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# NEPHI CITY Parks, Trails & Recreation Master Plan



Prepared by:



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# Chapter 1 Introduction

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## Plan Purpose

The Nephi City Recreation Facilities Master Plan stems from the community's desire to enjoy enhanced outdoor recreational opportunities. The plan and maps are intended to provide a proactive "road map" which will make the use of recreation facilities, parks, and trails an integral part of daily life in Nephi City. Recreation facilities, park space, and trails provide recreational opportunities, revitalize neighborhoods, build healthy communities, encourage economic development, and create a sense of place for residents. Protection of open space, whether within the City's limits or along the hillsides or in agricultural areas, may strengthen the preservation of the rural image and culture of the community and ensure the habitats and natural environments of the area are protected against development.

A Community Coordination Team (CCT) was formed to help plan and prepare this Master Plan. The CCT consisted of an elected City official, one member of the planning commission, members from the City's Staff, and JUB Engineers' planning group. Coordination meetings involved evaluating survey information and reviewing comments from public meetings as well as developing maps, planning for future needs as the community grows, and setting goals and objectives for the recreational needs of the community.

Like many cities throughout the U.S., Nephi City wants to improve current recreational space and develop more to increase recreational opportunities, now as well as in the future, while preserving open space to maintain Nephi City's "rural character" and continue to provide a unique life-style for its residents.

## Guiding Principles

The Nephi City Recreation Facilities Master Plan is to:

1. give direction and offer a framework to guide future planning, design, and implementation decisions;
2. establish goals, policies, and standards to provide direction in future development of parks, trails, recreational facilities, and open space preservation;
3. determine types of service standards and identify the need for project improvements or system improvements;
4. introduce standards that will serve as a basis for calculation and assessment of parks and recreation impact fees;
5. give Nephi City the choice to accept or reject park land dedications offered by developers as a credit against impact fees, based on how the project contributes to the level of service and overall park system and whether the improvement relates to the goals, policies, and standards set by the Master Plan.



Additionally, this Plan should provide a foundation for developing Nephi City's Capital Improvements Plan and

an Impact Fee Facilities Plan (IFFP) (*formerly known as a Capital Facilities Plan, which was used to determine the projects that could use impact fees for development*). It is to be an appendix of and have a strong working relationship with the Nephi City General Plan.

Stated within the general plan is the Community Vision Statement:

“Nephi is a community that values its rural-town character and lifestyle and desires to continue a quality rural environment as it plans for growth and fosters economic vitality in the future.”

The following are guiding principles and values stated in the general plan:

**Community Character:** Continue to strengthen the rural image of Nephi City by promoting and fostering concepts of good community design at the city, neighborhood, and individual project levels.

**Economic Sustainability:** Cultivate a sustainable economic base that will provide tax revenues, local employment opportunities, and convenient retail goods and services through the maintenance and growth of economic opportunities.

**Managed Growth:** Preserve and protect the image and character of Nephi through the planning and management of geographic and population growth.

**Health and Activity:** Foster a healthy and active community through a balanced program of physical activities for Nephi City residents. Follow a land-use and mobility pattern that encourages a healthy and active daily life.

**Society and Culture:** Cultivate a socially integrated community through a balanced program of cultural activities for Nephi City residents. Follow a land-use pattern that integrates opportunities for gathering into neighborhoods and the community at large.

**Education and Families:** Invest in the future of the community through continued support for the education of youth and adults and the strengthening of

families. Develop and maintain effective relationships with family-support and educational providers.

## Recreation Facilities Master Plan

**Vision Statement:** “Develop a facility, park, and trail system that offers access to outdoor recreation, preserves open space and environmental habitats, allows for family recreational activities, and develops public amenities that enhance quality of life and that encourage interaction among its residents.”

## Community Character

### Location

Nephi is located in Juab County, Utah. It is surrounded by farmland to the west and Mt. Nebo and the Wasatch Mountains on the east. Nephi is the county seat and is the education core for Juab School District. Utah County is located to the north of Juab County and provides opportunity for higher education, with a number of universities and colleges within a short drive.

Interstate 15 edges the east side of Nephi and offers interchanges on the north, east, and south sides of the city. The proximity of the freeway to the city and the good access contribute to Nephi’s continued role as the commercial and residential center for the area.

### History

This historical information was taken from the Utah History Encyclopedia:

Like most settlements in Utah, Nephi's founders were Mormons, and the name of the town came from the Book of Mormon. In the summer of 1851 Joseph L. Haywood and Jesse W. Fox, the territorial surveyor, were instructed by church leaders to lay out the town of Salt Creek, so named for the local salty stream. Haywood served as civic and spiritual leader in the area for three years. The settlers immediately began to clear ground and build homes. They also started schools for their children. Nephi boasted the third high school (and the first rural one) in the state in 1894. In 1879 a Presbyterian school was opened and later a Methodist school.

Nephi was known for some years as Salt Creek. However, early church records refer to it as the Nephi Branch, and some government records also called it Nephi. Until 22 May 1882 mail to the town was addressed to the Salt Creek post office. Nephi was incorporated in 1889, and on 16 January 1882 an act by the governor and the legislature of the territory was approved, making Nephi the county seat of Juab County.



Agriculture was the first industry. Farming and livestock have always been important in the Nephi area. The settlers traced the source of the salt in the creek to a cave in the canyon east of town, and they then began to mine it. This soon became a flourishing local industry, with salt traded to people as far away as St. George in exchange for food and clothing. In 1893 the Nebo Salt Manufacturing Company was organized. However, it eventually became unprofitable to compete with the larger companies on the shores of the Great Salt Lake, and 1925 marked the end of the local industry.

Milling was another local industry. Nephi's Gem and Snowflake flour became known throughout most of Utah.

When gypsum was found at the mouth of Salt Creek Canyon, plaster was made by grinding it between two rocks and cooking the powder. Later a grinding machine was obtained and a waterwheel installed which was powered by water diverted from Salt Creek. In 1889 the Nephi Plaster and Manufacturing Company was incorporated and the first mill was constructed. It survived two fires in the early 1900s and flourished to become the major employer in Nephi.

On 3 May 1879 the railroad came to Nephi, and in 1880 the Sanpete Valley Railroad was built from Wales to Nephi for the purpose of hauling coal from the mines. This helped make Nephi a business center and greatly improved the local economy.

The business district on Main Street grew rapidly, and during the late nineteenth century there were restaurants, mercantile stores, hotels, clothing stores, a tailor, a furniture store, two millinery stores, two barber

shops, and several other establishments. At this time, because of the number of businesses, Nephi was frequently referred to as "Little Chicago."

Unfortunately, with the general ease and availability of transportation to larger urban areas, Nephi's Main Street business district has somewhat declined, as is the case with many rural areas in Utah.

### Recreation History

The first game of baseball ever played in Nephi was undertaken on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1875. In October of 1874, Mr. Samuel Gilson and Mr. George Whitmore were conversing and came up with a plan to play baseball. Mr. Gilson challenged Mr. Whitmore to pick nine men, and he would do the same, and within the month they would "commence a playing." The winning team would receive a quarter beef for each player. They selected their teams and started to practice. When it came time to play the game, a controversy arose as to an umpire having no book of rules to use. The game was postponed until spring, since they had no means of obtaining a book of rules until then. There were no railroads, telegraphs, or telephones in those days, and they had to send to New York, by mail, for a book of rules of the game.

They had given up all hopes of playing the game until the following spring, when the book arrived December 27<sup>th</sup>, 1874. The delivery of the rule book put new life into the players, and they thought they would go ahead and play and not wait till spring. So on January 1<sup>st</sup> 1875, everyone helped scrape the snow that had fallen, the previous night, off the entire square (located on Main Street between 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> North and now known as Pioneer Park). The townspeople were excited and

turned out in mass to witness the game. Whitmore's team won that day with a score of 87 to 17.

From the first ball game in 1875, Nephi has had a history of winning ball teams and of loving to play the game. This has carried on through many generations with hundreds of youth and adults who still love to play the game. *"History of Juab County" pgs 84-87 by Alice P. McCune.*

## Population and Characteristics

This information is a summary of the information found within the Nephi City General Plan dated September 2011 and is based on Census 2010 data.

**Population:** Based on Census 2010 data, Nephi has a population of 5,389 people, 1,690 households, and an average household size of 3.13.

Nephi City grew at an average annual rate of 1.3 percent over the past ten years, compared to an annual growth rate of 2.2 percent for Juab County. Both Nephi City and Juab County have lower growth rates than bordering Utah County which has an average annual growth rate of 3.4 percent. However, Utah County has one of the most rapid growth rates in the nation, and both Juab County and Nephi City are still experiencing higher-than-average growth rates compared to the national average growth rate over the past ten years of 0.93 percent. Millard County (immediately south of Juab County) grew at an average annual rate of only .08 percent from 2000 to 2010, while the State of Utah experienced rapid growth rates averaging 2.15 percent from 2000 to 2010.

Nephi City is projected by the GOPB to reach a population of 21,489 in 2060, while Juab County is projected to reach a population of 38,446. At that time, Nephi would include 56 percent of the County's population compared to 52.6 percent in 2010.

