



WHERE WE'RE GOING

03



“Parks are a good financial investment for a community¹.”

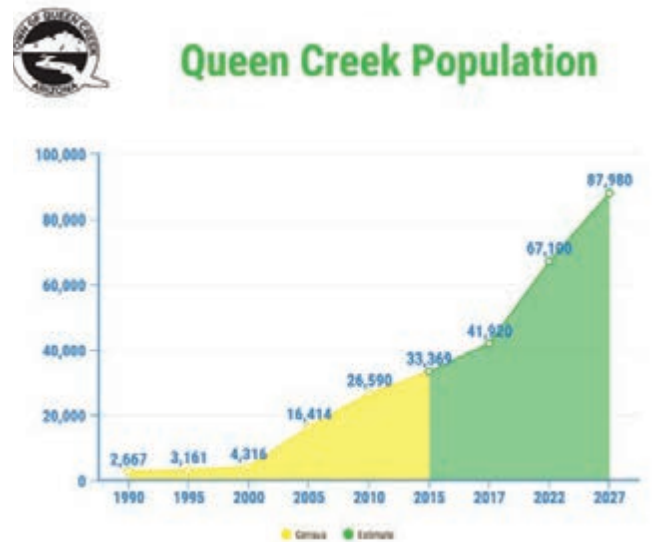
POPULATION & DEMOGRAPHICS

With a population of approximately 41,980 in 2017, Queen Creek is anticipated to continue growing at a steady rate. In the next 10 years, Queen Creek’s population is expected to double, with an estimated population of 87,980 in 2027 (the population estimate does not include the April 2018 annexation of Ironwood Crossing). To keep pace with the Town’s growth, the number and parks and recreation facilities will need to double to maintain the current levels of service. Not only will the quantity of facilities need to change as growth continues, the types of facilities will also need to adapt to the Town’s future demographic changes.

Currently, the Town’s second largest population group is between the ages of 40 and 64; in 15 years, those individuals will be between 55 and 80. To accommodate the shift in demographics, the Town is focused on diversifying housing options as development occurs. Recreation opportunities will also need to diversify to include more activities and programs geared towards older adults and younger adults (the Town’s largest population group is under 19; in 15 years, this age group will be young adults).

Studies indicate that older adults are living longer, and are generally more active². Providing

Figure 3.1: **Queen Creek Population**



Population count from U.S. Census - 2017 and beyond are estimates based on home permits. Population estimate does not include the April 2018 annexation of Ironwood Crossing.

adequate recreation opportunities for older adults not only makes Queen Creek a more desirable place to live, it also enhances the health and quality of life for residents. Research conducted by the National Council on Aging found older adults who participate in activities offered by community centers, or multi-generational centers, learn to manage and delay the onset of chronic disease, and experience measurable improvement in their physical, social, spiritual, emotional and economic well-being³.

- 1 American Planning Association
- 2 National Institute on Aging
- 3 National Institute on Aging

RESIDENT FEEDBACK – OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update incorporated feedback provided by the community. The following methods were used to gather community input:

- Scientific telephone survey of 400 Queen Creek residents related to parks, trails and recreation.
- More than 800 people participated in an informal online poll.
- More than 40 groups participated in interviews and focus groups held in May 2016.
- More than 60 people participated in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan workshop held in August 2016.
- Input related to parks, trails and recreation opportunities was also received through the 2016 and 2017 Queen Creek Citizen Survey. Both scientific surveys randomly selected 400 Queen Creek residents via landline and cell phones.



Visioning Exercise



Planning for the Future

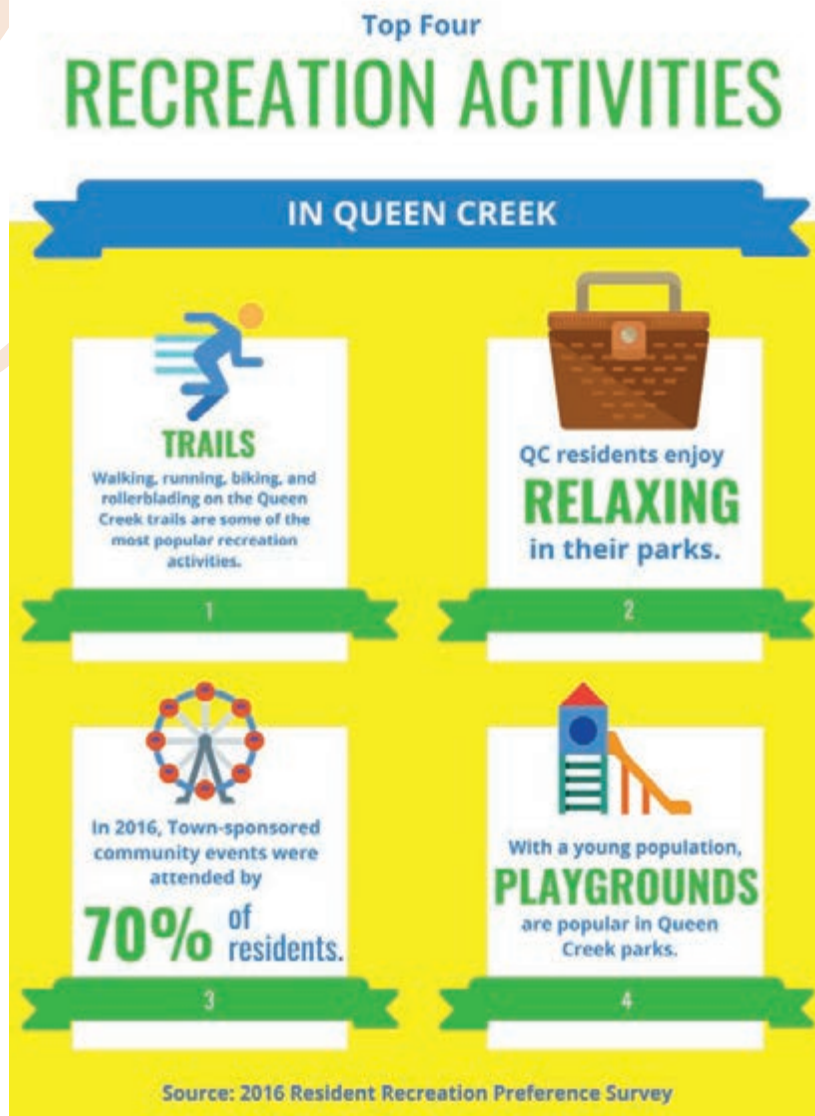


Residents Discussing the Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Overall satisfaction with Queen Creek's parks, trails and recreation opportunities was consistent across all three surveys; the majority of residents consider the quality good or excellent. Additionally, the majority of residents prefer to use community parks over their neighborhood HOA parks.

