

# Open Space





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# INTRODUCTION

Government Code Section 65563 requires that general plans include and Open Space Element for the "comprehensive and long-range preservation and conservation of open-space land within its jurisdiction." Open space is a broad term, which can refer to many different land uses and types of land. However, in a general plan, open space lands are defined in Government Code Section 65560(b) as lands for:

- ✓ The preservation of natural resources;
- ✓ The managed production of resources;
- ✓ Outdoor recreation;
- ✓ Public health and safety;
- ✓ Support of the mission of military installations; or,
- ✓ Protection of cultural resources.

This Open Space Element addresses multi-use open space corridors for drainage, aesthetic benefits, buffering for public health and safety, pedestrian and bicycle circulation, and recreation. This Open Space Element also addresses parkland.

Farmland, parks, natural areas, and other vegetated undeveloped areas benefit residents' health and well-being by improving air quality, providing recreational space, increasing the attractiveness of the visual landscape, and raising awareness of natural processes. In order to maintain these benefits and amenities, a community can work toward preserving open space, integrating recreational use of open space, and preventing the premature and unnecessary conversion of agricultural land to urban uses. Please refer to the City's General Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for more detailed information about drainage, aesthetics, public health and safety, and other topics related to Open Space.

Preservation of open space is one way to achieve open space and natural resource conservation goals. The protection of natural features and resources through planning and site design is by far the most effective approach to preserving open spaces. Urban development patterns play an extremely important role in this preservation. With more efficient use of land in cities, there is more land in open spaces available outside of cities. Compact growth is a fundamental strategy employed throughout this General Plan to achieve open space, conservation, and other environmental, social, and economic goals.

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## RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER ELEMENTS

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State law (California Government Code, sections 65300 – 65303.4) describes required elements for general plans. There is some amount of overlap between the topics required



for open space and conservation elements, as outlined in the Government Code and the State General Plan Guidelines. For this reason, many jurisdictions elect to combine the open space and conservation elements. Gridley, however, has both elements, each with a somewhat different focus. The Open Space Element focuses on areas of land that should be preserved to meet public health, social, and economic goals. The Conservation Element focuses on the conservation of natural resources, whether or not they are land-based.

Like the Open Space Element, the location of open space lands is also identified in the Land Use Element. The Open Space Element identifies open space corridors for pedestrian and bicycle movement, as well as stormwater conveyance – topics which are also addressed in the Circulation Element and the Public Facilities and Services Element, respectively. Open space used for noise attenuation is also covered in the Noise Element. Open space required for public health and safety, such as buffering from airborne pollutants, is also described in the Safety Element. Preservation of open space for agriculture is addressed in the Conservation Element.

## GOALS, POLICIES, AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

Following are Gridley’s goals related to open space, as well as policies that will be implemented to achieve these goals, and implementation strategies.

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### OPEN SPACE CORRIDORS

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Open Space in the Planned Growth Area will be designed to serve multiple purposes. Instead of requiring land separately for stormwater, buffering, and trails, these features are co-located (Exhibit Open Space-1). Co-locating these uses is strategy to be land efficient and cost effective in serving the Planned Growth Area. Co-location can address both up-front and ongoing maintenance costs for development and the City. In addition to cost savings, the combination of these functions can have environmental and quality-of-life benefits. Multi-use open space corridors can contribute toward a high-quality, functional open space system, and a unique community amenity. This efficient and environmentally beneficial approach to drainage can also be considered within the existing City (in addition to within the Planned Growth Area).

The General Plan envisions a fully connected open space system in the Planned Growth Area (see Exhibit Open Space 1).<sup>1,2</sup> Open Space will be located and designed to provide drainage, linear park space, trails, landscaping, and buffering from Highway 99 and the railroad. Existing agricultural drainage ditches will be improved and widened to increase stormwater conveyance capacity and create a more naturalized swale. The ditches can be restored with appropriate native, low-maintenance landscaping for visual relief, filtering pollutants out of stormwater, and enhancing the habitat value. Off-street pedestrian and bicycle trails will be placed alongside the restored drainage features. The Open Space corridors are located to connect with parks in the Planned Growth Area. There are two primary reasons for this:

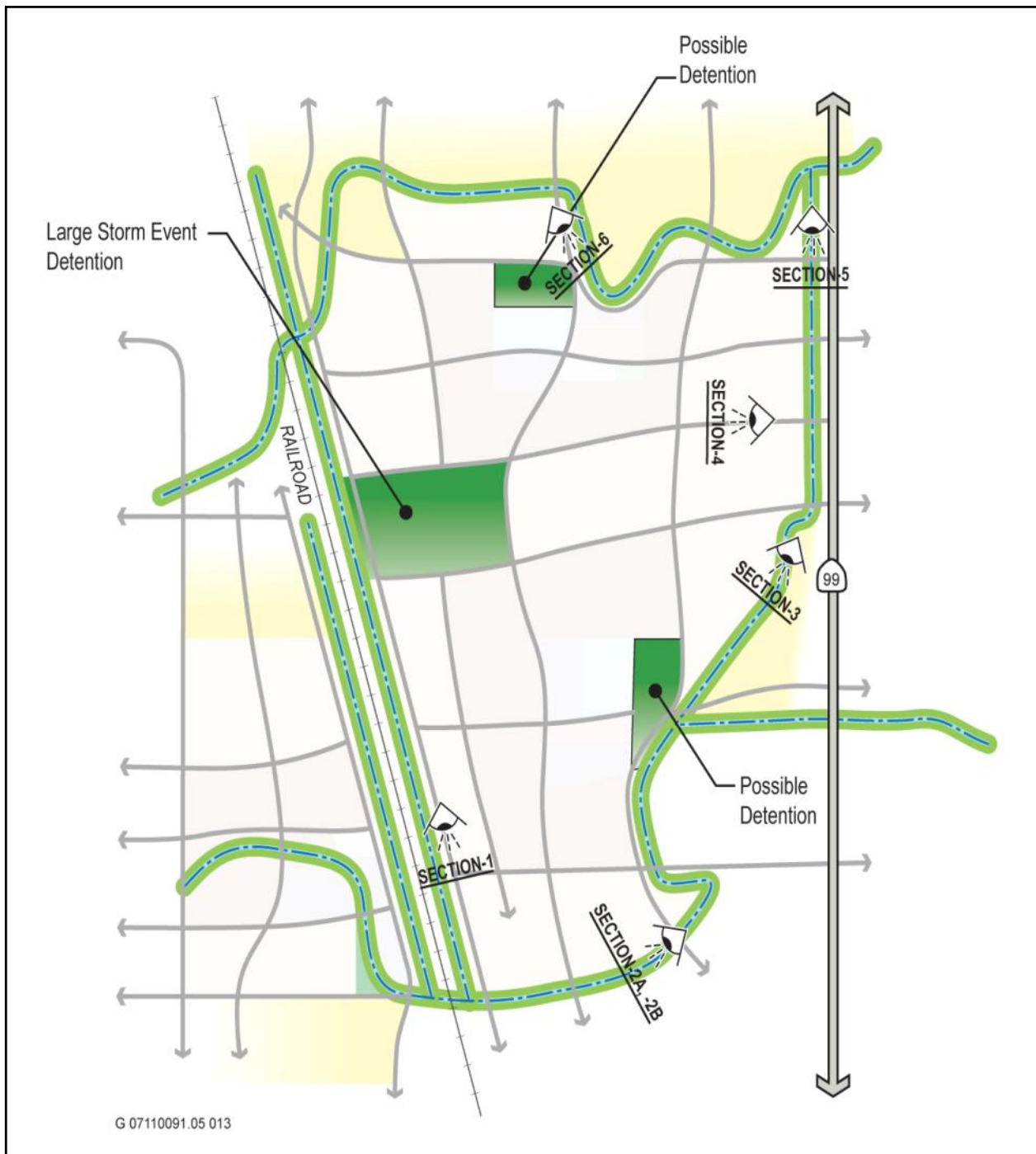
- ✓ The bicycle and pedestrian component of the Open Space area can accommodate travel to and from parks.
- ✓ The drainage conveyance component of the Open Space leads to parkspace that can be used for stormwater detention following larger storm events.

While this more natural drainage approach is envisioned for the Planned Growth Area, the City could identify opportunities for phased incorporation of these best management practices within existing City limits, as well, through drainage master plan updates.

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<sup>1</sup> Please also refer to the Land Use Diagram in the Land Use Element, which generally illustrates the location and width of Open Space in the Planned Growth Area.

