



**YOUR PARKS**  
*Your Future*

CITY OF WALNUT CREEK



**PUBLIC  
INPUT**

The City of Walnut Creek invites you to shape the future of Arts & Recreation programs, Civic Park, Heather Farm Park and our community facilities.

# WHAT IS THIS PROJECT ABOUT?

**PURPOSE**

The purpose is to ensure that these parks, community facilities, and programs best serve the community well into the future.

**phase one**  
**PROGRAMMING  
& COMMUNITY  
FACILITIES**  
through Spring 2019

Community input on Arts & Recreation programming will align future programs with community wishes.

The programming needs will inform recommendations for the future of:

- Civic Park Community Center
- Heather Farm Community Center
- Clarke Swim Center
- Shadelands Art Center.



**phase two**  
**MASTER  
PLANNING**  
through Fall 2020

Community input will help develop a vision for Civic Park and Heather Farm Park that looks 10 to 15 years into the future.

Park design plans will be developed, with multiple opportunities for community feedback, resulting in final Master Plan Reports in Fall 2020.



Learn more about the project at:  
[www.walnut-creek.org/yourparks](http://www.walnut-creek.org/yourparks)



# YOUR PARKS YOUR FUTURE

## GOALS & OBJECTIVES

<b>GOAL 1</b>	<b>Provide for a variety of activities and efficient facilities with a balance of uses, experiences and spaces</b>
Objective 1a	Provide an appropriate mix of activities to serve both active and passive uses. Active space includes programmed space for sports and recreational activities, and passive space includes flexible or natural space for walking, picnicking, reading and bird watching.
Objective 1b	Enhance efficiency in use of park amenities and facilities by upgrading and/or consolidating buildings, as appropriate
Objective 1c	Create flexible, multi-use indoor and outdoor spaces where park users can choose to use the park in a variety of ways
<b>GOAL 2</b>	<b>Enhance comfort and safety for all users</b>
Objective 2a	Ensure selected equipment, structures and furnishings are designed to be safe, accessible, durable, comfortable, and low-maintenance
Objective 2b	Design parks to increase personal sense of safety and deter crime, through use of appropriate lighting and visibility and regular maintenance
<b>GOAL 3</b>	<b>Promote a multi-generational environment for arts, recreation, play and learning for all demographics to promote sociability, health and wellness</b>
Objective 3a	Facilities, amenities and programs should be designed to be used by people of all ages and abilities to encourage social interaction and inter-generational learning
Objective 3b	Support indoor and outdoor community events
Objective 3c	Provide park amenities, activities and programming that provide opportunities to enhance the health and well-being of the community
<b>GOAL 4</b>	<b>Enhance the natural environment</b>
Objective 4a	Provide connections and overlooks that offer opportunities to view and interact with the natural lake at Heather Farm, the creek at Civic Park, and any other natural areas
Objective 4b	Provide signage and other educational opportunities to learn about nature and sustainability throughout the parks
Objective 4c	Maintain and enhance habitat areas for native plants and animals, including riparian habitat
Objective 4d	Integrate sustainable practices, including energy efficiency, green building and water management efforts, in the design of new/remodeled facilities and park amenities to support the City's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, as identified in the City's Climate Action Plan
<b>GOAL 5</b>	<b>Enhance connectivity between the parks and adjacent surroundings</b>
Objective 5a	Improve visual and physical connections between Civic Park and Downtown
Objective 5b	Improve visual connections and signage from regional trails to Heather Farm and Civic Park
Objective 5c	Provide convenient access for park and facility users by all modes of transportation, with consideration for bike, pedestrian, transit and automobile facilities, including adequate parking
<b>GOAL 6</b>	<b>Be inviting and create memorable and fun places accessible to everyone</b>
Objective 6a	Design entrances to be welcoming and visually prominent
Objective 6b	Design creative, innovative and unique spaces, play areas, and experiences
Objective 6c	Incorporate public art throughout each park
Objective 6d	Reflect the history of each of the parks through signage or other methods



# YOUR PARKS YOUR FUTURE PROJECT ASSUMPTIONS

The assumptions are the conditions assumed to be true for the time frame of the project. The time frame for each park Master Plan is expected to be 10-15 years. The assumptions set the framework for parks planning by constraining the focus of future physical improvements.