Residents also provided consistent responses related to most desired additional parks and recreation facilities.

Figure 3.2: **Top Four Recreation Activities**



TOP 6 Most Desired Facilities

1. Aquatic center / swimming pools
2. Picnic ramadas for large and small events
3. Community parks that offer variety
4. Fitness centers
5. Youth recreation centers
6. Multi-generational recreation center

With regard to funding parks, trails and recreation opportunities, 78% of respondents on the 2017 Citizen Survey somewhat or strongly support a tax increase to fund parks and recreation. These local findings are consistent with national trends. The 2016 National Recreation & Park Association's Engagement with Parks Survey found respondents overwhelmingly believe parks and recreation are important services offered through their local government. Additionally, the survey indicated people support increased funding for parks and recreation programs offered through their local government.

The community may need to partner with the private sector to meet facility needs such as recreation centers, fitness center and multi-generational centers. Additionally, due to extraordinary community-wide needs in this area, some services may need to be entirely provided by the private sector.

Figure 3.3: **New Parks Preference**



Figure 3.4: **Support for Parks**

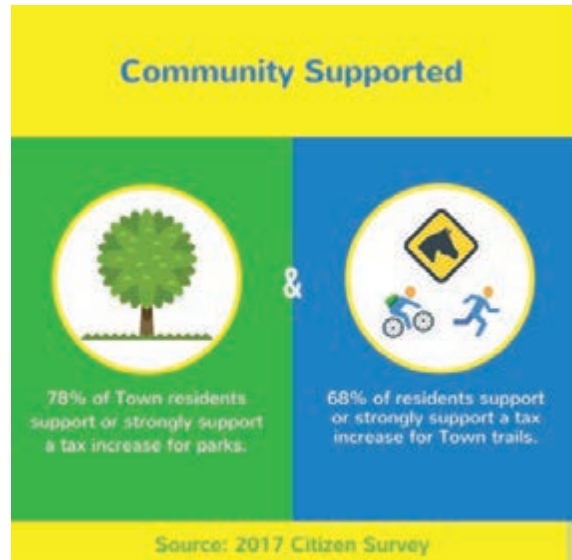


Figure 3.5: **Developing Levels of Service**

Developing Levels of Service

Levels of service help determine the acres of park space, types of park activities, trails and recreation facilities per resident. Establishing meaningful levels of service is vital to the long-term planning for current and future residents.



1

A Resident Recreation Preference Survey was conducted in July 2016 via telephone as part of this current Master Plan update.

2



The Resident Recreation Preference Survey, and a separate survey on the types of facilities desired by residents for the Mansel Carter Oasis Park were posted on the Town's social media sites in August 2016.



3

A study of comparison jurisdictions identified by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee was completed. This study was used to develop a framework for the Town to use in determining levels of service.

4



A Community Education Workshop was held to solicit ideas from residents about the types of recreation facilities they wanted in Queen Creek.



5

Resident feedback was then combined with knowledge of community desires regarding parks and recreation facilities, information about recreation trends in Arizona and nationally, and the information obtained in the Comparison Jurisdiction Study.

6



Discussion with Town Council to review level of service and other community needs such as transportation and public safety.

Using this information, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee determined a level of service recommendation for park acres and a variety of recreation facilities.

RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF SERVICE (LOS)

As of October 2017, Queen Creek provides 89 acres of developed park land and has 261 acres of undeveloped park land (including 13 undeveloped acres at Mansel Carter Oasis Park, not including acres at Horseshoe Park & Equestrian Centre). **(Figure 3.7: Total Developed and Undeveloped Park Acres).**

This plan update reduces the level of service established in the 2005 Parks, Trails and Open Space Master Plan (**Appendix B**) (61 acres per 10,000 residents) to 51 acres per 10,000 residents. Because the current level of service in the community is 21 acres per 10,000 residents, development halted during the Great Recession, therefore, this plan includes a transitional goal of 40 acres per 10,000 residents. This transitional plan acknowledges the budgetary constraints of a growing community that must balance the desire for increased parks and recreation amenities with the immediate need for investment in other infrastructure and public safety. The 40 acres LOS is a fiscally feasible plan that allows the Town to add additional parks and recreation amenities while maintaining the ultimate goal of reaching 51 acres per 10,000 residents.

The updated level of service would result in the Town providing an additional 261 acres of park land by 2027 when the Town’s population is projected to be approximately 87,980.

Figure 3.6: **Recommended Park Acres & Amenity Levels of Service**

Facility Type	Recommended LOS per 10,000 pop.	Current Inventory	Cumulative Total Needed	
			2018 - 2022	2023 - 2027
Park Acres	40* (51**)	89	268* (342**)	352* (449**)
Ballfields	3.58	9	24	32
Basketball Courts	1.76	6	12	16
Tennis/Pickleball Courts	2.50	0	17	22
Multi-use Fields	1.41	5	10	12
Volleyball Courts	1.16	4	8	10
Dog Parks	0.29	1	2	2.5
Splash Pads	0.23	2	1.5	2
Skate Parks	0.20	2	1	2

* Transitional plan represents 40 acres per 10,000 residents. **Represents the ultimate goal of 51 acres per 10,000.

This plan establishes four classes of parks:

- **Neighborhood parks** are all privately owned and maintained parks.
- **Community parks** are intended to serve a radius of two miles.
- **Regional parks** include the planned Queen Creek Sports Complex, and serve a radius of five miles.
- **Specialty parks** are based on a unique asset or feature (amphitheater, etc.).

Neighborhood Parks

The Town does not own or maintain neighborhood parks and they are not open to the general public. As part of the Master Plan process, homeowner associations were surveyed and asked to provide information on acres and facilities located in neighborhood parks. This information was supplemented with GIS research using aerial maps.

Based on the survey and research, approximately 202 acres of neighborhood parks are within the Town. Neighborhood parks are mostly located in planned area developments, subdivisions, and in the Box Canyon Master Planned Community (**Figure 3.8: Neighborhood Park Service Areas**). Neighborhood parks typically include a tot lot play area and open grass spaces used for flood retention, often lacking parking or restroom facilities. These park spaces are within walking distance of the residents living in the development.

