Town of Camp Verde Vision Statement
"Camp Verde is welcoming, a safe community, a vibrant economy, thoughtfully growing, and offering an exceptional quality of life."

AGENDA
TOWN OF CAMP VERDE
REGULAR SESSION
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
473 S. MAIN STREET, SUITE 106
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2026 at 6:00 P.M.

ZOOM MEETING LINK:
One Tap Mobile: 1-253-215-8782 or 1-346-248-7799
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84268706246?pwd=z0Unci5LpB0a1y9MDfsnJYHVA7ayoQ.1
Meeting ID: 842 6870 6246
Passcode: 836874

Note: Commission member(s) may attend Regular Sessions either in person, by telephone, or internet/video conferencing.

1) **Call to Order**

2) **Roll Call.** Chairperson Candra Faulkner, Vice Chairperson Mary Hughes, Commissioner Glenda Duncan, Commissioner Victoria O'Malley, Commissioner Doug Ashley, Commissioner Shane Gerhardt, Commissioner Sylvia Strobel

3) **Pledge of Allegiance**

4) **Consent Agenda -** All those items listed below may be approved by one motion as consent agenda items. Any item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered as a separate item if a member of Commission requests.

   a) **Approval of Minutes:**
      1) Regular Session – October 5, 2026

   b) **Set Next Meeting Date and Time:**
      1) Regular Session Monday, December 7, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

5) **Call to the Public for items not on the Agenda. (Please complete Request to Speak Card and turn in to Town Staff).** Residents are encouraged to comment about any matter NOT included on the agenda. State law prevents the Commission from taking any action on items not on the agenda. At the conclusion of an open call to the public, individual members of the public body may respond to criticism made by those who have addressed the public body, may ask staff to review a matter or may ask that a matter be put on a future agenda. However, members of the public body shall not discuss or take legal action on matters raised during an open call to the public unless the matters are properly noticed for discussion and legal action. (Pursuant to ARS *§38-431.01(H)*

6) **Presentation on the community growth, funding sources, and ways to increase revenues to include connection between economic development and Parks & Recreation.** Staff Resource: Development Services Director Christian Green.

7) **Update on the Heritage Pool renovations and IGA.** Staff Resource: Parks & Recreation Manager Shawna Figy.

8) **Update, review, discussion and possible recommendation to Council regarding the Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Spaces Master Plan.** Staff Resource: Parks & Recreation Manager Shawna Figy.

9) **Review and discussion regarding the Verde Lakes Strategic Plan.** Staff Resource: Parks & Recreation Manager Shawna Figy.

10) **Update on the Equestrian Center Commission.** Staff Resource: Parks & Recreation Manager Shawna Figy.

11) **Commission Informational Reports.** These reports are relative to the committee meetings or events that Commission members attended.

12) **Update on Parks & Recreation current programming and events.** Staff Resource: Parks & Recreation Manager Shawna Figy.

13) **Scheduling of Future Agenda Items.** There may be discussion on whether to place an item on a future agenda and the date for consideration, but not the merits of the item.

14) **Adjournment**

Note: Pursuant to A.R.S.§38-431.03A.2 and A.3, the Parks and Recreation Commission may vote to go into Executive Session for purposes of consultation for legal advice with the Town Attorney on any matter listed on the Agenda, or discussion of records exempt by law from public inspection associated with an agenda item. The Town of Camp Verde Council Chambers is accessible to the handicapped. Those with special accessibility or accommodation needs, such as large typeface print, may request these at the Office of the Town Clerk.

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING OF NOTICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing notice was duly posted at the Town of Camp Verde and Bashas on October 28, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in accordance with the statement filed by the Camp Verde Town Council with the Town Clerk

Leah Rhodes

Leah Rhodes, Town Clerk

Town of Camp Verde Vision Statement
"Camp Verde is welcoming, a safe community, a vibrant economy, thoughtfully growing, and offering an exceptional quality of life."

DRAFT MINUTES
TOWN OF CAMP VERDE
REGULAR SESSION
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
473 S. MAIN STREET, SUITE 106
MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2026 at 6:00 P.M.

Note: Commission member(s) may attend Regular Sessions either in person, by telephone, or internet/video conferencing.

1) **Call to Order**
Chairperson Faulkner called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2) **Roll Call.** Chairperson Candra Faulkner, Vice Chairperson Mary Hughes, Commissioner Glenda Duncan, Commissioner Victoria O'Malley (Participated Remotely), Commissioner Doug Ashley, Commissioner Shane Gerhardt, Commissioner Sylvia Strobel.

Also Present:
Parks and Recreation Manager Shawna Figy and Administrative Assistant Conner Bustamante.

3) **Pledge of Allegiance** Commissioner Gerhardt led the Pledge.

4) **Consent Agenda -** All those items listed below may be approved by one motion as consent agenda items. Any item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered as a separate item if a member of Commission requests.

a) **Approval of Minutes:**
1) Regular Session – August 3, 2026
2) Work Session – September 14, 2026

b) **Set Next Meeting Date and Time:**
1) Regular Session Monday, November 2, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.
2) Regular Session Monday, December 7, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

On a **motion** made by Commissioner Gerhardt, and seconded by Commissioner Strobel, the Commission **moved to approve** the consent agenda as presented.

Roll Call:
Commissioner Duncan: Aye
Commissioner O'Malley: Aye
Commissioner Ashley: Aye

Commissioner Gerhardt: Aye
Vice Chairperson Hughes: Aye
Commissioner Strobel: Aye
Chairperson Faulkner: Aye
Motion Passed: 7-0

5) **Agenda Item 5 Call to the Public for items not on the Agenda. (Please complete Request to Speak Card and turn in to Town Staff).** Residents are encouraged to comment about any matter NOT included on the agenda. State law prevents the Commission from taking any action on items not on the agenda. At the conclusion of an open call to the public, individual members of the public body may respond to criticism made by those who have addressed the public body, may ask staff to review a matter or may ask that a matter be put on a future agenda. However, members of the public body shall not discuss or take legal action on matters raised during an open call to the public unless the matters are properly noticed for discussion and legal action. (Pursuant to ARS *§38-431.01(H)*
There were no public speakers.

6) **Introduction to new Parks & Recreation Leaders – Maurao Trahin and Nicole Gonzalez.** Staff Resource: Parks & Recreation Manager Shawna Figy.
Mauro Trahin and Nicole Gonzalez were introduced as new Parks & Recreation Leaders.

7) **Update on the Heritage Pool renovations.** Staff Resource: Parks & Recreation Manager Shawna Figy.
Manager Figy will oversee the Heritage Pool renovations, with engineering expected to be completed by December 2026 and construction beginning after January 1, 2027, targeting completion by May 2027. The project will be carried out under the current school IGA until a new Town Manager is appointed. Potential shade and seating additions following slide removal will be evaluated based on available funding, with total project costs maintained within the $1.3 million budget

8) **Update, review, and discussion on the Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan.** Staff Resource: Parks& Recreation Manager Shawna Figy.
Manager Figy reported that master plan feedback has been submitted, with a semi-final draft expected in mid-October and Commission review targeted for November. Refine project priorities and revenue strategies, consider inviting Development Services Director Christian Green to discuss funding and economic development, and explore forming a “signature sporting events” subcommittee to increase revenue through tournaments and business partnerships.

9) **Commission Informational Reports.** These reports are relative to the committee meetings or events that Commission members attended.
Commissioners shared updates on community activities, suggested exploring creative

aging programs, and noted that the arts-in-council-chambers policy is awaiting Council approval. Members praised the extended pool season, improved Sports Complex pathways, local baseball club fundraising and facility improvements, and Parks and Recreation's gym use for a junior rodeo banquet.

10) **Update on Parks & Recreation current programming and events.** Staff Resource: Parks & Recreation Manager Shawna Figy.

Manager Figy reported on September activities, noting that future large-scale events will be managed by Parks & Recreation. Continue promoting 40th-anniversary stories, maintain the memorial bench program, and address memorial tree program limitations. Monitor vendor registration for Christmas Magic on Main, complete Equestrian Center Commission interviews, and close the Sports Complex for overseeding October 26–November 8. Recruit volunteers for Fort Verde Days, particularly gatekeeping, and email commissioners the volunteer sign-up link.

11) **Adjournment**

Chairperson Faulkner adjourned the meeting at 6:49 p.m.

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Parks and Recreation Commission
Agenda Information Memorandum

Meeting Date: November 2, 2026

Agenda Item Type:

☐ Consent Agenda ☒ Informational Presentation ☐ Discussion Item
☐ Action/Decision Item ☐ Executive Session Request ☐ Other:

Requesting Department: Parks & Recreation Director, Christian Green **Staff Resource:** Development Services

Agenda Title: Presentation on the community growth, funding sources, and ways to increase revenues to include connection between economic development and Parks & Recreation.

Attached Documents:

- 2026-11-02 Growing Revenue for Parks & Recreation - Presentation

Estimated Presentation Time: 10 minutes **Estimated Discussion Time: 5 minutes**

Reviewed By:

☒ Town Manager ☐ Legal ☐ Risk Management ☐ Finance ☐ Other:

Financial Review (if applicable)**:**

- Funding Source / GL Account Number:
- Approved in the FY27 Budget? ☒ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A ☐ Other:
- Is this an approved CIP Project? ☒ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A ☐ Other:

Background Information:

The Parks & Recreation Commission requested this presentation as they are interested in learning all the ways that they as a Commission can be involved in raising funds and increasing revenue for the Town and specifically Parks & Recreation. They are interested in hearing how economic growth will impact our community and want more information on the role that Development Services plays in the process, to include plans that the Department have in place.

Connection to the FY25-FY30 Strategic Plan

This connects to the Strategic Plan through increasing civic engagement and public participation.

Question(s) before the Commission:

- Do you have any questions for staff?

Growing Revenue for Parks & Recreation

How the Commission can help, how economic growth affects Camp Verde, and the role Development Services plays

Presented by Development Services

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

CAMP VERDE

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

CAMP VERDE

Director

Christian Green
928.821.4979
Christian.Green@campverde.az.gov

Connect with me on LinkedIn at
linkedin.com/in/christianaz/



PURPOSE

The Commission asked three questions

1

How can the Commission help?

Ways the Commission can raise funds and increase revenue for the Town, and for Parks & Recreation in particular.

2

What does growth mean for us?

How economic growth affects Town revenue, park demand, and quality of life in Camp Verde.

3

What is Development Services' role?

The department's role in growth, and the plans already in place to support parks.

HOW GROWTH AFFECTS US

Local spending pays for Town services, including parks

49%

of General Fund revenue came from local sales tax (FY 2023–24)

$0

Town property tax. Camp Verde does not levy one

$8.85M

local sales tax in the FY26 budget, plus about $6.9M in state-shared revenue

What this means for parks: Parks are budgeted in the General Fund alongside public safety, administration, and planning. When residents and visitors spend more money in Camp Verde, the General Fund grows. When spending leaks to neighboring communities, parks compete for a smaller pool.

HOW GROWTH AFFECTS US

Visitors help pay for parks every time they stay overnight

$100 spent at a Camp Verde store or restaurant

$3.65

to the Town (3.65% Town sales tax)

$100 hotel night, starting December 1, 2026

$11.65

to the Town (3.65% Town tax plus the additional lodging tax, raised from 3% to 8%)

FY27 projected lodging revenue

About $910,000



$727,000 unrestricted
General Fund, available for Town services

$183,000 tourism-restricted
Marketing, event and festival sponsorship, tourist-attracting facilities, and tourism partnerships

HOW GROWTH AFFECTS US

Growth brings revenue and new demand for parks

What growth can bring

- More sales and lodging tax for the General Fund
- Outfitters, rentals, and hospitality businesses near the river, trailheads, and downtown
- Trail users who become downtown customers
- Tournaments and events that fill hotel rooms in shoulder seasons
- Parkland, trails, and fees from new development, when code requires them

Pressures we must plan for

- New residents need parks, but there is no adopted park level-of-service standard yet
- Since 2025, subdivisions of 20+ acres are exempt from the Planned Area Development process, where park and trail commitments were often negotiated
- The Sports Complex makes up about $7.9M of the $10.7M short-term lifecycle need
- New assets carry operating costs that must be funded

Tools that make new development help pay for parks

Parkland dedication	Set acreage per dwelling unit or per 1,000 projected residents in the Subdivision Ordinance
Fee in lieu	Cash instead of land for small subdivisions, tied to the same standard
Park impact fee	Fair-share capital funding under state law, after an Infrastructure Improvements Plan
Private park standards	Acreage, amenities, and maintenance rules for HOA-built neighborhood parks
Development agreements	Secure trail segments, trailheads, or river access on large projects
Official Trails Map	Requires dedication where a mapped trail corridor crosses a site

Arizona impact fee limits

- Neighborhood parks up to 30 acres qualify; larger parks only with direct benefit to the development
- Excludes equestrian facilities, arenas, aquatic centers, and community centers over 3,000 sq ft (pools may qualify)
- Fees must be spent within 10 years, in the same service area

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Six Development Services functions support parks

Planning

Level-of-service standard, parkland dedication, trails map, impact fee study

Zoning

Allow outdoor recreation businesses, simplify event permits, lighting and buffers

Building

Pre-approved shade designs, early review of park projects, accessibility checklist

Code Enforcement

Keep trails, river access, and gateways open and clean; lodging tax compliance

Economic Development

Sports Complex business plan, outfitter recruitment, grants, sponsorships

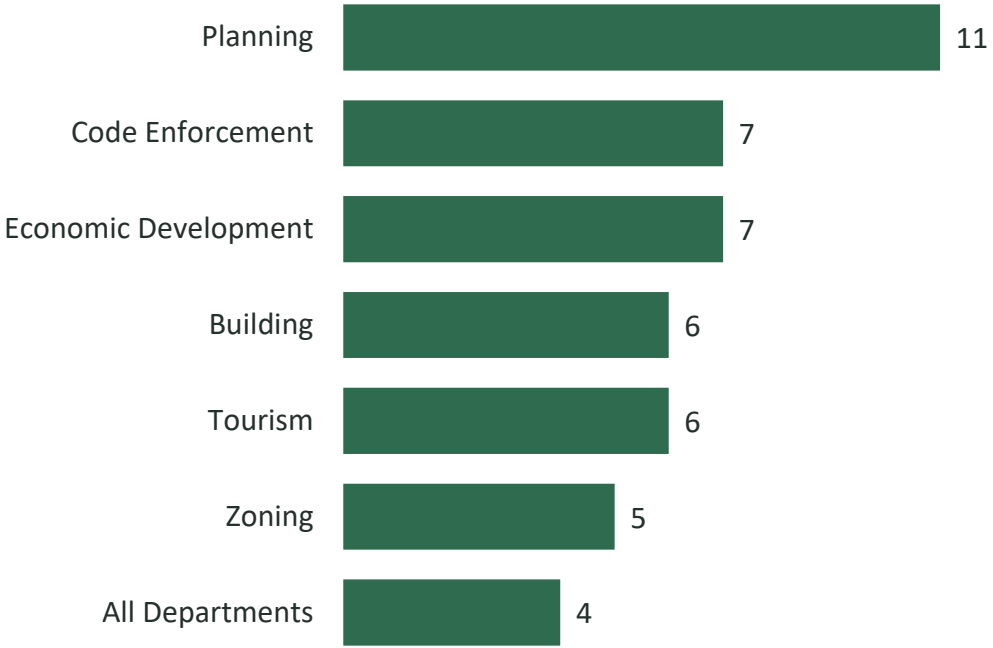
Tourism (Visit Camp Verde)

Trail branding, wayfinding, shared events calendar, shoulder-season events

Plans already in place or underway

Planning & Zoning Ordinance update	Comprehensive rewrite now in draft; the vehicle for putting park and trail requirements into code
Parks Master Plan review	Development Services Review with code, process, and program recommendations for each function
Implementation Matrix	46 actions, each with a lead department, partners, timeframe, funding source, and measure
2026 General Plan	Directs the Town to evaluate impact fees, including parks and open space
Downtown Area-Wide Plan	Grant-funded downtown revitalization planning, including event space and wayfinding
Economic Development Forums	Public meetings that gather resident ideas on the Town's future
Lodging tax increase	3% to 8% on December 1, 2026; includes a tourism-restricted share

46 actions, assigned across Town departments



Timeframes

Immediate: 0–12 months

Short: 1–5 years

Mid: 6–10 years

Long: 10+ years

The matrix fills the gap left by the missing implementation chapter in the Master Plan.

The order of work matters

1

Adopt a level-of-service standard

Dedication ratios, private park standards, and a parks impact fee all depend on it.

2

Put requirements into code

With the 20+ acre PAD exemption, park and trail rules must live in the Subdivision Ordinance.

3

Plan before spending

Complete a Sports Complex business plan before about $7.9M in near-term reinvestment.

4

Sequence dependent work

Private park inspections follow the private park standard; wayfinding follows the sign code update.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Year 1 quick wins need little or no new funding

01 Add Parks & Recreation to development review, with a parks and trails checklist

02 Simplify special event permits; consider an annual event venue permit for Town parks

03 Publish pre-approved shade structure designs and event structure requirements

04 Target river corridor dumping and gateway corridor enforcement

05 Launch a joint grant pipeline and one shared events calendar

06 Form the quarterly Parks and Trails Implementation Team

Ways the Commission can help raise funds and revenue

Sponsorships

Help shape a formal sponsor catalog for benches, trail miles, events, and tournaments, building on the plan's "See My Legacy" idea.

Signature events

Champion a few anchor events tied to the river, heritage, and outdoor recreation, scheduled in shoulder seasons to fill lodging.

Sports tourism

Give input on the Sports Complex business plan: tournament targets, event calendar, pricing, and cost recovery.

Grants & partners

Support applications to LWCF, Heritage Fund, SLIF, CDBG, and regional trail funding with the Verde Front Collaborative and NACOG.

Volunteers

Promote adopt-a-trail and adopt-a-park programs that stretch maintenance dollars.

Awareness

Help close the gap: 45% of residents say they do not know what is offered. More awareness means more participation.

Ways the Commission can shape growth and policy

Recommend the Master Plan with a level-of-service standard, implementation matrix, and operating cost analysis added before adoption

Support growth-pays-its-share tools parkland dedication, fee in lieu, private park standards, and a parks impact fee study

Weigh in on the code update park, trail, event, and outdoor recreation provisions in the Planning & Zoning Ordinance rewrite

Advise on budget and capital priorities so Parks priorities line up with the capital plan and grant matches

Review the annual report card and recommend course corrections to Council

How it works

- The Commission is appointed by Council to make recommendations
- It acts as a body in public, noticed meetings
- Donations, sponsorships, and agreements are accepted by the Town through staff and Council

MEASURING SUCCESS

What we will report to Council each year

Growth paying its share

- Acres of parkland and miles of trail dedicated
- Impact fee and in-lieu fee revenue collected and spent
- Share of new subdivisions meeting the private park standard

Revenue and visitors

- Grants awarded
- Tournament room nights
- Lodging tax receipts

Community and stewardship

- Trail encroachment cases resolved
- Share of residents who “don’t know what is offered” (now 45%)

NEXT STEPS

Recommended next steps for the Commission

1. Recommend that the consultant add the implementation matrix, level-of-service standard, and operating cost sections before final Master Plan adoption.

2. Name a Commission liaison to the quarterly Parks and Trails Implementation Team.

3. Ask staff to bring a draft sponsor catalog and signature event concepts to a future meeting.

4. Support the Code Amendment Work Program and a parks impact fee study as the code update moves forward.

Questions and discussion

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Parks and Recreation Commission Agenda Information Memorandum

Meeting Date: November 2, 2026

Agenda Item Type:

☐ Consent Agenda ☒ Informational Presentation ☐ Discussion Item
☐ Action/Decision Item ☐ Executive Session Request ☐ Other:

Requesting Department: Parks & Recreation **Staff Resource:** Shawna Figy, Parks & Recreation Manager

Agenda Title: Update on the Heritage Pool renovations and IGA

Attached Documents:
Draft Intergovernmental Agreement

Estimated Presentation Time: 5 minutes **Estimated Discussion Time: 5 minutes**

Reviewed By:
☒ Town Manager ☐ Legal ☐ Risk Management ☐ Finance ☐ Other:

Financial Review (if applicable)**:**

- Funding Source / GL Account Number:
- Approved in the FY27 Budget? ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐ Other:
- Is this an approved CIP Project? ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐ Other:

Background Information:

Once it was determined that by Council that they wanted staff to proceed with only necessary renovations, staff have been working with Landmark Aquatics for design and engineering of the pool liner and replacement of the gutter system. Staff met with representatives from Landmark at the pool on August 19,2026 to discuss options and answer questions about the design and needs. It is estimated that the renovation of our current facility would cost about $1,300,000, and that amount is what is currently in the FY27 CIP budget for the renovations. The Commission reviewed the general design rendering at the October 5, 2026 meeting.

Town staff have continued to work with the Camp Verde Unified School District to determine a solution regarding the property. The School Board decided that they wanted to maintain ownership of the property, but were in favor of an updated Inter-Governmental Agreement. That agreement is currently in process but has been delayed due to the change of Town Manager. As of October 8, 2026, Shawna Figy is now the Town staff working with attorneys on the IGA process for both Heritage Pool and other Town facilities. The initial draft of the Heritage Pool IGA was shared with CVUSD on October 14 and presented to Council on October 21, 2026.

Connection to the FY25-FY30 Strategic Plan

This connects to the strategic plan relating to transparency.

Question(s) before the Commission:

- Do you have any questions about the pool update?

Proposed Motion:

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE TOWN OF CAMP VERDE AND
CAMP VERDE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 28

This Intergovernmental Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into as of this _____ day of _____, 2026 ("Effective Date"), by and between the Town of Camp Verde, an Arizona municipal corporation ("Town"), and Camp Verde Unified School District No. 28 of Yavapai County, Arizona, a political subdivision of the State of Arizona ("District") (each a "Party," and collectively, the "Parties").

RECITALS

A. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 11-951, *et seq.*, the Parties are authorized to enter into intergovernmental agreements for services or for the exercise of joint or common powers. The Parties have previously entered into an intergovernmental agreement addressing joint facilities and equipment use, which included the Heritage Pool located at 290 Apache Trail, Camp Verde, Arizona 86322.

B. The Parties have a history of Town operation of Heritage Pool as a public recreational facility, with scheduling through the Parks and Recreation Division.

C. The Parties recognize the public benefit of the Town's use, operation, and maintenance of Heritage Pool as a community aquatic facility, including the Town's provision of operating costs, utilities, chemicals, lifeguards, restroom maintenance, and applicable safety standards.

D. The Parties desire to establish a long-term ground lease and joint use framework under which the Town will lease from the District the real property footprint underlying the Heritage Pool and appurtenant improvements or, alternatively, the District will lease to the Town any District-owned area necessary to operate the Heritage Pool as a public aquatic facility, and to define each Party's operational roles, financial responsibilities, risk allocation, and rights concerning improvements, for a term of ninety-nine (99) years.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing Recitals, the mutual covenants herein, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows:

AGREEMENT

1. DEFINITIONS

1.1 "Facility" or "Heritage Pool" means the community swimming pool complex commonly known as Heritage Pool, together with associated appurtenances, restrooms, decks, storage, mechanical/pumphouse, fencing, and other facilities and structures used in connection therewith, within or adjacent to 290 Apache Trail, Camp Verde, AZ 86322.

1.2 "Improvements" means all buildings, structures, fixtures, betterments, renovations, and capital additions constructed upon or affixed to the Premises during the Term.

1.3 "Major or Capital Repair or Replacement" means non-routine work to the pool vessel, mechanical, filtration or heating systems, structures, decks, fencing, or appurtenances that:

(a) is structural in nature or materially extends the useful life or capacity of the affected component; or

(b) requires closure of the Facility or the affected area for more than seven (7) consecutive days; or

(c) requires a building, electrical, plumbing, or similar permit. Routine maintenance, minor repairs, and replacements-in-kind performed in the ordinary course of operations are not Major or Capital Repairs or Replacements.

1.4 "Premises" means the land area underlying the Heritage Pool and immediately adjacent appurtenant areas necessary for continued operation, as depicted and legally described in Exhibit A.

1.5 "Promptly" or "as soon as practicable" means within a reasonable time under the circumstances, taking into account the nature of the event and any health, safety, or operational exigencies.

1.6 "School Use Period(s)" means the periods during which District has scheduled and approved curricular, co-curricular, and interscholastic activities at the Facility, including but not limited to physical education, swim practices, meets, and instructional programming during the academic year.

1.7 "Term" means the term of this Agreement as set forth in Section 3.1.

1.8 "Town Use Period(s)" means all other times the Facility is operated for public recreational programming by Town, including open swim, lessons, rentals, and special events.

2. LEASE OF PREMISES; PURPOSE

2.1 Lease. District hereby leases to Town, and Town hereby accepts from District, the Premises, together with nonexclusive rights of access, ingress, and egress reasonably necessary to operate the Facility, subject to matters of record and existing easements.

2.2 Purpose. The Premises shall be used for the operation and maintenance of the Heritage Pool and related public aquatic programming, and for District's School Use Periods and related swim programming, consistent with this Agreement. The Parties' objective is to maximize public benefit through community recreation.

3. TERM; RENEWAL; HOLDOVER

3.1 Initial Term. The Term shall commence on the Effective Date and continue for ninety-nine (99) years, unless earlier terminated as provided herein.

3.2 Renewal. Upon mutual written agreement executed not later than twelve (12) months prior to expiration, the Parties may renew or replace this Agreement upon negotiated terms.

3.3 Holdover. Any occupancy beyond the Term without a renewal shall be month-to-month on the same material terms, terminable by either Party on ninety (90) days' written notice.

4. RENT; CONSIDERATION

4.1 Base Rent. The rent shall be one dollar ($1.00) per year, payable annually within thirty (30) days after the Effective Date and each anniversary thereafter; provided that the Parties acknowledge and agree that the mutual covenants, obligations, and public services provided herein constitute material consideration for this Agreement. District shall issue an annual invoice for Base Rent as a condition precedent to payment.

4.2 Additional Consideration. In addition to rent, the Parties' operational, maintenance, and capital responsibilities in Sections 6–8 form part of the total consideration.

5. SCHEDULING; PRIORITY; ACCESS

5.1 Scheduling.

(a) Town shall manage Facility scheduling during Town Use Periods. District shall have priority for School Use Periods during the school year, with Town accommodating District student use and dedicated team activities during those periods; Facility will be closed to public use during scheduled District-only sessions and District shall provide adequate supervision and lifeguards for such sessions, unless otherwise agreed in writing. Scheduling protocols and staffing expectations applicable to this Section may be further set forth in Exhibit B. If Town provides lifeguards or staffing for District sessions, such staffing shall be provided only to the extent Town personnel are reasonably available. Town shall have no obligation to provide staffing it is unable to supply, and Town shall not be liable for cancellation, curtailment, or rescheduling of any District activity resulting from the unavailability of Town personnel. District shall reimburse Town for any staffing provided pursuant to Section 8.2.

(b) The Parties shall coordinate pre-season and in-season schedules in good faith, publish calendars, and update changes promptly.

(c) Without limitation, District School Use Periods shall include access to the Facility for District physical education instruction conducted as part of the regular school curriculum, and the Town shall schedule Town Use Periods so as not to unreasonably interfere with such physical education use during the academic year.

5.2 Access; Keys. Town shall control Facility access systems. Key or electronic access media shall be limited to authorized Town staff and designated District personnel for School Use Periods only; duplication is prohibited. Lost credentials shall be immediately reported to the Parks and Recreation Division; re-key or reprogramming costs will be borne by the responsible Party. Keys shall only be in the possession of District's authorized coaching staff, not students.

5.3 Public and Event Use. Town may host public programs and events during Town Use Periods; District may host meets and related school events during School Use Periods. Concessions during District events require Town's prior written approval.

5.4 Parking and Event Coordination. If event parking needs extend beyond the Premises into District lots, the Parties shall designate shared parking areas, set priority during School Use Periods, establish event overflow/traffic control plans, and allocate any off-Premises parking improvements or staffing costs in Exhibit B.

6. OPERATION; MAINTENANCE; UTILITIES; CHEMICALS

6.1 Town Responsibilities (Primary Operator).

(a) Daily Operations; Industry Standards. Town shall operate the Facility and perform daily maintenance, testing, vacuuming, cleaning, and routine repairs in accordance with applicable health, safety, and industry standards.

(b) Chemicals; Water Quality. Town shall procure and maintain pool chemicals, testing supplies, and related materials and maintain water chemistry compliant with applicable public health standards.

(c) Utilities. Town shall pay utility charges for electricity and solid waste associated with Facility operations during the Term; because the Facility is served by on-site well and septic, District shall not charge Town separate water or sewer fees. Any future allocation changes must be agreed in writing.

(d) Restrooms and Common Areas. During Town Use Periods, Town shall maintain restrooms and common areas in a clean and sanitary condition and supply consumables.

(e) Program Staffing. Town shall provide certified lifeguards for Town programs in accordance with Facility policy.

6.2 District Responsibilities.

(a) School Use Supervision. During scheduled School Use Periods, District shall supervise its users and ensure adherence to Facility rules. If Town allocates staff or lifeguards for District School Use Periods, such staffing shall be subject to personnel availability and District shall reimburse Town pursuant to Section 8.2.

(b) Restroom Maintenance During School Use. During District-exclusive sessions and meets, District shall maintain restrooms in a clean and sanitary condition and keep them stocked with Town-provided consumables; if Town is called to perform cleaning due to District's failure, Town will do so only to the extent Town personnel are reasonably available, and District shall reimburse Town's reasonable costs at the rates established pursuant to Exhibit C.

(c) Chemical Checks Before Entry. Water chemistry testing and chemical handling shall be performed only by qualified Town personnel. District and its users shall not perform chemical testing or handle pool chemicals.

6.3 Shared Responsibilities.

(a) Rules; Compliance. The Parties shall ensure compliance with Facility rules, applicable law, and safety standards at all times. The Parties agree to comply with applicable non-discrimination and ADA requirements.

6.4 Field/Pool Covers and Equipment. Town will set policies for covers, storage, and sanitation; District shall comply with cover use, removal timelines, drying, storage, and algae mitigation directions provided by Town.

6.5 Town Maintenance and Operational Improvements. In addition to routine maintenance and repairs, the Town may, without further approval or consent from the District, perform maintenance, safety, access, circulation, striping, fencing, signage, parking, and other similar operational or site-related work within the Premises that the Town reasonably determines is necessary or desirable for the safe, efficient, or code-compliant operation of the Facility, provided that such work does not materially expand the footprint of the Facility or unreasonably interfere with District School Use Periods. All such work shall be performed in accordance with applicable law and industry standards.

6.6 Water Supply Interruptions. District shall provide Town with at least five (5) business days' advance notice of any planned shutoff, interruption, or material reduction in well, water, or septic service affecting the Facility. In the event of an emergency or unplanned interruption, District shall notify Town as soon as practicable. The Parties shall cooperate to minimize disruption to Facility operations and scheduled programming.

7. ROUTINE, MAJOR OR CAPITAL REPAIRS; IMPROVEMENTS

7.1 Routine and Non-Capital Repairs. Town shall, in its capacity as lessee and primary operator, perform and fund all routine and non-capital repairs required to keep the Facility in safe, operable condition, except to the extent repair is necessitated by District-caused damage under Section 10.2.

7.2 Major or Capital Repair or Replacement.

(a) Operator Control and Funding. In its capacity as lessee and primary operator, Town shall have sole authority to plan, scope, approve, and perform all Major or Capital Repairs or Replacements. Funding of any Major or Capital Repair or Replacement shall be subject to annual appropriation by the Town Council and the availability of appropriated funds. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to require Town to undertake a Major or Capital Repair or Replacement for which funds have not been appropriated. Except as otherwise expressly agreed in a written amendment, no District approval or cost-sharing shall be required or implied for such work.

(b) Consultation and Coordination. Town shall consult with District regarding the scope and timing of Major or Capital Repairs or Replacements to reasonably coordinate scheduling, access, and School Use Periods, and shall keep District reasonably informed of anticipated work and any material changes. Consultation shall not be deemed approval and shall not delay necessary work.

(c) Emergency Conditions. If an imminent health or safety condition exists, Town may immediately close the Facility, or any portion thereof, and proceed with emergency repairs as authorized by the Town acting through its Manager or other authorized official, with notice to District as soon as practicable under the circumstances.

(d) Documentation. Town shall maintain records of Major or Capital Repairs or Replacements for purposes of capital planning, lease administration, and Section 9 (ownership, valuation, and transfer), and shall provide reasonable summaries upon request.

(e) Funding Limitation. If Town determines that sufficient appropriated funds are unavailable for a Major or Capital Repair or Replacement, Town may close the Facility or affected portion of the Facility until funding becomes available or another solution is agreed upon by the Parties. Such closure shall not constitute a default under this Agreement.

7.3 Capital Improvements by Town. Town may design and construct capital improvements at its sole cost unless cost sharing is agreed in writing, subject to reasonable coordination with District regarding construction timing, safety, and site access. Ownership shall be as provided in Section 9.

7.4 Capital Improvements by District. District may propose improvements or additions; however, no such improvements shall be commenced by District without Town's prior written consent, approval of plans and specifications, and compliance with applicable procurement, permitting, and safety requirements. District shall use licensed and bonded contractors and comply with A.R.S. Title 34, as applicable.

8. COST SHARING; FEES

8.1 Season or Program Fees. District shall pay Town a flat seasonal contribution of [$_____] per School Use Period to offset chemical and operational costs, payable within thirty (30) days of invoice; Parties may periodically review and adjust this amount by written amendment based on actual costs. Applicable fees and charge-back rates, if any, shall be set forth in Exhibit C.

8.2 Staffing, Cleaning, Damage. If Town provides lifeguards or additional staffing at District's request, or performs extraordinary cleaning after District events, District shall reimburse Town at the rates established in Exhibit C for lifeguard, staffing, testing, cleaning, and related services. Such rates may include administrative and supervisory costs at no less than one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the applicable employee wage together with any associated administrative or supervisory costs.

8.3 Budget Commitment. Each Party shall budget funds necessary to meet its obligations under this Agreement, subject in all respects to Section 12.5 (Non-Appropriation).

9. TITLE; OWNERSHIP; END OF TERM

9.1 Title to Premises. Title to the Premises remains with District; leasehold rights are granted to Town for the Term.

9.2 Ownership of Improvements.

(a) Existing Facilities and Fixtures. As of the Effective Date, the Heritage Pool complex, including all facilities, structures, and fixtures constructed or installed prior to the Effective Date, shall be subject to this Agreement as existing improvements to the Premises, regardless of whether individually listed.

(b) New Improvements by Town. During the Term, Improvements constructed or installed by Town shall be owned by Town until the earlier of (i) expiration or termination of this Agreement (other than due to Town's default), or (ii) a Party's exercise of a right of first refusal pursuant to Sections 9.4 and 9.5, at which point ownership shall transfer as provided herein. Town-funded Major or Capital Repairs or Replacements that constitute betterments or materially extend useful life shall be treated as Town Improvements under this Section; routine maintenance and minor repairs are not Improvements.

(c) New Improvements by District. Improvements constructed by District shall be owned by District, subject to Sections 9.4 and 9.5.

9.3 Transfer at End of Term or Earlier Termination.

(a) End of Term (No Renewal). Upon expiration without renewal, Town shall remove non-fixture personal property and surrender the Facility in good condition, ordinary wear and tear excepted; Improvements shall transfer to District upon payment of fair market value (FMV) of Town-constructed Improvements as of expiration, less any agreed depreciation schedule.

(b) Early Termination for Convenience by District. If District terminates for convenience per Section 12.1, District shall pay the FMV of Town-constructed Improvements, as of the effective date of termination, as determined pursuant to subsection (d), less any agreed depreciation schedule, and ownership of such Improvements shall transfer to District upon such payment.

(c) Early Termination for Convenience by Town. If Town terminates for convenience per Section 12.1, District shall have no obligation to compensate Town for Improvements, except as expressly provided in subsection (c)(ii).

(i) Town shall retain ownership of the Improvements and shall be responsible, at its sole cost, for removal or disposition of the Improvements and restoration of the Premises to the condition required under this Agreement; provided, however, that

(ii) District may elect, in its sole discretion, to accept transfer of ownership of some or all of the Improvements, in which event District shall pay Town the FMV of the Improvements accepted, as of the effective date of termination, determined pursuant to subsection (d).

(d) Appraisal Process. FMV shall be determined by an MAI-certified appraiser experienced in valuing municipal or educational recreational facilities, mutually agreed-upon by the Parties, who shall value only Town-constructed Improvements, excluding land. FMV shall reflect the physical condition of the Improvements as of the applicable valuation date. If the Parties are unable to agree on an appraiser within thirty (30) days following written notice invoking valuation, then each Party shall select an MAI-certified appraiser within fifteen (15) days thereafter. The two appraisers shall jointly select a third MAI-certified appraiser. The FMV shall be the average of the two closest appraisals, and the cost of the appraisal process shall be shared equally by the Parties. Any payment required under this Section 9.3 shall be made within thirty (30) days after FMV is finally determined pursuant to this subsection. In determining the fair market value of Improvements, the appraiser may consider documentation maintained by Town pursuant to Section 7.2(d) reflecting Major or Capital Repairs or Replacements and related investments.

(e) Transition Coordination. Following notice of termination or expiration of the Agreement, the Parties shall cooperate in good faith to effect an orderly transition and transfer under this Section.

9.4 Right of First Refusal.

(a) Proposed Transfer Notice. If at any time during the Term, the District intends to sell, convey, or otherwise transfer all or substantially all of its right, title, and interest in the Premises (a "Proposed Transfer"), the District shall first offer the Premises to the Town on the same material terms and conditions as the Proposed Transfer, as set forth in a written notice delivered to the Town (the "Transfer Notice").

(b) Town Election to Purchase. The Town shall have ninety (90) days after receipt of the Transfer Notice to elect, by written notice to the District, to purchase the Premises on the terms set forth therein. If the Town timely elects to purchase and thereafter completes the purchase in accordance with such terms, the Proposed Transfer shall not be made to any third party.

(c) Failure to Exercise; Third-Party Sale. If the Town does not timely elect to exercise its right of first refusal, or having elected, fails to timely close through no fault of the District, the District may proceed with the Proposed Transfer to the identified third party on terms no more favorable than those set forth in the Transfer Notice, provided that if the material terms change, the District shall re-offer the Premises to the Town pursuant to this Section.

9.5 Purchase Price Adjustment.

(a) Adjusted Fair Market Value. If the Town exercises its right of first refusal under Section 9.4, the purchase price for the Premises shall be the FMV of the Premises as of the date of the Transfer Notice, as determined pursuant to the appraisal process set forth in Section 9.3(d), less the aggregate amount of capital, maintenance, operational, and improvement funding contributed by the Town toward the Heritage Pool facility from October 9, 2007 through the date of the Transfer Notice, as reasonably documented by the Town.

(b) Recognition of Town Investment. The Parties acknowledge that this price adjustment reflects the Town's historical investment in the Facility and is intended to equitably recognize such contributions in the event of a disposition of the Premises.

10. RISK ALLOCATION; DAMAGE; CLOSURE

10.1 Closure for Health or Safety. Town or District may close the Facility if water chemistry or conditions fail to meet applicable health and safety standards, or other conditions render the Facility unsafe, until corrected.

10.2 Damage; Repairs. Town shall coordinate repairs as soon as practical. If District or its users cause damage during School Use Periods, District shall reimburse Town's reasonable repair costs within thirty (30) days of invoice.

10.3 Force Majeure. Performance shall be excused or extended, as applicable, for delays resulting from extraordinary events beyond the reasonable control of the impacted Party, with notice and reasonable efforts to mitigate.

11. INSURANCE; INDEMNIFICATION

11.1 Insurance. Each Party shall maintain occurrence-form commercial general liability coverage with limits not less than $1,000,000 per occurrence and $2,000,000 general aggregate, which may be satisfied through a risk retention pool authorized by Arizona law. Each Party shall name the other as additional insured for liability arising out of that Party's operations at the Facility. Certificates of insurance or risk pool confirmations shall be exchanged annually, with at least thirty (30) days' notice of cancellation or material change. Evidence of insurance may be provided in the form set forth in Exhibit D.

11.2 Workers' Compensation. Each Party shall maintain statutory workers' compensation and employers' liability coverage for its employees.

11.3 Primary Coverage. Each Party's liability coverage shall be primary for claims arising from its operations, acts, or omissions at the Facility.

11.4 Indemnification. To the fullest extent permitted by law, each Party (as indemnitor) shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the other Party, and its officers, officials, employees, and agents (as indemnitees), from and against claims, damages, losses, liabilities, and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs) to the extent caused by the indemnitor's negligent acts or omissions or willful misconduct in connection with this Agreement. This Section shall survive termination.

12. TERMINATION; DEFAULT; DISPUTE RESOLUTION

12.1 Termination for Convenience. Either Party may terminate this Agreement for convenience upon 365 days' prior written notice. Any payments or transfers related to Improvements upon such termination shall be made in accordance with Section 9.3.

12.2 Default; Cure. If either Party fails to perform a material obligation, the non-defaulting Party shall provide written notice specifying the default. The defaulting Party shall have thirty (30) days to cure, or, if the default is not reasonably curable within thirty (30) days, such additional time as is reasonably necessary provided diligent efforts commence within the initial period.

12.3 Mediation. If a dispute is not resolved through management-level discussions, either Party may request non-binding mediation with a mutually agreed mediator prior to filing any claim.

12.4 Conflict of Interest. This Agreement is subject to A.R.S. § 38-511.

12.5 Non-Appropriation. All payment obligations are subject to annual appropriation by the respective governing bodies; in the event of non-appropriation, the affected Party may terminate on written notice without further obligation beyond amounts then due and owing.

13. COMPLIANCE; LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

13.1 Laws; Policies. Each Party shall comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and codes, including public health standards governing pool operations.

13.2 Immigration Compliance. Each Party warrants compliance with A.R.S. § 41-4401 and A.R.S. § 23-214(A) regarding E-Verify for its employees, and shall flow these requirements to contractors as applicable.

13.3 No Assignment. Neither Party may assign this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other Party.

13.4 Relationship of the Parties. The Parties are independent public entities; no agency, partnership, joint venture, or employment relationship is created by this Agreement.

14. NOTICES

14.1 Notices. All notices shall be in writing and deemed given when delivered personally, three (3) business days after deposit by certified U.S. mail, return receipt requested, or one (1) business day after deposit with a nationally recognized overnight courier, to:

Town: Town of Camp Verde
Attn: Miranda Fisher, Town Manager
473 S. Main Street, Ste. 102
Camp Verde, AZ 86322

With a copy to: Town Attorney
Attn: Trish Stuhan
Pierce Coleman PLLC
17851 N. 85th Street, Ste. 175
Scottsdale, AZ 85255

District: Camp Verde Unified School District No. 28
Attn: Steve Hicks, Superintendent
410 Camp Lincoln Road
Camp Verde, AZ 86322

With a copy to: District Counsel
Attn: Dave Pauole
Welker & Pauole PLC
10429 S. 51st Street, Ste. 285;
Phoenix, AZ 85044

15. MISCELLANEOUS

15.1 Entire Agreement; Amendments. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement regarding the Heritage Pool, the Premises, and the subject matter addressed herein, superseding any prior understandings related to such subject matter, and may be amended only by a written instrument signed by duly authorized representatives of both Parties.

15.2 Supersession of Prior Pool Agreements. Effective upon the Effective Date of this Agreement, the Intergovernmental Agreement dated October 9, 2007 concerning the Camp Verde Heritage Pool is terminated and replaced in its entirety by this Agreement. To the extent the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Parties dated 2012 contains provisions relating to the Heritage Pool, such provisions are likewise terminated and replaced by this Agreement. The Parties acknowledge that non-pool facilities, equipment, transportation, and emergency management matters formerly addressed in prior agreements shall remain governed by existing agreements until superseded by a separate facilities intergovernmental agreement.

15.2 Governing Law; Venue. Arizona law governs; exclusive venue lies in state courts of Yavapai County.

15.3 Severability. If any provision is held invalid, the remainder shall not be affected.

15.4 Headings. Headings are for convenience and do not affect interpretation.

15.5 Time of Essence. Time is of the essence with respect to the performance of obligations.

15.6 Additional Acts. Each Party shall execute and deliver further documents reasonably necessary to carry out this Agreement.

15.7 Filing; Approvals. This Agreement is subject to approval by the governing bodies of the Parties and shall be filed with the County Recorder following approval.

15.8 Third-Party Beneficiaries. No third-party beneficiary rights are created.

15.9 Attorneys' Fees. In any action to enforce this Agreement, the prevailing Party shall be entitled to reasonable attorneys' fees and costs as determined by the court without a jury.

16. RULES; ATTACHMENTS; EXHIBITS

16.1 Facility Rules. Town shall promulgate and maintain Facility rules applicable to all users; District shall enforce such rules during School Use Periods.

16.2 Exhibits. The following exhibits are incorporated:

Exhibit A – Legal Description/Depiction of Premises [to be inserted]
Exhibit B – Program Calendar Protocols and Staffing Matrix [to be inserted]
Exhibit C – Fee Schedule and Charge-back Rates [to be inserted]
Exhibit D – Insurance Certificate/Risk Pool Confirmation Format [to be inserted]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Agreement by signing their names on the day and date first written above.

CAMP VERDE:	CAMP VERDE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 28:
By: _____	By: _____
Its: _____	Its: _____
Date: _____	Date: _____

ATTEST:

_____
Leah Rhodes, Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

_____
Trish Stuhan, Town Attorney

Agenda Item 8

Parks and Recreation Commission
Agenda Information Memorandum

Meeting Date: November 2, 2026

Agenda Item Type:

☐ Consent Agenda ☐ Informational Presentation ☐ Discussion Item
☒ Action/Decision Item ☐ Executive Session Request ☐ Other:

Requesting Department: Parks & Recreation **Staff Resource:** Parks & Recreation Manager, Shawna Figy

Agenda Title: Update, review, discussion and possible recommendation to Council regarding the Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan

Attached Documents:

- Presentation

Estimated Presentation Time: 5 minutes **Estimated Discussion Time: 5 minutes**

Reviewed By:

☒ Town Manager ☐ Legal ☐ Risk Management ☐ Finance ☐ Other:

Financial Review (if applicable)**:**

- Funding Source / GL Account Number:
- Approved in the FY27 Budget? ☒ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A ☐ Other:
- Is this an approved CIP Project? ☒ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A ☐ Other:

Background Information:

Kimley-Horn has completed the information gathering and provided the first and second draft versions of the Master Plan. The Parks & Recreation Commission held a work session on September 14, 2026 to provide feedback to Kimley-Horn on the second draft. Kimley-Horn accepted feedback through September 25 on the second draft.

The plan moving forward is to have a third and semi-final draft for staff and Commission review by mid-October. It will be agendized on the November 2, 2026 Commission meeting for approval and recommendation to Council. The plan is to have it go to Council in November for adoption.

Connection to the FY25-FY30 Strategic Plan

This connects to the Strategic Plan through increasing civic engagement and public participation. The completion of the Master Plan is also a goal of Town Council.

Question(s) before the Commission:

- Do you have any questions about this update on the Master Plan?



Envision Camp Verde

Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan

2026

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan was made possible through the leadership and efforts of the following people. We are deeply grateful for their commitment to Parks and Recreation, which has resulted in this plan document and will continue to guide future implementation efforts for Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space in Camp Verde moving forward.

TOWN COUNCIL

- Marie Moore, Mayor
- Wendy Escoffier, Vice Mayor
- Brian Bolton, Council Member
- Robert Foreman, Council Member
- Robin Godwin, Council Member
- Jessie Murdock, Council Member
- Patricia Seybold, Council Member

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

- Candra Faulkner, Chairperson
- Mary Hughes, Vice Chairperson
- Glenda Duncan, Commissioner
- Victoria O'Malley, Commissioner
- Doug Ashley, Commissioner
- Sylvia Strobel, Commissioner
- Shane Gerhardt, Commissioner

CAMP VERDE PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN PROJECT TEAM

- Shawna Figy, Parks and Recreation Manager
- Clifton Bryson, Special Initiatives Manager
- Ken Krebbs, Director of Public Works
- Candra Faulkner, Parks and Recreation Commission Representative
- Zach McKay, Parks and Recreation Commission Representative

CONSULTANT TEAM

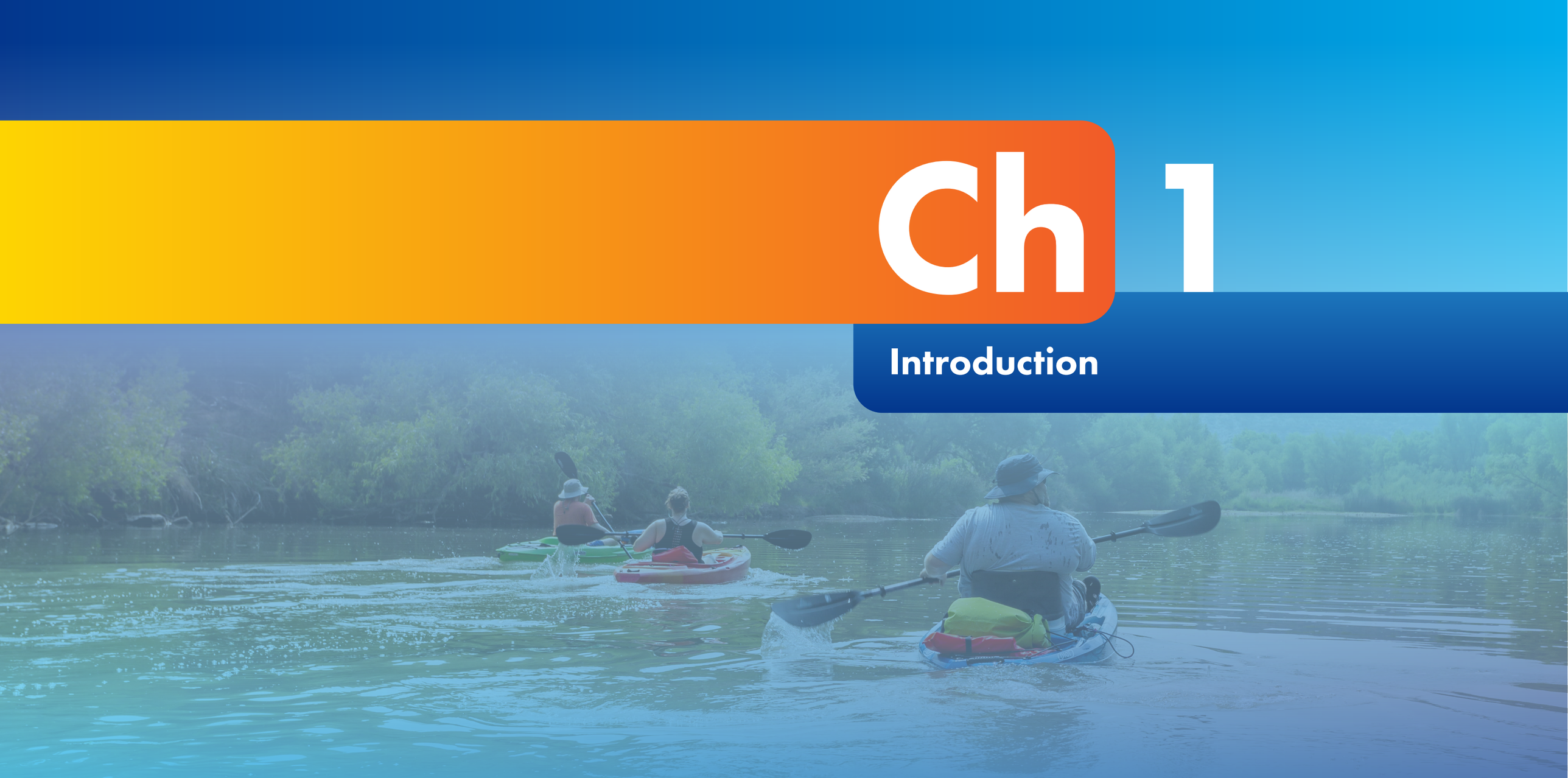
Kimley»Horn

Expect More. Experience Better.

Special thanks to all the Camp Verde residents and partners who shared their unique perspectives on what makes Camp Verde Parks and Recreation great and how it can be even better in the future. Thank you for taking the time to attend community meetings, participate in focus groups and at pop-up events, complete surveys, and use the website feedback tools. Your input and interest in the Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Master Plan has directly influenced the recommendations set forth in this plan.

Ch 1

Introduction



PURPOSE OF THE MASTER PLAN

The Town of Camp Verde Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan establishes a comprehensive vision for the future of the community's parks, recreational facilities, trail network, and open space system over the next 10 to 15 years. As Camp Verde continues to evolve, the plan provides a strategic framework to guide investments, prioritize capital improvements, expand recreational opportunities, protect natural resources, and ensure that residents of all ages have access to high-quality parks and outdoor experiences.

This Master Plan is intended to serve as the Town's primary policy document for parks and recreation planning. This plan was created in alignment with the goals and strategies of the 2026 General Plan and will guide decision-making related to capital improvement programming, land acquisition, facility development, maintenance, operations, partnerships, grant funding, and long-range community growth. The plan also provides Town leadership with an implementation strategy that is both financially responsible and responsive to community needs.

VISION STATEMENT

Camp Verde will cultivate a connected, accessible, and resilient parks, recreation, trails, and open space system that celebrates the Verde River, preserves the community's natural and cultural heritage, promotes healthy and active lifestyles, and enhances quality of life for residents and visitors of all ages.

Camp Verde is uniquely positioned at the crossroads of Arizona's natural beauty, rich cultural heritage, and outdoor recreation opportunities. Nestled along the Verde River and surrounded by public lands, the Town offers residents and visitors access to exceptional landscapes that contribute to its distinct identity and quality of life.

Throughout the planning process, community members expressed a desire to preserve Camp Verde's small-town character while expanding opportunities for recreation, healthy living, environmental stewardship, and community gathering. Residents emphasized the importance of improving existing parks, expanding trail connectivity, increasing access to the Verde River, and providing recreational amenities that serve people of all ages and abilities.

This Master Plan embraces that vision by seeking to create a connected, accessible, and resilient parks and recreation system that celebrates Camp Verde's natural environment and strengthens community well-being.

The Town's parks and recreation system will serve as a defining community asset, supporting environmental and economic stewardship, social connection, and lifelong recreation opportunities while maintaining the unique character that makes Camp Verde a special place to live, work, and visit.





PLANNING PRINCIPLES

The following planning principles provide the foundation for future decisions and investments.

STEWARDSHIP

Protect and enhance the natural resources, open spaces, and environmental systems that define Camp Verde's identity. Future decisions should prioritize conservation, sustainability, and responsible management of community assets.

CONNECTIVITY

Create an integrated network of parks, trails, pathways, and open spaces that safely connect neighborhoods, schools, parks, community destinations, and natural areas.

Connectivity should serve both recreational and transportation purposes.

ACCESSIBILITY

Ensure that parks, recreation programs, trails, and facilities are welcoming and accessible to people of all ages, abilities, backgrounds, and income levels. All residents should have opportunities to participate in recreation and enjoy community amenities.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Support physical, mental, and social well-being through diverse recreational opportunities, outdoor experiences, and community gathering spaces. Healthy communities require accessible places for recreation and active living.

COMMUNITY IDENTITY

Celebrate Camp Verde's history, culture, landscapes, and rural character through thoughtful design, programming, interpretation, and placemaking. Parks should reflect the values and character of the community they serve.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Promote environmentally and financially sustainable practices that support long-term system viability. Investments should balance current needs with future responsibilities.

PARTNERSHIPS

Collaborate with schools, nonprofit organizations, regional agencies, tribal partners, businesses, and community organizations to expand opportunities and maximize resources. Strong partnerships increase the Town's ability to achieve shared goals.

SYSTEMWIDE GOALS

The Master Plan is organized around six primary goals that address community needs and future opportunities.

GOAL 1: ENHANCE AND MAINTAIN RESILIENT PARKS AND RECREATION SPACES

Camp Verde will invest in parks and recreation facilities that are safe, attractive, functional, and responsive to community needs.

Objectives

- Maintain existing facilities in good condition.
- Improve aging infrastructure.
- Modernize park amenities.
- Incorporate inclusive and accessible design.
- Increase comfort amenities such as shade, seating, and restrooms.
- Prioritize investments that maximize community benefit.

Desired Outcomes

- Improved user satisfaction.
- Enhanced park experiences.
- Increased recreational participation.
- Longer facility life cycles.
- Greater accessibility.

GOAL 2: CREATE A CONNECTED COMMUNITY THROUGH TRAILS, HIKING, AND ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

Camp Verde, in collaboration with partner organizations, will develop a comprehensive network of trails, pathways, sidewalks, and recreational corridors that connect people to parks, schools, neighborhoods, community destinations, and natural areas.

Objectives

- Close gaps in the trail network.
- Improve pedestrian connectivity.
- Expand multi-use pathway opportunities.
- Enhance regional trail connections.
- Improve wayfinding and navigation.
- Increase access to recreational destinations.

Desired Outcomes

- Safer walking and bicycling routes.
- Increased trail usage.
- Reduced transportation barriers.
- Enhanced recreational access.
- Improved community connectivity.

GOAL 3: PRESERVE AND ENHANCE OPEN SPACE, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND THE VERDE RIVER

Camp Verde will protect the environmental resources that define community character while providing opportunities for recreation, education, and stewardship.

Objectives

- Preserve priority open space areas.
- Protect riparian resources.
- Support habitat conservation.
- Enhance environmental education.
- Promote sustainable land management.
- Balance recreation and resource protection.

Desired Outcomes

- Protected natural landscapes.
- Improved environmental quality.
- Enhanced biodiversity.
- Increased public awareness.
- Long-term resource stewardship.

GOAL 4: EXPAND RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL AGES, ABILITIES, AND INTERESTS

Camp Verde will provide diverse recreational experiences that serve youth, families, adults, seniors, and visitors.

Objectives

- Expand recreation programming.
- Increase youth opportunities.
- Support active aging.
- Promote outdoor recreation.
- Encourage lifelong participation.
- Enhance community events and activities.

Desired Outcomes

- Increased program participation.
- Broader recreational offerings.
- Improved community health.
- Greater social interaction.
- Enhanced quality of life.

GOAL 5: CELEBRATE OUR COMMUNITY CHARACTER AND STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Camp Verde will utilize parks, trails, and open spaces to strengthen community identity and celebrate the area's history, culture, and unique sense of place.

Objectives

- Incorporate local history into park design.
- Strengthen community gathering spaces.
- Expand interpretation and education opportunities.
- Promote placemaking initiatives.
- Celebrate cultural resources.
- Preserve scenic character.

Desired Outcomes

- Stronger community identity.
- Greater civic pride.
- Enhanced visitor experiences.
- Preservation of local character.



FUTURE SYSTEM VISION

Implementation of this Master Plan will result in a parks and recreation system that:

IS CONNECTED

Residents can safely travel between parks, neighborhoods, schools, downtown destinations, open spaces, and recreational facilities through an integrated network of trails and pathways.

IS ACCESSIBLE

People of all ages and abilities have opportunities to enjoy parks, participate in recreation programs, and access natural areas.

PROTECTS NATURAL RESOURCES

The Verde River corridor, wildlife habitats, scenic landscapes, and open spaces remain protected and celebrated as defining community assets.

SUPPORTS HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

Residents have access to facilities, programs, and outdoor experiences that promote physical activity and wellness.

REFLECTS COMMUNITY CHARACTER

Parks and public spaces celebrate Camp Verde's history, culture, and natural environment while reinforcing the community's rural identity.

IS SUSTAINABLE

Facilities are maintained, resources are conserved, and investments are planned with future generations in mind.

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PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The following indicators can be used to evaluate progress toward achieving the vision and goals established in this Master Plan.

ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY

- Percentage of residents within a 10-minute walk of a park.
- Miles of trails and pathways constructed.
- Number of completed connectivity projects.

FACILITY QUALITY

- Park condition ratings.
- Facility replacement completion rates.
- User satisfaction levels.

RECREATION PARTICIPATION

- Program enrollment.
- Event attendance.
- Facility utilization rates.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

- Acres of open space preserved.
- Habitat restoration projects completed.
- River access improvements implemented.

ORGANIZATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY

- Grant funding secured.
- Capital projects completed.
- Maintenance performance metrics.

These measures should be reviewed periodically to monitor progress and guide future decision-making.

SUMMARY

The vision and goals established in this chapter reflect the community's aspirations for a connected, accessible, and sustainable parks and recreation system. Together, they provide the framework for future investments, partnerships, and policy decisions.

The vision emphasizes stewardship of the Verde River and natural resources, enhancement of recreational opportunities, expansion of trail connectivity, preservation of community character, and responsible management of public assets.

The recommendations presented in the following chapters translate this vision into specific actions, projects, and implementation strategies that will guide Camp Verde's parks, recreation, trails, and open space system over the next decade and beyond.

HOW TO USE THIS PLAN

This Master Plan is intended to serve a wide range of users.

- Town leaders can use the plan to establish policy direction and prioritize capital investments.
- Town staff can use the plan to guide budgeting, grant applications, park development, maintenance planning, and program expansion.
- Developers and community partners can reference the plan when coordinating future growth, trail connections, and public amenities.
- Residents can use the plan to better understand future investments and participate in implementation efforts.