## I. CIVIC PARK

1. Civic Park will continue to serve the Downtown area
2. Any on-site buildings could be consolidated/relocated within the park or another community facility within Walnut Creek. The programs within these buildings may relocate to other locations within Walnut Creek.
3. The following features will remain in place:
 

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Library and associated parking</li> <li>b. Pedestrian bridge</li> <li>c. Private house and access</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d. Hand of Peace sculpture</li> <li>e. Creek and creek walk will remain in place and the creek will remain uncovered and an integral part of the plan</li> </ol>
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4. The following features and functions will continue, but may be relocated, enlarged and/or rebuilt within the park or any of the City's other facilities:
 

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Rose garden</li> <li>b. Pollinator garden</li> <li>c. Playground</li> <li>d. Picnic areas</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>e. Programming, event and rental facilities</li> <li>f. Gazebo</li> <li>g. Parking</li> </ol>
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## II. HEATHER FARM

1. Heather Farm will continue to serve as a regional destination for arts and recreational programs and park amenities
2. Any on-site buildings could be consolidated/relocated within the park or another community facility within Walnut Creek. The programs within these buildings may relocate to other locations within Walnut Creek.
3. The following features will remain in place:
 

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Ballfields</li> <li>b. Garden center and community gardens</li> <li>c. Nature lake</li> <li>d. Tennis center</li> <li>e. All-abilities playground</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>f. Skate park</li> <li>g. Centennial Grove</li> <li>h. Maintenance Yard</li> <li>i. Irrigation reservoir</li> <li>j. Heather Drive and San Carlos Drive</li> </ol>
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4. The following features and functions will continue, but may be relocated, enlarged and/or rebuilt within the park or any of the City's other facilities:
 

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Dog park</li> <li>b. Picnic areas</li> <li>c. Sand volleyball courts</li> <li>d. Swim center</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>e. Programming, event and rental facilities</li> <li>f. Access to Seven Hills school</li> <li>g. Parking lots, and associated solar panels</li> <li>h. Walnut Festival Association Office</li> </ol>
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## III SHADELANDS ART CENTER

1. If Shadelands Art Center continues to serve as a center for arts programming, the existing building will remain at the current location but may be renovated/remodeled.
2. Other portions of the property may be utilized for other programs.



# YOUR PARKS YOUR FUTURE PROJECT PROCESS

## IV. PROJECT PROCESS

These assumptions about the planning process and the future condition of parks and facilities set the parameters for and guide project recommendations.

1. Input on parks and programming planning process will be balanced, taking feedback from the Advisory Committee, stakeholders, community-at-large, commissions and City Council
2. City Council will provide final decision-making authority over the programming and parks master plan update deliverables
3. Long-term community needs are the basis for parks and programming planning recommendations
4. Arts and recreational programming recommendations will be consistent with the City's cost-recovery policy
5. Recommendations will be realistic, implementable and fiscally sustainable
6. The 2003 Heather Farm Park Master Plan will serve as the foundation for the Heather Farm Park Masterplan update
7. Arts and recreation programs may take place in multiple facilities or locations and not limited to one site
8. The project team will use existing data to the greatest extent feasible, including Civic Park Master Plan, Walnut Creek Parks Strategic Plan, Clarke Swim Center studies, as well as other relevant documents.
9. Proposed changes to the parks should minimize neighborhood impacts
10. Financial decisions regarding how to fund improvements to the parks and other facilities will come later



# YOUR PARKS

THE FUTURE OF HEATHER FARM & CIVIC PARK

# HEATHER FARM PARK | Enhancing a Great Park

The City acknowledges the importance of many existing amenities. Did you review the **PROJECT ASSUMPTIONS?** Please take a look.

The Planning Team wants to know **what you value most** about Heather Farm. What features/elements continue to bring you back to this park?



# HEATHER FARM PARK | Vision for the future

## IMAGINE:

Could Heather Farm Park be even **better**? Tell us how! Any small or even **BIG** changes you would suggest? How would you describe the Heather Farm of **2030**?



# CIVIC PARK | Enhancing a Great Park

The City acknowledges the importance of many existing amenities. Did you review the **PROJECT ASSUMPTIONS?** Please take a look.

The Planning Team wants to know **what you value most** about Civic Park. What features/elements continue to bring you back to this park?



## IMAGINE:

Could Civic Park be even **better**? Tell us how! Any small or even **BIG** changes you would suggest? How would you describe the Heather Farm of **2030**?





# CLASSES & ACTIVITIES

# YOUR FAVORITE PROGRAMS

Consider future programming for: Individuals | Families | Households | The Community

Place a sticker dot next to your top 5 programs.