Because the Town requires open space as a part of new subdivisions, multi-family development and master planned communities, neighborhood parks are well distributed throughout the developed areas of Town. Article 5 of the Town's Zoning Ordinance outlines the open space requirements for new developments. For suburban and urban residential zoning districts, the ordinance requires 10 to 30% of the open space provided to be "active," meaning that the space can be used for active play (tot lots, open turf, sports courts, trails, etc.).

Community Parks

The Town provides three active community parks, each intended to serve a radius of two miles; Founders' Park, Desert Mountain Park and Mansel Carter Oasis Park (opening in fall 2018). Sossaman Cloud Site will provide active amenities including a play area, multi-purpose fields and a dog park, in addition to providing drainage retention for the area. Using the service areas established by this plan, an additional 30-40 acres of active park space is needed to serve residents in the southeast area of the Town (**Figure 3.9: Community Park Service Areas**).



Desert Mountain Park

Regional Parks

The Queen Creek Sports Complex is a planned Town park, and the land is already owned by the Town. The majority of the Town is within the service area for this park. Some areas of Box Canyon are not within the Queen Creek Sports Complex service area, however, the Box Canyon site is providing a neighborhood park for its residents (Figure 3.10: Regional Park Service Area Map).

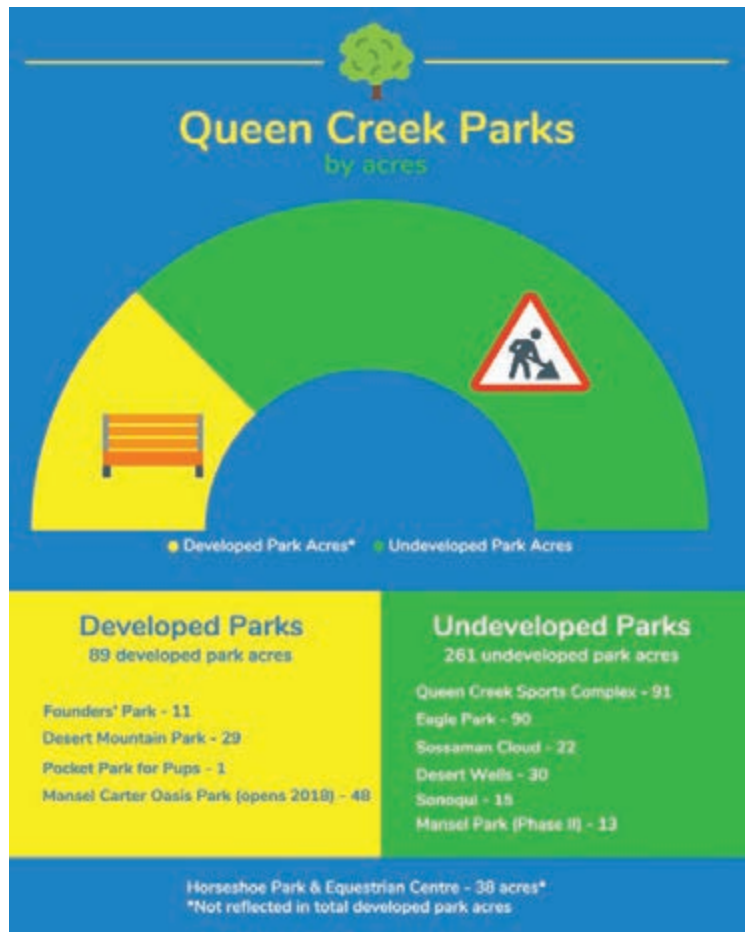
Specialty Parks

The Town currently provides one specialty park, Horseshoe Park & Equestrian Centre, with two additional specialty parks planned, Desert Wells Park and Sonoqui Park. The Desert Wells Park includes design elements that enhance the historic structure. Sonoqui Park, located along the Sonoqui Wash, will incorporate the desert riparian habitat. In addition to the planned and existing specialty parks, the Town needs an outdoor amphitheater that can serve as a large gathering space to support arts and other community activities. A natural location would be in close proximity to the Town’s agritainment district, in the southeast area of Town, providing activities that complement the agritourism and experience-based activities.



Horseshoe Park & Equestrian Centre

Figure 3.7: Total Developed and Undeveloped Park Acres



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Figure 3.8: Neighborhood Parks Service Areas Map