**Age:** According to Census 2010 data, Nephi had a median age of 30.2 compared to 27.5 in 2010 which indicates an aging population. Juab County's median age also increased from 26.5 in 2000 to 29.3 in 2010, and the Utah median age increased from 27.1 in 2000

to 29.2 years in 2010. Nephi City's median age is slightly higher than both the Juab County and Utah median ages, but significantly lower than the national median age of 37.2.

Nephi City and Juab County have similar age demographics. It appears that Juab County has a slightly larger percent of its population under the age of 29, while Nephi City has a slightly larger percent of its population over the age of 29. Nephi City has a unique demographic, as its population under the age of 17 and over the age of 60 makes up a larger percent of its population when compared to the State. Both Nephi City and Juab County have a smaller percentage of population between the ages of 18 and 29 years, suggesting an out-migration of these individuals to attend college or find entry-level employment opportunities outside of the community.

**Household Size:** Utah is unique because of its young median age and its large household sizes. The national average household size is 2.58 persons, while Utah's average household size is 3.10. According to Census 2010 data, Nephi City's average household size is 3.13, just slightly higher than the State's average. Juab County's average household size in 2010 is 3.27. In comparison, Utah County's household size is 3.57, while Millard County's household size is 2.95.

**Ethnic Background:** There is little racial and ethnic diversity in Nephi City and in Juab County, where white residents represent 96 percent of the total population. In comparison, 86 percent of residents in the State of Utah are white; nationwide the percentage of white residents declines to 72 percent.

In Nephi City, the Hispanic population represents four percent of the population, compared to the statewide average of thirteen percent.

**Income:** According to American Community Survey (ACS) data, (5-year estimate in 2009 inflation-adjusted dollars) households in Nephi City had a median household income of \$47,389. In comparison, the Juab County's median household income was \$50,360, and Utah's median household income was \$55,642.

The cost of living (especially evident in median home prices) is less in Juab County, thereby mitigating some of the impacts of the lower incomes. Additionally, from a regional perspective Juab County is considered to be part of the Provo-Orem Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), which was calculated to have an area median income of \$65,100 in 2010 by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Nephi City has a higher percentage of households with incomes below \$25,000 and a lower percentage of households with incomes above \$50,000 when compared to the State.

**Education:** Records show that 89.2 percent of the population in Nephi City has at least a high school diploma, and 12.3 percent have bachelor's degrees or higher. Nephi is just slightly lower than Utah's average of 90 percent with a high school diploma, but quite a bit lower than Utah's 29 percent with a bachelor's degree or higher. There is generally a high correlation between education and wages, which follows the trend of the median household income being lower than the State's median household income.

# Chapter 2 Definitions and Types of Service

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## Purpose of Definitions

These definitions will provide the City with descriptions, classifications, and characterizations of the types of services and standards to use within this document. It will allow for clarity while discussing each type of service. Definitions will also serve as important tools for development of impact fees and capital improvement plans.

## Park and Recreation Goals and Objectives

Several issues emerge as development continues to shape the goals and objectives of this plan. With time, new community concerns may appear that have not yet been considered. It is important this plan be revisited every few years to identify and evaluate developing issues and make adjustments to the goals and objectives of this plan.

### Goals and Objectives

- Increase facility planning and development to support the growing community's recreational needs
- Beautify and enhance the entrances into the community
- Preserve the natural beauty and environment of the community
- Maintain the historical integrity of the City
- Maintain the viability of the City recreation areas by utilizing the current grounds and expanding for future improvements
- Develop a sense of place for community gatherings and events
- Adopt standards for development of parks within the community
- Support property values and community growth by providing areas for leisure, recreation, and open space

- Implement a trail system linking important areas of the community, i.e. parks, schools, transportation hubs, other regional recreation trail systems, etc.
- Develop a working parks system, which implements improvements that benefit the whole community including seniors, people with disabilities, youth, and children, and which also includes uses such as sports facilities, natural areas, trail destinations, exercise facilities, and leisure areas for sitting and picnicking
- Develop a plan which addresses the City's actual level of service, future needs, proposed capital improvements and associated costs, and funding sources available to the City
- Maintain communication among administration, public officials, and residents to ensure recreational facilities and programs continue to meet the needs of the community
- Give safety considerations top priority by keeping in mind traffic considerations, steep grades, or other barriers. Plan to avoid dangerous situations such as developing narrow, hidden alleyways or areas where trail users walk long distances without an access to exit the trail

## Definition of Project Improvements and System Improvements

The City will use the following definitions and descriptions as benchmarks in determining how the City will define its parks system. Nephi City based these definitions on the National Recreation and Parks Association standards and tailored them to the specific needs of the City.

### Project Improvements

Project improvements include facilities that benefit a small area and are generally of little benefit to the community as a whole. They also include private facilities that would limit access to the general public. This analysis considers mini-parks under one acre and private club areas (i.e. swimming pools, tennis courts,

open space, etc.) as project improvements, unless developed by the City, along with parks dedicated to the City in return for increased density within certain zoning classes (for example: Combined-Use and Planned Residential Developments). Project improvements cannot be funded through impact fees, receive credit for costs against impact fees, or be considered in the impact-fee level of service.

## System Improvements

System improvements are intended to benefit the community as a whole and can be funded through impact fees. Generally, these improvements are located outside specific developments unless the improvement is provided in addition to the parks needed for the developer to receive full density.

## Definitions, Standards, and Guidelines for Facilities and Trails

### Facilities and Parks

**Mini-park:** A specialized facility that serves a concentrated or limited population or specific group, such as tots or senior citizens. These facilities should be located within neighborhoods and in close proximity to apartment complexes, townhouse developments, or housing for the elderly. When used for detention of storm water, mini-parks are recommended to maintain a minimum shelf area which will remain dry (i.e. not used for detention). Mini-parks less than one acre are not customarily included in the impact fee level of service for the City's parks because they are usually considered project improvements of a new development. In order for a park less than one acre to be considered in the impact-fee level, it must be developed by the City.

- Typical Park Size: 5,000 Sq. Ft. – 1.99 acre
- Site Characteristics: Centrally located in neighborhoods and higher-density residential
- The walking distance should not exceed one-quarter mile nor require the crossing of busy streets
- Appropriate facilities include: children's playground equipment, grassy play areas, picnic tables and shelters, and benches

**Neighborhood Parks:** Areas designed for intense recreational activities such as field games, court games, crafts, playground apparatus, skating, picnicking, wading pools, etc. Neighborhood park sites should be suited for intense development, easily accessible to neighborhood populations, and geographically located for safe walking and bicycle access (service radius of one-half mile). A minimum twenty percent of the site area should be dry (i.e. not used for storm-water detention). These parks are included in the City's level of service and considered system improvements.

- Typical Park Size: 2.0 – 7.99 acre
- Site Characteristics: Centrally located to provide direct and safe walking/biking access
- Appropriate facilities include: open play areas for softball, soccer, youth baseball, Frisbee, etc., as well as restrooms, parking facilities, picnic areas, shelters, and playgrounds with seating available nearby. Sites should be relatively visible from adjoining streets

**Community Parks:** Areas of diverse recreational value including intense recreational facilities, such as athletic complexes and pools, as well as more passive uses such as picnicking, viewing, nature studying, and other types of recreational development. The size and amenities contained within each community park should be based on the planned population to be served. A minimum twenty percent of the site area should be dry (for a 10-year storm event). Community parks should serve the majority of residential areas with overlapping service-area coverage. These parks are included in the City's level of service and are considered system improvements.

- Typical Park Size: 8.0 – 20.0 acre
- Site Characteristics: Comprises both active and passive recreational activities with support facilities such as off-street parking and restrooms
- Appropriate facilities include: fields for formal baseball-softball, soccer, etc., along with picnic facilities, trail/pathway systems, and children's playgrounds. These parks should be located on arterial or collector streets and have landscaped

setbacks to buffer active-use areas from residential areas as needed

**Regional Park/Park Preserve:** Areas of natural or ornamental quality for outdoor recreation such as picnicking, boating, fishing, swimming, camping, and trail uses, with much of the land reserved for conservation and natural resource management. While they sometimes contain traditional park facilities, like playground structures or tennis courts, regional parks are usually dedicated to one particular use. The location of these parks usually takes advantage of the area's unique, natural, or cultural features. These parks are included in the City's level of service and are considered system improvements.

- Typical Park Size: 20– 75.0 acre
- Site Characteristics: Comprises both active and passive recreational activities used to service the needs of the entire region

**Special-Use Facilities:** Public recreation facilities that are set aside for specific purposes. Typical uses include community recreation centers, swimming pools, gymnasiums, rodeo grounds, golf courses, etc.

**Special-Use Areas:** Miscellaneous public recreation areas or land occupied by a specialized facility. Typical uses of these areas include small or special uses, specialty landscaped areas, cemeteries, community gardens, streetscapes, viewpoints, or historic sites. Special-use areas are not considered in the impact fee level of service.

## Open Space Definition and Types

The definitions for open space facilities provide guidance in the determination of appropriate amenities for the community. Open space can be categorized into two types: passive and natural. The following definitions are provided to guide the appropriate location and components for a mix of open space that enhances the quality of life for existing and future Nephi City residents. Open space can include sensitive areas within the City such as wetlands or parcels having slopes of thirty percent or greater.

