



City of Dublin

**Office of the City Manager**

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# Memo

**To:** Members of Dublin City Council

**From:** Dana L. McDaniel, City Manager

**Date:** March 2, 2021

**Initiated By:** Matt Earman, Director of Parks and Recreation

**Re:** Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update

## Summary

In 2010, City Council adopted the first City-wide Parks and Recreation Master Plan. This Plan has been the roadmap for the past 10 years that was created by consultants, residents, businesses community stakeholders and various staff. The purpose for the Plan was initiated to formalize policy to address the physical aspects, recreation services, operations, and development of the City's park system. A link to a copy of the entire Master Plan can be found in BoardPaq.

This type of plan is recognized in the parks and recreation industry as one of the primary and fundamental standards set forth by the National Parks and Recreation Association's Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies. Adoption of this Plan led to the City's Parks and Recreation Department accredited status in 2010 and re-accreditation status in 2015. As a fundamental standard, this Plan requires an update to continue to be eligible for its future accredited status.

The content of the current Plan includes the following topics with several strategies and action steps for each to be implemented over the course of a 10 year period:

- Community Demographics
- Organizational Analysis
- Parks and Natural Resources Inventory
- Recreation Services
- Land Acquisition
- Natural Resource Management
- Parkland Development
- Bikeway and Pedestrian Linkage
- Community Art
- Historical Culture
- Park Maintenance

Since its inception, staff has successfully implemented nearly 95% of the 90+ strategies and action steps that were noted in the Plan. Attached is a spreadsheet summarizing the achievements (Exhibit A.)

As the City develops the strategies for the 2035 Framework Plan, an update to this Parks and Recreation Master Plan is relevant to the overarching new vision for the City. Looking ahead, it

is important to recognize and understand the current trends and predictions that involve land and park development, housing, demographics, cultures, recreational service levels, technology, revenue generation and cost recovery, to name a few. With the re-shaping of the future there are several opportunities that coincide including the likely expansion of virtual programs, event and festival planning, community outreach and engagement, land acquisition, regional partnerships and future park design elements.

### **Recommendation**

The process for the Master Plan update will require substantial input and engagement from all aspects of the community. Staff recommends that the process, timing and scope of this Plan update begin by City Council referring this topic to the Public Services Committee for discussion at the March 29, 2021 meeting. Staff will prepare an in depth presentation of the existing Plan, its successful implementation and a look forward from staff's perspective to initiate the dialogue. In the meantime, if you have any questions please feel free to contact Matt Earman or me directly.