

8 PARKS & RECREATION ELEMENT

8.1 PARKS & RECREATION FACILITIES

Public Park Land

Table 8.1-1 below lists the existing in the Planning Area (excluding Angel Island). These park facilities are mapped in Diagram 8.1-1. Park lands are dedicated to and/or developed for a broad range of recreational activities (active and passive), and are distinct from open space lands which are traditionally set aside for natural resource protection, public health and safety, scenic qualities, and passive recreation (i.e., trail hiking).

Table 8.1-1 Public Park Land

Name	Land Acres	Restroom(s)	Developed Turf Area	Bay Access	Open Space/Natural Area	Playground	Developed Picnic Areas	Paths/Trails	Parking
<i>Community Parks</i>									
Richardson Bay Lineal Park	47.2	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
Blackie's Pasture		x		x	x			x	x
McKegney Green		x	x					x	
South of Knoll Park		x	x		x	x		x	
Multi-Use Path								x	x
Cypress Grove Garden Park				x					
Paradise Beach Park ¹	12.0	x	x	x			x	x	x
Shoreline Park	2.4		x		x			x	
Elephant Rock Fishing Pier									
Paradise Cay Park ²	1.0								
Zelinsky Park	0.2		x					x	x
<i>Neighborhood Parks</i>									
Belveron Mini-Park	2.0		x					x	
Bel Aire Park	0.6								
Cypress Hollow Park	0.5		x			x	x	x	
<i>Specialty Park</i>									
Teather Park Tennis Courts	1.5								x
TOTAL	67.4								
Notes: 1. County of Marin facility 2. State of California Lands									

For the 2004 Planning Area population of 10,315, there are 6.53 acres of park land per 1,000 persons. With a projected buildout population of 11,195 in the Planning Area, and assuming no additional park lands, there would be 6.02 acres of park land per 1,000 persons.

Angel Island State Park

In addition to parks on the Peninsula, 726 of the 740 acres of Angel Island State Park are within the incorporated Town of Tiburon and the Planning Area. Angel Island accommodates hiking, biking, camping, and boating and is of historical significance, as it once served as the main point of entry on the West Coast for immigrants to the United States.

Approximately 200,000 people visit Angel Island annually, almost all of them arriving by ferry. Tiburon shares the role as “gateway” to Angel Island with San Francisco, as most visitors arrive on boats from either the Town of the City. Ferry access is also available from Oakland and Alameda in the East Bay.

Belvedere - Tiburon Recreation Department

Recreational programs for the Tiburon and Belvedere communities are provided by the Belvedere - Tiburon Recreation Department, an agency that is independent of the Town of Tiburon and City of Belvedere. The Recreation Department runs programs for youths and adults, summer camps for children between the ages of 3 and 12, and manages six tennis courts at three locations. The most popular programs are sports classes for children between the ages of 3 and 10 and cotillion classes for middle school youth. Yoga and tennis classes are the most popular adult programs. Altogether, Belvedere - Tiburon Recreation serves 4,800 participants with over 500 programs each year.



Cotillion classes are popular with middle school youth in the community.

The Recreation Committee was established as a Joint Powers Agreement between Tiburon and Belvedere in 1975. It is governed by a seven-member governing committee, with three members appointed by the Town of Tiburon, three by the City of Belvedere, and one by the Reed Union School District. The purpose of establishing a separate public entity was to ensure that recreation services would be supported by participant fees rather than

tax dollars.

The Recreation Department does not own any facilities. It carries out its mission through cooperation with other public entities, most notably the Reed School District, the Town of Tiburon and the City of Belvedere. Most of the time this arrangement is satisfactory, but occasionally scheduling conflicts force recreation planners to scramble for alternative sites.

The Recreation Department runs its programs at a variety of locations, including the Tiburon Community Room at Town Hall, the Belvedere Community Center, Bel Aire and Reed Schools, and other locations. Approximately 70 percent of the programs are conducted at Reed School. The Recreation Department has essentially exhausted the existing capacity for recreation facilities on the Peninsula.

