

General Plan Update Comments 5.0 and 3.0 City Park Acreage and Average Acreage per Resident. We are BELOW the requirement.

From: Tim Platt (tim_mart2001@yahoo.com)
To: gpcomments@cityofmartinez.org
Cc: tim_mart2001@yahoo.com
Date: Tuesday, January 11, 2022, 07:20 PM PST

Please add these comments and the e-mail below, sent on 12/18/21 to all Councilmembers and others, as some of my General Plan Comments on "5.0 Parks and Community Facilities Element." Also, comments on open space herein pertain to "3.0 Open Space and Conservation Element" and "3.3 Existing Setting--Open Space".

At the end of the e-mail below, I had asked that that e-mail be added as GPU comments, but that appears to not have happened.

These comments, that point out factual errors in the GPU, pertain most particularly to "5.2 Park, Recreational and Community Facilities", Table 4-1 and pgs 5-4 and 5-5. A very serious error has been made to include the Marina as a park. This error misleads the public into thinking we have plenty of park land and may also have legal implications in our ability to fund future parks.

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Tim Platt <tim_mart2001@yahoo.com>
To: ROB SCHRODER <rschroder@cityofmartinez.org>; MARK ROSS <mross@cityofmartinez.org>; LARA DELANEY <ldelaney@cityofmartinez.org>; dmckillop@cityofmartinez.org <dmckillop@cityofmartinez.org>; Brianne Zorn <bzorn@cityofmartinez.org>
Cc: mikechandler031612 <mchandler@cityofmartinez.org>; Hector J. Rojas <hrojas@cityofmartinez.org>
Sent: Saturday, December 18, 2021, 04:57:34 PM PST
Subject: City Park Acreage and Average Acreage per Resident. We are BELOW the requirement.

12/18/21

Martinez City Council,

The City requirement for park acreage *is 5 acres per 1000 residents*. It has NOT been met. The current ratio is 4.5 acres/1000 residents.

The total acreage of Martinez parks is verified by page 19 of the most current park inventory in the "Park System Master Plan Update 2007-2012". A copy of that page is below and also attached. *As well as listing all parks, it states "The total developed parkland acreage in Martinez is 165.40 acres."*

No new park, except the approximately 8.22 acre Pine Meadow park, has been added in the last twenty years. The current total acreage is 174 acres.

From the City website, the population of Martinez is 38,402 as of 2018. The ratio is 174 acres/38.402 residents or 4.5 acres/1000 residents---well below the statutory minimum. (174 acres/38.402 residents=4.531 acres per 1000 residents).

Misstating that the current park ratio has been met undermines the drive to secure more Martinez park land and bring that ratio up closer to compliance. It misinforms Martinez residents and potential developers as well. (See pg. 195 of the "Park System Master Plan" for Municipal Code section and an example of this standard.)

Please excuse my vehement response *at the December 15, 2021, GPU Workshop upon hearing a dramatically higher and incorrect ratio of 7.2 acres per 1000 residents*, spoken by a City official at the beginning of the public meeting. But I am very concerned about any actions that undermine this parkland goal, **a goal that is central to the quality of life of so many of us living in Martinez.**

Additionally, the General Plan Update implies that there are 2000 acres of open space in Martinez. The same "Park System Master Plan" shows approximately 426 acres of City-owned open space in our town. If this figure has been augmented, can you describe where and when? *Otherwise please correct the 2000 acre figure.*

Please add this letter to comments on the General Plan Update, and I ask you ensure that the Update includes these accurate figures for City parks and open space.

Thank you.

Tim Platt

P.S. The Marina is not included in the "*Park System Master Plan*" park inventory, *as shown by the park list above*. The City has never called the Marina a park. The City does not own the Marina. It is owned by the State, and is only held in trust by the City. It is a special use area allowing and encouraging commercial maritime uses, as well as recreational and environmental uses. *A portion of its approximately 60 acres is underwater. And this GPU itself shows that part or all of the Marina may be lost to sea-level rise.* To now include the Marina in the list of City parks misleads the public and developers alike and may have legal ramifications.

Note: Portions in italics have been revised for clarity.





Park List for City 033121.pdf

1.3MB