The implementation chapter identifies specific projects, priorities, estimated costs, potential funding sources, and recommended timelines, providing a practical roadmap for transforming the community's vision into action.

For the purposes of clear implementation goals, recommendations are often outlined as short-, mid-, or long-term. The following are the intended time parameters for these recommendations:

Short-Term: 1-5 Years | Mid-Term: 6-10 Years | Long-Term: 10+ Years

LOOKING AHEAD

Camp Verde's parks, recreation facilities, trails, and open spaces are essential to the community's identity and future prosperity. As the Town continues to grow, thoughtful planning will ensure these resources remain accessible, sustainable, and reflective of the values that make Camp Verde a unique place to live, work, and visit.

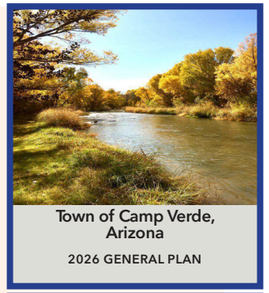
The chapters that follow examine the Town's existing system, identify community needs and opportunities, and establish a comprehensive strategy for creating a connected, resilient, and vibrant parks and recreation system for generations to come.



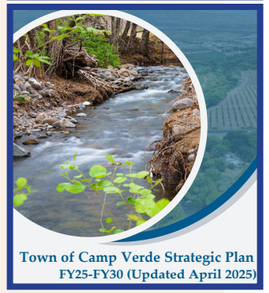
PREVIOUS PLANNING EFFORTS

This Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan builds upon a series of previous planning efforts achieve alignment that identify trail connectivity, outdoor recreation, river access, open space preservation, and regional partnerships as community priorities. The Urban Upland Trail Plan, General Plan, Strategic Plan, and Verde River Connections Plan collectively established a vision for an interconnected network of parks, trails, pathways, waterways, and public lands that support recreation, health, tourism, and quality of life. The Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan advance these recommendations by providing a comprehensive framework to guide future investments, partnerships, and implementation efforts while preserving the natural and cultural resources that make Camp Verde unique.

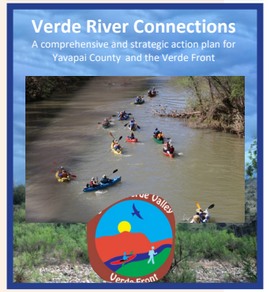
Town General Plan, 2026 - The Town of Camp Verde General Plan highlights trails and pathways as essential for transportation, recreation, health, tourism, and open space. It emphasizes creating a connected network of multi-use trails, paths, sidewalks, and river-access routes to link key destinations while enhancing connectivity to nearby recreation assets like the Verde River, national forests, and regional trails. The plan promotes trails to improve quality of life, support active transportation, boost tourism, and provide equitable access to outdoor recreation while preserving the Town's rural character and natural resources. Partnerships with agencies, communities, and organizations like the Verde Front Collaborative are encouraged to implement trails, secure funding, and develop a comprehensive trail system.



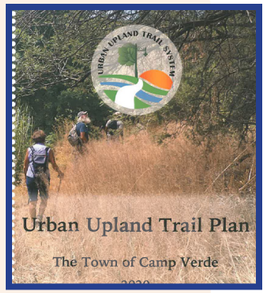
Town Strategic Plan, 2025 - The Town of Camp Verde Strategic Plan prioritizes trails and pathways to enhance quality of life, outdoor recreation, tourism, and economic development. It focuses on creating a connected network of non-motorized, multi-use trails linking neighborhoods, parks, schools, downtown areas, public lands, and regional recreation sites. Key projects include implementing the Urban Upland Trail System (UUTS), expanding trails in Jackson Flat, White Hills, and Homestead Park, improving trailheads, and establishing consistent signage, maintenance standards, and advocacy programs. The plan emphasizes partnerships, grants, and regional collaboration to enhance connectivity while protecting the Town's natural, cultural, and historic resources. Overall, trails are seen as vital to promoting health, community, tourism, and Camp Verde's identity within the Verde Valley.



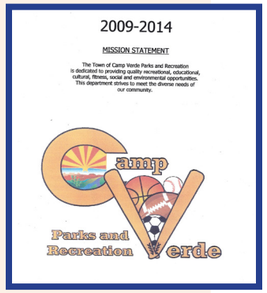
Verde River Connections Plan, 2020 - Led by the Verde Front Collaborative, is a regional strategy to connect communities, public lands, recreation destinations, and conservation areas in the Verde Valley through trails, river access points, parks, and open spaces. Using a "String of Pearls" concept, it links towns like Camp Verde, Cottonwood, Clarkdale, and Jerome via multimodal recreation corridors centered on the Verde River. The plan balances recreation and tourism growth with protecting the river's ecological, cultural, and agricultural resources. It fosters collaboration among governments, agencies, nonprofits, landowners, and stakeholders to enhance connectivity, conservation, wayfinding, environmental education, and quality of life, making the Verde River a premier destination while preserving its natural health and character.



Urban Upland Trail Plan, 2020 - The Town of Camp Verde's 2020 Urban Upland Trail Plan establishes a community-wide vision for an interconnected system of multi-use trails and pathways that links neighborhoods, parks, schools, downtown destinations, public lands, and the Verde River corridor. The plan seeks to unify existing and proposed trails into a cohesive network that enhances recreation, active transportation, public health, tourism, and quality of life while strengthening connections to surrounding national forest lands. Through strategic investments in trail construction, trailheads, signage, and wayfinding, the plan promotes safe and accessible opportunities for hiking, biking, and equestrian use. The Urban Upland Trail Plan serves as a foundational framework for advancing Camp Verde's long-term goals of regional trail connectivity, outdoor recreation development, and stewardship of the community's natural and cultural resources.



2009-2014 Parks and Recreation Five-Year Plan, 2008 The 2009-2014 Parks and Recreation Five-Year Plan represented a transition from vision to implementation. Building on the goals established in the 2001-2006 Plan, the Town secured 118.7 acres for the future Community Park, completed a comprehensive master plan for the site, expanded recreation programming, enhanced youth services, and advanced riverfront park development. The plan solidified Camp Verde's commitment to providing diverse recreational opportunities while preserving the natural, agricultural, and cultural resources that define the community. Many of the priorities and investments identified during this period continue to influence the Town's parks, recreation, open space, and trail system today.



2001-2006 Parks and Recreation Five-Year Plan, 2000 The 2001-2006 Parks and Recreation Five-Year Plan established the foundational vision for Camp Verde's modern parks and recreation system. The plan focused on preserving open space, protecting agricultural and historic resources, expanding neighborhood parks, improving river access, and developing a connected trail network while maintaining the community's rural character. Most notably, the plan introduced the concept of a large Community Park that would serve as the centerpiece of the Town's future recreation system. These priorities created the framework that guided subsequent park land acquisition, recreation programming, trail development, and long-range community investment.



Ch 2

Parks



INTRODUCTION

This chapter aims to establish a framework for enhancing Camp Verde's parks system over the next 10 to 15 years. Building upon the needs assessment, community input, and vision established in previous chapters, this chapter identifies strategies and capital improvements that will improve park quality, expand recreational opportunities, increase accessibility, and preserve community character.

The recommendations focus on three overarching priorities:

1. Improve and reinvest in existing parks.
2. Expand access to recreation as the community grows.
3. Create a connected and resilient system that reflects Camp Verde's unique identity and natural setting.

Rather than emphasizing large-scale expansion, the Parks section of the Master Plan prioritizes strategic investments that improve quality, functionality, accessibility, and user experience.

SYSTEM OVERVIEW

Camp Verde maintains a diverse collection of parks, recreation facilities, open spaces, and trail resources that contribute significantly to the community's quality of life.

The system provides opportunities for:

Active recreation	Walking and fitness
Passive recreation	Nature appreciation
Community gatherings	Outdoor education
Youth sports	River-based recreation

The Town's greatest strength is the combination of developed recreational facilities and access to significant natural resources, including the Verde River corridor and surrounding open space landscapes.

As Camp Verde continues to grow, the community's recreational infrastructure will need to evolve to meet increasing demand while maintaining the character and environmental qualities that residents value.

PARKS INVENTORY

The purpose of the Parks Inventory and Existing Conditions Assessment is to establish a comprehensive understanding of Camp Verde's current parks, recreation, trails, and open space system. This chapter evaluates the Town's existing assets, identifies strengths and challenges, and establishes the baseline conditions from which future recommendations are developed. Please reference Appendix A and B for the full inventory and lifecycle replacement reports based on existing facilities assessment.

PARK SYSTEM FINDINGS

Strengths

The park system demonstrates several significant strengths:

Community Gathering Spaces:

Existing parks provide important venues for community events, festivals, and social interaction.

Scenic Setting:

Many facilities benefit from outstanding views and natural surroundings that enhance user experiences.

Existing Recreational Amenities:

Current facilities provide a solid foundation upon which future improvements can be built.

Natural Resource Integration:

The Town benefits from parks that incorporate natural features and connections to surrounding landscapes.

Challenges

Several systemwide challenges were identified.

Aging Infrastructure:

Many amenities are approaching the end of their useful life and may require renovation or replacement.

Limited Shade:

Arizona's climate creates a need for additional shade structures, tree canopy, and cooling amenities.

Accessibility Improvements:

Several facilities would benefit from upgrades that improve accessibility and compliance with current standards. It is advisable for the Town to conduct a comprehensive Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance review. This effort would involve inspecting existing facilities, performing self-evaluations, and updating those specific spaces as necessary to adhere to ADA standards for accessible parks and facilities.

Uneven Distribution:

Some residential areas have limited access to neighborhood-scale recreational facilities. Future parks also need to be considered as new residential areas are built in currently undeveloped areas of the Town.

Connectivity:

Many parks function as standalone destinations rather than components of an integrated recreational network.

EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

The quality of each asset within the overall Town system is an important factor when evaluating the current level of service (LOS) provided. Parks that are not properly maintained, have exceeded their lifecycle, and/or do not provide a certain quality of experience to the user will not attract park visitors. By examining how each park compares to one another, Parks and Recreation management and staff can evaluate and prioritize park improvement projects and identify gaps in coverage across the entire Town system. The quality of each asset was assessed as a part of the on-site review and inventory, including quantity of each asset within each park as well as condition and quality.

For each asset, a grading standard has been assigned to the observed amenities within it. These scores are qualitative in nature and are determined based on the observations of the personnel conducting the field inventory. These categories were evaluated based on the individual asset's condition as opposed to the overall system during the inventory. If the amenity and/or facility was noted to exist in a condition well below that of similar equipment within other parks, then it was noted within the matrix as such. The number values then were used to provide a numerical score for the park based on the number of opportunities and quality of opportunities offered.



The following scoring system was used:

Grading Standard 1: Currently Critical

Conditions in this category require immediate action to:

- Correct a safety hazard
- Return a facility/system to operational status
- Stop accelerated deterioration

Grading Standard 2: Potentially Critical

Conditions in this category, if not corrected expeditiously, will become critical soon.

Situations within this category include:

- Correct a safety hazard
- Return a facility/system to operational status
- Stop accelerated deterioration

Grading Standard 3: Necessary, but Not Yet Critical

Conditions in this category require appropriate attention to preclude predictable deterioration and associated damage or higher costs if deferred further.

Grading Standard 4: Recommended

Conditions in this category include items that represent a sensible improvement to existing conditions, include finishes that have deteriorated and are required to maintain the required aesthetic standards. These are not required for the most basic functioning of the facility.

Grading Standard 5: Early in Lifecycle

Conditions in this category function properly and are early enough in their lifecycle that improvements are not currently needed. Quality and function seem to be a "like new" condition.

FUTURE PARKS SYSTEM VISION

The future parks system will be:

CONNECTED

Parks will function as part of a larger network connected by trails, pathways, sidewalks, and open space corridors.

ACCESSIBLE

Residents of all ages and abilities will have opportunities to access parks and recreational amenities.

COMFORTABLE

Facilities will incorporate shade, seating, landscaping, and climate-responsive design.

FLEXIBLE

Parks will support multiple recreational activities and changing community needs.

DISTINCTLY CAMP VERDE

Facilities will celebrate local history, culture, natural resources, and the Verde River.



PARK CLASSIFICATIONS

A well-rounded parks system includes multiple park and facility types to provide a variety of parks and recreation experiences to Camp Verde residents. Each park and facility within the system has a set of objectives. A successful classification system categorizes these park types to achieve and maintain the desired objectives for the system overall efficiently and effectively. The park classification system seeks to define multiple park types with the recognition that individual parks and their offerings may vary. Future park improvements will be guided by these classification descriptions, but ultimately be derived from the needs of the community through a public participation process. The following park classification descriptions are not meant to provide strict rules on what amenities are to be provided but should be used as a guide to ensure all of the Town's parks are activated, accessible, inclusive, and meet the needs of the intended service areas.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK:

Neighborhood parks provide primary recreation services and facilities that are easily accessible and available to local residents; serve a single neighborhood or several neighborhoods, depending on location; are preferably located with or next to elementary schools, neighborhood centers or other gathering places; and are accessed primarily via pedestrians and bicycles.

Other features include:

- **Amenities:** One signature amenity; may include one non-programmed sports field; playgrounds for ages 2-5 and 5-12 with shaded elements; no reservable shelters; loop trails; one type of sport court; benches, small picnic shelters next to play areas.
- **Land usage:** 85 percent active/15 percent passive
- **Programming:** Typically none, but a signature amenity may be included which is programmed

COMMUNITY PARK

Community parks centralize a full range of recreational activities for major parts of the Town; have the capacity to accommodate large groups; generally feature a community center building designed to meet multi-generational recreation needs, as well as lighted recreation amenities and sport fields/courts; serve several neighborhoods; are preferably located central to a group of neighborhoods and often next to elementary, middle, or high schools; and are accessed primarily by pedestrians, bicycles, and automobiles.

Other features include:

- **Amenities:** Four signature amenities at a minimum; public restrooms with drinking fountains, ample parking, and security lighting. Amenities are ADA compliant. Sport Fields and Sport Complexes are typical at this park.
- **Land usage:** 65 percent active and 35 percent passive
- **Programming:** Minimum of four essential program services

REGIONAL PARK

Regional Parks are typically larger than 100 acres in size and serve a very broad range of people and serve the entire Town and region. These parks offer large scale recreational opportunities and tend to offer some passive recreation such as fishing, nature education or exploration. These large park areas can offer unique recreational opportunities suited to larger areas such as disc golf, and bicycle routes while still offering more traditional recreational opportunities like playgrounds, play lawns, athletic complexes or sport courts. Regional parks may also feature large multi-generational or aquatics facilities to meet year-round indoor recreation needs.

Other features include:

- **Amenities:** 8 to 12 amenities to create a signature facility; public restrooms with drinking fountains, ample parking, special event site. Sport Fields and Sport Complexes can be part of this park.
- **Revenue facilities:** More than two; park designed to produce some revenue and attract tourism
- **Land usage:** Up to 50 percent active/50 percent passive
- **Programming:** More than four recreation experiences per age segment with at least four core programs provided

SPECIALTY PARK

Specialty parks provide specialized facilities and preserve significant unique features of the community; generally serve the entire Town or region; are located where necessary to capitalize on an existing feature, facility, or specialized market area; and may need a high-degree of access or limited access.

Other features include:

- **Amenities:** Varies by facility
- **Revenue facilities:** Due to nature of certain facilities, revenue may be required for construction and/or annual maintenance. This should be determined at a policy level before the facility is planned and constructed
- **Land usage:** Varies by facility
- **Programming:** Varies by facility



CONSERVATION PARKS

Conservation parks are sites that preserve natural, cultural, and historic resources. These areas provide a tranquil setting for experiences in the outdoors.

Other features include:

- **Amenities:** Zero to one signature amenity; no reservable shelters; loop trails; benches, small picnic shelters
- **Land usage:** 100 percent passive
- **Programming:** Typically none, may include nature education programs

LINEAR PARKS/GREENWAYS

Linear parks and greenways are built connections or natural corridors that link together parts of the Town. Typically, the linear park is developed for one or more modes of recreational travel such as walking, jogging, biking, in-line skating, hiking, and water sports. Linear parks may include active play areas. Multi-use trails also offer a safe, alternative form of transportation, provide substantial health benefits, habitat enhancements for plants and wildlife, and offer unique opportunities for outdoor education and cultural interpretation.

Other features include:

- **Amenities:** Zero to five signature amenities based on length of park and location; no reservable shelters; loop trails; benches, small picnic shelters
- **Land usage:** 10-20 percent active/80-90 percent passive
- **Programming:** Typically none, may include nature education programs or walking/hiking/biking group programs

Classifications

PARK NAME	CURRENT CLASSIFICATION	PROPOSED CLASSIFICATION
Arturo Park	Neighborhood	Neighborhood
Butler Park	Neighborhood	Community
Camp Verde Sports Complex	Community	Sports Complex
Community Center Park	Community	Community
Heritage Family Pool	Specialty Use	Specialty Use
Heritage Skate Park	Specialty Use	Specialty Use
Rezzonico Park	Neighborhood	Open Space/Special Use
Verde Lakes Community Park	Community	Community
Homestead Park	N/A	Linear Park/Greenway
Hallett Plaza	N/A	Specialty Use
Parsons Preserve	N/A	Open Space/Special Use
Camp Verde Equestrian Center:	Specialty Use	Specialty Use

GENERAL PARK DESIGN GUIDELINES

Community feedback consistently emphasized the importance of improving the quality and comfort of existing parks. The following design priorities should be incorporated into future improvements.

SHADE AND COMFORT:

Given Camp Verde's climate, shade should be considered essential infrastructure.

Future projects should include:

- Shade structures
- Cooling amenities
- Tree canopy expansion
- Drinking fountains
- Covered seating

Recommendation

Require all major park improvement projects to include a comprehensive shade strategy.

ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION:

All residents should be able to enjoy Camp Verde's parks and recreational amenities.

Future improvements should prioritize:

- Accessible routes
- Universal design principles
- Inclusive playgrounds
- • ADA compliance upgrades
- Accessible picnic facilities

Recommendation

Incorporate accessibility improvements into every capital project.

SAFETY AND VISIBILITY:

Park design should promote safety and comfort and conform to CPTED best practices.

Strategies include:

- Improved lighting
- Sightline improvements
- Enhanced visibility
- Emergency access planning
- Clear wayfinding

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP:

Future park improvements should incorporate sustainable practices.

Strategies include:

- Native landscaping
- Low-maintenance materials
- Water-efficient irrigation
- Sustainable stormwater management
- Drought-tolerant plantings

EXISTING PARK IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Community input strongly supports reinvestment in existing facilities. The Town should establish an ongoing Park Reinvestment Program focused on modernization and asset replacement.

PRIORITY IMPROVEMENTS

Playground Modernization

Goals include:

- Replacing aging equipment
- Expanding inclusive play opportunities
- Improving shade coverage
- Enhancing safety surfaces
- Restroom Improvements

Goals include:

- Modernization
- Accessibility upgrades
- Increased reliability
- Improved maintenance efficiency

Ramada and Picnic Area Improvements

Goals include:

- Additional shade
- Expanded seating
- Group gathering opportunities

Park Furnishings Replacement Program

Goals include:

- Benches
- Waste receptacles
- Bike racks
- Drinking fountains
- Wayfinding signage

COMMUNITY PARK ENHANCEMENT STRATEGY

Community parks should function as major recreation destinations and gathering places. Future investments should focus on creating flexible spaces capable of supporting diverse recreational experiences.

RECOMMENDED ENHANCEMENTS

Multi-Use Event Lawns

Provide flexible spaces for:

- Festivals
- Community events
- Concerts
- Informal recreation

Enhanced Gathering Spaces

Include:

- Large ramadas
- Community plazas
- Seating areas
- Event infrastructure

Expanded Family Recreation Areas

Include:

- Nature play
- Splash features
- Interactive elements
- Multi-generational amenities

Improved Sports Amenities

Provide facilities that support:

- Youth sports
- Community leagues
- Informal recreation

More formal sports amenities and tournament level facilities would be concentrated in the Camp Verde Sports Complex.

FUTURE NEIGHBORHOOD PARK STRATEGY

As Camp Verde grows, additional neighborhood recreation opportunities may be needed. Future neighborhood parks should be distributed strategically to improve geographic access and should be led by or in partnership with private developers. The Town should establish a park acreage required for development of new build housing communities along with a design and level of service maintenance standard for privately-built and maintained parks. This will ensure the Town is not acquiring additional parks acreage for maintenance and is focusing efforts and resources on improving existing park, with a priority on community and regional parks.

DESIGN PRINCIPLES

Neighborhood parks should:

- Be easily accessible.
- Connect to trails and sidewalks.
- Provide flexible recreation opportunities.
- Require manageable maintenance.
- Reflect local character.

VERDE RIVER PARK STRATEGY

The Verde River is Camp Verde's defining recreational and environmental resource.

Future park development should strengthen public access while protecting ecological functions. A riverfront recreation opportunity should be expanded at Rezzonico Park and the Town should explore future partnerships with agencies and other partners like Arizona State Parks to increase river-adjacent or river-based recreation opportunities.

RIVERFRONT RECREATION OBJECTIVES

Improve Access

Provide safe and sustainable opportunities to reach the river.

Enhance Visitor Experience

Incorporate:

- Trail connections
- Viewing areas
- Interpretive signage
- Rest areas

Promote Environmental Stewardship

Educate visitors about:

- Riparian ecosystems
- Wildlife habitat
- Water resources
- Conservation practices

RECOMMENDED RIVERFRONT IMPROVEMENTS

River Access Nodes

Develop strategically located access points that include:

- Parking
- Wayfinding
- Rest areas
- Educational signage

Riverfront Trail Connections

Expand connections between:

- Parks
- Open spaces
- Community destinations
- Recreation areas

Nature-Based Recreation Areas

Support activities such as:

- Wildlife viewing
- Birding
- Photography
- Environmental education

SPORTS AND RECREATION FACILITY STRATEGY

Community engagement identified demand for expanded indoor recreation opportunities.

Future investments should focus on flexible facilities that support multiple user groups. Sports and Recreation focused facilities should be considered with an eye to tournament-host capabilities and tourism. Partnership with economic development will be critical when considering investment in these types of facilities. This category includes both future indoor facilities as well as the improvement and expansion of the Camp Verde Sports Complex site.

RECOMMENDED FACILITY TYPES

Multi-Purpose Fields

Accommodate:

- Soccer
- Football
- Baseball and Softball
- Community events
- Informal recreation

Court Facilities

Provide opportunities for:

- Basketball
- Pickleball
- Multi-use recreation

Outdoor Fitness Areas

Support:

- Individual exercise
- Group fitness
- Wellness activities

Adventure Recreation

Explore opportunities for:

- Pump tracks
- Skills courses
- Nature play

DOG PARK STRATEGY

Community feedback indicated interest in dedicated dog recreation opportunities.

Future planning should evaluate opportunities for:

- Off-leash areas, ideally a three acre area with adequate space for three cells
- Separate spaces for small and large dogs
- Shade and seating
- Water access
- Waste stations

Potential locations should prioritize compatibility with surrounding land uses and maintenance capacity.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES

The following priorities are recommended over the planning horizon.

SHORT-TERM PRIORITIES

- Improve existing parks
- Update code to include standards for privately built and maintained neighborhood parks in new build areas
- Expand shade infrastructure
- Modernize playgrounds
- Improve accessibility especially in regard to arrival, routes, playgrounds, and more equal amenity experience
- Upgrade park amenities
- Improve river access facilities where possible

MID-TERM PRIORITIES

- Expand community park amenities
- Construct new trail-linked park improvements where feasible
- Develop outdoor fitness facilities
- Enhance event infrastructure
- Expand recreational programming support facilities

LONG-TERM PRIORITIES

- Additional sports facilities
- Riverfront park expansion
- Special-use recreation facilities
- Large-scale park development projects

CHAPTER SUMMARY

The Parks section of the Master Plan establishes a long-term strategy for creating a connected, accessible, and sustainable parks system that reflects Camp Verde's values and identity.

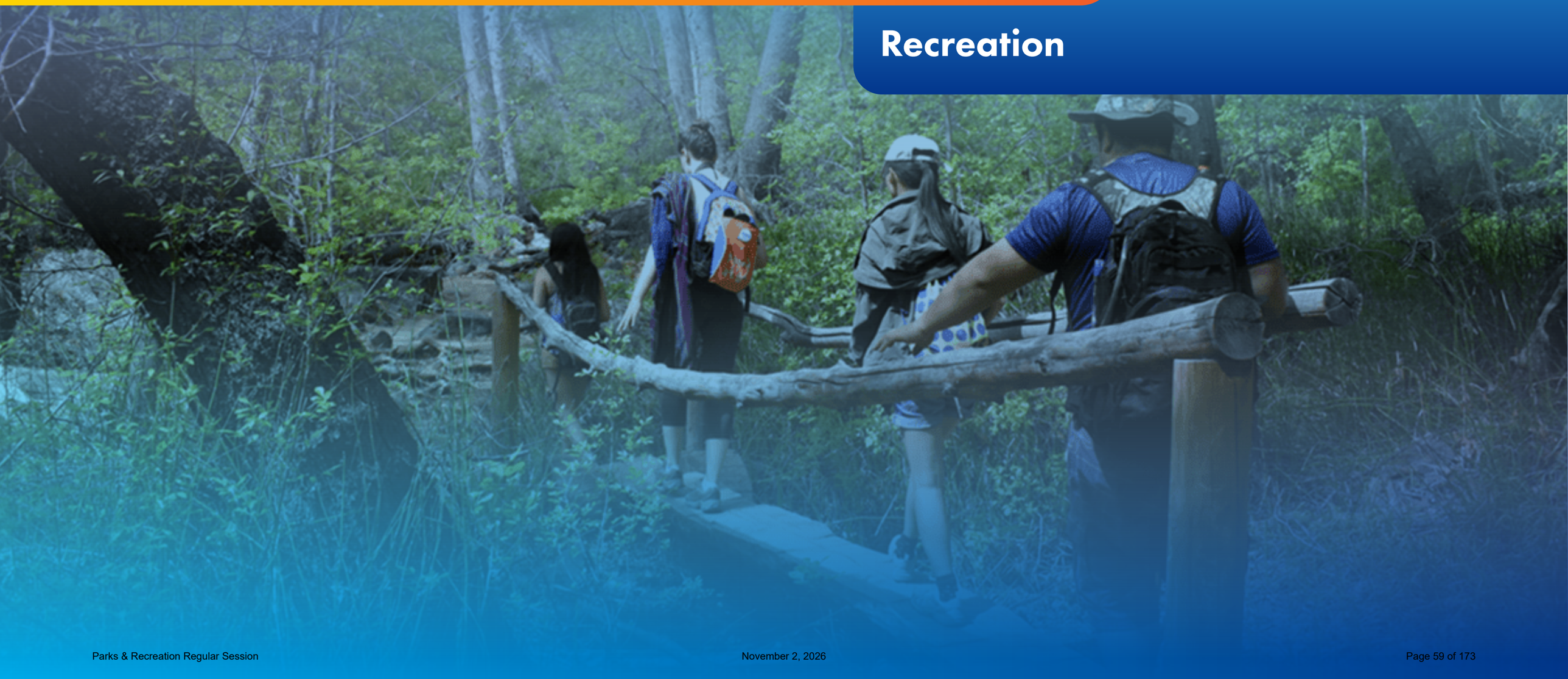
The highest priorities include reinvestment in existing parks, expansion of trail-connected recreational opportunities, enhancement of Verde River access, and development of facilities that serve residents of all ages and abilities.

Together, these recommendations create a framework for future capital improvements while preserving the natural resources and community character that make Camp Verde unique.

The following chapter expands upon these recommendations by addressing recreation programming, services, and community activation strategies that complement the Town's physical park system.

Ch 3

Recreation



INTRODUCTION

A vibrant recreation system is about more than parks and facilities. It is about creating opportunities for people to connect with one another, improve their health and well-being, celebrate community, and enjoy the unique natural and cultural resources of Camp Verde. Recreation programming activates public spaces, strengthens community identity, and provides lifelong learning and wellness opportunities for residents and visitors.

This chapter aims to establish a framework for expanding recreational opportunities over the next 10 to 15 years. It identifies program priorities, service objectives, partnership opportunities, and operational strategies that complement the Town's parks, trails, and open space system. As Camp Verde continues to grow, recreation services should evolve to meet changing community needs while maintaining the Town's unique character and strong connection to the outdoors.

RECREATION VISION

Camp Verde will provide diverse, accessible, and affordable recreation opportunities that promote healthy lifestyles, foster community connections, celebrate local culture, and encourage stewardship of the Town's natural environment.

The recreation system will:

- Serve residents of all ages and abilities.
- Promote lifelong participation in recreation.
- Encourage healthy and active lifestyles.
- Strengthen community identity and civic pride.
- Support outdoor recreation and environmental education.
- Enhance tourism and economic vitality.
- Utilize partnerships to maximize recreation opportunities.

RECREATION SERVICE GOALS

The Town should strive to provide a balanced system of recreation opportunities that addresses a wide variety of interests and abilities. Recreation services should be inclusive, flexible, and responsive to community needs while remaining financially sustainable.

The following principles should guide future recreation programming:

Inclusivity

Programs should be welcoming and accessible to all residents regardless of age, ability, income, or background.

Community

Recreation should bring people together through shared experiences, volunteerism, and community events.

Wellness

Programs should encourage physical activity, mental well-being, and social interaction.

Stewardship

Recreation should promote appreciation for Camp Verde's natural and cultural resources while encouraging responsible use of public lands.

Collaboration

The Town should partner with schools, nonprofit organizations, neighboring communities, healthcare providers, businesses, and regional agencies to expand recreation opportunities.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Athletic Facilities

Athletic facilities provide opportunities for organized sports, recreation leagues, and community programming.

Community feedback indicates strong demand for:

- Multi-purpose fields
- Youth sports facilities
- Flexible recreation spaces
- Practice areas
- Spectator amenities

Future improvements should focus on increasing flexibility and accommodating multiple user groups.

Ramadas and Gathering Spaces

Residents value opportunities for family gatherings, social events, and community celebrations.

Several locations could benefit from:

- Expanded shade structures
- Additional seating
- Improved reservation facilities
- Enhanced event infrastructure

RECREATION PROGRAMS ASSESSMENT

Existing Programs

The Town currently offers a variety of recreational opportunities through organized programs, special events, and partnerships.

Programs generally focus on:

- Youth activities
- Community events
- Seasonal programming
- Sports and recreation

Program Strengths

Community members expressed appreciation for:

- Family-oriented activities
- Community celebrations
- Local events
- Youth recreation opportunities

Program Gaps

Community input identified opportunities for expansion in the following areas:

- Youth Recreation: Additional sports, camps, and after-school opportunities.
- Adult Recreation: Fitness, wellness, and recreational league opportunities.
- Senior Programming: Activities that promote social interaction and healthy aging.
- Nature-Based Recreation: Programs that connect residents with local natural resources and outdoor experiences.

RECREATION PROGRAM ASSESSMENT

Community engagement identified a strong desire for expanded recreation programming. Community events were the most desired program based on community engagement. However, there are other avenues in which the Town might consider diversifying or partnering to diversify program offerings. While residents appreciate existing events and activities, opportunities exist to broaden program offerings and better serve all age groups.

Key findings include:

- Strong demand for youth recreation and sports.
- Interest in outdoor adventure and nature-based programming.
- Growing demand for adult fitness and wellness activities.
- Increased opportunities for older adults and active seniors.
- Expanded community events and festivals.
- Additional family-oriented activities throughout the year.

The Town's role should be to coordinate, facilitate, and partner where appropriate, recognizing that many recreation services can be delivered collaboratively.

YOUTH RECREATION

Providing opportunities for children and youth is essential to building healthy families and a vibrant community.

Goals

- Increase participation in organized recreation.
- Promote healthy lifestyles and outdoor play.
- Develop leadership and life skills.
- Provide safe, affordable recreation opportunities.

Recommended Programs

- Youth sports leagues
- Summer recreation camps
- Outdoor adventure camps
- Nature exploration programs
- Junior Ranger and environmental education programs
- Arts and crafts workshops
- STEM and outdoor science activities
- Teen leadership programs
- Bicycle safety and skills clinics

Facility Needs

Future programming will require access to:

- Athletic fields
- Multipurpose open spaces
- Playgrounds
- Community meeting spaces
- Trail systems
- River access locations

ADULT RECREATION

Adults increasingly seek recreation opportunities that support fitness, social interaction, and outdoor experiences.

Recommended Programs

- Walking clubs
- Hiking groups
- Fitness classes
- Pickleball leagues
- Adult softball and volleyball
- Outdoor yoga
- Photography workshops
- Gardening programs
- Kayaking and canoeing clinics
- Outdoor survival and camping skills

Wellness Initiatives

Partner with healthcare organizations to offer:

- Community wellness challenges
- Nutrition education
- Preventive health programs
- Mental wellness workshops
- Active aging initiatives

SENIOR RECREATION

Camp Verde's growing population of older adults creates opportunities to expand recreation services that support healthy aging and social engagement.

Program Objectives

- Encourage lifelong learning.
- Reduce social isolation.
- Promote physical activity.
- Support independent living.
- Strengthen community involvement.

Recommended Programs

- Walking groups
- Low-impact fitness
- Chair yoga
- Educational seminars
- Technology workshops
- Arts and crafts
- Community gardening
- Volunteer opportunities
- Day trips and excursions

Future facilities should include comfortable gathering spaces, shaded outdoor areas, and universally accessible amenities.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY RECREATION

Community events strengthen social connections and reinforce Camp Verde's identity.

Possible Event Expansion Ideas

- Spring Community Festival
- Verde River Celebration
- Outdoor Movie Nights
- Farmers Market Activities
- Holiday Tree Lighting
- Fourth of July Celebration
- Fall Harvest Festival
- Outdoor Concert Series
- Community Fun Runs
- Recreation Expo

Family Activities

- Family campouts
- Fishing days
- Nature scavenger hunts
- Community picnics
- Outdoor game nights
- Bicycle rodeos

These events activate public spaces while encouraging community participation. Camp Verde currently hosts a number of special events that coincide with the above list, such as: Pecan and Wine Festival, Fort Verde Days, Corn Fest, and Christmas Magic on Main.. Broadening the event type and scope throughout the years is encouraged to maintain variety and interest. It is encouraged the Town pursue dedicated staff, local partnerships and enhanced volunteer programs, as events are generally limited by staffing needs.

OUTDOOR RECREATION

Outdoor recreation is one of Camp Verde's greatest strengths and should remain a defining element of the recreation system.

Priority Activities

- Hiking
- Walking
- Trail running
- Mountain biking
- Birdwatching
- Wildlife observation
- Fishing
- Kayaking
- Canoeing
- Nature photography

Program Recommendations

Develop guided recreation experiences that introduce residents and visitors to Camp Verde's natural resources while promoting environmental stewardship.

Potential offerings include:

- Guided hikes
- River ecology tours
- Birding walks
- Stargazing events
- Geology programs
- Wilderness skills workshops

ARTS, CULTURE, AND HERITAGE

Recreation should celebrate Camp Verde's unique history and cultural identity. Many of the current Town events have become traditions and celebrate the community. Enhancing these types of events with partnerships to educate and engage residents in the arts, culture, and heritage components of the Town could serve to unify the community identify.

Program Opportunities

- Heritage festivals
- Historic walking tours
- Indigenous cultural programming
- Public art workshops
- Music performances
- Storytelling events
- Local history lectures
- Artisan demonstrations

Integrating arts and culture into recreation programming creates opportunities to celebrate community identity while supporting tourism.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Camp Verde's natural resources provide exceptional opportunities for education and stewardship.

Recommended Programs

- Native plant workshops
- Wildlife education
- River stewardship days
- Volunteer events
- Water conservation classes
- Citizen science projects
- School field programs
- Junior naturalist programs

Strengthening partnerships with schools, conservation organizations, and resource agencies should be pursued to expand environmental education opportunities.

RECREATION PARTNERSHIPS

No single organization can provide every recreation service. Partnerships are essential to expanding opportunities while maximizing public investment.

Potential Partners

- Camp Verde Unified School District
- Yavapai County
- Arizona State Parks and Trails
- U.S. Forest Service
- Arizona Game and Fish Department
- Local nonprofit organizations
- Healthcare providers
- Community service clubs
- Local businesses
- Tourism organizations

Partnerships may include shared programming, facility use agreements, volunteer initiatives, grant applications, and special events.

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION

Increasing awareness of recreation opportunities is essential to program success.

Recommendations

- Develop a seasonal recreation guide.
- Improve the Town's recreation website.
- Utilize social media and email newsletters.
- Expand online registration.
- Improve park and trail signage.
- Create a recreation events calendar.
- Promote volunteer opportunities.

A coordinated marketing strategy will improve participation and strengthen community engagement.

RECREATION OPERATIONS

As recreation services expand, the Town should evaluate staffing, programming, and operational needs.

Operational Priorities

- Expand recreation staffing as demand grows.
- Develop annual programming plans.
- Track participation and customer satisfaction.
- Establish program cost recovery goals.
- Increase volunteer engagement.
- Pursue grants and sponsorships.

Performance measures should be reviewed annually to guide future program development.

RECREATION IMPLEMENTATION PRIORITIES

Short-Term (1–5 Years)

- Expand youth recreation programs.
- Develop a seasonal recreation guide.
- Increase outdoor fitness opportunities.
- Enhance community events.
- Establish new recreation partnerships.

Mid-Term (6–10 Years)

- Introduce new adult and senior programming.
- Expand environmental education.
- Develop guided outdoor recreation experiences.
- Increase volunteer opportunities.
- Improve online registration and marketing.

Long-Term (10+ Years)

- Evaluate the need for dedicated recreation facilities.
- Expand regional recreation partnerships.
- Develop destination recreation events.
- Continue adapting programs to meet changing community demographics.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The Town should monitor progress using measurable indicators, including:

- Annual recreation program participation.
- Number of programs offered.
- Event attendance.
- Volunteer hours.
- Partnership agreements established.
- Customer satisfaction ratings.
- Cost recovery percentages.
- Grant funding secured.

Annual evaluation will help ensure that recreation services remain responsive to community needs and aligned with the goals of this Master Plan.

CHAPTER SUMMARY

Recreation programming is an essential component of Camp Verde's parks and recreation system. While parks, trails, and open spaces provide the physical setting, recreation programs bring these spaces to life by creating opportunities for learning, wellness, social connection, and community celebration.

The recommendations presented in this chapter emphasize expanding recreation opportunities for all ages, strengthening partnerships, enhancing outdoor experiences, and celebrating Camp Verde's unique natural and cultural resources. Together with the recommendations for parks, trails, and open space, these strategies establish a comprehensive recreation system that will serve residents and visitors for years to come.

The following chapter presents the Trails, Waterways, and Open Spaces section of the Master Plan, which builds upon these recreation recommendations by creating a connected network of trails, pathways, and recreational corridors linking neighborhoods, parks, schools, the Verde River, and regional destinations.



Ch 4

Trails, Waterways, and Open Space



TRAILS, WATERWAYS, AND OPEN SPACE

INTRODUCTION

Camp Verde's trail and pathway system provides residents and visitors with access to a diverse range of recreational, cultural, and natural resources. The existing network includes local parks and pathways, riverfront trails, neighborhood connections, and extensive access to surrounding public lands and national forests. Centered around the Verde River corridor, the system offers opportunities for walking, hiking, biking, equestrian use, wildlife viewing, paddling, and environmental education. The community and stakeholder outreach efforts identified the need to provide an integrated network that links neighborhoods, parks, schools, downtown Camp Verde, the Verde River, and regional trail systems throughout the Verde Valley, enhancing both community mobility and outdoor recreation opportunities.

WHAT WE HEARD...

Community engagement has been a vital part of the planning process, shaping a vision for trails and open spaces that truly reflects the needs, values, and aspirations of Camp Verde community. Through public workshops, stakeholder interviews, focus groups, community events, surveys, online engagement platforms and interactive mapping, residents consistently emphasized the importance of expanding trail connectivity, improving access to the Verde River, preserving open spaces, and enhancing recreational opportunities for people of all ages and abilities. This extensive outreach not only highlighted community priorities but also fostered a shared vision for a connected network of trails, parks, and natural areas that encourages healthy lifestyles, strengthens community identity, supports environmental stewardship, and solidifies Camp Verde's status as a regional hub for outdoor recreation.

Statistically Valid Survey Findings on the Importance of Trails and Open Space

The statistically valid survey reflects the Camp Verde residents place a high value on open space, trails, river access, and outdoor recreation opportunities. Multiple findings clearly indicate that the preservation and enhancement of natural areas, trail systems, and outdoor recreation resources are community priorities.

Trails Are the Community's Highest Recreation Amenity Need

- 75% of respondents identified a need for multi-use paths and trails, making trails the single most desired recreation amenity in the survey.
- Multi-use paths and trails ranked as the second most important facility/amenity overall, behind only aquatic facilities.
- Trails were among the highest-priority investments identified by residents.

Strong Support for River Corridor and Open Space Improvements

- 77% of respondents supported improving the existing river corridor, demonstrating strong community interest in preserving and enhancing access to the Verde River and its surrounding open spaces.
- Residents selected river corridor improvements as one of the top three investments they would support with additional tax dollars.
- Residents also expressed strong support for improving paved walking and biking trails, with 78% supporting enhancements to existing trail infrastructure.

Nature-Based Recreation is Important to Residents

- The survey found significant demand for outdoor recreation opportunities that depend on protected open space:
- Fishing areas ranked among the four most important recreation amenities and received a Tier 1 Priority Investment Rating.
- Nature/environmental education programs were identified as high-priority recreation programs for future investment.
- Residents showed strong interest in outdoor entertainment, family events, and recreation opportunities that make use of parks, trails, natural areas, and the river corridor.

Open Space Supports Community Character and Tourism

Residents recognize that parks, trails, and open spaces provide benefits beyond recreation:

- 57% agree that parks provide positive social interactions.
- 54% agree parks and recreation help attract tourists and seasonal visitors.
- 51% agree parks contribute to economic and business development.

These findings suggest residents view open spaces and trail systems as important assets that help support Camp Verde's quality of life, tourism economy, and community identity.

Focus Groups Comments

Through focused conversations with Town staff, community partners, recreation users, local organizations, and regional stakeholders, the planning process captured firsthand perspectives on existing park conditions, trail connectivity, open space preservation, Verde River access, recreation programming, facility needs, and long-term community priorities. Below is a summary of the focus group input.

Forest Service Focus Group Meeting

- **Collaboration:** Working collaboratively with all the partners in the Verde Valley and trailhead development and trails plans with Camp Verde has been on the right track and now working to implement the Verde Trails Access Plan which includes access to trails with direct connections to the Prescott National Forest, the oasis property is a priority from a trails standpoint and an access point, Verde Circle Trail is important for CV.
- **Balance River Access with Conservation:** River center, development of Homestead Park that highlights river protection and environmental resources, trailheads to support the activities along the river.

Commerce Focus Group

- **Tourism:** Camp Verde boasts an impressive trail system and seeks to understand its connection to tourism opportunities.

Community and Users Focus Group

- **Promote Healthy Communities:** Enhance quality of life, public health, and bike/pedestrian transportation to foster healthier environments, encourage economic growth, and strengthen community friendliness.
- **Regional Connectivity:** Develop safe and accessible connections between communities, such as Cottonwood and Camp Verde, to improve regional transportation.
- **Parks and Recreation Integration:** Combine parks, recreation, and active transportation to offer more opportunities for residents and visitors to explore the region and experience nature.
- **Collaborative Regional Strategy:** Foster a unified approach across municipalities in the Verde Valley (e.g., Sedona, Camp Verde, Cottonwood, Clarkdale) to maximize tourism and economic benefits throughout the region. Emphasize a comprehensive, multi-city strategy rather than individual town competition; consider a regional role for the Yavapai Recreation Department.
- **Outdoor Recreation System:** Develop an organized system of outdoor recreation featuring trails, bike loops, and robust marketing. Address gaps, such as the lack of trails connecting residential areas (e.g., Verde Lakes) to key destinations like the Sports Complex.
- **Riverfront Activation:** Improve access and amenities along the riverfront with ramadas, trails, and other features to attract and engage the community.

PARTNERSHIPS

The Town of Camp Verde has established a broad partnership network to advance local and regional trail and pathway connectivity. Together, these partners are coordinating trail planning, funding, public outreach, resource stewardship, and implementation of major regional initiatives such as the Verde Valley Circle Trail, Black Canyon Trail connections, Verde Trails and Access Plan projects, and community pathway improvements that strengthen recreation, tourism, and quality of life throughout Camp Verde and the Verde Valley. Key partners include representation from federal, state, local and non-profit organizations.

Regional Collaboratives

Verde Front Collaborative – Regional partnership coordinating recreation, conservation, trail planning, connectivity, economic development, and public lands initiatives throughout the Verde Valley. The Verde Front Trails Working Group serves as the primary forum for advancing regional trail projects and connectivity.

Federal Agencies

- **U.S. Forest Service** – Prescott National Forest (Verde Ranger District) – Lead partner on the Verde Trails & Access Plan, Black Canyon Trail connections, Verde Valley Circle Trail segments, and numerous trail construction and maintenance efforts.
- **U.S. Forest Service** – Coconino National Forest (Red Rock Ranger District) – Partner on regional trail planning, access, and connectivity projects.
- **National Park Service** – Technical support and regional trail coordination participant through Verde Front initiatives.

State Agencies

- **Arizona State Parks and Trails** – Trail planning, grant funding, mapping, and implementation partner.
- **Dead Horse Ranch State Park** – Participates in regional trail connectivity planning and implementation efforts.

Local Governments

- **City of Cottonwood** – Regional connectivity and trail implementation partner.
- **Town of Clarkdale** – Regional trail planning and mapping partner.
- **Town of Jerome** – Regional trail planning and mapping partner.
- **City of Sedona** – Regional trail planning and mapping partner.
- **Yavapai County** – Co-convener of the Verde Front Trails Working Group and regional trail initiatives.
- **Coconino County** – Regional trail coordination partner through Verde Valley initiatives.

Trail and Recreation Organizations

- **Verde Valley Trail Fund (VVTF)** – Supports trail construction, maintenance, volunteer coordination, stewardship, and funding efforts across the Verde Valley.
- **Black Canyon Trails Coalition** – Partner on Black Canyon National Recreation Trail and Camp Verde-area trail connections.
- **Beaver Creek Trails Coalition** – Trail planning and implementation partner in eastern Camp Verde and Beaver Creek areas.
- **Verde Valley Cycling Coalition** – Bicycle and trail advocacy partner supporting regional connectivity.
- **Back Country Horsemen of Arizona** – Equestrian trail planning and stewardship partner.
- **Network for Trails in Arizona** – Regional trail coordination partner through Verde Valley initiatives.
- **Verde Front** – Regional trail coordination partner through Verde Valley initiatives.

Conservation and River Organizations

- **Friends of the Verde River** – Recreation access, river stewardship, conservation, and trail advocacy partner.

Education and Community Partners

- **Arizona State University (ASU)** – Assisted with trail outreach, public engagement, stakeholder input, and community planning efforts.
- **Yavapai College** – Trail planning, education, workforce development, and implementation partner.

Additional Public Land and Community Stakeholders

- **SRP (Salt River Project)** – Landowner and stewardship partner in areas adjacent to the Verde River corridor where recreation access and conservation objectives intersect.
- **Local recreation user groups** including hikers, mountain bikers, runners, birders, paddlers, equestrians, and outdoor tourism organizations that participate through the Verde Front Collaborative and public planning processes

BENEFITS OF TRAILS

Trails are a key component of Camp Verde's parks and recreation system, providing connections between neighborhoods, parks, schools, open spaces, and the region's many natural and cultural destinations. As both recreational amenities and transportation corridors, trails support active lifestyles, improve community connectivity, and expand access to the Town's scenic landscapes, including the Verde River and surrounding public lands. A well-connected trail network also enhances tourism, strengthens local economic activity, and reinforces Camp Verde's identity as an outdoor recreation destination. As the community continues to grow, investing in trails will help create a more accessible, healthy, and connected future for residents and visitors alike.

Health and Wellness



Trails provide a wide range of benefits to Camp Verde, enhancing the community's quality of life, recreation opportunities, and economic vitality. As a gateway to the Verde Valley and surrounded by significant natural resources, Camp Verde is uniquely positioned to leverage its trail system to connect residents and visitors with parks, open spaces, the Verde River, historic sites, and surrounding public lands. Trails encourage active lifestyles by supporting walking, hiking, bicycling, running, and equestrian use, helping to improve physical and mental health while promoting outdoor recreation for all ages.

Connectivity



Beyond recreation, trails serve as important community connectors, linking neighborhoods, schools, parks, commercial areas, and regional destinations. A connected trail network provides safe and accessible transportation alternatives, reduces reliance on vehicles, and improves access to community amenities. Trails also contribute to Camp Verde's growing outdoor recreation economy by attracting visitors who support local businesses, lodging, restaurants, and tourism-related services. Trails should ensure connections to regional destinations including regional parks, such as Coconino and Prescott National Forests.

Environmental



Additionally, trails foster environmental stewardship by providing opportunities for residents and visitors to experience and appreciate the region's unique landscapes, wildlife habitats, and cultural resources. When thoughtfully planned and managed, trails can help concentrate recreation use, protect sensitive natural areas, and support long-term conservation goals. Together, these benefits make trails a critical investment in Camp Verde's future, strengthening community connectivity, supporting economic development, and enhancing the Town's reputation as a premier outdoor recreation destination.

TRAIL SYSTEM FEATURES, STANDARD SECTIONS AND CLASSIFICATIONS

PATHWAY AND TRAIL SYSTEM GUIDANCE

Best Practices: Planning a Pathway & Trail and System

Plan a regionally connected and locally integrated trail system that links parks and recreation facilities to neighborhoods and activity centers.

Promote walkable built environments with safe comfortable and convenient pedestrian-oriented facilities that meet the needs for the different users.

Develop branding for the Town's pathway & trail system.

Provide multiple route connections for pedestrians to avoid barriers to walkability.

Establish major and minor trailheads at key community parks, large municipal sports parks and regional parks and preserves.

Develop a comprehensive network of pathways and trails along natural and man-made linear features to connect all passive and active recreations sites into a distinct feature for the Town.

Ensure residential developments are providing an internal pedestrian circulation system that connects pocket and neighborhood parks, schools, retention basins and open space to the town-wide path and trail systems.

Ensure the design and layout of pathway and trail connections provide visual and functional links to parks, neighborhoods, schools, commercial districts, and activity centers and adjacent communities

Ensure the design and layout of pathway and trail connections provide appropriate corridor width to ensure adequate buffers uses between destinations is achieved.

Ensure connections to the regional destinations including regional parks, such as Coconino and Prescott National Forest.

Continue to partner with the US Forest Service.

Coordinate with the City of Cottonwood, Town of Jerome, Town of Clarkdale, City of Sedona, and the US Forest Service to establish connections with trails identified within their trail plans as well as the continued development of the Verde Valley Circle Trail.

Ensure that the Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Master Plan aligns with the Town's Transportation Master Plan, which establishes linkages to pathways and bike lanes located along parkways, arterials and collector streets to off-street trails.

Establish guidelines for path and trail crossings at arterials, parkways and freeways using grade-separated crossings, such as culverts, underpasses, overpasses, and pedestrian signals.

Develop at-grade path and trail crossing guidelines for lower volume roads.

Establish hiking, mountain biking, and equestrian trails where appropriate and ensure compatibility with surrounding development.

Locate trails along the fringes of wildlife linkages to serve as a buffer to adjacent developments. Limit trail crossings over such corridors to the most direct route.

Encourage developers to route primary and secondary vehicular entryways to their communities near path and trail crossings to ensure such crossings can occur at improved intersections.

Best Practices: Design and Construction of Pathways & Trails and System

Design and construct a functional path and trail system tailored to the needs of the community and user groups.

Ensure all pathways and trails are context-sensitive and environmentally sustainable.

Establish primary pathways with side-by-side surfaces for different user groups, such as an all-weather surface i.e. concrete pathway (bicyclists, strollers, wheelchairs, skates, and skateboarders) with an adjacent natural decomposed granite trail (runners, hikers, equestrians).

Paths and trails should enhance and highlight scenic vistas in the community.

Encourage developers to locate park facilities adjacent to trails to serve as access nodes.

Encourage development to front onto pathway and trail corridors instead of backing to it. For developments that back into trail corridors, require view fencing to enhance visibility.

Provide access nodes a minimum of every ¼ mile along paths and trails. Where possible, such linkages should be every 500 feet, which is the recommended distance for such nodes.

The design of pathways and trails should address accessibility as per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Mountain preserves with diverse topography and steep slopes may prohibit flatter grades in certain locations where there is a desire to limit disturbance of the natural setting and provide higher degree of trail difficulty.

Sufficient easement widths should be provided to accommodate the respective function, including landscaping, recognizing that not all segments in the system will maintain a uniform easement width due to physical constraints such as topography.

Ensure appropriate clearances are met along paths and trails with a 2 feet clear zone on either side.

Create learning experiences along trails with interpretive information on the natural, cultural and historical resources found along segments.

Promote the use of public art along paths and trails to add visual interest along the route.

Ensure private developments are dedicating right-of-way for pathways and trails and granting public access easement that mutually benefit all residents living in the Town.

Focus attention on research and apply for grants at the federal, state, and local levels to fund the construction of pathways and trails.

Best Practices: Path & Trail Maintenance

Provide sufficient resources to maintain new trails.

Establish maintenance guidelines and standards for town-wide pathways and trails indicated as part of the Town's proposed Verde Valley Circle Trail corridor. Guidelines should include vegetation clearances, surface maintenance, erosion, berm removal, signage upkeep, staff hours needed, and a regular maintenance schedule.

Dedicate staffing and operation and maintenance dollars to parks and recreation budgets trail segments are added to the Town's system to ensure they are maintained to the appropriate standards.

For paths and trails located in homeowner associations that are not operated or maintained by the Town, but identified in this plan, provide path and trail maintenance guidelines and training to ensure consistency across segments.

Encourage developers to dedicate land and the operation and maintenance responsibilities for those paths and trails identified as part of the Verde Valley Circle Trail system.

Encourage and support volunteer groups, such as biking clubs, equestrian groups, school and church organizations to maintain paths and trails after proper instruction. Establish an adopt-a-trail program.

PATHWAYS, TRAILS CLASSIFICATIONS, AND GUIDELINES

Camp Verde offers a diverse range of trail experiences that support the community's role as a regional outdoor recreation destination. The Town's trail network includes hiking trails that provide access to the Verde River, scenic mesas, and surrounding public lands; bicycle-friendly routes and multi-use trails that connect neighborhoods, parks, open spaces, and regional destinations; equestrian trails that reflect the community's strong western heritage and provide access to both local and regional trail systems; and off-highway vehicle (OHV) routes that attract residents and visitors seeking motorized recreation on designated trails and public lands. Together, these trail types accommodate a wide variety of users, ages, and interests, creating recreation opportunities that support healthy lifestyles, tourism, and access to Camp Verde's unique natural and cultural resources. By planning for a balanced and connected system of hiking, bicycling, equestrian, and OHV trails, Camp Verde can continue to expand recreational opportunities while enhancing community connectivity and preserving the outdoor character that defines the Verde Valley. Trail and pathway types and sections serve as guidelines and should be right-sized on a case-by-case basis based on specific location, proposed alignment, budget, and use.

Trail/Pathway Surface Types

This plan includes two pathway surfacing types – pathways have an all-weather, hard surface, such as concrete, and in some instances asphalt, while trails have a soft-surface, comprised of compacted and stabilized decomposed granite or compacted native soils.

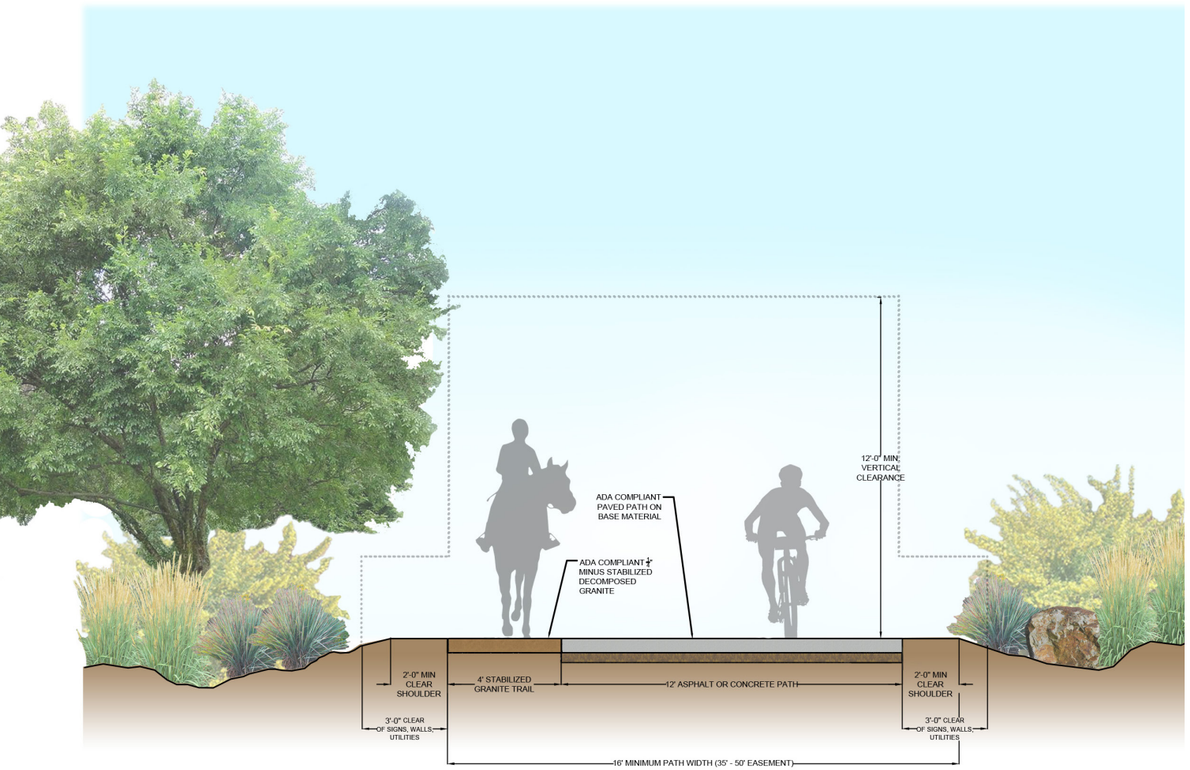
The two different surface types, appeal to different user groups. For example, bicyclists, walkers and in-line skaters may prefer a hard surface treatment, whereas joggers, equestrians and mountain bikers may prefer a softer surface. Paths and trails to be built in Camp Verde will appeal to many different nonmotorized user groups. The seven classifications of pathways and trails consist of the following:

- Primary Path
- Secondary Path
- Accessible Trail
- Primary Trail
- Frontcountry Trail
- Backcountry Trail
- Summit Trail



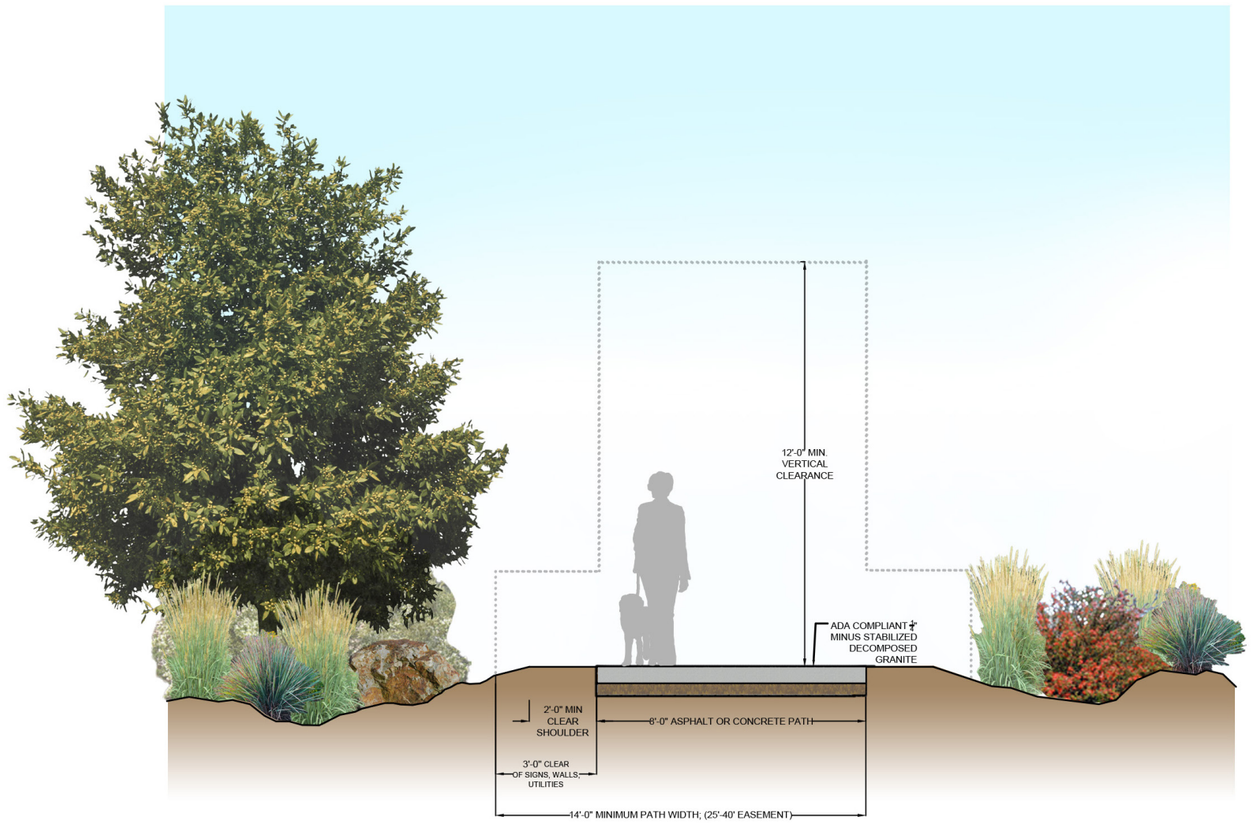
Primary Paths

Primary paths provide the highest level of functionality for a myriad of users through both hard and soft surfaces. The primary path's function will be to connect regional parks and natural resources to communities, neighborhoods and other major destinations. Primary paths should be ADA-accessible with less than 5% grade. The primary paths are 12-foot-wide concrete paths with a 4-foot parallel compacted and stabilized decomposed granite trail. A 2-foot safety shoulder is required next to the concrete path on the opposite side of the soft surface parallel trail.



