

CITY OF BUCKEYE
Regular Planning & Zoning Commission
PLANNING ACTION REPORT

MEETING DATE: 06/10/25	AGENDA ITEM: 3.A. Parks and Recreation Master Plan Recommendation to City Council for Approval
DATE PREPARED: 06/04/25	DISTRICT NO.: All
STAFF LIAISON: Miranda Gomez, Community Services Director, mgomez@buckeyeaz.gov, 623-349-6353; Robert Wisener, Community Services Deputy Director, rwisener@buckeyeaz.gov, 623-349-6621	
DEPARTMENT: Community Services	AGENDA ITEM TYPE: Continued / Tabled Items

ACTION/MOTION: (This language identifies the formal motion to be made by the Voting Members) Planning and Zoning Commission to make a motion to recommend approval of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan to Buckeye City Council

SUMMARY

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

In January 2024, the City kicked off the process to update the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, which was last adopted by Council in 2016. Since beginning the process, the consultant Kimley-Horn and Associates conducted a robust public input and engagement process to ensure the plan reflected the needs of Buckeye residents and stakeholders. The public input process included a variety of methods, including attending city special events, issuing both statistically valid and non-statistically valid surveys, holding focus group and stakeholder meetings, and two rounds of public meetings with the first round in spring 2024 followed by the second round in fall 2024. The input received shaped the plan's recommendations that will provide the vision and framework for how the City grows parks and recreation facilities and programs over the next ten years and beyond.

The plan's themes and overarching goals were presented to the Planning & Zoning Commission on September 10, 2024 and to Buckeye City Council on September 17, 2024. The draft plan and executive summary were both submitted to Commissioners for their review and feedback in early April 2025.

The Community Services Department, in coordination with the Development Services Department has provided several opportunities for the development community to provide input into the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Staff made two presentations to the development partners stakeholder group in June and October 2024 with the presentation in June providing an overview of the plan and sharing feedback we received from the online survey results. We also asked for volunteers to serve on a focus group to discuss parks, trails and open space-related opportunities with a follow-up email sent by Development Services with no responses received. In August, we met with the Teravalis development team and, based on that conversation, we made updates to the park's development standards, which was presented to the development partners stakeholder group in October. Since March 2025, staff has been coordinating with the Teravalis development group on their review comments on the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

More recently, on Wednesday, May 21st, staff met with representatives of the development community along the Sun Valley Parkway corridor. The purpose of the meeting was to present changes that were made to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan based on feedback from the development community and to receive additional input. We've summarized the feedback from that meeting, which is appended to this report. While many modifications to the plan have been made based on input, there are areas

where there is not full alignment between staff's recommendations and the development community's perspectives.

Staff worked hard to ensure the plan reflects a balanced consideration from what we've heard from residents, other stakeholder groups, and developers. At the conclusion of the meeting, the development representatives expressed their appreciation for staff's efforts to engage the development community in the planning process.

BENEFITS:

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan provides the blueprint for the growth and expansion of the parks and recreation system, which includes such parks as Skyline Regional Park, Sundance Park, and Earl Edgar Park along with three recreation facilities and the aquatic center in downtown Buckeye. These parks and facilities enhance the quality of life for Buckeye residents. The Parks and Recreation Master Plan forecasts the growth in population and the associated need for additional parks and recreation facilities and programs.

FUTURE ACTION:

The Community Services Advisory Board made a motion to recommend approval to Buckeye City Council on May 7, 2025 and we are seeking a similar motion from the Planning and Zoning Commission this evening. The Master Plan will be presented to Council during a workshop on May 20, 2025 with Council to consider approving the plan on June 17, 2025. After approval, the Community Services Department will begin working on the strategic implementation items recommended in the plan. In addition, the Development Services Department will use the standards and guidelines included in the plan when reviewing development proposals. As part of the Council's Strategic Plan, some elements of the master plan may be included in the Development Code, which is identified to be complete in 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

None

CURRENT FISCAL YEAR TOTAL COST:

NA

FISCAL YEAR:

NA

FUND/DEPARTMENT:

NA

Items related to a project or facility location must include an attached vicinity map for Council Review.

ATTACHMENTS:

[Buckeye Parks & Recreation Master Plan Executive Summary Final 5-5-2025 Reduced.pdf](#)

[Buckeye Parks & Recreation Master Plan Entire Final 5-5-2025 Reduced.pdf](#)

[5-25 Parks and Recreation Master Plan Development Feedback Memo Final.pdf](#)