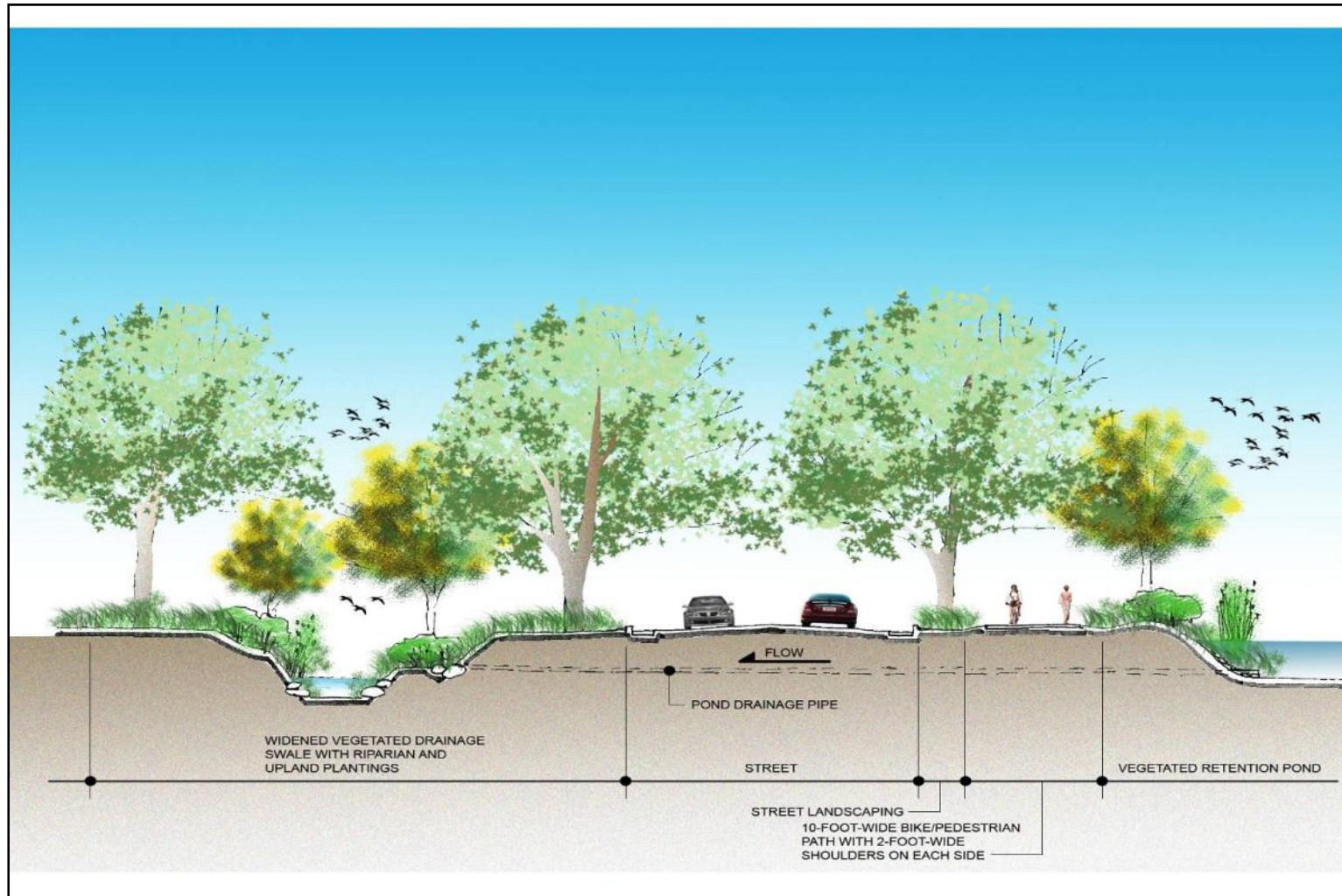
<sup>2</sup> The section labels on this exhibit correspond to cross-section illustrations that follow.



**Exhibit Open Space-1. Open Space Corridors and Parks in the Planned Growth Area**

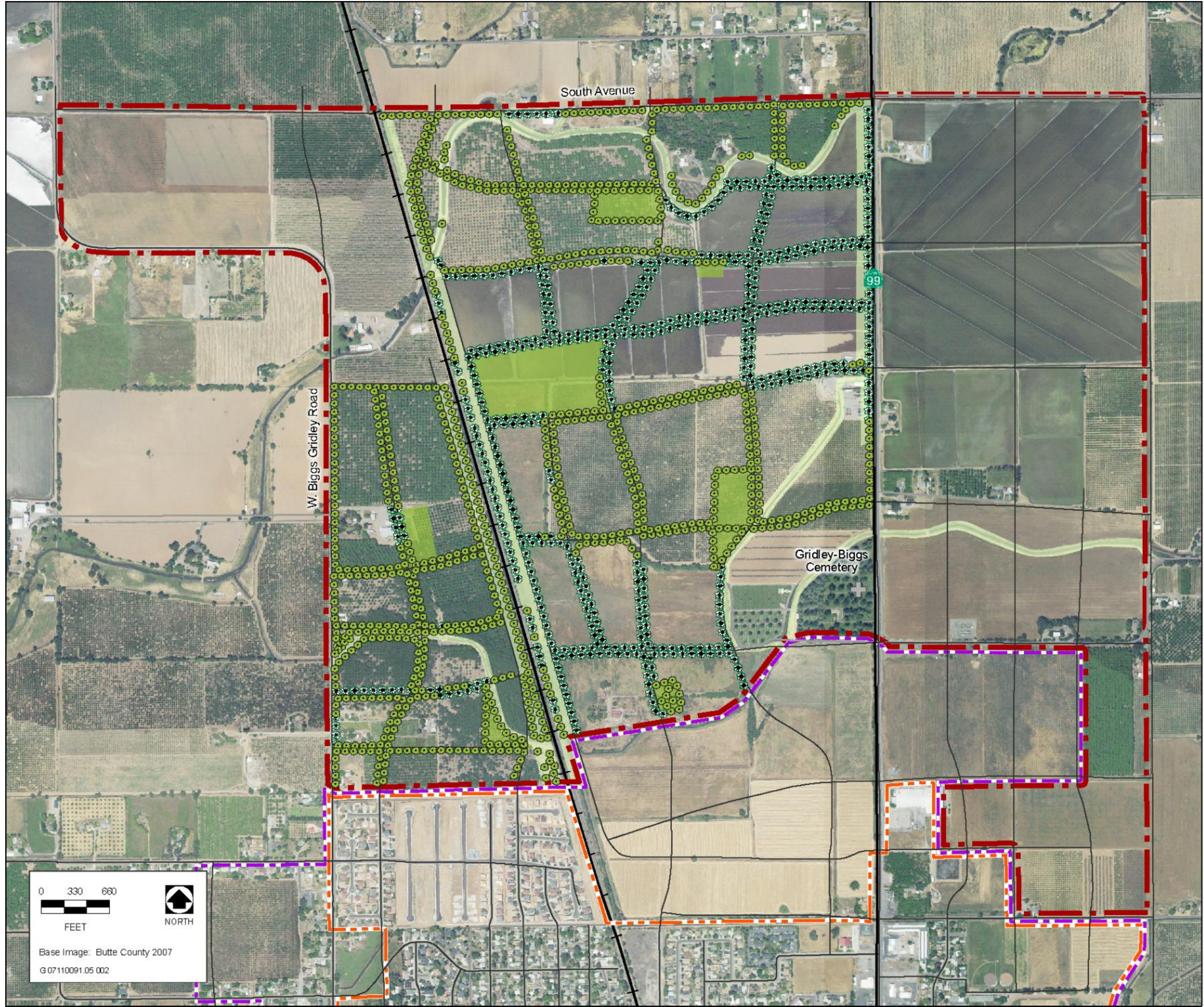


<b>OPEN SPACE GOAL 1:</b> To create high-quality, functional open space corridors	
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 1.1</b>	New developments shall contribute to, or dedicate, on a fair-share basis, multi-use open space corridors, which shall be designed to provide drainage, an off-street pedestrian and bicycle trail system, buffering, and habitat value.
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 1.2</b>	Open space corridors in the Planned Growth Area shall be designed to incorporate agricultural drainage ditches, which may need to be broadened into swales with gentler slope banks, in order to prevent erosion.
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 1.3</b>	New developments shall locate open space corridors to provide for connections to parkland.
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 1.4</b>	The City will plan to connect drainage swales with open playfields in parks whenever feasible to convey excess stormwater following storm events (Exhibit Open Space-2).
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 1.5</b>	Within open space corridors, mature trees, including old orchard trees shall be preserved, wherever feasible, as new trees are planted to ensure an ongoing tree canopy. (Exhibit Open Space-3).
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 1.6</b>	Existing vegetation in open space corridors should be preserved, where it could provide ongoing habitat benefits or stormwater filtering. Noxious weeds, invasive species, and unhealthy plants can be removed, as well as vegetation posing an issue for public health or safety.
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 1.7</b>	Newly planted landscaping in open space corridors shall be selected and designed to enhance habitat, provide aesthetic value, filter pollutants out of, and slow down stormwater runoff, and minimize ongoing landscape maintenance and watering.



