



5.13 PARKS

The section analyzes potential impacts to parks and recreation facilities that could result from implementation of the proposed project. Information is primarily based upon information provided by the City of Duarte Parks and Recreation Department.

5.13.1 REGULATORY SETTING

Quimby Act (1975)

The Quimby Act allows cities and counties to adopt park dedication standards/ordinances requiring developers to set aside land, donate conservation easements, or pay in lieu fees towards parklands for projects involving subdivisions.

5.13.2 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

RECREATION PROGRAMS

The City of Duarte offers a variety of recreation programs for all ages. Programs include family events, healthy choices education, recreation classes, share mentoring, sports, and youth activities. Program offerings are year-round and seasonal.

PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

Table 5.13-1, *Parks and Recreation Facilities*, identifies the closest parks and recreation facilities to the project site. Northview Park, located approximately one-quarter mile north of the project site, is the nearest park for use by residents within the area.

**Table 5.13-1
Parks and Recreation Facilities**

Park/Facility	Location	Size
Sports Park	1401 Central Avenue	12.25 acres
Duarte Skate Park	1401 Central Avenue	12,000 sf
Northview Park	1433 Highland Avenue	2.02 acres
Duarte Park	1344 Bloomdale Street	2.96 acres
Source: City of Duarte website, Parks, http://www.accessduarte.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=63&Itemid=231 , accessed June 24, 2019.		
sf = square feet.		

5.13.3 SIGNIFICANCE THRESHOLD CRITERIA

The issues presented in the Initial Study Environmental Checklist (Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines*) have been utilized as thresholds of significance in this Section. Accordingly, a project may create a significant environmental impact if it causes one or more of the following to occur:



- Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated; and/or
- Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

Based on these standards, the effects of the proposed project have been categorized as either a “less than significant impact” or a “potentially significant impact.” Mitigation measures are recommended for potentially significant impacts. If a potentially significant impact cannot be reduced to a less than significant level through the application of mitigation, it is categorized as a significant unavoidable impact.

5.13.4 PROJECT IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT COULD INCREASE THE USE OF EXISTING PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES CREATING THE POTENTIAL FOR PHYSICAL DETERIORATION OF FACILITIES.

Impact Analysis: The City has an established parkland-to-population requirement of 2.5 acres of parkland per 1,000 persons according to the current General Plan. The City’s current (2019) population is 21,952 persons¹. In order to meet the City’s parkland-to-population ratio, the City would need 54.9 acres of parkland. The City currently has 53.59 acres of parkland within its jurisdictional boundaries.² According to the *General Plan*, the City also leases 26.54 acres from the Duarte Unified School District for recreational purposes, which is used to meet the City’s parkland-to-population ratio. Additional recreational opportunities are provided in wilderness areas, utility and floodway easements, bike, equestrian, and hiking trails, and a golf course as well. Thus, with this lease opportunity from Duarte Unified School District, the City is able to meet the parkland-to-population target under the proposed project and impacts would be less than significant.

Finally, the Duarte Station Specific Plan includes a publicly accessible open space to define a promenade-style gathering place and focal point along Highland Avenue; this will include landscaping, hardscape features, and public amenities within a 25-foot wide linear plaza. In addition, design and development standards require a minimum of 200 square feet of group usable open space per residential unit. The Residences at Duarte Station includes rich amenities including two swimming pools, an adventure play area for children, and a variety of play amenities within multi-purpose spaces and dedicated court areas as well. Refer to Appendix J for a full plan set for The Residences at Duarte Station.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation measures are required.

Level of Significance: Less Than Significant Impact.

¹ United States Census Bureau. QuickFacts: Duarte city, <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/duartecity-california>, accessed June 24, 2019.

² City of Duarte website, Parks, http://www.accessduarte.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=63&Itemid=231, accessed June 24, 2019.



5.13.5 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATED WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT AND OTHER RELATED CUMULATIVE PROJECTS COULD RESULT IN CUMULATIVELY CONSIDERABLE IMPACTS TO PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES IN THE CITY.

Impact Analysis: Development associated with implementation of the proposed project and related cumulative projects within the City would increase demand on City parks and recreation facilities. The City is able to meet the parkland-to-population target under the proposed project and impacts would be less than significant. Individual future projects would be required to pay Quimby fees if they involve subdivisions, or requirements for individual projects to pay in lieu fees for parklands or dedication of new parkland may likely be required for future projects. Therefore, cumulative impacts related to the demand for parks and recreation services would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation measures are required.

Level of Significance: Less Than Significant Impact.

5.13.6 SIGNIFICANT UNAVOIDABLE IMPACTS

Implementation of the proposed project would result in less than significant project and cumulative impacts related to parks and recreational facilities. As such, no significant unavoidable impacts would result from implementation of the Duarte Station Specific Plan.

5.13.7 SOURCES CITED

City of Duarte, *Parks*, http://www.accessduarte.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=63&Itemid=231, accessed June 24, 2019.

City of Duarte, *City of Duarte Comprehensive General Plan 2005-2020*, August 14, 2007.

City of Duarte, *City of Duarte Municipal Code*, current through Ordinance 888, passed December 11, 2018.

State of California Department of Finance, E-5 Population and Housing Estimates for Cities, Counties, and the State, January 2011-2019, With 2010 Benchmark. Sacramento, California, May 2019

United States Census Bureau. QuickFacts: Duarte city, <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/duartecitycalifornia>, accessed June 24, 2019.



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