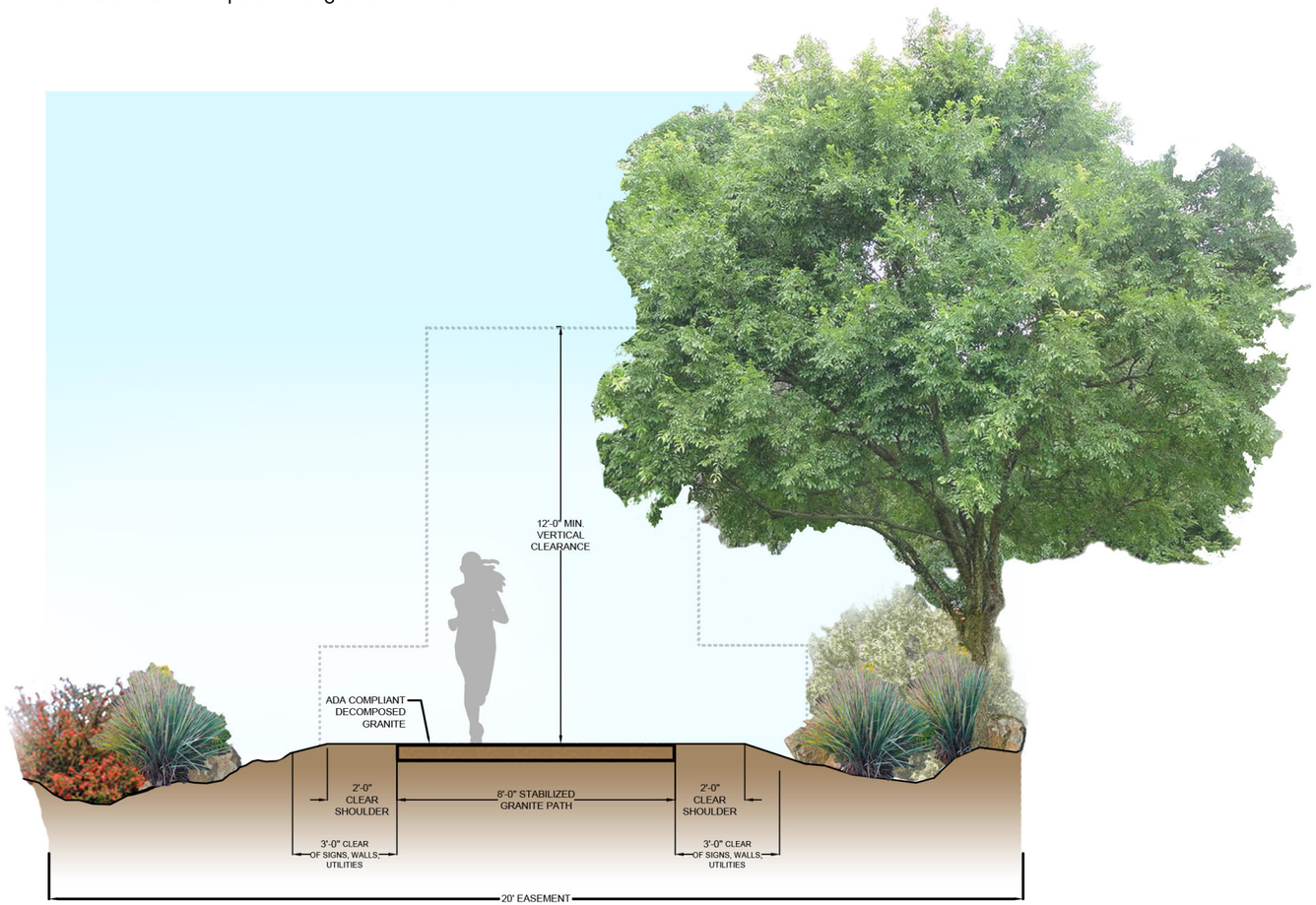
Secondary Paths

Secondary paths generally serve a community-wide function by connecting neighborhoods to community parks, schools, commercial nodes and employment centers that are not necessarily on the regional system. These paths serve both the transportation and recreation needs of the public. Secondary paths differ from primary paths by not being as wide (10 feet vs. primary path's 12 feet) and do not require a 4-foot-wide parallel trail. A 2-foot safety clear zone is required on either side of the path. Stopping may be required more frequently at intersections with at-grade crossings. Secondary paths should be ADA-accessible with grades less than 5%.



Accessible Trails

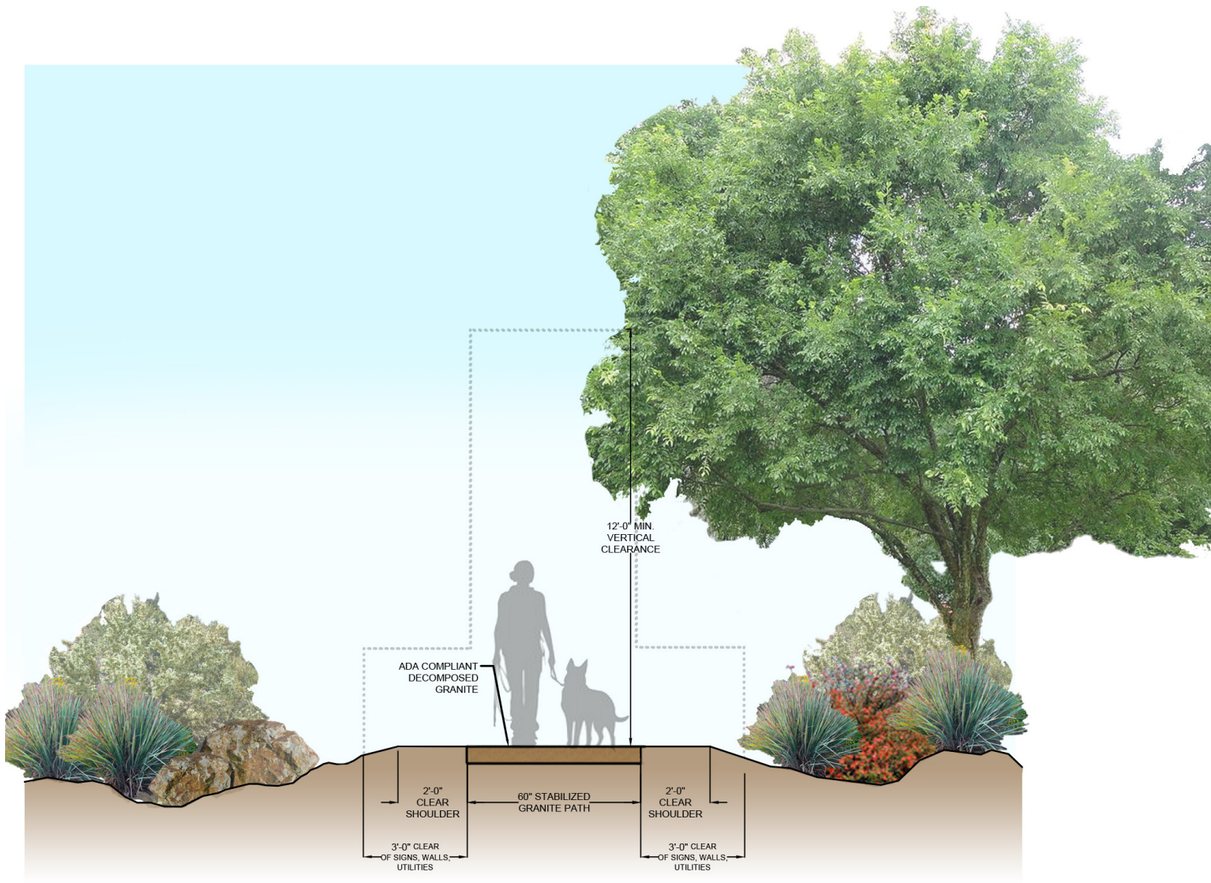
Accessible trails have a surface of compacted and stabilized decomposed granite. These trails will allow for a more natural experience to users in developed areas of the city. These trails will predominately be constructed along powerline corridors. Utility companies often have limitations on the types of improvements that can be located below the powerlines, such as restrictions for landscaping and lighting due to maintenance concerns. Where feasible, the accessible trails should be located adjacent to the utility easement to allow for enhanced amenities, such as trees and lighting. Accessible trails should be ADA-compliant with grades less than 5%.



Primary Trails

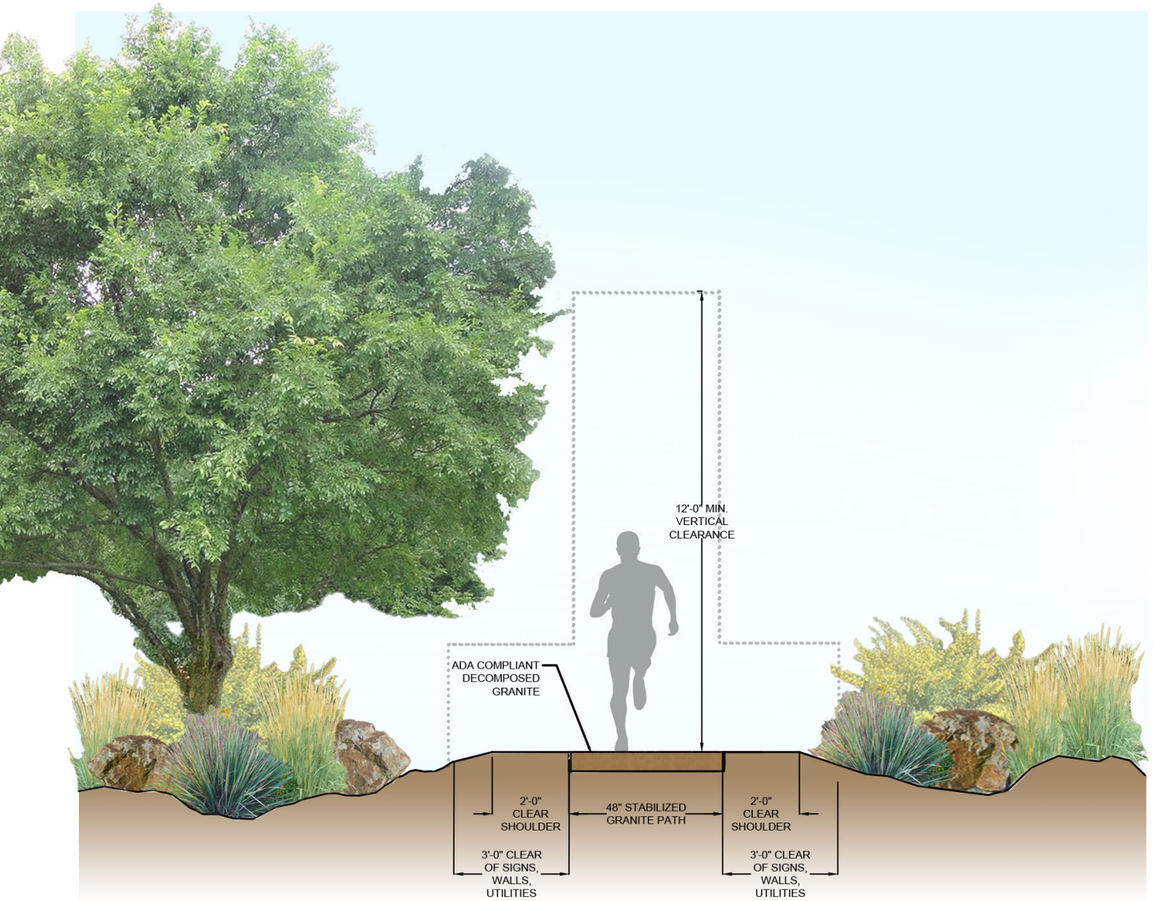
Primary trails have surfaces comprised of native soil tread or stabilized decomposed granite. Primary trails will be used in natural areas or preserves, such as river bottoms, known wildlife corridors, and in mountainous or hillside areas where slopes may prohibit the use of the primary and secondary paths and accessible trails. These trails provide a passive recreational experience for hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians.

Anticipated usage would be less than those on a primary path, secondary path, or accessible trail, therefore the trail width is 5 feet wide.



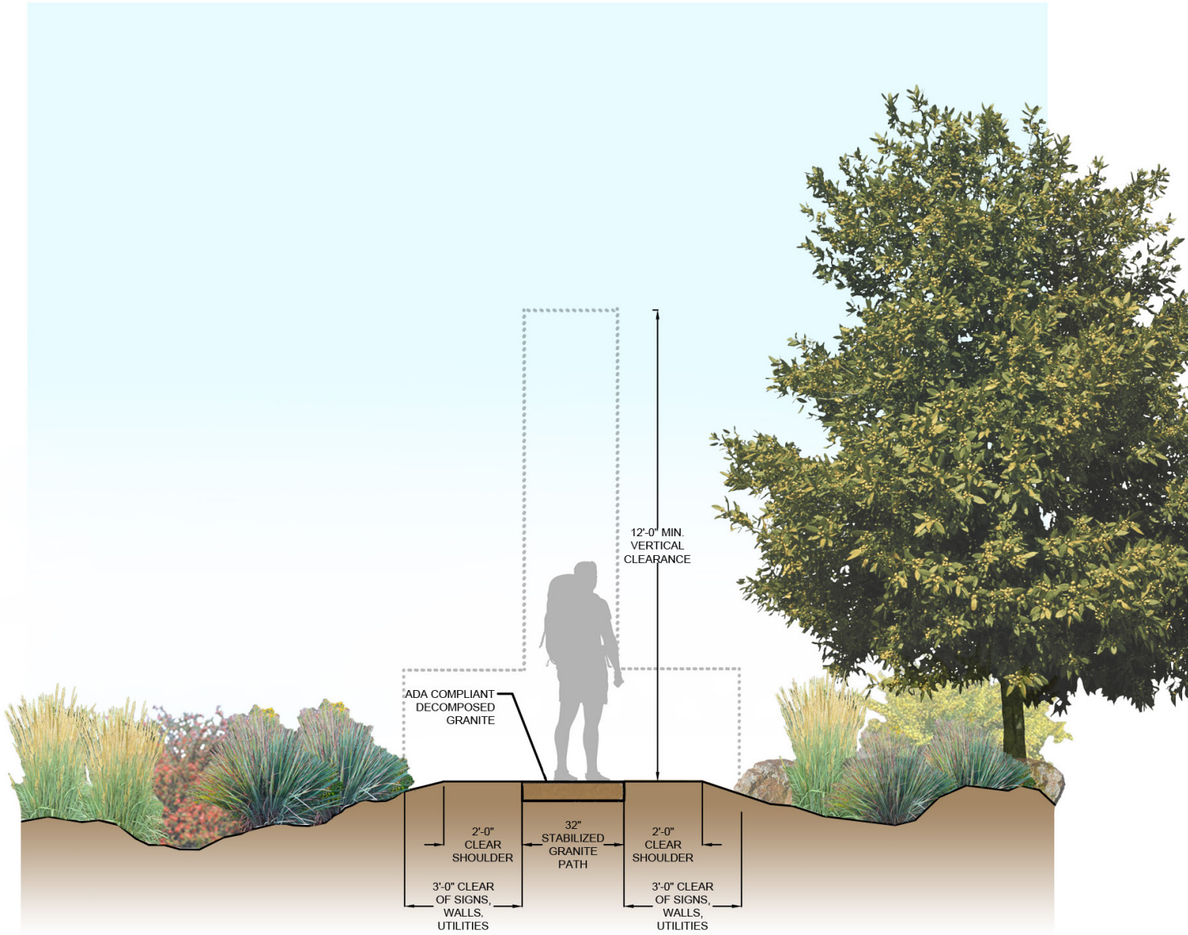
Frontcountry Trails

Frontcountry trails are intended to be located closer to trailhead facilities in regional parks and mountain preserves where the number of trail users may be high. Frontcountry trails have a width of 4 feet with a 2-foot clear zone on either side and a 12-foot vertical clearance to accommodate equestrians.



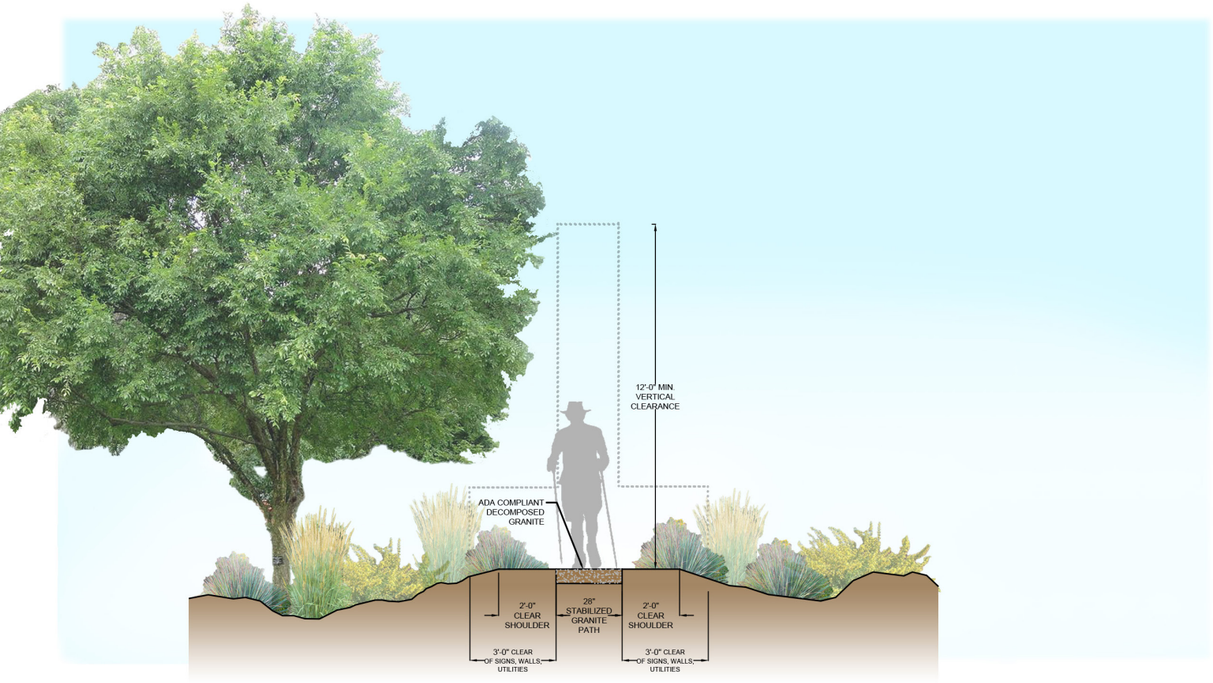
Backcountry Trails

Backcountry trails are located further away from trailheads and from development, therefore usage is anticipated to be less than on accessible or frontcountry trails. Backcountry trails have a narrower tread of 32" with a 12-foot minimum clearance to accommodate equestrians.



Summit Trails

Summit trails will have a higher difficulty rating. These trails are intended to be 28" wide with a 2-foot clear zone on either side.



LOCATIONS OF PATHWAYS & TRAILS

Pathways and trails should be established adjacent to the following natural and man made linear corridors whenever possible with partnerships:

- River Corridors
- Utility Corridors including power lines and gas lines
- Open Space

Providing Paths & Trails Along Both Sides

For certain linear features, such as rivers, washes and power line corridors, pathways and trails may be required along both sides of the feature if wider than 150 feet from top of bank to top of bank, or from edges of easements. Pathways and trails located on both sides of the linear feature can benefit by providing different surface materials. For example, one side of a wash could install a primary path, while the other side could install an accessible trail.

TRAILHEAD GUIDELINES

Camp Verde's trailheads function as important gateways to the community's extensive recreation and open space network. From the Copper Canyon and Ryal Canyon trail systems west of Town to the Verde River corridor and the scenic destinations of West Clear Creek and the surrounding national forests, these trailheads provide access to a wide variety of hiking, bicycling, equestrian, OHV, and water-based recreation opportunities. Collectively, they strengthen regional trail connectivity, support outdoor tourism, and connect residents and visitors to the area's remarkable natural landscapes, making Camp Verde a regional hub for outdoor recreation in the Verde Valley.

Key trailheads in and around Camp Verde include:

- **Copper Canyon Trailhead** – One of the region's primary access points to the Forest Service trail system west of Camp Verde. It offers access to numerous multi-use trails popular with hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, and OHV users. The trailhead includes parking, picnic facilities, shaded ramadas, and access to extensive backcountry routes.
- **Ryal Canyon Trailhead** – Located within the Prescott National Forest trail network, this trailhead serves hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, and motorized users. It provides access to scenic desert grasslands, foothills, and connections to a larger regional trail system.
- **Grief Hill Trailhead** – A popular hiking access point that provides opportunities for short hikes, wildlife viewing, and panoramic views overlooking the Verde Valley. It is frequently used by local residents seeking a close-to-town outdoor experience.
- **Bull Pen (West Clear Creek) Trailhead** – Located east of Camp Verde, this trailhead provides access to the nationally recognized West Clear Creek corridor. Visitors can enjoy hiking, creek access, swimming, fishing, and exceptional riparian scenery.
- **McDonald Trail Access** – Located within the Coconino National Forest, this trailhead provides access to a more rugged backcountry hiking experience and connects users with forest landscapes and scenic viewpoints.
- **Verde River Access Points and Trailheads** – Several informal and developed access locations along the Verde River allow residents and visitors to reach river-oriented recreation opportunities including fishing, paddling, birdwatching, and nature exploration. These access points are important components of Camp Verde's broader trails and open space network.
- **Verde Vista Loop Trailhead** – Located within the Camp Verde Sports Complex, this trailhead provides parking and access to the Verde Vista Loop.

Equestrian Trailhead Guidelines

Trailheads with equestrian facilities are intended to provide amenities for both equestrian users as well as other user groups. The parking requirements are typically larger to accommodate trailers used to transport horses and their equipment. Typical amenities that can be found at well-designed equestrian trailheads include decomposed granite for parking and unloading areas that are separate from non-equestrian parking. Such parking should allow equestrian users to enter and leave the facility without having to back-up and reverse their trailers. Other amenities may include water troughs, wash racks, horse pens, hitching posts, mounting blocks and ramps, and areas to dispose of manure.

Trailhead Guidelines

Trailhead Amenities	Major Trailhead			Minor Trailhead		
	Phased Expansion Based on Demand			Phased Expansion Based on Demand		
	High Demand	Medium Demand	Low Demand	High Demand	Medium Demand	Low Demand
Acres	15+	10	6	6	3	1
Parking	300	150	60	60	30	10
Restrooms	Yes			Yes	Yes	No
Lighting	Yes			Yes		
Shaded Rest Node	3-5 (Includes Large Group Ramada)	3-5	3-5	1-2	1-2	No
Equestrian Use* 7+ parking spaces on natural surface, mounting ramp, manure disposal area, round pen, wash rack, hitching rails	Yes			No		
Amenities Lighting, Shade Structure, Signage, Maps, Drinking Water, Garbage Containers, Seating, Bike Racks	Yes			Yes		

**Equestrian use will apply if the trail type can accommodate equestrian uses.*

TRAIL CROSSINGS

An important feature of any non-vehicular trails plan that connects with the street, drainage, utility or storm water structure is the treatment of crossings. These crossing zones create the greatest possible hazard to path and trail users, and therefore necessitate particular consideration.

There are several significant barriers in the Town that provide difficulty for path and trail crossings. Such barriers include the following:

- **Interstate 17** – Under or Over Crossings
- **Highway 260** – Under or Over Crossings
- **Future Parkways** – Under, Over or At-Grade Crossings
- **Major Arterials** – At-Grade or Mid-Block Crossings. Where possible, route paths and trails to coincide with intersections.
- **Verde River** - Water crossings

There are two types of trail crossings – grade-separated and at-grade crossings.

Grade-Separated Crossings

Grade-separated crossings are identified to illustrate the expectation for cross-type, whether over or under at a particular juncture of a given segment. Grade-separated crossings occur when paths and trails intersect with high-volume roads, canals, or washes. Whenever possible, paths and trails should be directed to established intersections, bridges or culverts so as not to incur the added expense of additional crossings.

Under Crossings

Under crossings below bridges or through over-sized culverts should be utilized when pathways and trails cross Interstate 17, Highway 260 and future state routes and parkways. The minimum vertical clearance shall be 12 feet. The horizontal width of the undercrossing should provide adequate clearance on either side of the pathway and trail. Lighting should be provided to enhance the safety of users.

Over Crossings

Over crossings via bridges will be used when a path or trail intersects Interstate 17, Highway 260, parkways, and canals. Over crossings should be used in areas where there are no nearby large box culverts or where no nearby at-grade road crossings exist to route the path or trail through. The path or trail overcrossing should provide a minimum vertical clearance of 12 feet. The bridge should have a wide enough horizontal clearance to accommodate the associated path or trail width with lighting provided.

At-Grade Crossings

At-grade crossings can occur when a path or trail intersects a street.

Street Crossings

The preferred location for a path or trail crossing is at a signalized or stop-controlled intersection. An improved crosswalk should be provided and demarcated with striping. For wider and busier streets, such as parkways and major arterials, safety refuge islands should be provided in medians to provide a safe place for users to stop at the mid-point of the road before crossing the remaining distance.

In general, street crossings should adhere to the following guidelines:

- Crossings should be at right angles to traffic.
- Adequate sightline distances should be provided that considers the appropriate time, visibility, potential hazards, and lighting.
- Sightlines at roadway crossings should not be obstructed by signage, parked vehicles, light posts, landscaping or any other object that could obstruct views.
- Where possible, provide a safe haven or median on multi-lane roads.
- Sufficient lighting should be provided.
- Provide curb cuts that conform to ADA standards and to the same path or trail widths.

Mid-Block Crossings

The safety of pathway and trail users is of paramount importance. Therefore, the use of mid-block crossings, where pedestrian accidents can be the highest, should not be used. Paths and trails should be routed to street intersections for safe crossings.

EXISTING AND PROPOSED PATH AND TRAIL SYSTEM

Camp Verde occupies a unique position in Arizona by offering both an expanding network of trails and direct access to the Verde River, one of the state's last free-flowing rivers. Residents and visitors can enjoy hiking, biking, equestrian, and regional trail connections alongside kayaking, fishing, wildlife viewing, and other river-based recreation. This rare combination of connected upland trail experiences and river-based recreation creates a diverse outdoor recreation system that supports healthy lifestyles, attracts visitors, strengthens the local economy, and reinforces Camp Verde's role as a regional destination for adventure, conservation, and outdoor tourism in the Verde Valley

Camp Verde's existing trail and pathway system is a combination of local urban pathways, river access trails, recreation routes, and extensive connections to surrounding public lands. The community serves as a gateway to some of Arizona's most significant outdoor recreation resources, with trails providing access to the Verde River corridor, Prescott National Forest, Coconino National Forest, and numerous regional destinations.

Within town, trails are currently distributed among parks, neighborhoods, schools, and recreation areas rather than functioning as one fully connected network. Existing pathways include sidewalks, informal walking routes, park trails, riverfront access paths, and segments of multi-use trails that serve both recreation and transportation purposes. Community feedback consistently identifies the need for improved connectivity between neighborhoods, parks, schools, downtown destinations, and the Verde River. Residents have noted that several areas of Town remain disconnected from major recreation destinations, including the Sports Complex and riverfront amenities.

The Verde River is the defining natural feature of the trail system. Camp Verde contains approximately 18 miles of the Verde River corridor, which supports recreational activities such as walking, hiking, birdwatching, paddling, fishing, and nature appreciation. Existing access points, preserves, and riverfront parks provide opportunities for residents and visitors to experience the river while connecting to broader recreation and conservation initiatives throughout the Verde Valley.

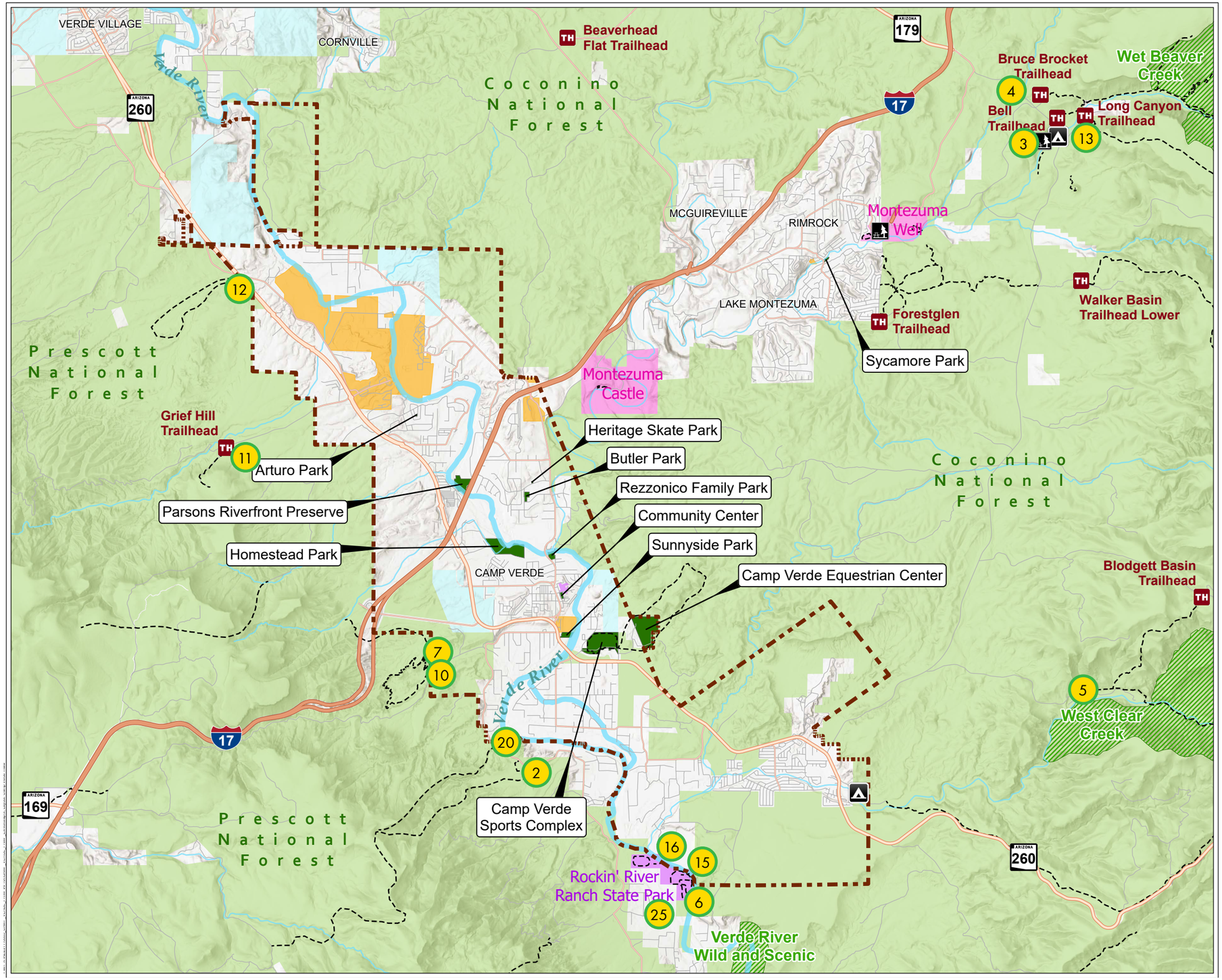
Several established trailheads provide access to the surrounding uplands and national forest lands. Popular routes include the White Cliffs Trail system, Ryal Canyon Trail, Bell Trail, Apache Maid Trail, Bull Pen Trail, Coldwater Trail, and numerous other routes located within the surrounding national forests and wilderness areas. These trails offer a wide range of recreational experiences, from short family walks and wildlife viewing opportunities to long-distance hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, and backcountry exploration.

The community also benefits from a growing network of cultural and interpretive pathways and river-oriented educational trails provide connections to archaeological sites, historic resources, and environmental education opportunities. The River Connections Plan, 2020, identifies these trails and how they contribute to the broader Verde River "String of Pearls" concept, linking recreation, conservation, cultural interpretation, and tourism destinations throughout the Verde Valley.

While Camp Verde is recognized for having exceptional access to outdoor recreation, local stakeholders and residents consistently identify the need for a more organized and connected trail system. Community feedback identified the need to close trail gaps, development of regional bicycle and pedestrian connections, improving wayfinding and trailheads, expanding river access, and implementing the regional Verde Circle Trail and Verde Trails Access Plan to create a cohesive community-wide and regional network.

Camp Verde Trails

No.	Name	Type				Surface	Length (Miles)	Difficulty	Location
		Hiking	Biking	Equestrian	OHV				
1	Apache Maid Trail	X				Native	8.4	Challenging	Coconino National Forest
2	Box T Trail				X	Native	10.4	Challenging	Part of Ryal Canyon Trail
3	Bell Trail	X				Native	7.1	Moderate	Coconino National Forest
4	Bruce Brocket Trail	X				Native	1.9	Moderate	Coconino National Forest
5	Bull Pen Trailhead	X				Native	5.3	Challenging	Coconino National Forest
6	Buckaroo Trail	X				Native	1.7	Easy	Rockin River Ranch State Park
7	Camp Verde Trail #545				X	Native	13	Moderate	Prescott National Forest
8	Chasm Creek Trailhead	X				Native	8.7	Challenging	Prescott National Forest
9	Cold Water Trail	X				Native	5.5	Challenging	Cedar Bench Wilderness Area
10	Copper Canyon Trail	X	X	X		Native	3.9	Moderate	Prescott National Forest
11	Grief Hill Trailhead					Native	2.2	Moderate	Prescott National Forest
12	Hayfield Draw Area				X	Native	13	Challenging	Prescott National Forest
13	Long Canyon Trail to Long Canyon Tank	X				Native	6	Moderate	Coconino National Forest
14	Mail Trail	X		X		Native	10	Challenging	Coconino National Forest
15	Miano Trail	X		X		Native	0.4	Easy	Rockin River Ranch State Park
16	Outlaw Trail					Native	0.3	Easy	Rockin River Ranch State Park
17	Oxbow Trail	X				Native	6	Challenging	Prescott National Forest
18	Perimeter Loop Trail - Sports Complex	X				Stablized DG	1.6	Easy	Sports Complex
19	Pasture Loop Trail	X				Native	1.2	Easy	Rockin River Ranch State Park
20	Ryal Canyon Trailhead	X	X	X	X	Native	5.1	Challenging	Prescott National Forest
21	Shady Acres Trail	X				Native	0.2	Easy	Rockin River Ranch State Park
22	Towel Creek Trail	X				Native	8	Challenging	Coconino National Forest
23	Verde Rim Trail	X				Native	14.4	Challenging	Pine Mountain Wilderness on the Prescott National Forest
24	Verde Vista Trail	X	X	X		Native	5.4	Moderate	Coconino National Forest
25	White Cliffs Trail	X	X	X		Native	1.7	Easy	Rockin River Ranch State Park
26	Walker Basin Trail	X	X	X		Native	7.4	Moderate	Rimrock



Town of Camp Verde
Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Trails Map

- Town of Camp Verde
- Campground
- Picnic Area
- Existing Trailhead
- Existing Trails
- Wilderness Area
- Parks
- Tribal Trust Lands

Public Lands

- Arizona State Parks
- National Forest
- National Monument
- State of Arizona Land

N
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0 4,000 8,000 16,000 Feet

0 1,000 2,000 4,000 Meters

Scale: 1:48,000
Map Projection: NAD83 AZ State Plane Central (Intl Feet)

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EXISTING TRAIL AND PATHWAY SYSTEM

APACHE MAID TRAIL

Apache Maid Trail (Trail No. 15) is a challenging backcountry trail in the Coconino National Forest that begins near the Bell Trail and ascends the rugged northern wall of the Wet Beaver Wilderness to the high basalt mesas along the Mogollon Rim. The trail offers a strenuous wilderness experience with dramatic elevation changes, diverse vegetation communities, and expansive views of the Verde Valley and surrounding landscapes.

- *Length*: 8.47 miles one-way (approximately 17 miles round trip; shorter out-and-back options are possible)
- *Elevation Gain*: 2,086 feet, beginning at approximately 4,040 feet in elevation
- *Difficulty*: Moderate to strenuous due to the sustained climb, steep sections, and exposure to heat, particularly during the summer months
- *Permitted Uses*: Hiking and equestrian use only; bicycles, motorized vehicles, and mechanized equipment are prohibited within the federally designated Wet Beaver Wilderness







Box T Trail is a rugged and highly challenging motorized trail offering a demanding off-highway vehicle experience through remote desert and mountainous terrain. The trail traverses rolling hills, steep slopes, rocky ridgelines, and technical switchbacks, making it best suited for experienced riders. As the route gains elevation, conditions become increasingly difficult, with loose rock, exposed bedrock, and sustained climbs that require advanced riding skills and careful navigation.

Beginning at a large staging area along South Salt Mine Road, the eastern portion of the trail travels across relatively gentle desert terrain before climbing into steeper and rockier country near Ryal Canyon. Beyond this point, the trail becomes significantly more technical, featuring numerous steep grades, rocky ledges, loose boulder-strewn surfaces, and a series of challenging switchbacks. Near Box T Tank, the trail transitions into rolling uplands where rocky conditions persist but grades moderate somewhat. The western segments continue through remote backcountry with embedded volcanic rock, narrow pinch points, and sections that receive less frequent use.

- *Length*: Approximately 10.4 miles
- *Difficulty*: Difficult to Extreme for ATVs and UTVs; Advanced for dirt bikes
- *Trail Type*: Motorized two-track and single-track route
- *Terrain*: Steep grades, loose rock, volcanic bedrock, rock ledges, switchbacks, and remote desert mountain landscapes
- *Access*: Eastern trailhead located off South Salt Mine Road with trailer parking available
- *Permitted Uses*: OHVs, ATVs, UTVs, and dirt bikes (subject to Forest Service regulations)

Bell Trail (Trail No. 13) is one of the most popular trails in the Coconino National Forest and serves as a gateway to the scenic Wet Beaver Wilderness near Rimrock. Originally constructed in 1932 as a livestock route connecting the Verde Valley to the Mogollon Rim, the trail is now a premier recreation destination known for its access to Wet Beaver Creek, including the renowned swimming and cliff-jumping area known as The Crack.

Following the creek corridor, the trail travels through a diverse landscape of riparian habitat, desert vegetation, and rugged canyon terrain. The lower portions of the trail are relatively wide and gentle, making them accessible to a broad range of hikers, while the upper sections become progressively steeper and rockier as the route ascends toward the Mogollon Rim.

- *Length*: Approximately 7.1 miles round-trip to The Crack; 7.4 miles one-way to the upper terminus
- *Difficulty*: Moderate
- *Elevation Gain*: Approximately 600 feet to The Crack and more than 1,500 feet over the full trail length
- *Typical Duration*: 4 to 5 hours round-trip to the swimming area, not including time spent at the creek
- *Permitted Uses*: Hiking and equestrian use
- *Highlights*: Wet Beaver Creek, swimming opportunities, scenic canyon views, riparian habitat, and access to the Wet Beaver Wilderness







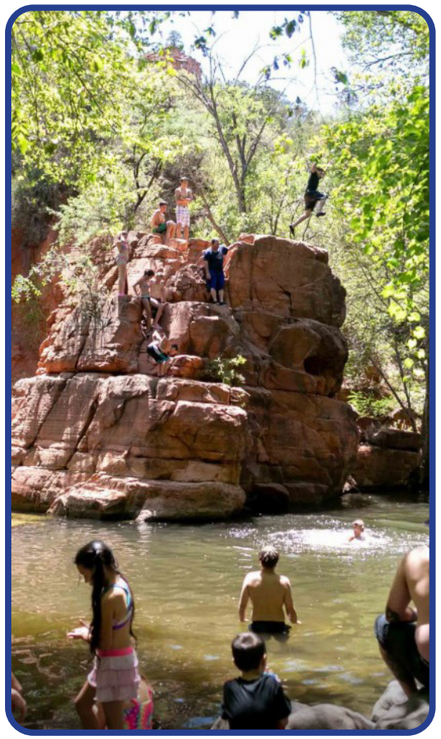
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Camp Verde ARIZONA THE CENTER OF IT ALL

Bull Pen Trailhead (Bull Pen Day Use Area) is located east of Camp Verde within the Coconino National Forest and serves as one of the primary access points to the spectacular West Clear Creek Wilderness. Situated at the mouth of West Clear Creek Canyon, the trailhead provides visitors with access to one of Arizona's most scenic riparian corridors, known for its towering canyon walls, clear perennial waters, lush vegetation, and exceptional recreation opportunities.

From the trailhead, visitors can explore West Clear Creek, a designated Wild and Scenic River renowned for its swimming holes, fishing opportunities, wildlife viewing, and backcountry hiking. The area offers a unique contrast to the surrounding high-desert landscape, featuring dense stands of cottonwood, willow, and sycamore trees along a remarkably healthy creek ecosystem.

- *Location*: East of Camp Verde in the Coconino National Forest
- *Primary Access*: West Clear Creek Wilderness and West Clear Creek corridor
- *Difficulty*: Easy access to the creek; more challenging conditions are encountered farther into the canyon
- *Recreational Opportunities*: Hiking, swimming, fishing, wildlife viewing, picnicking, and nature photography
- *Notable Features*: Perennial stream, dramatic canyon scenery, riparian habitat, and access to a federally designated Wild and Scenic River





Buckaroo Trail is a short, family-friendly trail located within Rockin' River Ranch State Park. Traversing a scenic high-desert landscape adjacent to the Verde River, the trail provides visitors with an easy walking experience and opportunities to enjoy the area's natural beauty, wildlife, and riparian environment.

The trail serves as an important connector within the park's trail network, linking visitors to other routes while offering views of native desert vegetation and the surrounding Verde Valley landscape.

- *Length*: 0.4 miles one-way (0.8 miles round-trip)
- *Difficulty*: Easy
- *Location*: Rockin' River Ranch State Park, Camp Verde
- *Setting*: High-desert scrubland and Verde River corridor
- *Connections*: Provides access to both the Miano Trail and White Cliffs Trail system
- *Suitable For*: Walking, nature observation, wildlife viewing, and family-friendly recreation







Camp Verde Trail #545 is a popular off-highway vehicle (OHV) route managed by the Prescott National Forest that stretches approximately 13 miles through the scenic desert landscapes. The trail traverses rolling mesas, shallow drainages, and expansive high-desert terrain characterized by native vegetation such as creosote bush, mesquite, and other Sonoran Desert species.

Offering a remote backcountry experience, the route provides riders with sweeping views of the Verde Valley, surrounding mountains, and the rugged desert environment that defines the region. Its varied terrain and natural setting make it a popular destination for OHV enthusiasts seeking opportunities for exploration, recreation, and access to public lands.

- *Length*: Approximately 13 miles
- *Trail Type*: Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) trail
- *Setting*: High-desert landscape with rolling mesas and desert vegetation
- *Managed By*: Prescott National Forest
- *Primary Uses*: OHV recreation, sightseeing, and backcountry exploration
- *Highlights*: Scenic desert views, remote character, and connections to the broader regional motorized trail network







Chasm Creek Trailhead serves as a gateway to the remote and rugged Cedar Bench Wilderness within the Prescott National Forest. Providing access to a less-traveled backcountry environment, the trail offers visitors an opportunity to experience the solitude, scenic beauty, and challenging terrain characteristic of Arizona's wilderness landscapes.

The route climbs through high-desert terrain featuring rocky slopes, juniper woodlands, and expansive viewpoints overlooking the Verde Valley and surrounding mountains. Known for its steep grades and rugged conditions, the trail is best suited for experienced hikers seeking a more strenuous and remote outdoor experience.

- *Location*: Cedar Bench Wilderness, Prescott National Forest
- *Difficulty*: Moderate to strenuous
- *Setting*: Remote high-desert and mountain terrain
- *Primary Uses*: Hiking, nature observation, and backcountry recreation
- *Highlights*: Panoramic vistas, wilderness solitude, diverse desert vegetation, and access to federally designated wilderness lands







Cold Water Trail (Trail No. 27) is a remote backcountry trail located within the Prescott National Forest. Traversing the rugged landscapes of the Verde Rim and Dugas-Tule Mesa area, the trail provides a challenging wilderness experience characterized by steep grades, dramatic elevation changes, and expansive views of the surrounding mountains and desert valleys.

The route ascends from the lower elevations of the Verde Valley through diverse vegetation communities and striking geological formations, eventually reaching the higher elevations along Forest Road 68. Its remote setting and demanding terrain make it a popular destination for experienced hikers seeking solitude and a more strenuous outdoor adventure.

- *Length*: Approximately 5.5 miles
- *Elevation Change*: Approximately 2,500 feet of elevation gain
- *Difficulty*: Moderate to strenuous
- *Terrain*: Steep slopes, rocky sections, exposed hillsides, and rugged wilderness landscapes
- *Setting*: Verde Rim and Dugas-Tule Mesa region within the Prescott National Forest
- *Primary Uses*: Hiking, nature observation, and backcountry recreation
- *Highlights*: Panoramic views, diverse desert and upland vegetation, geologic features, and access to remote public lands

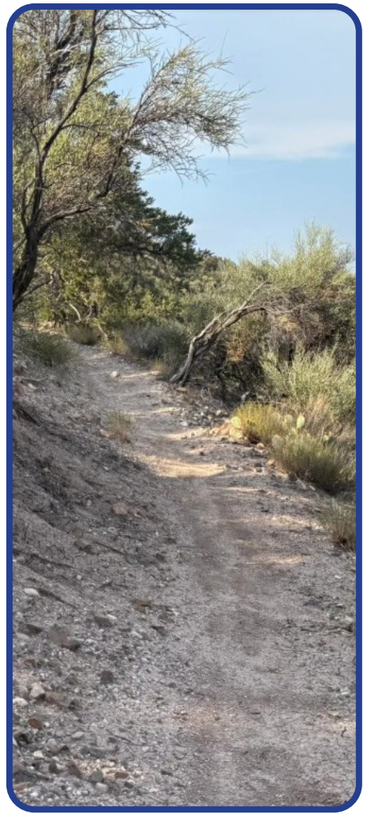
COPPER CANYON LOOP TRAIL 504

Copper Canyon Loop Trail (Trail No. 504) is a scenic loop trail in the Prescott National Forest that offers panoramic views of the surrounding canyons, ridgelines, and desert landscapes. Although portions of the trail parallel Interstate 17 and occasional traffic noise may be present, much of the route provides a peaceful outdoor experience. The trail features a relatively smooth surface and is suitable for hikers seeking a moderate outing with rewarding scenery.

The loop can be traveled in either direction, with many hikers choosing a counterclockwise route that begins with approximately one mile of moderate switchbacks climbing to a ridgeline. This elevated section provides some of the trail's most impressive viewpoints but includes areas near unstable slopes and past landslide zones where caution is advised. Near the midpoint of the trail, hikers cross a dry drainage and have the option of returning directly to the trailhead or taking a short spur to a spring-fed waterfall, which typically flows most of the year. Access to the waterfall requires navigating rocky terrain, minor scrambling, and stream crossings.

- *Length*: 3.9-mile loop
- *Elevation Gain*: Approximately 387–513 feet
- *Difficulty*: Moderate
- *Permitted Uses*: Hiking and trail running
- *Highlights*: Ridgeline vistas, diverse desert vegetation, seasonal waterfall, and convenient access from Interstate 17







Grief Hill Trailhead is a historic recreation site in the Prescott National Forest providing access to a portion of the renowned General Crook Trail. Originally constructed in 1864 as a military wagon route, the trail follows a rugged corridor through the foothills above the Verde Valley and offers visitors a unique opportunity to experience both the area's natural beauty and rich history.

The route climbs steadily along a rocky and well-defined historic roadbed, gaining elevation as it traverses desert grasslands and hillside landscapes before reaching scenic overlooks with panoramic views of the surrounding region. Due to the steep grades, exposed terrain, and limited shade, hikers should be prepared with adequate water and appropriate footwear.

- *Length*: Approximately 2.2 miles round-trip
- *Elevation Gain*: About 643 feet
- *Difficulty*: Moderate
- *Terrain*: Steep, rocky, and uneven historic wagon route
- *Regulations*: Camping and campfires are prohibited within the trailhead and day-use area







Hayfield Draw OHV Area is a popular motorized recreation destination within the Prescott National Forest, located approximately 8 miles northwest of Camp Verde, Arizona. Managed by the Verde Ranger District, the area encompasses roughly 80 acres and provides a well-developed network of trails and designated riding areas designed specifically for off-highway vehicle use.

The area is particularly well-suited for dirt bikes, ATVs, and other vehicles measuring 50 inches or less in width, offering a variety of riding opportunities for users of different skill levels. Its combination of open riding areas, interconnected trails, and convenient access has made Hayfield Draw one of the region's premier destinations for motorized recreation.

- *Location*: Approximately 8 miles northwest of Camp Verde
- *Size*: Approximately 80 acres
- *Managed By*: Prescott National Forest, Verde Ranger District
- *Primary Uses*: Off-highway vehicle recreation, trail riding, and skills development

Mail Trail #84 is a historic backcountry trail managed by the Coconino National Forest that follows a portion of the original route used by horseback mail carriers between Camp Verde and Payson from 1884 to 1914. Located approximately 20 minutes east of Camp Verde, the trail offers hikers a unique opportunity to experience a corridor rich in Arizona history while traversing remote and scenic landscapes.

The route passes through rugged canyon terrain, pinyon-juniper woodlands, and high-desert ecosystems, showcasing the diverse natural environments of the Mogollon Rim region. Known for its challenging conditions and remote setting, the trail is best suited for experienced hikers seeking a strenuous and historically significant backcountry adventure.

- *Length*: Approximately 10 miles point-to-point
- *Difficulty*: Advanced
- *Setting*: Remote canyon, desert, and woodland landscapes
- *Managed By*: Coconino National Forest
- *Primary Use*: Hiking

Miano Trail is a short, scenic trail located within Rockin' River Ranch State Park. The trail provides visitors with an accessible opportunity to experience the park's diverse natural landscapes, including riparian habitats, native desert vegetation, and views of the Verde River corridor.

Designed for casual recreation and nature appreciation, the trail serves as an important connector within the park's trail network, linking visitors to other routes while showcasing the area's unique ecological and scenic resources.

- *Location*: Rockin' River Ranch State Park, Camp Verde, Arizona
- *Difficulty*: Easy
- *Primary Uses*: Hiking, walking, wildlife viewing, and nature observation
- *Setting*: Verde River riparian corridor and high-desert landscape
- *Connections*: Links to other trails within the park, including the Buckaroo and White Cliffs trail systems

Outlaw OHV Trail is a popular motorized recreation route located north of the Camp Verde area within the Coconino National Forest. Known for its rugged terrain and scenic setting, the trail provides off-highway vehicle enthusiasts with an adventurous backcountry experience through the distinctive red rock landscapes of the Verde Valley region.

The route winds through rocky desert terrain, traversing washes, sandstone outcrops, and rolling hills while offering views of the striking red rock formations that define the area. In addition to its scenic value, the trail passes near historic ranching and mining sites, providing opportunities to experience both the natural and cultural history of the region.

- *Length*: Approximately 6 to 7 miles
- *Difficulty*: Moderate to difficult
- *Primary Uses*: Four-wheel drive vehicles, OHVs, and off-road recreation







Oxbow Trail (Oxbow Multi Trail) is a remote backcountry trail located within the Cedar Bench Wilderness area. The trail traverses rugged wilderness terrain and offers hikers and equestrians an opportunity to experience the area's dramatic landscapes, scenic canyon vistas, and quiet natural surroundings.

The route follows a predominantly descending alignment through remote desert and upland environments, navigating steep and technical sections while providing access to some of the wilderness area's most secluded scenery. Despite relatively modest elevation gain along the route, significant elevation loss and rugged terrain create a moderately challenging recreation experience.

- *Length*: Approximately 7.6 miles
- *Difficulty*: Moderate
- *Elevation Gain*: Approximately 654 feet
- *Elevation Loss*: Approximately 3,534 feet
- *Permitted Uses*: Hiking, horseback riding, and leashed dogs
- *Setting*: Cedar Bench Wilderness, featuring remote canyons, desert vegetation, and expansive wilderness views
- *Highlights*: Scenic overlooks, backcountry solitude, diverse terrain, and access to remote public lands

Perimeter Loop Trail is a short, accessible multi-use trail located within the Camp Verde Sports Complex. Designed for walking, jogging, and casual recreation, the trail provides a convenient opportunity for residents and visitors to enjoy outdoor exercise while taking in views of the surrounding sports facilities, open spaces, and nearby mountain landscapes.

The loop offers a comfortable and family-friendly recreational experience suitable for users of all ages and abilities, making it a popular destination for daily fitness activities, community events, and leisurely walks.

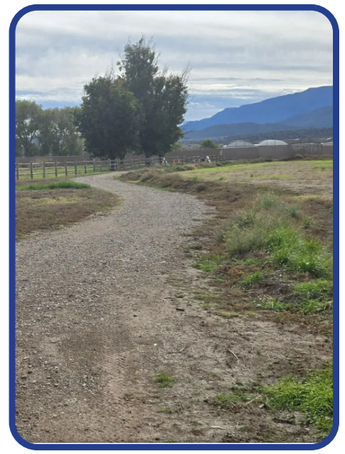
- *Length*: Approximately 1.6 miles
- *Difficulty*: Easy
- *Location*: Camp Verde Sports Complex
- *Primary Uses*: Walking, jogging, running, and fitness activities
- *Accessibility*: Suitable for a wide range of ages and skill levels
- *Highlights*: Convenient in-town location, open views, and connections to recreational amenities within the Sports Complex



Pasture Loop Trail is a scenic multi-use trail located within Rockin' River Ranch State Park. The trail winds through the park's historic ranchlands and natural open spaces, providing visitors with an opportunity to experience the area's diverse landscapes, native vegetation, and proximity to the Verde River corridor.

Designed for a variety of recreational users, the trail offers a pleasant and accessible outdoor experience while connecting visitors to other trails and amenities within the park. Its relatively gentle terrain makes it well-suited for walking, hiking, wildlife observation, and nature appreciation.

- *Location*: Rockin' River Ranch State Park, Camp Verde, Arizona
- *Difficulty*: Easy
- *Primary Uses*: Hiking, walking, wildlife viewing, and nature observation
- *Setting*: Open pasturelands, riparian habitats, and high-desert landscapes



Ryal Canyon Trailhead provides entry to **Ryal Canyon Trail #521,** a challenging backcountry route known for its rugged terrain, scenic desert landscapes, and connections to other regional trails.

The Ryal Canyon Trailhead serves as an important gateway to the Prescott National Forest trail system, providing access to a diverse range of recreational opportunities and some of the most scenic upland landscapes surrounding Camp Verde

From the trailhead, visitors can access miles of public lands featuring rolling hills, rocky canyons, and expansive views of the Verde Valley. The area is popular with hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, and off-highway vehicle enthusiasts, offering opportunities for both recreation and exploration within a remote natural setting.

- *Location*: 2317 South Salt Mine Road, Camp Verde, Arizona
- *Managed By*: Prescott National Forest
- *Primary Access*: Ryal Canyon Trail #521 and interconnected forest trail systems
- *Difficulty*: Moderate to challenging
- *Permitted Uses*: Hiking, mountain biking, equestrian use, and motorized recreation where designated







Shady Acres Trail is a short and accessible trail located within Rockin' River Ranch State Park. Beginning near the historic Ranch House, the trail offers visitors a pleasant opportunity to explore the park's natural surroundings while enjoying views of native vegetation, open space, and the nearby Verde River corridor.

Ideal for visitors of all ages and abilities, the trail provides a relaxed outdoor experience and serves as a convenient connection to other park amenities and trail opportunities.

- *Length*: Approximately 0.2 miles
- *Difficulty*: Easy
- *Location*: Rockin' River Ranch State Park, near the Ranch House
- *Primary Uses*: Walking, hiking, wildlife viewing, and nature observation

Rezzonico Park Multi-Use Path Loop is a relatively flat and accessible looped trail within Rezzonico Park. The park also serves as a public river access point for small watercraft and is recognized as an international STAR park because of its dark sky initiative compliance.

- *Length*: Approximately 0.3 miles
- *Difficulty*: Easy
- *Permitted Uses*: Walking, hiking, wildlife viewing, and nature observation

Towel Creek Trail (#67) is a remote backcountry trail located in the Coconino National Forest. The trail offers a unique opportunity to access a secluded section of the Verde River while traversing dramatic desert canyon landscapes, volcanic formations, and areas rich in cultural and natural history. Along the route, visitors are treated to expansive views of the surrounding mesa and canyons, as well as access to a well-preserved Sinagua cliff dwelling near the lower portions of the trail.

The trail descends from the high-desert uplands into the Verde River canyon, passing through diverse vegetation communities and rugged terrain that provides a true wilderness experience. Due to its length, elevation changes, and exposed conditions, the trail is best suited for experienced hikers prepared for a challenging outing.

- *Length*: Approximately 8 miles one-way (16 miles round-trip)
- *Difficulty*: Moderate to strenuous
- *Elevation Gain/Loss*: Approximately 715 feet of gain and 2,021 feet of descent
- *Setting*: High-desert mesas, rugged canyons, and the Verde River corridor
- *Primary Use*: Hiking

Verde Rim Loop Trail is a remote and rugged backcountry route located within the Pine Mountain Wilderness. Traversing diverse high-desert and upland landscapes, the trail offers an immersive wilderness experience characterized by expansive views, dramatic terrain, and a strong sense of solitude. The route follows portions of the Verde Rim, providing hikers and equestrians with opportunities to explore some of the region's most scenic and undeveloped public lands.

The trail travels through a mix of pinyon-juniper woodlands, desert grasslands, and rocky ridgelines, showcasing the ecological diversity and natural beauty of the wilderness area. Its remote setting, varied terrain, and limited amenities make it best suited for experienced outdoor enthusiasts seeking a challenging backcountry adventure.

- *Location*: Pine Mountain Wilderness area
- *Difficulty*: Moderate to strenuous
- *Primary Uses*: Hiking and equestrian recreation

Verde Vista Loop Trail is a scenic multi-use trail offering a moderately challenging outdoor experience for hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrians. The trail climbs through the White Hills, providing access to elevated viewpoints that showcase sweeping vistas of the Verde River Valley, surrounding desert landscapes, and distant mountain ranges.

The loop traverses rolling terrain and native upland desert vegetation, making it a popular destination for users seeking both recreation and scenic overlooks. Its steady climb is rewarded with expansive panoramic views that highlight the unique natural setting of the Camp Verde area.

- *Length*: Approximately 5.4-mile loop
- *Elevation Gain*: Approximately 629 feet
- *Difficulty*: Moderate
- *Permitted Uses*: Hiking, mountain biking, and horseback riding







White Cliffs Trail is a scenic multi-use trail located within Rockin' River Ranch State Park. The trail showcases the park's diverse natural landscapes, winding through high-desert terrain, beneath striking limestone bluffs, and along the lush Verde River corridor. Visitors experience a transition from open desert vegetation to a vibrant riparian environment that supports a rich variety of wildlife and bird species.

The trail offers an easy and enjoyable outdoor experience for visitors of all ages and provides opportunities to explore one of Camp Verde's most unique riverfront settings.

- *Length*: Approximately 1.7-mile loop
- *Difficulty*: Easy
- *Setting*: Limestone cliffs, high-desert uplands, and the Verde River riparian corridor
- *Permitted Uses*: Hiking, horseback riding, wildlife viewing, fishing, and bird watching





Walker Basin Trail #81 is a scenic backcountry trail located within the Coconino National Forest near Rimrock. Historically used as a livestock route, the trail traverses rugged terrain between the Wet Beaver Creek and West Clear Creek Wilderness areas, providing hikers with access to diverse landscapes, dramatic geological features, and expansive views of the Verde Valley region.

The trail climbs from the lower desert foothills to higher-elevation basalt plateaus, passing limestone outcrops, open grasslands, and pinyon-juniper woodlands along the way. Elevated viewpoints offer sweeping vistas of Red Rock Country, the Verde Valley, and the distant San Francisco Peaks. Due to its length, rocky sections, and occasional route-finding challenges, the trail is best suited for experienced hikers seeking a remote and rewarding wilderness experience.

