



# City Council Report

**Date:** October 3, 2022

**To:** City Council

**Through:** Marc Heirshberg, Deputy City Manager

**From:** Andrea Moore, Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities Director

**Subject:** Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities Comprehensive Master Plan Approval  
Citywide

## Purpose and Recommendation

The purpose of this report is to recommend City Council adoption of the Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities (PRCF) Comprehensive Master Plan.

## Background

In May 2021, the effort began to update the PRCF Comprehensive Master Plan by engaging the services of the consulting firm Berry Dunn (formerly GreenPlay). In September 2021, a series of six public meetings attended by 127 people, five stakeholder interviews, and two focus groups took place to gather baseline information about the community's priorities and perspectives toward the facilities and services provided by the department. Additionally, in November 2021, the department sent out a citizen survey to gather responses in ranking and evaluating the department's offerings to the community. A total of 2,402 survey responses were received. The public meetings and the citizen surveys were conducted in conjunction with the community engagement efforts related to the recently approved Mesa Climate Action Plan 2.0. Finally, an in-depth analysis of facility and program inventory has occurred with the consultant team. A summary of the findings from these efforts were presented to the Parks Board on May 11, 2022 and are also posted on the project website, [footprintfuturemesa.com](https://footprintfuturemesa.com).

On July 13, 2022, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board reviewed the draft master plan document and recommends approval to City Council. An overview of the plan document was presented at the September 22, 2022 City Council Study Session.

## Discussion

The master plan includes eight goals and corresponding 60 action items to create a 20-year guide and implementation tool for the management and development of facilities and programs within the Mesa community. It builds on prior planning efforts to advance operations by identifying strategies to address service gaps, anticipating new recreation needs, prioritizing spending efforts, establishing routine and

preventative maintenance standards for grounds and buildings, and investigating funding strategies. Highlighted in the plan is an analysis showing less than 1% of Mesa's population is underserved for access to recreational opportunities through either City-owned facilities and/or privately owned amenities such as those provided through home owners associations. The plan focuses on addressing a limited number of gaps in Mesa's level of service for parks and recreation services. Additionally, the plan works to integrate priorities and future directions for all areas of the department including parks, recreation, commercial facilities, and facilities maintenance. At the same time, the value provided through numerous service contracts, partnerships, and private service providers are highlighted as strategies to diversify outreach while controlling costs.

In November 2024, the intent is that the City will ask Mesa voters to approve the next 10-year General Plan on the election ballot. Currently, the City's Development Services Department is leading the update of the City's General Plan. Once approved, the PRCF Comprehensive Master Plan will be incorporated into the City's updated General Plan. This follows the same process when PRCF's prior plan was incorporated in the City's 2040 General Plan.

### **Alternatives**

City Council may recommend edits to the plan or may request additional information for inclusion in the final plan document. Alternatively, Council may choose to not adopt the master plan.

### **Fiscal Impact**

There are no fiscal impacts directly related with the implementation of the master plan. Future operating and capital budget requests will continue to come to Council for fiscal approval through the normal processes (i.e., budget meetings, Council agenda).

### **Coordinated With**

The master plan was drafted and completed in coordination with the City Manager's Office.