**Belvedere - Tiburon Recreation
Department Program Locations**

Angel Island (camps)
Bel Aire School
Belvedere Community Center
Belvedere Park
Belvedere - Tiburon Childcare
Center
Del Mar School Tennis Courts
Paradise Beach Park
Reed School
Tiburon Community Room (Town
Hall)

Other Recreation Facilities

The **Reed Union School District** has three Tiburon schools, Reed School (Grades K-2), Bel Aire Elementary (Grades 3-5), and Del Mar Middle School (Grades 6-8). The outdoor recreation facilities at these schools, including playgrounds and playing fields, are available for public use when school is not in session, subject to a use permit from the District. School locations are shown on Diagram 8.1-1.

In addition to the public park facilities and the public schools, the Planning Area is home to four **commercial recreation facilities**. These are private facilities and require membership for access and use. Neither the Town nor the Recreation Department has any role in influencing the recreational amenities or programs offered by these private facilities.

The locations of these private facilities are shown on Diagram 8.1-1.

Table 8.1-2 Private Recreational Facilities, Planning Area

Facility	Recreational Amenities
Corinthian Yacht Club	86 boat members slips plus guest slips
Tiburon Peninsula Club	10 tennis courts, three swimming pools, fitness center
Belvedere Tennis Club	7 tennis courts, pool
Tiburon Yacht Club	150 boat slips (150 additional planned)

8.2 STATEWIDE RECREATION TRENDS

As part of the *California Outdoor Recreation Plan*, the California Department of Parks and Recreation conducts a survey every five years and publishes the results in *Public Opinions and Attitudes on Outdoor Recreation in California*. The most recent survey was completed in 2002 and the results were published in December 2003.

Though the recreational preferences of the Tiburon community may be different than the state as a whole, it is worth noting the statewide trends in outdoor recreation. The table below lists the ten most popular recreational activities reported for adults and youth in California.

Table 8.2-1 Popular Recreational Activities in California

Activity	Avg. Days of Participation ¹ 2002
<i>Adults</i>	
1. Walking for fitness and fun	94.4
2. Walking a pet	34.8
3. Driving for pleasure, sightseeing, driving through natural scenery	31.3
4. Wildlife viewing, bird watching, viewing natural scenery	25.3
5. Jogging and fitness running	23.1
6. Bicycling on paved surfaces	19.6
7. Pool swimming	18.5
8. Using open turf areas (casual and unstructured activities - games, relax, sunning, etc.)	17.8
9. Trail hiking	16.6
10. Beach activities (including sun bathing), surf play	14.0
<i>Youth (under age 18)</i>	
1. Walking for fitness and fun	76.1
2. Jogging and fitness running	40.5
3. Bicycling on paved surfaces	35.7
4. Pool swimming	33.9
5. Using play equipment, tot-lots	32.4

Activity	Avg. Days of Participation ¹ 2002
6. Basketball	30.7
7. Walking a pet	26.4
8. Driving for pleasure, sightseeing, driving through natural scenery	25.2
9. Using open turf areas (casual and unstructured activities – games, relax, sunning, etc.)	23.6
10. Soccer, football or rugby	22.2
<p><i>Notes: 1. A day of participation is the number of days the average Californian spent doing an activity. This number includes people who did not do the activity. It is a measure of an activity's popularity.</i></p> <p><i>Source: Public Opinions and Attitudes on Outdoor Recreation in California 2002, California State Parks, December 2003.</i></p>	

The table shows that walking is the most popular recreation activity in California for both adults and youth. Tiburon is well-equipped for walking with miles of paved and unpaved trails along both the shore and the Tiburon Ridge.

If the trends of the state survey hold true for Tiburon, the Town's public parklands may not be meeting the needs of the community. Among the activities listed in the table and not accommodated in public park areas are pool swimming and basketball. Further study of the specific requirements of the Tiburon community would be required to identify recreational facilities needs, however.