- *Length*: Approximately 7.4 to 8 miles
- *Difficulty*: Moderate
- *Elevation Range*: Approximately 3,850 feet to 5,970 feet
- *Terrain*: Rocky trail surfaces, limestone ledges, desert uplands, and basalt mesas



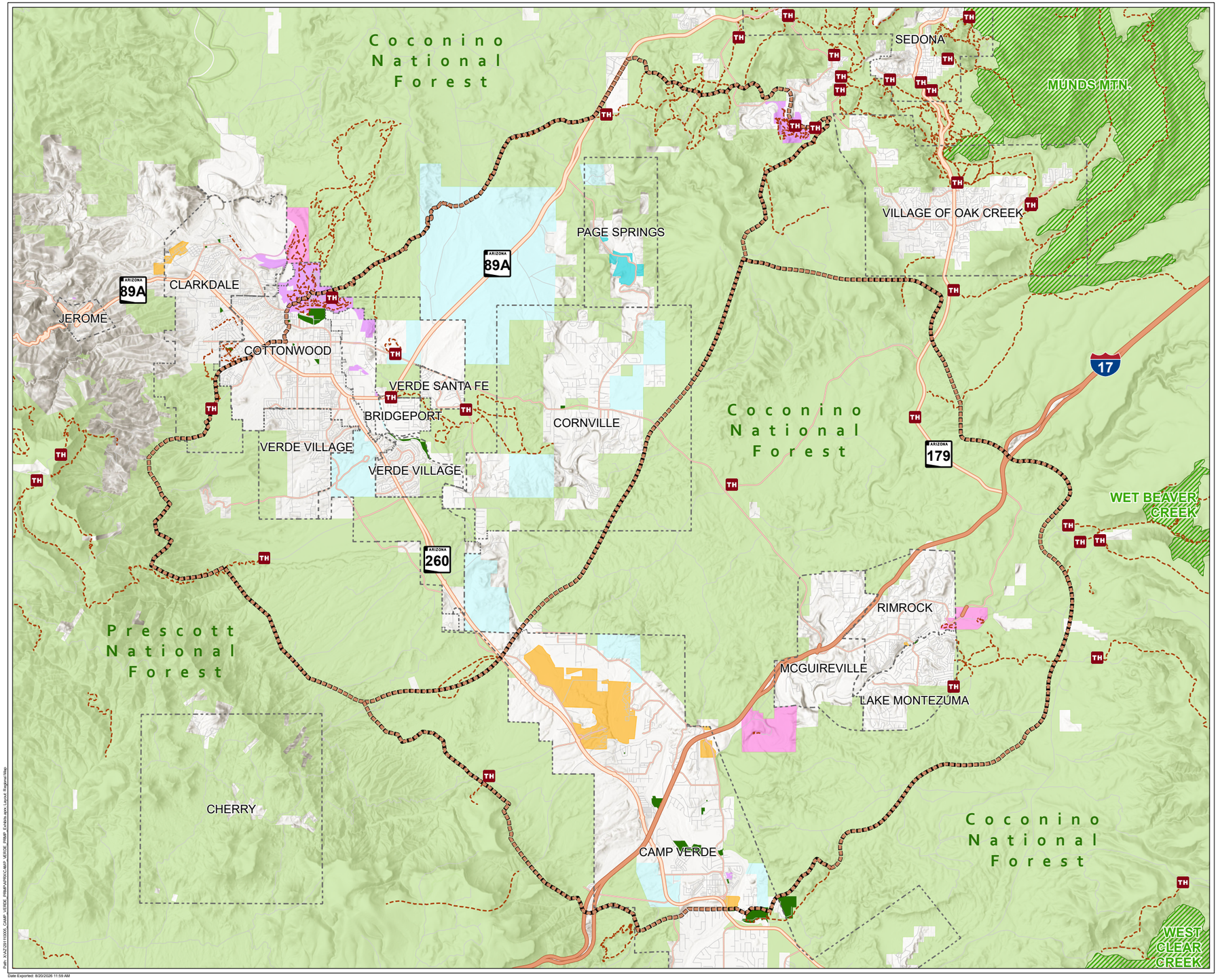

PROPOSED TRAILS AND CONNECTIONS

THE VERDE VALLEY CIRCLE TRAIL VISION

One of the most transformative opportunities for regional connectivity is the Verde Valley Circle Trail concept. The Circle Trail would function as a continuous non-motorized corridor connecting the major communities of the Verde Valley—including Camp Verde, Cottonwood, Clarkdale, Sedona, Cornville, Rimrock, and Lake Montezuma—while linking visitors to the Verde River, Oak Creek, Wet Beaver Creek, historic sites, wildlife areas, parks, and public lands managed by the Prescott and Coconino National Forests. These participating communities have expressed support for collaborating on trail corridors that create continuous recreational routes throughout the Verde Valley. By linking these assets into a larger regional system, Camp Verde can become both a destination and a trail gateway for visitors exploring the entire Verde Valley.

The concept aligns closely with the Verde Front's "String of Pearls" framework for the Verde River, where individual recreation destinations ("pearls") are physically connected through trails, waterways, and coordinated planning efforts.





Town of Camp Verde
Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Regional Trails Map

- Existing Trailhead
- Verde Valley Circle Trail
- Existing Trails
- Parks
- Wilderness Area
- Tribal Trust Lands

Public Lands

- Arizona Game and Fish
- Arizona State Parks
- National Monument
- State Trust Land
- National Forest

N
W E
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0 1 2 4 Miles

0 1 2 4 Kilometers

Scale: 1:67,200
Map Projection: NAD83 AZ State Plane Central (Intl Feet)

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Path: K:\AZ\291100\05_CAMP_VERDE_PRMP\MXD\CAMP_VERDE_PRMP_Exhibits.aprx Layout: Regional Map

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Western Segment: Clarkdale and Cottonwood

The western portion of the Circle Trail would likely begin around the Sycamore Canyon and Clarkdale area, where the Verde River emerges from a more remote and primitive setting. Key destinations include:

- Sycamore Canyon Wilderness
- Lower TAPCO River Access Point
- Big Spring Natural Area
- Verde River at Clarkdale
- Tuzigoot National Monument
- Tuzigoot Important Bird Area
- Tavasci Marsh
- Dead Horse Ranch State Park
- Cottonwood Riverfront Park

This section combines river recreation, birding, historic interpretation, and family-oriented recreation facilities while providing access to the Verde River corridor.

Northern Segment: Sedona and Oak Creek

Moving north, the corridor would connect to the Oak Creek watershed and Sedona-area destinations, including:

- Lime Kiln Trail
- Red Rock State Park
- Crescent Moon Ranch
- Sedona Wetlands Preserve
- Page Springs Fish Hatchery
- Windmill Park

The plans identify Oak Creek as one of the most heavily visited recreation destinations in Arizona and emphasize the need to connect it to broader regional recreation opportunities that help disperse visitor use across the Verde Valley.

Eastern Segment: Beaver Creek and Rimrock

From Sedona and Cornville, the Circle Trail concept would likely extend into the Beaver Creek and Rimrock area through a network of existing and proposed trails connecting:

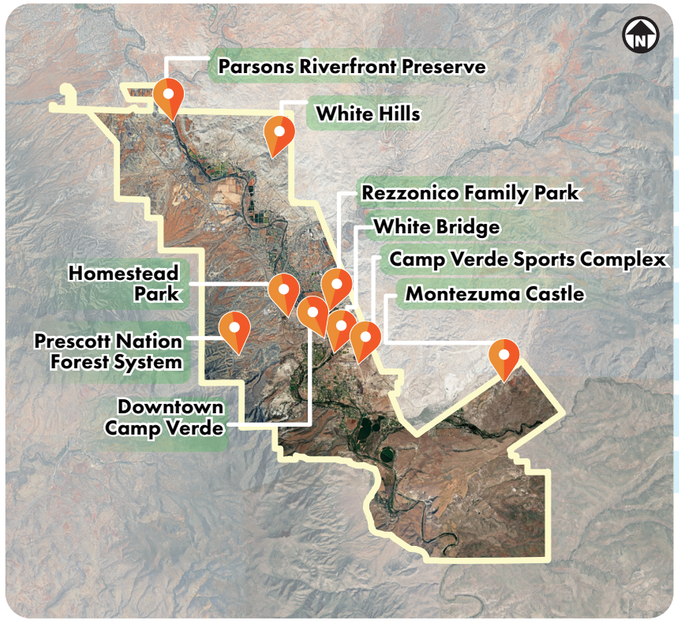
- Montezuma Castle National Monument
- Montezuma Well
- Beaver Creek Day Use Area
- Wikiup Mesa Trails
- Sycamore Community Park
- Wet Beaver Creek corridor

These assets provide a mix of cultural heritage, wildlife viewing, hiking, and environmental education opportunities.

Camp Verde Segment

The Camp Verde portion may be the most strategically important segment because it links the river corridor to both forest trail systems.

A logical Camp Verde alignment emerging from the plans would connect:



Major Camp Verde destinations include:

- Fort Verde State Historic Park
- Camp Verde Sports Complex
- Parsons Riverfront Preserve
- Homestead Park
- Rezzonico Family Park
- White Bridge RAP
- Salt Mine Interpretive Site
- Rockin' River Ranch State Park

The Urban Upland Trail Plan specifically identifies these as anchor sites intended to be connected through the future trail network.

Completed or Existing Verde Valley Circle Trail Segments in Camp Verde

Within Camp Verde, the Verde Valley Circle Trail is being built largely around existing trail assets, including the Copper Canyon and Ryal Canyon trail systems, the Black Canyon Trail connection, the Grief Hill Trail System, and local Verde River corridor trails. While several key segments already exist and are actively used, future trail construction—particularly the Rimrock-to-Camp Verde connection and additional regional linkages—will be needed to complete the full Verde Valley Circle Trail loop and establish seamless regional connectivity throughout the Verde Valley





1. Copper Canyon/Ryal Canyon Trail System

The extensive Prescott National Forest trail network west of Camp Verde is one of the primary complete segments incorporated into the Verde Valley Circle Trail concept.

These trails provide miles of existing multi-use connectivity for hiking, mountain biking, equestrian use, and OHV recreation and form an important southern section of the future regional loop.

2. Black Canyon Trail Connection

The northern terminus of the Black Canyon National Recreation Trail is located near Camp Verde and serves as a key regional connection within the Verde Valley Circle Trail vision.

Existing Black Canyon Trail segments provide a completed long-distance trail connection between Camp Verde and central Arizona.

3. Grief Hill Trail System

The Grief Hill Trail System north of Camp Verde has been planned and constructed as a major non-motorized trail hub and is specifically identified as part of the Verde Valley Circle Trail network.

The system connects with existing Camp Verde trails and is intended to serve as one of the principal Verde Valley Circle Trail nodes in the community

Southern and Western Uplands

From Camp Verde, the Circle Trail concept would likely utilize Prescott National Forest connections including:

- Black Canyon National Recreation Trail
- Grief Hill Trailhead
- Ryal Canyon Trailhead / Box T Trail (OHV)
- Copper Canyon
- Verde Trails and Access Plan routes

These trails would provide connections toward Mingus Mountain, the Black Canyon corridor, and eventually westward toward Clarkdale and Cottonwood.

Economic Development and Tourism Benefits

The Circle Trail concept is more than a recreation project. Collectively, the plans envision it as:

- A regional transportation and recreation corridor.
- A way to connect the Verde River's conservation areas with recreation destinations.
- A tourism asset supporting local businesses throughout the Verde Valley.
- A mechanism for dispersing recreation away from overcrowded locations.
- A tool for promoting stewardship and environmental awareness.

The trail would connect wildlife habitats, river access points, historic sites, parks, communities, and public lands into a single regional experience while supporting the broader Verde River Connections vision.

VERDE RIVER WATERWAY SYSTEM

BALANCING RECREATION AND CONSERVATION ALONG THE VERDE RIVER

The Verde River is one of Camp Verde's greatest natural assets, providing exceptional opportunities for outdoor recreation while supporting one of Arizona's most important riparian ecosystems. As a perennial river, the Verde sustains diverse wildlife habitat, native vegetation communities, groundwater resources, and important cultural and historical sites. At the same time, growing interest in kayaking, fishing, hiking, birdwatching, swimming, and riverfront trail use continues to increase demand for public access. Successfully managing the Verde River requires a balanced approach that expands recreational opportunities while protecting the ecological functions and natural character that make the river a special place.

A sustainable recreation and conservation strategy should focus on directing public use to appropriate locations while preserving sensitive habitats. Well-designed river access points, designated trails, and managed recreation areas can help concentrate visitor activity in durable locations, reducing impacts to riverbanks, wildlife habitat, and native vegetation. By guiding users to designated entry points, Camp Verde can improve the recreation experience while minimizing erosion, habitat fragmentation, and resource damage.

Key strategies for balancing recreation and conservation along the Verde River include:

- *Protect Sensitive Habitats*: Identify and preserve important wildlife corridors, nesting areas, wetlands, and native riparian vegetation through conservation easements, setbacks, and habitat restoration projects.
- *Concentrate River Access*: Develop and maintain a limited number of well-designed river access points with parking, signage, and erosion-control measures to reduce the creation of informal access routes.
- *Expand Sustainable Trail Connections*: Connect parks, neighborhoods, and destinations through designated trails that minimize impacts to sensitive riverbank habitats while improving public access.
- *Implement Riverfront Design Standards*: Utilize boardwalks, viewing platforms, designated overlooks, and hardened access points where appropriate to protect riverbanks and vegetation.
- *Enhance Visitor Education*: Install interpretive signage highlighting wildlife, water quality, riparian ecology, cultural history, and responsible recreation practices.
- *Promote Stewardship Programs*: Partner with community groups, schools, conservation organizations, and volunteers to support river cleanups, habitat restoration, and educational programs.
- *Monitor Recreational Impacts*: Track trail conditions, visitor use, erosion, invasive species, and habitat health to guide adaptive management decisions.
- *Protect Water Quality*: Maintain vegetated buffers, reduce runoff impacts, and support watershed conservation efforts that preserve the health of the Verde River.
- *Coordinate with Regional Partners*: Continue collaboration with organizations such as the Verde Front Collaborative, Friends of the Verde River, Arizona State Parks, and federal land management agencies to implement consistent river stewardship practices throughout the watershed.

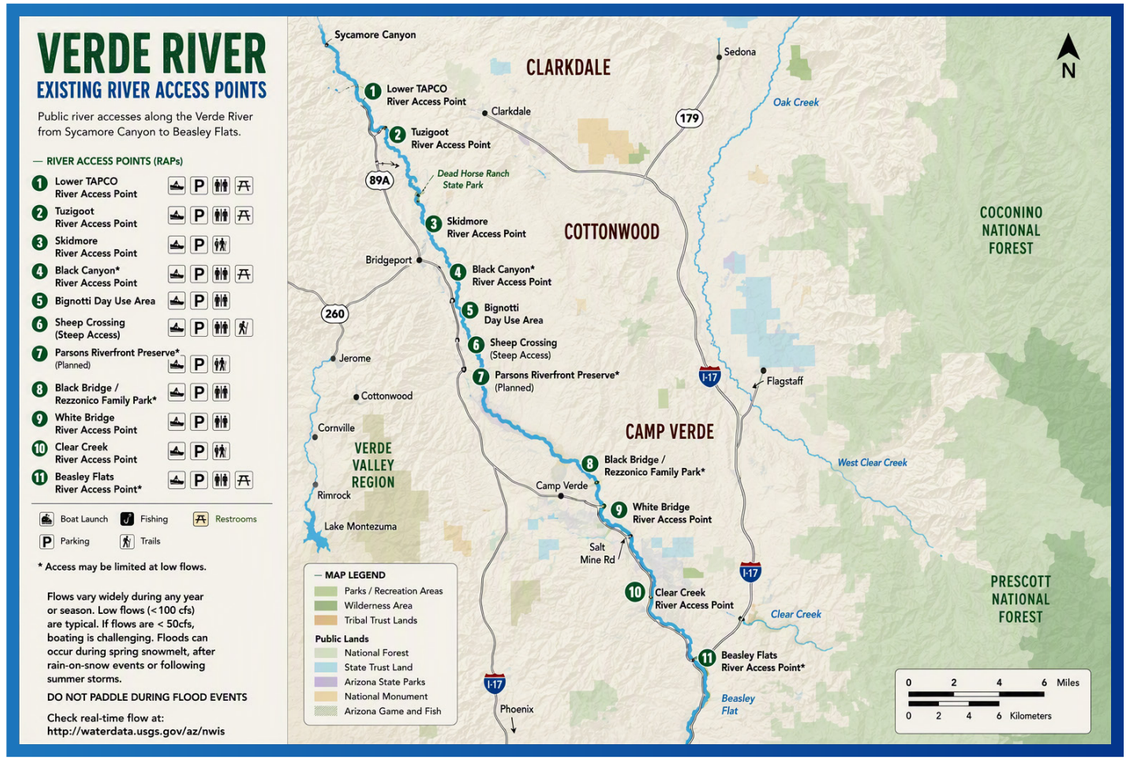
By integrating recreation planning with conservation objectives, Camp Verde can ensure that future generations continue to enjoy access to the Verde River while preserving the ecological integrity, scenic beauty, and cultural significance of one of Arizona's most treasured waterways. This balanced approach supports community quality of life, sustainable tourism, environmental stewardship, and the long-term health of the Verde River corridor.

Camp Verde Conservation Strategy along the Verde River Recreation Corridor

The conservation strategy for the Verde River corridor is centered on protecting the area's most sensitive natural resources while providing sustainable recreational opportunities for residents and visitors. Recreational activities are directed toward established river access points, parks, and trail networks to minimize impacts on sensitive ecological areas. The strategy also promotes wildlife viewing, environmental education, and nature-based experiences that foster appreciation for the river's unique ecosystems while maintaining their ecological integrity. Through the String of Pearls framework, conservation lands, parks, river access points, and trails are interconnected into a coordinated regional system that balances resource protection with public access and recreation.

One of the strongest examples of this conservation strategy occurs along the Camp Verde corridor, where a series of properties create a transition from habitat protection to public recreation:

1. **Camp Verde Riparian Preserve (SRP)** – protected habitat area that are not open to the public.
2. **Parsons Riverfront Preserve** – planned low-impact riverfront park emphasizing trails, birdwatching, boating access, and environmental education.
3. **Homestead Park** – planned wildlife viewing, fishing, hiking, and interpretive destination.
4. **Rezzonico Family Park (Black Bridge)** – community-oriented recreation area with river access and educational features.
5. **White Bridge River Access Point** – major boating launch for the White Bridge-to-Beasley Flats River corridor.



VERDE RIVER – EXISTING ACCESS POINTS

The Verde River is one of Camp Verde's most significant natural and recreational assets, serving as the community's defining environmental feature and a cornerstone of the region's outdoor recreation network. As one of Arizona's few perennial rivers, the Verde supports a rich riparian ecosystem, provides important wildlife habitat, and offers residents and visitors opportunities for kayaking, canoeing, fishing, wildlife viewing, hiking, nature photography, and environmental education. Flowing through the heart of Camp Verde, the river connects parks, open spaces, historic sites, and public lands while contributing to the community's rural character, quality of life, and tourism economy.

Camp Verde benefits from several established river access locations that provide opportunities to experience and enjoy the Verde River corridor. These access points serve as gateways for both water-based and land-based recreation while helping connect residents and visitors to the river's ecological and cultural resources.

White Bridge River Access Point

Located near downtown Camp Verde, the White Bridge River Access Point is one of the community's primary public access locations to the Verde River. The site provides opportunities for kayaking, canoeing, fishing, wildlife viewing, and river exploration while serving as a key connection point within the Town's emerging trail and open space network.

Parsons Riverfront Preserve

The Parsons Riverfront Preserve protects a significant section of the Verde River corridor and provides access to walking trails, wildlife observation areas, and riparian habitats. The preserve serves as both a conservation area and a recreational destination, allowing visitors to experience the river's natural beauty while supporting habitat protection and environmental stewardship.

Rockin' River Ranch State Park

Rockin' River Ranch State Park contains extensive frontage along the Verde River and provides direct recreational access to the river corridor. The park's trail system, open spaces, and riparian environment offer opportunities for hiking, birdwatching, fishing, nature study, and passive recreation while helping preserve one of the most ecologically important sections of the Verde River in Camp Verde.

Fort Verde Area and Downtown River Corridor

Several informal and community access locations along the Verde River near downtown provide opportunities for shoreline recreation, fishing, wildlife viewing, and educational activities. These areas strengthen the connection between the community's historic core and the river environment.

Importance of River Access

The Verde River and its access points play a critical role in supporting Camp Verde's recreation system by providing opportunities that cannot be replicated elsewhere in the community. River access supports healthy outdoor lifestyles, expands tourism and economic development opportunities, enhances environmental education, and strengthens appreciation for one of Arizona's most important waterways. As future trail, open space, and riverfront improvements are implemented, these existing access points will continue to serve as key destinations within a growing network of parks, trails, and recreation opportunities throughout Camp Verde and the Verde Valley.



VERDE RIVER PROPOSED ACCESS POINTS

STRING OF PEARLS

The proposed "String of Pearls" access point concept was originally developed from the Verde Front in the Verde River Connections Strategic Action Plan. The plan envisions a connected series of river access sites, parks, trailheads, preserves, and recreation nodes distributed along the river from the upper Verde Valley to Beasley Flat. Rather than concentrating recreation in a few locations, the strategy creates a network of access points—like pearls on a string—that provides opportunities for river entry, wildlife viewing, fishing, paddling, hiking, environmental education, and passive recreation while dispersing visitor use and protecting sensitive riparian resources. The concept emphasizes connectivity between communities, public lands, trails, and recreation destinations, creating a continuous river corridor experience that supports both residents and visitors.

Key elements of the String of Pearls approach include the development and enhancement of river access points, trail connections, signage and wayfinding, habitat conservation measures, and partnerships among local governments, state and federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private landowners. Existing and proposed access locations throughout the Verde Valley and Camp Verde area serve as gateways to the river, allowing users to experience different segments of the corridor while reducing impacts at any single site. The strategy also supports regional connectivity by linking communities such as Clarkdale, Cottonwood, Camp Verde, and adjacent public lands through a coordinated recreation network.

For Camp Verde, the String of Pearls framework provides a valuable model for balancing recreation and conservation along the Verde River. By improving access at strategic locations, enhancing trails and riverfront amenities, and protecting sensitive habitat areas, the corridor can serve as both a recreational asset and a conservation landscape. The result is a regionally connected Verde River experience that promotes outdoor recreation, environmental stewardship, heritage tourism, economic development, and long-term protection of one of Arizona's most important riparian ecosystems.

Camp Verde's Role in the String of Pearls

Camp Verde is one of the most important hubs within the String of Pearls network because it contains multiple recreation assets along some of the Verde River's most popular stretches. The community serves as a gateway to river recreation, wildlife viewing, education, cultural experiences, and outdoor tourism.

Key Camp Verde pearls identified in the plan include:

- **Parsons Riverfront Preserve** – Planned as a riverfront destination featuring trails, boating access, interpretive signage, birdwatching opportunities, and passive recreation.
- **Homestead Park** – A planned riverside park focused on fishing, wildlife viewing, hiking, and environmental education.
- **Rezzonico Family Park (Black Bridge)** – A developing community park with river access, picnic facilities, educational programming, and family recreation opportunities.
- **White Bridge River Access Point** – The primary put-in location for one of the Verde River's most popular boating segments extending to Beasley Flats.
- **Salt Mine Interpretive Site and Trail** – A planned heritage and educational attraction highlighting the area's prehistoric and historic significance.
- **Camp Verde Sports Complex** – A major future recreation destination designed to support sports tourism, community events, trails, and outdoor recreation.
- **Fort Verde State Historic Park** – An important cultural and heritage destination that connects outdoor recreation with local history.

VISION FOR CAMP VERDE

Camp Verde is a community where residents and visitors can easily access the river through a coordinated system of parks, trails, river access points, and educational destinations. Recreation development is intended to be balanced with habitat protection, cultural resource preservation, and stewardship. New amenities are planned in ways that support wildlife viewing, river access, family recreation, and tourism while maintaining the health of the Verde River corridor.

Why the String of Pearls Matters to Camp Verde

For Camp Verde, the String of Pearls framework provides a blueprint for:

- Expanding public access to the Verde River.
- Connecting parks, trails, and recreation sites into a unified system.
- Increasing tourism and outdoor recreation-based economic development.
- Enhancing quality of life for residents.
- Promoting stewardship and environmental education.
- Protecting sensitive wildlife habitat and cultural resources.
- Building regional connections with Clarkdale, Cottonwood, Sedona, and other Verde Valley communities.

A CONNECTED OPEN SPACE

CAMP VERDE IDENTITY

Open space is a foundational element of Camp Verde's identity, helping to preserve the natural landscapes, rural character, and environmental resources that make the community unique within Arizona. Residents consistently identify the Verde River, surrounding natural areas, agricultural lands, and scenic views as some of the community's most valued assets. Camp Verde also benefits from its proximity to vast open spaces, including access to the surrounding Coconino and Prescott National Forests, further enhancing its connection to nature and outdoor recreation. Community and stakeholder input emphasized the importance of protecting these invaluable resources while thoughtfully planning for future growth within and around Camp Verde.

BENEFITS OF OPEN SPACE

Open space is one of Camp Verde's greatest community assets, shaping the Town's character and providing a foundation for recreation, conservation, and economic vitality. From the Verde River and its riparian corridor to surrounding public lands and scenic landscapes, open spaces offer residents and visitors opportunities to connect with nature, stay active, and experience the unique beauty of the Verde Valley. These lands not only support outdoor recreation and tourism but also protect important natural resources, wildlife habitat, and the rural qualities that make Camp Verde a desirable place to live. As Camp Verde continues to grow, protecting and enhancing open spaces will be essential for maintaining community identity, improving public health and wellness, expanding recreational opportunities, and creating an interconnected network of parks, trails, and natural areas that benefit residents and visitors alike. The following are the benefits of open space within Town's park and recreation system.

Conservation

The ecological value of open space in Camp Verde is particularly significant because of its location along the Verde River, one of Arizona's few remaining free-flowing perennial rivers. The river corridor supports extensive riparian habitat, native vegetation, and a diversity of wildlife, including numerous sensitive and migratory bird species. These natural areas provide critical habitat connectivity and contribute to regional conservation efforts throughout the Verde Valley.

Quality of Life

Open space also plays an important role in enhancing community health and quality of life. Access to trails, rivers, parks, and natural areas provides opportunities for walking, hiking, biking, wildlife viewing, paddling, and other outdoor activities that promote physical and mental well-being. These resources allow residents and visitors to connect with nature while supporting active lifestyles and year-round recreation.

Character

From a community character perspective, open space helps maintain the rural and agricultural setting that distinguishes Camp Verde from more urbanized communities in Arizona. Preserving river corridors, farmland, and scenic landscapes protects the visual character of the community and reinforces its cultural and historical connection to the land, water, and natural environment.

Economy

Open space is also an important economic asset. The Verde River, regional trail systems, wildlife-viewing opportunities, and surrounding public lands attract visitors seeking outdoor recreation and nature-based tourism. These amenities support local businesses, strengthen Camp Verde's tourism economy, and enhance the community's appeal as a destination and place to live.

Connectivity:

Looking ahead, a connected network of protected open spaces, conservation areas, parks, and trails will be critical to balancing growth with stewardship. Strategic conservation and public access investments can help protect natural resources, improve recreation opportunities, support regional trail connectivity, and ensure that future generations continue to enjoy the environmental, recreational, and cultural benefits that define Camp Verde.

OPEN SPACE RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Open space is essential to Camp Verde's long-term sustainability, quality of life, and community character. By preserving the Verde River corridor, natural habitats, agricultural landscapes, and scenic vistas, the Town can protect its environmental resources while expanding opportunities for recreation, tourism, and community connectivity. A strong open space network will help maintain Camp Verde's unique identity as a river-oriented community and outdoor recreation destination while ensuring responsible stewardship of its natural and cultural resources for future generations.

Camp Verde is bordered by the Prescott and Coconino National Forests and situated within nine designated wilderness areas that help define the region's natural character and outdoor character. These protected lands include Sycamore Canyon, Munds Mountain, Red Rock–Secret Mountain, Fossil Springs, West Clear Creek, Cedar Bench, Pine Mountain, Woodchute, and Apache Creek Wilderness Areas, each offering opportunities for residents and visitor for hiking, wildlife viewing, backcountry exploration, and nature-based recreation.

COCONINO NATIONAL FOREST

The proximity of Coconino National Forest is one of Camp Verde's greatest recreational and environmental assets. With nearly 1.9 million acres of protected public land, diverse plant communities ranging from riparian forests to ponderosa pine woodlands, and hundreds of miles of trails and recreation opportunities, the forest provides unparalleled access to outdoor adventure, conservation lands, and natural beauty. Its close relationship with the Verde River corridor and surrounding public lands reinforces Camp Verde's position as a gateway to recreation, stewardship, and nature-based tourism in central Arizona.

Coconino National Forest stretches across northern and central Arizona, surrounding Flagstaff and Sedona and extending south toward the Verde Valley and Camp Verde. Elevations range from approximately 2,600 feet near the Verde River to 12,633 feet at Humphreys Peak, Arizona's highest point, resulting in an extraordinary diversity of landscapes, ecosystems, and recreational opportunities.

The forest contains a wide variety of vegetation communities, including Sonoran Desert shrublands, riparian corridors, pinyon-juniper woodlands, oak woodlands, mixed conifer forests, extensive ponderosa pine forests, aspen groves, and alpine tundra ecosystems. The lower elevations surrounding Camp Verde are characterized by desert vegetation, mesquite, cottonwood, willow, sycamore, and juniper, while higher elevations transition to ponderosa pine, Douglas fir, Gambel oak, and aspen. This remarkable ecological diversity supports abundant wildlife, including elk, mule deer, black bear, mountain lion, bald eagle, wild turkey, and numerous migratory bird species.

Coconino National Forest provides a wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. The forest includes portions of the spectacular Mogollon Rim, the iconic red rock landscapes of Sedona, numerous perennial streams and creeks, archaeological sites, wilderness areas, scenic byways, and important watershed lands that contribute to regional water supplies. The forest contains all or portions of ten designated wilderness areas, protecting some of Arizona's most pristine natural landscapes while preserving critical wildlife habitat and ecological functions.

Recreation opportunities within the forest are extensive and include hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, camping, fishing, paddling, wildlife viewing, rock climbing, off-highway vehicle use, hunting, skiing, and nature photography. The forest maintains approximately 693 miles of trails, more than 3,300 miles of forest roads, 24 developed campgrounds, numerous picnic areas, boating sites, fishing locations, cabins, and trailheads. Popular destinations include Oak Creek Canyon, Wet Beaver Creek, Fossil Creek, West Clear Creek, the Mogollon Rim, and the Red Rock District surrounding Sedona.

For Camp Verde, the Coconino National Forest represents both a recreational asset and a defining component of the community's regional identity. The forest occurs immediately east and north of Town, with several access points located within minutes of the community. Destinations such as Clear Creek, West Clear Creek Wilderness, Fossil Creek, Beaver Creek, and numerous trail systems provide residents with direct access to public lands and outdoor recreation opportunities. The forest serves as an extension of Camp Verde's parks, trails, and open space network, offering opportunities that cannot be replicated within municipal park systems alone.

From an economic development perspective, the Coconino National Forest is a major tourism driver for Camp Verde. Visitors traveling to experience the forest's hiking trails, rivers, campgrounds, scenic landscapes, and wilderness areas frequently utilize local lodging, restaurants, retail businesses, and recreation services. The forest also supports the region's conservation goals by protecting watersheds, wildlife habitat, scenic viewsheds, and the natural resources that contribute to Camp Verde's high quality of life.

PRESCOTT NATIONAL FOREST

Prescott National Forest is one of Camp Verde's most important regional open space and recreation resources. Encompassing approximately 1.25 million acres, the forest provides diverse ecosystems ranging from desert landscapes and pinyon-juniper woodlands to ponderosa pine forests on Mingus Mountain. With extensive trail networks, river access points, campgrounds, wilderness areas, and scenic viewpoints, the forest supports year-round outdoor recreation while protecting the headwaters and watershed resources of the Verde River. Its immediate proximity to Camp Verde strengthens the community's identity as a gateway to public lands, outdoor adventure, conservation, and nature-based tourism in central Arizona.

Prescott National Forest contains a diverse range of plant communities that transition across elevation zones. Lower elevations are characterized by Sonoran Desert vegetation, including mesquite, cactus, and desert shrubs. Mid-elevation landscapes are dominated by chaparral communities, oak woodlands, and extensive pinyon-juniper forests, while higher elevations around Mingus Mountain and the Black Hills support ponderosa pine forests and mixed conifer habitats. These diverse ecosystems provide habitat for a wide variety of wildlife including mule deer, elk, javelina, black bear, mountain lion, wild turkey, raptors, and numerous migratory bird species.

The forest contains significant natural, cultural, and water resources. The headwaters of the Verde River originate within Prescott National Forest, making the forest an important contributor to the health of the Verde River watershed and regional water supplies. Historic mining districts, archaeological sites, cultural landscapes, and historic travel routes throughout the forest provide opportunities to experience the area's rich Native American, military, ranching, and mining history. The forest also protects important wildlife corridors, scenic vistas, and watershed resources that support ecological resiliency throughout central Arizona.

Prescott National Forest offers a diverse array of recreational amenities, including campgrounds, hiking trails, mountain biking routes, equestrian facilities, fishing opportunities, off-highway vehicle areas, scenic drives, boating access, and wilderness experiences. Within the Verde Ranger District, popular destinations include the Verde River Greenway, White Bridge Recreation Area, Beasley Flat, Mingus Mountain, Hayfield Draw OHV Area, and numerous trail systems overlooking the Verde Valley. Visitors can enjoy canoeing and kayaking along the Verde River, camping in ponderosa pine forests, wildlife viewing, fishing, and exploring the region's extensive public lands network.

For Camp Verde, Prescott National Forest is both a recreational asset and an economic driver. Large portions of the Verde Ranger District are located immediately adjacent to the community, allowing residents and visitors to access trails, campgrounds, river recreation areas, and public lands within minutes of downtown. The forest complements Camp Verde's parks, trails, and open space system by providing access to recreational experiences that extend far beyond municipal boundaries. The close relationship between Camp Verde and the Prescott National Forest enhances outdoor recreation, environmental stewardship, and tourism opportunities throughout the Verde Valley.

WILDERNESS AREAS SURROUNDING CAMP VERDE

The Verde Valley includes nine wilderness areas form an unparalleled network of protected landscapes which showcase the region's diverse landscapes, from red rock canyons and perennial streams to pine-covered mountains and remote desert mesas. They preserve vital wildlife habitat, watershed resources, and scenic open space while providing residents and visitors access to hiking, camping, wildlife viewing, paddling, canyoneering, and backcountry recreation. Their proximity to Camp Verde reinforces the community's role as a gateway to outdoor adventure and conservation, supporting tourism, quality of life, and the preservation of the natural resources that define the Verde Valley.

Cedar Bench Wilderness:

Stretching from the Verde River westward to the summit of the Verde Rim, the Cedar Bench Wilderness protects the dramatic transition between the Verde River and Agua Fria River watersheds. Known for its remote character and minimal visitation, this wilderness offers a true backcountry experience. A network of trails traverses the area, rewarding adventurous hikers with sweeping views of the lower Verde River Valley, rugged mesas, and expansive open landscapes. Most routes are considered challenging, making Cedar Bench a destination for experienced outdoor enthusiasts seeking solitude and scenic beauty.

Fossil Springs Wilderness:

The Fossil Springs Wilderness is centered around one of Arizona's most remarkable natural wonders. Thousands of gallons of crystal-clear, 72-degree spring water emerge from limestone formations each minute, creating a lush riparian oasis in the heart of central Arizona. The area supports a rich diversity of plant and animal life, including dozens of tree and shrub species and more than 100 species of birds. Fossil Springs is also notable for its unique geological history, cultural resources, and historic hydroelectric infrastructure, making it one of Arizona's premier destinations for hiking, wildlife viewing, and nature appreciation.

Munds Mountain Wilderness:

Rising above Sedona's iconic red rock landscape, Munds Mountain Wilderness combines spectacular scenery with easy accessibility. Although relatively small in size, it is one of Arizona's most frequently visited wilderness areas due to the presence of landmarks such as Bell Rock and Cathedral Rock. Beyond its popular trail corridors, the wilderness offers quieter backcountry areas characterized by slickrock formations, sandstone cliffs, scenic overlooks, and distinctive high-desert landscapes that showcase the beauty of the Verde Valley region.

Pine Mountain Wilderness:

Often described as a "sky island," Pine Mountain Wilderness rises dramatically above the surrounding landscape and contains dense pine forests, rugged canyons, and panoramic vistas. The summit, located near the geographic center of Arizona, provides exceptional views of many of the state's most prominent mountain ranges, including the San Francisco Peaks, Mazatzal Mountains, Bradshaw Mountains, and Superstition Mountains. Its relatively remote setting and extensive forests make Pine Mountain a premier destination for hiking, wildlife observation, and backcountry exploration.

Red Rock–Secret Mountain Wilderness:

The Red Rock–Secret Mountain Wilderness encompasses much of the spectacular red rock country surrounding Sedona. Characterized by towering sandstone cliffs, narrow canyons, hidden alcoves, and striking geological formations, the area offers some of the most scenic hiking opportunities in Arizona. Visitors can explore diverse landscapes ranging from high desert plateaus to secluded forested canyons, while enjoying expansive views of the iconic red rock terrain that has made Sedona internationally renowned.

Sycamore Canyon Wilderness:

Often referred to as the Verde Valley's version of the Grand Canyon, Sycamore Canyon Wilderness is Arizona's oldest designated wilderness area and one of the state's most dramatic landscapes. The canyon exposes hundreds of millions of years of geologic history through its towering cliffs and colorful rock layers. Rich in cultural history and natural beauty, the wilderness provides opportunities for hiking, photography, wildlife viewing, and backcountry camping while preserving one of Arizona's most significant canyon ecosystems.

West Clear Creek Wilderness:

West Clear Creek Wilderness protects a spectacular canyon system carved by one of the Verde River's most important tributaries. Over thousands of years, the creek has created a deep canyon featuring sheer cliffs, lush riparian vegetation, waterfalls, pools, and dramatic rock formations. The lower portions of the canyon offer accessible recreation opportunities, while the more remote sections provide world-class canyoneering, swimming, and adventure experiences for skilled outdoor enthusiasts.

Wet Beaver Creek Wilderness:

Wet Beaver Creek Wilderness is renowned for its pristine riparian corridor and striking canyon scenery. Flowing from the Colorado Plateau toward the Verde River, the creek has carved a beautiful canyon featuring waterfalls, pools, cliffs, and dense streamside vegetation. Popular trails such as Bell Trail provide access to portions of the canyon, while much of the wilderness remains remote and largely unchanged from its historic condition. The area is highly valued for hiking, wildlife viewing, birding, and opportunities to experience one of central Arizona's finest riparian environments.

Woodchute Wilderness:

Located atop the Black Hills that form the western edge of the Verde Valley, Woodchute Wilderness preserves a forested mountain landscape with some of the region's most impressive views. Once heavily logged to support Jerome's mining operations, the area has regenerated into a healthy pine forest that provides cool temperatures, abundant wildlife habitat, and scenic recreation opportunities. From its overlooks, visitors can enjoy panoramic views extending from the Verde Canyon to Camp Verde and across much of the surrounding Verde Valley.

Verde River:

The Verde River serves as a defining geographic and ecological feature of the region, creating a natural corridor that connects communities, habitats, and public lands. As the river flows through Camp Verde, it forms a transition between the lands of the Coconino and Tonto National Forests while linking a broader network of protected open spaces throughout central Arizona. The river corridor provides critical wildlife habitat, supports riparian ecosystems, and serves as an important recreational resource with opportunities for paddling, fishing, birding, and riverside trail experiences.

Together, the surrounding national forests, wilderness areas, and the Verde River create an unparalleled open space system that positions Camp Verde as a gateway to outdoor recreation in Arizona. This extensive network of protected lands preserves scenic landscapes and watersheds, supports regional biodiversity, and provides residents and visitors access to thousands of acres of public land. The proximity of these nationally significant resources enhances quality of life, strengthens outdoor tourism, and reinforces Camp Verde's identity as a community where recreation, conservation, and natural beauty are deeply interconnected.

REGIONAL TRAIL CONNECTIVITY AND TOURISM POTENTIAL IN CAMP VERDE AND THE VERDE VALLEY

Camp Verde occupies a strategic position at the southern gateway to Arizona's Verde Valley, making it uniquely suited to serve as a hub for regional trail connectivity and outdoor recreation tourism. Surrounded by national forests, wilderness areas, the Verde River, and a growing network of community and regional trails, Camp Verde has the opportunity to become a central link in a valley-wide recreation system that connects residents and visitors to some of Arizona's most significant natural, cultural, and historic destinations.

Tourism and Community Benefits

Collectively, Camp Verde's trail and pathway system supports outdoor recreation, heritage tourism, healthy lifestyles, and environmental stewardship. The interconnected network provides access to key destinations including the Verde River, Fort Verde State Historic Park, surrounding national forest lands, wildlife viewing areas, and regional recreation corridors. As the community continues to grow, trails are increasingly viewed as critical infrastructure that enhances quality of life while supporting tourism and economic development throughout the Verde Valley.

A Regional Recreation Hub

The Verde Valley already functions as one of Arizona's premier outdoor recreation destinations, drawing visitors to communities such as Sedona, Cottonwood, Clarkdale, Jerome, and Camp Verde. Camp Verde's location near Interstate 17 and State Route 260 provides convenient access from the Phoenix metropolitan area while serving as a gateway to the broader recreation opportunities of central Arizona. The community offers direct access to the Verde River, Fossil Creek, Prescott National Forest, and numerous trail systems that support hiking, bicycling, equestrian activities, wildlife viewing, paddling, and nature-based tourism.

Based on the parks and recreation community outreach and survey results and conversations with the community, trail connectivity has consistently emerged as one of the community's highest priorities. Residents, stakeholders, and recreation user groups have emphasized the need to connect neighborhoods, parks, schools, downtown destinations, public lands, and neighboring communities through a comprehensive multi-use trail network.

Economic Development and Tourism Benefits

Regional trail systems have become significant economic drivers throughout the western United States. Visitors increasingly seek destinations that offer connected experiences rather than isolated recreation sites. Camp Verde's trail network has the potential to support:

- Longer visitor stays
- Increased spending at local restaurants, shops, wineries, and lodging establishments
- Expanded agritourism opportunities
- Outdoor event programming
- Sports tourism associated with the Sports Complex
- Enhanced property values and quality of life

Local business leaders have specifically identified hiking, bicycling, trail tourism, and sports tourism as key economic opportunities. Stakeholders noted that Camp Verde possesses exceptional recreation assets but would benefit from stronger regional marketing, enhanced wayfinding, and better integration of trail experiences with local businesses and attractions.

A connected trail network also creates opportunities for visitors to move between communities, spreading economic benefits throughout the Valley. In this way, Camp Verde can capitalize on the larger tourism market generated by Sedona while providing more authentic, nature-focused, and river-oriented experience. Community stakeholders have repeatedly emphasized the importance of thinking "more Verde Valley" rather than viewing individual communities as separate destinations.

Connecting Recreation, Conservation, and Heritage

Verde Valley's greatest strength is the diversity of experiences available within a relatively compact geographic area. A connected trail system can link:

- The Wild and Scenic Verde River
- Rockin' River Ranch State Park
- Riverfront preserves
- National forests and wilderness areas
- Historic downtowns
- Montezuma Castle National Monument
- Fort Verde State Historic Park
- Archaeological and cultural sites
- Regional parks and open spaces

These connections allow visitors to experience the region's natural landscapes, agricultural heritage, wildlife habitat, cultural resources, and local communities through a single connected network. Such experiences align closely with current tourism trends that favor authentic, place-based outdoor recreation.

Active Transportation and Community Benefits

Regional trail connectivity provides more than tourism benefits. It also supports transportation, health, and quality-of-life goals. Community members have consistently expressed interest in safer bicycle and pedestrian connections between Camp Verde, Cottonwood, and other Verde Valley communities. Enhanced multi-use pathways can help residents access schools, parks, recreation facilities, public lands, and commercial services without relying solely on automobiles.

Camp Verde's previous planning documents specifically call for a trail network that connects neighborhoods, schools, shopping areas, historic sites, and public lands while improving regional connectivity throughout the Verde Valley.

Positioning Camp Verde as the Gateway to Adventure

As implementation of the Verde Trails Access Plan, Verde Circle Trail, and related regional initiatives continues, Camp Verde is well positioned to become the primary southern gateway to outdoor recreation in the Verde Valley. With direct access to the Verde River, nearby wilderness areas, national forests, historic resources, and future regional trail corridors, the community can leverage its location to attract outdoor enthusiasts while preserving the natural resources that make the region unique.

The long-term vision is a connected Verde Valley where residents and visitors can travel seamlessly between communities, public lands, river corridors, parks, and cultural destinations through an integrated network of trails and pathways. Such a system would strengthen regional identity, support sustainable tourism, promote healthy lifestyles, and enhance economic vitality throughout Camp Verde and the Verde Valley.

RECOMMENDATIONS: TRAILS, WATERWAYS AND OPEN SPACE

Camp Verde should continue to build an interconnected system of trails, pathways, river access points, and protected open spaces that connect residents and visitors to parks, neighborhoods, downtown, the Verde River, surrounding national forests, and the broader Verde Valley. Through strategic partnerships, conservation stewardship, and targeted investments, the Town can enhance recreation opportunities, protect natural resources, improve community health, strengthen tourism, and preserve the unique character that makes Camp Verde a premier outdoor recreation destination.

1. **Advance the Verde Valley Circle Trail:** Continue pursuing partnerships and funding to complete remaining Verde Valley Circle Trail segments within Camp Verde and improve connections to neighboring communities throughout the Verde Valley.

2. **Establish Trail Branding and Wayfinding Standards:** Implement a unified branding and signage system for all trails, pathways, river access points, and open spaces. Develop design standards for trailhead kiosks, directional signs, mile markers, interpretive panels, maps, and digital wayfinding tools that reinforce Camp Verde's identity as an outdoor recreation destination.

3. **Establish Sustainable Maintenance and Stewardship Programs:** Create a dedicated trails maintenance program, establish maintenance standards, pursue additional staffing resources, and expand volunteer programs such as adopt-a-trail initiatives. Stakeholders emphasized the importance of long-term maintenance partnerships.

4. **Increase Accessibility and Safety:** Improve ADA accessibility, trail crossings, lighting where appropriate, emergency access, and wayfinding to create a safer and more inclusive trail system. Creating ADA-compliant paved path loops and trailhead arrival sequences will allow more residents and visitors to utilize the trails and open spaces safely.

5. **Incorporate Education, Interpretation, and Cultural Resources:** Use trails, the Verde River and open spaces as opportunities to tell the story of Camp Verde's cultural heritage, archaeology, history, natural resources, and conservation efforts through interpretive signage, public art, and educational programming.

6. **Strengthen Recreation and Conservation Partnerships:** Continue collaboration with the Verde Front Collaborative, U.S. Forest Service, Arizona State Parks and Trails, NACOG, Yavapai County, local nonprofits, volunteer organizations, and neighboring communities to leverage funding, stewardship, and implementation support.

7. **Protect Wildlife Corridors and Habitat:** Work with landowners, conservation organizations, and public agencies to maintain habitat connectivity between the Verde River, surrounding forests, and wilderness areas.

8. **Expand Environmental Education Opportunities:** Use open spaces, parks, and trails for educational programming focused on natural resources, conservation, history, wildlife, and stewardship.

9. **Expand Verde River Access While Protecting Resources:** Increase opportunities for river access, paddling, fishing, wildlife viewing, and environmental education at appropriate locations while protecting riparian habitats, sensitive resources, and conservation lands. Develop access points that balance recreation with stewardship.

10. **Balance Recreation and Conservation:** Implement management practices that protect river resources while allowing appropriate public use, including:
    - Seasonal management where needed
    - Riparian restoration
    - Visitor education
    - Habitat protection
    - Monitoring of environmental impacts

11. Enhance Riverfront Connectivity: Develop pathways and trails that connect parks and recreation destinations to the Verde River while minimizing impacts to sensitive habitat areas.

12. Protect Water Quality and Riparian Resources

    Support projects that preserve:

    - Riparian vegetation
    - Floodplain functions
    - Wildlife habitat
    - Groundwater recharge
    - River health and resiliency

13. Position Camp Verde as the Verde Valley's Outdoor Recreation Hub

    Leverage trails, waterways, public lands, and open spaces to support:

    - Tourism development
    - Outdoor recreation businesses
    - Special events
    - Heritage tourism

Camp Verde should develop an interconnected system of trails, waterways, and protected open spaces that connect residents and visitors to the Verde River, surrounding national forests, and regional destinations. Through strategic conservation, recreation investments, stewardship, and partnerships, the Town can enhance community health, protect natural resources, expand outdoor recreation opportunities, strengthen tourism, and preserve the unique character that makes Camp Verde an outdoor recreation destination.

STAFFING RECOMMENDATION

As Camp Verde expands its trail and open space system, the Town should target a staffing ratio of one dedicated Trails and Open Space professional for every 25 to 35 miles of maintained trail. This position would be responsible for system planning, maintenance oversight, volunteer coordination, grant management, signage and wayfinding implementation, public outreach, and coordination with regional partners. As the trail network grows beyond 35 miles of actively managed trails, additional staffing should be added to maintain service levels, visitor experience, and resource stewardship.

Given Camp Verde's growing network of:

Hiking trails	OHV routes
Mountain biking trails	Verde River access points
Equestrian trails	Regional trail connections (Verde Valley Circle Trail and surrounding public lands)

The Town's staffing needs extend beyond basic trail maintenance. A dedicated Trails and Open Space Coordinator would help manage partnerships with the Verde Front Collaborative, U.S. Forest Service, Arizona State Parks, Yavapai County, volunteer organizations, and local user groups while pursuing grants and implementing master plan recommendations.

Staff Recommendations

- **0–25 miles of trail:** Shared responsibility within Parks and Recreation staff.
- **25–35 miles of trail:** 1 dedicated Trails and Open Space Coordinator (1.0 FTE).
- **35–70 miles of trail:** 2 FTEs (Coordinator + Maintenance Technician).
- **70+ miles of trail:** Add 1 additional FTE for every 30–40 miles of trail or major expansion of trailheads and facilities.

Ch 5

Implementation Plan



INTRODUCTION

Park and recreation systems across the country have learned to develop a clear understanding of how to manage revenue options to support their services in a municipality-based agency on the limited availability of tax dollars. Park and recreation systems no longer rely on taxes as their sole revenue option but have developed new sources of revenue options to help support capital and operational needs. A growing number of municipalities have developed policies on the pricing of services, cost recovery rates, and partnership agreements for programs and facilities provided to the community. They have also developed strong partnerships that are fair and equitable in the delivery of services based on who receives the service, for what purpose, for what benefit, and for what costs.

In addition, agencies have learned to use parks and recreation facilities, amenities, programs, and events to create economic development as it contributes to property values around parks and along trails. The Town of Camp Verde has begun moving in this direction with the first phase of Camp Verde Sports Complex. Many municipalities nationally, regionally, and within the Verde Valley have learned to recognize that people will drive to their community for high quality recreation facilities like sports complexes, aquatic centers, recreation centers, and special events if marketed and managed correctly.

In the Town of Camp Verde, some of these policies and management practices are in place and others should be considered for the future. Some of these sources can potentially be considered as a revenue option to support the capital and operational needs of the Town. In addition, Parks and Recreation, along with Town leadership, need to establish a philosophy that includes boundaries of what are acceptable earned income opportunities and expectations. Parks and Recreation Department will also need to continually develop and update its business plans for the parks and recreation facilities in the Town it manages, as well as the core recreation programs. Managing good data is crucial to making good decisions on revenue development.

FUNDING STRATEGIES

Bond Financing

Municipal bonds can be issued to finance parks and recreation projects. These bonds are backed by the government and typically repaid using tax revenues or user fees associated with the park or recreation facility. Bond financing allows for large-scale projects that may require significant upfront investment that address needs that are identified as unmet community priorities.

Capital Improvement Fees

Many parks and recreation systems add a capital improvement fee onto an existing user fee when they develop or enhance major recreation facilities. This is usually applied to amenities like aquatics facilities, recreation centers, and special-use facilities. The dollars gained either offset the cost of the capital improvement or the revenue bond that was used to develop or enhance the special use facility. Once the capital improvement is paid off, the fee typically expires and is discontinued.
It is important to note that the suitability of these funding strategies can vary depending on the specific project, location, and available resources. A comprehensive funding strategy may involve a combination of these approaches to ensure the successful implementation and long-term sustainability of parks and recreation projects.

Impact Fees

Impact fees are charges imposed on new developments to mitigate the impacts they have on the community, such as increased demand for parks and recreation facilities. These fees are typically collected by the Town and used to fund the construction or expansion of parks and recreation infrastructure.

Park Development Fees

Many municipalities seek developer contributions for parklands and for the development of trails that run through the property being developed. The developer perceives the enhanced value in terms of what the improvements mean for their development. Park or trail dedication as a requirement of subdivision development is a reliable means for maintaining equity of access to parks and trails and keeping pace with the neighborhood and community park needs of the Town.

Partnerships

Partnerships are joint-development funding sources or operational funding sources formed between separate agencies, such as two government entities, a non-profit, and a public agency, or a private business and a public agency. Partners jointly develop revenue-producing park and recreation facilities and share risk, operational costs, responsibilities, and asset management based on the strengths of each partner. The Town currently utilizes partnerships and agreements that are joint-development funding sources or operational funding sources between separate agencies. Revisiting the terms of partnerships is important to ensure the agreement's terms are still valid and the need for partnering has not changed. Existing partnership agreements should be updated regularly to ensure the purpose of the partnership, what is being provided, and the terms of the agreement are accurate. New partnerships should be forged as the Department continues to evolve the parks and recreation system to align with community needs. Ensure that partnerships are fair and equitable to the Department and partner with the best interests of the community identified.

Grants

Parks and recreation projects can often qualify for government grants from federal, state, and local agencies. These grants are typically awarded based on the project's alignment with specific criteria, such as community impact, environmental sustainability, or economic development. The Town regularly utilizes grant funding, such as Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding and other programs, for parks and recreation projects and can continue to mine for additional grant funding opportunities like LWCF grants, outdoor recreation grants, historic preservation grants, heritage fund grants, and SLIF grants.

Community Parks Foundation

The development of a Friends of Camp Verde Parks or similar would be a joint-development funding source with the Town. The foundation would operate as a non-profit organization, working on behalf of the public agency to raise needed dollars to support its vision and operational needs. The dollars that would be raised by the foundation are tax-exempt. Foundations promote specific causes, activities, or issues that the Department needs to address. They offer a variety of means to fund capital projects, including capital campaigns, gift catalogs, fundraisers, endowments, sales of park-related memorabilia, etc. Private donations may be received in the form of cash, securities, land, facilities, recreation equipment, art, or in-kind services. The Camp Verde Recreation Association currently performs a similar role for the Camp Verde Sports Complex. It is recommended to study the interest and ability to broaden the scope of this group to include the full parks and recreation system or adopt a second group in order to encompass the full system.

Advertising Sales

Advertising can occur through site furnishings like benches and trash cans, playground or dog park sponsorships, trails, and as part of special events to pay for operational costs.

Corporate Sponsorships and Personal Giving

Corporate and personal giving involves seeking corporate funds or personal gifts via a foundation partner or through personal contacts that are used to catalyze wider giving in support of a specific project or operation. The lead donations set the precedent for additional giving over one year and up to five years. Many park agencies develop a park fundraising event to appeal to private corporations' leaders to support the park system as part of their fee to come to the event. Corporations can also underwrite a portion of the cost of an event, program, or activity based on their name being associated with the service. Sponsorships typically are title sponsors, presenting sponsors, associate sponsors, product sponsors, or in-kind sponsors. Many agencies seek corporate support for these types of activities. The Town Parks and Recreation Department currently operates the See My Legacy program where a variety of funding campaigns and sponsorship opportunities can be hosted, for example, the memorial bench program. It is recommended the Town further advertise these existing opportunities.

Maintenance Endowment Fund

This is a fund dedicated exclusively for a park's maintenance and is funded by a percentage of user fees from programs, events, and rentals. The fee is paid by users and is added to a dedicated fund for facility and equipment replacement.

Park Revolving Fund

A park revolving fund is a dedicated financial mechanism established to support the ongoing development, enhancement, and maintenance of parks and recreation facilities. The primary purpose of these funds is to generate revenue through various means, such as park user fees, sponsorships, donations, and grants. The generated funds are then reinvested back into the parks to improve amenities, infrastructure, programming, and overall park experiences. Park revolving funds offer a sustainable financial mechanism for supporting park development and maintenance. By reinvesting generated revenues into park projects, these funds ensure the long-term sustainability and improved amenities of parks and recreational facilities. Successful implementation requires careful planning, stakeholder engagement, and effective financial management.

Philanthropic Donation

Private donations are a popular form of fundraising by public agencies, particularly for facilities and services that are highly visible and valued by the public. Donations can be channeled through a foundation or friends group aligned with the Department's priorities. Private donations may be received in the form of funds, land, facilities, recreation equipment, art, or in-kind services. Donations from local and regional businesses as sponsors for events or facilities should be pursued. Examples include:

- Donations of cash to a specific park or trail segment by community members and businesses.
- Donations of services by large corporations to reduce the cost of park or trail implementation, including equipment and labor to construct and install elements of a specific park or trail.
- Reductions in the cost of materials purchased from local businesses that support parks and trails implementation, and can supply essential products for facilities.

User Fees and Charges

Parks and recreation facilities often generate revenue through user fees, membership fees, rentals, concessions, or program charges. These user fees can help offset the operational and maintenance costs associated with the facilities.

Franchise Fee for Utility Right-of-Way

Many agencies have sold the development rights below the ground to utility companies for fiber optic lines, water, sewer, electricity lines, and cable conduits on a linear foot basis.

Leasebacks

Leasebacks are a source of capital funding in which a private-sector entity such as a development company buys the land or leases the park land and develops a facility such as a park, recreation attraction, recreation center, pool, or sports complex; and leases the facility back to the municipality to pay off the capital costs over a 30- to 40-year period. This approach takes advantage of the efficiencies of private-sector development while relieving the burden on the municipality to raise upfront capital funds. Agencies may find this source attractive because typically they can increase operational budgets more easily than finding capital dollars to pay off the lease over a set period of time.

Volunteerism

The revenue source is an indirect revenue source in that persons donate time to assist the Department in providing a product or service on an hourly basis. This reduces the Town's cost in providing the service and it builds advocacy into the system. Typical sources include:

- **Adopt-a-Park:** In this approach local neighborhood groups or businesses make a volunteer commitment to maintain a specific area of a park. Adopt-an-area-of-a-park arrangements are particularly well suited for the Department and provide great community advocacy.
- **Adopt-a-Trail:** This is similar to Adopt-a-Park but involves sponsorship of a segment of a trail (e.g., one mile) for maintenance purposes.
- **Community Service Workers:** Community service workers are assigned by the court to pay off some of their sentence through maintenance activities in parks, for example: picking up litter, removing graffiti, and assisting in painting or fix-up activities. Most workers are assigned 30 to 60 hours of work. This is a potential opportunity for the Parks and Recreation Department to work with the Police Department on utilizing community service workers.

