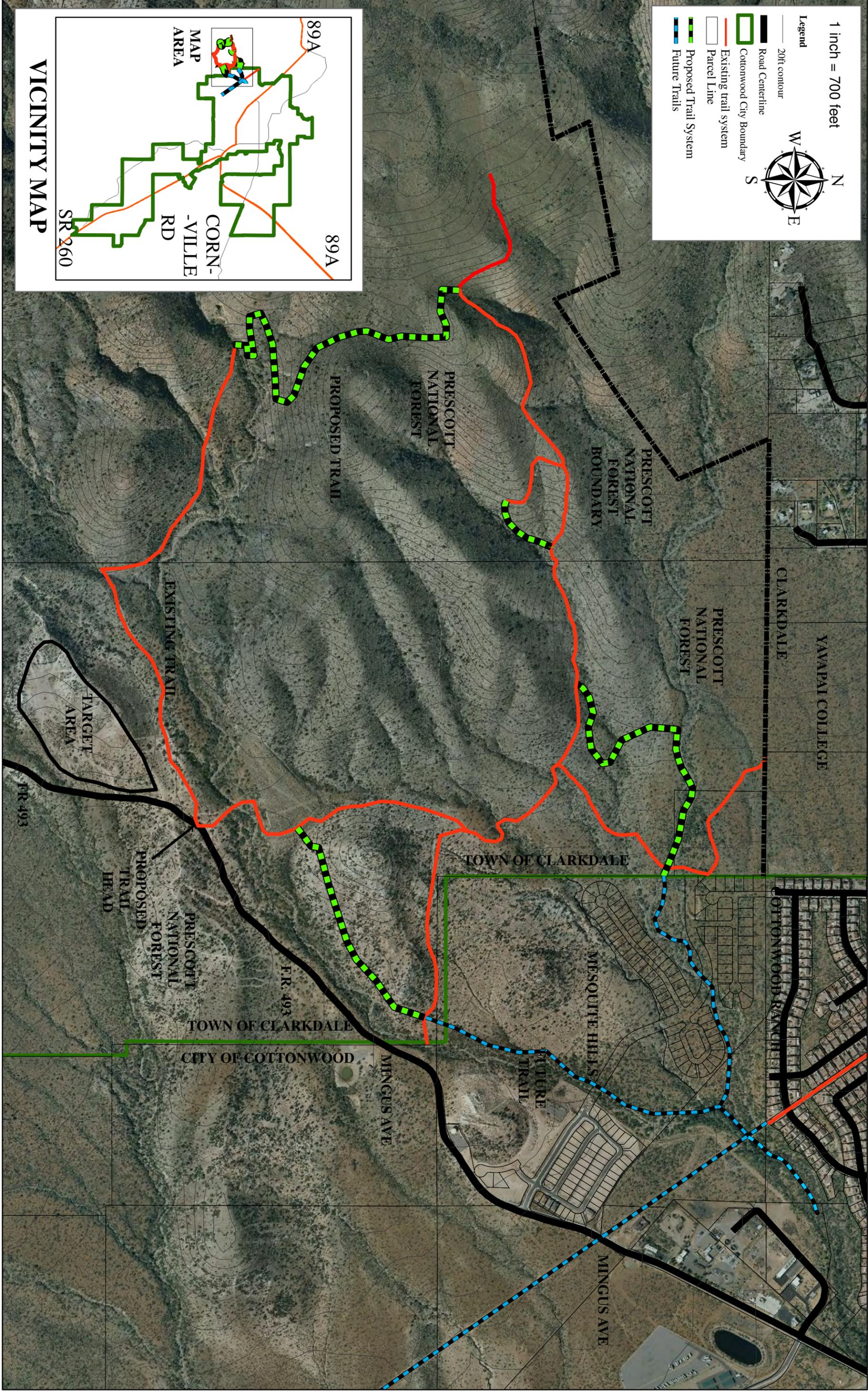
Note: To be used as criteria to gauge the potential for strategies being considered for inclusion in the Greater Prescott National Forest Area Sustainable Recreation Strategy for collective community and agency actions (2011-2015).

Source - *Executive Summary, ARIZONA 2008 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)*

1 inch = 700 feet

Legend

- 20ft contour
- Road Centerline
- ▭ Cottonwood City Boundary
- ▭ Existing trail system
- ▭ Parcel Line
- ▭ Proposed Trail System
- ▭ Future Trails