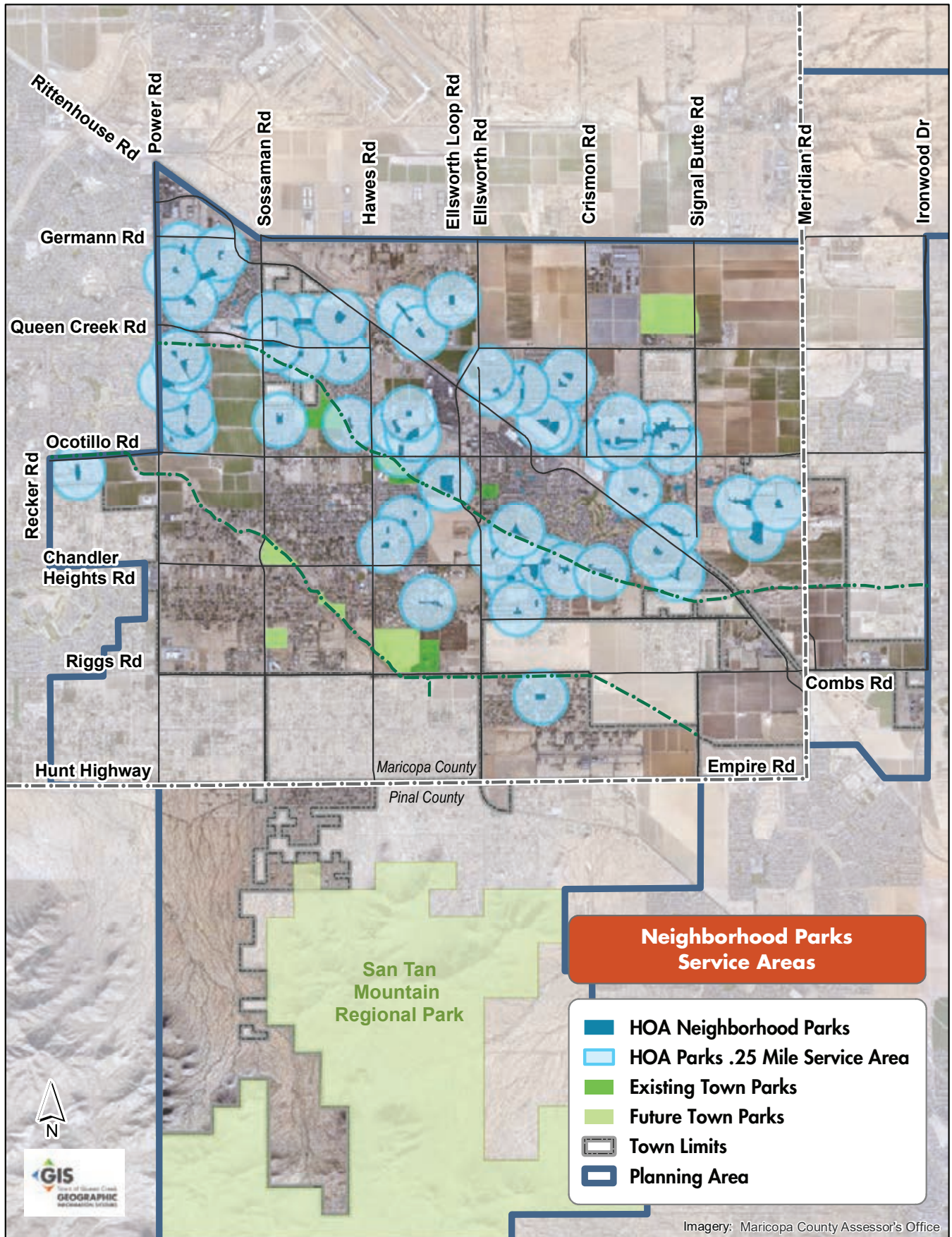
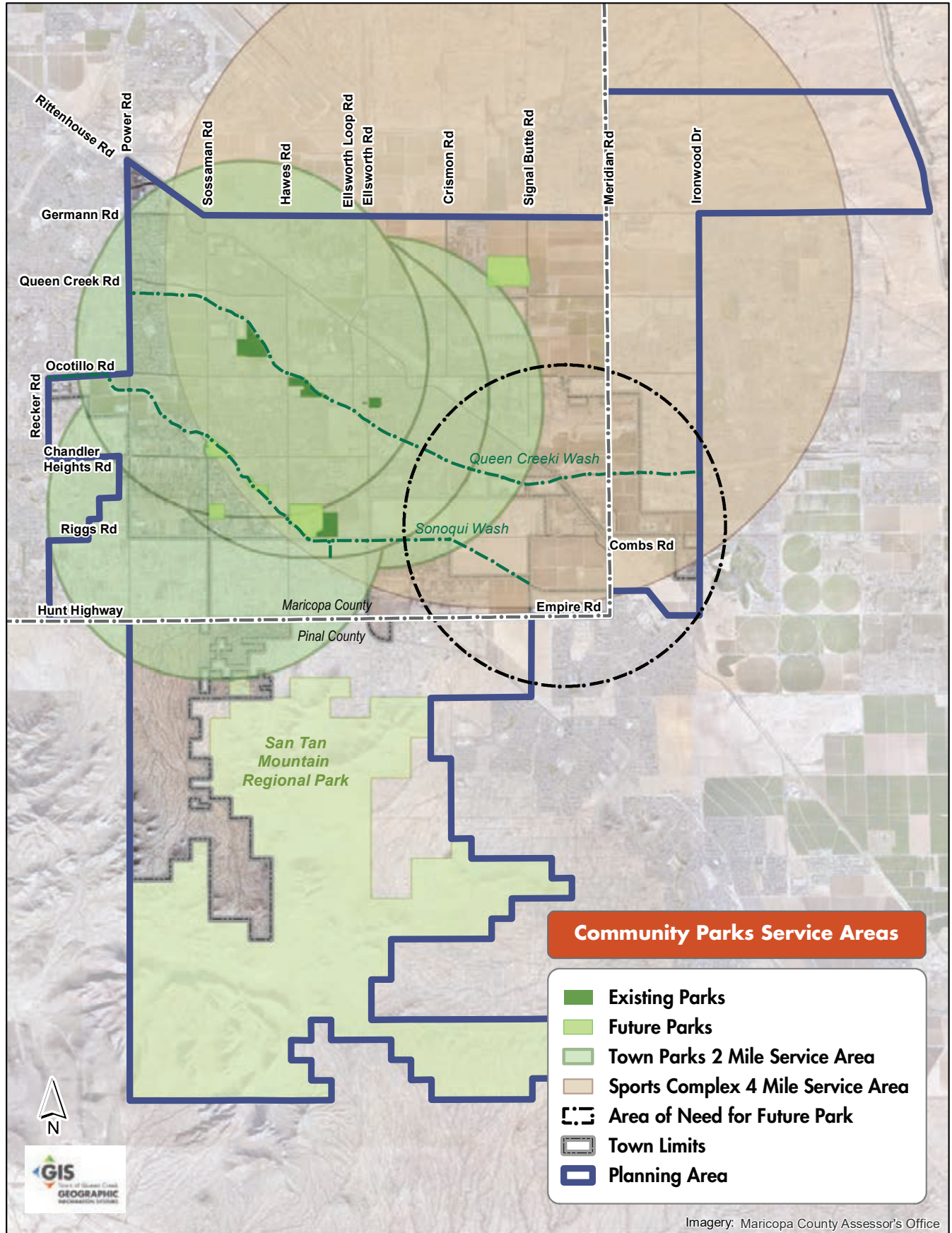
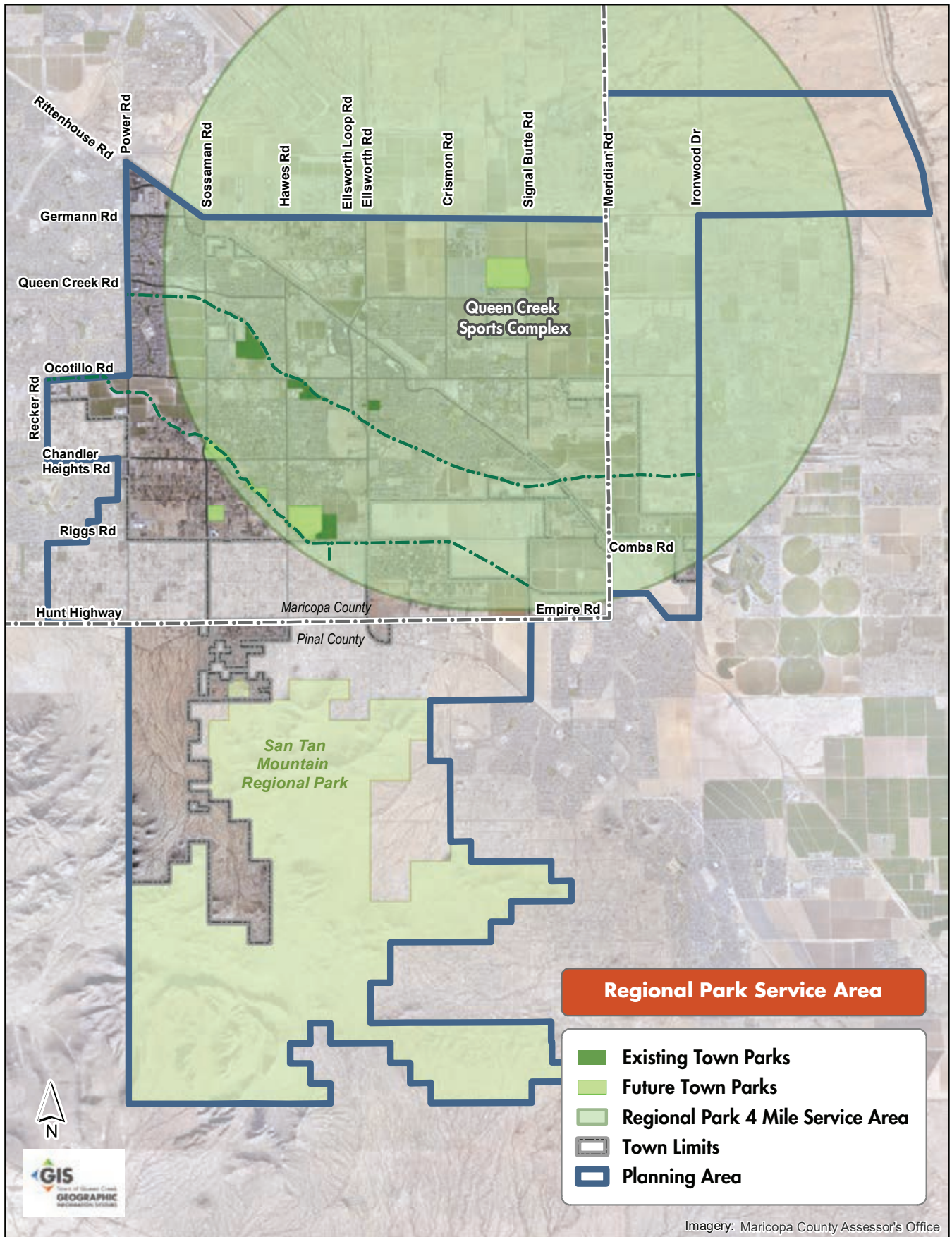