**Passive Open Space:** Areas that have had minor, if any, improvements and are set aside, dedicated, designated, or reserved for public or private use. Passive open spaces typically accommodate activities such as picnicking, hiking, bicycling, equestrian, walking, dog park or "off-leash" running areas, neighborhood electric vehicle areas, gardening, agriculture, and aesthetics, etc. Passive open spaces include plazas, greenbelts, buffers, landscaped parkways, peripheral landscape tracts, water or lake features, and entrances into the city or other similar areas. Subject to Nephi City Council approval, passive open space may be utilized for a secondary purpose of satisfying storm-water retention requirements. Passive open space is property that is not considered sensitive lands.

**Natural Open Space:** Included are unimproved areas in their natural state and set aside, dedicated, designated, or reserved for public or private use. Minimal improvements are allowed in natural open spaces for trails, natural interpretive areas, and limited re-vegetation or landform alterations for trail maintenance, aesthetics, visual relief, and environmental, public safety, and/or emergency purposes so long as the areas disturbed are restored to their natural appearance. Natural open spaces shall not be used for improved drainage purposes. Natural open space includes water features, washes, riverbanks, desert lands, and other similar areas.

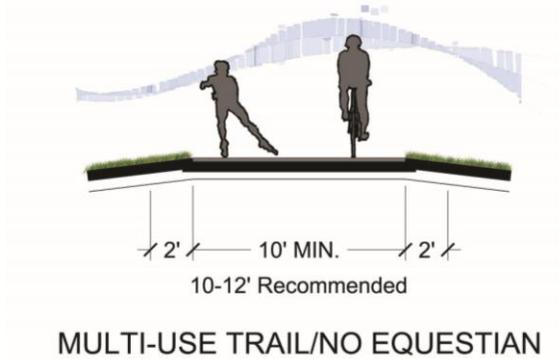
## Trails and Trailheads

**Trails:** Trails are thought of as a linear route on land with protected status and public access for recreation or transportation purposes such as walking jogging, hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, mountain biking, and so on. Trails can include open spaces, landscaped areas, and/or trail systems that follow stream corridors, abandoned railroads, power line easements, or other elongated features. Trailheads are considered staging areas along a trail often accompanied by various public facilities such as parking areas, restroom, directional and information signs, benches, and picnic tables.

**Natural Pedestrian:** Natural trails are not paved. They are primitive paths intended for pedestrians and

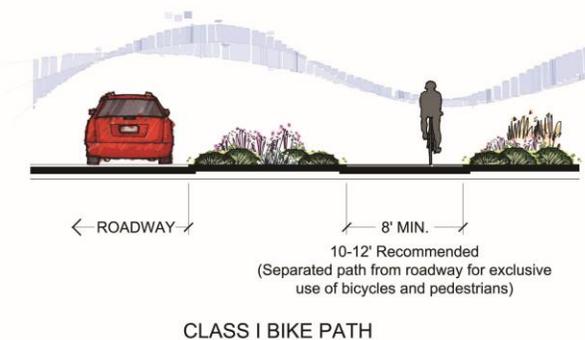
mountain-bike use, created in the existing dirt and rock environment. They are usually in open, natural areas not following roadways.

**Paved Bike/Pedestrian Paths:** Paved bike/pedestrian paths are developed with a hard surface of asphalt pavement or concrete. The trails are intended for use by both bicyclists and pedestrians. They should be built to the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) standards.



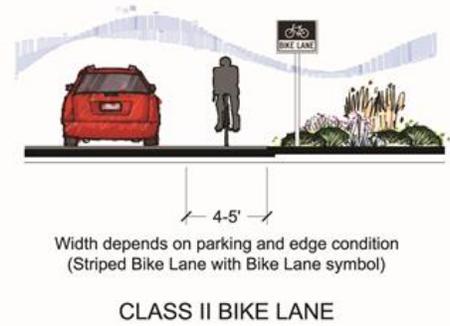
**Bike Lanes and Routes:** Bike lanes and routes utilize vehicle roadways for bicyclists only, to access local facilities and connect to other trails. These lanes and routes should also meet AASHTO bikeway standards:

1. **CLASS I BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN TRAILS (PATH)** –



Paved, hard-surface paths, with a minimum 10-foot-wide tread, and requiring a minimum separation of 5 feet from the roadway. AASHTO standards should be used as design guidelines.

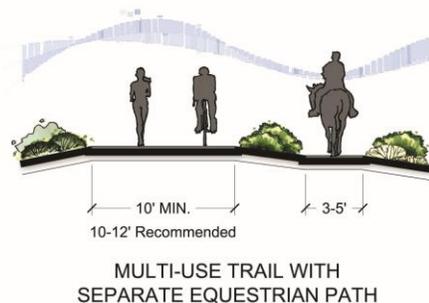
2. **CLASS II BIKE LANE** – Striped lanes adjacent to the curb on a roadway.



3. **CLASS III BIKE ROUTES** – Existing streets with signage for on-street bicycle use.



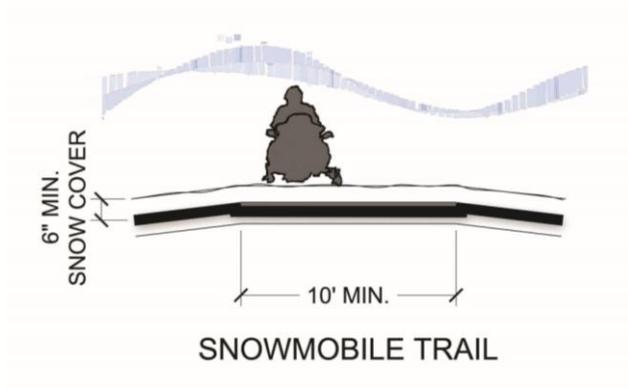
**EQUESTRIAN TRAILS** – Dirt or stabilized dirt is a preferred surface. The equestrian trail should be at least three to six feet away from a hard surface trail for bikes and pedestrians and should have at least a 5-foot wide tread for horses. Vertical clearance for equestrians should be at least ten feet, with a horizontal clearance of at least five feet.



**CROSS-COUNTRY SKI TRAILS** – Many multi-use trails used for bicycling, walking, and horseback riding during warm months are ideal for cross-country skiing during winter months. The only requirement is at least six inches of snow.



**SNOWMOBILE TRAILS** – Multi-use trails can be designated snowmobile trails with as little as six inches of snow, without causing damage to the trails. Snowmobiles can damage the trails if they do not have enough snow, so signage should advise snowmobilers of the required snow depth.



**Trailheads:** Trailheads are an important link to trails, as they provide areas for walkers and bikers to park, rest, picnic, and further enjoy the trail system.

**ATV/Other Trails:**

ATV, mountain-bike, and other types of trails are all important to give a well-rounded experience to a number of diverse users.

## Trail Systems

**COMMUNITY** – Trails within the community that link areas, such as schools, parks, churches, commercial and historical areas, and access points to regional and state trails. These can include sidewalks, roadways, and designated multi-use trails.

**REGIONAL** – Trails that connect from community to community.

**HISTORIC** – Trails designated as historical areas, i.e. Old Western Trail or the California-Oregon Trail.

# Chapter 3 Needs Analysis

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## Park and Trail Needs Analysis

Within the Nephi City General Plan the parks and trails needs analysis was based on a resource publication produced for the State of Colorado, in 2003, entitled Small Community Parks and Recreation Standards. The following analysis will use the National Parks and Recreation Association (NPRA) development standards and will only be considering the City's owned or leased recreation facilities to establish the "current level of service." For this reason, there may be an inconsistency in the number of acres of recreation facilities per 1,000 residents between this plan and the general plan. Within the plan the statement "number of acres" refers to park acreage as well as the facilities that are within that acreage. Therefore if there is a need to develop certain acreage to meet the goal of the community, that acreage would include facilities as well.

## Needs Analysis

A park-needs analysis typically looks at current level of service as existing acreages of park land/facilities and open space, as well as miles of trail, compared to current and projected populations. In determining the need for parks/facilities and open space, the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) previously recommended ratios of 6 acres per 1,000 population for parks/facilities and open space and .25 miles of trail per 1,000 population. Yet, in recent years, NRPA found that such a guideline is not always appropriate and now recommends a detailed analysis of the community to determine its current level of service and its specific needs for the future.

## Shared Recreational Facilities

Nephi City has a good relationship with Juab County, the local school district, and local churches. This relationship has resulted in a number of shared recreational facilities. The benefits coming to the City because of the shared recreational facilities over the years include reduced land costs, better development options, and lower maintenance costs. The City would

like to continue with these types of cooperative projects, allowing the City to expand the number of recreational possibilities available to its residents.