## YOUTH PROGRAMS

Ceramics & Sculpture  
Dance  
Decorative & Fiber Arts  
Digital Media/Photography  
Drama  
Drawing  
Painting  
Food & Cooking  
Health & Fitness  
Languages  
Martial Arts  
Music  
Personal Enrichment  
Sports  
Summer Camps  
STEM

## SPECIALIZED RECREATION

## PRESCHOOLS

## AQUATICS

Lessons  
Rec/Fitness Swim  
Family Swim  
Splash Playground  
Swim Teams

## TENNIS

## PICKLEBALL

## PICNIC RENTALS



## ADULT 50+ PROGRAMS

Card Games  
Physically Active Programs  
Educational Programs  
Technology Based Programming  
Arts  
Social Activities  
Access to Social Services

## ADULT PROGRAMS

Ceramics & Sculpture  
Culinary Arts  
Dance  
Decorative & Fiber Arts  
Digital Media/Photography  
Dog/Pet Care  
DIY  
Drama  
Drawing  
Painting  
Printmaking  
Glass  
Health & Fitness  
Jewelry  
Languages  
Music  
Personal Enrichment  
Drop-In Sports  
Sports Leagues  
Writing & Literature

## PARENT/CHILD CLASSES

## SPECIAL EVENTS

Movies Under the Stars  
Holiday Events  
Walk-a-Thons  
Family Open Houses

# WHAT DO YOU VALUE ABOUT ARTS & REC PROGRAMS?

Consider future programming for: Individuals | Families | Households | The Community

Place a sticker dot next to your top **2** values.

## **AFFORDABILITY**

Programs are reasonably priced and most anyone can participate

## **ACCESSIBILITY**

Programs are available to a wide spectrum of the population (demographics, skill levels, abilities and disabilities)

## **PROGRAM-SPECIFIC LOCATIONS**

Different locations are known for specific types of programs, i.e., Heather Farm Park has a heavy sports focus, Shadelands has an arts focus, Civic Park has many programs for seniors

## **DIVERSITY**

Programs cover a range of diverse disciplines and topics

## **CONVENIENCE**

Programs take place at locations and during times that are most convenient

## **INNOVATIVE**

New programs and opportunities follow local, regional and national trends

## **COMMUNITY RESPONSIVENESS**

Programs offered are consistent with the wants/needs of the area

## **HIGH QUALITY**

Focus on offering the best quality programs

## **BREADTH**

Focus on offering as many programs as possible

## **FUN**

The whole family has fun participating in the programs



# RATE THESE TRENDS

Consider future programming for: **Individuals** | **Families** | **Households** | **The Community**

Use your sticker dots to indicate which trends you think are most relevant to Walnut Creek.

First

Second

Third

Wearable Technology

Technology in Parks/e-Sports

Aquatic Theme Park Amenities

Life-Long Learning

Individually-Guided Fitness

DIY/Makers Programs

Inter-generational Programming

Socially Responsive Programs ("Artivism")

Inclusion Programs

Indoor Aquatics

One-Stop Facilities:Programs/Classes for All



# WHAT ARE WE MISSING?

Consider future programming for: Individuals | Families | Households | The Community

Suggest programs that the City is not currently offering in Arts & Recreation that you would like to see on a post-it and stick it here!





# YOUR PARK BUILDINGS

# DESIGNING TO SUPPORT YOUR PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

## Looking at Walnut Creek's Park Buildings

**WHAT DO YOU VALUE ABOUT  
YOUR PARK BUILDINGS?**

**HOW DO YOU USE THEM?**

**What would you add or change?**



# DESIGNING TO SUPPORT YOUR PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

## Looking at Walnut Creek's Park Buildings

**WHICH ARE BETTER,  
BIG BUILDINGS OR SMALL?**

**IS IT BETTER TO HAVE ALL OF THESE  
ACTIVITIES SPREAD THROUGHOUT  
ALL BUILDINGS**

**OR DEDICATED BUILDINGS FOR  
EACH KIND OF ACTIVITY?**

**What building features do you  
think are important?**



# DESIGNING FOR WALNUT CREEK

## What roles do buildings play?

### COMMUNITY BUILDINGS SHOULD...

- reflect community values & identity
- respect their surroundings
- support activities
- support people
- be places to gather
- inspire great experiences
- be flexible & multi faceted
- be welcoming