Figure 3.9: Community Parks Service Areas Map



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Figure 3.10: Regional Parks Service Area Map



PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

The southeast area of Town, near Riggs Road and the Queen Creek Wash, provides an ideal area for a future park site. The U.S. Department of Transportation approved Rittenhouse Road as the planned alignment of commuter rail to Tucson in January 2017. An outdoor event venue in the area would be easily accessible from downtown Phoenix as well as Tucson, and complement the Town's agritainment destinations in the southeast area of Town.

The Town currently owns 261 acres of undeveloped park land which needs to be developed to meet the needs of the 2027 population at the 40 acres per 10,000 resident level of service. To meet the ultimate goal of 51 acres per 10,000 residents, an additional 99 acres would need to be acquired. Other options to prioritize park construction could involve creative public-private partnerships or land transfers. While outside the scope of this 10-year plan, residents reported the desire for a local aquatics and multi-generational center, which may be considered in future plans.

San Tan Mountain Regional Park is adjacent to the Box Canyon Master Planned Community. There is an opportunity to work with the regional park and the developer of Box Canyon to establish a trailhead on the west side of the park that is accessible from Bell Road. Due to the high volume of cyclists that utilize the trails located within San Tan Mountain Regional Park, the opportunity to create a BMX park at the trailhead should also be explored.

The northeast section of the Town's Planning Area includes over 10 square miles of undeveloped State Trust Land, managed by the State Land Department. The planned State Route 24 will pass along the north edge of this area. When this land develops, it is likely that it will include a mix of uses, including residential. Incorporating parks, recreation services and trail connectivity will need to be considered as this area is planned and developed.



Groundbreaking for Mansel Carter Oasis Park in 2017

RECREATION AMENITIES

Queen Creek provides a wide range of recreation facilities at its five Town parks. The recommended level of service (LOS) for each facility is measured per 10,000 residents. This plan outlines the level of service recommended, including the total number of facilities that will be needed by 2022 and 2027 based on population projections.

PARK DEVELOPMENT

Parks bring economic benefits to communities in a variety of ways, including serving as a key feature businesses measure when evaluating the quality of life their employees would experience if a business moved or expanded to a community. According to an article by Megan Lewis, AICP, Assistant Director of The City Parks Forum¹, American Planning Association, parks enhance property values, increase municipal revenue, bring in homebuyers and workers, and attract retirees. Parks are a good financial investment for a community.



Having Fun at the Splash Pad!



Sonoqui Wash Trail at the Hawes Road Underpass

¹ www.ignitecda.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/ULI_Benefits-of-Parks-to-Communities.pdf

Mansel Carter Oasis Park – (61 acres)

In the fall of 2018, the Town plans to open Mansel Carter Oasis Park. The 48 acres, with an additional 13 acres for future expansion, will be the Town's largest park and will nearly double the community's existing recreation inventory. The park is the first new community park site constructed since Desert Mountain Park was built more than a decade ago in 2005.

The first phase of the new park will include the following amenities (48 acres):

- Inclusive and accessible playground
- Ballfields
- Multi-purpose fields
- Splash pad
- Basketball courts
- Volleyball courts
- Fitness course
- Multi-use trailhead accessing the Queen Creek Wash
- Fishing lake
- Wheel-friendly skate park
- Ramadas, picnic tables, restrooms

Second phase is likely to include (13 acres):

- Tennis and Pickleball courts
- Multi-purpose fields
- Dog park
- Additional parking and restrooms

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Figure 3.11: Mansel Carter Oasis Park Phase I



Mansel Carter Oasis Park



Queen Creek Sports Complex

(91 park acres)

- Ballfields
- Multi-purpose fields
- Basketball courts
- Volleyball courts
- Tennis/Pickleball courts
- Play area
- Water feature
- Fitness course
- Ramadas, picnic tables, restrooms

Future phase to include:

- Aquatic center
- Multi-generational center

Sossaman Cloud Site

(22 acres)

- Multi-purpose fields
- Play area
- Ramadas, picnic tables, restrooms

Desert Wells Park

(30 acres)

- Trailhead
- Play area
- Fitness course
- Ramadas, picnic tables, restrooms

Sonoqui Park

(15 acres)

- Play area
- Ramadas, picnic tables, restrooms

Proposed park in southeast Queen Creek

(estimated 30-40 acres)

- Ballfields
- Basketball courts
- Volleyball courts
- Tennis and Pickleball courts
- Play area
- Fishing pond
- Fitness course
- Ramadas, picnic tables, restrooms

Eagle Park

(90 acres)

Eagle Park is a passive park designed for picnicking and walking. The site is a former landfill and has limited uses. It is being privately developed by a nonprofit, Eagle Park LLC, and will be dedicated to the Town of Queen Creek upon its completion.