8.3 PARKS & RECREATION GOALS

PR-A: To provide sufficient land and facilities for a balanced system of parks and recreation opportunities that serve all ages.

PR-B: To anticipate population growth and to plan for and provide funds for the acquisition of adequate lands or installation of adequate facilities to address future parks and recreation needs of the community.

8.4 PARK LAND & FACILITIES POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

Park Facilities Policies

- PR-1:** Sufficient park land and recreational facilities shall be maintained over time. A ratio of 5.0 acres of park land per 1,000 persons is established for the Planning Area pursuant to the Quimby Act.
- PR-2:** The Town of Tiburon shall continue to require new parkland dedication and/or collection of in-lieu fees during the development review process.
- PR-3:** The Town shall continue to use park funds and any future in-lieu fees for improvement of existing and future parks and for parkland acquisition purposes.
- PR-4:** The Town shall pursue federal, state, county, and other funds to assist in the maintenance, improvement, and acquisition, of existing and/or future park facilities.
- PR-5:** The Town shall strive to adequately fund the ongoing maintenance of the park and recreation facilities under its ownership.
- PR-6:** The area known as Blackie's Pasture (see Diagram 8.4-1) shall be retained for passive, informal recreational use.



Blackie's Pasture is home to Blackie, one of Tiburon's most beloved citizens.

- PR-7:** Existing water recreation opportunities shall be maintained and may be enhanced where practicable, for example, by the establishment of a small watercraft launching facility available to the public.

- PR-8:** Additional public shoreline access from publicly accessible land, especially in areas where none currently exists, shall be encouraged.
- PR-9:** The Town shall continue to increase, enlarge, and enhance its network of public trails within the Tiburon Planning Area.
- PR-10:** Public convenience facilities such as restrooms, bicycle racks, drinking fountains, and trash receptacles are encouraged and may be provided by the State of California, the Town of Tiburon, and/or the local community.

Implementing Programs for Park Facilities

- PR-a:** The Town should work with the Belvedere - Tiburon Recreation Department and the City of Belvedere to consider the long and short term need for additional parklands, sporting facilities, picnic facilities, play areas, and to develop a master plan for meeting the community's recreational programming and facilities needs.
- PR-b:** The Town shall examine development applications for the existence and potential creation of easements and/or trails that connect or continue to allow public access to shoreline, recreation and open space areas; Town Staff shall monitor construction with a view toward the successful creation and/or maintenance of such easements and/or trails.
- PR-c:** The Town should explore the need and desirability for establishing a community center which would accommodate recreational and other needs for the entire community.

8.5 RECREATION PROGRAMMING POLICIES

Recreation programming for the Planning Area will continue to be provided by agencies which are independent of the Town of Tiburon. The Belvedere - Tiburon Recreation Committee provides a wide range of fee-supported recreation programs and does not have a residency requirement for participation. The County of Marin is responsible for parks and recreation in the unincorporated areas of the Planning Area.

PR-11: The Town shall continue to work cooperatively with the Belvedere/Tiburon Joint Recreation Committee.

PR-12: Recreation programming should be responsive to and serve the needs, interests, and desires of the entire community.

PR-13: Recreation programs should be offered on a year-round basis.

PR-14: Recreation programs should provide a majority of activities that are affordable to the community.

8.6 ANGEL ISLAND POLICIES

Other than efforts to restore and rehabilitate the historic Immigration Station, there are currently no plans to make improvements which would alter the visitor experience at Angel Island or increase the number of visitors which the park could comfortably accommodate.

PR-15: The Town shall cooperate with the California Department of Parks and Recreation to ensure that Angel Island remains a unique state resource and that the village-like character of Downtown Tiburon is protected.

PR-16: The Town shall facilitate a positive, mutually beneficial relationship between the Angel Island administration and the Tiburon community.