

Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update



Chapter 1: Introduction



Town of
Yucca Valley

1.0 – INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope and Purpose

In Spring 2007, the Town of Yucca Valley entered into an agreement with Moore, Iacofano, Goltsman Inc. (MIG) to initiate a study that would assess the community's parks, recreation and cultural needs and update the previous Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

This document will address the following subjects:

- ◆ Describe current and future demographic projections and regional context;
- ◆ Examine the current conditions of parks and facilities;
- ◆ Study and analyze current public demand and needs for parks, recreation and cultural facilities and programs;
- ◆ Develop goals based on future needs expressed by the staff and the community;
- ◆ Recommend improvements of existing parks and facilities;
- ◆ Examine and analyze current policy documents;
- ◆ Propose future recreation, parks and cultural facilities locations and developments;
- ◆ Describe financing strategies and funding actions to enable the Town to reach goals set by this document.

1.2 Planning Process

This Plan was developed by a collaboration of the MIG team with active involvement of staff from the Yucca Valley Community Services department, Parks and Recreation staff, Public Works, elected and appointed officials, and community participation.

Information used in this document was gathered from several resources including federal, state, county and town documents and materials supplied by Yucca Valley staff, the Internet and through primary research conducted by the MIG team. The MIG team with the assistance of town staff also

made several site visits in and around the Town of Yucca Valley.

In addition, community input was solicited through public workshops, in-person interviews, a telephone survey, community task force meetings and feedback from a local radio call in program “Up Close” broadcast on Z107.7 FM.

1.3 Public Involvement

In order to gain feedback from the community, several forums were employed to engage the public in the process.

Three community workshops were held at which participants were asked to give their opinions on needed facilities, programs or services.

A telephone survey was conducted among the residents of Yucca Valley, the results of which are reported in Chapter 6.

In person and telephone interviews with key stakeholders were conducted in order to understand the direction community leaders feel the Town is or should be headed in the future.

Questionnaires were circulated to community service groups for their insight into their particular views about the Town’s future needs.

Several community task forces were formed to provide information about the needs of special interest groups including the business community, equestrians, youth and adult sports organizations, dog park proponents, and environmental groups, to name a few.

The variety of tools used to gain information for this document enabled the team to get a balanced and wide range of outlooks and opinions on which to base its recommendations for the future direction of Yucca Valley.

Meeting reports and workshop results can be found in *Appendix C*.

1.4 Report Organization

This Master Plan is designed to lead the reader through the process the team used to make its findings.

The first chapter sets the stage for the path the team took in assembling information contained within these pages.

Chapter Two gives an overview of the Town location, demographics, context and profile which forms the basis for the future growth of the Town.

Chapters Three, Four and Five report on the current conditions of existing recreation and cultural facilities, parks and programs, which gives the Town a measurement of where to begin to meet the needs of its residents.

Chapter Six summarizes and highlights key information gained from the several public input tools employed by the team to determine the needs of the community.

In Chapter Seven, the Plan examines and evaluates the state of the Town's current land dedication and fee ordinances for potential changes and improvements.

Chapters Eight and Nine provide a practical roadmap for the Town by making recommendations for future development, proposing policies and goals, and recommending implementation strategies to make those goals a reality.

Following the body of the document are the Appendices which contains materials referenced throughout the Master Plan, including a glossary of terms, original forms and questionnaires submitted to individuals and groups, unedited input from the various workshops, presentation materials, telephone survey results, plus more.

The complete telephone survey results will be presented as a separate document due to its size.