**Exhibit Open Space-2. Swales and Parks (Section 6)**





# Exhibit Open Space-3

## Tree Preservation and Planting along Open Space Corridors and Streets in the Planned Growth Area

### LEGEND

- Sphere of Influence
- Planned Growth Area
- City Boundary
- Major Roads
- Other Roads
- Railroad
- Existing Trees (to be preserved)
- Proposed Trees (to be planted)

### General Plan Land Use Designations

- Park
- Open Space



<p>Open Space Implementation Strategy 1.1</p>	<p>Following the adoption of the 2030 General Plan, the City will update the existing or prepare a new drainage master plan to address the Planned Growth Area. The drainage master plan will be designed to move away from individual site drainage requirements to an areawide approach for the Planned Growth Area, consistent with the General Plan. Although the focus for the natural drainage system is on the Planned Growth Area, the City will look for opportunities to expand these concepts into the existing developed City, also.</p> <p>The drainage master plan will be designed to handle specified storm events and deliver pre-development flows to the reclamation districts under post-development conditions. Construction of the Planned Growth Area stormwater management system will be phased in a way that provides adequate drainage as the area builds out. Temporary detention facilities may be necessary.</p> <p>The drainage master plan will emphasize the use of drainage swales to convey runoff although piping may be used in combination with swales, as appropriate, in the Planned Growth Area. The drainage master plan will be coordinated with the location of future parks so that excess stormwater can be detained and infiltrated within open playfield areas. Linear open space corridors themselves may also be designed to detain and infiltrate stormwater runoff.</p> <p>Preservation and restoration of agricultural drainage ditches should consider habitat value, sensitive species, and water quality objectives (see the Conservation Element). The City will explore whether mitigation fees through regional habitat conservation planning or grants from other government agencies could be made available to fund restoration elements of the City's open space strategy.</p> <p>The drainage master plan will be coordinated with a Nexus Fee Study to allow fair-share contribution to drainage improvements. The Nexus Fee Study should consider efficiencies created through co-location of linear parkland, trails, drainage, and buffering. Drainage fees should be structured to provide incentives for use of low impact development stormwater management best practices (see also the Conservation Element).</p> <p>The City will revise the Subdivision Ordinance, as necessary, to implement the drainage approach in the 2030 General Plan (and as reflected in the master drainage plan). Fenced-off, single-use detention basins will be prohibited.</p>
