

EVALUATION AND PRIORITIZATION OF MAJOR PARK PROJECTS

SEPTEMBER 3, 2025

PURPOSE

Transparent evaluation for major park project requests

Align with Master Plan, Council priorities, and community needs

Ensure limited dollars are invested strategically

Seek Commission feedback before adoption



PROCESS OVERVIEW

Staff submit project proposal using prioritization sheet

Evaluation based on weighted criteria

Essential/Mandated projects bypass scoring



ESSENTIAL OR MANDATED PROJECTS

Automatically prioritized if legal/regulatory requirement

Urgent health/safety concern

Compliance tied to external funding



EVALUATION CRITERIA (OVERVIEW)

Equity -15

Community Priority Need -15

Lifecycle & Facility Condition -10

Access & Connectivity -10

Environmental Sustainability -10

Multi-Benefit Integration -10

Operating Efficiencies -10

Public Health Benefits -10

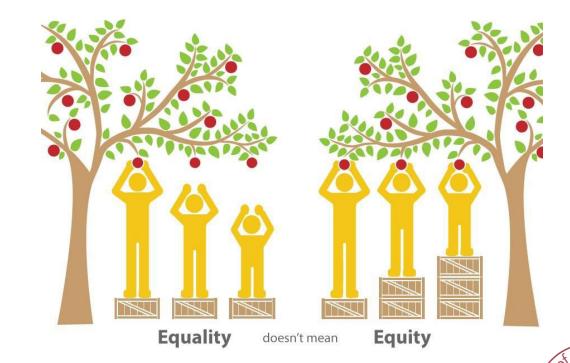
External Partnerships/Funding -5

Project Readiness - 5



EQUITY

Improves access in underserved areas
Uses Master Plan Equity Map / TPL gap
analysis



COMMUNITY PRIORITY NEED

Reflects top requests from surveys (trails, aquatics, fitness, dog parks)

Considers direct community engagement input



LIFECYCLE & ACCESS

Lifecycle: replaces aging/poor-rated

assets

Access: fills ADA, walking, or park access

gaps





SUSTAINABILITY & MULTI-BENEFIT

Environmental: drought-tolerant landscaping, stormwater, tree canopy

Multi-Benefit: combines uses (play, shade, habitat, events, education)





OPERATING EFFICIENCIES & PUBLIC HEALTH

Efficiencies: reduces maintenance, improves cost recovery

Health: supported by community, promotes wellness





PARTNERSHIPS & READINESS

Partnerships: schools, nonprofits, external funding leverage

Readiness: in adopted plan, shovel-ready within 12-18 months





BENEFITS OF THE TOOL

Provides objectivity for major park projects

Builds public trust and transparency

Ensures equity and sustainability drive investment



NEXT STEPS

Tonight: Commission review

Revise sheet based on feedback

Apply the tool to all major park project proposals



DISCUSSION

Commission feedback on criteria weighting

Clarity of evaluation questions

Usefulness for prioritizing major park projects

