Frequently Asked Questions

1) How does the City prioritize which parks are built first?

The City considers a number of factors in prioritizing park development, including 1) location, 2) absorption and available development funding and 3) long term maintenance funding.

Location: If no other park is nearby, a new park may take priority. If a park is located next to a school, this park may also take a higher priority.

Absorption/Available Development Funding: Absorption is the rate in which homes are purchased in a given area. The City will look at building a park where more than 50% of the homes are occupied. Fifty percent will ensure that the public investment in a park will be used immediately and serve the largest number of residents. This also ties in to development funding. Each home sale contributes to a neighborhood park fund as well as a city-wide park fund. Neighborhood park funds are collected from residents in a particular area. The contributions cover all neighborhood parks within a specific plan area. City-wide park funds are collected from all residents within the City. These funds can only be spent on city-wide or regional parks, such as Mahany Park or Maidu Regional Park.

Long Term Maintenance Funding: Newer areas within the City will be paying an annual assessment to cover the maintenance of parks within that area. Assessments are not collected until a park is built. If three neighborhood parks are to be built in a given area, assessments are collected as each park is completed, not all three up-front. Not all areas within the City collect an annual assessment for park maintenance. Some assessments only cover maintenance of the street and median landscaping. In those locations, park maintenance is paid for through the General Fund. The City is looking at ways to address this.

In summary, if there is not a park located nearby, if the neighborhood is occupied 50% or more and if park maintenance funds are available, the park would take a high priority. If one or two out of three of these factors are lacking, a park may take a lower priority as Staff works to address the challenges.

2) I’ve lived in my current home for years and I am still waiting for my park. Why is a newer subdivision getting their park before me?

Parks are built in two ways: 1) as a City project, or 2) by the Developer on behalf of the City. Early on, before streets are constructed and school sites identified, the home developer has a choice to build the park on behalf of the City or allow the City to build the park. If the City builds the park, we follow the criteria outlined in #1 above. If the Developer elects to build the park, they do so up-front. Either way, park development funds are collected through home sales.

3) What's the difference between a city-wide and neighborhood park?

City-wide parks are larger sites, off of major roads and designed for a visitor stay of two or more hours. You will generally construct large ballfield complexes and specialized park features which will attract people to drive to the park from around the region or city. These park amenities can also be lighted facilities with restrooms. Mahany Park, Maidu Regional Park and the south side of Hughes Park (Parkside Drive) are examples. Other planned and yet to be developed city-wide parks include Harry Crabb Park, Stoneridge Park Site 2, 3 and 4 off of Orvietto and Roseville Parkway, the Sports Complex next to the proposed west plan high school and Fiddyment Park off of Fiddyment and Hayden Parkway. The city-wide park fund provides for the development of these types parks. These parks are also built in phases.

Neighborhood parks are generally less than 5 acres in size, are surrounded by homes and are designed for the casual park user staying one hour or less. Grass areas are multi-use and intended for either practice games or informal activities. Play areas, picnic facilities and other low key features are considered in a neighborhood park design. Because these parks are located within a half to one mile radius to homes and the stay at the park is short, restrooms are not provided. Examples of neighborhood parks includes Misty Wood off of Pleasant Grove Boulevard and Misty Wood, Cambria Park in the Stoneridge area, Woodbridge Park near Roseville High School, Erven Park off of Grand Canyon Drive north of Highway 65 and Summerhill Park off of Washington near Highway 65. The neighborhood park fund provides for the development of a series of these types of parks located within a specific plan area.

4) I was told that the City would build my park within a year. Why hasn't it been built?

Before purchasing a home, we encourage you to contact the City to confirm park development timelines. The development schedule is based on the analysis outlined in item #1 above. Additionally, park development keeps pace with the economy as it either accelerates or slows down.

5) Why does it take so long to build a park?

The design of a park occurs in the first year of the development process. The City conducts extensive public workshops and outreach during this time. The City values your input and makes a concerted effort to collect feedback. Design approvals include environmental review, permits, and Parks & Recreation Commission, construction document and City Council approvals. Construction begins during the second year. The most difficult phase of the project is the establishment or grown-in period. This is where we literally "watch the grass grow". This is a four month (minimum) period and is necessary to ensure that the grass can handle the heavy foot traffic. By so doing, we ensure the long term quality of maintenance of the park.

Please see our web page at www.roseville.ca.us under parks & recreation for a typical park development process and average timelines.

6) What is planned for my park?

In all cases, a preliminary design was developed with the specific plan. These are contained in the specific plan report. You can review the specific plan for your area through the City's web page at www.roseville.ca.us under Planning and Redevelopment. These preliminary plans are studies of what might fit in the park site and is the basis for park development fees. The public input period described in #5 above refines and occasionally changes the final plan. We also review the nearby and surrounding areas along with the planned or existing parks and amenities. We try to ensure that we address the recreational needs of all our residents by providing a variety of park amenities within easy access. The final or master plan is posted on our web page under Parks & Recreation starting at the design development phase and until the park opens.

7) How can I keep updated on my park's development/progress?

We review the park development schedule annually and project forward two to three years. Adjustments are made during this annual review based on economic factors. Parks either underway or targeted during a two year timeframe are listed on the City's web page at www.roseville.ca.us under parks & recreation. Projects that are projected to begin more than two years from the current date are not listed since timelines will likely change.