

PARKS / OPEN SPACE / NATURAL AREAS



This designation includes the locations of publicly-owned and maintained public parks, designed for both active and passive recreational enjoyment.

Development Types

- Public parks and open space
- Public trails
- Joint government and school park areas
- Public recreation areas
- Natural Areas that are unable to be developed (floodplain areas, lakes, steep slopes, conservation districts, etc.)
- Active gathering spaces such as; amphitheaters, public art displays, pavilions, etc.

Characteristics

- Public parkland theoretically will remain so in perpetuity compared to other public property and buildings that can transition to private ownership at some point.
- Park design, intensity of development, and planned uses/activities should match area character (e.g., public squares/plazas in urban downtowns relative to nature parks for passive recreation in less developed areas).