



Papago Park Regional Master Plan

Papago Park Regional Master Plan Design Principles Charette



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Preliminary Design Principles

Every park regardless of type needs to have an established set of outcomes.

Park designers must align design to those outcomes, including operational and maintenance costs. Design criteria should be established based upon the operational resources of the park that represents the ability to maintain quality assets, amenities, and services.

Key Outcomes – Preliminary Review

- Establishing a unified vision for the park
- Connectivity between areas of the park managed by different entities
- Revive the culture and historical significance of the park
- Clarify roles and responsibilities for maintenance and asset management
- Attract additional users and expand awareness
- Create a destination point, while preserving the character of the park
- Preserve and enhance what we already have
- Establish a strong regional and national reputation
- Strengthen the understanding of the role of the land within the park to the Indian community while not sacrificing relevant sensitivities
- Enhanced wildlife management and natural resource practices that are compatible with other uses
- Obtain public input on ideas for what they would like to see Papago Park become in the future

Key Outcomes – Preliminary Review

- Bridging the canal (near big horn sheep habitat of Phoenix Zoo) to improve connectivity between Phoenix and Tempe sides of the park
- Respect for the historical and cultural significance of the park to the Indian community, and the rehabilitation of it's natural resources
- Resource protection vision and guidelines (natural and cultural)
- Unified vision for diverse usage that integrates uses that may not always seem compatible
- Creating a unified and concerted vision out of historically divergent uses
- Identifying the best uses of the park
- Identify how to maintain the natural resource and recreational value of the ponds and water bodies
- Guidance on how to help manage public perceptions on the natural resources and management challenges of the park
- Establish appropriate preservation criteria to manage select areas within the park

Key Outcomes – Preliminary Review

- Restore some of the historical aspects of the native flora and fauna
- Wayfinding and potentially improved circulation within the the park
- Management of peak traffic, particularly at the zoo (parking, circulation, etc.)
- Improved sense of arrival and place
- Commercial use policies and procedures
- Concessionaire policies and practices
- Explore additional revenue generation opportunities at the park (using existing facilities)
- Establish management zones that guide similar practices and performance measures among all operational partners

Key Constraints – Preliminary Review

- Financial resources
- Parochialism (owners, lessees, tenants, etc)
- Disconnects between involved parties
- Lack of money and staffing
- Cities are expanding, as is the scope and demand on public services
- Major roads transecting the park – speed, congestion, trash, accidents, etc.
- Unauthorized uses
- Overuse of the park
- Random configuration of assets (ramadas, grills, etc.)
- Urban camping – homeless
- Crime

Preliminary Observations

- Not organized
- Destination first, park second
- Doesn't feel managed
- Little 'sense of place'
- Park doesn't feel connected
- Central gathering places center on destinations
- Great view sheds that are not celebrated
- Encroachment of non-planned uses
- Not real education friendly
- Not a strong "wow" factor
- Numerous social trails
- No sense of security in the park
- No central visitor center
- Little or no cross promotion of amenities

Preliminary Design Principles

In developing design principles for a signature park it is important that the park be programmed, planned, and designed to meet the needs of its service area and role within the overall park and recreation system.

The term programming when used in the context of planning and developing parkland, refers to a list of uses and facilities, and does not always include staff-managed recreation programs.

The program for a site can include such elements as ball fields, spray parks, shelters, restrooms, game courts, trails, natural resource stewardship areas, open spaces, nature preserves, or interpretive areas. These types of amenities are categorized as lead or support amenities.

Preliminary Design Principles

A varying number of age segments will be accommodated with the park program depending on the type of Signature Park. The age segments to consider are:

- Ages 2-5
- Ages 6-8
- Ages 9-12
- Ages 13-17
- Ages 18-24
- Ages 25-34
- Ages 35-44
- Ages 45-54
- Ages 55-64
- Ages 65-75
- Ages 76+

Preliminary Design Principles

Maintenance Standards: These can change by season and month depending on the park, level of use, and funding available. Four maintenance levels are generally defined in a signature park.