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OPEN SPACE GOAL 2:	To provide visual screening, buffering, trails, and drainage in open space corridors along the railroad and Highway 99 in the Planned Growth Area.
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<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 2.1</b>	Open space corridors along the railroad and Highway 99 shall include a natural drainage swale, a bike/pedestrian trail, and landscaped earthen berms designed to attenuate noise and provide visual screening (Exhibit Open Space-4).
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<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 2.2</b>	Open space corridors along Highway 99 and the railroad will need to be wider than open space corridors within new neighborhoods in order to reduce exposure to potentially harmful air pollution and reduce noise exposure. (Exhibit Open-Space 5)
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<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 2.3</b>	Through a combination of tree preservation and new landscaping, open space corridors along Highway 99 shall provide visual screening for new neighborhoods.
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OPEN SPACE GOAL 3	To provide for drainage, pedestrian and bicycle circulation, and landscaping in open space corridors within neighborhoods.
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<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 3.1</b>	Open Space corridors within neighborhoods can be narrower than those along Highway 99 and the railroad since noise and air pollution are not an issue, and should include preserved and planted vegetation, drainage swales, and a pedestrian/bicycle trail (Exhibit Open Space-6).
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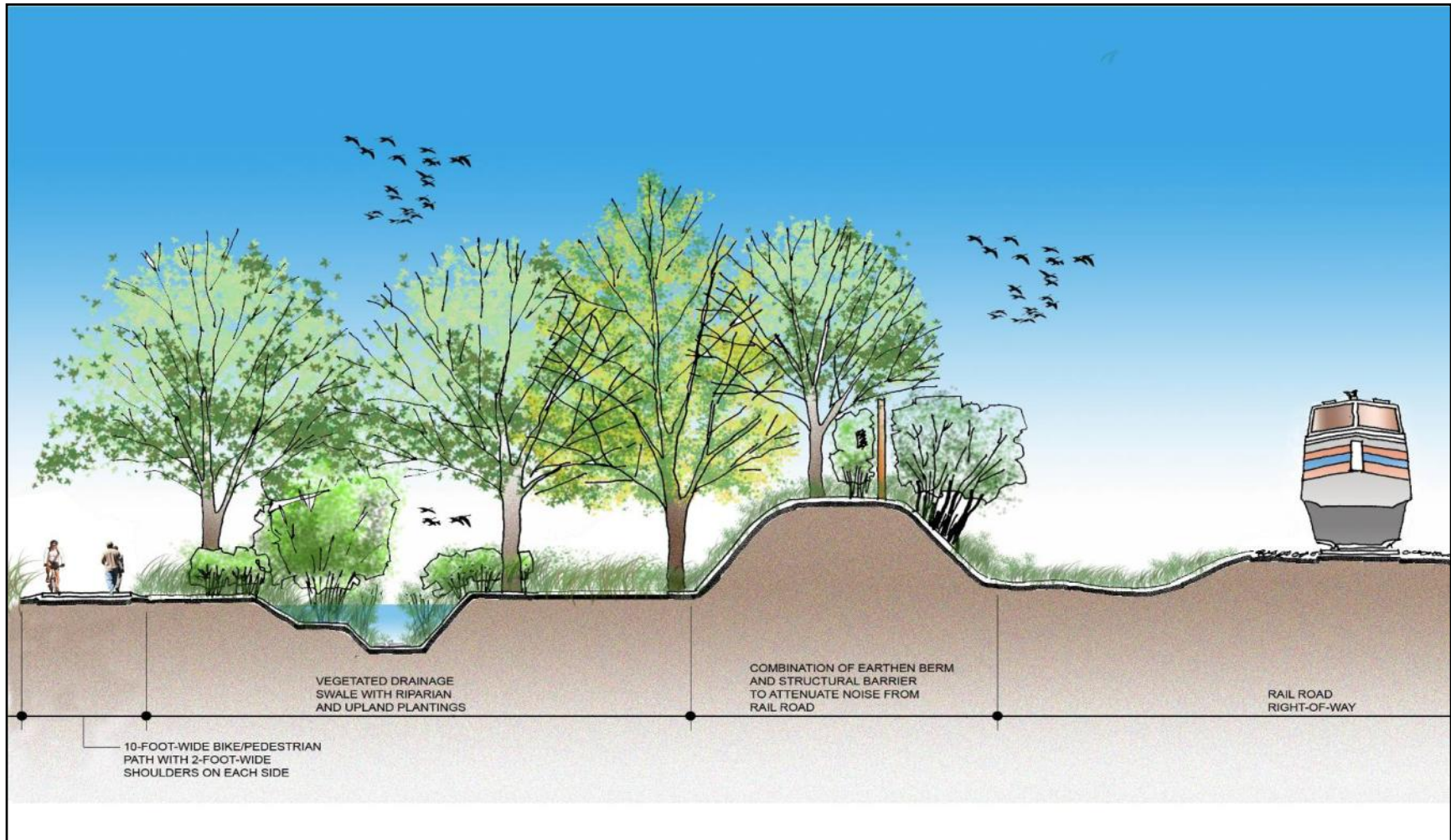
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<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 3.2</b>	The City encourages broader open space corridors within neighborhoods that could accommodate ponds or similar water features, hold stormwater for longer periods following a storm event, provide riparian planting and other landscaping, and represent valuable amenities within new neighborhoods, where feasible (Exhibit Open Space-7).
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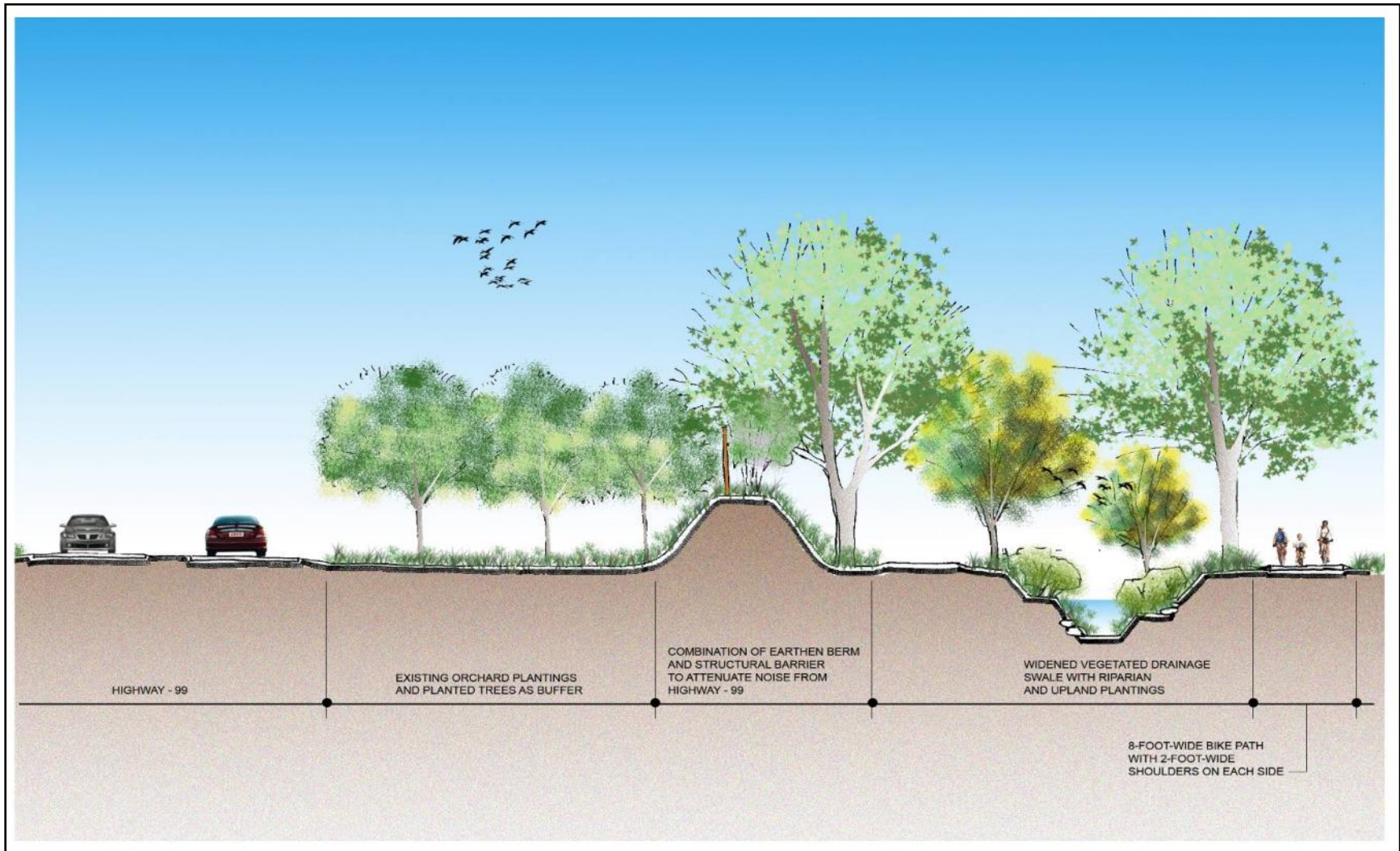
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 3.3</b>	In lower-density portions of neighborhoods, small drainage swales are encouraged instead of buried pipes along City streets to slow down, filter, and convey stormwater runoff (Exhibit Open Space-8).
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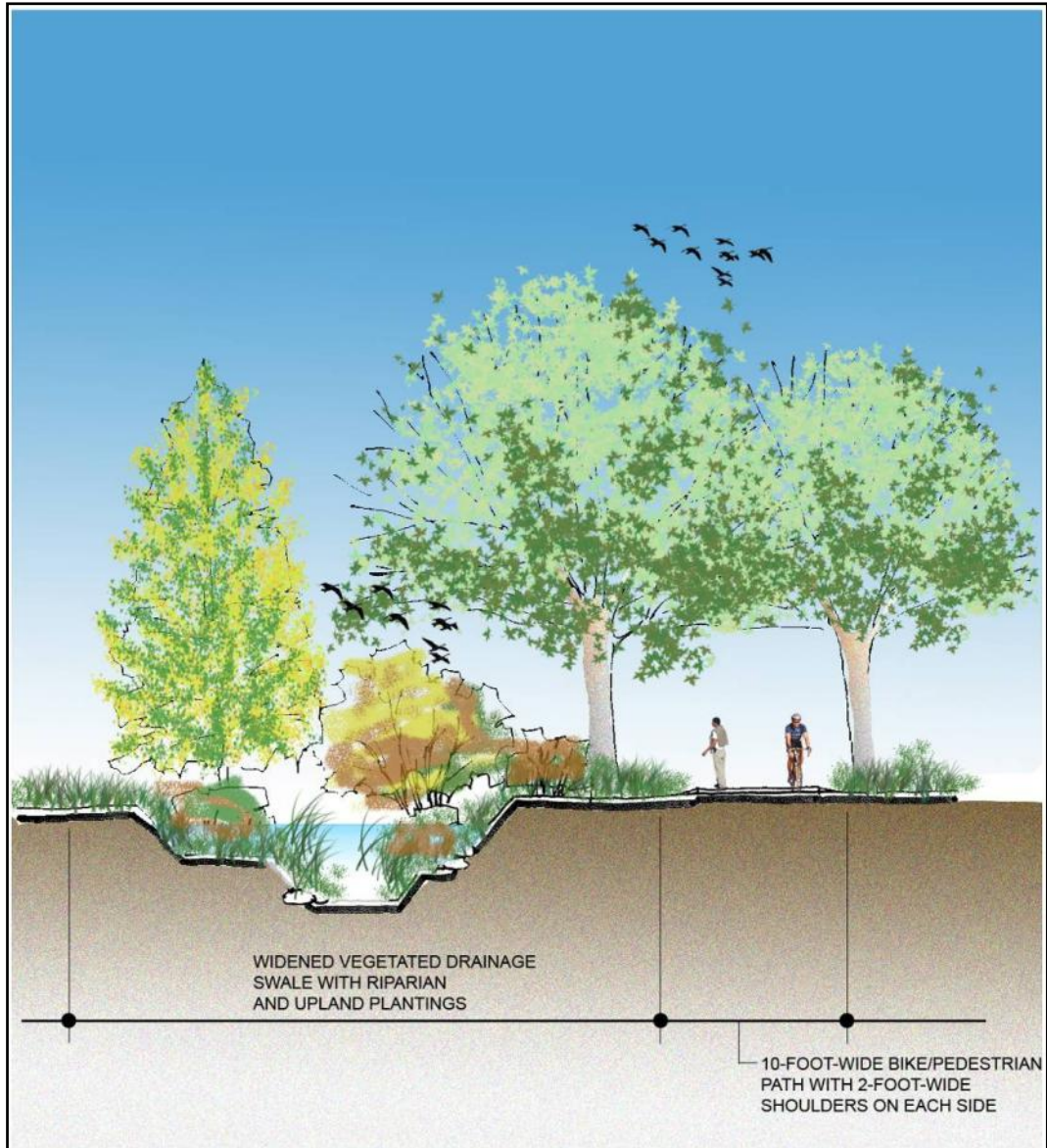