## Needs Determination

The needs determination is based on the following process:

- Community workshops to determine the goals and needs of this plan
- An analysis of existing recreational and leisure facilities and survey of community to determine future wants and needs of the community
- Cost evaluation and availability of land
- The anticipation of programs and events for the present and future
- Evaluating sensitive areas, needed buffers, environmental features, geologic features, waterways, watersheds, and archaeological and historical sites to determine areas for open space designation
- Consideration of current ordinances and zoning requirements

## Survey and Needs Analysis

### Nephi City Recreation Facility Master Plan Update

#### Methodology

Nephi City solicited feedback from the public by asking residents to complete a survey for the update to the Nephi City Recreation Facilities Master Plan. 162 individuals participated in the survey, which ran from May 19 to June 20, 2011. Hard copies of the survey were made available at the Nephi City offices and online via the City's website. Notice to the public regarding this opportunity was advertised in residents' utility bills, on



the City's website, and on fliers posted in City offices. An article published in the Times-News on June 15 also provided residents with information about the survey.

This survey was conducted using nonprobability sampling, meaning that the respondents selected themselves to complete it. The results of the survey therefore cannot be interpreted as representative of public sentiment in the community as a whole. The following is a brief summary of the survey results.

#### Parks and Recreation Facilities Usage

A large majority of respondents who took the survey said they have used the City's ballparks. Orgill Ball Park was the most frequented, with 80% of individuals using it. Nephi City Pioneer Park (Nephi's main city park) and Nebo View Baseball Complex were also used by a majority of residents. The facilities most often utilized

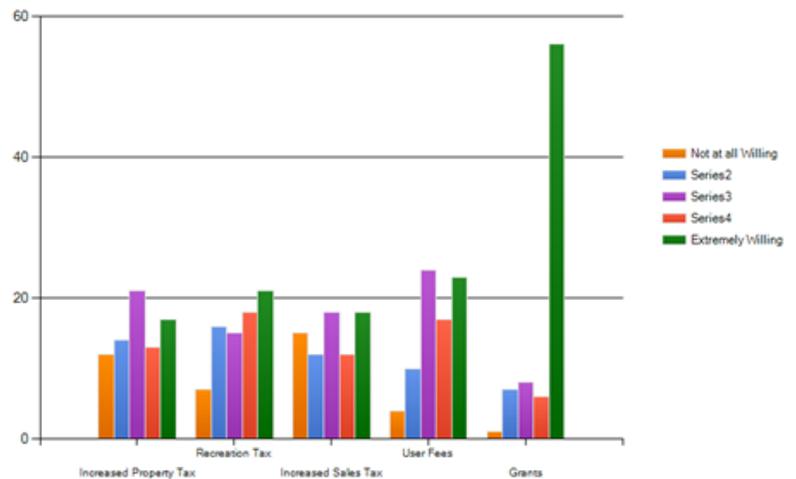
at the parks were the swimming pool, the baseball facilities, and the playgrounds.

Two thirds of residents indicated that they visit Nephi City's parks and recreation facilities either on a biweekly basis or more frequently. Approximately 82% said that they go to the City's parks and facilities to recreate with their immediate families. Large majorities noted that they come to the parks with extended family and friends as well. Nearly all individuals said that spending time with family and friends at the parks and facilities was important to them, and most noted that using them to stay healthy, have fun, and relax was also important.

#### Condition of Existing Parks, Facilities & Programs

Respondents had used several of the City's recreational resources. 7% rated them as being excellent, and over

12. It costs money to provide and maintain parks and recreation services and facilities. How willing are you to pay for additional services and facilities? On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means you are not at all willing and 5 means you are extremely willing, please rate how willing you are to pay for additional parks and recreation services in the following ways.



72% said that they were either good or fair. Several residents explained that, in their opinion, the City had done a relatively great job in providing parks and facilities proportionate to the size of the population. A large number of those surveyed, however, said that some existing facilities need improvement.

Over two-thirds of individuals said that they were either very or somewhat satisfied with the programs and activities offered currently. However, several people expressed frustration with trying to get information regarding the types of programs and the times for when

they are held. Some indicated they would like more communication and collaboration from the City regarding these activities.

Many respondents said they travel to Utah County to recreate because they cannot find their preferred activities in Nephi. They cited facilities in several Utah County cities as examples of what Nephi City could emulate.

**Improvements and Expansion of Existing Facilities**

The baseball fields and the swimming pool were cited most by residents as facilities requiring improvements. In particular, individuals felt that there should be additional ball fields to accommodate growing demand and that the swimming pool should be more family-friendly, with the ability to be indoor and available year-round. In addition, numerous respondents related that they would like to see 9 holes added to the golf course, as well as improvements to the Old Gym.

Several people said that they felt there are a sufficient number of parks in the city. A general theme throughout the feedback from the public showed that residents would like more recreational opportunities for teens and youth, particularly options outside of the existing team-sport offerings. Some suggested that an indoor recreation center that provided amenities such as bowling and skating would create these opportunities for the youth.

**Funding Sources**

Seventy percent of residents who completed the survey indicated that grants were their preferred source for funding additional services and facilities. A slight majority supported increased user fees. Respondents were generally divided evenly regarding whether or not to raise sales or property taxes to pay for improvements.

**Swimming Pool**

A majority of people said that they favored improvements to the pool, with approximately 77% favoring or strongly favoring a covered

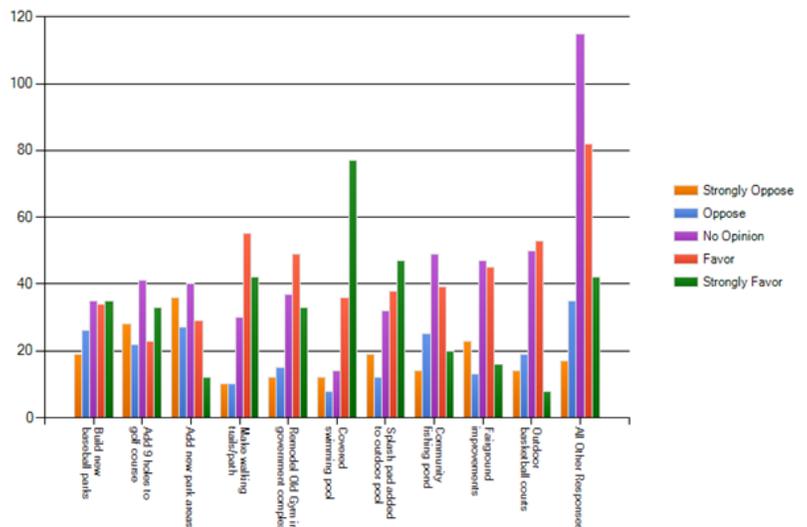
pool and nearly 58% favoring or strongly favoring the addition of a splash pad to the outdoor pool. Nearly 69% said they support building a year-round pool even if the City has to pay the portion of operating costs that are not covered by revenues. Over 81% of respondents support financing the subsidy from user fees for those who use the facilities. Small majorities do not support increased taxes to pay for cost not covered by user fees. For example, 55% said that they do not support an increase in property taxes, and 59% indicated they do not support a surcharge on their utility bill. It is interesting to note, however, that although a majority of respondents do not support an increased property tax to subsidize the pool’s operating costs, 59% do support bonds that would be paid off with property taxes.

**Expansion of Recreation Services**

As mentioned above, a large number of respondents favored improvements to the swimming pool, including the addition of a splash pad. A majority of people also favored the construction of future walking paths and trails. Majorities also favored additional outdoor basketball courts, playing fields, and improvements to the fairgrounds but opposed the addition of any new park areas.

The public was evenly divided on whether or not taxes should be increased to pay for additional recreational

13. On a scale of 1 to 5, do you favor or oppose expansion of the following recreation improvements in Nephi City. 1 means you strongly oppose and 5 means you strongly favor.



services and facilities but overwhelming supported funding via grants and/or user fees.

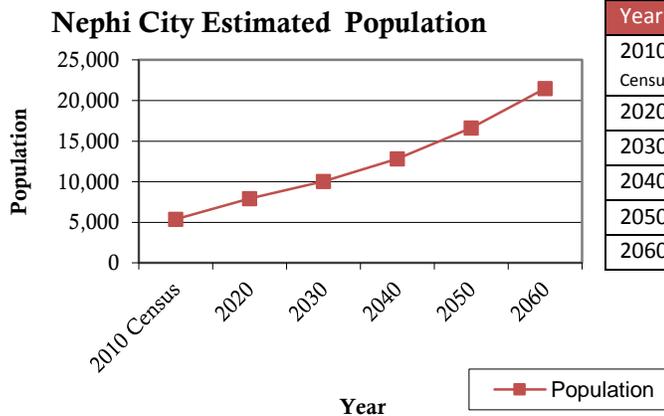
### Draft Plan Open House

A draft plan open house provided valuable feedback on the plan and maps that had been developed. Many of the ideas and responses at the open house have been incorporated into the final plan.

### City Population Projections

The demand for park/recreation facilities, open space, and trails is principally driven by residential land uses and population; therefore, the standards for parks/facilities, open space, and trails are expressed in terms of acres/miles per 1,000 residents. Nephi City showed a population increase of 656 from the Census 2000 to 2010. Within Table 1 an estimated population projection for Nephi City through 2060 is listed using numbers from the most recent Nephi City General Plan.