Camp Verde Master Plan Recommendations Matrix

Type/Chapter Area	Recommendation	Term	Plan Timeframe
Parks	Reinvest in existing parks and aging infrastructure	Short-Term	1-5 years
Parks	Establish privately built and maintained neighborhood park standards for new development	Short-Term	1-5 years
Parks	Perform feasibility analysis and preliminary planning for a multi-generational indoor recreation/community center	Short-Term	1-5 years
Parks	Expand shade infrastructure townwide	Short-Term	1-5 years
Parks	Complete Heritage Pool improvements, including renovations and analysis of seasonality	Short-Term	1-5 years
Parks	Modernize playgrounds and improve inclusivity	Short-Term	1-5 years
Parks	Complete Heritage Pool improvements, including renovations and analysis of seasonality	Short-Term	1-5 years
Parks	Incorporate accessibility improvements into every capital project	Short-Term	1-5 years
Parks	Upgrade park amenities, including furnishings, signage, fountains and picnic areas	Short-Term	1-5 years
Parks	Improve Verde River access facilities where possible	Short-Term	1-5 years
Parks	Implement an ongoing Park Reinvestment Program focused on modernization and asset replacement within existing facilities	Short-Term	1-5 years
Parks	Modernize restrooms and improve accessibility and reliability	Short-Term	1-5 years
Parks	Expand community park amenities	Mid-Term	6-10 years
Parks	Construct trail-linked park improvements where feasible	Mid-Term	6-10 years

Camp Verde Master Plan Recommendations Matrix

Type/Chapter Area	Recommendation	Term	Plan Timeframe
Parks	Develop outdoor fitness facilities	Mid-Term	6-10 years
Parks	Enhance event infrastructure and gathering spaces	Mid-Term	6-10 years
Parks	Expand recreation programming support facilities	Mid-Term	6-10 years
Parks	Evaluate opportunities for a dedicated dog park with separated use areas, shade, seating, water and waste stations	Mid-Term	6-10 years
Parks	Develop additional sports facilities	Long-Term	10+ years
Parks	Complete Sports Complex build based on Master Plan	Long-Term	10+ years
Parks	Develop and construct future aquatics facility, per Sports Complex Master Plan	Long-Term	10+ years
Parks	Expand riverfront parks	Long-Term	10+ years
Parks	Develop special-use recreation facilities	Long-Term	10+ years
Parks	Advance large-scale park development projects	Long-Term	10+ years
Recreation Programming	Expand youth recreation programs	Short-Term	1-5 years
Recreation Programming	Develop a seasonal recreation guide	Short-Term	1-5 years
Recreation Programming	Increase outdoor fitness opportunities	Short-Term	1-5 years
Recreation Programming	Enhance community events	Short-Term	1-5 years
Recreation Programming	Establish new recreation partnerships	Short-Term	1-5 years
Recreation Programming	Introduce new adult and senior programming	Mid-Term	6-10 years
Recreation Programming	Expand environmental education	Mid-Term	6-10 years
Recreation Programming	Develop guided outdoor recreation experiences	Mid-Term	6-10 years
Recreation Programming	Increase volunteer opportunities	Mid-Term	6-10 years
Recreation Programming	Improve online registration and marketing	Mid-Term	6-10 years
Recreation Programming	Evaluate the need for dedicated recreation facilities	Long-Term	10+ years
Recreation Programming	Expand regional recreation partnerships	Long-Term	10+ years
Recreation Programming	Develop destination recreation events	Long-Term	10+ years
Recreation Programming	Continue adapting programs to changing community demographics	Long-Term	10+ years
Trails & Connectivity	Establish trail branding and wayfinding standards	Short-Term	1-5 years
Trails & Connectivity	Create sustainable maintenance and stewardship programs, including adopt-a-trail	Short-Term	1-5 years
Trails & Connectivity	Improve accessibility, crossings, lighting where appropriate, emergency access and wayfinding	Short-Term	1-5 years
Trails & Connectivity	Incorporate education, interpretation, cultural resources and public art into trails	Mid-Term	6-10 years
Trails & Connectivity	Develop connections among parks, neighborhoods, schools, downtown and natural areas	Mid-Term	6-10 years
Trails & Connectivity	Develop and improve trailheads and access nodes	Mid-Term	6-10 years
Trails & Connectivity	Advance and complete remaining Verde Valley Circle Trail segments	Long-Term	10+ years
Waterways / Verde River	Concentrate public use at well-designed river access points with parking, signage and erosion controls	Short-Term	1-5 years
Waterways / Verde River	Install interpretive signage and visitor education at river access areas	Short-Term	1-5 years
Waterways / Verde River	Expand sustainable riverfront trail connections	Mid-Term	6-10 years

Camp Verde Master Plan Recommendations Matrix

Type/Chapter Area	Recommendation	Term	Plan Timeframe
Waterways / Verde River	Develop nature-based recreation and viewing areas	Mid-Term	6-10 years
Waterways / Verde River	Expand appropriate paddling, fishing, wildlife viewing and environmental education access	Mid-Term	6-10 years
Waterways / Verde River	Implement the regional String of Pearls river access framework	Long-Term	10+ years
Open Space & Conservation	Protect sensitive habitat, wildlife corridors, riparian vegetation and water quality	Short-Term	1-5 years
Open Space & Conservation	Monitor recreational impacts and apply adaptive management	Mid-Term	6-10 years
Open Space & Conservation	Expand environmental education and stewardship opportunities	Mid-Term	6-10 years
Open Space & Conservation	Strengthen conservation and regional implementation partnerships	Mid-Term	6-10 years
Operations & Staffing	Track participation, satisfaction, cost recovery, grants and other performance measures annually	Short-Term	1-5 years
Operations & Staffing	Expand recreation staffing as demand grows	Short-Term	1-5 years
Operations & Staffing	Add one dedicated Trails and Open Space Coordinator at 25-35 maintained trail miles	Mid-Term	6-10 years
Operations & Staffing	Add a maintenance technician at 35-70 maintained trail miles	Long-Term	10+ years
Implementation	Regularly update partnership agreements and pursue grants and sponsorships	Short-Term	1-5 years
Implementation	Create a business plan for Camp Verde Sports Complex	Short-Term	1-5 years
Implementation	Study expanding the Camp Verde Recreation Association or creating a parks foundation/friends group	Mid-Term	6-10 years
Implementation	Evaluate dedicated maintenance endowment and park revolving funds	Mid-Term	6-10 years
Implementation	Evaluate bond financing and other major capital funding mechanisms for large projects	Long-Term	10+ years
Implementation	Host community forums or parks and recreation commission meetings at regular increments to reflect on how the plan has been implemented and evluate if community prioirities have shifted.	Short-Term	1-5 years
Implementation	Create a business plan for the next phase of Camp Verde Sports Complex with particular emphasis on the inclusion of facilities and aquatics	Mid-Term	6-10 years
Implementation	Work with Development Services to translate recommendations of the master plan to enforcable cose, development review procedures, and cross-departmental programs where appropriate	Short-Term	1-5 years

Ch 6

Community Needs



PURPOSE

Community engagement was a key component of the Camp Verde Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan. The engagement process was designed to gather input from residents, community partners, Town staff and Town leadership to better understand recreation needs, park priorities, and opportunities for the future of Camp Verde's park system and programs.

The purpose of engagement was to confirm that the Master Plan reflects community values and provides the Town with meaningful guidance for future park investments, programs, and facilities. Input from residents helped identify which recreation programs, park amenities, and services are most important to the community, while stakeholder and leadership discussions provided additional insight into system challenges, partnership opportunities, and long-term priorities.

To reach a broad cross-section of Camp Verde residents, the Town implemented a variety of engagement strategies, including in-person meetings, online tools, community outreach, and targeted discussions with stakeholders and Town leadership and Town staff. These efforts allowed residents to participate in multiple ways and provided opportunities for feedback throughout the planning process.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT METHODS

PROJECT WEBSITE

A project website was created to provide a central location where residents could learn about the Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan update and participate in the planning process. The website included project information, engagement opportunities, and links to the online survey and interactive mapping tool.

The website allowed residents to review planning materials, learn about upcoming engagement events, and provide feedback throughout the duration of the project.

STAKEHOLDER EMAIL BLAST

Project information was distributed through email communications to community stakeholders and interested residents. Email outreach helped notify the community about engagement opportunities, including upcoming meetings, the online survey, and other ways to participate in the planning process.

IN PERSON ENGAGEMENT

Several in-person engagement opportunities were offered during the planning process to allow residents to learn about the project and share feedback directly with the project team. These events were held at various locations and times to maximize engagement, where attendees could provide input on recreation programs, park amenities, and future priorities for the park system.

In-person engagement activities also included interactive exercises designed to gather feedback in a visual and accessible format. The following in-person engagement events were conducted:

Event	Date	Location
Fort Verde Days	Saturday, October 18th, 2025	Main Street
Camp Verde Food Truck Night	Thursday, September 18th, 2025	Redinger Ramada
Camp Verde Touch A Truck Event	Saturday February 14, 2026	Camp Verde Sports Complex
Christmas Magic on Main	Saturday, December 13, 2025	Camp Verde Town Campus

SOCIAL MEDIA

The Town used social media platforms to promote the planning process and encourage community participation. Posts shared information about engagement opportunities, promoted the online survey, and directed residents to the project website.

Social media helped expand the reach of the project and provided an additional way for residents to stay informed about the planning effort.

DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT

Online engagement tools allowed residents to participate in the planning process at any time. The digital engagement platform included several interactive tools that allowed participants to share feedback about parks, recreation programs, and future park system priorities.

Digital Survey

An online survey was available through the project website and allowed residents to provide feedback on recreation programs, park amenities, and overall park system priorities. The survey helped capture broad community input and provided valuable insight into how residents currently use Camp Verde parks and recreation facilities.

Interactive Mapping Tool

The interactive mapping tool allowed residents to submit location-specific comments about parks, trails, and recreation facilities throughout Camp Verde. Participants could identify areas where improvements are needed, highlight locations they enjoy, and suggest ideas for new amenities or enhancements.

Big Ideas

The "Big Ideas" tool allowed participants to share creative ideas for the future of parks and recreation in Camp Verde. Participants could submit suggestions for new park amenities, recreation programs, or improvements to existing parks.

Priority Activity

The priority activity asked participants to identify which types of park amenities, recreation facilities, and programs should be prioritized for future investment. This exercise helped the project team understand which improvements residents believe would have the greatest impact for the community.

PARK BY PARK WORKSHOP

- A Park-by-Park Workshop was conducted as an internal working session with Camp Verde staff who are closely involved in park operations, maintenance, and recreation programming.
- Staff reviewed each park in the system and discussed existing amenities, operational considerations, and potential improvement opportunities. The workshop helped identify park-specific needs, maintenance considerations, and opportunities to enhance recreation amenities across the system.
- Input from this session provided operational insight that helped inform park improvement recommendations.

FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Focus groups were conducted to gather perspectives from Town staff, Town leadership and community partners. These discussions explored recreation needs, system challenges, and opportunities to strengthen partnerships that support parks and recreation services.

Town Leadership Interviews

- Interviews with Town leadership focused on the role parks play in supporting quality of life and community health in Camp Verde.

Discussion topics included:

- The role of parks and recreation in Camp Verde
- Key recreation and facility needs
- Challenges related to park maintenance, funding, and system growth
- Opportunities to expand recreation programming and partnerships

These discussions helped identify long-term priorities and strategic considerations for the park system.

Stakeholder Focus Groups

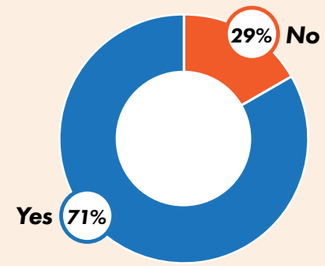
A series of stakeholder focus group discussions were conducted with organizations involved in parks, recreation programming, environmental stewardship, and community services in Camp Verde. Engagement occurred through a combination of individual meetings and small-group discussions, allowing stakeholders to share perspectives based on their organization's role in supporting recreation programming, park stewardship, and community activities.

WEBSITE SURVEY RESULTS

Question 1

Are you a Camp Verde resident?

78 responses



Question 2

If you are not a resident, where do you reside

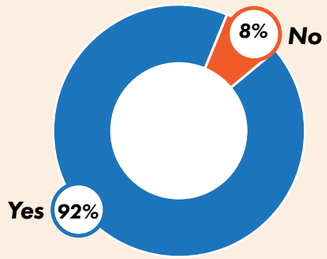
Answered: 15 Skipped: 63

Responses
Camp Verde
I resided in Campe Verde for 6 months
Rimrock
Clarkdale, Az
Cottonwood
Clarkdale
Cottonwood
Sedona/VOC
Cottonwood
Sedona
Clarkdale
Verde Village
Sedona - Village od Oak Creek
Camp Verde
Corncille

Question 3

Have you and/or members of your household participated in any programs/activities/events off ered byTown of Camp Verde during the past year?

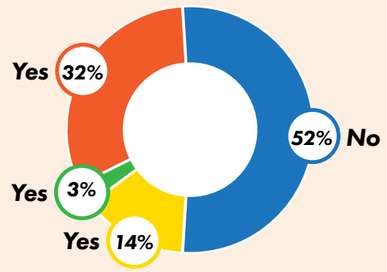
77 responses



Question 4

How would you rate the programs/activities/events you and the members of your household haveparticipated in during the past year?

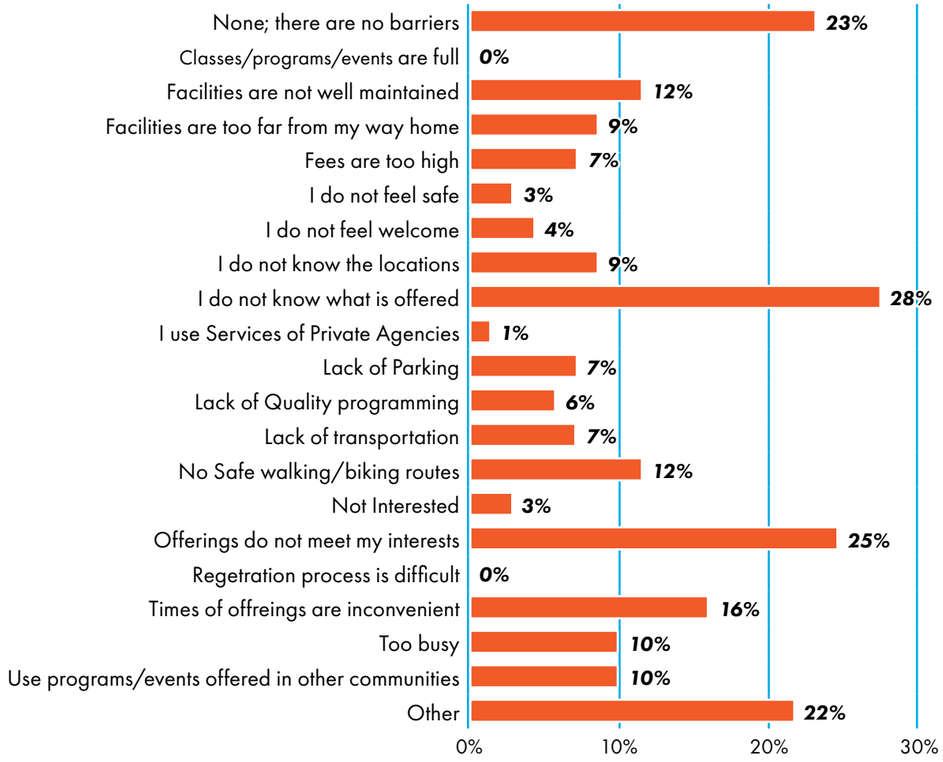
73 responses



Question 5

What are the reasons you have not participated or have not participated more often in Camp Verde Parks& Recreation programs/activities/events?

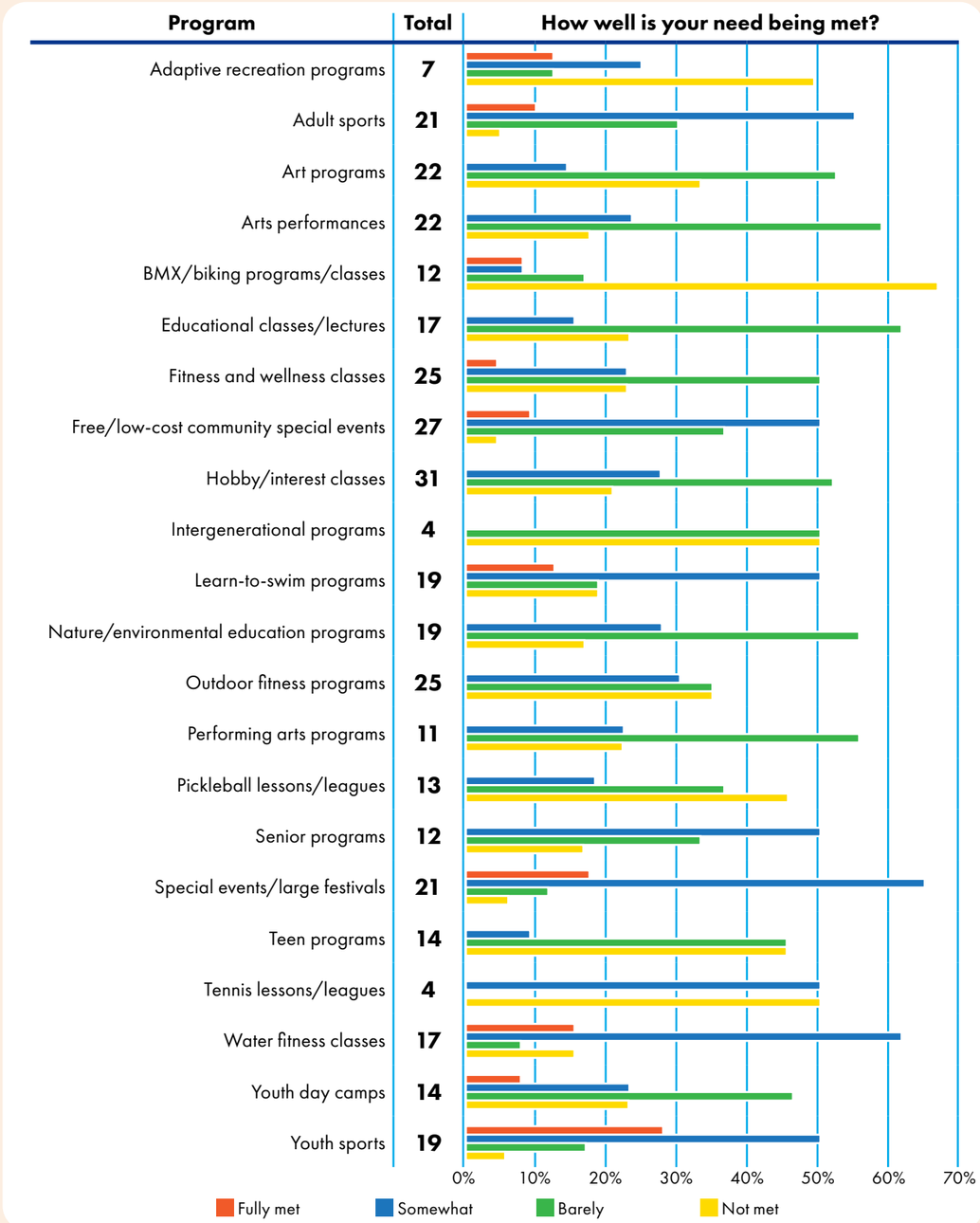
69 responses



Question 6

Please describe how well your need is currently being met for the following program, event, or activity.

Answered: 68 Skipped: 10



Question 7

What FOUR types of PROGRAMS/ACTIVITIES/EVENTS from the list in Question 6 areMOST Important to your household?

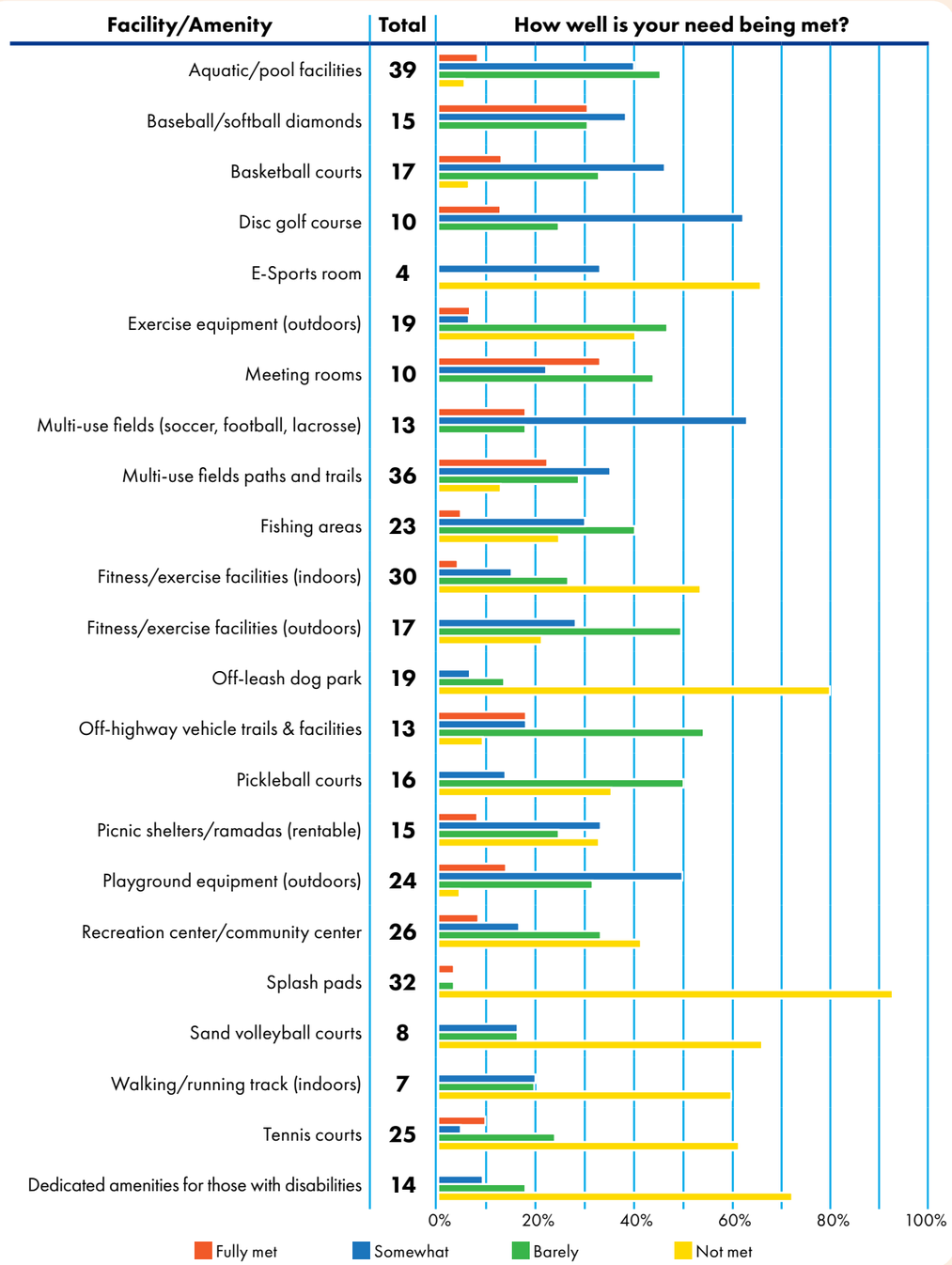
Answered: 67 Skipped: 11

Programs	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Adaptive recreation programs	2	1	1	0
Adult sports	5	4	4	1
Art programs	4	4	3	3
Arts performances	1	3	5	1
BMX/biking programs/classes	4	2	1	0
Educational classes/lectures	1	5	1	1
Fitness and wellness classes	9	4	1	3
Free/low-cost community special events	4	4	3	5
Hobby/interest classes	2	5	4	10
Intergenerational programs	0	0	0	0
Learn-to-swim programs	1	5	1	2
Nature/environmental education programs	2	3	7	3
Outdoor fitness programs	5	7	7	4
Performing arts programs	1	2	1	2
Pickleball lessons/leagues	1	3	5	1
Senior programs	2	1	2	6
Special events/large festivals	3	2	3	5
Teen programs	3	0	1	0
Tennis lessons/leagues	0	0	0	0
Water fitness classes	5	2	4	2
Youth day camps	3	5	0	0
Youth sports	9	3	4	0

Question 8

Please describe how well your need is currently being met for the following facility or amenity.

Answered: 70 Skipped: 8



Question 9

Which FOUR types of FACILITIES/AMENITIES from the list in Question 8 are MOSTIMPORTANT to your household?

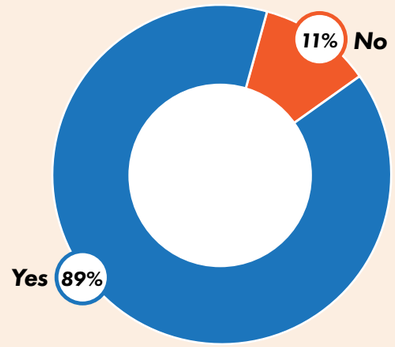
Answered: 70 Skipped: 8

Facility/Amenity	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Aquatic/pool facilities	19	8	3	1
Baseball/softball diamonds	7	1	1	1
Basketball courts	2	1	1	6
Disc golf course	0	0	2	0
E-Sports room	0	3	0	0
Exercise equipment (outdoors)	0	1	3	3
Meeting rooms	1	1	3	1
Multi-use fields (soccer, football, lacrosse)	0	4	4	0
Multi-use paths and trails	8	10	3	2
Fishing areas	3	6	3	5
Fitness/exercise facilities (indoors)	6	5	5	4
Fitness/exercise facilities (outdoors)	0	0	0	1
Off-leash dog park	4	1	4	2
Off-highway vehicle trails & facilities	1	4	2	1
Pickleball courts	3	5	0	1
Picnic shelters/ramadas (rentable)	0	0	0	0
Playground equipment (outdoors)	1	1	4	3
Recreation center/community center	4	3	5	5
Splash pads	7	5	1	2
Sand volleyball courts	1	0	2	0
Walking/running track (indoors)	0	0	1	0
Tennis courts	0	1	2	6
Dedicated amenities for those with disabilities	3	1	2	1

Question 10

Have you and/or any members of your household visited any parks or recreation facilities off ered by theTown during the past year?

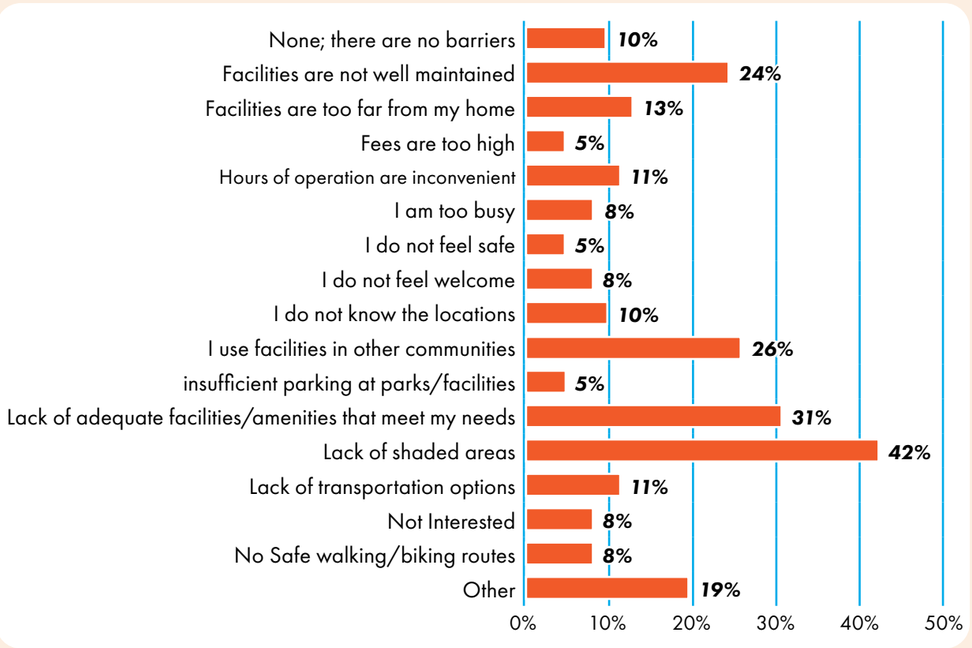
74 responses



Question 11

What are the reasons you have not visited the Town parks/facilities more often?

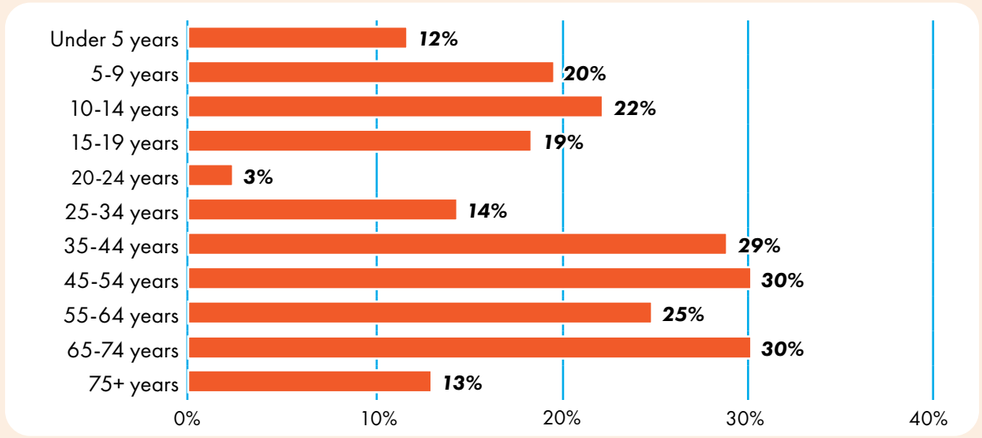
62 responses



Question 12

Counting yourself, what are the age ranges of people in your household?

76 Responses



INTERACTIVE WEBSITE TOOLS RESULTS

Report Type: Fund It Results Summary

Date Range: 14-09-2025 - 03-03-2026

Exported: 23-06-2026 11:54:48

KEY STATISTICS

Top-level information about the activity.

$67.14
Average Spend
$100.00 total Budget

5
Projects
0 Sponsors

55
Total Votes
3.93 avg. Projects funded/contribution

CONTRIBUTION SUMMARY

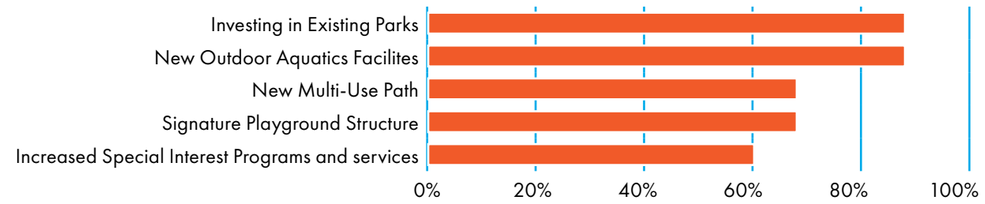
Summary of the activity including details of the included projects, voting results and more.

Project Details
Information on the projects included for potential funding including the name, cost, voting and other details.

Project Name	Cost	Total Values	%
Invest in Existing Parks	$20	13	23.64%
New Outdoor Aquatics Facilities	$30	13	23.64%
New Multi-Use Path	$10	10	18.18%
Signature Playground Structure	$10	10	18.18%
Increased Special Interest Programs and Services	$10	9	16.36%

Voting Results

Results of participant voting showing which projects were most and least funded (calculated as project votes / total contributions).



SUGGESTED PRIORITES

A prioritized list of projects based on the voting results that maximizes the value of the defined budget.

$80.00
Total budget for allocated projects

100%
Contributions that include at least one suggested project

100%
Contributions that include at least half (50%) of all suggested projects

100%
Contributions that include all (100%) of suggested projects

Invest in Existing Parks

Cost: $20.00

Includes updating, improving, and adding amenities to existing Town parks.

13 Votes (23.64%)

New Outdoor Aquatics Facilities

Cost: $30.00

New splash pads, water play, or pools added to existing or new parks.

13 votes (23.64%)

New Multi-Use Path

Cost: $10.00

Create more multi-use paths and connections throughout the Town.

10 votes (18.18%)

Signature Playground Structure

Cost: $10.00

New playground structures added to existing or new parks.

10 votes (18.18%)

Increased Special Interest Programs and Services

Cost: $10.00

More Town-provided programs and classes offered throughout the Town.

9 votes (16.36%)

STATISTICALLY-VALID SURVEY RESULTS

OVERVIEW

ETC Institute administered a parks, recreation, open space, and trails master plan survey to Town of Camp Verde residents during the winter of 2026. The results of this survey will be used to establish priorities for improvements to the current park system and future park development.

METHODOLOGY

ETC Institute mailed a survey packet to randomly selected households in Camp Verde. Each survey packet contained a cover letter, a copy of the five-page survey, and a postage-paid return envelope. The cover letter explained the purpose of the survey and encouraged residents to either return their survey by mail or complete the survey online.

Ten days after the surveys were mailed, ETC Institute followed up with the households that received the survey to encourage participation. To prevent people who were not residents of Camp Verde from participating, everyone who completed the survey online was required to enter their home address prior to submitting the survey. ETC Institute then matched the addresses that were entered online to the addresses that were originally selected for the random sample. If the address from a survey completed online did not match one of the addresses selected for the sample, the online survey was not counted.

The goal was to collect a minimum of 300 surveys from households in the area. The goal was met with 310 surveys collected. The overall results for the sample of 310 surveys have a precision of at least +/- 5.5 at the 95% level of confidence.

This report contains the following:

- Charts showing the overall results of the survey (Section 1)
- Priority Investment Rating analysis (Section 2)
- Benchmark charts comparing Camp Verde to national averages (Section 3)
- Tabular data showing the overall results for all questions on the survey (Section 4)
- Survey instrument (Section 5)

The major findings of the survey are summarized on the following pages.





MAJOR FINDINGS

Program Participation

Respondents were asked if they have participated in any programs/activities/events offered by the Town of Camp Verde during the past year. Most respondents (71%) indicated that they have participated in events, with 89% of those rating the programs/events they have participated in as either "excellent" (26%) or "good" (63%).

Use of Facilities

The majority of respondents (77%) indicated that they have visited parks or recreation facilities offered by the Town during the past year. Sixty-three percent of those who have visited rated the facilities as either "excellent" (15%) or "good" (48%).

Barriers

Respondents were asked to indicate the barriers that prevent them from participating in programs or from participating more often. The most selected barriers were:

- They do not know what is offered (45%)
- Offerings do not meet their interests (20%)
- Too busy (19%)

The most selected barriers that keep respondents from visiting facilities more often were:

- Lack of shaded areas (38%)
- Lack of adequate facilities/amenities that meet their needs (25%)
- Too busy (34%)

Benefits

Respondents were asked to rate their level of agreement with a list of statements related to the potential benefits that parks and recreation could provide. The most agreed upon statements, based on "strongly agree" and "agree" percentages, were:

- Provides positive social interactions (57%)
- Helps attract tourists and seasonal visitors (54%)
- Positively impacts economic/business development (51%)

Support for Improvements

Respondents were asked to indicate their level of support for actions the Town of Camp Verde could take to improve its parks and recreation system. The actions with the most support, based on "very supportive" and "somewhat supportive" percentages, were:

- Improve existing park infrastructure (84%)
- Improve existing large community parks (84%)
- Improve existing small neighborhood parks (80%)

The three items that respondents would be most willing to support with additional tax dollars, based on the sum of the top three choices, were:

- Develop new indoor recreation center (50%)
- Develop new indoor swimming pool (47%)
- Improve Camp Verde Sports Complex (38%)

RECREATION PROGRAM NEEDS AND PRIORITIES

Program Needs

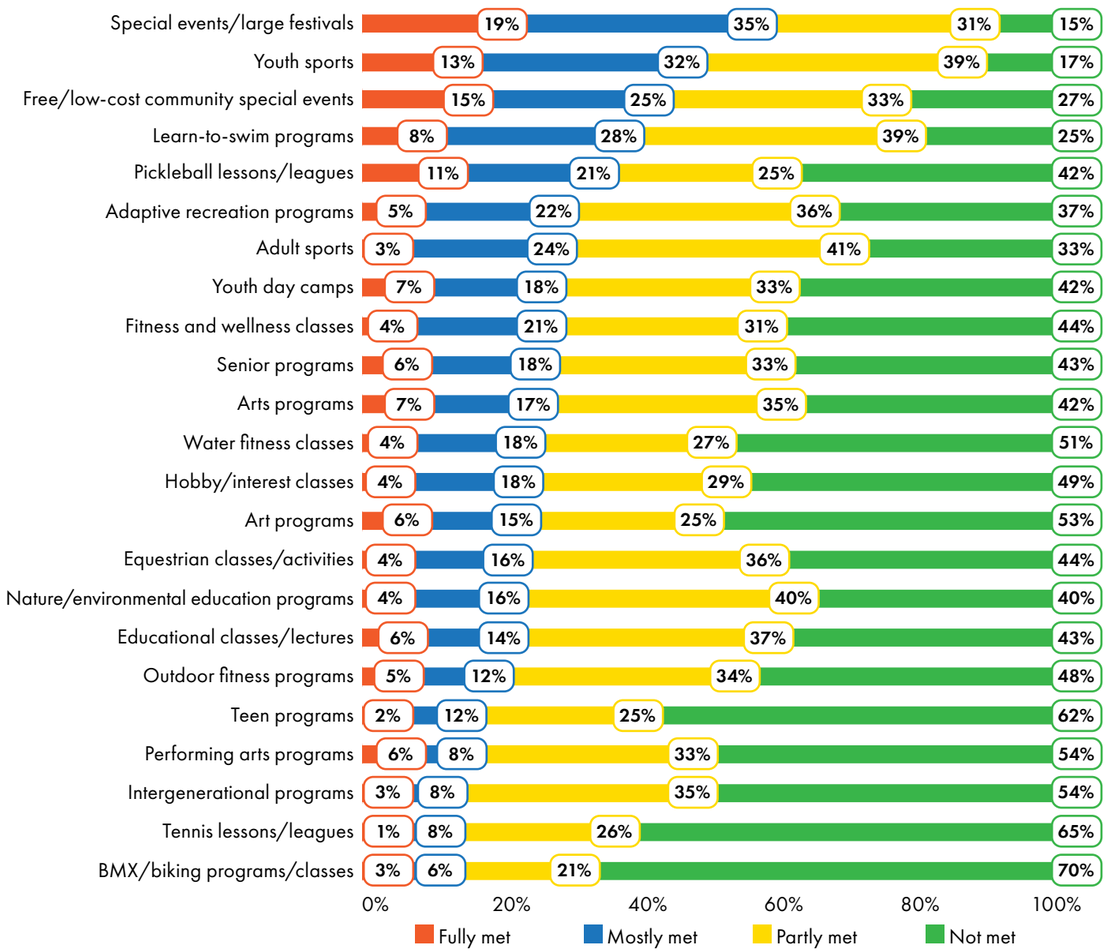
Respondents were asked whether their household needed any of the 23 programs and how well those needs are currently being met. Using their responses, ETC Institute estimated how effectively each person's needs for these programs are being satisfied. Based on the sum of fully met and mostly met percentages, the top three programs were:

1. Special events/large festivals
2. Youth sports
3. Free/low-cost community special events

The percentages of how well each program's needs are being met is shown in the chart below.

How Well Needs are Being Met for the Following Items

By the percentage of respondents (excluding "no need")



Program Importance

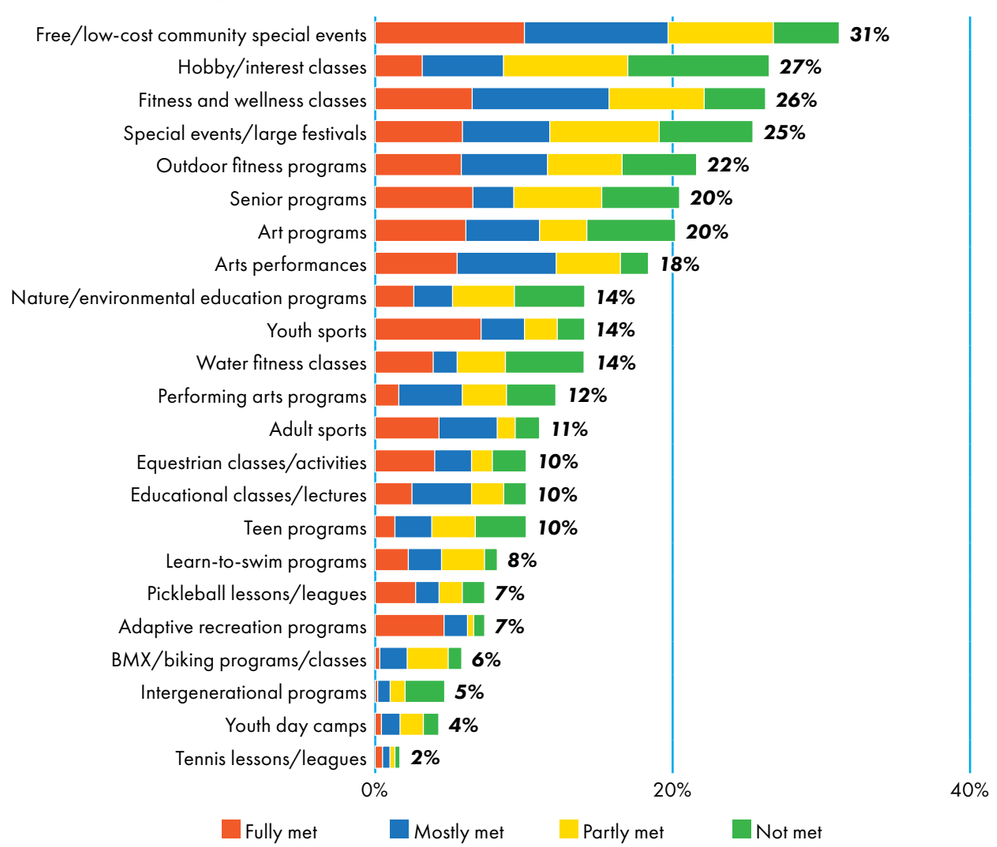
In addition to assessing the needs for each program, ETC Institute also assessed the importance that respondents placed on each item. Based on the sum of respondents' top four choices, these were the four programs ranked most important:

1. Free/low-cost community special events
2. Hobby/interest classes
3. Fitness and wellness classes
4. Special events/large festivals

The percentage of respondents who selected each program as one of their top four choices is shown in the chart below.

Which Four Programs From the List in Question 5 Are Most Important to Your Household

By percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top four choices



Priorities for Facility Investments

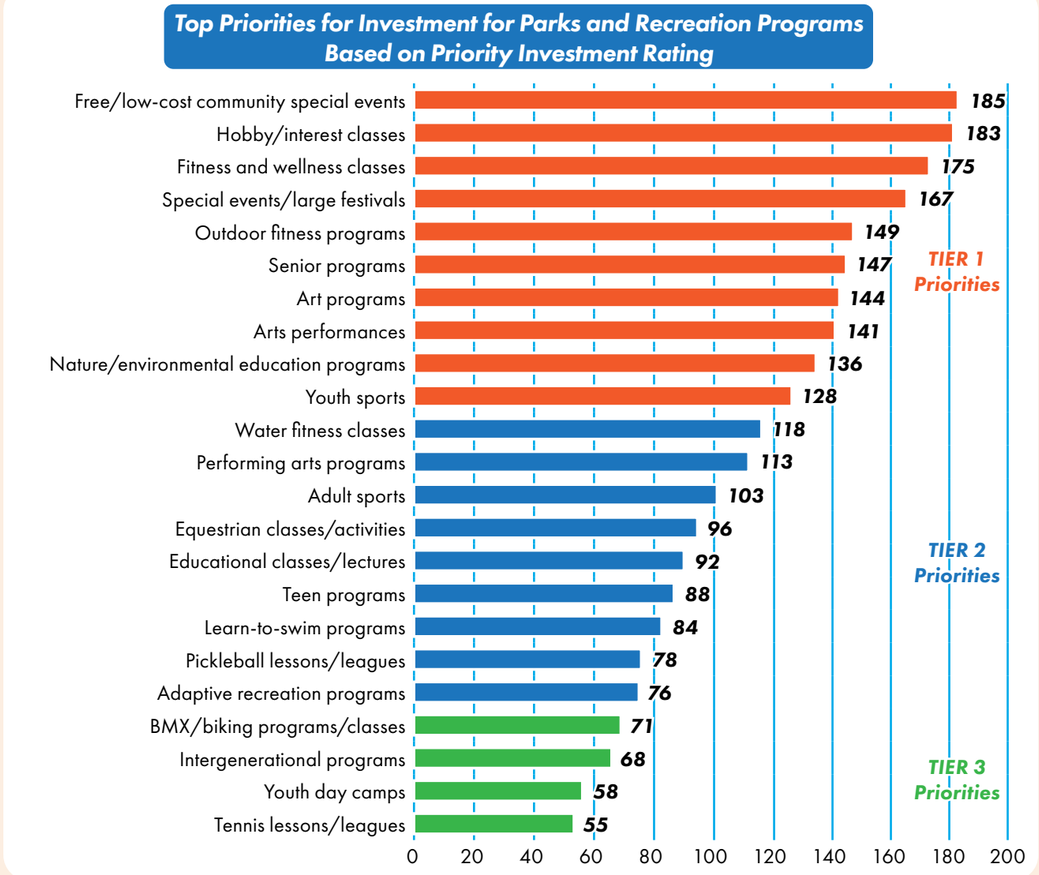
The Priority Investment Rating (PIR) was developed by ETC Institute to provide organizations with an objective tool for evaluating the priority that should be placed in recreation and parks investments. The PIR equally weighs: (1) the importance that residents place on programs and (2) how many residents have unmet needs for the program.

(Unmet Needs Rating) + (Importance Rating) = Priority Investment Rating

[Details regarding the methodology for this analysis are provided in Section 2 of this report.] Based on the PIR, the following programs were rated as tier 1 priorities for investments:

- Hobby/interest classes (PIR=185)
- Free/low-cost community special events (PIR=183)
- Fitness and wellness classes (PIR=175)
- Outdoor fitness programs (PIR=167)
- Art programs (PIR=149)
- Special events/large festivals (PIR=147)
- Art performances (PIR=144)
- Senior programs (PIR=141)
- Nature/environmental education programs (PIR=136)
- Performing arts programs (PIR=128)

The chart below shows the PIR for each of the 23 programs assessed on the survey.



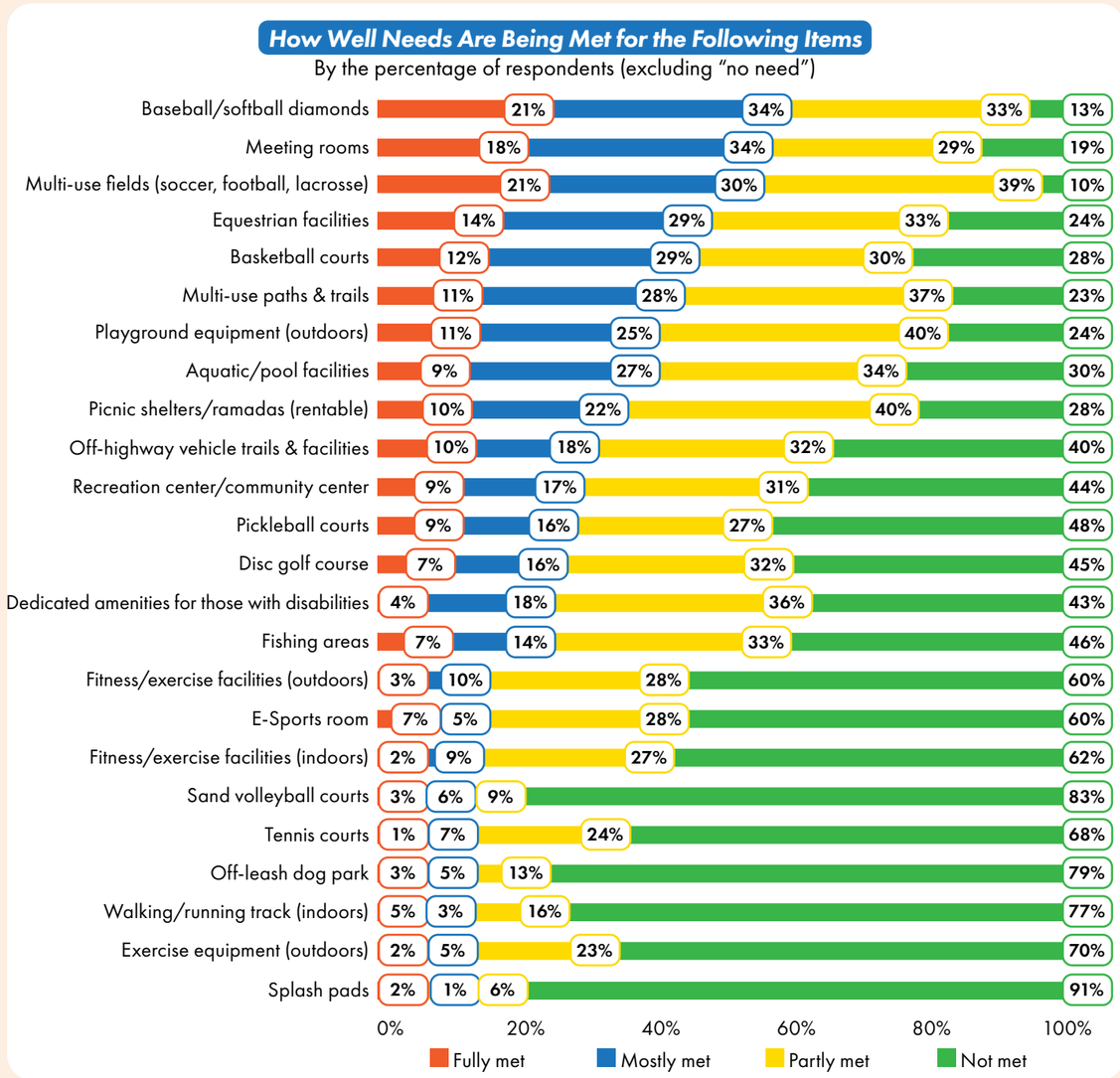
Recreation Facility and Amenity Needs and Priorities

Facility/Amenity Needs

Respondents were asked whether their household needed any of 24 different facilities or amenities, and how well those needs are currently being met. Using their responses, ETC Institute estimated how effectively each person's needs for these facilities and amenities are being satisfied. Based on the sum of fully met and mostly met percentages, the top three amenities were:

1. Basketball/softball diamonds
2. Meeting rooms
3. Multi-use fields (soccer, football, lacrosse)

The percentage of how well each amenity needs are being met is shown in the chart below.

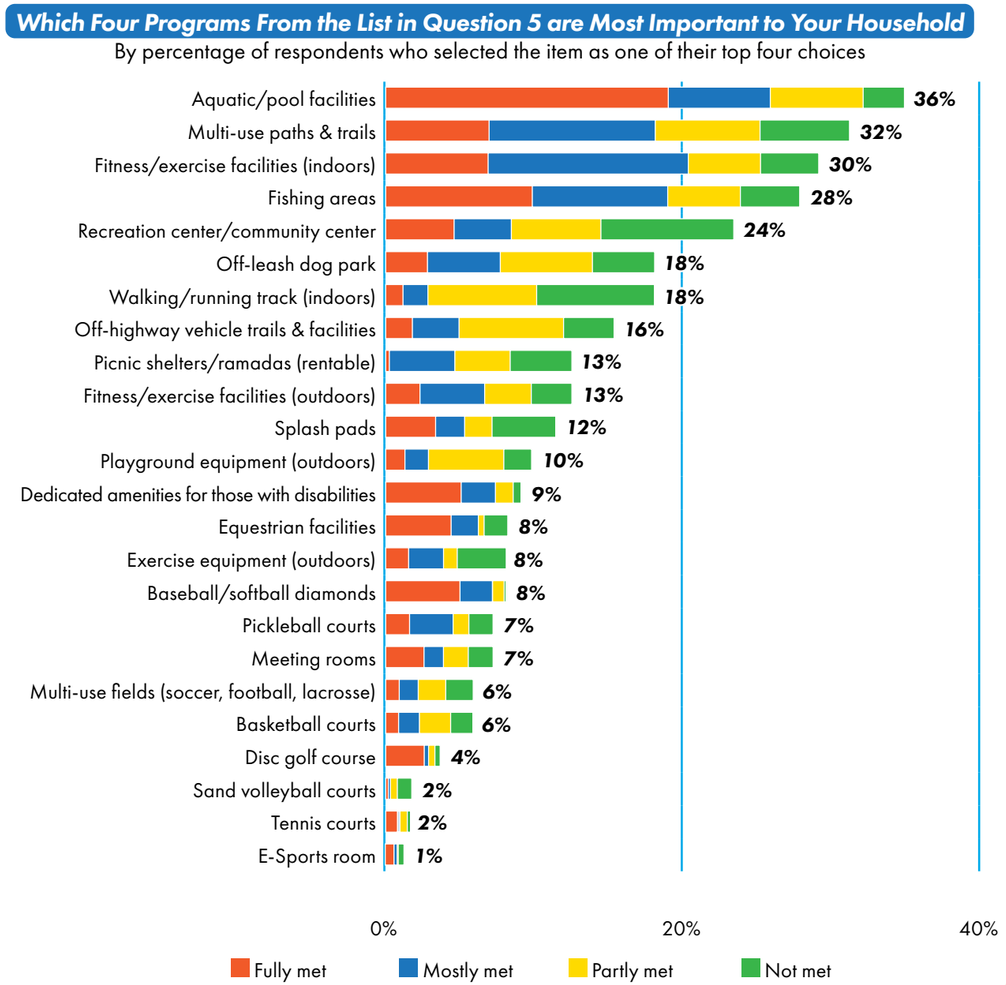


Facility/Amenity Importance

In addition to assessing the needs for each amenity, ETC Institute also assessed the importance that respondents placed on each item. Based on the sum of respondents' top four choices, these were the four amenities ranked most important to residents:

1. Aquatic/pool facilities
2. Multi-use paths & trails
3. Fitness/exercise facilities (indoors)
4. Fishing areas

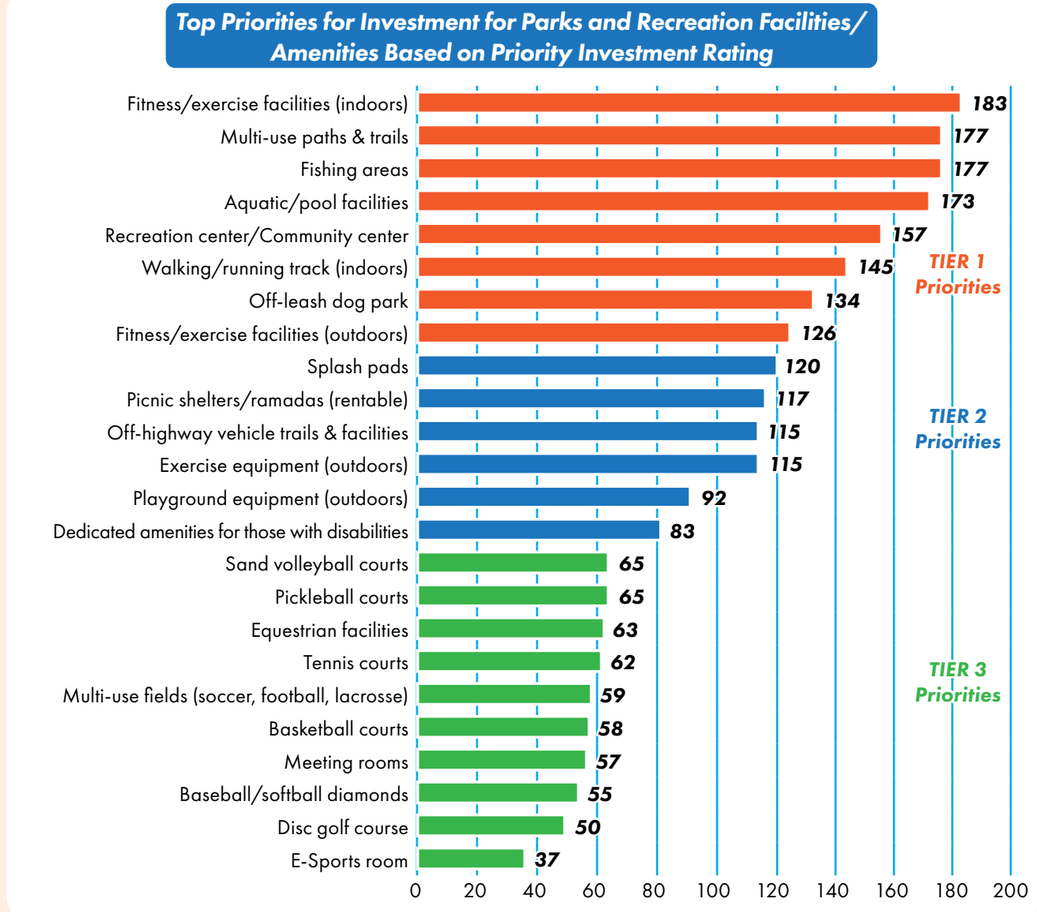
The percentage of respondents who selected each amenity as one of their top four choices is shown in the chart below.



Based on the PIR, the following facilities/amenities were rated as tier 1 priorities for investments:

- Fitness/exercise facilities (indoors) (PIR=183)
- Multi-use paths & trails (PIR=177)
- Fishing areas (PIR=177)
- Aquatic/pool facilities (PIR=173)
- Recreation center/community center (PIR=157)
- Walking/running track (indoors) (PIR=145)
- Off-leash dog park (PIR=134)
- Fitness/exercise facilities (outdoors) (PIR=126)

The chart below shows the PIR for each of the 24 amenities/facilities assessed on the survey.

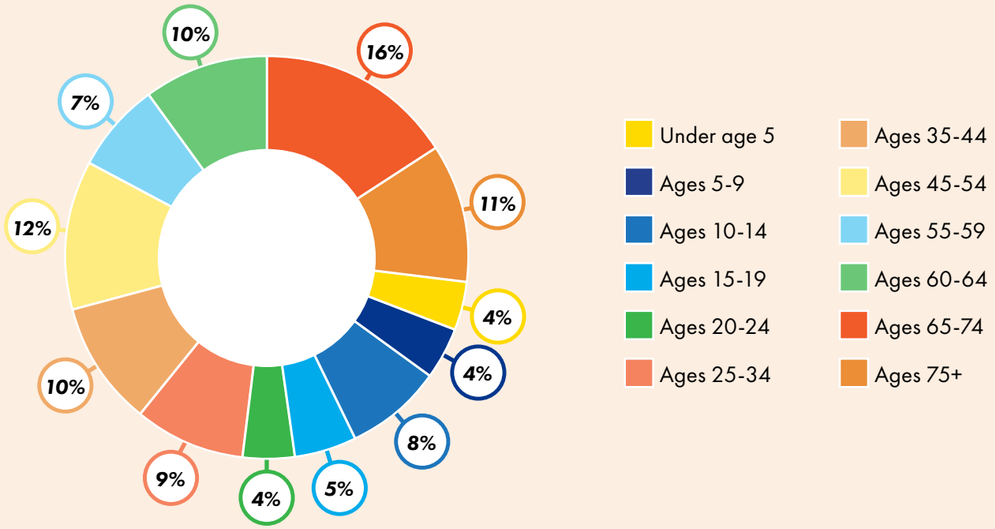


CHARTS AND GRAPHS

Question 1.

Including yourself, how many people are in your household?

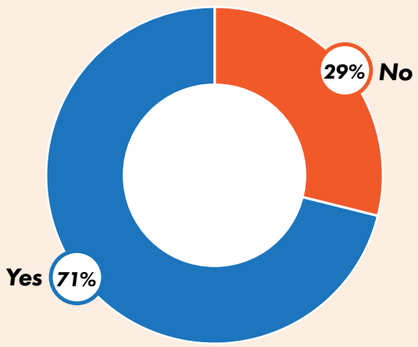
By percentage of respondents



Question 2.

Have you and/or members of your household participated in any programs/activities/events offered by Town of Camp Verde during the past year?

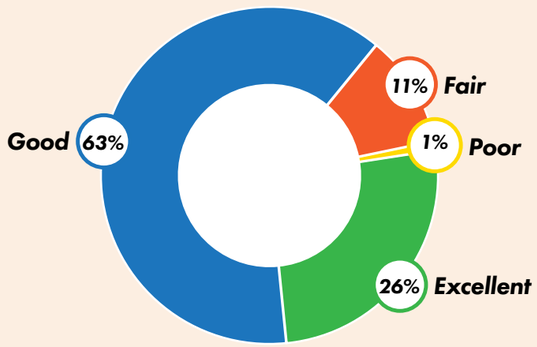
By percentage of respondents



Question 2a.

How would you rate the programs/activities/events you and the members of your household have participated in during the past year?

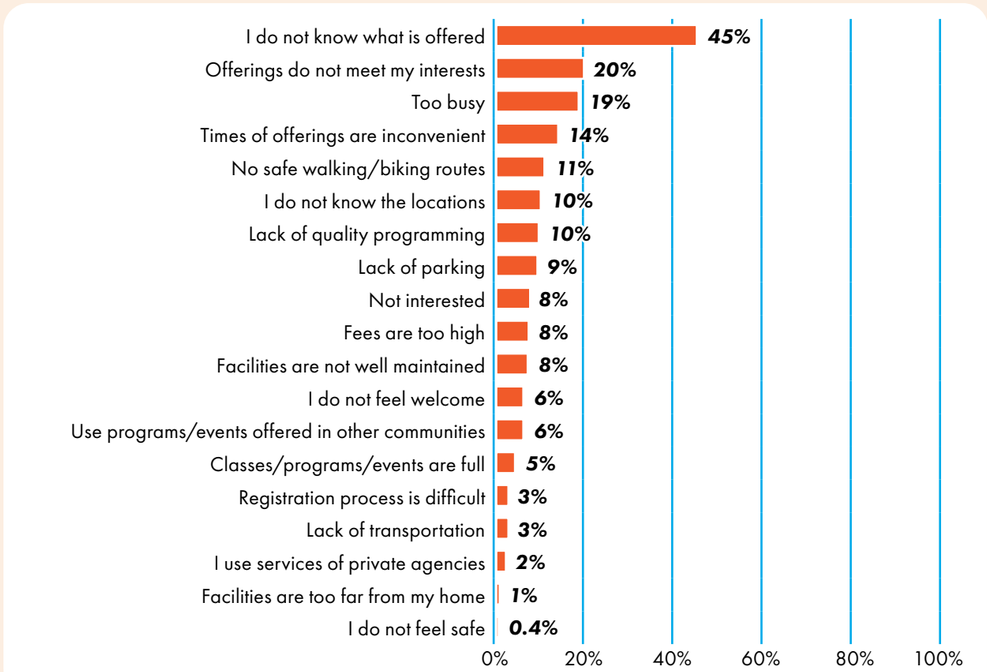
By percentage of respondents who have participated (excluding "not provided")



Question 3.

