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Our Parker community will respect, manage and actively seek open space resources and recreational amenities in ways that sustain and protect the natural environment while providing recreational opportunities and unobstructed views. As such, Parker will sustain a balanced system of open lands, natural areas, recreational spaces and parks, including trails and open areas.

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Open Space and Recreation

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INTRODUCTION

Open space, trails, parks and recreation are hallmarks of the Town's lifestyle. Residents consistently support and demand more opportunities for open space and options for active recreation. This lifestyle is so entrenched in our community that the Town has developed specific plans to address open space and trails as well as parks and recreation.

The 'Open Space, Trails and Greenways Master Plan' was created in 2004 and updated in 2010. The 'Bike Lane Plan' was developed in 2005. Both plans were adopted as a part of the Parker 2025 Master Plan and have been carried forward with this most recent Master Plan update. 'From Values to Vision: A Strategic Action Plan for Parker's Parks and Recreation' was completed in 2006 and is referenced in this Plan. Since these other plans provide more specific details, the goals outlined below are intentionally broad.



We listened...

Wide open spaces

Open space, parks, trails and recreation are viewed by our citizens as our most prized amenities. This Chapter may seem remarkably small for such an important issue. The Town has not overlooked these amenities and has adopted additional documents that address open space and recreation in great detail. These additional documents are the 'Open Space, Trails and Greenways Master Plan' and the 'From Values to Vision: A Strategic Action Plan for Parker's Parks and Recreation'. These other Master Plans reflect the Town's continued commitment to, and will help direct the future preservation of, open space and the development of trails, parks and recreational facilities.



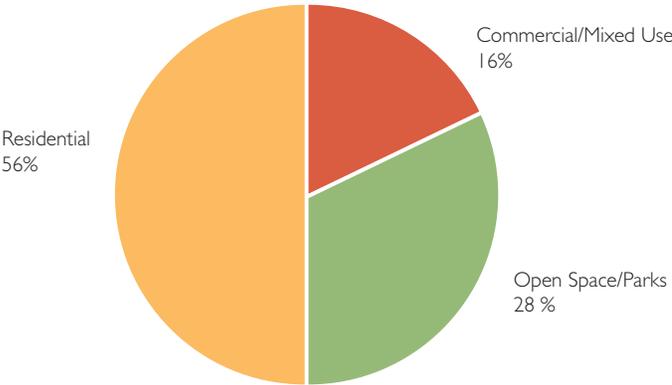
OPEN SPACE AND PARKS TODAY

A large percentage (28.5%) of the Town’s land area is committed to open space and parks (see Figure 13A). There are 2,274 acres of open space in the Town of Parker and another 915 acres of open space approved.

The Town also has 517 acres of parks and 50.8 miles of concrete trails and 33.8 more miles of approved trails that have not been built yet.



Figure 13A: Parker Land Use, 2010
Source: Town of Parker



GOALS AND STRATEGIES

1. Provide adequate parks and recreational facilities and programs to serve the diverse and changing needs of our community.

1.A. Implement the strategies adopted in the 'From Values to Vision: A Strategic Action Plan for Parker's Parks and Recreation'.

2. Provide an interconnected system of trails and trailheads within the Town and to the regional network for a variety of non-motorized activities.

2.A. Implement the trail strategies adopted in the 'Open Space, Trails and Greenways Master Plan'.

3. Provide interconnected open space that is integrated into the community; and preserve and protect valued open lands such as natural areas and community separators.

3.A. Implement the open space goals and strategies adopted in the 'Open Space, Trails and Greenways Master Plan'.