Table 1 Nephi City Population Projections



Year	Population
2010 Census	5,389
2020	7,913
2030	10,064
2040	12,827
2050	16,615
2060	21,489

### City's Current Level of Service

Nephi City currently has 35.85 acres of park space and a number of special-use facilities i.e. basketball court, swimming pool, golf course. The golf course will not be counted in the park acreage but will be considered a special-use facility. The City's current level of service is 6.7 acres of park land and .50 miles of trail per 1,000 residents. The City has elected to set a standard of 6.7 acres of park land/facilities and open space per 1,000 population and a standard of .5 miles of trails per 1,000 residents.

Location and acreage of the existing 35.85 acres of park land and .5 miles of trail which is being considered as the current level of service include:

Table 2 Existing Park and Trail Acreage

Park	Acres
Rose Garden/Veterans Memorial	.37
Old Mill Park	.45
Nebo Heights Park	.66
Jones Well Park	.25
Canyon View Park	4.22
Pink School Park	4.57
Nephi Pioneer Park/ Swimming Pool	4.23
Orgill Park	6.64
Nebo View Baseball Park/Complex	10.06
Gun Range (considered open space)	4.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>35.85</b>
Trail	Miles
Orgill Park and Canyon View Park Trail	.13
Trail Hwy 132	.25
Old Mill Park	.12
<b>Total</b>	<b>.50</b>

In order to maintain the City's standard, Nephi City needs to make a comparison of what exists within its park system as current level of service and its future needs. The standard of 6.7 acres of park land per 1,000 and .50 miles of trail per 1,000 residents will be used to determine future needs. The park acreage calculations include facilities that may exist within the parks as part of the goal. By employing these standards, Nephi City can determine needs for additional parks/facilities. NPRA developed a set of definitions and standards. It is important to recognize that these standards are only guidelines that the community could adapt to address its specific needs. See Table 4 National Recreation and Parks Minimum Needs Guidelines by Population for facility details.

It should be mentioned that Nephi City has longstanding cooperative agreements with the Juab School District, Juab County, and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints to share facilities. These shared-use agreements have allowed the development of Nebo

View Ball Complex, Orgill Ball Park, Red Cliff Basketball Gym, and the tennis courts at the high school/junior high school campus. The agreements have been on a case-by-case basis for each location, some of which included sharing the costs of construction and/or maintenance. Nephi City has made it known that its commitment to shared use facilities and areas will continue into the future.

## Comparison of Park Land and Trail Goals to the Existing Facilities

The estimated needs by 2060 will include an additional 108 acres of park/open space land and 10.25 miles of developed trail. (See Table 3)

Table 4 *National Recreation and Parks Minimum Needs Guidelines by Population* identifies, that with the estimated population growth, the following facilities could be considered for development in the future: \*\* If the Juab School District and the LDS Church allow public use of their facilities, the City may count them in its needs assessment. If not, the need may be greater at maximum population projections.

- 1 Softball field (should be owned by the City)
- 1 Soccer field
- 5 Basketball courts outdoor

- 7 Tennis courts
- 4 Volleyball courts
- 10.25 Miles of trail
- 9 Playgrounds
- 7 Picnic pavilions

With the current population, Nephi City is on track with the development of parks/facilities and open space land but underserved with trails. However, it must be noted that the City does not own all of the existing park land/facilities that are counted as part of the level of service.

This plan indicates a timeline/year for additional parks/facilities and trail development; however it must be noted that this is based only on growth projections, and the City may wish to advance the development of any of these parks/facilities based on community desire.

Based on population projections, an additional 32 acres of park/open space should be developed, along with an additional 4.5 miles of trail, by 2030, and in 2060 Nephi needs an additional 108 acres of park/open space land and 10.75 miles of trail. Table 3 and Table 4 give a comparison of park/open space land and trail goals to current acres and an estimate of future needs.

Table 3 Estimated Park/Trail Needs for 2060 Population Projection (Based on the Nephi City standard)

Year	Population	Goal of Parks/Open Space/Trails @ 6.7 Acres/1000; .50 miles/1000	Currently Developed Park/Open Space Acres	Current Developed Trail Miles	Additional Park/Open Space Acreage Needed to Meet Goal	Additional Trail Miles Needed to Meet Goal
2011	5,400	35.85 acres/2.7 mile	35.85 acres	.50	0	2.2 miles
2030	10,100	67 acres/5 miles	35.85 acres	.50	31 acres	2.3 miles
2060	21,500	144 acres/10.75 miles	35.85 acres	.50	78 acres	5.75 miles
<b>Total needed for population projections for 2060:</b>					<b>109 acres</b>	<b>10.25 miles</b>

Table 4 National Recreation and Parks Minimum Facility Needs Guidelines by Population

Type of Recreation Facility	NRPA Standards	Current or Existing Population (5,400)	Additional Need for Population of 10,100	Additional Need for Population of Approx. 21,500 (assuming 10,100 level needs are met)
Little League Baseball Field, Baselines – 70’ Pitching distance – 46’ Foul lines – 200’ Center field – 200’ to 250’	1/5,000	4, (3 On School District Land)	0**	0**
Lighted Official Baseball Field, Baselines – 90’ Pitching distance – 60 ½’ Foul lines min. – 320’ Center field – 400’+	1/30,000	1, (1 On School District Land)	0**	0**
Softball Field, Baselines – 60 ‘Pitching distance- 46’ min. 40’ women. Fast pitch field Radius from Plate – 225’ Between foul Lines. Slow Pitch – 75’(men) 50’(women)	1/5,000 (if also used for youth baseball)	3 (2 On LDS Church Land)	0**	1**
Soccer Field 195’ to 225’x 330’ to 360’ with a minimum 10’ clearance all sides. Youth Field	1/10,000	3 Youth fields (Located on a <b>multi-use field not designated for soccer only</b> with portable goals)	0**	0**
Football Field 160’ x 360’ with a minimum of 6’ clearance on all sides	1/20,000	1 School District owned	0**	0**
Track ¼ mile	1/20,000	1 School District owned	0**	0**
Basketball Full Size Court (Outdoor)	1/5,000	.5 (Current deficit .5)	1.5	3.5
Basketball Full Size Court (Indoor)	1/10,000	2 (1 located in the elementary school that was a shared cost with the City, County, and School District)	0**	0**
Tennis Court	1/2,000	4 (all located on high school/junior high school campus a shared cost with the City, County, and School District)	1**	6**
Volleyball/ Badminton	1/5,000	1	1	3
Recreation Center	1/25,000	1	0	0
Swimming Pool	1/20,000	1	0	0
Trails – miles	.25 /1,000	.50 (Current deficit .75)	2 miles	5.25 miles
Playground	1/2,000	2 (Current deficit 1)	3	6
Picnic Pavilion (40 to 200 people)	1/2,000	4 (2 LDS Church owned)	1**	6**
<p>Information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research has found that in rural areas the use of these facilities is less than in large urban areas, so the tendency is to reduce the need.</li> <li>During soccer season, the outfields of many of the ball fields are converted to one or more soccer fields with portable goals and painted temporary field lines. Using this method, Nephi City can get the most out of their developed fields.</li> </ul> <p>** If the Juab School District and the LDS Church allow public use of their facilities, the City may count them in its needs assessment. If not, the need may be greater.</p>				

## Existing Facilities and Parks Inventory

Mini-parks (Typical Park Size: 5,000 sq. ft. – 1.99 acres)

### ROSE GARDEN/VETERANS MEMORIAL - 100 NORTH 100 EAST

- .37 acre
- Community Rose Garden
- Veterans Memorial
- Benches
- Park sign
- Parking on street only
- Rose Garden maintained by Nephi City and the Veterans Memorial maintained by local volunteer group
- Future Needs: None noted

The Rose Garden and Veterans Memorial were built to honor the men and women in the armed services who served in wars. The garden/memorial garden is built on City property and is considered a leisure park.



### OLD MILL PARK - 100 SOUTH MAIN STREET

- .45 acre
- Picnic tables (3)
- Benches (4)
- Park sign
- On-street parking only
- Small walking path
- Maintained by Nephi City
- Future Needs: Restrooms, park lighting, sign, interactive fountain, and renovation of existing water feature

This small park includes a historical water wheel that has been moved from its original location which was just a few blocks away. This park is a Utah Bicentennial Project.



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### NEBO HEIGHTS PARK - 1450 NORTH 600 EAST

- .66 acre
- Swings (2 sets)
- Basketball court (1 half court)
- Playground (2 pieces of playground equipment, one monkey bars, and a wooden replica of an old stage coach)
- BBQ stands (3)
- Picnic tables (5)
- Benches (3)
- Flag pole
- On-street parking only
- Maintained by Nephi City
- Future needs: Park sign, bowery or shade structures over the picnic tables, new picnic tables. The areas with the playground and swing equipment will require clean-up and/or a new type of play surface to help eliminate the constant maintenance issues.



This mini-park was part of the subdivision development and services the Nebo Heights Subdivision. The park is owned by the City.