What has kept you from participating, or participating more often, in Camp Verde Parks & Recreation programs/activities/events?

By percentage of respondents (excluding "none")

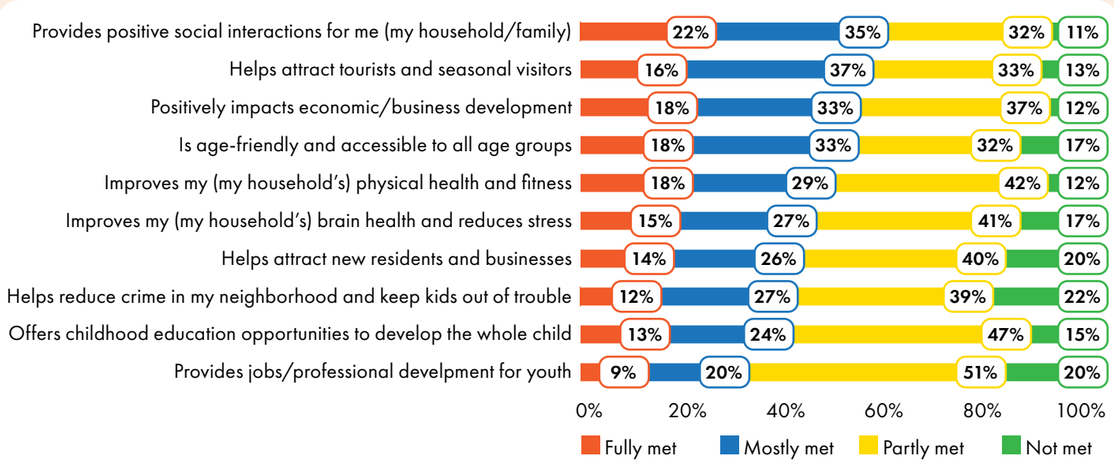




Question 4.

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements about parks and recreation.

By percentage of respondents, using a 5-point scale where 5 means strongly agree and 1 means strongly disagree (excluding "not provided")

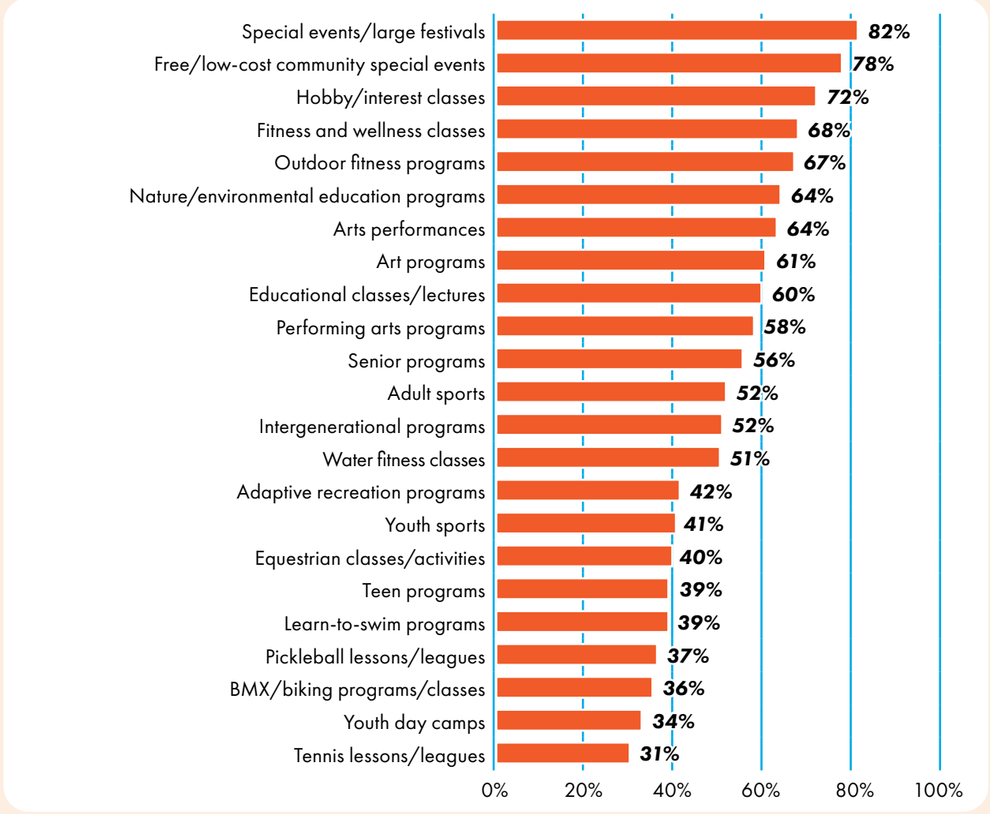




Question 5.

Need for Programs.

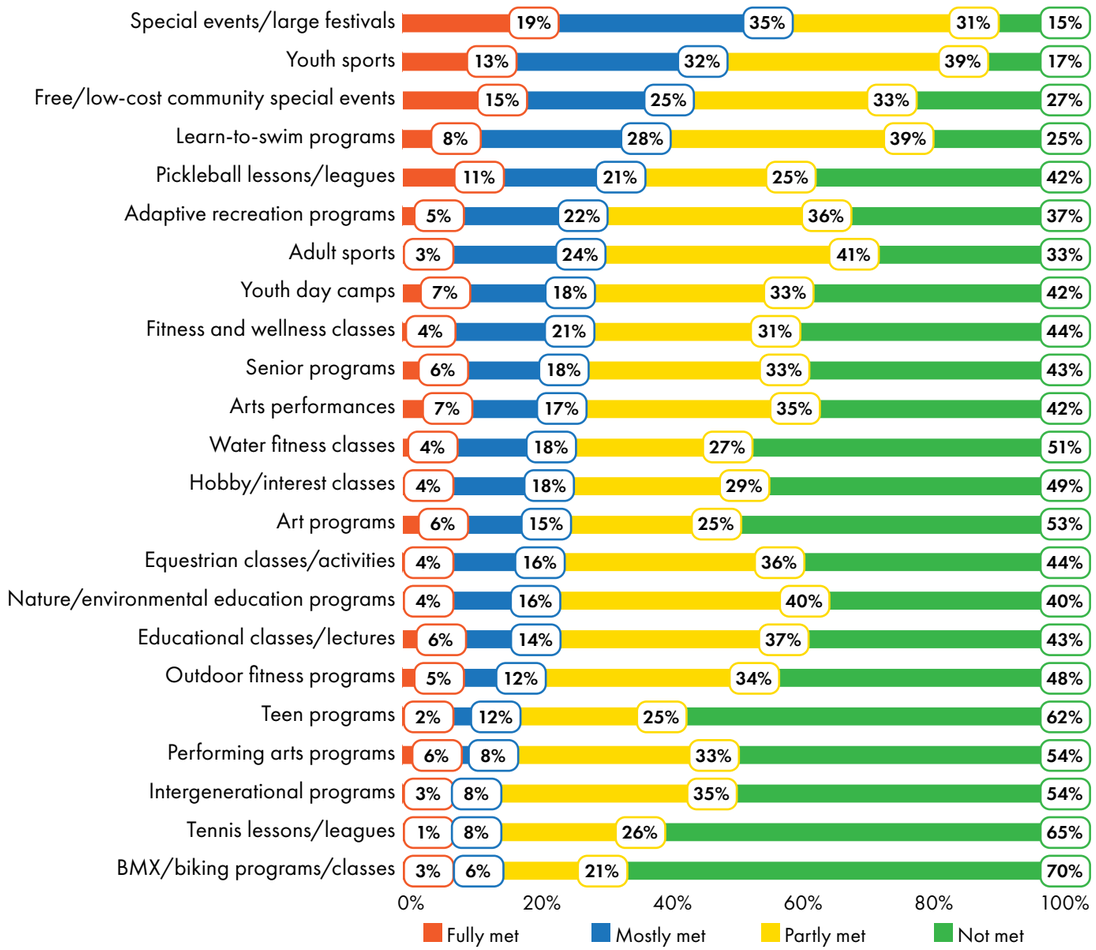
By percentage of respondents who indicated a need



Question 6.

How well needs are being met for the following items?

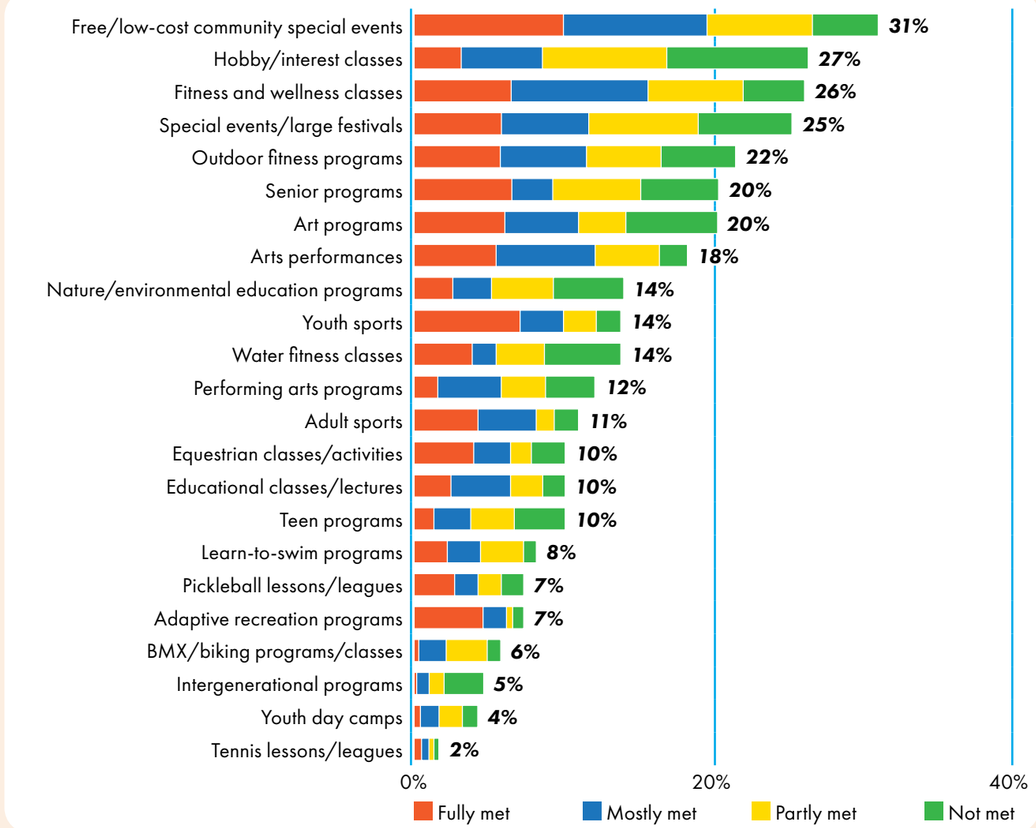
By percentage of respondents (excluding "no need")



Question 7.

Which four programs from the list in Question 5 are MOST IMPORTANT to your household?

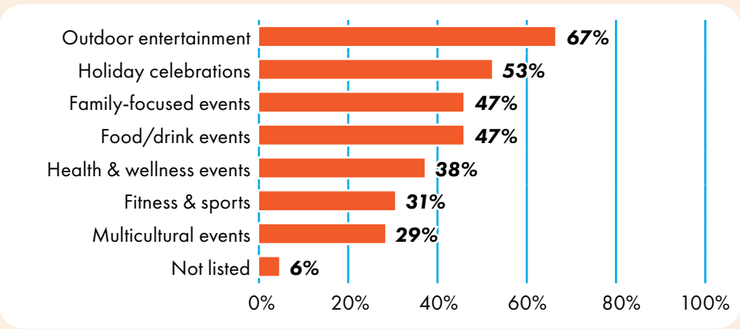
By percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top four choices



Question 8.

Which single-day or multi-day event concepts would you or your household enjoy the most or be interested in?

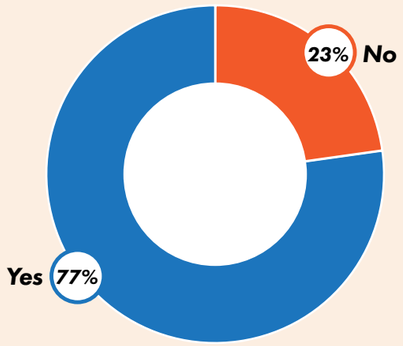
By percentage of respondents



Question 9.

Have you and/or members of your household visited any parks or recreation facilities offered by the Town during the past year?

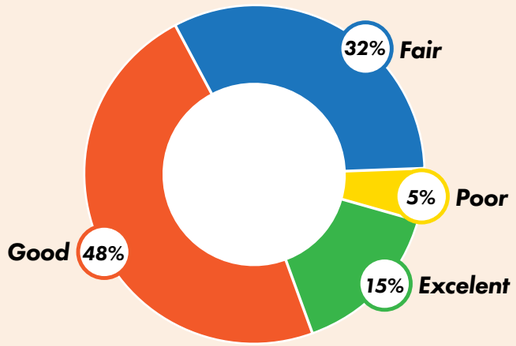
By percentage of respondents



Question 9a.

How would you rate the parks or recreation facilities you and the members of your household have visited during the past year?

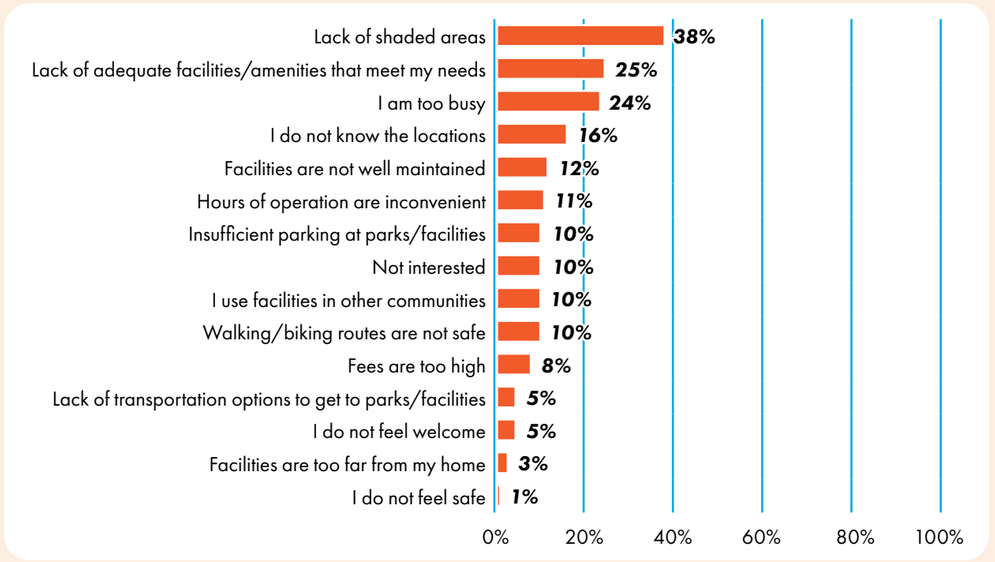
By percentage of respondents who have visited



Question 10.

What factors have prevented you from visiting Town parks or facilities more frequently?

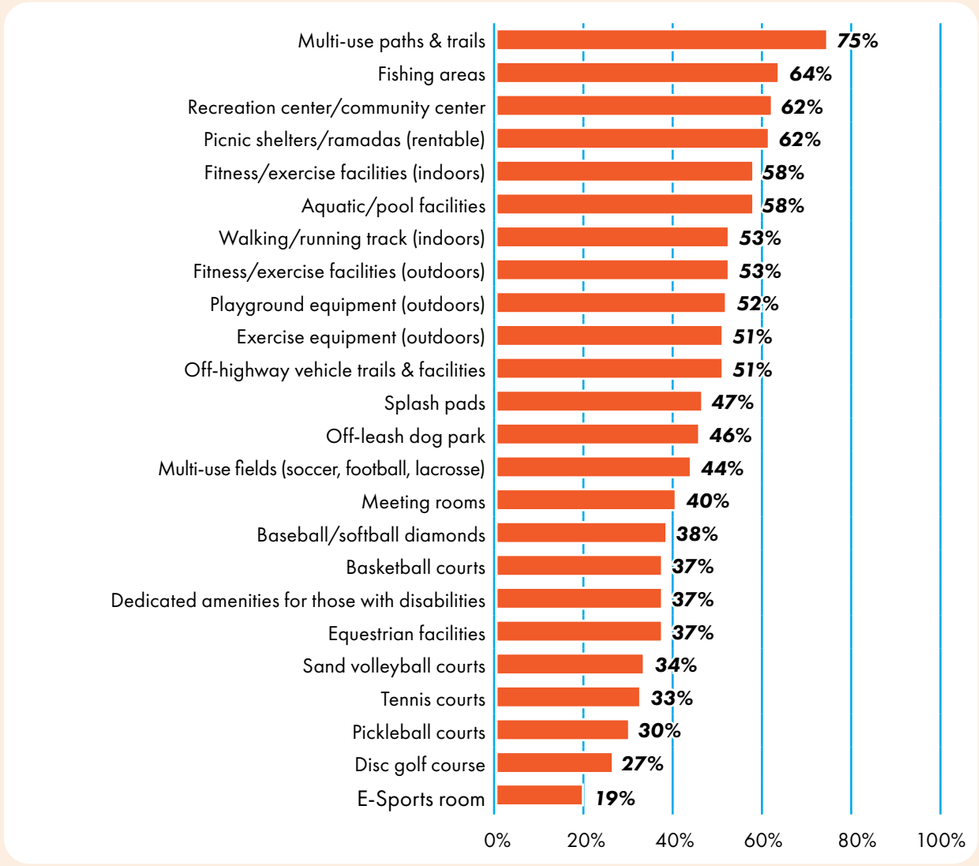
By percentage of respondents (excluding "none")



Question 11.

Need for Facilities/Amenities

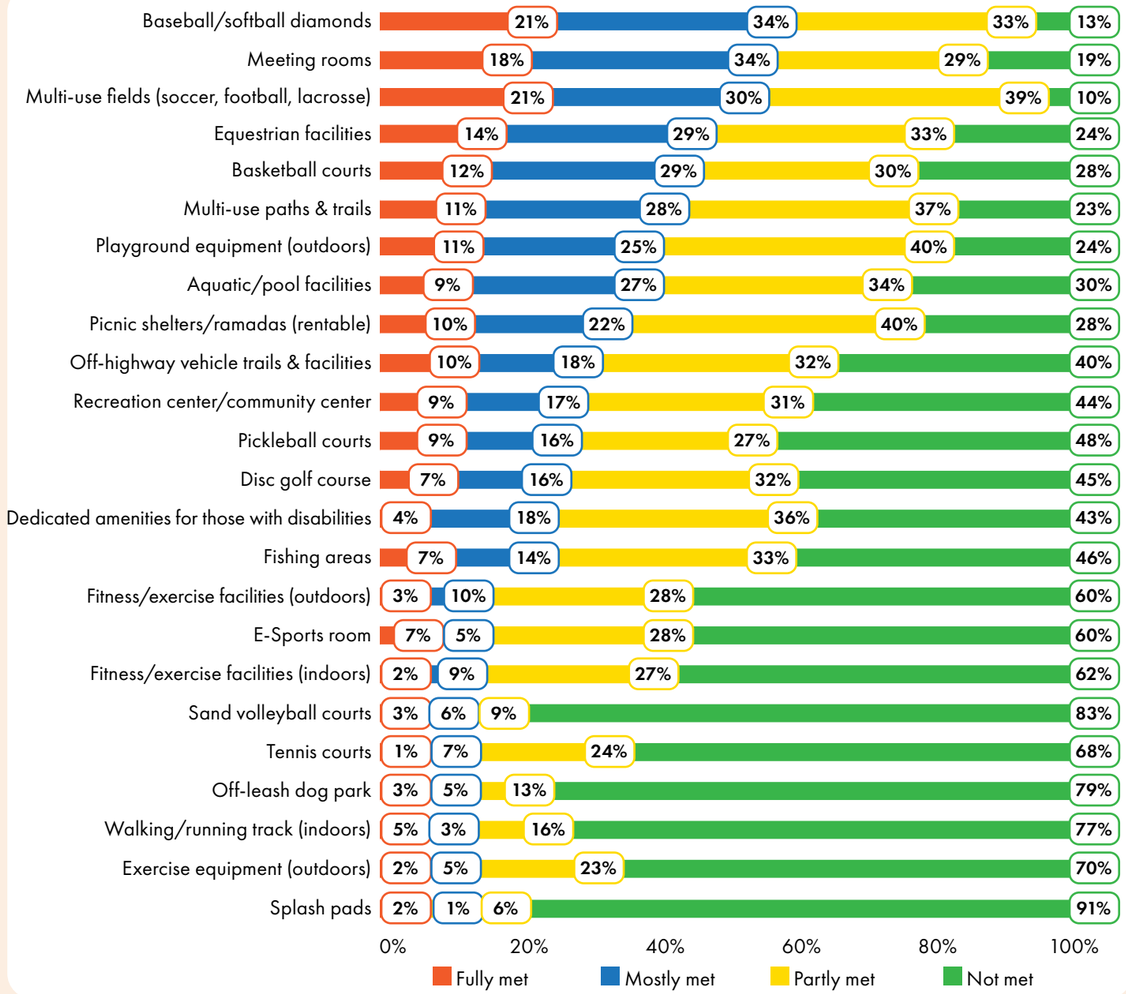
By percentage of respondents who indicated a need



Question 12.

How well needs are being met for the following items?

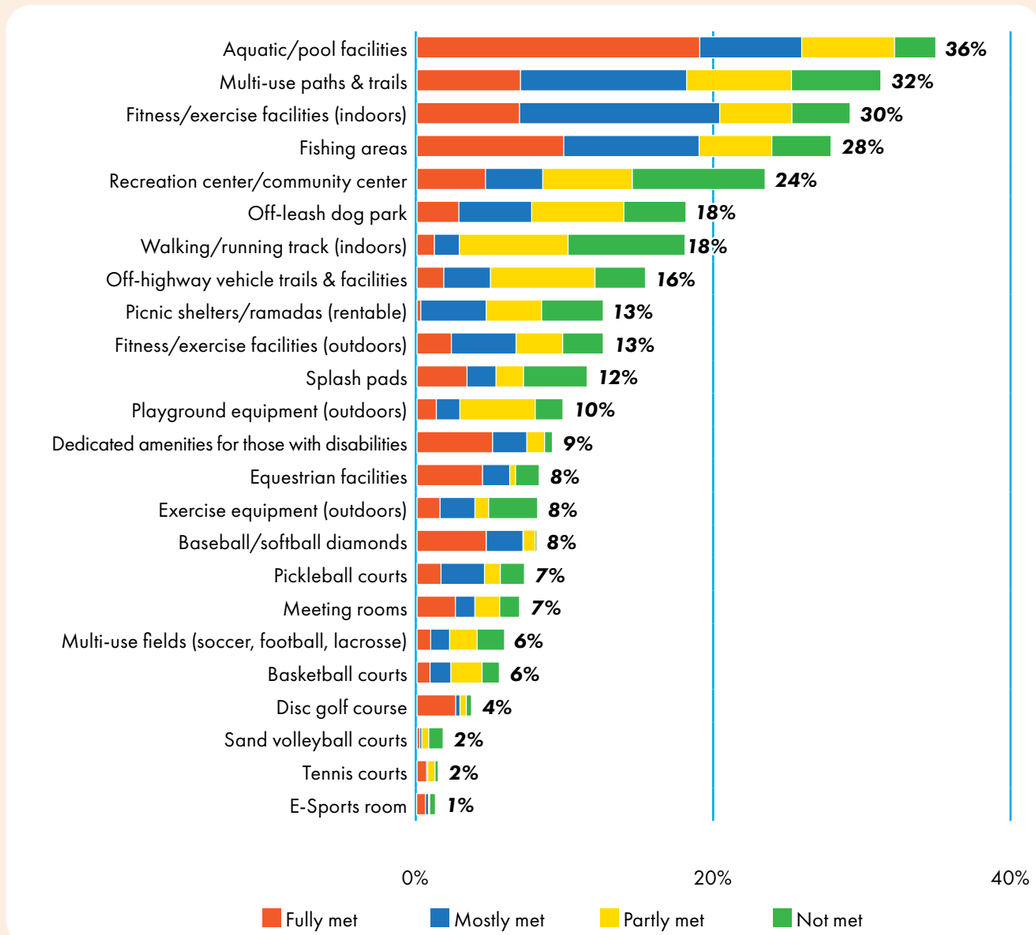
By percentage of respondents (excluding "no need")



Question 13.

Which four facilities/amenities from the list in Question 10 are MOST IMPORTANT to your household?

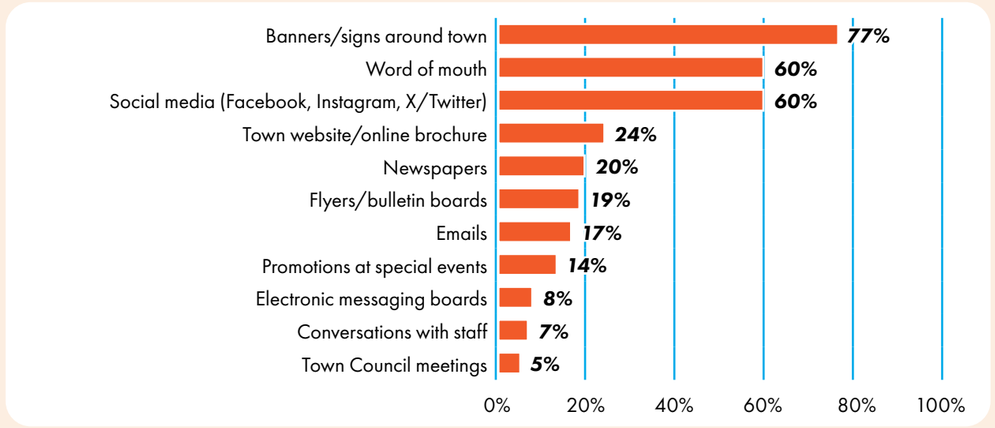
By percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top four choices



Question 14.

From the following list, please check all the ways you learn about Town of Camp Verde parks, recreation facilities, programs, and events.

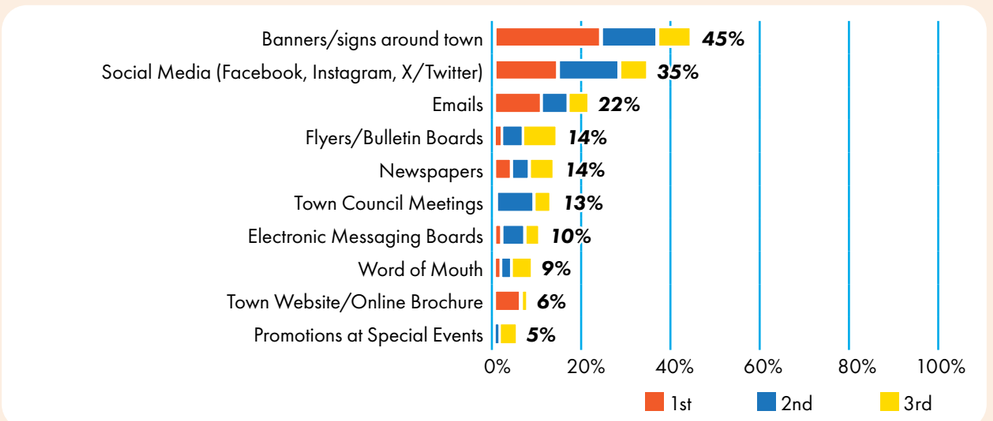
By percentage of respondents



Question 15.

Which three methods of communication listed in Question 12 would you most prefer the Town use to communicate with you about Parks and Recreation services?

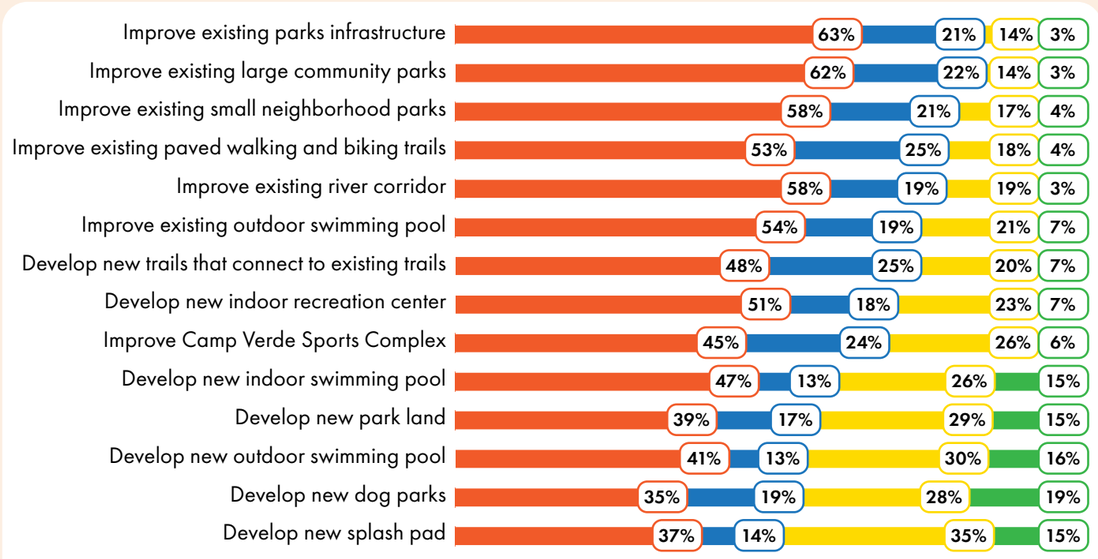
By percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top three choices



Question 16.

Please indicate your level of support for potential actions the Town of Camp Verde could take to improve its parks and recreation system.

By percentage of respondents

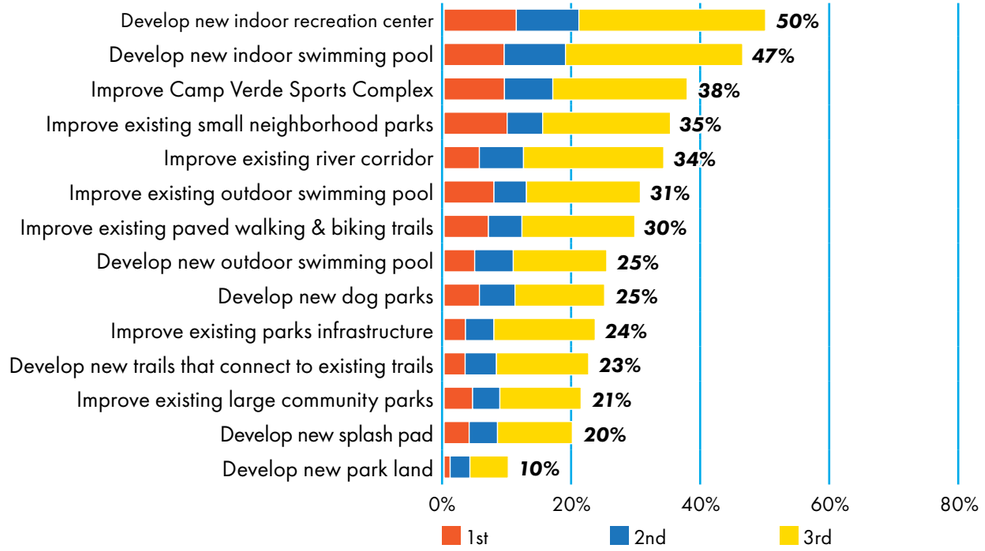




Question 17.

Which three improvements from the list in Question 14 would you be most willing to support with additional tax dollars?

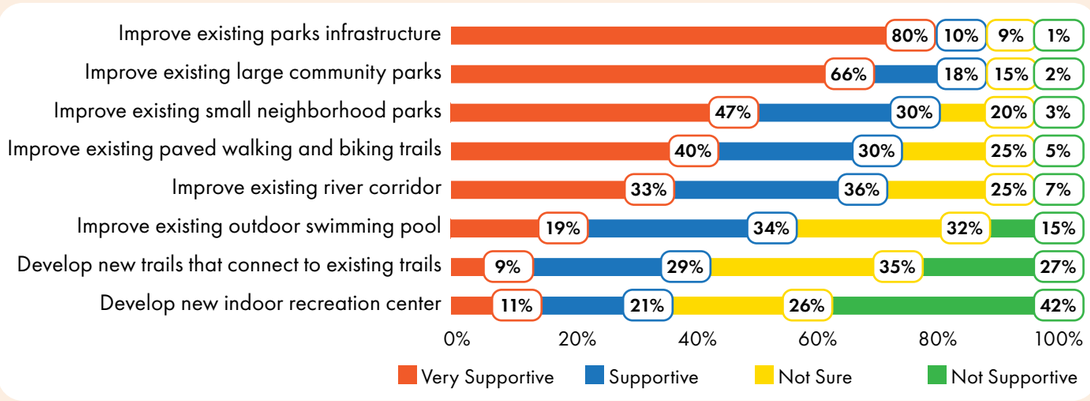
By percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top three choices



Question 18.

Please indicate your level of support for each of the following funding mechanisms that could be used to fund the actions you indicated you would be most willing to support.

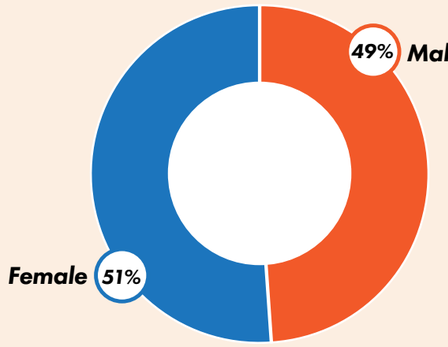
By percentage of respondents



Question19.

Your gender:

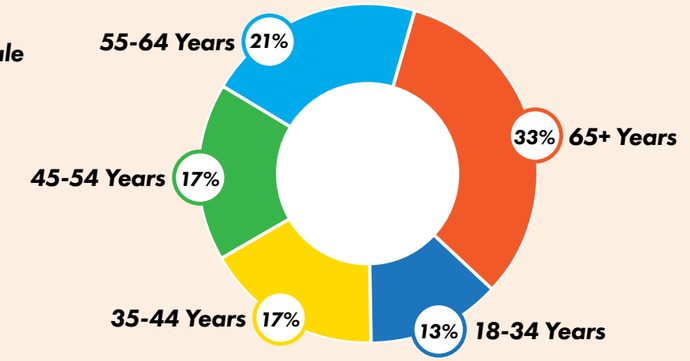
By percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



Question 20.

What is your age?

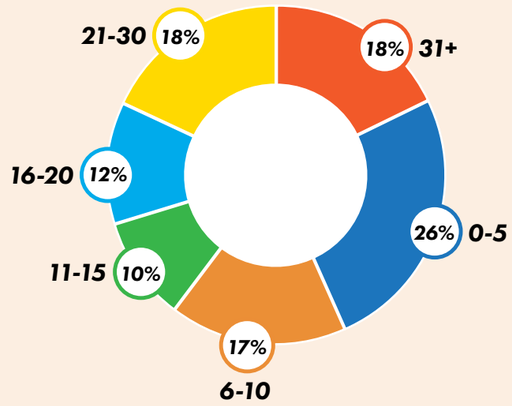
By percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



Question 21.

How many years have you lived in Camp Verde?

By percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



PRIORITY INVESTMENT RATING

Camp Verde Parks and Recreation Priority Investment Ratings

The **PIR** was developed by ETC Institute to provide governments with an objective tool for evaluating parks and recreation investments and identifing the facilities and programs residents think should receive the highest priority for investment. The PIR reflects the importance residents place on items (sum of top four choices) and the unmet needs (needs that are only being partly or not met) for each facility/program relative to the facility/program that rated the highest overall. Since decisions related to future investments should consider both the level of unmet need and the importance of facilities and programs, the PIR weights each of these components equally.

The PIR reflects the sum of the Unmet Needs Rating (UNR) and the Importance Rating (IR) as shown in the equation below:

PIR = UNR + IR

For example, suppose the UNR for playgrounds is 26.5 (out of 100) and the IR for playgrounds is 52 (out of 100), the PIR for playgrounds would be 78.4 (out of 200).

How to Analyze the Charts:

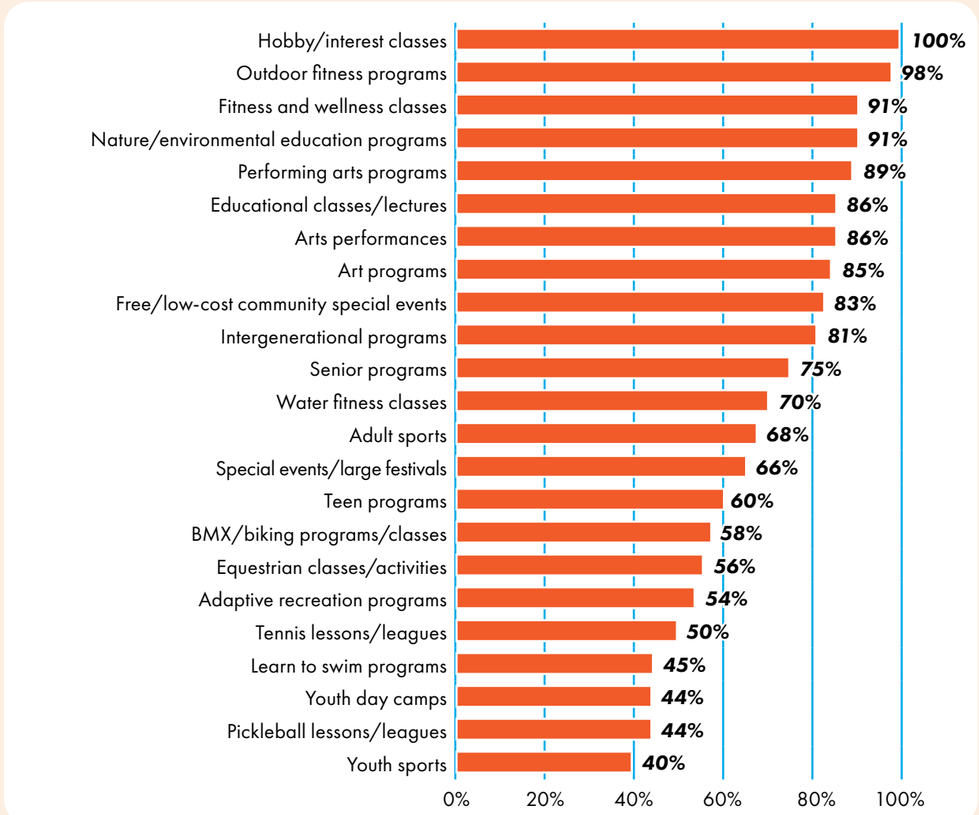
- **Tier One Priorities.** A rating in this range generally indicates there is a relatively high level of unmet need and residents generally think it is important to fund improvements in these areas. Improvements in this area are likely to have a positive impact on the greatest number of households.
- **Tier Two Priorities.** A rating in this range generally indicates there is a medium to high level of unmet need or a significant percentage of residents think it is important to fund improvements in these areas.
- **Tier Three Priorities.** A rating in this range generally indicates there is a relatively low level of unmet need and residents do not think it is important to fund improvements in these areas. Improvements may be warranted if the needs of very specialized populations are being targeted.

The following pages show the UNR, IR, and PIR for amenities and programs.



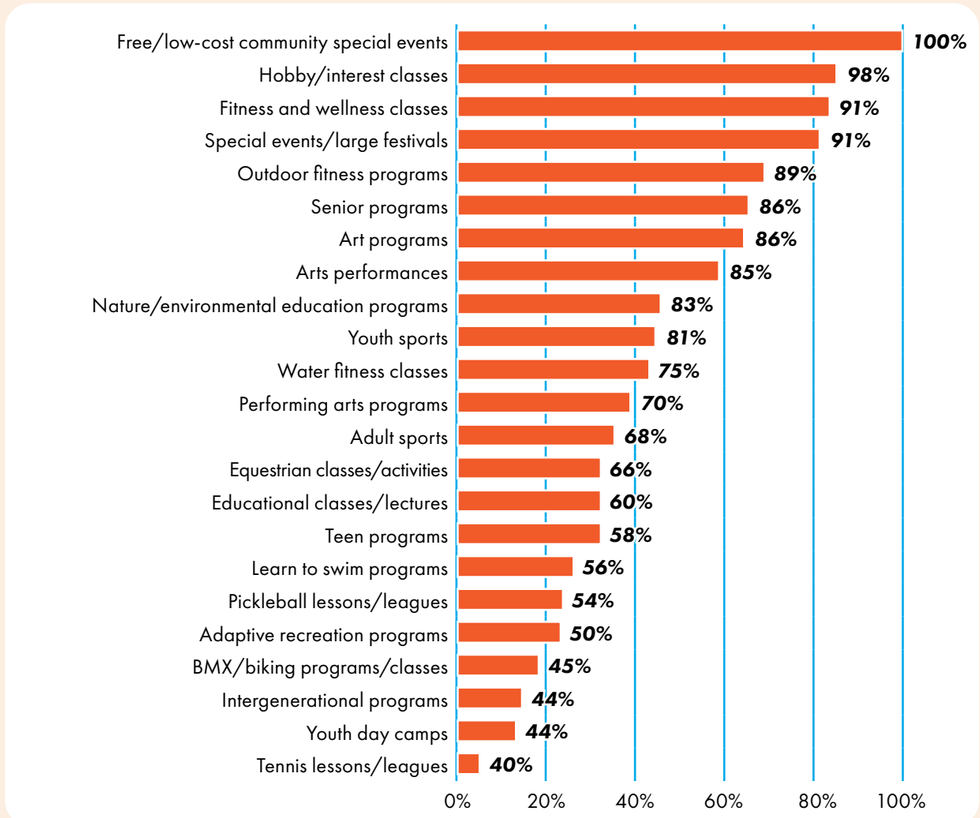
Unmet Needs Rating for Programs

The rating for the item with the most unmet need=100. The rating of all other items reflects the relative amount of unmet need for each item compared to the item with the most unmet need.

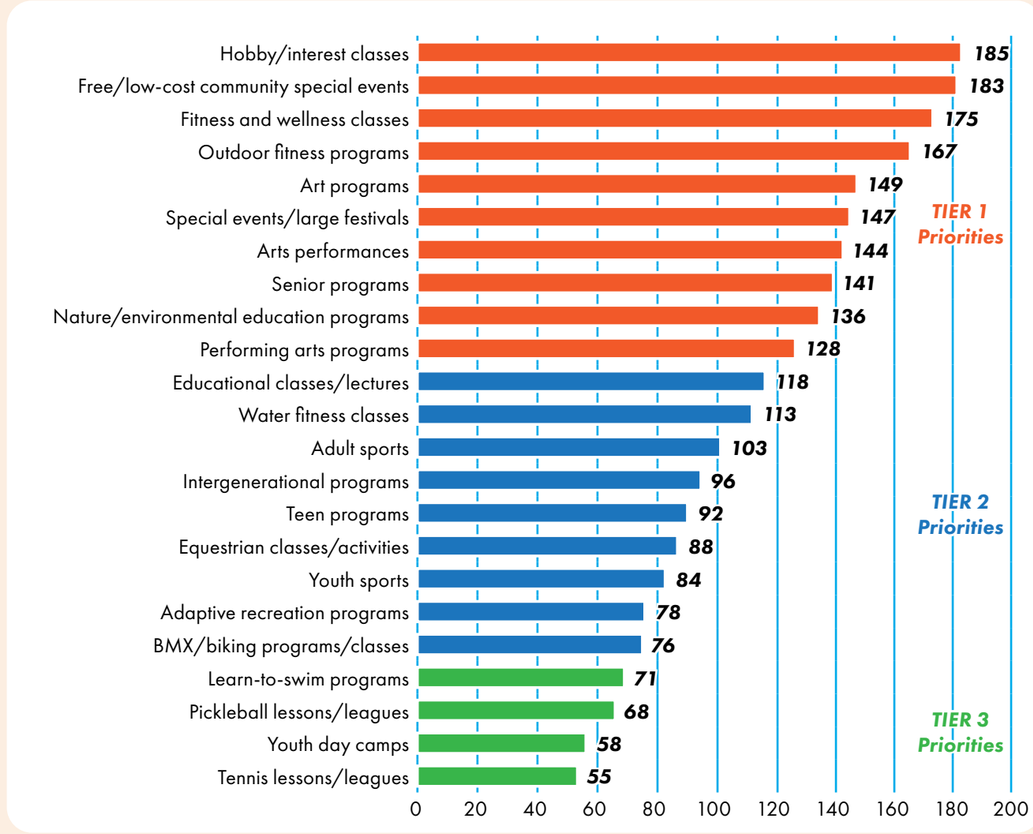


Importance Rating for Programs

The rating for the item with the most unmet need=100. The rating of all other items reflects the relative amount of unmet need for each item compared to the item with the most unmet need.

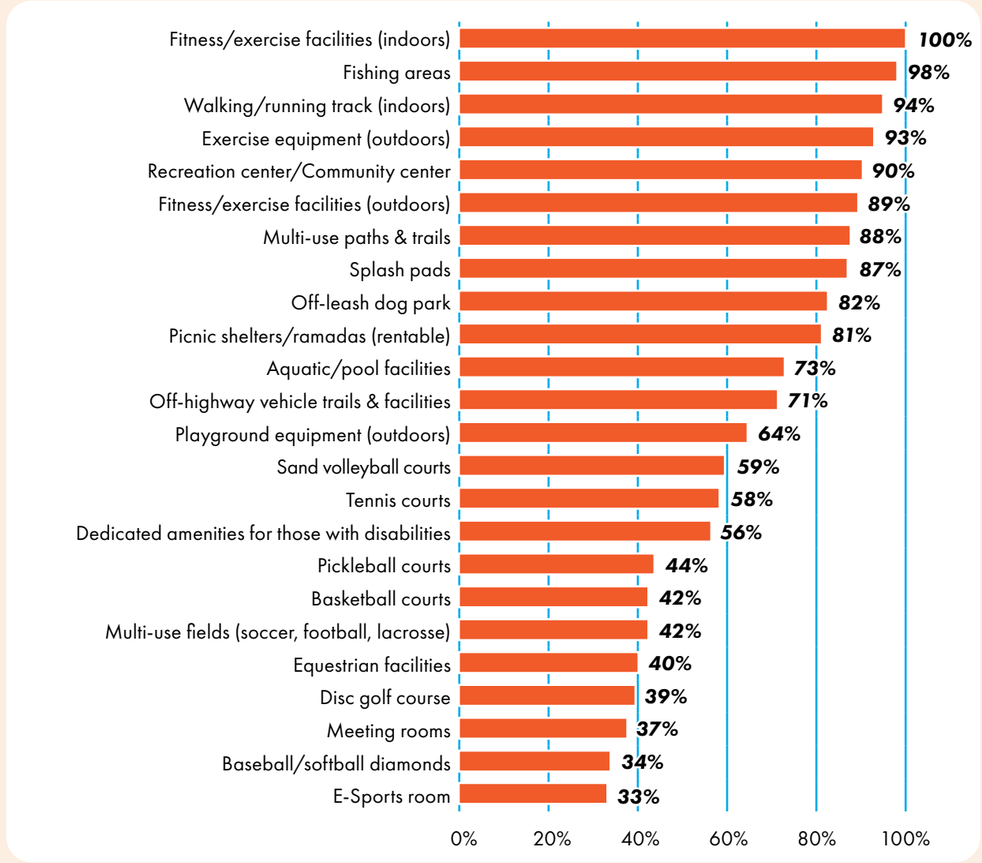


Top Priorities for Investment for Parks and Recreation Programs Based on Priority Investment Rating



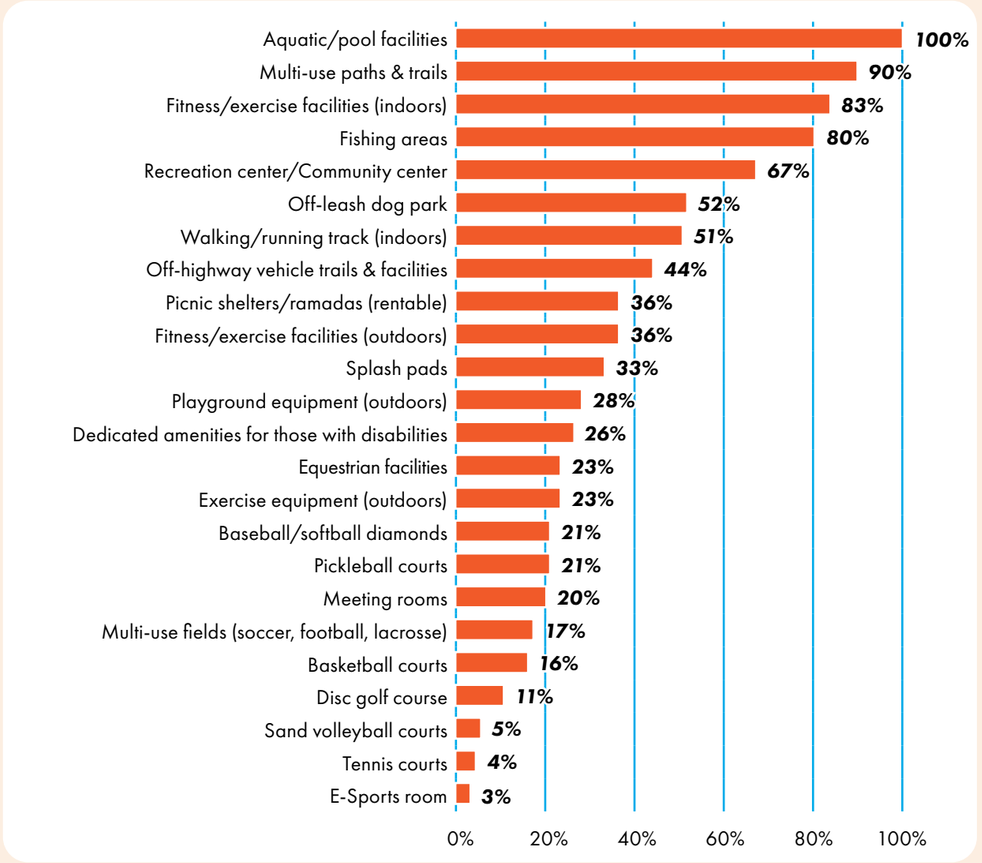
Unmet Needs Rating for Facilities/Amenities

The rating for the item with the most unmet need=100. The rating of all other items reflects the relative amount of unmet need for each item compared to the item with the most unmet need.

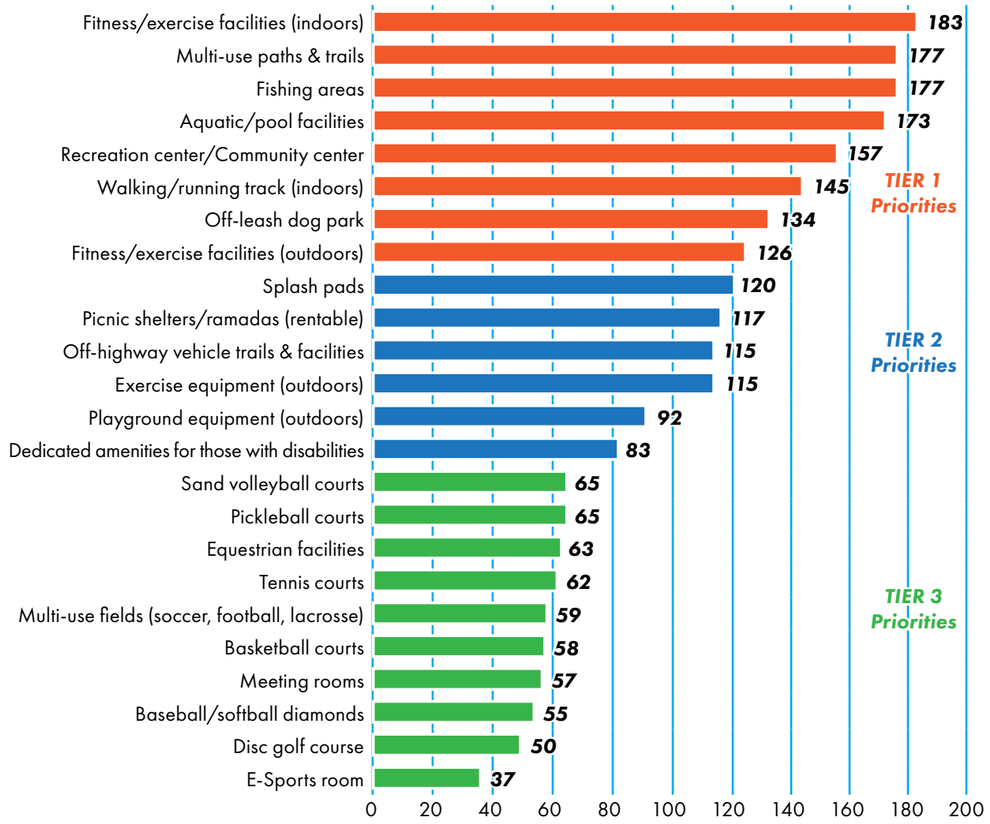


Importance Rating for Facilities/Amenities

The rating for the item with the most importance=100, The rating of all other items reflects the relative amount of importance for each item compared to the item with the most importance



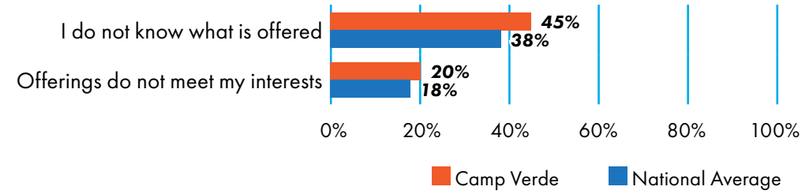
Top Priorities for Investment for Parks and Recreation Facilities/Amenities Based on Priority Investment Rating



NATIONAL BENCHMARKS

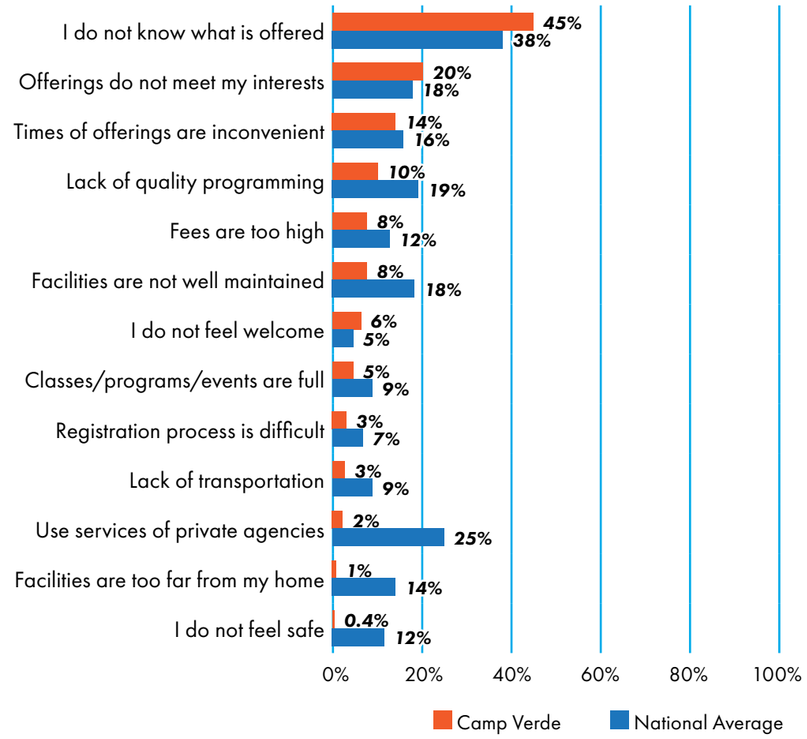
Program Participation

By percentage of respondents



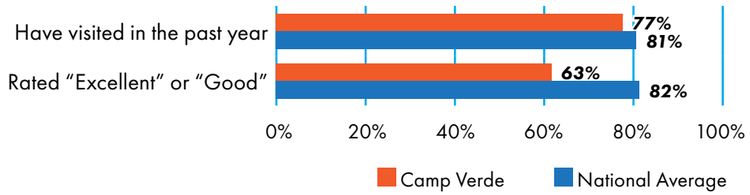
Barriers to Program Participation

By percentage of respondents (excluding "none")



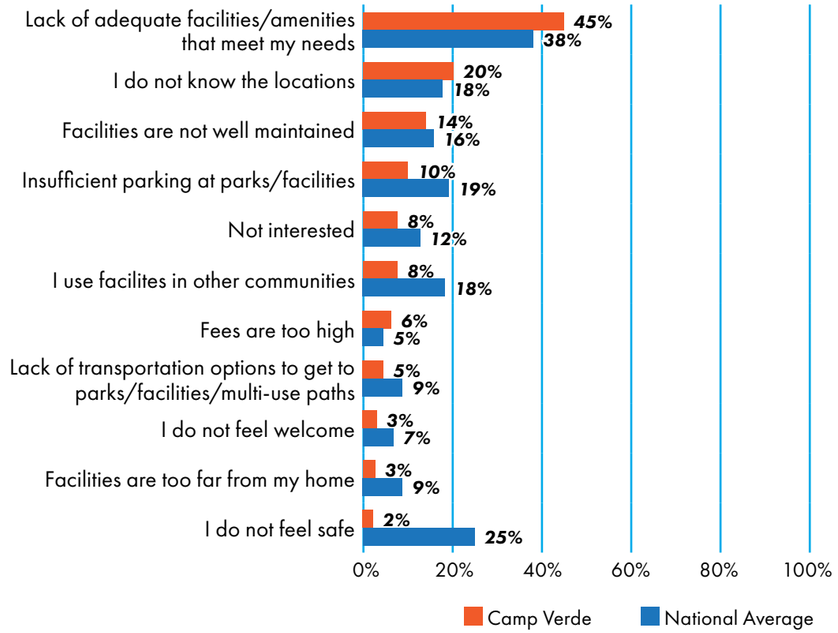
Use of Facilities

By percentage of respondents



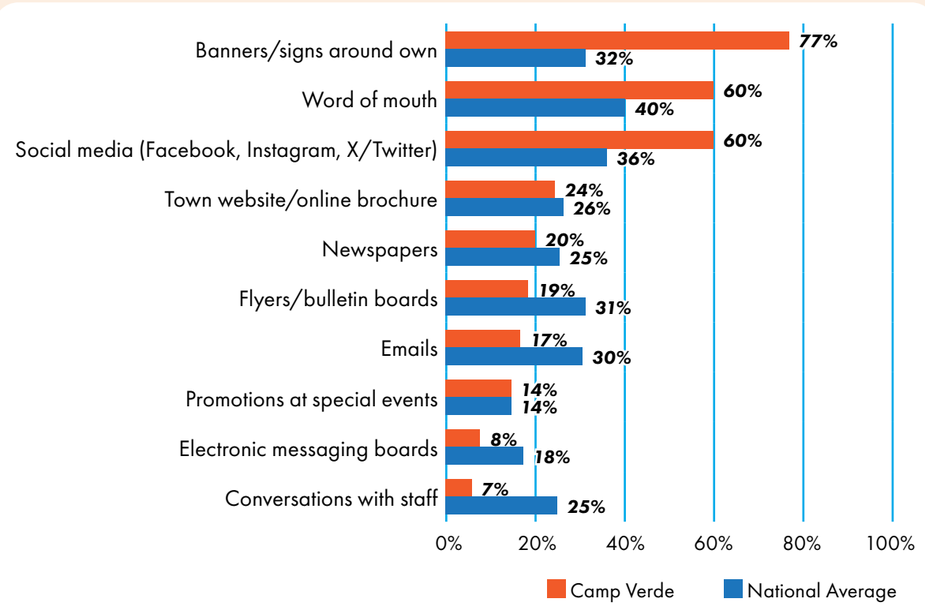
Barriers to Facility Use

By percentage of respondents (excluding "none")



Communication Methods

By percentage of respondents



Pop-Up Event Summaries



CAMP VERDE FOOD TRUCK NIGHT

Thursday, September 18th, 2025 | 4pm – 8pm

Redinger Ramada – 75 E. Hollamon Street, Camp Verde, AZ

The Master Plan team joined Camp Verde's last Food Truck Night of the season to kick off the public outreach process for the Camp Verde Parks and Recreation Master Plan (PRMP). Residents could leave sticky notes with their big ideas and best memories at local parks and programs, what they like best, and what changes they would like to see in Parks and Recreation. The public could also fill out a survey, learn information about the project and website, and dialogue with team members face to face. They were also asked to vote for their favorite six "wish list" items each in two main categories respectively: Programs Activities, Events, and Needs; and Facilities, Amenities, and Needs.

Overall, 37 people were able to provide feedback during the event. The top voted-on programs, activities, and events desires were youth sports, teen programs, and free/low-cost programs and events. The least voted-on programs were hobby/interest classes, tennis lessons and leagues, and skateboarding programs and classes. The top voted-on facilities and amenities were aquatics and pool facilities, splash pads and water play, and playground equipment. The least voted-on facilities and amenities were sand volleyball courts, tennis courts, campsites, and indoor pickleball courts.