**Exhibit Open Space-4. Open Space along the Railroad (Section 1)**





**Exhibit Open Space-5. Open Space along Highway 99 (Section 5)**



**Exhibit Open Space-6. Open Space Corridor within a Neighborhood (Section 2a)**



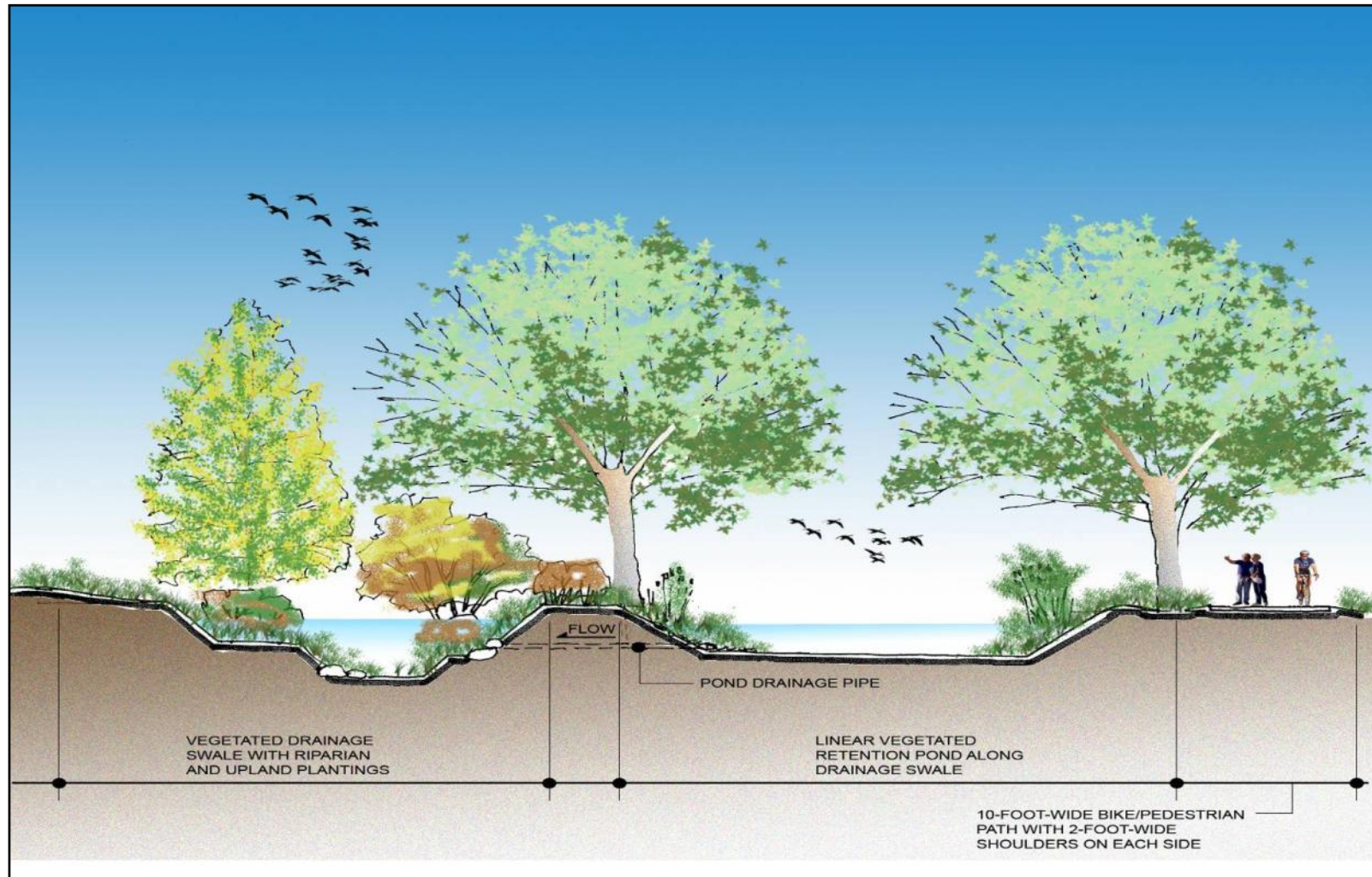
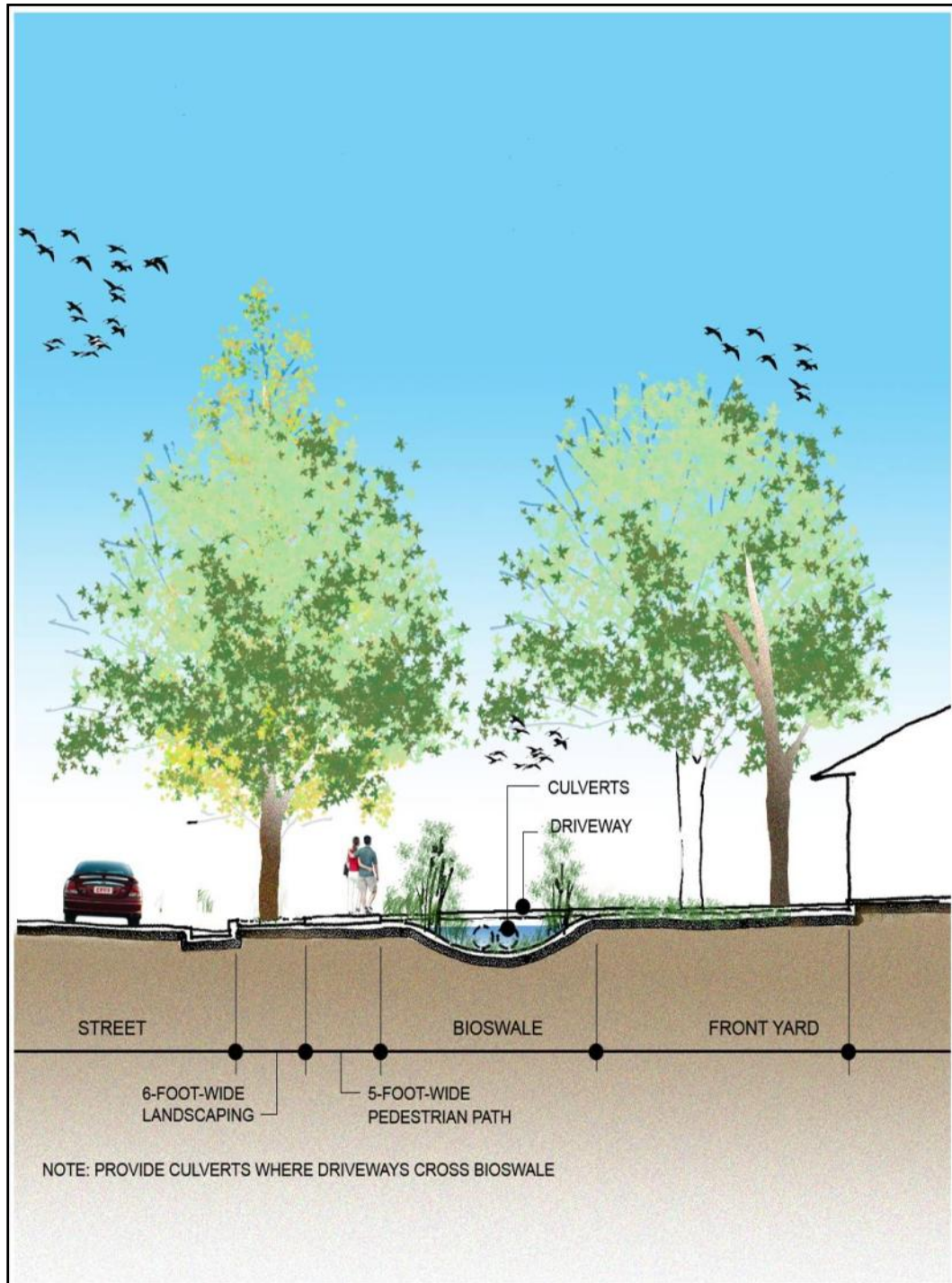


Exhibit Open Space-7. Broadened Open Space Corridor with Stormwater Retention Area (Section 2b).



**Exhibit Open Space-8. Swales along Streets (Section 4)**

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## RECREATION

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Open space for outdoor recreation accommodates the public's leisure time, relaxation, exercise, and play. With growth and development, the amount of land needed for various types of recreational activities increases. Since much of the demand is usually fulfilled by public or non-profit agencies, planning and acquiring sites for recreational use requires the community's cooperative attention to anticipating that demand.

There two main types of recreational open space: (1) natural or preserved open space; and, (2) developed parkland, or improved open space. Natural open space areas are valuable for their natural qualities, such as water bodies, terrain, vegetation, wildlife, beauty, or vistas. The natural areas with the highest value in the Gridley area are the natural and manmade surface water bodies and related vegetation. Public parks are the most common type of improved open space. Park improvements could include access roads, parking areas, trails, signs, picnic tables, hard court play areas and other recreational facilities, and restrooms. A single facility can combine natural open space areas and improved recreational areas. One example of this in Gridley is the boat ramp on the Feather River near the City's wastewater treatment facility. For recreational open space design, it is often important to balance goals for resource conservation with goals for public use in a single open space area.

Public parks, playgrounds, ballfields, and similar recreational areas are the most important type of recreational open space in many communities. Recreational lands and facilities in the Gridley area include those maintained by the City, private or commercial recreation, and those maintained by the State, school district, or the County.

The City owns and maintains parks near Downtown, including: Vierra Community Park (12.5 acres); Daddow Plaza, Rotary Park, and Quota Park (totaling 4.4 acres); and the skateboard/water park (1.01 acres). Parks are also provided in residential areas, including: August Boeger Park (1.9 acres) and Eagle Meadows Park (6.01 acres of private parkland). There was a total of 19.8 acres of City-owned parkland, or 3.1 acres per thousand residents, as of the writing of the 2030 General Plan (Exhibit Open Space-9, Table Open Space-1).<sup>3</sup> This total does not include Eagle Meadows Park (private) or the City-owned boat launch area on the Feather River.

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<sup>3</sup> The City's official 2008 population was 6,403 according to the California Department of Finance: State of California, Department of Finance, E-5 Population and Housing Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2008, with 2000 Benchmark. Sacramento, California, May 2008.