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### JONES WELL PARK – NORTH OF SLAT CREEK AT 200 EAST

- .25 acre
- Tree-covered recreational area
- Highly visible site which allows for additional recreation opportunities
- Future Needs: Playground area and sign



*Neighborhood Parks (Typical Park Size: 2.0 – 7.99 acres)*

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### CANYON VIEW PARK - 100 NORTH 700 EAST

- 4.22 acres
- Drinking fountains (2)
- Bleachers (3 sets)
- On/off street parking
- Maintained by Nephi City
- Future needs: Sign, playground, portable soccer goals, bowery, lighting for the ball field, volleyball court, trail improvements, and picnic tables



This park is currently being renovated to include restrooms and one ball field. Due to high use and aging amenities, the park needed to go through a complete modernization. Trees have been planted, and future plans include a multi-use field that could accommodate adult and youth baseball/softball, soccer, and other organized sports. Other features could include lighted outdoor basketball courts, interactive fountain, and possibly a skate park.

**PINK SCHOOL PARK - 200 NORTH 200 EAST**

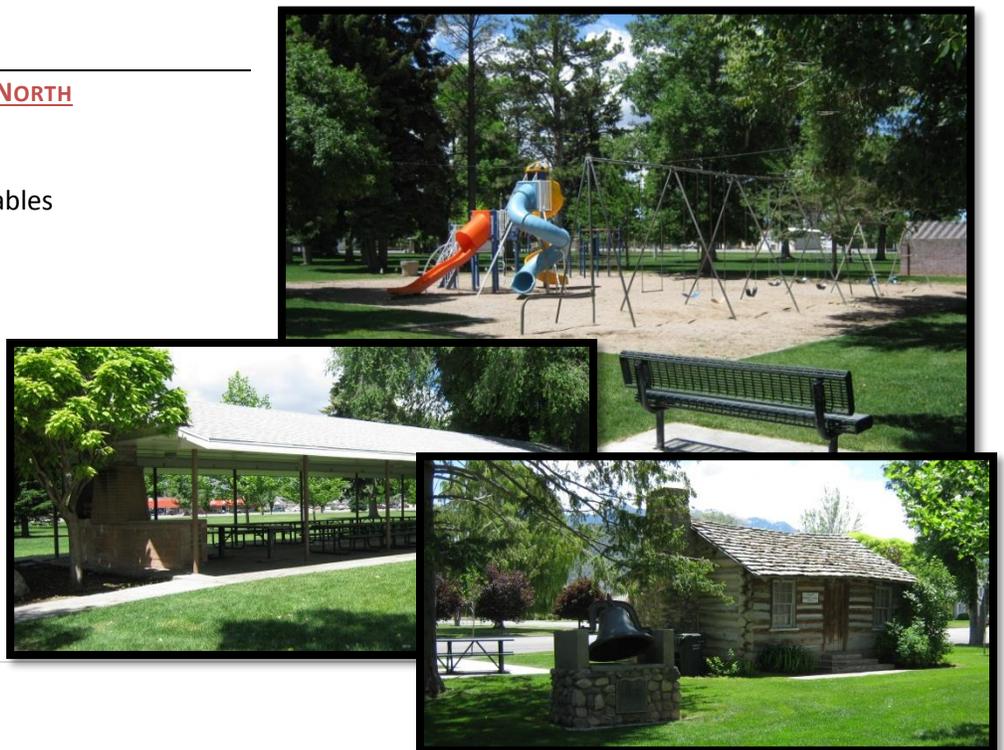
- 4.57 acres
- Youth baseball diamond (with dugouts)
- Bleachers (3 sets)
- Picnic tables (5)
- Horseshoe pits (10)
- Information kiosk and 4 benches
- On-street parking and opportunity for parking at the City and County buildings
- Maintained by Nephi City
- Future needs: Bowery, restroom facilities, playground equipment, parking lot, benches, park sign, upgrade to cedar fencing and picnic tables, park and field lighting, sand volleyball court. Other possible features could include skate park, Frisbee golf course, interactive fountain, and walking path.



This park often hosts horseshoe tournaments, including Ute Stampede Rodeo Horseshoe and Wilford Andelin Memorial tournaments.

**NEPHI CITY PIONEER PARK - 100 EAST 500 NORTH**

- 4.23 acres
- Pavilions (1 large and 1 small) with tables
- Other picnic tables (10)
- Restroom facilities (1)
- Fire place (2)
- Playground equipment (1)
- Swing sets (2)
- Benches (5)
- DUP historical markers and cabin
- Park lighting
- On-street parking only
- Swimming-pool facility



- Maintained by Nephi City
- Future needs: Park sign, upgrade to park lighting, tree replacement, sidewalk replacement (west side), bowery repairs (small bowery), picnic table replacement, upgrade to swimming pool, and the addition of a splash pad to the pool facilities

This park is the main community park where many City celebrations take place and is the location of the community swimming pool.

**ORGILL BALL PARK (NOT OWNED BY NEPHI CITY BUT HAS A USAGE AGREEMENT) - 50 SOUTH 800 EAST**

- 6.64 acres
- Pavilions (2 small)
- Ball fields (2)
- Fire pit (1)
- Bleachers (4 sets)
- Horse shoe pit (1)
- Volleyball standards
- Concession stand connected to the restrooms
- Drinking fountain
- Off-street parking
- Sign
- Future Needs: 2 scoreboards for ball field



This ball park is owned by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Nephi City has an agreement with the LDS Church to use this park as part of the City’s regularly scheduled recreation programs. The City paid the costs to upgrade the infields and outfields of the ball diamonds.

**GUN RANGE - THE NEPHI GUN RANGE LOCATED ON THE NORTHEAST SIDE OF THE CITY**

- Approximately 4.4 acres
  - 4 separate shooting areas with two tables for each area
  - Sign
  - Parking area
- Future needs: Replacement of the tables, possible expansion of shooting sports facilities



*Community Parks (Typical Park Size: 8.0 – 20.0 acres)*

**NEBO VIEW BASEBALL COMPLEX (NOT OWNED BY NEPHI CITY BUT HAS A LONG TERM USAGE AGREEMENT) - 1000 NORTH & 400 EAST**

- 10.06 acres
- Ball fields (4)
- Bleachers (8 sets)
- Drinking fountains (2)
- Restrooms
- Tennis courts (4)
- Concession stand
- Tower box/meeting room
- Picnic tables (3)
- Off-street parking
- Future Needs: Additional parking, asphaltting the northeast corner of the existing parking lot, lighting for the upper-east field, and a scoreboard on the east field



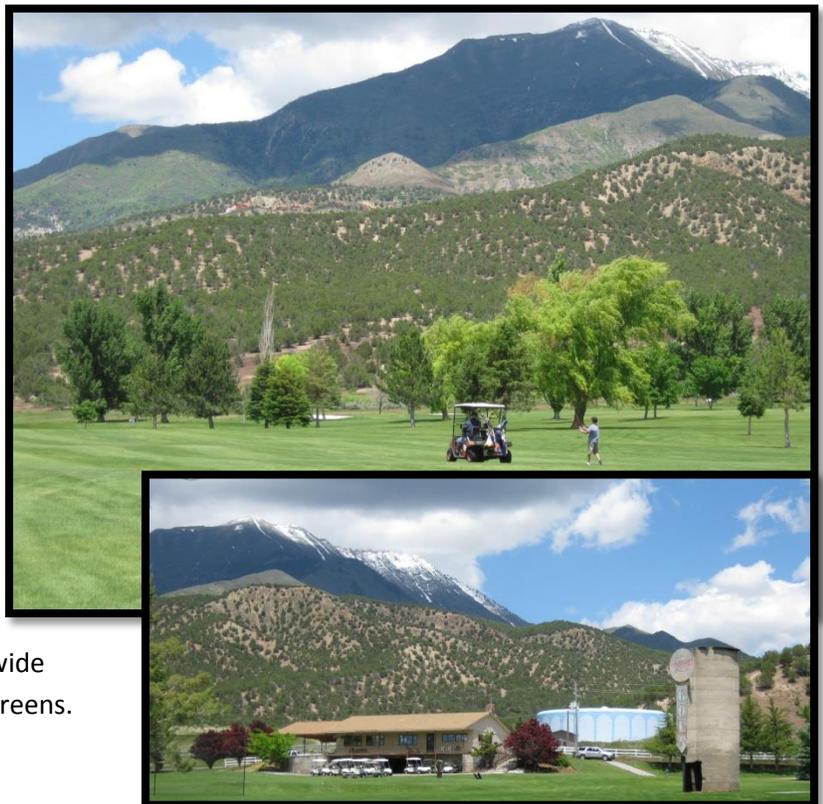
This site is owned by Juab School District. Nephi City paid for the development and infrastructure of the 4 ball diamonds located in the complex. This is where the largest majority of outdoor recreation participants plays and practices.

*Special Use Facilities:*

**CANYON HILLS GOLF COURSE – 445 NORTH GOLF COURSE DRIVE**

- 48.5 acres
- 9-hole golf course
- Drinking fountains and restroom along the course
- Club house
- Sign
- Parking lot facility
- Future Needs: Expanded maintenance building, additional parking area, and updated club house. In the future, consideration should be given to expanding the course to 18 holes.

This is the only golf course located within Nephi City. It is a 9-hole course designed in a traditional style with wide fairways, trees interspersed throughout, and excellent greens.