Figure 3.12: **Future Parks and Trails Timeline (based on priority)**

Project	Details
Mansel Park	Phase I - 48 of 61 acres
Trail Project	Sonoqui Wash - Riggs Rd Channel; Hawes to Ellsworth
Trail Project	Sonoqui Wash - Riggs Rd Channel; Ellsworth to Crismon
Eagle Park	90 acres of passive space
Trail Project	QC Wash - Crismon to Rittenhouse
QC Sports Complex	91 acres; moved up in the schedule to meet the demands of population growth and annexation growth
Trail Project	SRP Utility Easement Trail - Ellsworth to Signal Butte
Sossaman Cloud Site	22 acres
Trail Project	QC Wash - Rittenhouse to Town limits
Trail Project	Sonoqui Wash - Power to Recker
Mansel Park Phase II	13 acres
Desert Wells Park	30 acres
Trail Project	East trail connection - Cloud Rd to Empire Rd
Trail Project	QC Wash - Bike/Pedestrian Bridge at Meridian
Sonoqui Park	15 acres
Trail Project	Sonoqui Wash - Crismon Rd to Signal Butte Rd

TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

Trails provide safe, efficient and scenic non-motorized transportation options for residents to move throughout the community. Designed to be used by people walking, running, cycling and riding horseback, multipurpose trails offer connectivity and convenient options for exercise, exploration and spending time with friends and family.

The purpose of the trails section of this plan is to ensure safe and accessible pathways are created and maintained, providing access to the Town's trail system. This connectivity provides residents of Queen Creek with a variety of options for accessing local parks, dining and shopping.

1 1-Mile Loop Trail

A key element of maintaining a healthy community is completing the Town's 11-mile trail loop, the "heart" of the Town's trail system, connecting the Queen Creek and Sonoqui washes. Through a development agreement with a private property owner, a connection on the west end (near Power Road) has been identified, and will be completed when the properties develop. To optimize the Town's trail system, paved and multi-use trails need to be added to the Riggs Road Channelization project from Ellsworth to Crismon roads, extending the Sonoqui Wash trail to the east. A connection between the two washes still needs to be identified on the east side of Town. Staff will work with property owners in the area through development agreements to facilitate a connection.

The two washes currently connect with sidewalks and trails along Sossaman Road, Hawes Road, and Ellsworth Road, offering shorter options than the 11-mile loop.

The 11-mile loop connects most of the Town park properties and the Town Center in a safe and efficient manner. The project helps ease traffic and parking congestion, and provides safe space for families to recreate together.



Sonoqui Wash Trail

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Figure 3.13: 11-Mile Loop Trail Map