CITY OF GRIDLEY  
2030 General Plan

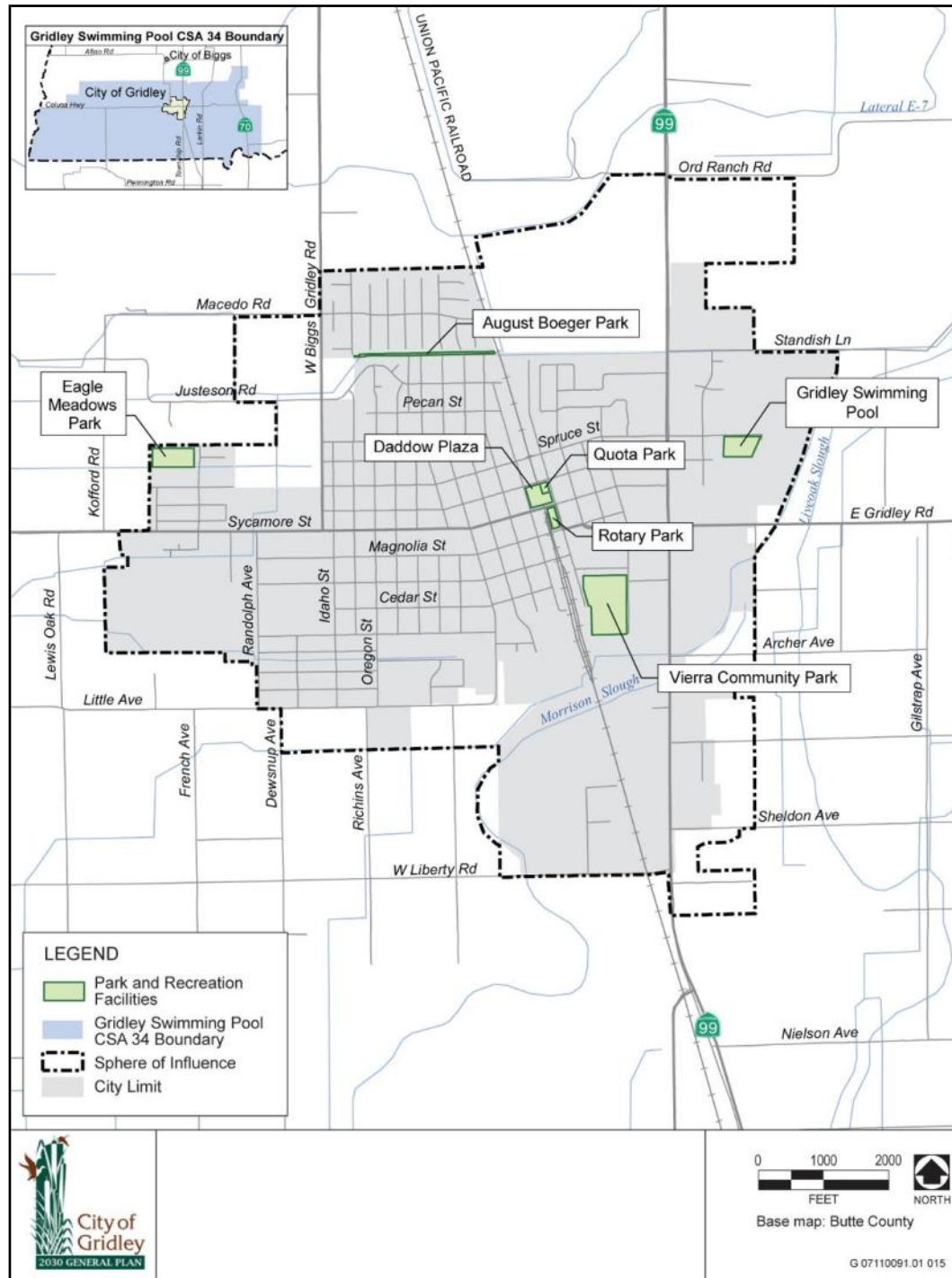


Exhibit Open Space-9. Gridley Recreation Areas



**Table Open Space-1  
City Recreational Open Space<sup>4</sup>**

Name	Facilities	Notes	Acres
<b>Manuel Vierra Park</b>	Softball and baseball fields, 2 playgrounds, tot lot, 2 recreational buildings, 2 tennis courts, barbeque and picnic area	Adjacent to Daddow Plaza. Recreation facilities are in condition.	12.5
<b>Daddow Plaza, Rotary Park and Quota Park</b>	Bandstand, picnic tables, benches, and a gazebo.	Daddow Plaza, Rotary Park and Quota Park were owned by the railroad and leased by the City as parkland since 1906. In Fiscal Year 2004-2005 the park areas were purchased from the railroad by the City using State Proposition 12 grant funds. Recreation facilities are in good condition.	4.4
<b>August Boeger Park</b>	Pedestrian / bicycle pathway, lights, benches	Located in the Heron Landing subdivision on the northern side of the City.	1.9
<b>Gridley Skate/Water Park</b>	Skateboard facilities, water fountains and supportive facilities.	Newly constructed	1.01
<b>Eagle Meadows Park</b>	None	Located in the Eagle Meadows subdivision in the west of the City, north of Sycamore Street. The City is planning to add ball fields and landscaping.	5
<b>Boat Ramp on the Feather River</b>	Boat ramp, access road,	Located on the Feather River frontage of the City wastewater treatment land site on the east side of the river, south of the East Gridley Road bridge. Upgrades funded through a grant from the California Boating and Waterways Commission.	N/A**

Notes: \* California Department of Boating and Waterways, online: <http://www.dbw.ca.gov/PressRoom/2007/071005BWC.aspx>. In Fiscal Year 2006-2007, the City was awarded \$935,000 by the California Boating and Waterways Commission. Planned improvements include a fully functional boat dock and various riverbank renovations, bathrooms, improved parking, signage, and an automated gate.

\*\* The great majority of the property is used for City wastewater treatment facilities.

Source: Butte LAFCO, Final Municipal Service Review: Recreation and Park Services. Adopted September 1, 2005.

<sup>4</sup> City of Gridley and Burr Consulting. Report to the Butte Local Agency Formation Commission Final Municipal Service Review: Approved on February 6, 2008.

Aside from the parks listed above, there are other recreational lands and facilities within City limits. The Butte County Fairgrounds and the Gridley Swimming Pool are located east of Highway 99, near East Hazel Street and the high school. These facilities provide for a variety of recreational activities, such as the annual County Fair, swim team competitions, and dog shows. Public schools in the City also provide recreational facilities. School recreation facilities are located on the campuses of the McKinley School, Wilson School, Sycamore Middle School, and Gridley High School. Outside of the City limits, the use of the Manzanita School gym for up to 20 hours per week is provided by joint use agreement between the City and the Manzanita School District.<sup>5</sup>

The Land Use Element identifies land for parks in the existing City, as well as in the Planned Growth Area. The amount and location of this parkland in the Planned Growth Area shown on the Land Use Diagram is approximate. Many factors could influence the actual location and amount of parks. Specific size, location, design, and facilities in parks will depend on population density and community preferences. Demographic changes that occur during buildout of the General Plan may result in more or less of a demand for certain types of parks and recreational facilities. For example, with a younger population, oftentimes there is more of a demand for running and bicycling trails, or for basketball courts or soccer fields. The City has provided for joint-use parkland adjacent to potential future school sites in the Planned Growth Area. While the City does not dictate the location of school sites, General Plan policies indicate a preference to coordinate with the School District on mutually beneficial and cost-effective joint use strategies. However, because the City does not control the location of school sites, the location of this joint-use parkland may vary somewhat from that shown on the Land Use Diagram.

This General Plan provides for both linear parkland (as addressed earlier under “Open Space Corridors”) and neighborhood, or community parkland. Linear parkland along natural drainageways in the Planned Growth Area can accommodate trails, benches, drinking fountains, landscaping, and other improvements. Neighborhood and community parks provide for playfield areas, hard court areas, recreational buildings, and a variety of other improvements.

**Community Parks.** Community parks are large parks that provide recreational facilities for the entire city (see Exhibit Open Space-10). Community parks are approximately 10 to 30 acres in total land area and would provide sports fields, activity buildings (for indoor public events), and a variety of other recreational facilities, such as sports courts. Community parks can also provide spaces for passive recreation (e.g., walking, picnicking, wildlife observation, reading). Community parks are designed and outfitted with facilities appropriate to serve the entire community with venues for sporting or other events that would attract local and, occasionally, regional participants and spectators.

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<sup>5</sup> Butte LAFCO, Final Municipal Service Review: Recreation and Park Services. Adopted September 1, 2005.