**NEPHI CITY SWIMMING POOL – 100 EAST 500 NORTH PIONEER PARK.**

The pool was built in 1959. Over the years the City has maintained and made efforts to update the facility. The filter system was recently upgraded, allowing the City to meet new health guidelines. The building and facilities around the pool are in pretty poor condition and could use some updating.

Future needs include: New perimeter fence, updated locker rooms, new roof on the building, and possible consideration of building upgrade allowing year-round use. An immediate improvement would be to purchase new seats for use around the pool i.e. lounge/outdoor seating.

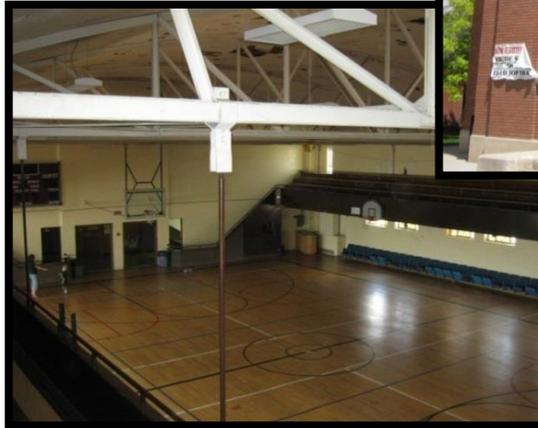


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### OLD GYM – 100 NORTH, ADJACENT THE CITY/COUNTY COMPLEX

The Old Gym has been an integral part of the community since it was built in 1939. The gym has one full-size basketball court which can be split into 2 smaller courts for younger kids. Roller skating is available on special occasions. The facility has a racquetball court and a weight lifting apparatus available to residents. The City recreation office is located on the main floor of the building, and the City water department is also located there. Parking is shared with other City and County buildings nearby. Recent renovations have been made to upgrade the entrance and restrooms. Despite these renovations, the building is in very poor condition and does not meet seismic standards.

Future needs: Refinishing or replacement of the basketball court and repair and/or replacement of ceiling tiles and windows (windows may need to be replaced in a way that meets historical mandates if the City is going to use federal funds). The outside brick structure or façade needs to be repaired and fortified to hedge deterioration in some areas. An investigation into bringing the building into ADA compliance should be considered as well.



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### RED CLIFF ELEMENTARY BASKETBALL GYM

The City, County, and School District participated in the expansion of the gymnasium at the elementary to allow for recreation use. The City utilizes this gym facility as part of its regularly scheduled recreation program.

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## **Existing Trails Inventory**

### OLD MILL PARK

The Old Mill Park trail is .12 miles of concrete walking path around the park.

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### 800 E & CENTER STREET

The 800 East and Center Street connector is .13 miles of dirt trail that



connects Orgill Park with Canyon View Park. The trail will have two pedestrian bridges – one as you enter the Orgill Park complex and the other, which will span the canal and lead to Canyon View Ball Park, near 700 East and Center Street.

Future needs: Asphaltting the trail, completing a bridge over the creek, and an extension to the trail. This will give access to Canyon View Ball Park.

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### **TRAIL ALONG HWY 132**

This trail connects the Canyon Hills Park Golf Course to a sidewalk that allows access under the freeway to the main part of town. This .25 mile of trail runs along a state highway but is separated from the traffic by concrete barriers.

## **Existing Open Space**

The City owns a number of areas that could be included in open space for future use; however, they have not been included in the level of service for the community. These areas include Rees’s Flat, the north flood control dam, a settling pond on Salt Creek east of town, vacant property along S.R. 132 in Salt Creek Canyon, and vacant property on the west side of the valley near the landfill.

## **Non-City Parks, Facilities, and Open Space**

### **Red Cliffs Elementary:**

Located at 1199 South Main Street, Red Cliffs Elementary services the southern portion of Nephi. Outdoor recreation opportunities available at the school include 2 playground sets, 5 outdoor basketball courts, and a walking path. Future improvements may include a playground and/or a soccer field shared with Nephi City.

### **Juab County Fairgrounds:**

The Juab County Fairground a represent a unique recreational facility within Nephi City and Juab County. Home to the Ute Stampede Rodeo and Juab County Fair, the fairgrounds attract competitors and spectators from throughout the western United States. The facilities at the fair grounds are open for community use throughout the year, with multiple indoor and outdoor areas available. Over the years this facility has been an important recreational facility for the residents of Nephi.

### **Juab Middle/High School:**

Multiple fields, sports courts, and a playground are available on school-owned property surrounding the junior high/high school campus located in the northeastern region of Nephi City. These fields and courts include: 1 football field, a 400-meter track, 1 regulation-size baseball field, 1 regulation-size softball field, 3 indoor gymnasiums, weight-training room, and an indoor track.

### **Nebo View Elementary:**

One of the older remaining elementary schools in the area, Nebo View Elementary has 2 outdoor basketball courts, 2 playground areas, 1 gymnasium, and one multi-purpose field. Although these areas are on Juab School District property, they are used by many of the local residents.

# Chapter 4 Proposed Improvements for Existing Future Planned Parks, Trails, and Open Space

## Active Parks

### *The Importance of Parks*

Parks and open space in Nephi City are vital to ensure quality community life. They provide recreational opportunities for local residents and beautify the area. They add warmth, peace, and a touch of nature. Open

green space is critical to the spiritual and emotional well-being of a city. Parks and open space are often the only places where people take the time to observe the passing scene, meet friends, and celebrate with a wide range of people who are different from themselves. The following is a list of existing and potential future facilities, parks, and open spaces:

**Table 5 Existing and Potential Future Parks, Facilities and Open Space**

	Park	Type	Status	Acres (Approx.)
1	Rose Garden/Veterans Memorial	Mini Park	Developed	.37
2	Old Mill Park	Mini Park	Developed	.45
3	Nebo Heights Park	Mini Park	Developed	.66
4	Jones Well Park	Mini Park	Developed	.25
5	Canyon View Park	Neighborhood Park	Developed	4.22
6	Pink School Park	Neighborhood Park	Developed	4.57
7	Nephi Pioneer Park/ Swimming Pool	Neighborhood Park	Developed	4.23
8	Orgill Park	Neighborhood Park	Developed	6.64
9	Nebo View Baseball Park/Complex	Community Park	Developed	10.06
10	Shooting Range	Park	Developed	4.4
11	Possible future expansion Shooting Range	Park	Undeveloped	32.73
12	# 1 Park and alternatives	Neighborhood Park	Undeveloped	8 (min)
13	# 2 Park and alternatives	Neighborhood Park	Undeveloped	8 (min)
14	# 3 Park and alternatives	Neighborhood Park	Undeveloped	4-8 (min)
15	# 4 Park and alternatives	Community Park	Undeveloped	8-20 (min)
<b>Total Acres (Approx.)</b>				<b>96 to 113</b>

	Special-Use Facility	Type	Status	Acres/Sq. Footage
1	Canyon Hills Golf Course 9 Holes	Regional Park	Developed	48.5 acres
2	Old Gym	Special Use Facility	Developed	20,000 sq. ft.
3	Red Cliff Elementary School Gym	Special Use Facility	Developed	8,200 sq. ft.
<b>Future Open Space Opportunities</b>				
1	Rees's Flat. This land is owned by the City and is approximately 4 miles east of Nephi	Large Regional Park/Open Space.	Natural/Undeveloped	680 acres
2	North Flood Control Dam	Open Space	Natural/Undeveloped	18 acres
3	Settling pond on Salt Creek east of town	Open Space	Natural/Undeveloped	12 acres
4	Vacant property along S.R. 132 in Salt Creek Canyon,	Open Space	Natural/Undeveloped	687 acres
5	Vacant property on the west side of the valley near the landfill.	Open Space	Natural/Undeveloped	120 acres

## Existing Active Park Improvements

Table 6 Existing Active Park and Trail Improvements

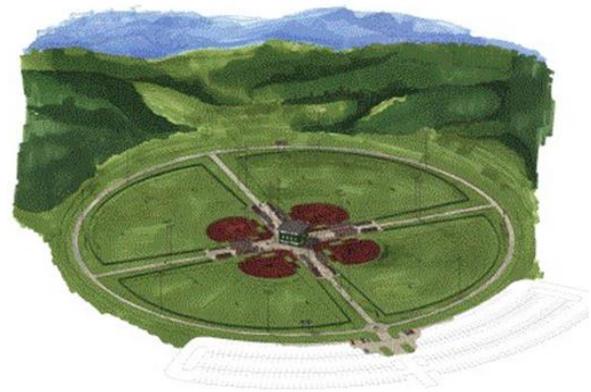
Park Name	Recommended Upgrades	Cost
<b>Rose Garden/Veterans Memorial</b>	No upgrades listed	(2012 dollars)
<b>Old Mill Park</b>	Interactive fountain	Not determined
	Park Sign	\$2,000
	Park lighting	\$40,000
	Renovation of water feature and sign	Not determined
	Restrooms	\$100,000
<b>Nebo Heights Park</b>	Park sign,	\$2,000
	Bowery(small)	\$30,000
	Picnic tables	\$800 each
	New playground surface	Not determined
<b>Canyon View Park</b>	Sign	\$2,000
	Playground	\$75,000
	Soccer goals	\$2,700 per set
	Bowery (small)	\$30,000
	Field and park lighting	\$140,000
	Volleyball court	\$20,000
	Picnic tables	\$800 each
	Restrooms and Field Improvements	\$133,000
<b>Pink School Park</b>	Bowery	\$30,000
	New restroom	\$100,000
	Playground equipment	\$75,000
	Parking lot	\$190,000
	Benches	\$950 each
	Park sign	\$2,000
	Fencing	Not determined
	Picnic tables	\$800 each
	Park and field lighting	\$140,000
	Volleyball court	\$20,000
<b>Nephi Pioneer Park/ Swimming Pool</b>	Bowery repairs	Not determined
	Park sign	\$6,000
	Upgrade park lighting	\$20,000
	Picnic tables	\$800 each
	Splash pad	\$960,000
	Swimming pool upgrades	Not determined
	Tree replacement 2" caliper	\$350 each, planted
	Sidewalk replacement	Not determined
<b>Orgill Park</b>	Scoreboards for ball fields (2)	\$4,500 each
<b>Nebo View Ball Complex</b>	Additional parking and pave existing parking lot	\$165,000
	Lighting on upper east field	\$90,000
	Scoreboard east field	\$4,500 each
<b>Canyon Hills Golf Course</b>	Additional parking area	\$100,000
	Updated club house	Not determined