Programs, Activities, Events, and Needs	Votes
Youth Sports	20
Teen Programs	19
Free/Low-Cost Programs and Events	18
Youth Education/Special Interest Classes	16
Adult Sports	15
Fitness and Wellness Programs	12
Educational Classes and Lectures	10
Nature/Environmental Education Programs	10
Senior Programs	10
Active Adult Fitness Programs	10
Golf Programs and Lessons	9
Learn-to-Swim Programs	8
Outdoor Fitness Programs	8
Preschool Programs	8
Water Fitness Classes	8
Youth Day Camps	7
Art Programs	6
Biking Programs and Classes	6
Intergenerational Programs	6
Pickleball Lessons/Leagues	5
Adaptive Recreation Programs	4
Skateboarding Programs and Classes	2
Tennis Lessons and Leagues	1
Hobby/Interest Classes	0













CAMP VERDE FOOD TRUCK NIGHT CONTINUED

Thursday, September 18th, 2025 | 4pm – 8pm

Redinger Ramada – 75 E. Hollamon Street, Camp Verde, AZ

Facilities, Amenities, and Needs	Votes
Aquatics and Pool Facilities	21
Splash Pads and Water Play	18
Playground Equipment	15
Baseball and Softball Diamonds	10
Fishing Areas	9
Recreation and Community Center	9
Basketball Courts (Indoor)	8
Dedicated Amenities for those with Disabilities	8
Off-Leash Dog Parks	8
Trailheads	8
Equestrian Facilities	8
Basketball Courts (Outdoor)	7
Fitness and Exercise Equipment (Indoors)	7
Multi-Use Fields	7
Fitness and Exercise Equipment (Outdoors)	7
Outdoor Pickleball Courts	7
Equestrian Trails	7
Amphitheater	6
Disc Golf Course	5
Meeting Rooms/Rental Spaces and Places	5
Multi-Use Paths and Trails	5
Natural Areas and Wildlife Habitat	5
Indoor Walking/Running Track	5
Off-Road Vehicle/ATV Paths	4
Pavilions and Picnic Shelters	4
Non-Motorized Boating	4
E-Sports Room	3
Volleyball Courts (Indoor)	3
Campsites	2
Indoor Pickleball Courts	2
Tennis Courts	1
Sand Volleyball Courts	0















FORT VERDE DAYS

Saturday, October 18th, 2025 | 10am – 4pm

Main Street, Camp Verde, AZ

For 69 years, Fort Verde Days has served as the community's annual homecoming while also celebrating the military post around which the Town of Camp Verde grew. A parade on Saturday, food and craft vendors, entertainment, and a host of events at Fort Verde State Historic Park are highlights of this event. The Parks and Recreation Master Plan team set up a booth at the event where participants offered their feedback on amenities, facilities, programs, and activities they would like to see in the future of Camp Verde Parks and Recreation.















Programs

Votes

Programs	Votes
Free/Low-Cost Events	75
Youth Sports	67
Learn-to-Swim Programs	66
Teen Programs	66
Art Programs	55
Nature/Environmental Education	54
Senior Programs	48
Adult Sports	46
Outdoor Fitness Programs	46
Youth Education/Special Interest Classes	45
Fitness/Wellness Class	42
Youth Day Camps	42
Active Adult Fitness	39
Golf Programs/Lessons	38
Water Fitness Classes	38
Preschool Programs	35
Hobby/Interest Classes	34
Biking Programs	32
Adaptive Rec Programs	28
Intergenerational Programs	28
Pickleball Lessons	28
Skateboarding Programs	28
Educational Classes	26
Tennis Lessons	13

FORT VERDE DAYS CONTINUED

Saturday, October 18th, 2025 | 10am – 4pm

Main Street, Camp Verde, AZ

Amenities	Votes
Splash Pad	102
Aquatics and Pool Facilities	86
Fishing Areas	70
Non-motorized Boating	58
Off-Road ATV paths	58
Campsites	55
Trailheads	55
Indoor walking/Running Track	53
Off-Leash Dog Park	53
Natural Areas/Habitat	52
Dedicated ADA Amenities	48
Amphitheater	43
Playground Equipment	37
Rec Center	36
Multi Use Path/Trails	34
Indoor Fitness and Exercise	33
Sand Volleyball	33
Equestrian Trails	32
Baseball and Softball Diamonds	27
E-Sports Room	25
Equestrian Facilities	25
Pavilions/Picnic Shelters	25
Disc Golf Course	24
Indoor Pickleball	24
Basketball Courts (Indoor)	22
Fitness and Exercise Equipment	21
Outdoor Pickleball	21
Basketball Courts (Outdoor)	20
Multi-Use Fields	20
Volleyball Courts	19
Tennis Courts	13
Meeting Room/Rental spaces	10















CAMP VERDE CHRISTMAS

Saturday, December 13, 2025 | 10am - 4pm

Camp Verde Town Recreation Center

The Town of Camp Verde hosted a Christmas parade and market at the Camp Verde Recreation Center, with an associated parade along adjacent streets. The event was family-friendly and interactive, featuring a variety of vendors selling festive items, locally made goods, and food.

The master plan team hosted a booth inside the recreation center alongside other vendors to highlight popular amenities and programming options that could be apart of the master plan for the parks. The team facilitated a dotocracy activity, allowing attendees to vote on their preferred activities and amenities. Team members also shared information about the project and distributed business cards with a link to the project website, where participants could learn more, complete the survey, and access additional virtual outreach tools.





Programs, Activities, Events, and Needs	Votes
Natural Areas and Wildlife Habitat	39
Recreation and Community Center	34
Aquatics and Pool Facilities	31
Fitness and Wellness Classes	27
Off-Leash Dog Parks	25
Active Adult Fitness	24
Amphitheater	24
Water Fitness Classes	24
Multi-Use Paths	23
Off-Road Vehicle	23
Senior Programs	23
Fishing Areas	22
Splash Pad and Water Play	22
Learn-to-Swim Program	21
Free/Low-Cost Programs	20
Nature/Environmental Education	20
Trail Heads	20
Hobby/Interest Class	18
Teen Programs	18
Campsites	17
Dedicated Amenities for ADA	16
Equestrian Facilities	16
Fitness/Exercise Equipment Outdoor	16
Non-Motorized Boating	16
Adaptive Recreation Programs	15
Art Programs	15
Indoor Walking Track	15
Outdoor Fitness Programs	15
Adult Sports	14
Pickleball Lesson/League	14
Intergenerational Programs	13
Pavilions and Picnic Shelters	13
Fitness/Exercise Indoor Equipment	12
Youth Day Camps	12
Youth Education/Special Interest	12
Baseball and Softball Diamonds	11
Playground Equip	11
Youth Sports	11
Meeting Rooms - Rental Event Spaces	10
Equestrian Trails	9
Golf Programs	9
E-Sports	7
Indoor Pickleball	7
Outdoor Pickleball	7
Skateboarding Programs and Classes	7
Indoor Basketball	6
Sand Volleyball	6
Disc Golf	5
Multi-Use Fields	4
Outdoor Basketball	3
Preschool Programs	3
Tennis Lessons and Leagues	3
Tennis Court	2



CAMP VERDE TOUCH A TRUCK EVENT

Saturday February 14, 2026 | 11am – 3pm

Camp Verde Sports Complex, Camp Verde, AZ

The Town of Camp Verde hosted a Touch A Truck Events at the Camp Verde Sports Complex. The event was family-friendly and interactive, featuring exploration options with a variety of vehicles including emergency, construction, utility, and transportation trucks.

The master plan team hosted a booth outside among the other vendors and demonstration areas, highlighting popular amenities and programming options that could be a part of the master plan for the parks. The team facilitated a dotmocracy activity, allowing attendees to vote on their preferred activities and amenities. Kids attending the event were able to participate in an activity to be able to "build their dream playground" out of provided materials. Team members also shared information about the project and distributed business cards with a link to the project website, where participants could learn more, complete the survey, and access additional virtual outreach tools.













TOTAL VOTES:

1,224

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS:

102

Activities	Votes
SPLASH PAD AND WATER PLAY	114
AQUATICS AND POOL FACILITIES	67
FREE/LOW-COST PROGRAMS	57
LEARN TO SWIM PROGRAMS	54
PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT	47
YOUTH EDUCATION/SPECIAL INTEREST	46
YOUTH DAY CAMPS	45
FISHING AREAS	41
CAMPSITES	35
OFF-ROAD VEHICLE	28
YOUTH SPORTS	28
ART PROGRAMS	27
NATURAL AREAS AND WILDLIFE HABITAT	27
RECREATION AND COMMUNITY CENTER	26
TEEN PROGRAMS	26
TRAIL HEADS	25
DEDICATED AMENITIES FOR ADA	24
NATURE/ENVIRONMENTAL EDU	24
PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS	24
AMPHITHEATER	23
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CAMP VERDE TOUCH A TRUCK EVENT CONTINUED

Saturday February 14, 2026 | 11am – 3pm

Camp Verde Sports Complex, Camp Verde, AZ

Activities	Votes
BIKING PROGRAMS/CLASSES	14
E-SPORTS	14
FITNESS/EXERCISE EQUIPMENT INDOOR	14
PICKLEBALL LESSONS/LEAGUE	14
SKATEBOARDING PROGRAMS AND CLASSES	14
INTERGENERATIONAL PROGRAMS	13
OFF-LEASH DOG PARKS	13
OUTDOOR FITNESS PROGRAMS	12
PAVILIONS AND PICNIC SHELTERS	12
GOLF PROGRAMS	11
OUTDOOR PICKLEBALL	10
ACTIVE ADULT FITNESS	9
INDOOR PICKLEBALL	9
OUTDOOR BASKETBALL	8
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Appendix A

Community Profile



Camp Verde is located in central Arizona within Yavapai County and serves as a gateway between the Phoenix metropolitan area and northern Arizona destinations. Situated along Interstate 17, the Town benefits from regional accessibility while maintaining a distinct rural character rooted in agriculture, ranching, outdoor recreation, and cultural heritage.

The community is defined by its relationship to the Verde River, one of Arizona's most significant riparian ecosystems. The river corridor, surrounding public lands, and nearby mountain landscapes provide residents and visitors with exceptional opportunities for recreation, wildlife viewing, environmental education, and tourism.

Camp Verde's strategic location, natural resources, and growing population position the community to become an increasingly important recreational destination while continuing to serve local residents.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The Camp Verde area has been inhabited for thousands of years and contains significant cultural and archaeological resources that reflect the region's rich history.

The Verde Valley has long served as a gathering place due to the availability of water, fertile soils, and diverse wildlife. Indigenous peoples established settlements throughout the region, leaving a legacy that remains evident today through archaeological sites and cultural traditions.

The area's modern history is closely tied to agriculture, ranching, military activity, and transportation. The establishment of military installations during the nineteenth century contributed to the community's development, while agriculture and ranching helped shape the rural landscape that residents continue to value.

Today, Camp Verde's heritage is reflected in its historic sites, cultural resources, community traditions, and strong connection to the natural environment.

The preservation and interpretation of these resources represent important opportunities for recreation, tourism, and community identity.

POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

Population trends play an important role in determining future demand for parks, recreation programs, and community facilities.

Camp Verde has experienced steady growth over the past several decades and is expected to continue attracting new residents due to its quality of life, natural amenities, and regional accessibility. The full demographics report can be found in the section that follows.

Key Demographic Characteristics

The community includes a diverse mix of residents, including:

- Families with children
- Working-age adults
- Retirees and active older adults
- Seasonal residents
- Outdoor recreation enthusiasts

As the population grows and ages, the Town's parks and recreation system must accommodate a broad range of interests and abilities.

RECREATION IMPLICATIONS

Demographic trends suggest increasing demand for:

- Walking and fitness opportunities
- Accessible park amenities
- Nature-based recreation
- Community gathering spaces
- Youth sports and activities
- Senior-focused recreation programs
- Multigenerational facilities

Providing diverse recreational opportunities will help ensure the system remains responsive to changing community needs.

POPULATION GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT TRENDS

Future growth is expected to influence demand for parks, trails, recreation facilities, and open space preservation.

Several factors contribute to Camp Verde's continued growth:

- Regional population expansion
- Desirable quality of life
- Access to outdoor recreation
- Proximity to major employment centers
- Availability of developable land
- Tourism-related economic activity

As residential development occurs, maintaining access to parks and natural areas will become increasingly important.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

Future growth presents opportunities to:

- Expand trail connectivity.
- Acquire parkland in developing areas.
- Improve neighborhood access to recreation.
- Preserve natural corridors.
- Enhance community gathering spaces.
- Integrate parks into future development patterns.

Proactive planning will help ensure recreational infrastructure keeps pace with community growth.

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Parks and recreation play a critical role in supporting community health.

Access to recreational facilities, trails, open spaces, and organized programs contributes to:

- Increased physical activity
- Reduced chronic disease risk
- Improved mental health
- Social connection
- Community resilience

Residents consistently identify outdoor recreation as an important component of quality of life.

Investments in parks and active transportation infrastructure can support healthier lifestyles while providing safe and accessible recreational opportunities for all residents.

HEALTH-ORIENTED RECREATION PRIORITIES

Potential priorities include:

- Walking trails
- Multi-use pathways
- Fitness amenities
- Nature-based recreation
- Youth recreation opportunities
- Accessible facilities
- Community programming

ECONOMIC AND TOURISM CONTEXT

Outdoor recreation and tourism are important contributors to Camp Verde's economy.

Visitors are attracted to the region's:

- Verde River
- Historic resources
- Public lands
- Outdoor recreation opportunities
- Cultural attractions
- Scenic landscapes

As outdoor recreation continues to grow throughout Arizona, Camp Verde is well-positioned to benefit from increased visitation.

RECREATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A high-quality parks and recreation system supports economic development by:

- Attracting residents and businesses
- Supporting tourism spending
- Increasing property values
- Enhancing workforce quality of life
- Strengthening community identity

Investments in trails, river access, and recreational amenities can provide both resident benefits and economic returns.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Camp Verde's natural environment is among its most significant assets and serves as the foundation of the community's outdoor recreation system.

The Town experiences a four-season climate that supports year-round outdoor recreation.

The relatively mild winters and extended periods of favorable weather provide opportunities for hiking, biking, walking, sports, and community events throughout much of the year.

Summer temperatures create a need for:

- Shade structures
- Tree canopy expansion
- Water access
- Cooling amenities
- Heat-resilient park design

TOPOGRAPHY

The surrounding landscape includes:

- River corridors
- Rolling terrain
- Desert uplands
- Mountain views
- Natural washes

These features create unique recreational opportunities while also influencing trail design, accessibility, and park development.

NATURAL RESOURCES

The community contains significant environmental resources, including:

- Riparian habitat
- Native vegetation
- Wildlife corridors
- Scenic vistas
- Open space landscapes

These resources contribute to the Town's identity and provide opportunities for recreation, conservation, and environmental education.

VERDE RIVER CORRIDOR

The Verde River is one of Camp Verde's defining natural features and represents a cornerstone of the community's recreation and conservation strategy.

The river provides opportunities for:

- Fishing
- Kayaking
- Canoeing
- Wildlife viewing
- Nature photography
- Environmental education
- Passive recreation

In addition to recreational value, the river corridor supports important ecological functions and habitat resources.

Community engagement consistently identifies the Verde River as one of the Town's greatest assets and a top priority for future investment.

RIVER CORRIDOR OPPORTUNITIES

Potential opportunities include:

- Improved public access points
- Riverfront trails
- Interpretive signage
- Habitat restoration
- Water-based recreation
- Educational programming
- Conservation partnerships

Future improvements should balance recreational access with environmental stewardship.

REGIONAL RECREATION CONTEXT

Camp Verde is part of a broader regional recreation network that includes state parks, national forests, public lands, trail systems, and recreational destinations throughout central Arizona.

Regional recreation assets increase visitation while providing opportunities for partnerships and connectivity.

The Town can strengthen its role within the regional recreation network by:

- Expanding trail connections.
- Improving wayfinding.
- Enhancing visitor amenities.
- Increasing river access.
- Coordinating with regional partners.

These efforts can help position Camp Verde as a hub for outdoor recreation within the Verde Valley region.

Planning Implications:

Analysis of community characteristics reveals several themes that will shape future parks and recreation planning.

Preserve Natural Resources:

Camp Verde's environmental assets are central to its identity and should remain a priority for conservation and stewardship.

Expand Connectivity:

Growth and development create opportunities to establish a connected system of trails, pathways, parks, and open spaces.

Support Diverse Recreation Needs:

A balanced recreation system should serve youth, adults, seniors, residents, and visitors through a variety of active and passive recreational opportunities.

Enhance River Access:

The Verde River represents the community's most distinctive recreational asset and should remain a focal point of future planning efforts.

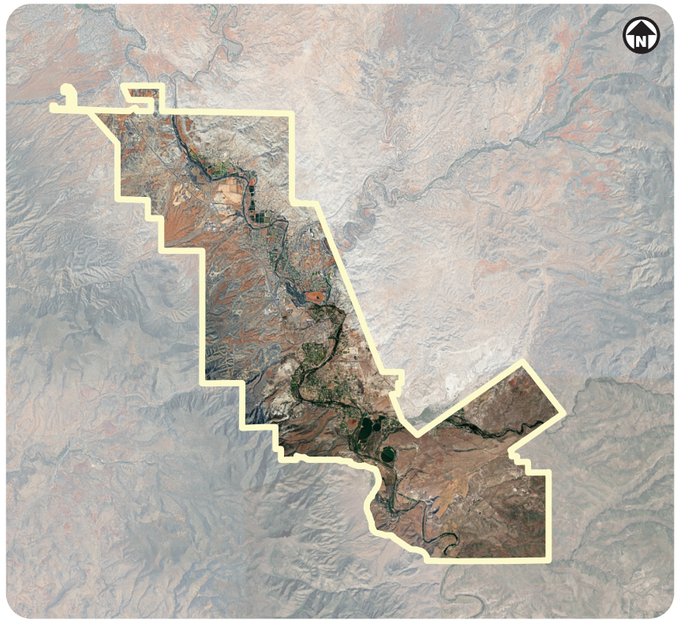
Maintain Community Character:

Future investments should reinforce Camp Verde's rural character, cultural heritage, and connection to the natural environment.

DEMOGRAPHIC & RECREATION TRENDS ANALYSIS

INTRODUCTION

As part of the Camp Verde Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan (PRMP), this Demographic & Recreation Trends Analysis provides insights into the Town of Camp Verde's demographics and recreation trends through comparisons at the local, regional, and national levels. The analysis in these sections aids in understanding how beneficial types of recreation services, including parks, facilities, and fitness programs, can benefit the local community. Data for this analysis is analyzed at the Town (Camp Verde), County (Yavapai County), and State (Arizona).



Firgure 1: Campe Verde Town Boundary

DEMOGRAPHICS ANALYSIS

The Demographic Analysis describes characteristics and population trends within the Town of Camp Verde. This analysis includes household population, age segments, race, and income levels. Analyzing existing demographics data provides a baseline for analysis in a PRMP Plan on which to establish the community's recreational activity and planning data and decisions.

Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI)'s Business Analyst software was used to obtain demographic data US Census Bureau data used in this analysis. All data reflects the numbers as reported in the 2010 and 2020 decennial censuses and 2023 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates. Population projections and local activity data for the year 2025 and 2030 were obtained through ESRI Business Analyst reports which extrapolates the most recent census data (2023 ACS) along with local socioeconomic trends to provide the updated estimates.

Population

Camp Verde's 2025 population was estimated to be 12,504 people. The Town of Camp Verde has experienced considerable 15% population growth over the 15 years from 2010 to 2025, as shown in **Figure 2**. The number of households has increased by 19.3% over the same period, demonstrating a decrease in the size of households, aligned with broader national trends of smaller household sizes. While household size and recreation needs do not have an easily discernable relationship, Camp Verde's increasing population indicates increasing demand for parks and recreation opportunities.

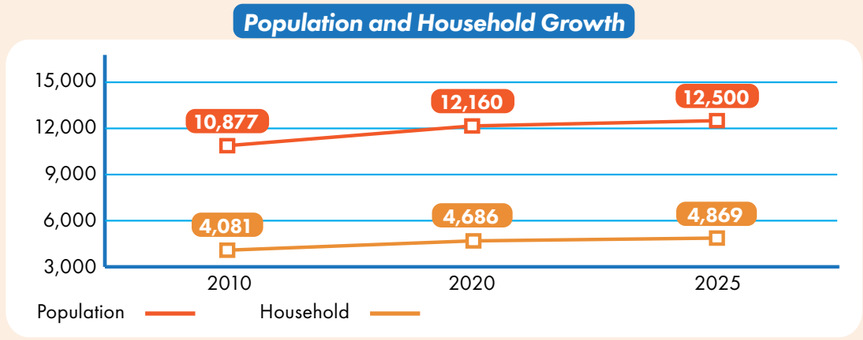


Figure 2: Population and Households

Age Segment

Figure 3 shows the Town of Camp Verde's population by age segment compared to Yavapai County and the State of Arizona. The Town's estimated median age in 2025 is 47.5 years old, younger than Yavapai County's median of 55.9 and older than the State of Arizona's 39.7. Camp Verde's median population aged by 3.6 years since 2010. An aging population tends towards activity needs such as walking, hiking, and group classes, all necessitating more parks and recreation space and/or maintenance. There is no considerable variation in population between age groups between 0 and 74, but there are smaller percentages of the population aged 75 and older. Those 65-74 years old are the largest age group at 16.5% of the total population, followed closely by those aged 0-14 at 15.5%, which could indicate a sustained need for parks and recreational services as both kids and seniors just past retirement age are heavy users of public parks and Town run recreational programs.

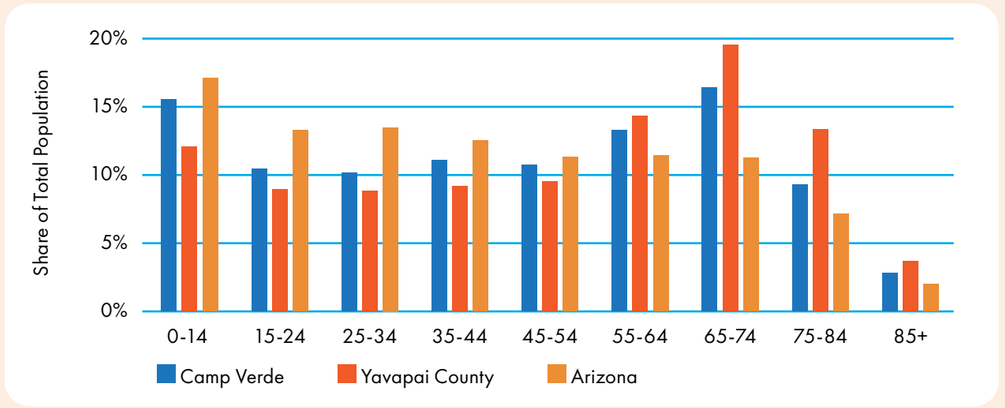


Figure 3: Age Segment Comparison

Race

In 2025, it was estimated a majority of the population in Camp Verde was White with 71%, identifying as "White Only." Those identifying as Two or More Races were the second largest racial group at 9.8%, followed by American Indians at 9.6%. There are smaller populations of Asian/Pacific Islander, Black, and people who identify as another race not listed within Camp Verde. All races as a proportion of total population are shown in **Figure 4**.

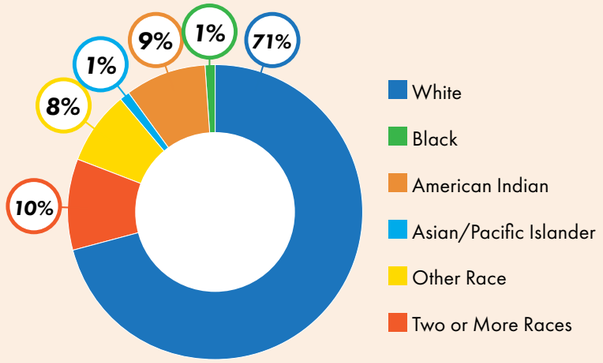


Figure 4: Population by Race

Household Income

The Town of Camp Verde's median household income compared to Yavapai County and the State of Arizona is shown in **Figure 5**. The Town of Camp Verde's median household income of $58,383 (2024 Census Estimate) is slightly lower than Yavapai County, which has a median household income of $69,613. Both areas are well below the State median of approximately $79,964. This discrepancy is likely due to cost-of-living differences between the more rural nature of Camp Verde and Yavapai County and the more expensive and highly populated Phoenix and Tucson areas, which comprise the majority of the State's population. Lower incomes mean residents will seek out recreational activities with lower barriers to entry such as walking, hiking, or fishing as opposed to expensive ones such as biking, or club-based sports. As shown in **Figure 5**, there is a higher percentage of residents statewide with an income above $150,000 than Camp Verde, while Camp Verde and Yavapai County have larger contingents of low-income earners (at lower than $50,000) than the State.

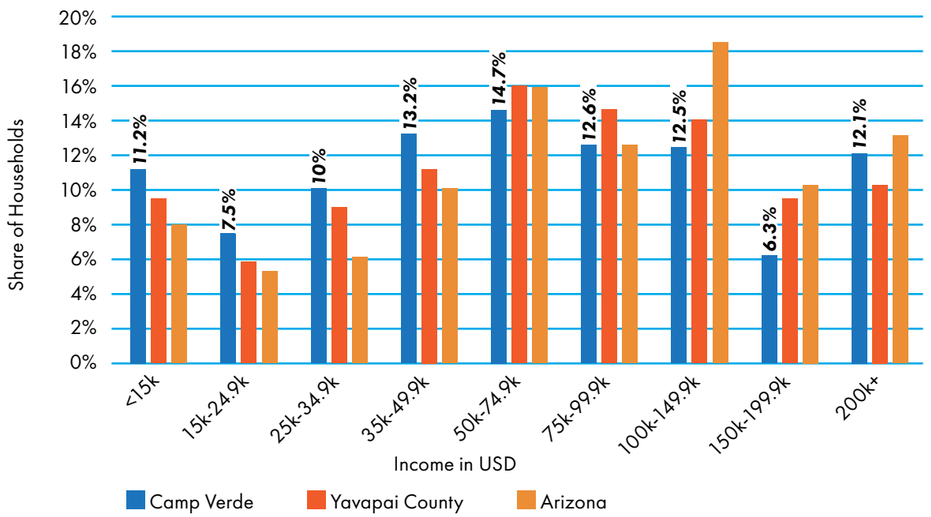


Figure 5: Comparative Income Statistics

National Recreation Trends Analysis

The Sports & Fitness Industry Association (SFIA) developed a 2024 Topline Participation Report which describes national trends in recreation, including overall participation numbers and general trends. SFIA's participation data was taken from a nationwide study which was conducted in 2023 by Sports Marketing Surveys USA (SMS). The study included 18,000 interviews with people of varying gender, age, income, region, and ethnicity. While not specific to the Town of Camp Verde, this information does highlight national trends which may be future indicators of parks facilities or recreational programming which should be considered in future projects.

Participation

For the past 10 years, overall participation has increased in the United States, shown in **Figure 6**. Overall participation includes anyone that has participated in at least one activity in a calendar year. In 2023, there were 242 million people that were active, increasing 6.1% since 2018. Every sports category (fitness, outdoor, individual, racquet, team, water, and winter sports) increased the overall number of participants in 2023. Pickleball is the fastest-growing sport in the country, increasing 51.8% from 2022.

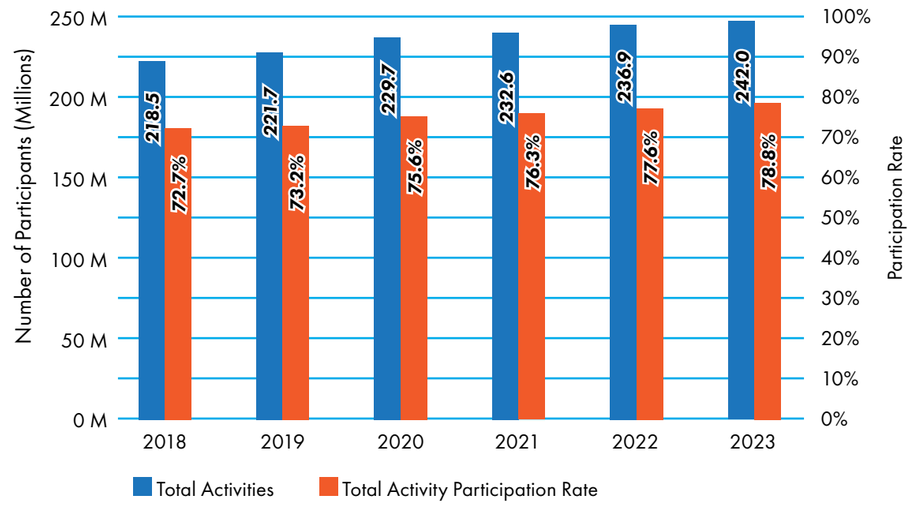


Figure 6: National Activities Trends

CORE Participation

CORE participants are those who engage in fitness activities 50 or more times per year and/or sports 13 or more times per year. CORE participation has increased by 18.5 million people nationally, from 147.5 million to 160 million people over the 5-year period during 2018-2023, or a 4.7% increase. These numbers follow a similar increase in total activity participants.

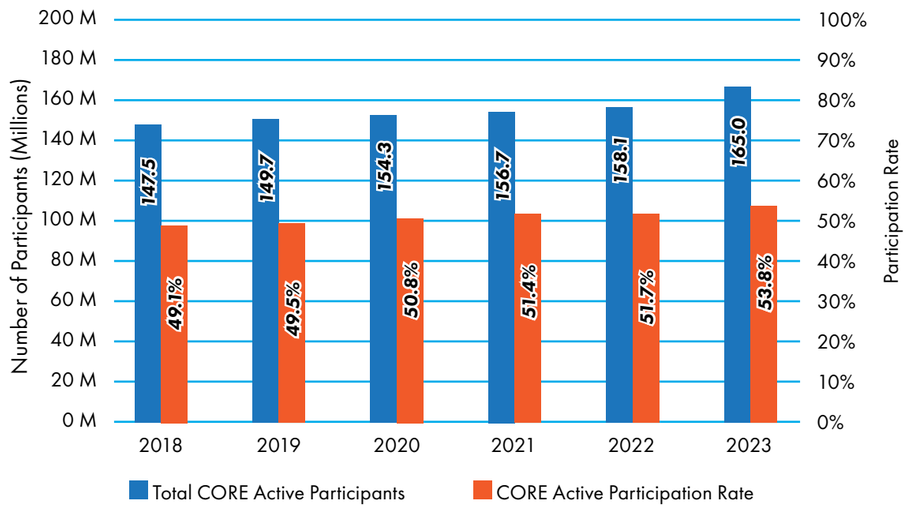
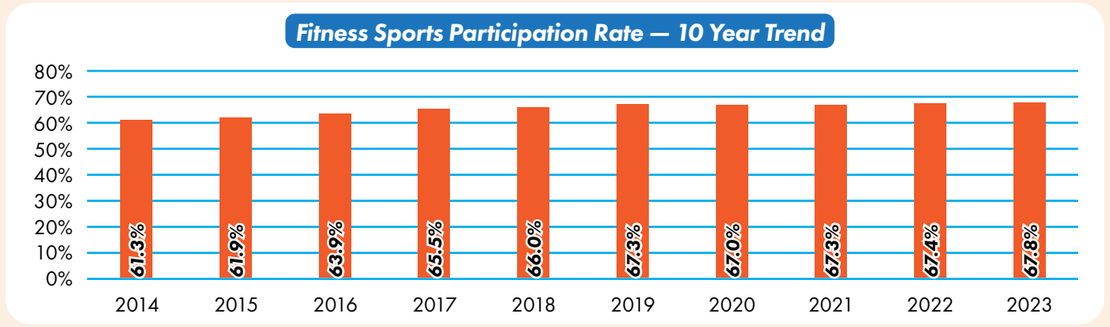
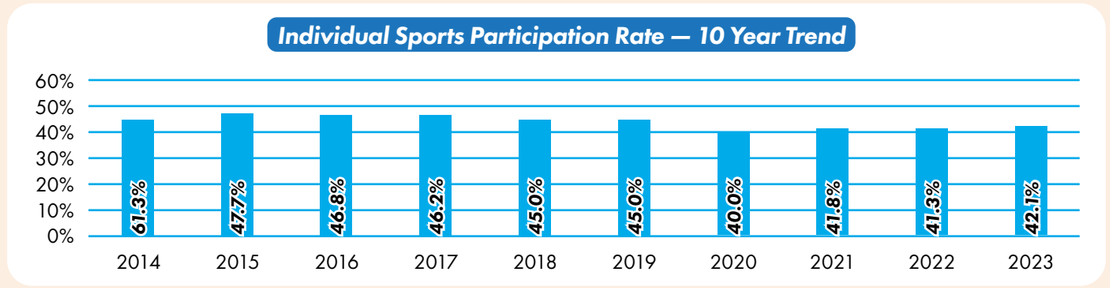


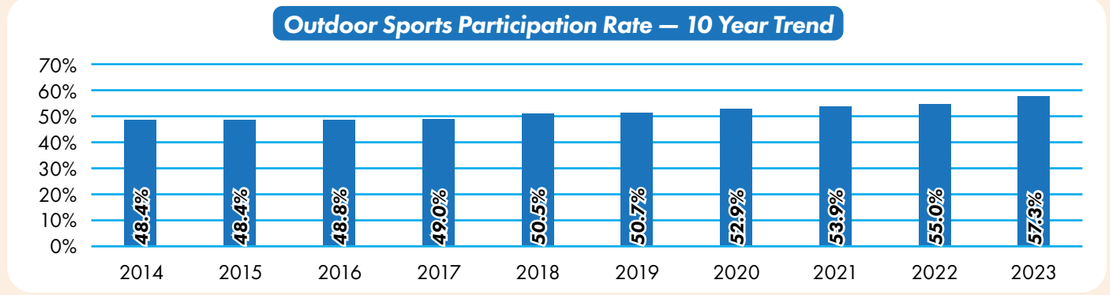
Figure 7: CORE Activity Participation

Sport Participation

Sport participation includes fitness, outdoor, team, and individual sports. Fitness sports have the highest participation rate at 67.8% and are the only category with more than 200 million participants. From 2014-2023, fitness sport participation increased 6.5%, team sports by 3.7%, and outdoor sports by 8.9%, while individual sport participation dropped 2.9%. Collectively, sport participation trends reflect the broader nationwide fitness activity increase.







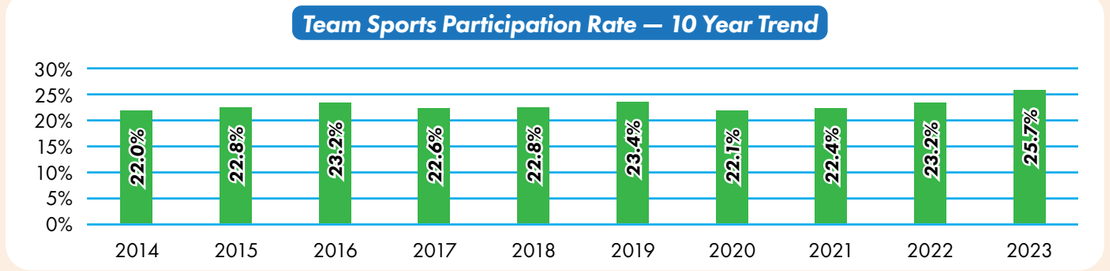
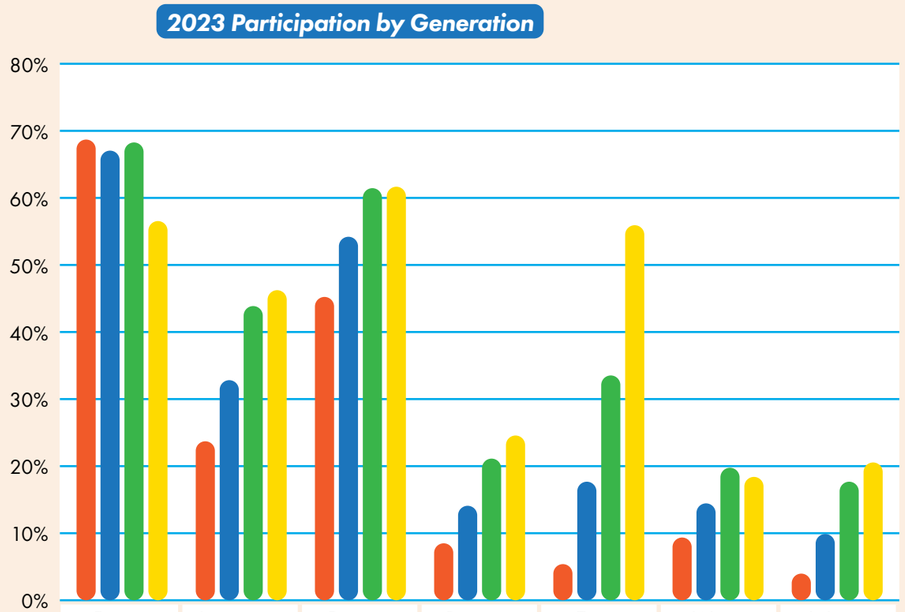


Figure 8: Sports Participation

Participation by Generation

Younger generations (Millennials and Gen Z) are substantially more involved in outdoor, team, and individual sports than their older counterparts (Gen X and Boomers). Older generations predominantly participate in fitness sports (68.6% for Gen X and 66.9% and Boomers) and the next closest category is outdoor sports (45.3% and 54.2%). Gen Z's 55.9% participation rate in team sports is more than 20% higher than the next highest rate, Millennials, likely due to the ease of availability of youth sports program through school and local leagues.



	Fitness Sports	Individual Sports	Outdoor Sports	Racquet Sports	Team Sports	Water Sports	Winter Sports
Boomers (1945-1964)	68.6%	23.8%	45.3%	8.6%	5.5%	9.4%	4.0%
Gen X (1965-1979)	66.9%	32.7%	54.2%	14.1%	17.8%	14.5%	9.8%
Millennials (1980-1999)	68.2%	43.8%	61.3%	21.1%	33.4%	19.7%	17.5%
Gen Z (2000+)	56.5%	46.1%	61.6%	24.5%	55.9%	18.4%	20.6%

Figure 9: Participation by Generation

INACTIVITY

In 2023, 64.9 million people were inactive, which is 21.2% of Americans and the lowest inactivity rate since tracking began in 2008. While the inactivity rate has steadily been declining for several years, the inactivity rate declined at a sharper rate after 2020, as a healthy lifestyle was a higher priority for Americans during and after the pandemic. Through the survey that was collected by SFIA, aspirational activities for those that are inactive were identified as described on the next page.

Inactivity Interest By Age

Figure 10 outlines the activities those who are not currently active would participate in, broken down by age group. As shown in the demographic data within this report, the largest non-youth age group in Camp Verde in 2025 was the 65 to 74-year-old age group, making up 16.5% of the population. Based on data from the SFIA report, people who were inactive within this age group indicated the intent to participate in the following activities within the next 12 months: fishing, working out with weights, cardio fitness, working out using machines, swimming, hiking, yoga, and shooting.

The 0-14 age group makes up approximately 15% of Camp Verde's population. SFIA begins surveying potential activity interest at 6 years old, with the 6-12 age group most likely to participate in the following activities: fishing, running/jogging, bicycling, sledding, swimming for fitness, cardio fitness, yoga, camping, soccer, and tennis. While this section references local age demographics, the following tables summarize national trends. The next section reviews local findings for the Town of Camp Verde.

	6-12	13-17	18-24	25-34
1	Fishing	Fishing	Running/Jogging	Working out with Weights
2	Running/Jogging	Running/Jogging	Working out with Weights	Working out using Machines
3	Bicycling	Swimming for Fitness	Cardio Fitness	Cardio Fitness
4	Sledding	Working out with Weights	Working out using Machines	Camping
5	Swimming for Fitness	Camping	Bicycling	Yoga
6	Cardio Fitness	Cardio Fitness	Swimming for Fitness	Fishing
7	Yoga	Bicycling	Camping	Running/Jogging
8	Camping	Working out using Machines	Fishing	Hiking
9	Soccer	Hiking	Yoga	Swimming for Fitness
10	Tennis	Skateboarding	Trail Running	Bicycling

	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
1	Working out with Weights	Fishing	Fishing	Fishing
2	Cardio Fitness	Working out with Weights	Camping	Working out using Machines
3	Fishing	Camping	Working out with Weights	Camping
4	Working out using Machines	Working out using Machines	Working out using Machines	Working out with weights
5	Swimming for Fitness	Cardio Fitness	Cardio Fitness	Swimming for Fitness
6	Running/Jogging	Hiking	Swimming for Fitness	Cardio Fitness
7	Camping	Yoga	Shooting	Shooting
8	Yoga	Shooting	Hiking	Yoga
9	Hiking	Swimming for Fitness	Yoga	Hiking
10	Shooting	Running/Jogging	Running/Jogging	Hunting

Figure 10: Activities Interested in by Age Group

1.4 Local Trends

ESRI's 2025 Sports and Leisure Market Potential Data report shows the percentage of Camp Verde's population that participates in general sports, fitness sports, and outdoor activities. Data is organized by ESRI for the Town boundary and is based on MRI-Simmons' American Consumer Surveys, which attempt to approximate Americans' behaviors based on large-sample-size surveys. Based on this dataset, the activities with the highest participation rates in Camp Verde include walking for exercise (23.6%), hiking (12.7%), swimming (13.3%), fishing (10.7%), and running (6.1%). Camp Verde's activity participation percentages are lower than the national average for all activities except fishing, indicating the community is less active overall than the nation.

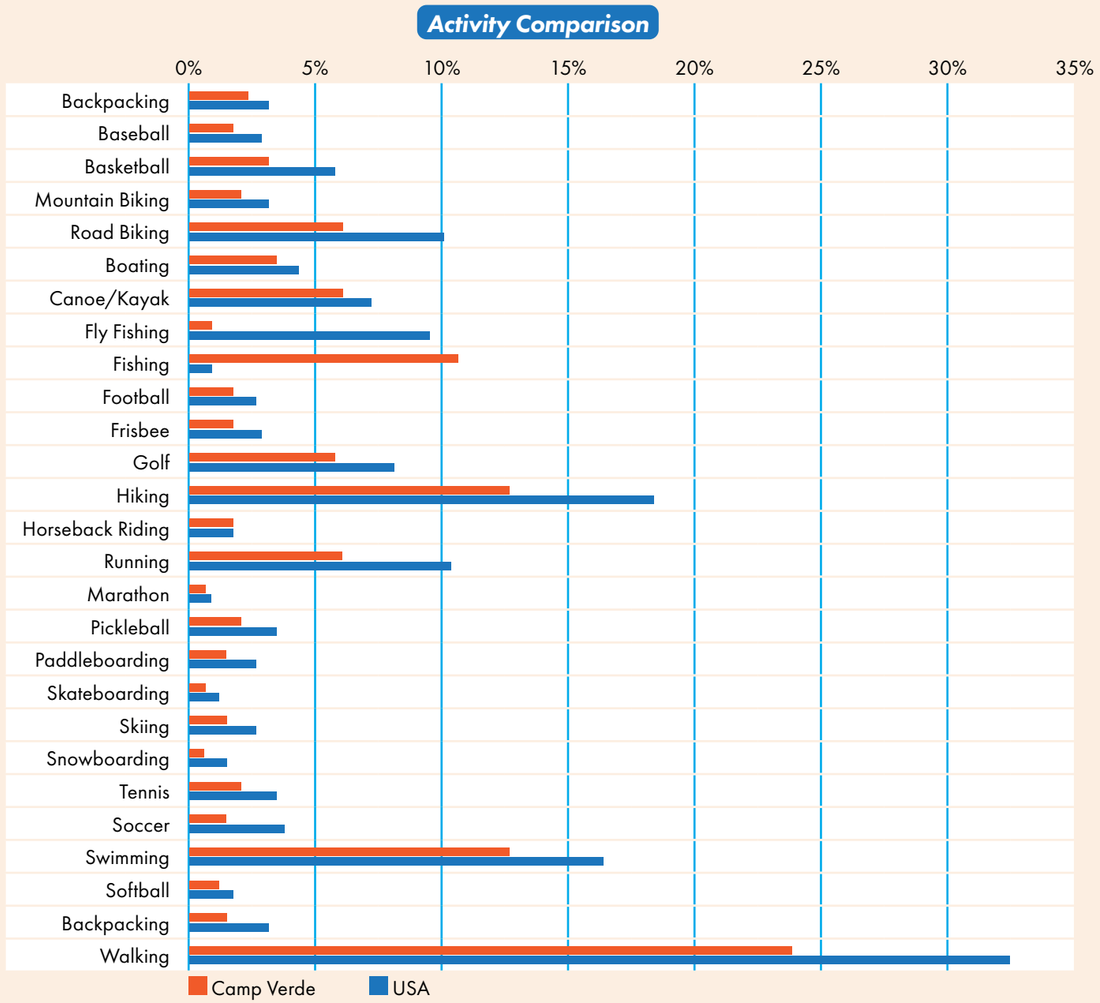


Figure 11: Camp Verde Activities Compared to the National Average

1.5 RECREATION TRENDS SUMMARY

Camp Verde has experienced steady population growth in the past 15 years, with a 15% increase in population since 2010. This, combined with large age cohorts of kids and retirement-age seniors, creates consistent demand for a variety of recreational spaces, while lower income levels make low-cost recreation activities more attractive to residents. While planning the use of parks and open space areas, it is important to understand the national and local trends in recreation to better serve Camp Verde residents. The major takeaways from national and local trends include:

- Nationally, all sports and fitness physical activity categories increased in participation over the past 10 years. Pickleball continues to be the fastest growing sport in the country for the third year in a row.
- Camp Verde's age demographics point to a sustained need for parks and recreation facilities, especially those easily accessible to all ages and income levels.
- Per ESRI trends, Camp Verde residents on average are less active than the national average, with participation rates in sports/activities lower than the national average for all studied activities, except fishing.
- Nationally, younger generations prefer outdoor and team sports compared to older generations who predominantly participate in individual and/or fitness activities.
- The most popular activity in Camp Verde is walking for exercise, with 23.6% of residents participating in that activity. Hiking is the second most popular, with 12.7% of residents participating.

CHAPTER SUMMARY

Camp Verde's unique combination of natural resources, cultural heritage, rural character, and recreational opportunities creates a strong foundation for future investment in parks, recreation, trails, and open space.

Population growth, changing recreation trends, and increasing demand for outdoor experiences will continue to shape community needs over the coming decades. By building upon existing strengths and addressing identified challenges, the Town can create a resilient and connected parks and recreation system that enhances quality of life while preserving the resources that make Camp Verde a special place.



Appendix B

Existing Conditions Analysis



Introduction

The Town of Camp Verde's parks, recreation facilities, and supporting infrastructure represent a significant public investment that requires ongoing maintenance, rehabilitation, and periodic replacement to ensure these assets remain safe, functional, and responsive to community needs. This Lifecycle Replacement and Investment Plan provides a comprehensive inventory of existing park assets, evaluates their current condition, estimates anticipated replacement timing, and identifies approximately **$20 million** in long-term lifecycle replacement and capital reinvestment needs. Together, this information establishes a data-driven framework for long-range capital planning and informed decision-making.

This document serves as a planning-level asset management tool based on field observations, asset inventories, condition assessments, and lifecycle replacement methodologies. The recommendations presented herein represent a technical evaluation of existing physical assets and their anticipated replacement needs and should not be interpreted as a standalone project prioritization program.

Using the findings from the Parks Inventory and Condition Assessment, standardized condition ratings were combined with current construction cost data to estimate future investment needs for each park and recreation asset. Assets receiving condition ratings of **F (1)** and **D (2)** were identified as near-term priorities due to safety concerns, code compliance deficiencies, or advanced deterioration. Assets rated **C (3)** were assigned to the mid-term planning horizon, while assets rated **B (4)** and **A (5)** were identified as long-term replacement needs based on their remaining service life and overall condition.

The replacement priorities identified in this plan are based primarily on observed asset conditions, anticipated useful life, maintenance requirements, safety considerations, and estimated replacement costs. Future implementation should also consider available funding, grant opportunities, Town Council direction, operational needs, accessibility improvements, community priorities, and coordination with other capital improvement projects. Accordingly, this document should be used as one component of a broader decision-making process, and projects may be modified, advanced, deferred, combined, or reprioritized as circumstances evolve.

The recommended investments include lifecycle replacements, facility rehabilitation, safety improvements, accessibility upgrades, infrastructure repairs, and other capital improvements necessary to preserve the Town's park system. Many of these projects represent one-time capital investments that are expected to extend asset life, improve operational efficiency, reduce emergency repairs, and minimize long-term maintenance costs.

The following general assumptions were used in developing this Lifecycle Replacement and Investment Plan:

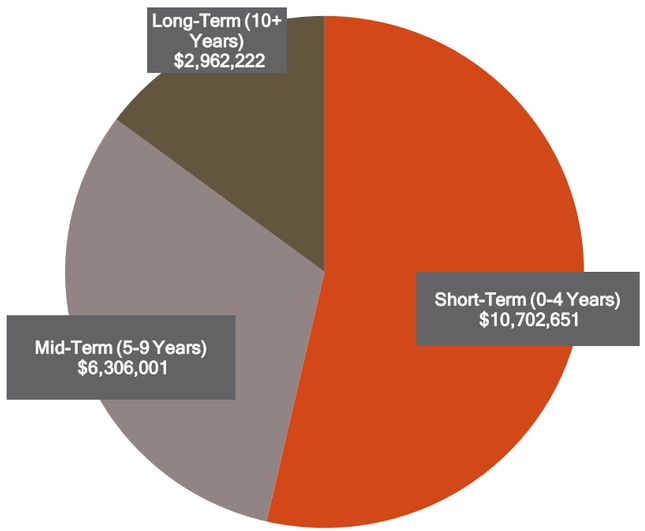
- Cost estimates represent planning-level, rough-order-of-magnitude opinions of probable construction cost for park and recreation improvements.
- Cost escalation factors of **35 percent** for mid-term projects (Years 5-9) and **55 percent** for long-term projects (Year 10 and beyond) have been applied to reflect anticipated future construction costs.
- Project costs should be periodically reviewed and refined as market conditions, inflation, project scope, and available funding evolve.

As park conditions, community priorities, and funding opportunities change over time, this plan should be reviewed and updated periodically to ensure it remains an effective asset management and capital planning tool. By proactively identifying future capital needs and establishing a flexible investment framework, the Town of Camp Verde will be better positioned to preserve the quality, safety, and long-term sustainability of its parks and recreation system.

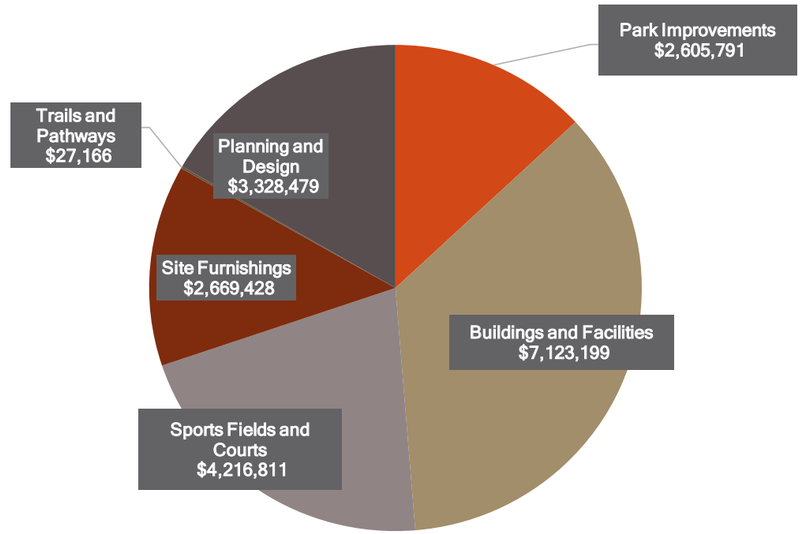
Total Replacement and Investment Summary

NAME	Short (0-4 Years)	Mid (5-9 Years)	Long (10+ Years)
Arturo Park	$ 951,312	$ 43,444	$ 23,101
Butler Park	$ 587,549	$ 822,624	$ -
Camp Verde Sports Complex	$ -	$ 50,301	$ 2,829,614
Community Center Park	$ -	$ 881,918	$ -
Heritage Family Pool	$ 7,920,956	$ 30,181	$ -
Heritage Skate Park	$ 50,779	$ 2,262,341	$ -
Rezzonico Family Park	$ 345,701	$ 1,278,195	$ 104,802
Verde Lakes Community Park	$ 846,354	$ 936,996	$ 4,705
Total	**$ 10,702,651**	**$ 6,306,001**	**$ 2,962,222**

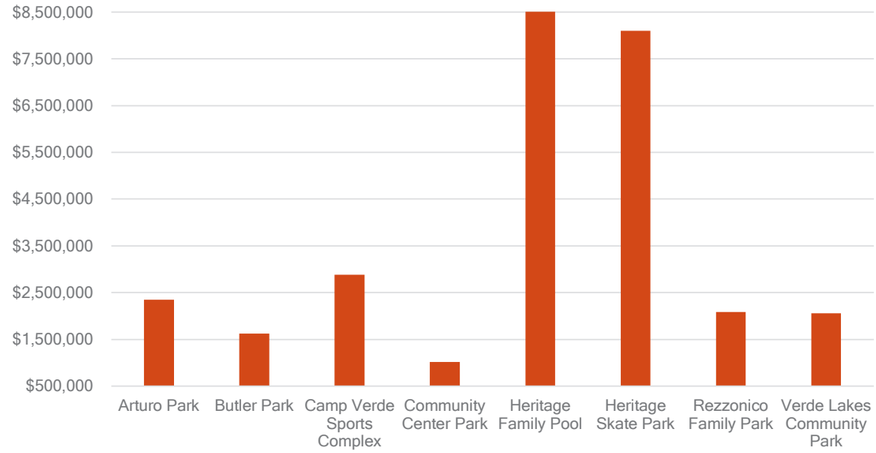
Total Park Re-Investment by Year (Lifecycle Replacement)



Total Park Re-Investment by Type (Lifecycle Replacement)

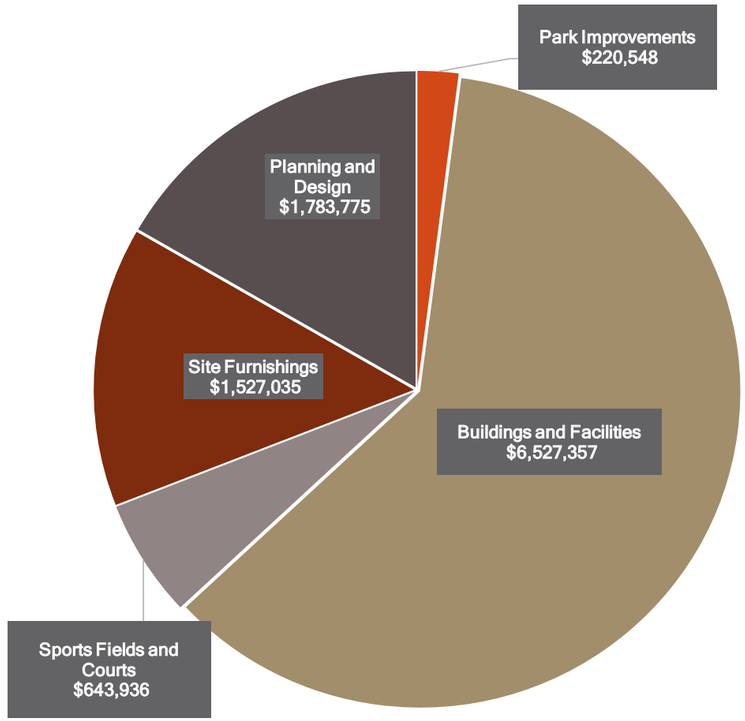


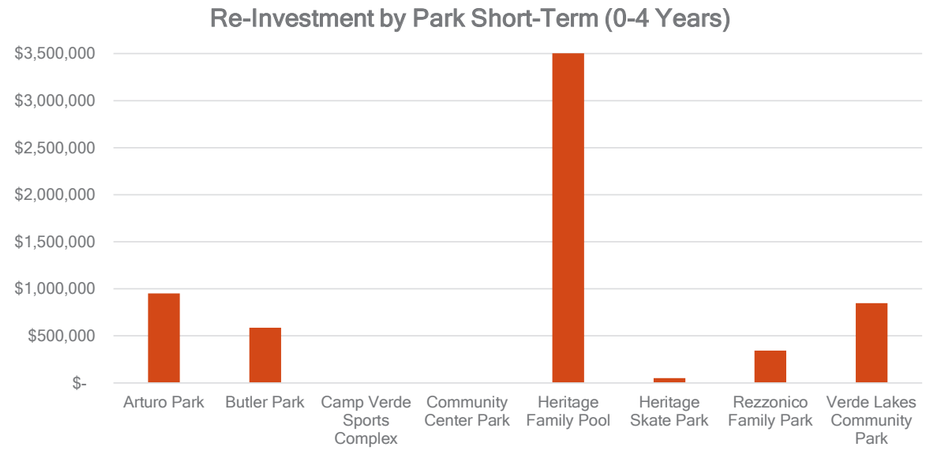
Total Re-Investment by Park (Lifecycle Replacement)

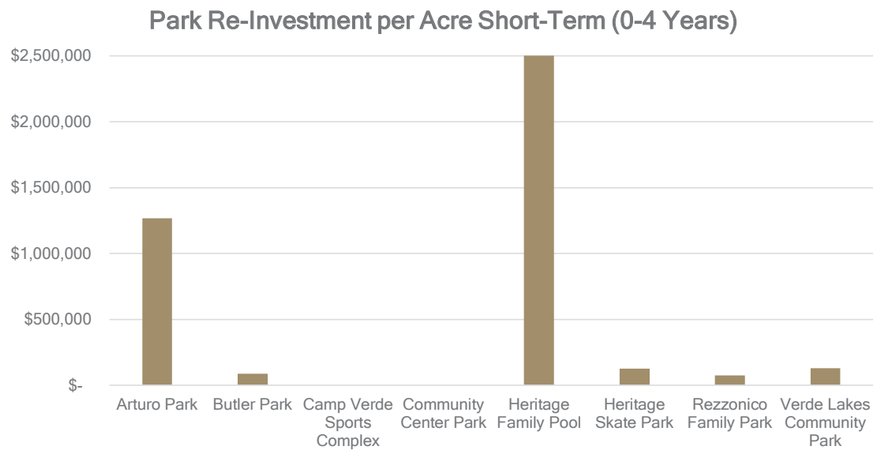


Short Term (0-4 Years) Investment Summary

The short-term investment program focuses on addressing the Town's most immediate capital needs, including aging facilities, critical infrastructure, safety improvements, and assets approaching the end of their useful life. Approximately **$10.7 million** in investments are recommended during this period, representing the largest share of the overall lifecycle program. A significant portion of these costs is associated with buildings and facilities, reflecting the need to preserve existing infrastructure before more extensive rehabilitation or replacement becomes necessary. Completing these improvements early will help reduce deferred maintenance, improve public safety, and extend the useful life of the Town's park system.