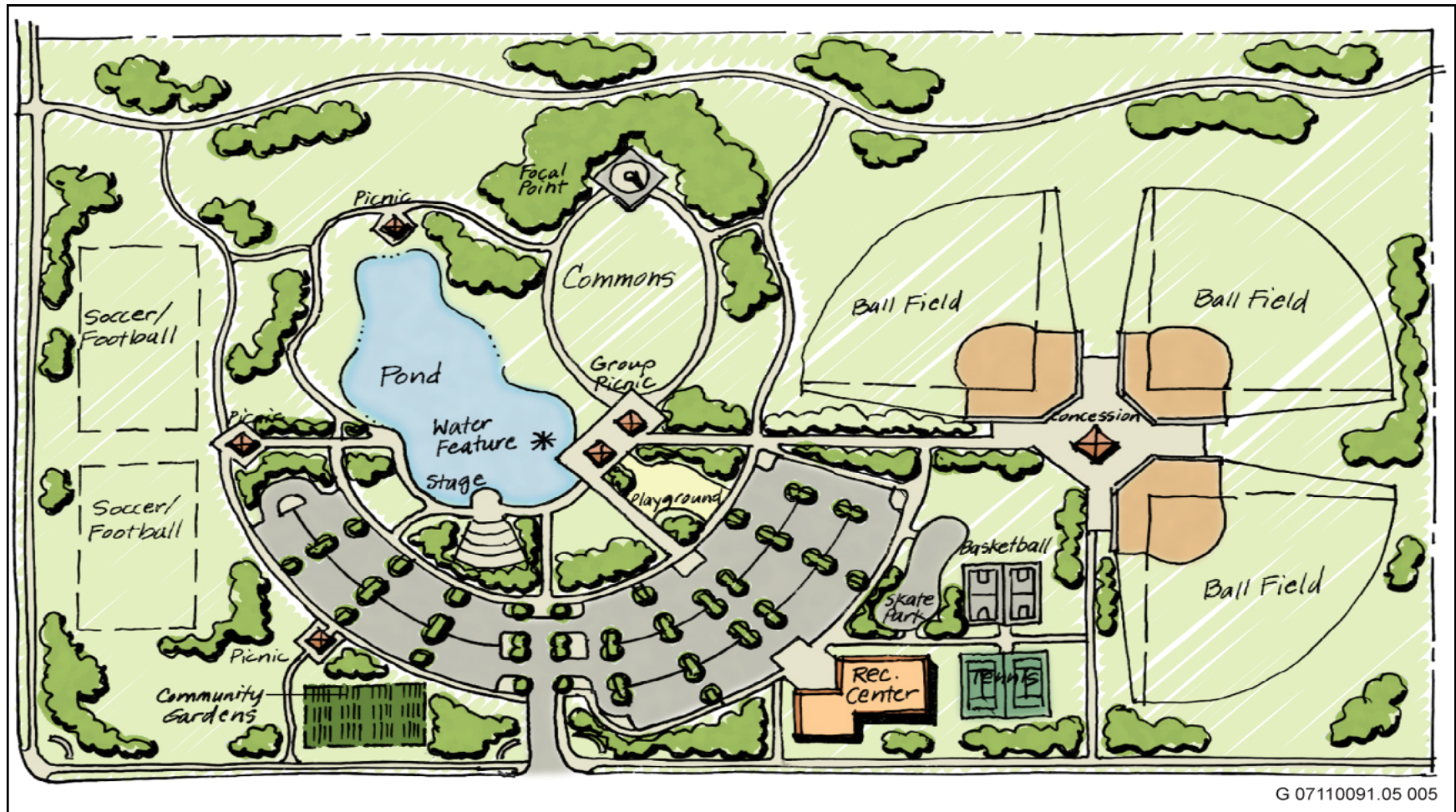
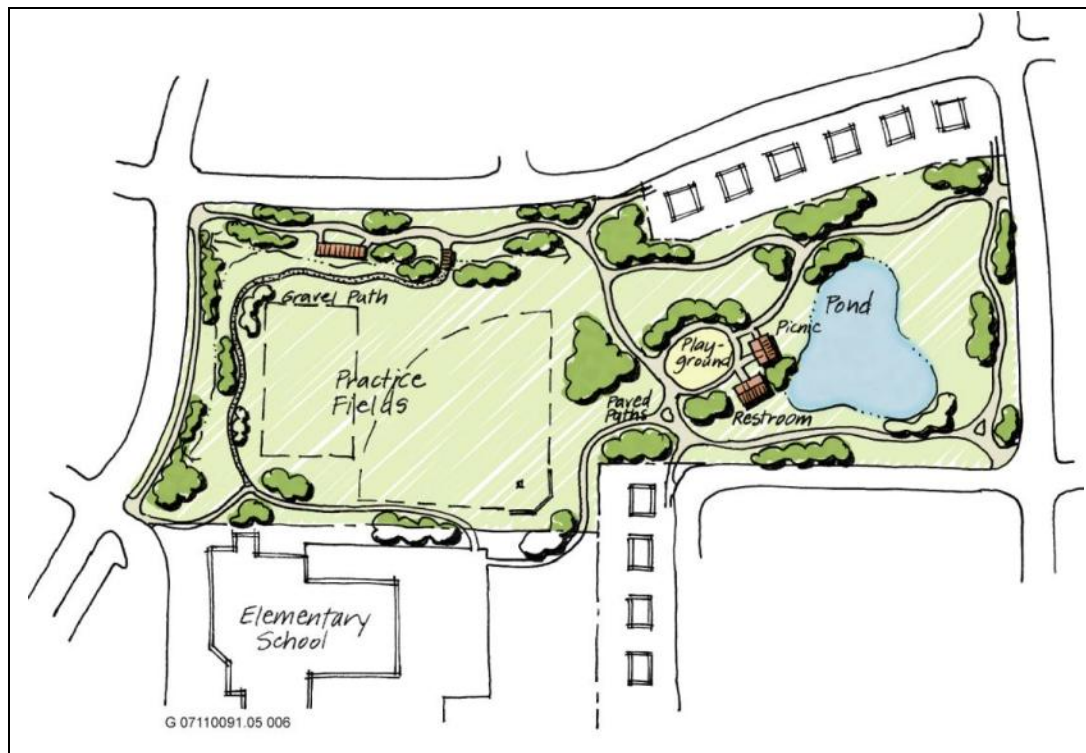


Exhibit Open Space-10. Conceptual Example of a Community Park

**Neighborhood Parks.** Neighborhood parks are between 4 and 6 acres in total land area and are located and designed to serve the surrounding neighborhood (see Exhibit Open Space-11). Neighborhood parks would provide active recreational facilities, such as playground equipment, sports fields, and sports courts. Neighborhood parks can also have passive elements, such as picnic areas, benches, and walking paths. Neighborhood parks can be designed to meet the needs of an adjacent public school in addition to the broader community. Neighborhood parks are provided in this General Plan in areas adjacent to “Public” land use designation that could accommodate new schools, with this joint-use strategy in mind.

**Mini-Parks:** Mini-parks are small parks of ½ acre to 2 acres in land area that provide recreational space for residents living nearby. These parks are sometimes called “pocket parks,” “tot lots,” or “neighborhood greens.” Mini-parks can have picnic areas, playground equipment, and small landscaped areas for passive or active recreational use (see Exhibit Open Space-12).



**Exhibit Open Space-11. Conceptual Example of a Neighborhood Park**





**Exhibit Open Space-12. Example Mini-Park**

Exhibit Open Space-13 illustrates the conceptual sizes and locations of different parkland in the Planned Growth Area.

Because of the large land areas involved; the costs of acquiring, developing, and maintaining parks; and the wide range of recreational needs, the City will need both proactive and long-range planning, as well as ongoing implementation to ensure adequate recreational open space as the community grows. Please refer to the City Municipal Code Chapter 16.40, Park and Recreation Land Dedication and In-Lieu Fees.

