

SECTION 1.0

INTRODUCTION

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Background and Purpose

The City of Ontario began the search for a qualified consultant team to develop a Comprehensive Park and Recreation Master Plan in fall 1999. The Plan was to address recreation and parks facilities in all incorporated areas of the City (as of October 1, 1999), excluding the Sphere of Influence that was annexed into the City, November 1999. The types, location and sizes of proposed recreation facilities and parks for that area, the New Model Colony, were handled as a separate study. With the team selected, the project kicked off late March of 2000.

The purpose of this document is to suggest strategies and policies to meet the community's recreation needs through public, as well as, private facilities and programs. The Plan recommends improvements to existing park facilities as well as possible options to develop new ones in the project area. The Plan was developed to be in conformance with the City's General Plan.

Through the master plan process, residents, elected and appointed officials, local nonprofit service providers and City staff involved in the development of parks and recreation programs were allowed to share their views and ideas concerning parks and recreation in Ontario. This participation provided a variety of perspectives and helped to form a comprehensive picture of the community's recreation wants and needs.

Public input was an important part of the process. Three public workshops were conducted. A random telephone survey provided 300 residents the opportunity to share their views regarding parks, recreation facilities, programs and activities. Interviews were conducted with citizens, local nonprofit service providers and appointed City officials. Meetings were held with City staff and the Recreation and Parks Commission to discuss and clarify existing conditions and findings. Two different survey questionnaires were distributed to user groups and other program participants and volunteers to provide information for the study.

The document is presented in seven sections – Background and Purpose, Inventory of Parks and Recreation Facilities, Recreation Programs Activities and Services, Park Ordinance, Needs and Demand Analysis, Implementation and Capital Improvement Plan. Supporting documents such, as the report on the telephone survey results and park ordinance, are included in the appendix of the Master Plan.

Community Overview

Located in San Bernardino County, the City of Ontario is situated adjacent to the cities of Chino, Montclair, Upland and Rancho Cucamonga. Since its incorporation in 1891, the City has developed into a diverse community with more that 158,100 residents.

Ontario is a progressive and thriving community that has developed a sound economic base. Transportation, shopping and tourism are available with the development of the Ontario

International Airport, Ontario Mills Mall, Convention Center and Auto Center. Combined with affordable housing and good access to freeways, Ontario is an ideal place to live and work. Four elementary school districts and one high school district serve the City. Joint-use agreements are in place to provide the community access, while limited in some cases, to recreation facilities located on school sites. Some schools are scheduled with year 'round schedules, while others conduct school on a seasonal basis with students off during the summer months.

The residents of Ontario enjoy a variety of recreation opportunities. With the continued population growth, expected to increase to 165,000 at build-out, this plan should help address how to meet the community's growing needs. Map 1-1 shows recreation facilities on schools and parks.

History

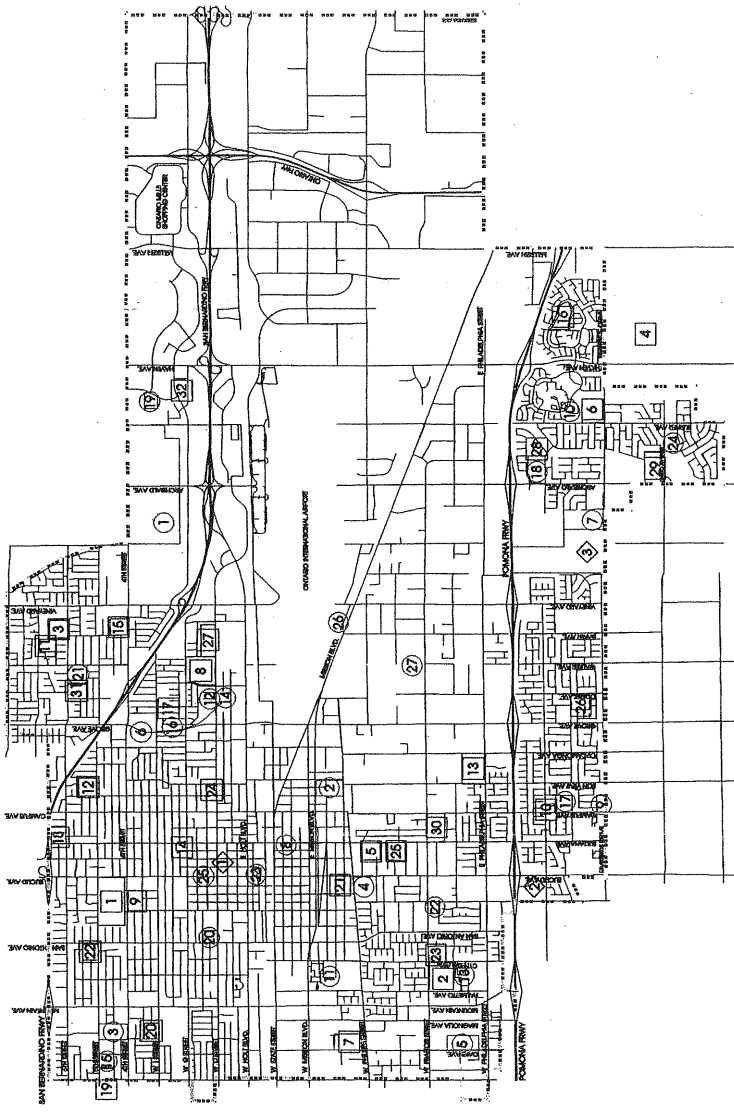
George and William Chaffey, brothers who had emigrated from Ontario, Canada established Ontario as a planned community in 1882. Known as "The Model Colony", Ontario was considered one of the first planned communities in California. More than six thousand acres made up the community. The centerpiece and highlighted feature of the community was a parkway eight miles long and two hundred feet wide. The parkway that separated two directions of Euclid Avenue was seeded with grass and lined with pepper trees.