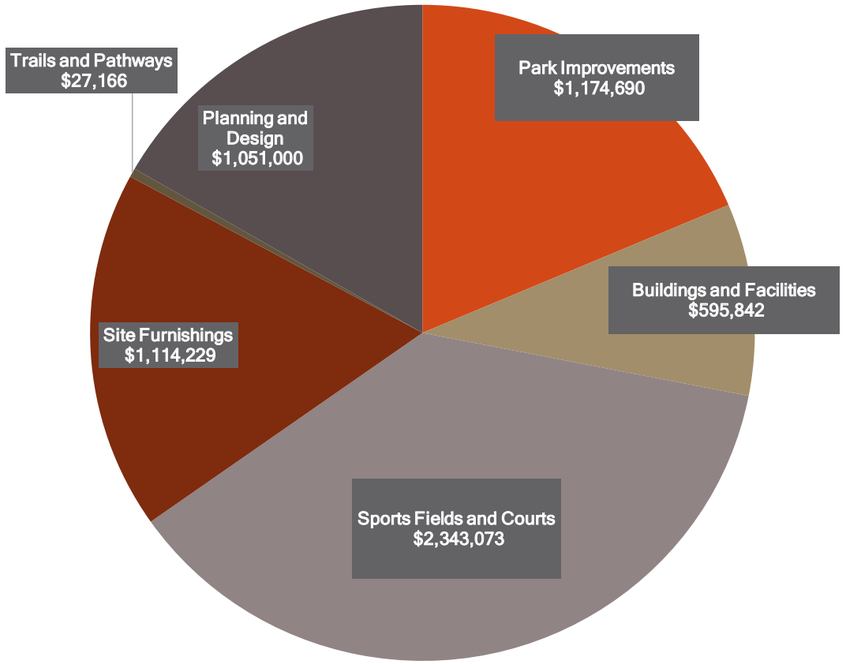


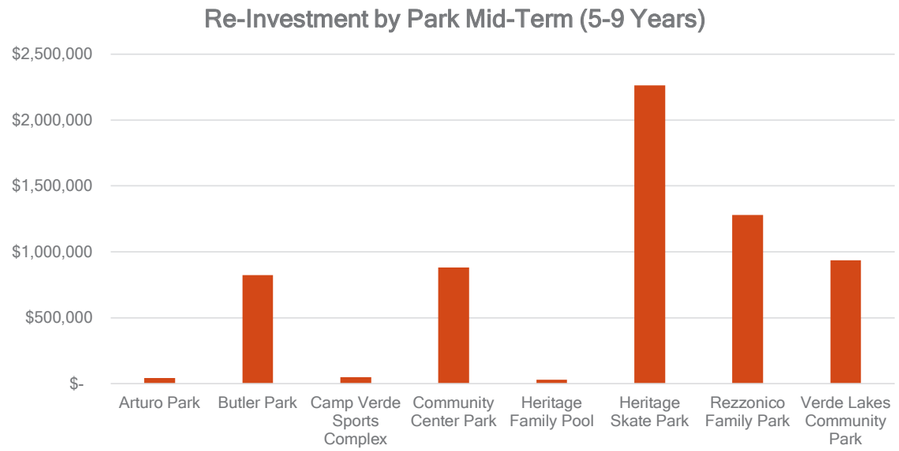


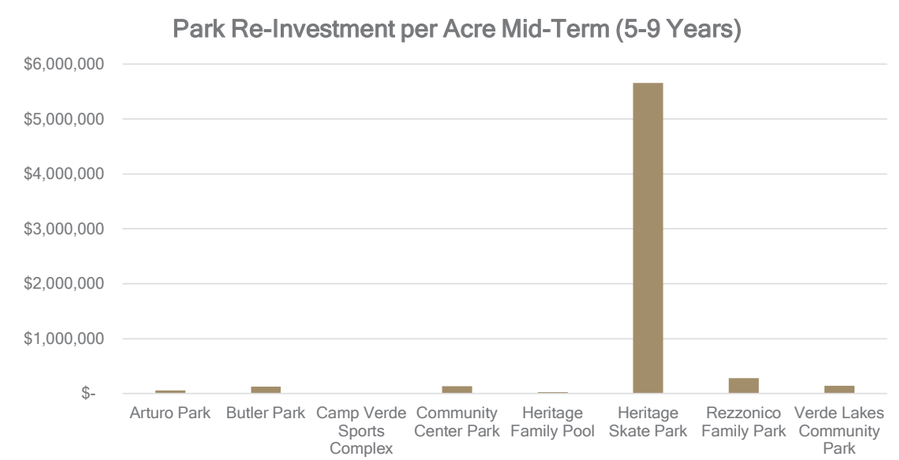


Mid Term (5-9 Years) Investment Summary

The mid-term investment program represents the next phase of planned lifecycle replacements as additional assets approach the end of their anticipated service life. Approximately **$6.3 million** in reinvestment is identified during this period, with the largest expenditures focused on sports fields, courts, park improvements, and site furnishings. These projects provide an opportunity to continue preserving existing assets while incorporating operational efficiencies, accessibility improvements, and evolving community priorities as future capital projects are implemented.

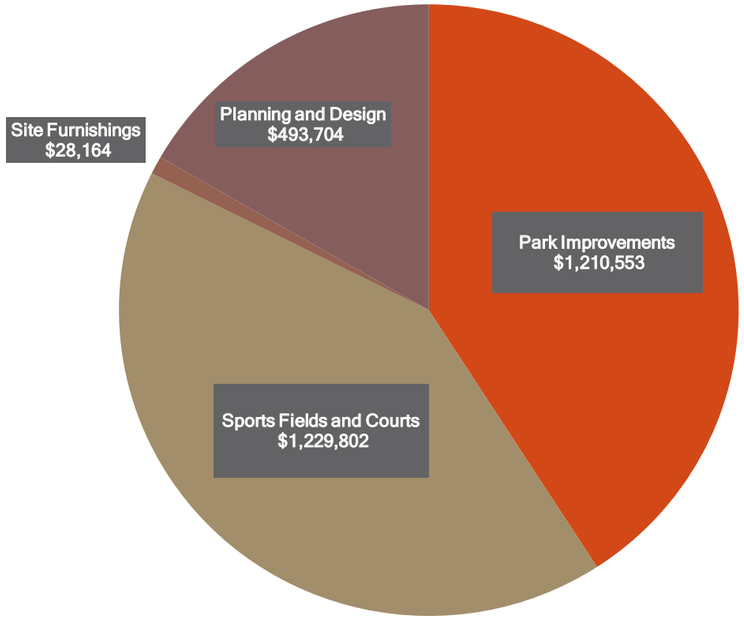


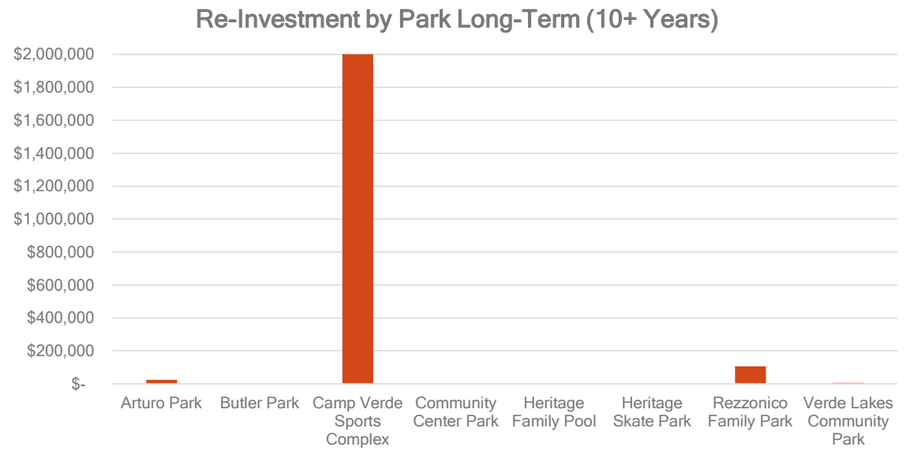


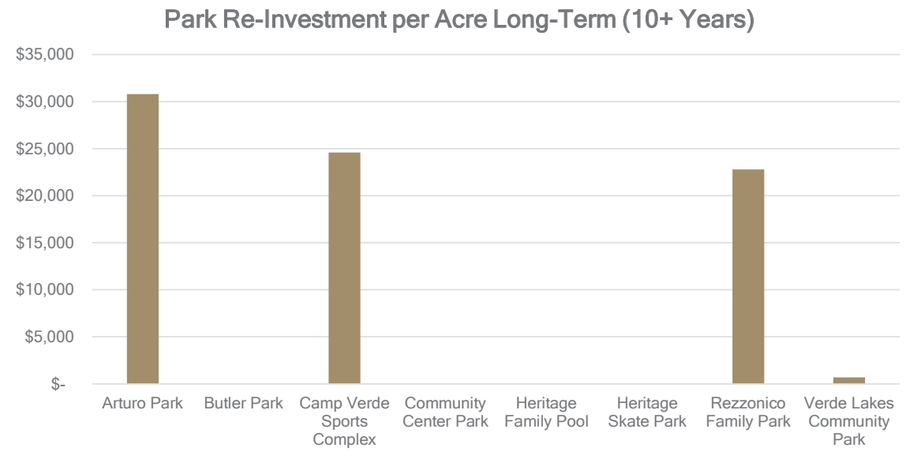


Long Term (10+ Years) Investment Summary

The long-term investment program identifies assets that remain in relatively good condition today but are expected to require replacement or major rehabilitation beyond the first decade of the planning horizon. Approximately **$3.0 million** in future investments have been identified, primarily associated with park improvements and sports facilities. Because these projects occur farther into the future, their scope, timing, and costs should be periodically reassessed as asset conditions, community needs, and funding opportunities evolve.







Findings / Summary

The Town of Camp Verde's parks and recreation system represents a significant public investment that requires ongoing maintenance, rehabilitation, and periodic replacement to remain safe, functional, and responsive to community needs. Based on the Parks Inventory and Condition Assessment, approximately $19.97 million in lifecycle replacement and capital reinvestment needs have been identified across the Town's existing park system over the planning horizon. These investments include building and facility improvements, sports fields and courts, park amenities, site furnishings, trails, planning and design, and other supporting infrastructure.

The recommended investments are distributed across short-, mid-, and long-term planning horizons to provide the Town with a practical framework for budgeting and capital improvement planning. While many of the identified projects address aging infrastructure and deferred maintenance, others represent strategic reinvestments that will improve functionality, extend asset life, and reduce long-term maintenance costs.

This Lifecycle Replacement and Investment Plan is intended to serve as a living document that supports future decision-making rather than establish fixed implementation commitments. As funding opportunities, community priorities, development patterns, and operational needs evolve, the Town should periodically update asset inventories, condition assessments, and cost estimates to ensure that future capital investments continue to align with community goals and available resources.

Appendix:

The Appendix contains detailed park-by-park asset inventories and lifecycle replacement matrices developed as part of this assessment. These matrices identify existing assets, condition ratings, anticipated replacement timing, and planning-level replacement costs. They are intended to provide Town staff with supporting technical information for future maintenance planning, capital improvement programming, and budgeting.

NAME	Arturo Park
ADDRESS	2431 N. Arturo Circle
SIZE (AC)	0.75

Park Development by Type	Short (0-4 Years)	Mid (5-9 Years)	Long (10+ Years)
Park Improvements	$ -	$ 32,165	$ -
Buildings and Facilities	$ -	$ -	$ -
Sports Fields and Courts	$ -	$ 157	$ -
Site Furnishings	$ 792,760	$ 3,881	$ 19,251
Trails and Pathways	$ -	$ -	$ -
Planning and Design	$ 158,552	$ 7,241	$ 3,850
	$ 951,312	**$ 43,444**	**$ 23,101**

AMENITY/FACILITY	QTY	GRADE	COMMENTS	UNIT	CURRENT UNIT COST	ACTION: REMOVE	ACTION: RENOVATE	ACTION: REPLACE	Lifecycle Replacement Projects: Short (0-4 Years)	Mid (5-9 Years)	Long (10+ Years)
BBQ PIT/GRILL	1	3		EA	$ 2,875			X	$ -	$ 3,881	$ -
OPEN TURF AREA (AC)	0.74	3		AC	$ 96,600		X		$ -	$ 32,165	$ -
PICNIC TABLE	2	4		EA	$ 6,210			X	$ -	$ -	$ 19,251
PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT	1	2	Swing Set	EA	$ 100,000			X	$ 100,000	$ -	$ -
PLAYGROUND (SHADED)	1	2	1 Playground	EA	$ 690,000			X	$ 690,000	$ -	$ -
SKATE PARK	1	3		SF	$ 350		X		$ -	$ 157	$ -
TRASH RECEPTACLE	2	2		EA	$ 1,380			X	$ 2,760	$ -	$ -
					Sustainable Projects Sub Totals				**$ 792,760**	**$ 36,203**	**$ 19,251**
					Project Soft Costs				*$ 158,552*	*$ 7,241*	*$ 3,850*
					Sustainable Projects Grand Total				**$ 951,312**	**$ 43,444**	**$ 23,101**

NAME	Camp Verde Sports Complex
ADDRESS	995 Champion Trl
SIZE (AC)	115.00

Park Development by Type	Short (0-4 Years)	Mid (5-9 Years)	Long (10+ Years)
Park Improvements	$ -	$ -	$ 1,181,679
Buildings and Facilities	$ -	$ -	$ -
Sports Fields and Courts	$ -	$ -	$ 1,176,332
Site Furnishings	$ -	$ 41,918	$ -
Trails and Pathways	$ -	$ -	$ -
Planning and Design	$ -	$ 8,384	$ 471,602
	$ -	**$ 50,301**	**$ 2,829,614**

AMENITY/FACILITY	QTY	GRADE	COMMENTS	UNIT	CURRENT UNIT COST	ACTION: REMOVE	ACTION: RENOVATE	ACTION: REPLACE	Lifecycle Replacement Projects: Short (0-4 Years)	Mid (5-9 Years)	Long (10+ Years)
BASEBALL FIELD (LIGHTED)	2	4		EA	$ 1,035,000.00			X	$ -	$ -	$ 1,069,393
BLEACHERS	3	3		EA	$ 10,350			X	$ -	$ 41,918	$ -
IRRIGATION SYSTEM TURF (AC)	9.5	4		AC	$ 69,000			X	$ -	$ -	$ 338,641
LIGHTING (SITE, PARKING, PED, ETC)	25	5		EA	$ 8,970			X	$ -	$ -	$ 115,851
MULTI-USE FIELD	1	4		EA	$ 207,000			X	$ -	$ -	$ 106,939
PARKING LOT PAVED (SPACES)	255	4	(Not paved, paint lines in gravel lot)	EA	$ 5,520			X	$ -	$ -	$ 727,187
					Sustainable Projects Sub Totals				**$ -**	**$ 41,918**	**$ 2,358,012**
					Project Soft Costs				*$ -*	*$ 8,384*	*$ 471,602*
					Sustainable Projects Grand Total				**$ -**	**$ 50,301**	**$ 2,829,614**

NAME	Butler Park
ADDRESS	1213 Garner Lane
SIZE (AC)	6.60

Park Development by Type	Short (0-4 Years)	Mid (5-9 Years)	Long (10+ Years)
Park Improvements	$ 69,683	$ 171,379	$ -
Buildings and Facilities	$ -	$ -	$ -
Sports Fields and Courts	$ 390,961	$ 465,703	$ -
Site Furnishings	$ 28,980	$ 48,438	$ -
Trails and Pathways	$ -	$ -	$ -
Planning and Design	$ 97,925	$ 137,104	$ -
	$ 587,549	**$ 822,624**	**$ -**

AMENITY/FACILITY	QTY	GRADE	COMMENTS	UNIT	CURRENT UNIT COST	ACTION: REMOVE	ACTION: RENOVATE	ACTION: REPLACE	Lifecycle Replacement Projects: Short (0-4 Years)	Mid (5-9 Years)	Long (10+ Years)
BASEBALL FIELD (LIGHTED)	1	3	98,200 SF	EA	$ 1,035,000.00		X		$ -	$ 465,703	$ -
BASKETBALL COURT (LIGHTED)	1	2	4,000 SF	EA	$ 207,000.00		X		$ 68,993	$ -	$ -
FLAGPOLE	1	3		EA	$ 6,900			X	$ -	$ 9,315	$ -
LIGHTING (SITE, PARKING, PED, ETC)	14	2	13 Stadium Lights / 1 Parking Light	EA	$ 8,970		X		$ 41,856	$ -	$ -
MULTI-USE FIELD	1	2	2.05 Acres	EA	$ 207,000		X		$ 68,993	$ -	$ -
PARKING LOT PAVED (SPACES)	69	3	67 Regular / 2 ADA. 41,650 SF - Water pooling	EA	$ 5,520		X		$ -	$ 171,379	$ -
PICNIC TABLE	4	3		EA	$ 6,210			X	$ -	$ 33,534	$ -
RAMADA (LARGE)	1	2	4 picnic tables, slab cracking	EA	$ 75,900		X		$ 25,297	$ -	$ -
SIGNAGE (PARK ENTRY)	1	2		EA	$ 7,590		X		$ 2,530	$ -	$ -
SIGNAGE (REGULATORY, INTERPRETIVE)	2	3		EA	$ 2,070			X	$ -	$ 5,589	$ -
SOFTBALL FIELD	1	2	7,350 SF	EA	$ 759,000		X		$ 252,975	$ -	$ -
TRASH RECEPTACLE	21	2	21 temporary	EA	$ 1,380			X	$ 28,980	$ -	$ -
					Sustainable Projects Sub Totals				**$ 489,624**	**$ 685,520**	**$ -**
					Project Soft Costs				*$ 97,925*	*$ 137,104*	*$ -*
					Sustainable Projects Grand Total				**$ 587,549**	**$ 822,624**	**$ -**

NAME	Community Center Park
ADDRESS	75 E Holloman St.
SIZE (AC)	6.80

Park Development by Type	Short (0-4 Years)	Mid (5-9 Years)	Long (10+ Years)
Park Improvements	$ -	$ 139,090	$ -
Buildings and Facilities	$ -	$ 595,842	$ -
Sports Fields and Courts	$ -	$ -	$ -
Site Furnishings	$ -	$ -	$ -
Trails and Pathways	$ -	$ -	$ -
Planning and Design	$ -	$ 146,986	$ -
	$ -	**$ 881,918**	**$ -**

AMENITY/FACILITY	QTY	GRADE	COMMENTS	UNIT	CURRENT UNIT COST	ACTION: REMOVE	ACTION: RENOVATE	ACTION: REPLACE	Lifecycle Replacement Projects: Short (0-4 Years)	Mid (5-9 Years)	Long (10+ Years)
MAINTENANCE YARD/BUILDING (SF)	1850	3	.7 Acres/BLDG 1,850 SF	SF	$ 403		X		$ -	$ 335,048	$ -
OPEN TURF AREA (AC)	1.9	3		AC	$ 96,600		X		$ -	$ 82,585	$ -
PARKING LOT PAVED (SPACES)	9	3	4 ADA / 5 Regular - 2,115 SF	EA	$ 5,520		X		$ -	$ 22,354	$ -
RAMADA (LARGE)	1	3	3,250 SF	EA	$ 75,900		X		$ -	$ 34,152	$ -
RESTROOM BUILDING (SF)	1260	3		SF	$ 460		X		$ -	$ 260,794	$ -
					Sustainable Projects Sub Totals				**$ -**	**$ 734,932**	**$ -**
					Project Soft Costs				*$ -*	*$ 146,986*	*$ -*
					Sustainable Projects Grand Total				**$ -**	**$ 881,918**	**$ -**

NAME	Heritage Family Pool
ADDRESS	290 Apache Trail
SIZE (AC)	1.40
	2

Park Development by Type	Short (0-4 Years)	Mid (5-9 Years)	Long (10+ Years)
Park Improvements	$ 73,593	$ -	$ -
Buildings and Facilities	$ 6,527,204	$ -	$ -
Sports Fields and Courts	$ -	$ -	$ -
Site Furnishings	$ -	$ 25,151	$ -
Trails and Pathways	$ -	$ -	$ -
Planning and Design	$ 1,320,159	$ 5,030	$ -
	$ 7,920,956	**$ 30,181**	**$ -**

AMENITY/FACILITY	QTY	GRADE	COMMENTS	UNIT	CURRENT UNIT COST	ACTION: REMOVE	ACTION: RENOVATE	ACTION: REPLACE	Lifecycle Replacement Projects: Short (0-4 Years)	Mid (5-9 Years)	Long (10+ Years)
AQUATIC CENTER	10270	2	Slide tower rusting, slide worn, lacks ADA entrance	SF	$ 550.00			X	$ 5,648,500	$ -	$ -
LIGHTING (SITE, PARKING, PED, ETC)	2	2	Rec. Lightning	EA	$ 8,970	X			$ 5,979	$ -	$ -
MAINTENANCE YARD/BUILDING (SF)	6550	2	Area, looks to house pool equipment	SF	$ 403	X			$ 878,704	$ -	$ -
PARKING LOT PAVED (SPACES)	23	2	21 Regular, 2 ADA. Shares parking lot with Heritage Skate Park	EA	$ 5,520	X			$ 42,316	$ -	$ -
PICNIC TABLE	3	3	(mismatched) picnic tables in working order	EA	$ 6,210			X	$ -	$ 25,151	$ -
RAMADA (LARGE)	1	2	Falling apart, ripped cloth, needs fabric replacement	EA	$ 75,900	X			$ 25,297	$ -	$ -
					Sustainable Projects Sub Totals				**$ 6,600,796**	**$ 25,151**	**$ -**
									Project Soft Costs	*$ 1,320,159*	*$ 5,030*	*$ -*
					Sustainable Projects Grand Total				**$ 7,920,956**	**$ 30,181**	**$ -**

NAME	Rezzonico Family Park
ADDRESS	Montezuma Castle Highway and Mosher Lane
SIZE (AC)	4.60

Park Development by Type	Short (0-4 Years)	Mid (5-9 Years)	Long (10+ Years)
Park Improvements	$ 34,957	$ 47,812	$ 24,953
Buildings and Facilities	$ 153	$ -	$ -
Sports Fields and Courts	$ 252,975	$ -	$ 53,470
Site Furnishings	$ -	$ 990,185	$ 8,913
Trails and Pathways	$ -	$ 27,166	$ -
Planning and Design	$ 57,617	$ 213,033	$ 17,467
	$ 345,701	**$ 1,278,195**	**$ 104,802**

AMENITY/FACILITY	QTY	GRADE	COMMENTS	UNIT	CURRENT UNIT COST	ACTION: REMOVE	ACTION: RENOVATE	ACTION: REPLACE	Lifecycle Replacement Projects: Short (0-4 Years)	Mid (5-9 Years)	Long (10+ Years)
BBQ PIT/GRILL	2	4		EA	$ 2,875			X	$ -	$ -	$ 8,913
OTHER	1	4	Library Box	0	$ -				$ -	$ -	$ -
PARKING LOT PAVED (SPACES)	19	2	Not Paved, No Striping	EA	$ 5,520		X		$ 34,957	$ -	$ -
PICNIC TABLE	7	3		EA	$ 6,210			X	$ -	$ 58,685	$ -
PLAYGROUND (SHADED)	1	3	1 Large, 710 SF	EA	$ 690,000			X	$ -	$ 931,500	$ -
RAMADA (LARGE)	1	3	375 sf	EA	$ 75,900		X		$ -	$ 34,152	$ -
RESTROOM BUILDING (SF)	1	2		SF	$ 460		X		$ 153	$ -	$ -
SHADE STRUCTURE (STAND-ALONE)	1	4		EA	$ 48,300		X		$ -	$ -	$ 24,953
SIGNAGE (PARK ENTRY)	4	3	Faded Signs	EA	$ 7,590		X		$ -	$ 13,661	$ -
SOFTBALL FIELD	1	2	1,140 LF	EA	$ 759,000		X		$ 252,975	$ -	$ -
TENNIS COURT	1	4	100 LF	EA	$ 103,500		X		$ -	$ -	$ 53,470
TRAIL PAVED (LF)	1500	3		LF	$ 40		X		$ -	$ 27,166	$ -
					Sustainable Projects Sub Totals				**$ 288,085**	**$ 1,065,163**	**$ 87,335**
									Project Soft Costs	*$ 57,617*	*$ 213,033*	*$ 17,467*
					Sustainable Projects Grand Total				**$ 345,701**	**$ 1,278,195**	**$ 104,802**

NAME	Heritage Skate Park
ADDRESS	290 Apache Trail
SIZE (AC)	0.40

Park Development by Type	Short (0-4 Years)	Mid (5-9 Years)	Long (10+ Years)
Park Improvements	$ 42,316	$ 8,072	$ -
Buildings and Facilities	$ -	$ -	$ -
Sports Fields and Courts	$ -	$ 1,877,212	$ -
Site Furnishings	$ -	$ -	$ -
Trails and Pathways	$ -	$ -	$ -
Planning and Design	$ 8,463	$ 377,057	$ -
	$ 50,779	**$ 2,262,341**	**$ -**

AMENITY/FACILITY	QTY	GRADE	COMMENTS	UNIT	CURRENT UNIT COST	ACTION: REMOVE	ACTION: RENOVATE	ACTION: REPLACE	Lifecycle Replacement Projects: Short (0-4 Years)	Mid (5-9 Years)	Long (10+ Years)
LIGHTING (SITE, PARKING, PED, ETC)	2	3	Appears to be 2 Stadium lights, old, LED replace	EA	$ 8,970		X		$ -	$ 8,072	$ -
PARKING LOT PAVED (SPACES)	23	2	Shares with Heritage Family Pool	EA	$ 5,520		X		$ 42,316	$ -	$ -
SKATE PARK	11920	3	Patched, slight cracks. Skate Park	SF	$ 350		X		$ -	$ 1,877,212	$ -
					Sustainable Projects Sub Totals				**$ 42,316**	**$ 1,885,284**	**$ -**
									Project Soft Costs	*$ 8,463*	*$ 377,057*	*$ -*
					Sustainable Projects Grand Total				**$ 50,779**	**$ 2,262,341**	**$ -**

NAME	Verde Lakes Community Park
ADDRESS	3012 S. Aspen Way
SIZE (AC)	6.60

Park Development by Type	Short (0-4 Years)	Mid (5-9 Years)	Long (10+ Years)
Park Improvements	$ -	$ 776,172	$ 3,921
Buildings and Facilities	$ -	$ -	$ -
Sports Fields and Courts	$ -	$ -	$ -
Site Furnishings	$ 705,295	$ 4,658	$ -
Trails and Pathways	$ -	$ -	$ -
Planning and Design	$ 141,059	$ 156,166	$ 784
	$ 846,354	**$ 936,996**	**$ 4,705**

AMENITY/FACILITY	QTY	GRADE	COMMENTS	UNIT	CURRENT UNIT COST	ACTION: REMOVE	ACTION: RENOVATE	ACTION: REPLACE	Lifecycle Replacement Projects: Short (0-4 Years)	Mid (5-9 Years)	Long (10+ Years)
BBQ PIT/GRILL	1	2		EA	$ 2,875			X	$ 2,875	$ -	$ -
BENCH	1	3		EA	$ 3,450			X	$ -	$ 4,658	$ -
LAKE/POND	2.5	3		AC	$ 690,000		X		$ -	$ 776,172	$ -
PICNIC TABLE	2	2	1 Metal, 1 wood	EA	$ 6,210			X	$ 12,420	$ -	$ -
PLAYGROUND (SHADED)	1	2	65 SF	EA	$ 690,000			X	$ 690,000	$ -	$ -
SIGNAGE (PARK ENTRY)	1	4	Park Rules Sign	EA	$ 7,590		X		$ -	$ -	$ 3,921
					Sustainable Projects Sub Totals				**$ 705,295**	**$ 780,830**	**$ 3,921**
									Project Soft Costs	*$ 141,059*	*$ 156,166*	*$ 784*
					Sustainable Projects Grand Total				**$ 846,354**	**$ 936,996**	**$ 4,705**

Parks and Recreation Commission Agenda Information Memorandum

Meeting Date: November 2, 2026

Agenda Item Type:

☐ Consent Agenda ☐ Informational Presentation ☐ Discussion Item
☒ Action/Decision Item ☐ Executive Session Request ☐ Other:

Requesting Department: Parks & Recreation **Staff Resource:** Shawna Figy, Parks & Recreation Manager

Agenda Title: Review and discussion of the Verde Lakes Strategic Plan

Attached Documents:

- Verde Lakes Strategic Plan

Estimated Presentation Time: 5 minutes **Estimated Discussion Time:** 5 minutes

Reviewed By:

☒ Town Manager ☐ Legal ☐ Risk Management ☐ Finance ☐ Other:

Financial Review (if applicable)**:** N/A

- Funding Source / GL Account Number:
- Approved in the FY27 Budget? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A ☐ Other:
- Is this an approved CIP Project? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A ☐ Other:

Background Information:

Since the Town has ownership of the Verde Lakes Community Park, official in January of 2026, staff felt it was time to bring the Verde Lakes Strategic Plan back to the Commission for review and recommended updates. The current plan outlines strategic goals and action steps for the development and long-term management of the Community Park. Key elements include establishing a long-term lease or ownership agreement, implementing various recreational amenities, and improving the physical condition of the park's ponds. The plan emphasizes phased improvements and careful consideration of funding and public access.

Connection to the FY25-FY30 Strategic Plan

By focusing on improvements at Verde Lakes, the Town can further the goal of enhancing our unique location and historic culture through maintaining out current assets.

Question(s) before the Commission:

- Does the Parks & Recreation Commission want to see any changes to the Verde Lakes Strategic Plan?

Verde Lakes Community Park

Strategic Development Plan

Approved by the Town of Camp Verde Town Council on November 20, 2024

Purpose

This Strategic Development Plan outlines the goals for the collaborative development of Community Lake Community Park, referred to as the "Park," a joint initiative between the Town of Camp Verde (hereafter, the "Town") and the Verde Lakes Recreation Corporation (hereafter, the "Corporation"). Through this partnership, the Town and community members aim to create a public space that enriches neighborhood connections and provides recreational opportunities for current and future residents. This document details the strategic objectives to be achieved and provides a conceptual framework for the action steps required to meet those objectives, all with input and guidance from the Verde Lakes community.

Park Lease and Operation

The Town currently holds an ongoing cooperative lease agreement for the Park property, permitting its operation as a Town recreational site for the community's benefit. The lease for the larger Park parcel may be terminated by either party with a twelve (12) month notice, ensuring continued cooperation and responsiveness to local needs and priorities.

Park Property Description

Verde Lakes Park is a dedicated tribute to Elmer V Moody, a cherished figure in the Verde Lakes community whose vision for a stronger, more connected neighborhood lives on through this public space. Elmer’s legacy of service, community engagement, and advocacy for recreation shaped the area, fostering a commitment to shared spaces that connect neighbors and celebrate the Verde Lakes landscape. Since Elmer’s passing in 1997, the park has continued to embody his values, providing a welcoming area for families, friends, and individuals alike.

The park consists of two contiguous land parcels totaling 6.79 acres, located at 3012 S. Aspen Way within the Verde Lakes neighborhood. These parcels, owned by the Verde Lakes Recreation Corporation, were transferred under a Warranty Deed from 1982 and have historically served as a member-focused recreational area. Deed restrictions preserve this community space for recreational use or require its reversion to the original Moody family ownership, thereby safeguarding its continued public value.

With boundaries along Hilltop Drive to the north and S. Aspen Way to the east, the park provides vehicular and pedestrian access, making it easily reachable for the surrounding community. This natural gathering space is bordered by residential properties to the west, south, and northeast, with a modest split-rail fence enhancing neighborhood access while maintaining defined park boundaries.

The Park’s two ponds, while a valued feature, are intermittently filled through an irrigation ditch in the northeast corner. When filled, these ponds add a serene touch to the landscape, allowing local families and residents to enjoy a peaceful setting that encourages environmental awareness and community

pride. Cottonwood, mesquite, and other native plants surround the ponds, providing shaded areas for neighborhood gatherings, relaxation, and appreciation of nature.

Collaborative Enhancements and Ongoing Care

Since the cooperative lease agreement in spring 2021, the Town, alongside community volunteers, has embarked on improvements to increase accessibility and enjoyment for all. Local contributions helped clear brush, remove hazardous trees, and revitalize seating and amenities. New signage was installed to help residents navigate the space, while enhanced fencing and parking arrangements promote safe, enjoyable visits. Games such as corn hole and horseshoes were added to encourage family and friend gatherings, and the Corporation continues to work with the Town to add community-inspired features.

In partnership with community stakeholders, the Town completed a professional survey to establish definitive park boundaries and guide future planning. The Camp Verde Parks & Recreation Division (hereafter, "Parks & Rec") oversees park programming, usage, and planning, with guidance from community feedback. They also lead amenity improvements, while the Public Works Department and Town Engineer address water supply concerns and pond preservation, ensuring a safe, clean environment that reflects residents' input. The Camp Verde Maintenance Division manages daily upkeep, keeping the Park enjoyable for all Verde Lakes community members.

Strategic Goals for Park Development and Recreation

This Strategic Development Plan identifies goals that focus on enhancing the Park's value to the community and future generations. The Town and Corporation will engage with local stakeholders to ensure these objectives align with the vision of a well-maintained, welcoming space for all.

1. **Facilitate a cooperative effort** between the Town, the Corporation, and the Moody family to establish a Town ownership plan or long-term lease agreement for the Park, ensuring ongoing investment in its growth and accessibility.
2. **Collaborate to authorize, fund, and maintain** recreational and support amenities guided by Town recreation plans, ensuring each addition enhances the Park’s role as a central gathering place for community events and daily recreation.
3. **Work together to improve the physical condition** of the ponds and water supply, preserving the Park's character as a vital and cherished neighborhood landmark.

Strategic Goal #1: Ownership or Long-Term Lease Agreement

Establishing a long-term lease agreement or ownership arrangement with the Town will ensure Verde Lakes Park remains a sustainable, funded, and community-centered site for future generations. Working closely with the Corporation and the Moody family, this goal aligns with community support for continuity and stewardship.

Action Steps

- **Draft a long-term lease agreement** that captures community interests and Town goals for review by relevant stakeholders.

- **Convene Town representatives** (e.g., the Town Manager and Public Works Director) with the Corporation to review lease terms and solidify a community-backed partnership.
- **Engage with the Parks & Recreation Commission** to review and provide public input within 60-90 days of the finalized agreement.
- **Present the agreement to the Town Council**, ensuring community support remains central to the approval process.
- **Continue discussions on potential property ownership**, with the Moody family intending to gift the property to the Town, honoring their vision for a lasting community legacy and enduring stewardship.

Strategic Goal #2: Development and Installation of Park Amenities
The Town and Corporation will collaborate to fund and install various recreational and support amenities, ensuring they align with the Park's vision and community input.

Design Principles for Verde Lakes Community Park

- **Vision**: The Park will maintain a natural setting with moderate development, guided by the Camp Verde Recreation Master Plan and user feedback.
- **Users**: The Park will emphasize passive, informal recreation for individuals, families, and small groups.
- **Environment**: Native, drought-tolerant plants will be used, and improvements will be designed to blend with the natural landscape and neighborhood. Grass will be installed where appropriate.
- **Design Restrictions**: Large group activities, enclosed buildings, and high-intensity facilities (e.g., sports fields, extensive lighting) are not compatible with the Park's vision.

Preliminary Appropriate Improvements

- Park signage (identification and rules), bulletin boards to enhance community communication and public engagement, access control fencing, evaluation of parking options, picnic tables, benches, small play structures, walking/interpretive trails, restrooms, drinking fountains, security lighting, corn hole, and horseshoe games.

Inappropriate Improvements

- Irrigated sports fields, large enclosed buildings, extensive parking lots, and large area lighting.

Action Steps

- Parks & Rec will continue to seek funding authorization for amenity improvements based on public input and council direction.
- The Town and Corporation will monitor grant opportunities to support the Park with minimal matching funds.
- The Camp Verde Marshal's Office will complete an inventory of safety concerns in the area. Where feasible, Maintenance will address those areas through proper mitigation efforts.

- The Town will review the current deed language and make a recommendation to the Moody family on possible language to strengthen their desire to deed restrict the area as a park.

Strategic Goal #3: Pond Restoration and Water Supply Improvement

The Town and Corporation will work together to restore the ponds and ensure a reliable water supply, preserving the Park's riparian character.

Action Steps

- Stabilize pond edges to protect existing trees and prepare for future lining.
- Remove accumulated silt to deepen ponds, improve storage capacity, and support potential firefighting needs.
- Work with the Corporation to clarify water rights and implement drainage improvements to support pond water levels.
- Seek Council approval to engage in water rights discussions, ensuring the ponds remain a viable water source for emergencies.

Conclusion

This Strategic Development Plan for the Verde Lakes Community Park serves as a framework for collaborative efforts between the Town of Camp Verde, the Verde Lakes Recreation Corporation, and the Moody family. By working together toward sustainable ownership, thoughtfully developed amenities, and essential restoration of natural resources, we aim to honor the legacy of community stewardship envisioned by Elmer V Moody. These combined efforts will enhance the park's role as a cherished public space where current and future residents can connect with nature, gather as a community, and enjoy the beauty of their surroundings. This plan is a commitment to maintaining the park's values of environmental respect and community engagement for generations to come.

Parks & Recreation Commission Agenda Information Memorandum

Meeting Date: November 2, 2026

Agenda Item Type:
☐ Consent Agenda ☒ Informational Presentation ☐ Discussion Item
☐ Action/Decision Item ☐ Executive Session Request ☐ Other:

Requesting Department: Parks & Recreation **Staff Resource:** Parks & Recreation Manager, Shawna Figy

Agenda Title: Update on the Equestrian Center Commission.

Attached Documents:
- Council Approved Resolution
- List of appointed Commissioners

Estimated Presentation Time: 5 minutes **Estimated Discussion Time:** 5 minutes

Reviewed By:
☒ Town Manager ☐ Legal ☐ Risk Management ☐ Finance ☐ Other:

Financial Review (if applicable)**:** N/A
- Funding Source / GL Account Number: Multiple Grant Funded
- Approved in the FY27 Budget? ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐ Other:
- Is this an approved CIP Project? ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐ Other:

Background Information:
After the Town acquired control of the Camp Verde Equestrian Center in April 2026, Public Works, Parks & Recreation, and the Town Manager were sharing the duties covering operations, maintenance, and use at the Equestrian Center. Town Council made the decision in August to proceed with forming a Commission to assist with a master plan for the facility to include promoting as more than just an Equestrian Arena. Applications for the Commission opened at the end of August with the closing date at the end of September. There were 11 applicants for the 7 seats. Interviews were conducted by a 5-person panel on October 19-20 and the selected Commissioners were appointed by Council on October 21, 2026.

Connection to the FY25-FY30 Strategic Plan
This project connects to the Strategic Plan through community engagement and outreach.

Question(s) before the Commission:
- Does the Commission have any questions for staff?

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-1226

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CAMP VERDE, YAVAPAI COUNTY, ARIZONA, ESTABLISHING THE CAMP VERDE EQUESTRIAN CENTER COMMISSION; PRESCRIBING ITS PURPOSE, POWERS, DUTIES, MEMBERSHIP, AND TERMS OF OFFICE; AND PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS.

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Town of Camp Verde own a large parcel of land on the eastern perimeter of the Town that has historically hosted a variety of special events and public uses; and

WHEREAS, this parcel, consisting of approximately 100 acres of land, not including the Town Sports Complex or the Wastewater Treatment facility, is generally known as "The Equestrian Center"; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the positive value that outdoor recreational, competitive and special event activities bring to the Town's citizens and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the Town of Camp Verde wishes to plan, develop and maximize the potential of the site to include a variety of uses and events, such as concerts, rallies, club gatherings, rodeos, motorsports, fairs, charity fundraisers and like activities through the creation of a commission made up of volunteers dedicated to the development and success of the Equestrian Center property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CAMP VERDE, YAVAPAI COUNTY, ARIZONA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT

There is hereby established the Camp Verde Equestrian Center Commission ("Commission") as an advisory body to the Town Council.

SECTION 2. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Commission shall be to provide advice and recommendations to the Town Council and Town staff regarding:

1. Strategic planning and development of the Camp Verde Equestrian Center venue;

2. Equestrian and non-equestrian events, such as, competitions, concerts, rallies, charity events and community programs;
3. Marketing and promotion of the facility;
4. Capital improvements and maintenance priorities;
5. Policies and procedures affecting the use and operation of the facility;
6. Opportunities for partnerships, sponsorships, grants, and economic development; and
7. Other matters referred to the Commission by the Town Council or Town Manager.

The Commission shall serve solely in an advisory capacity and shall have no authority to direct staff, expend Town funds, execute contracts, or obligate the Town.

SECTION 3. MEMBERSHIP

A. The Commission shall consist of seven (7) voting members appointed by the Town Council.

B. Membership should, to the extent practicable, reflect a diversity of perspectives including:

- Equestrian facility users;
- Local community organizations;
- Agricultural and livestock interests;
- Business, economic development and tourism interests;
- Youth program participants or supporters; and
- Event organizers

C. Members shall be residents of Camp Verde, except that the Town Council may appoint non-residents possessing specialized expertise or experience beneficial to the Commission.

SECTION 4. APPOINTMENT AND TERMS

A. Members shall be appointed by the Town Council following the Town's established appointment process for boards and commissions.

B. Regular terms shall be three (3) years.

C. Initial appointments shall be staggered as follows:

- Three members appointed to two-year terms;
- Four members appointed to three-year terms

Thereafter, all appointments shall be for three-year terms beginning on January 1.

D. Members may be reappointed.

E. Vacancies shall be filled by Town Council appointment for the remainder of the unexpired term.

SECTION 5. OFFICERS

A. The Commission shall annually elect from among its members a Chair and Vice Chair.

B. Officers shall serve one-year terms and may be re-elected.

C. The Chair shall preside at meetings and perform such duties as necessary to conduct Commission business.

SECTION 6. MEETINGS

A. The Commission shall meet at least monthly on dates selected by the membership.

B. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Arizona Open Meeting Law.

C. A majority of appointed members shall constitute a quorum.

D. Actions and recommendations shall require a majority vote of members present and voting.

SECTION 7. STAFF SUPPORT

The Town Manager shall designate staff support to assist the Commission, prepare agendas, maintain records, and coordinate communication with the Town Council.

SECTION 8. REPORTING

The Commission shall provide recommendations to the Town Council through the Town Manager and may submit written reports regarding:

1. Annual goals and priorities;
2. Facility operations and programming;
3. Capital improvement recommendations; and

4. Other matters as requested by the Town Council.

SECTION 9. ETHICS AND CONDUCT

Commission members shall comply with all applicable laws, conflict-of-interest requirements, ethics provisions, and policies applicable to Town boards and commissions.

SECTION 10. REMOVAL

Commission members serve at the pleasure of the Town Council and may be removed by Council at any time including but not limited to any instances of misconduct, violation of applicable laws or policies, excessive absences, or failure to perform the duties of office.

SECTION 11. SUNSET REVIEW

The Commission shall be reviewed by the Town Council every five (5) years to determine whether its continued existence serves the public interest.

SECTION 12. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED, AND APPROVED BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CAMP VERDE, YAVAPAI COUNTY, ARIZONA, THIS 21st DAY OF OCTOBER, 2026.

Marie Moore, Mayor

ATTEST:

Leah Rhodes, Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Trish Stuhan, Town Attorney
Pierce Coleman, PLLC

Camp Verde Equestrian Center Commission

Bob Weir
Christa Brunori
Dee Jenkins
Jordy Weaver
Charles Fisher
Jason Jenkins
Cole Martinez

Agenda Item 12

Parks and Recreation Commission Agenda Information Memorandum

Meeting Date: November 2, 2026

Agenda Item Type:

☐ Consent Agenda ☒ Informational Presentation ☐ Discussion Item
☐ Action/Decision Item ☐ Executive Session Request ☐ Other:

Requesting Department: Parks & Recreation **Staff Resource:** Parks & Recreation Manager, Shawna Figy

Agenda Title: Update on Parks & Recreation current programming and events.

Attached Documents:

- Fort Verde Days Improvements/Ideas list
- Fort Verde Days Event summary
- Winter Trip List
- 5th-8th grade Grasshopper Basketball flyers
- Press Releases
- Christmas Magic on Main flyer
- Pecan & Wine flyer
- Touch A Truck flyer

Estimated Presentation Time: 5 minutes **Estimated Discussion Time:** 5 minutes

Reviewed By:

☒ Town Manager ☐ Legal ☐ Risk Management ☐ Finance ☐ Other:

Financial Review (if applicable)**:**

- Funding Source / GL Account Number:
- Approved in the FY27 Budget? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A ☐ Other:
- Is this an approved CIP Project? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A ☐ Other:

Background Information:

This is a standard update added to the agenda at the request of the Commission. This update will include information about previous and upcoming events along with summaries of recently completed events and programming.

Connection to the FY25-FY30 Strategic Plan

This aligns with the Council's Strategic Plan by enhancing our location and history through amenities and events.

Question(s) before the Commission:

- Do you have any questions about our previous upcoming events or programming?

Fort Verde Days 2026 Event Summary

General overview

- Event scheduled for Oct. 10-11 on Community Center Field, Gym & adjacent Town grounds as well as Parade route on Finnie Flats and Main Streets. The event was disrupted at 3:15 on Saturday by strong wind gusts and rain. There was damage caused to the large rented inflatable slide along with P&R and vendor tents. Many vendors also had lost or damaged merchandise. By about 4:00, there were only a handful of vendors remaining. After much discussion, the decision was made to cancel Sunday.
- Public hours - Saturday - Parade start 10 am, Event area 11:00 am to 6:00 pm (ended about 3:30) Sunday 11:00 – 4:00 pm - cancelled
- Attendance estimates for vendor portion about 4,000, about 1,000 less than last year, but we were really only open for 4 hours on Saturday, so that is a good number.
    - average stay time of 133, up from 66 minutes last year and a peak of 2,000 people right after parade
    - Attendance estimate for the parade portion was 4,000
- The Quilt Show was in the gym this year. They had a great turnout with over 400 people submitting votes for their favorite quilts.
- Yavapai Broadcasting/Verde Valley TV announced and broadcast the parade. They get the sponsors to cover the cost of this every year.
- There were 128 vendors registered for the event, which includes 24 waitlisted and 8 withdrawn. We had 7 no-shows. There were 73 vendors who checked in and participated. We did issue a small percentage of partial refunds to vendors who made the request in writing for the cancellation of Sunday.
- 42 Parade entries, 6 more than last year. Due to a struggle getting volunteers, we did not have additional parade announcers or judges this year for the parade. We created a QR code to allow the public to vote, we also had in-person voting at the P&R tent.
- 27 volunteers assisted providing 67 hours of work for event operation. We had 21 volunteers scheduled to work 53 hours on Sunday.
- 5 non-profit volunteers provided 20 hours for operation of Kid's Adventure Zone as a fund raiser.
- ACE Hardware supplied 3 pop up canopies for use as gate keeper shade
- Little Britches & Little Petticoat contest was postponed to Sunday, October 18 in the gym. We had 14 contestants and many were able to ride in the parade on Saturday. We did not have a space large enough to move this inside.
- Chili Contest had 6 entries. That was cancelled as was planned as a People's Choice and with no event, judges would have been a challenge.
- P&R Camp staff operated free Kids Activity Zone in Rm. 305 11:00-4:00 on Saturday. We had 3 different crafts including coloring milk jugs to be used at our annual Trunk or Treat event in a few weeks.
- The Fort Verde Days Bull Bash was hosted by Cliff Castle Casino on Friday and Saturday evening.

Non-Profit support

- 14 non-profit vendors provided free vendor space, 1 less than last year.
- Camp Verde High School Wrestling assisted with the Adventure Zone. The cost was paid by the Town and the club shared $500 of the revenue as a fundraiser and assisting with operations.

Fort Verde Days 2026 Event Summary

- Our only beer vendor was Verde Brewing.

Financial summary

Revenue - $13,282, $850 less than last year

- Vendor registration fees - $6,517, $13 less than last year due to partial refunds for weather
- Parade registration fees - $350, 7 entries not required to pay (Cavalry, Council, State Park, Grand Marshal, Little Britches, Copper Canyon Fire, Public Works)
- Adventure Zone - $2,075
    - 173 bracelets $12 each
- Itty Bitty Pony Rides - $540
    - 135 pony tickets @ $4 each
- Sponsorship – $3,800, $300 less than last year
    - Yavapai College $1,500 Gold level commitment for 3 events.
    - SRP $1,800 Platinum level commitment for 3 events.
    - Renewal by Anderson $500

Expenses - $19,401 - 2026 $19,313-2025 $24,380- 2024 $20,737- 2023 $16,353 - 2022

- Rental/services costs
    - Verve Rental - $10,054
        - Event Field $6,630
        - Inflatables $3,424
    - Itty Bitty Pony Rides - $2,150
    - Fort Verde State Historic Park -free entry sponsor – Saturday only - $500
    - Nice Jons -$910
        - port-a-jons (4)
        - Hand wash stations (2)
    - Devil Dog Dumpster -$495
        - 10 yd. dumpster
    - Off – Duty Management - $1,003
        - 2 Officers on Sat & Sun
    - PES Security - $1,250
        - 2 each Friday & Saturday night
- Stage Music
    - Bands and sound equipment -$2,750
- Supplies & Equipment
    - $500
        - Banners, contest prizes, lanyards, ride bracelets, event set-up supplies
- Marketing
    - Newspaper ads -$200
        - Camp Verde Journal, Cottonwood Journal and Red Rock News – 1 week
    - Radio ads - $1,022
        - KVRD & KKLD $300 x 2 = $600

- Juan FM - $422 x 1 = $422

Staff impact

- Maintenance and Streets overtime wages - $????
- 6 P&R Staff worked 158 additional hours for direct event prep and operation, less than last year due to cancelling Sunday.
- We had 5 additional town employees who were paid “volunteers.” They worked a total of 23 hours.

FALL 2026 TRIP LIST



All trips leave at 9:00 am and returns at 5:00 pm unless otherwise stated.
Subject to the destination, choose to buy lunch on site or pack your own.
Cancellations with at least 48 hours' notice are eligible for a full refund.

Meteor Crater — November 6th

Visit Earth's best-preserved meteorite crater near Flagstaff, a mile wide and 550 feet deep, blasted 50,000 years ago, with rim views, a 4D Collision experience, and the Discovery Center.

$54



Walking Tour of Wickenburg — November 20th

Step back in time on a self-guided walking tour through historic downtown Wickenburg! Explore landmarks like the Vernetta Hotel and Garcia Schoolhouse while interactive statues bring the past to life.

$21

Arrowhead Towne Center — December 4th

Shop more than 180 stores at Arrowhead Towne Center in Glendale this December, grab Christmas gifts at Macy's, Dillard's, Sephora and more, then wrap it up with photos with Santa, holiday events, dining, and more.

$21

SCAN ME

TOWN OF CAMP VERDE Parks & Recreation

TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION:

https://anc.apm.activecommunities.com/campverdeparksandrec/

parks@campverde.az.gov | 928-554-0820 # 3 | 395 S. Main Street, Camp Verde

TOWN OF | CAMP VERDE

Parks & Recreation

2026 DAY TRIPS



METEOR CRATER

A day of discovery

Explore a remarkable meteorite crater near Flagstaff, formed about 50,000 years ago. Take in sweeping rim views, explore the Discovery Center, and experience the 4D Collision attraction.

November 6, 2026

$54 per person

Departs 9 AM • Returns 5 PM

Purchase lunch on-site or pack your own, depending on the destination.

Cancellations with at least 48 hours' notice are eligible for a full refund.

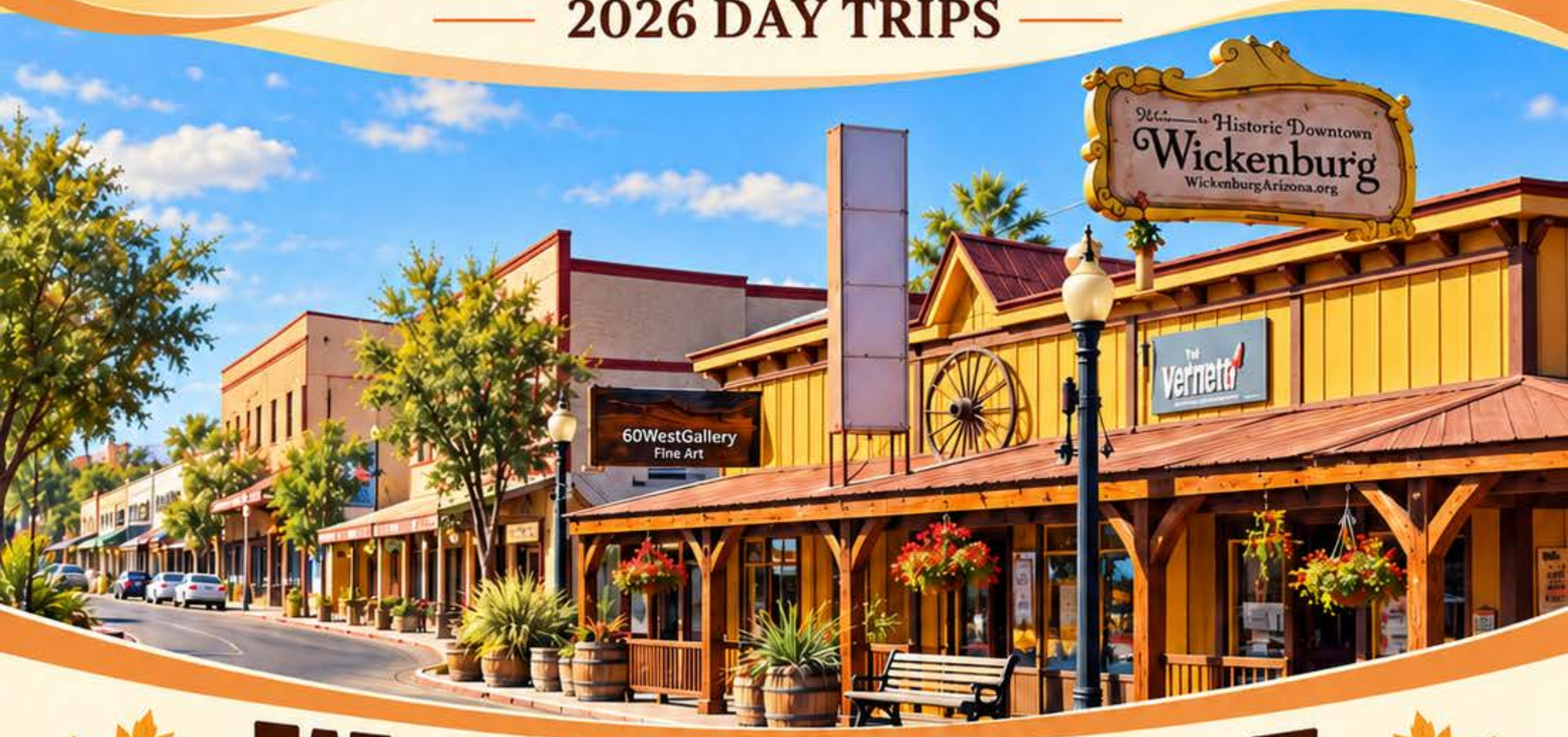
REGISTER ONLINE OR VISIT OUR OFFICE

anc.apm.activecommunities.com/campverdeparksandrec/
395 S. Main Street, Camp Verde
928-554-0820 • Option 3
parks@campverde.az.gov

SCAN TO REGISTER

TOWN OF CAMP VERDE
Parks & Recreation

2026 DAY TRIPS



WALKING TOUR OF WICKENBURG

Step into Arizona's Old West

Enjoy a self-guided walking tour through historic downtown Wickenburg. Discover landmarks including the Vernetta Hotel and Garcia Schoolhouse, and look for interactive statues that share stories of the town's past.

November 20, 2026

$21 per person

Departs 9 AM • Returns 5 PM

Purchase lunch on-site or pack your own, depending on the destination.

Cancellations with at least 48 hours' notice are eligible for a full refund.

REGISTER ONLINE OR VISIT OUR OFFICE

anc.apm.activecommunities.com/campverdeparksandrec/

395 S. Main Street, Camp Verde

928-554-0820 • Option 3

parks@campverde.az.gov

SCAN TO REGISTER

TOWN OF CAMP VERDE
Parks & Recreation

2026

DAY TRIPS



ARROWHEAD TOWNE CENTER

A day of holiday shopping in Glendale

December 4, 2026
Departs 9 AM • Returns 5 PM

$21 per person

Find gifts for your holiday list, browse your favorite shops, and enjoy a festive day out with friends. Take a break for lunch and soak up the holiday atmosphere.

Purchase lunch on-site or pack your own, depending on the destination.

Cancellations with at least 48 hours' notice are eligible for a full refund.

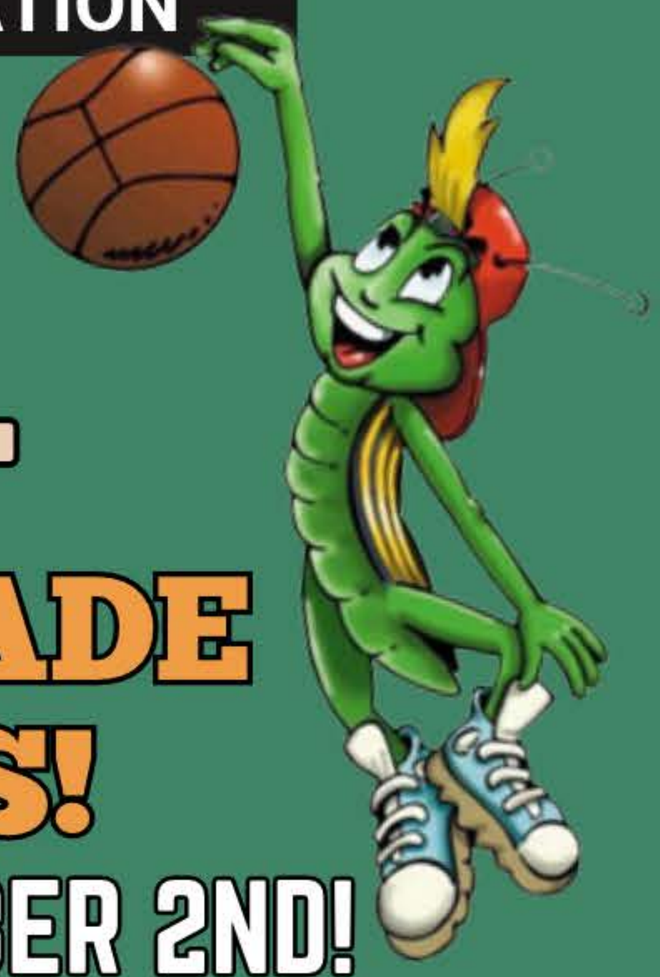
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395 S. Main Street, Camp Verde
928-554-0820 • Option 3
parks@campverde.az.gov

SCAN TO REGISTER

CAMP VERDE PARKS & RECREATION

GRASSHOPPER BASKETBALL



FOR 5TH - 8TH GRADE GIRLS AND BOYS!

REGISTRATION OPENS NOVEMBER 2ND!

1ST PLAYER $45 & 2ND FAMILY MEMBER $40

IMPORTANT DATES:

Registration Deadline: Dec 28th

Late Registration Deadline: Jan 3rd

$5.00 late fee assessed

Skills Assessment & Draft: Jan 4th

Games begin: January 16th

1 practice per week | Games played on Saturdays

For more information:
928-554-0820 option 3.
parks@campverde.az.gov

TOWN OF CAMP VERDE Parks & Recreation

Camp Verde Parks and Recreation Division
395 South Main Street
Camp Verde, AZ 86322
parks@campverde.az.gov

For Immediate Release
Date: October 15, 2026

Contact: Tiffany Smith, Recreation Coordinator
Phone: (928)554-0828
tiffany.smith@campverde.az.gov

Camp Verde Still Seeks Trunk or Treat Participants for Halloween Festivities

Calling all ghosts, goblins, witches, and creative candy distributors! The Town of Camp Verde Parks & Recreation Department is gearing up for its annual Trunk or Treat celebration, and we're inviting local businesses, organizations, community groups, and individuals to help make this Halloween tradition another spooktacular success!

The festivities will take place Saturday, October 31, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in Downtown Camp Verde, where Main Street will transform into a festive Halloween destination filled with decorated vehicles, creative displays, and plenty of treats for costumed youngsters.

With an estimated crowd of more than 5,000 children and adults attending each year, Trunk or Treat has become one of Camp Verde's most popular family-friendly traditions. And behind all those smiling faces and overflowing candy bags are the generous community members who help bring the event to life!

We Need Your Trunks!

Whether you've got a car, truck, tractor, trailer, or a creative booth setup, there's a place for you at Trunk or Treat! Participants are invited to decorate their space, bring candy to distribute, and help create a fun, safe, and memorable Halloween experience for families throughout the Verde Valley.

And for those who love a little friendly competition, don't hold back on the decorations! Our Ghosts, Ghouls, & Goblins Award will recognize the best-decorated space of the evening, complete with a prize and some well-earned bragging rights. From spooky graveyards and haunted hideaways to whimsical Halloween scenes, we can't wait to see what our community dreams up!

A Little Community Support Goes a Long Way!

With thousands of eager trick-or-treaters making their way down Main Street, candy disappears faster than a ghost at sunrise! Registered participants are asked to bring their own candy to distribute, and we encourage everyone to plan generously for the large crowds.

To help keep those treat bags full, the Parks & Recreation Department has already invested thousands of dollars in supplemental candy for the event. Monetary donations from local businesses and community members are greatly appreciated to help offset these costs and support this beloved Halloween tradition.

Contributions of any amount are welcome and can be made in person at the Parks & Recreation office, located at 395 S. Main Street in Camp Verde, or conveniently online by credit card at:

https://www.eventeny.com/users/application/fundraising/?id=1136

Every dollar helps make Halloween a little sweeter for our community's youngest ghosts and goblins!

Be Part of the Halloween Magic!

Whether you're a longtime participant or considering joining the festivities for the first time, we'd love to have you! Hosting a trunk is a wonderful opportunity to showcase your business, connect with the community, or simply enjoy the excitement of making Halloween special for local families.

Interested participants are encouraged to register early and start planning their decorations. Registration is available online through Eventeny at:

https://www.eventeny.com/events/trunkortreat2026-33424/

Come for the costumes, stay for the community spirit, and help us make this year's Trunk or Treat a frightfully good time!

For more information, please contact Camp Verde Parks and Recreation at (928) 554-0820, option 3, or email **parks@campverde.az.gov**.

Christmas Magic on Main

Downtown Camp Verde

Saturday, December 12, 2026

Event starts at 9 AM

Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast with Santa

Gingerbread House Contest

Christmas Craft Bazaar

Parade of Lights

TOWN OF CAMP VERDE
Parks & Recreation

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT US

(928) 554-0820 #3

parks@campverde.az.gov

TOUCH-A-TRUCK

CAMP VERDE SPORTS COMPLEX!
990 CHAMPION TRAIL
CAMP VERDE, AZ!

FEBRUARY 13TH, 2027
FROM 11:00 TO 3:00
COME BE IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT!

Live Demonstrations!
Service Animals Only!
Free Kiwanis Hotdogs!

FREE KIDS EVENT!
A hands on opportunity to explore a variety of machinery! Meet the people who build, protect, and serve the Verde Valley!
See You There!



TOWN OF CAMP VERDE Parks & Recreation

Kiwanis CAMP VERDE ARIZONA