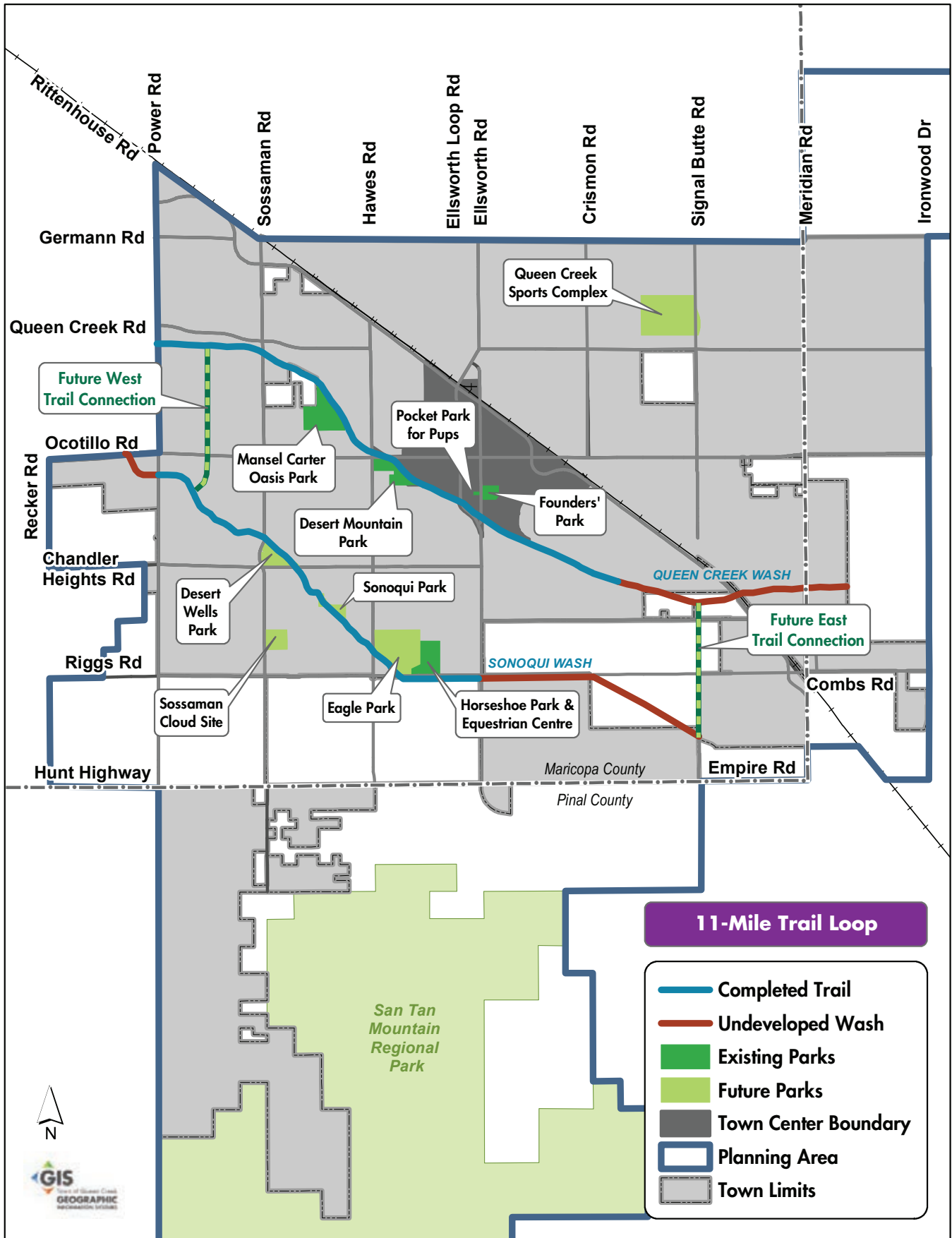
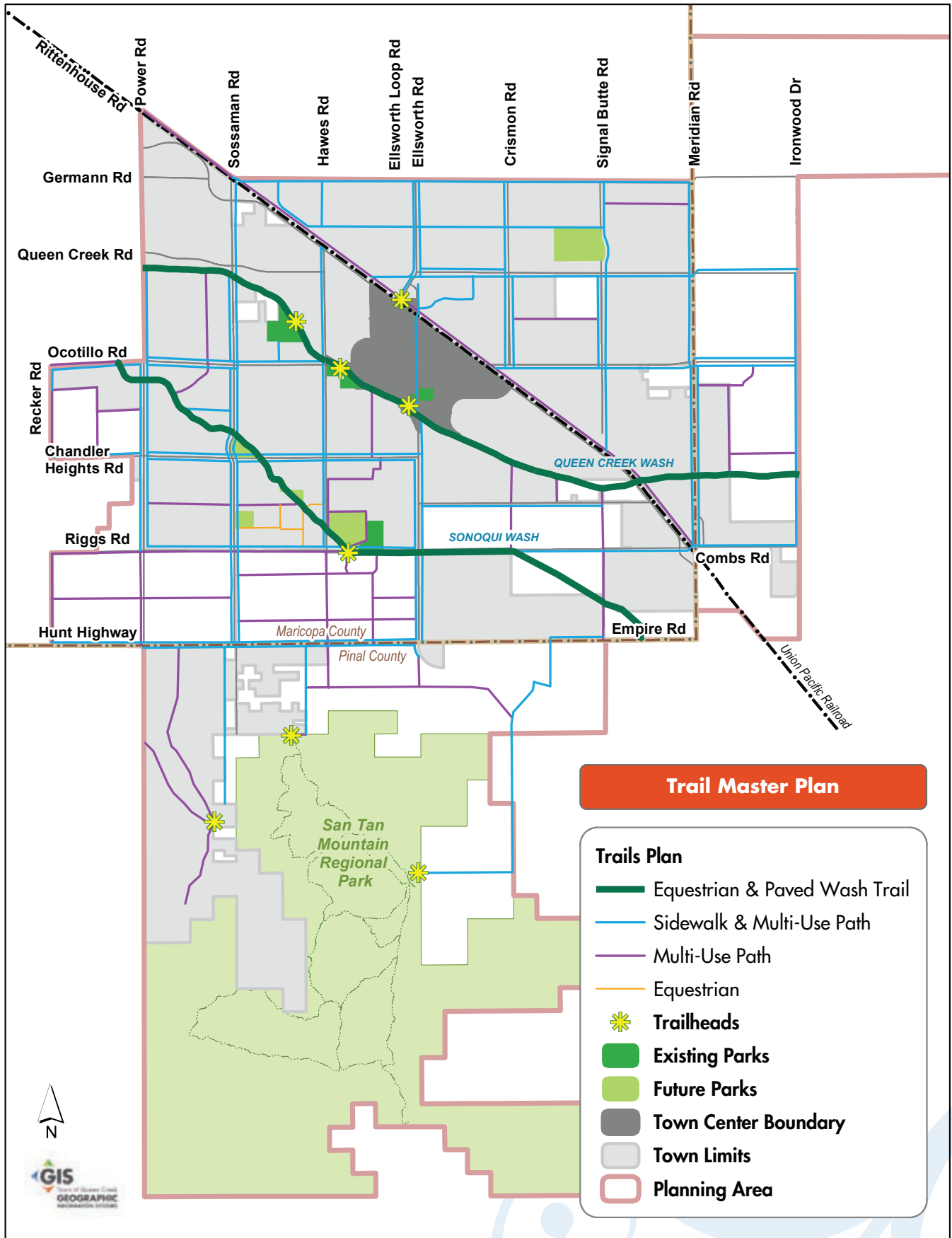


Figure 3.14: Future Trails Map



Multi-Use Paths

Neighborhood multi-use paths are another integral piece of the Town's trail system. New development is required to construct multi-use paths if the path is designated on the Master Trails Park Map and if the trail is located within the project's property boundaries. These multi-use paths create a safe and efficient way for residents in any portion of Queen Creek to gain access to the wash trails and Town amenities including shopping and dining. By strategically planning these multi-use paths, non-vehicular traffic can be funneled through corridors with crossings designed for extra safety and visibility.

The guidelines for trails and paths identified in the 2007 Parks and Recreation Master Plan are incorporated, with some revisions, into this plan (**Appendix A**). These trail guidelines were developed to provide the Town with a toolbox of details that can be used to build unpaved trails, paved paths, access areas and special crossings. The guidelines are also provided to developers so that trail-related facilities in Queen Creek are consistently developed. Current guidance for bicycle facilities within the roadway is located in the Town of Queen Creek Multimodal Transportation Master Plan (**Appendix B**).

Figure 3.15: **Trail Types**

TYPE NAME	TRAIL TYPE	USE	WIDTH (MIN.)	SURFACE MATERIAL
T1	Detached Sidewalk	Shared	6'	Concrete
T2	Multi-Use Path	Shared	10'	Compacted ¼" minus decomposed granite
T3	Combined Detached Sidewalk & Multi-Use Path	Shared	6', 10'	Concrete sidewalks; compacted ¼" minus decomposed granite multi-use paths
T4	Paved Wash Trail	Shared	10'	Asphalt
T5	Equestrian Wash Trail	Equestrian only	18" min.	Native

Roadway Crossings

A primary goal of the Town's trail system is to make non-motorized travel through Queen Creek as safe and efficient as possible. The trail system along the wash focuses on reducing roadway crossings, and the Town strives to build bridges/underpasses at roadway crossings whenever possible. The trail system is ultimately being built to connect all Town residents and businesses - whether they're near a wash or not. In order to maintain safety and efficiency, all roadway crossings are built and maintained for maximum safety.