The difference between levels is frequency of maintenance. Park/Facility Maintenance Standards will need to be developed once the management zones are established and the image and value the community expects the park to deliver and will be developed with more details as the Master Plan is created.

Preliminary Design Principles

Park/Facility Classifications: Includes Regional Signature Park, Sports Complex/Golf Facility, Museum, Special Use Park/Facility, and Greenbelts/Trails/Paseos.

Signature Facility/Amenity: This is an enhanced facility or amenity which is viewed by community as deserving of special recognition due to its design, location, function, natural resources, etc.

Preliminary Design Principles

REGIONAL PARK

- Serves a large area of several communities, residents within a city or county, or across multiple counties.
- Users may travel as many as 60 miles for a visit.
- Include recreational opportunities such as golf, boating, camping, conservation-wildlife viewing and fishing.
- Combination of passive areas and active facilities, but predominantly natural resource based parks.
- 100 to 1,000 acres but some parks can be 2,000 to 5,000 acres in size.
- Focuses on activities and natural features not included in most types of parks and often based on a specific scenic or recreational opportunity.
- Amenities: 10 to 12 amenities to create a signature facility
- Programming: More than four recreation experiences per age segment with at least four core programs provided in the park
- Maintenance Standards: Provide the highest level maintenance with available funding.
- Signage: Directional signage and facility/amenity regulations to enhance user experience. May include kiosks in easily identified areas of the facility.

Preliminary Design Principles

SPORTS COMPLEX/ GOLF FACILITY

- Size of park: Preferably 40 or more acres for stand-alone complexes
- Service radius: Determined by community demand
- Site Selection: Stand-alone sports complexes are strategically located on or near arterial streets. Refer to Park sections if sport complex located within a park. Preference is streets on four sides, or three sides with school or municipal use on fourth side.
- Length of stay: Two to three hours experience for single activities. Can be all day for tournaments or special events.
- Amenities: Four to sixteen fields or sports courts in one setting; public restrooms, ample parking, turf types appropriate for the facility and anticipated usage, and field lighting. Amenities are ADA compliant. Four or more revenue producing facilities.
- Programming: 95% percent active and 5% percent passive
- Land usage: Appropriate to the value the facility is to provide to the community, region and overall operational budget
- Maintenance Standards: Provide the highest level maintenance with available funding.
- Signage: Directional signage and facility/amenity regulations to enhance user experience May include kiosks in easily identified areas of the facility.
- Other: Integrated color scheme throughout the park; safety design meets established standards (CPTED). Telephone/Cable TV conduit.

Preliminary Design Principles

SPECIAL USE PARK/FACILITY

- Historic/Cultural/Social sites – unique local resources offering historical, educational, and cultural opportunities. Examples include historic downtown areas, commercial zones, plaza parks, performing arts parks, arboretums, display gardens, performing arts facilities, indoor theaters, churches, and amphitheaters. Frequently these are located in regional parks.
- Recreation Facilities – specialized or single purpose facilities. Examples include community centers, senior centers, community theaters and aquatic parks. Frequently these are located in community or regional parks.
- Outdoor Recreation facilities – Examples include skateboard, BMX, and dog parks.

Preliminary Design Principles

GREENBELTS/TRAILS/PASEOS

- Multi-use greenbelts/paseos are recognized for their ability to connect people and place and often include either paved or natural trails.
- Trails can also be loop trails in parks.
- Typically an urban trail is 10 foot wide to support pedestrian and bicycle uses.
- In open space areas, trails include 2 foot decomposed granite on both sides of the trail for walkers, bicyclists.
- Equestrian uses can occur in both urban and open space settings by adding 10 more feet of space to separate equestrian usage from ped/bike usage
- Linking neighborhoods, parks, recreation facilities, attractions, and natural areas with a multi-use trail fulfills two guiding principles simultaneously:
 - protecting natural areas and open space areas
 - providing people with a way to access and enjoy them.