<b>OPEN SPACE GOAL 4</b>	<b>To ensure adequate outdoor recreational open space to meet local needs as the City grows.</b>
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<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 4.1</b>	New developments shall provide for improved, public parkland according at a minimum rate of 5 acres per 1,000 residents.
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<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 4.2</b>	<p>The distribution of parkland between community parks, neighborhood parks, and mini-parks should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Community parks (1–3 acres per thousand residents)</li> <li>✓ Neighborhood parks (1–3 acres per thousand residents)</li> <li>✓ Mini-parks (0.5–1 acres per thousand residents)</li> </ul>
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<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 4.3</b>	New developments shall contribute on a fair-share basis toward improved, publicly accessible parkland, according to City park standards. If new developments dedicate parkland, fees would be decreased proportionally.
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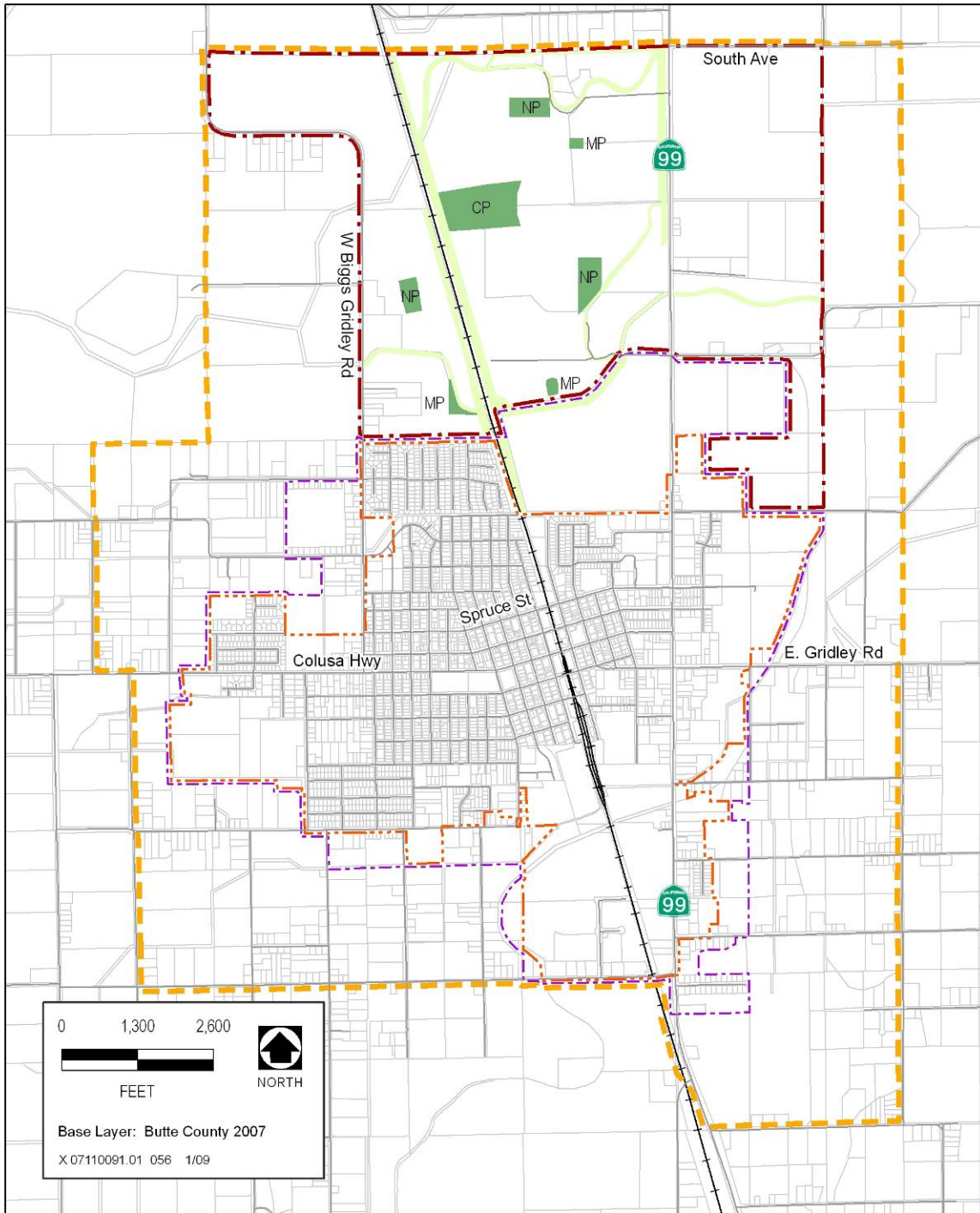
# Exhibit Open Space-13

## Parks and Open Space in the Planned Growth Area

### LEGEND

-  Study Area
-  Planned Growth Area
-  Sphere of Influence
-  City Boundary
-  Parcels
-  Open Space
-  Park

CP = Community Park  
NP = Neighborhood Park  
MP = Mini-Park





<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 4.4</b>	New parks will be located and designed to encourage pedestrian and bicycle travel to and from the surrounding neighborhoods.
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 4.5</b>	On-street parking shall be provided along the perimeter of new community and neighborhood parks to reduce the amount of land within the park that must be devoted to surface parking.
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 4.6</b>	Active portions of parks, where facilities and programming may result in light and noise should be located and designed to promote compatibility with surrounding residential areas.
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 4.7</b>	Parkland that also provides stormwater detention will be designed to serve these dual uses without compromising the quality of playfield space for recreation.
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 4.8</b>	The City will encourage joint-use of parks planned adjacent to school sites in consultation with the Gridley Unified School District.
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 4.9</b>	In the design of developed parkland, the City will incorporate opportunities for preservation of land with natural vegetation that could provide wildlife habitat, where feasible.
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 4.10</b>	In new developments outside the Planned Growth Area, on-site detention shall not be fenced off, and shall be designed to also provide publicly accessible open space.
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 4.11</b>	The City will consult with Biggs and Butte County to explore the possibility of a cooperatively-developed regional park in the Gridley-Biggs area.
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 4.12</b>	The City will proactively seek to partner with nearby public agencies and service providers to identify financing strategies and methods for meeting existing and future regional parks and recreation needs.

Open Space Implementation Strategy 4.1	During buildout of the 2030 General Plan, the City will ensure development and ongoing maintenance of new parkland to serve a growing population. The City will conduct a Nexus Study to determine fees necessary to develop parkland consistent with the General Plan. New developments shall dedicate and/or contribute to new parks according to the City's revised development impact fees. The City will consider contributing toward a new community park in the Planned Growth Area, with new development in the Planned Growth Area contributing on a fair-share basis.
Open Space Implementation Strategy 4.2	The City will collaborate with the Gridley Unified School District on planning, financing, and development of new park space adjacent to school sites. It is intended that this park space can be jointly used by schools and new residential development in the surrounding neighborhood. It is anticipated that the City and School District can share maintenance responsibilities for this new joint parkland.
Open Space Implementation Strategy 4.3	The City will revise the Subdivision Ordinance, as necessary, to be consistent with the approach to parkland provision in the 2030 General Plan.

<b>OPEN SPACE GOAL 5</b>	<b>Maintain, expand, and upgrade facilities in existing recreation areas.</b>
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 5.1</b>	The City will maintain and improve existing parks and develop new parks in the existing developed portions of the City, as feasible.
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 5.2</b>	The City will prioritize adding parkland in areas lacking adequate park acreage according to City parkland standards.
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 5.3</b>	The City will consult with the Gridley Unified School District to introduce joint school-City use and maintenance of park space at existing schools.
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 5.4</b>	The City will consult with the Gridley Unified School District to provide City-sponsored recreational programming on undeveloped School District property where such recreational programming would not involve substantial physical improvements.
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 5.5</b>	The City will plan for ballfields and landscaping improvements to Eagle Meadows Park and walking paths that connect this park across drainage laterals to West Biggs-Gridley Road (see also the Circulation Element).

<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 5.6</b>	The City will explore opportunities to improve ongoing public access to, and expand recreational opportunities related to the Feather River on property owned by the City and used for wastewater treatment.
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 5.7</b>	The City will communicate with the Gridley-Biggs Cemetery District to connect planned City trails and recreational spaces with Cemetery trails and access roadways to promote public access to the Cemetery.
Open Space Implementation Strategy 5.1	The City will promote awareness of regional, state, and private parks and recreation planning and facilities development near Gridley, such as Grey Lodge, Lake Oroville Recreation Area, or new facilities. The City will encourage development of uses and facilities within Gridley that would be complementary to these regional recreation opportunities, in order to take best local advantage of these resources. The City will coordinate signage to promote awareness of these regional facilities.
Open Space Implementation Strategy 5.2	As funding is available, the City will pursue improvements to existing recreational facilities. For example, the City will look for opportunities to improve sprinkler systems, add low maintenance landscaping, and replace other improvements, as necessary. The City will also examine existing recreational facilities relative to neighborhoods they serve and pursue opportunities to improve multi-modal access to these facilities, as funding is available.
Open Space Implementation Strategy 5.3	The City will proactively seek state and federal funds for parkland acquisition to serve the existing City relative to parkland acreage standards.
Open Space Implementation Strategy 5.4	The City will consult with the Gridley Unified School District to identify mutually beneficial strategies for joint-use of existing school recreation spaces. The City will consider assisting the School District with maintenance of recreation space that is made available for community use and City recreational programming. The City will also consult with the School District to determine whether there would be an opportunity to provide recreational programming using undeveloped lands owned by the School District. This recreation programming may be considered temporary until such time as the School District decides to develop or sell the property. As such, the City should focus on types of recreation that do not require any substantial investment in improvement.

<b>OPEN SPACE GOAL 6</b>	<b>To provide recreation facilities and programs that meet the needs of existing and future residents.</b>
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 6.1</b>	The City will monitor the use of existing recreational facilities and participation in recreational programs in order to identify local preferences and priorities for future recreational facilities development.
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 6.2</b>	The City will require a variety of recreational facilities in new community, neighborhood, and mini-parks to serve local needs during General Plan buildout.
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 6.3</b>	The City will encourage flexible strategies for recreation facilities improvements in new parks. For example, the City will provide baseball/softball fields part of which can also be used for soccer.
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 6.4</b>	The City will provide a variety of recreational programming for all ages and abilities.
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 6.5</b>	The City will promote local groups that provide recreational programs and will provide access to City recreational facilities for use by these groups, as needed.
<b>OPEN SPACE POLICY 6.6</b>	The City will support the activities of the Butte County Fairgrounds through promotion and cooperation and encouragement of local businesses to accommodate fair visitors.
<b>Open Space Implementation Strategy 6.1</b>	The City will require development of recreational facilities in new community, neighborhood, and mini-parks during buildout of the General Plan. General types of recreational facilities are described for each park type in the General Plan. However, to provide better direction for the array of facilities and programming that will be necessary in the future, the City will consider community surveys to identify local preferences and any local gaps in recreational facilities and programming. Recommendations from this community survey should be used in future recreational facilities planning and programming. The City may consider preparation of a parks and recreation master plan for further analysis and description of future facilities and programming needs.

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