In areas where arterial roads intersect with the Town's trail system, this plan recommends HAWK (High-Intensity Activated crossWalk) crossings wherever there is not a signalized intersection. For streets with low traffic volumes and/or speed limits, marked and signed crosswalks are recommended.

Long-term plans include connecting the Town's trail system to the Maricopa County and Pinal County trails systems.



QC Wash Trail Entrance



Sonoqui Wash Trail Underpass at Chandler Heights Road

PROGRAMMING AND PARTNERSHIPS

A healthy, active community has a diverse range of interests, and a well-planned recreation system provides a wide variety of programming to meet those needs. Recreation programs engage the community and provide revenues that help pay for the operations and maintenance of the recreation facilities. Incorporating a wide variety of programming provides opportunities for active social connections for those who are not involved in the more standardized programs, like sports or dance. Diverse programming allows opportunities for individuals with limited mobility and creates an environment for people with shared interests to come together.

Recreation programs and active parks also keep communities safe. By giving young people a safe space to interact with one another and positive activities, they stay out of trouble and off the streets. Park space and recreation programs also offer opportunities for families to enjoy time together, exercise, and mingle with neighbors, creating a sense of community and personal connection¹.

Special Interest Classes

The Town partners with a wide variety of instructors to provide programming at parks and the Recreation Annex. By partnering, rather than being the sole provider of classes and sports leagues, the Town reduces the overall cost of providing activities. For recreational classes, the Town offers instructors a cost-sharing model, wherein the Town provides the facility, program registration, and helps market the program for a percentage of the registration fee. An ever-changing portfolio of instructors provides participants with popular classes that meet their needs.



ABC123 Preschool at the Splash Pad 80's Party

As the Town's population continues to grow and the demographics change, the Town's recreation programs will also need to grow and shift to meet the needs of the community. Through the Town's partnership model, adjusting programs and classes that reflect the interests of residents is more achievable.

Available space is a major challenge to expanding programs. The Recreation Annex is already operating at capacity related to classroom availability, space in classes and work areas for staff. As the Town grows, options to expand class size, the number of classes and staffing will need to be evaluated.

While the Town is able to shift recreation classes as interests and demands evolve, there are areas related to recreation programming where the Town is lacking. Opportunities to expand recreation programming in Queen Creek include: aquatics, self-directed activities, adaptive programs, adult equestrian, and outdoor recreation.

¹ Trust for Public Land

Youth Sports Partners

Not only do sports increase physical activity, improving overall health, youth sports also help develop important life skills. From learning the importance of teamwork and playing fair to long-term commitments and how to win and lose, youth sports will continue to be a valued component of the community¹. The Town's official youth sports partners will continue to expand as the Town's population grows. Level of Service (LOS) reflects the need to add more amenities to meet the growing number of youth sports participants and organizations. Additionally, adult sports programs continue to see interest, and that percentage will grow as the population increases.



QC Little League Baseball



QC Heat Softball



San Tan Youth Football

¹ The Aspen Institute, 2018

Senior Program

The Town currently partners with a number of local businesses and church organizations to provide the free Senior Program once per week. These partnerships provide participants with educational opportunities, holiday celebrations and field trips, and help reduce the cost of providing this program. The Senior Program is a crucial component of a healthy recreation program, as it often serves as the only social interaction attendees take part in during the week. It also offers a connection between the seniors and the businesses and organizations that can help meet their needs.

The senior program and other adult-oriented programming will become even more valuable to residents as Queen Creek ages. Currently, Queen Creek has a higher percentage of its population under the age of 19 than any other East Valley city. The next largest population group is 40 to 64 year olds. In 15 years, this population will be between 55 and 79 years old. As the Town's housing stock diversifies, and current residents age, recreation needs will shift to include activities and programs geared towards both younger (ages 20-40) and older adults (ages 55-70). Studies show that older adults are living longer, and are generally more active, more educated, and have a higher tendency to be single/unmarried than those in the past.

The types of programs desired by older residents are often based out of multi-generational community centers. Research conducted in 2015 by the National Council on Aging found older adults who participate in activities offered by community centers learn to manage and delay the onset of chronic disease, and experience measurable improvement in their physical, social, spiritual, emotional and economic well-being¹.



We love QC Seniors!



QC Senior Program



QC Senior Program Holiday Celebration

¹ Keller, Jean M. Older Adults. Parksand Recreation. January 2017

Special Events & Festivals

As the Town continues to grow, additional special events and festivals are anticipated to maintain a high quality of life for residents. Events also draw visitors to the community and support the Town's tax base. As a result, staff will be necessary to process events to ensure they are held in a safe manner without negatively impacting the community.

Space to host events should also be considered as areas like Town Center are improved. Horseshoe Park & Equestrian Centre will continue to be an asset to the community as new events and festivals are established in Queen Creek.

Partnerships

As the Town's recreation classes must expand and evolve to keep pace with the Town's population growth, the Town's partners must also position themselves to meet the demands of the community as participation numbers increase.

- Boys & Girls Clubs of the East Valley –**
 The Town should continue to partner with the Boys & Girls Club for after-school and intersession programming, the Boys & Girls Club will need to evaluate space and programs.
- Queen Creek Performing Arts Center –**
 The Town should continue to partner with the Performing Arts Center, offering a variety of programs and experiences for residents related to arts, music and culture.

As new development occurs in Queen Creek, facilities provided by entities not affiliated with the Town will also increase with amenities offered through homeowners associations, churches, private fitness clubs and nonprofit organizations.



QC is a Playful City!



Having Fun at a QC Community Festival!



On Stage at Queen Creek Performing Arts Center

MAINTENANCE

While offering adequate parks and recreation opportunities is essential in providing a high quality of life in Queen Creek, properly maintaining the amenities is equally important. A flourishing park system increases property values and positively impacts economic development by meeting residents' and non-residents' recreational needs in and around Queen Creek's business corridors. A thriving park system requires ongoing maintenance to ensure the quality and safety of the Town's parks and recreation amenities.

Residents and visitors are more likely to use parks and trails that are clean and safe; increased use of parks and trails enhances the overall health of the community. Maintaining parks at a high level supports the Town's goal of keeping parks looking as good on their 3,000th day as they did on their first day. Striving for this level of maintenance helps reduce the costs associated with aging and degrading parks.

To increase the efficiency of park maintenance, every Town park should have the capacity to store maintenance equipment. In addition to optimizing maintenance related storage, as the inventory of areas to be maintained increases, staffing levels must also increase to maintain, and enhance maintenance levels of service (see Chapter 5).

Figure 3.16: Levels of Service – Maintenance