Ontario was first largely developed as an agricultural community. The citrus industry as well as others played a vital role in the development of the City. Historical reminders such as Victorian "grove houses" and the Sunkist plant still remain.

Aviation was another industry that shaped Ontario. Early in the Twentieth Century, Latimer Field was established. With continual growth and development aviation activities were pushed further to the east until they were located on the current site of Ontario International Airport.

Since World War II, Ontario changed to a more diversified community. With a population of more than 158,100 and growth in area to almost fifty square miles, the City today enjoys a variety of good services including excellent parks, recreation and job opportunities as well as having good shopping and transportation available in the area. Expansion continues. In November 1999, the City annexed an 8,200-acre site, the New Model Colony, in southern Ontario. Not only could this potentially double the residential population, but provide the City with much needed additional park facilities.

References: <http://www.ontario-california.com/>
<http://www.ci.ontario.ca.us>



- PARKS**
- REGIONAL PARK**
 - 1 CUCUMONGA-EAST REGIONAL PARK
 - COMMUNITY PARKS**
 - 2 BON VIEW PARK
 - 3 HANCOCK PARK
 - 4 DEANDA PARK
 - 5 HOMER F. BRIGGS PARK
 - 6 JOHN GAULIN PARK
 - 7 WESTWIND PARK
 - NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS**
 - 8 SAN ALBA PARK
 - 9 CENTENNIAL PARK
 - 10 CRESTWOOD PARK
 - 11 CHERRY PARK
 - 12 T. STREET PARK
 - 13 DEL PANCHO PARK
 - 14 JAMES GALLAGHER PARK
 - 15 GEORGE GIBBS PARK
 - 16 GROVE MEMORIAL PARK
 - MINI PARKS**
 - 17 FERRIS PARK
 - 18 NISBET'S PARK
 - 19 NEW PARK
 - TRAILS / PARKWAYS**
 - 20 BUCOLD AVENUE PARKWAY
 - 21 MERRISON BOULEVARD
 - 22 WEST CUCUMONGA CREEK TRAIL SYSTEM

- RECREATIONAL FACILITIES**
- 23 CIVIC CENTRE CITY HALL
 - 24 MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND ART
 - 25 WHITESIDE JUBILILEE GOLF COURSE

- RECREATIONAL SCHOOLS**
- HIGH SCHOOLS**
 - 1 CHERRY HIGH SCHOOL
 - 2 ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL
 - 3 VALLEY VIEW HIGH SCHOOL
 - 4 COLONY HIGH SCHOOL
 - JR. HIGH / MIDDLE SCHOOLS**
 - 5 DANIA MIDDLE SCHOOL
 - 6 BRUCE TORLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL
 - 7 OAKS MIDDLE SCHOOL
 - 8 RAY WILSON MIDDLE SCHOOL
 - 9 WOODCREST JUNIOR HIGH

- ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**
- 10 ARIOSO ELEMENTARY
 - 11 BERRY ELEMENTARY
 - 12 BON VIEW ELEMENTARY
 - 13 CENTRAL ELEMENTARY
 - 14 CORONA ELEMENTARY
 - 15 CREEK VIEW ELEMENTARY
 - 16 DE MOORE ELEMENTARY
 - 17 EDSON ELEMENTARY
 - 18 EL CAMINO ELEMENTARY
 - 19 ELDERBERRY ELEMENTARY
 - 20 BLOOM ELEMENTARY
 - 21 HARTMORE ELEMENTARY
 - 22 HAYNES ELEMENTARY
 - 23 LINCOLN ELEMENTARY
 - 24 LINDA VISTA ELEMENTARY
 - 25 LITTLE DICKER ELEMENTARY
 - 26 MARPOSA ELEMENTARY
 - 27 MOUNTAIN VIEW ELEMENTARY
 - 28 RANCH VIEW ELEMENTARY
 - 29 SELTANA ELEMENTARY
 - 30 VINEYARD ELEMENTARY
 - 31 ONTARIO CENTER ELEMENTARY



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MAP 1-1