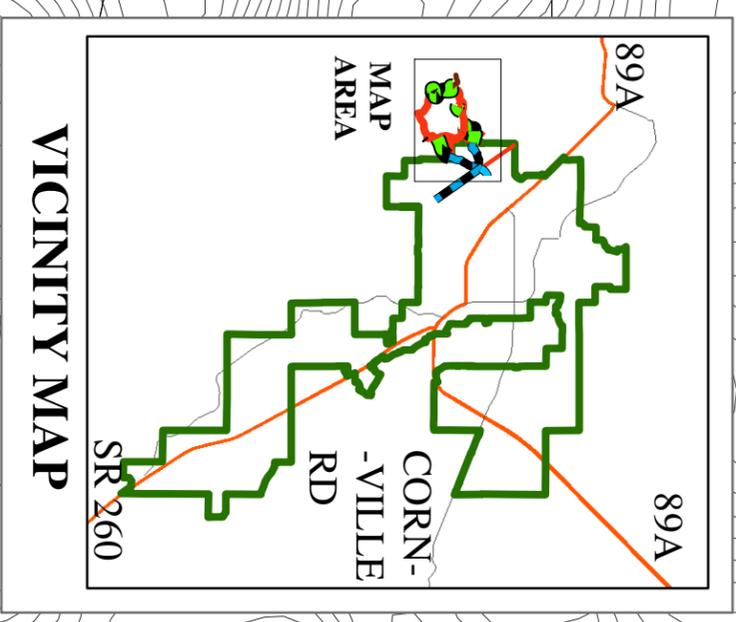
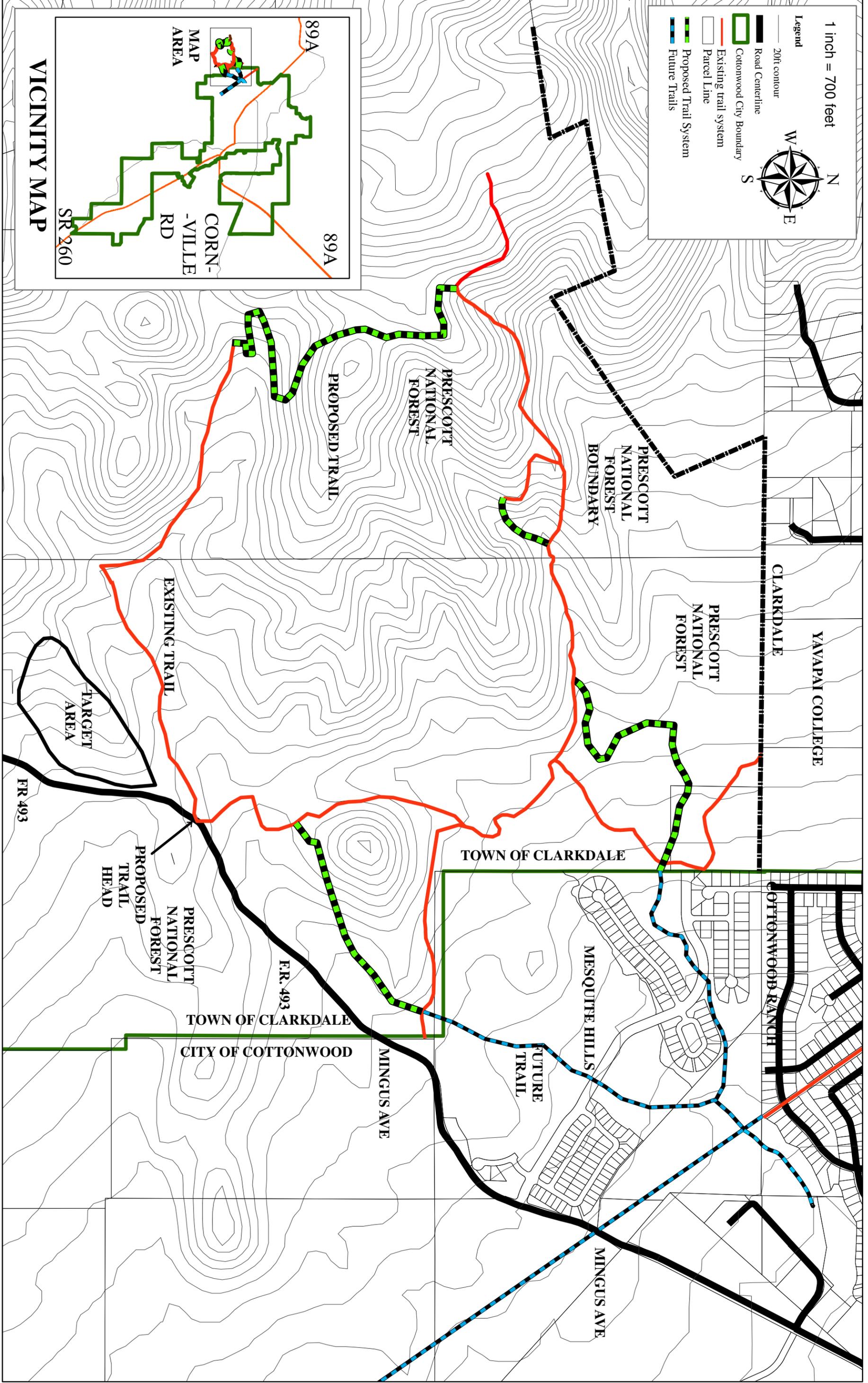


WEST MINGUS AVE. PROPOSED TRAIL SYSTEM
 PROPOSED TRAIL LOOP APPROXIMATELY 3 MILES

1 inch = 700 feet

Legend

- 20ft contour
- Road Centerline
- ▭ Cottonwood City Boundary
- ▭ Existing trail system
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WEST MINGUS AVE. PROPOSED TRAIL SYSTEM

PROPOSED TRAIL LOOP APPROXIMATELY 3 MILES



Staff Report

Agenda Item: POOL – An update and discussion on the Clarkdale Pool.

Staff Contact: Dawn Norman, Community Services Supervisor

Meeting Date: January 18, 2012

Background: Staff will provide an update to the Commission on the status of the Clarkdale Pool.

Recommendation: This item is scheduled as an update only, and no official action is necessary from the Commission.