	Investigate golf course expansion	Not determined
<b>Old Gym</b>	Refinish basketball court	Not determined
	Repair and/or replacement of ceiling tiles	Not determined
	Repair or replace windows	Not determined
	Repair outside brick structure and seismic upgrade	Not determined
	Bring building into ADA Compliance	Not determined
<b>Nephi City Shooting Range</b>	Replacement of tables	\$800
	Possible expansion of facilities	Not determined
<b>Trail Improvements</b>		
<b>Trail Between Orgill Park and Canyon View Park Dirt /Pedestrian</b>	Pave trail and extend to park	\$85,000
	Bridge	\$10,000

### Proposed Active Park Land

To meet the goal of 6.7 acres of park/open space land per 1,000 residents, Nephi City would need to develop 109 additional acres of park/open space to meet the population growth projection for 2060. The following parks could meet this goal. Nephi City may choose to incorporate the following parks/facilities within the City as well as add the use of Rees’s Flat or other area as a natural open-space area.

- community park at 8-20 acres
- 1 expansion of a regional park 61 acres
- 3 neighborhood parks 4- 8 acres
- 32 acres of passive/natural open space



#### Proposed Parks Would Include:

##### Community Park Alternative A (1200 South and Main)

- 8-23 acres of land
- Basketball court with lights
- Playground
- Walking path (trails)
- Parking facility
- Site furniture
- Softball/baseball complex (Including score tower and restrooms)
- Large gazebo pavilion (75-people picnic shelter)
- Passive green space
- 3 Small gazebo pavilions (10 people picnic shelters)
- Soccer field
- 2 park signs

Alternative A Improvements	Total Cost*
Land Purchase (23 Acres) \$35,000 per acre	805,000.00
Grading (based on north-west location)	80,040.00
Landscaping	1,040,000.00
Playground	160,000.00
Large Gazebo Pavilion	120,000.00
Small Gazebo Picnic Structure (3 each)	80,000.00
Softball/Baseball Complex	1,000,000.00
Basketball Court	68,000.00
Walking Paths	40,000.00
Parking Lot	260,000.00
Site Furniture	40,000.00
Park Sign	12,000.00
Park Lighting	40,000.00
Design (10%)	344,504.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,789,544</b>

Nephi City could develop a community park in the area of 1200 South and Main Street. This park would be

considered an active-recreation community park. The park may possibly include the following:

**Community Park Alternative B (West of the County Fair Grounds).**

\*These numbers are preliminary and not based on drawings



Alternative B Improvements	Estimated Total Cost*
Land Purchase (20 Acres) \$35,000 per acre	700,000.00
Grading	72,000.00
Landscaping	940,000.00
Playground	160,000.00
Large Gazebo Pavilion	120,000.00
Small Gazebo Picnic Structure (3 each)	80,000.00
Softball/Baseball Complex	1,000,000.00
Basketball Court	68,000.00
Walking Paths	40,000.00
Parking Lot	260,000.00
Site Furniture	40,000.00
Park Sign	12,000.00
Park Lighting	40,000.00
Design (10%)	353,200.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,885,200.00</b>

**Neighborhood Park 1 and Alternative**

This will be considered a neighborhood park. The park may possibly include the following:

- 4 to 8 acres
- Parking facilities
- Restroom facilities
- Park sign
- 2 tennis courts
- Large (75 people) and medium (40 people) pavilions
- Sand-pit volleyball
- 8 benches
- Walking path
- Playground
- Football/soccer field

Improvements	Estimated Costs
Land ( If land has to be paid for)	400,000.00
Grading	28,000.00
Landscaping	360,000.00
Playground	60,000.00
Tennis Courts	100,000.00
Sand Volleyball Court	20,000.00
Restroom	120,000.00
Pavilions (1 Large, 3 Medium)	300,000.00
Walking Paths	16,000.00
Parking Lot	80,000.00
Site Furniture	20,000.00
Park Sign	6,000.00
Park Lighting	12,000.00
Pond	40,000.00
Design (10%)	156,200.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,718,200.00</b>

## Neighborhood Park 2 and Alternatives

This will be considered a neighborhood park. The **park may possibly include** the following:

- 4-8 acres
- Playground
- Passive green space
- Water feature
- 2 small baseball fields
- 4 benches
- Park sign
- Basketball court
- Large (125 people) and 3 small picnic shelters and tables
- Sandpit volleyball
- Restroom facilities
- Walking path
- Parking facilities



Improvements	Estimated Costs
Land ( If land has to be paid for)	400,000.00
Grading	28,000.00
Landscaping	360,000.00
Playground	60,000.00
Basketball Court	40,000.00
Sand Volleyball Court	20,000.00
Softball/Baseball Fields	20,000.00
Restroom	120,000.00
Pavilions (1 Large, 3 Small)	240,000.00
Parking Facility	104,000.00
Walking Paths	16,000.00
Site Furniture	12,000.00
Park Sign	6,000.00
Park Lighting	12,000.00
Design (10%)	143,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,581,800.00</b>

## Neighborhood Park 3 and Alternative

This will be considered a neighborhood park. The **park may possibly include** the following:

- 4-8 acres
- Playground
- Passive green space
- 2 tennis/ basketball courts
- Large (50 people) and 3 small (10 people) picnic shelters and tables
- Restroom facilities
- Small baseball field
- Walking path
- 8 benches
- Parking facilities
- Park sign

Improvements	Estimated Costs
Land ( If land has to be paid for)	400,000.00
Grading	28,000.00
Landscaping	360,000.00
Playground	60,000.00
Tennis/Basketball Court	104,000.00
Softball/Baseball Fields	8,000.00
Restroom	120,000.00
Pavilions (3 Small, 1 Large)	140,000.00
Parking Facilities	60,000.00
Walking Paths	16,000.00
Site Furniture	16,000.00
Park Sign	6,000.00
Park Lighting	12,000.00
Design (10%)	133,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,463,000.00</b>

## **Gun Range Shooting Sports Facility Expansion**

The gun range could use an additional buffer around it in the future. The City could preserve and dedicate the existing space around the gun range for additional shooting sports and maintain this use and protect it from encroachment by development.

## **Trail Improvements**

### ***Importance of Trails***

Trails are playing an even more important role in communities all across America. Among the many reasons are the growing emphasis on health and fitness and the fact that Americans have less and less leisure time to devote to recreational pursuits. There is an increasing demand for recreational opportunities located closer to home. At the same time, there is a parallel demand for open space and passive recreational areas. Greenways and trail systems are ideally suited to meet these needs.

Trails provide a means for improving the overall health and fitness of individuals. It has been well documented in the medical literature that introducing even low-intensity activities, such as walking, into people's daily routine can significantly reduce the risk of developing coronary heart disease.<sup>1</sup> Other beneficial aspects of walking include stress reduction, weight loss, and the potential for reducing blood pressure. Walking for fitness and recreation has become one of the fastest-growing and most popular activities in America.

The National Park Service stated that:

*"Trails have multiple values whose benefits reach far beyond recreation. Trails can enrich the quality of life for individuals, make communities more livable, and protect, nurture, and showcase America's grandeur by traversing areas of natural beauty, distinctive geography, historic significance, and ecological diversity. Trails are important for the nation's health,*

*economy, resource protection, and education, and help meet the needs of a changing society."*

The abundance of canyons, mountain slopes, and streams provides Nephi City residents many opportunities for natural trails and paved bike and pedestrian trails which can connect to community trails as well as regional trails.

Future trails within Nephi City face a unique situation due to the compactness of the development throughout the community. There are very limited areas for trails to "meander" through the community along canals or streams within Nephi City limits. These difficulties were identified by residents throughout the visioning process; all of the options proposed on the visioning maps during the open house were drawn over or next to existing roads and rights-of-way. We have transposed these requests onto the proposed trails maps with minimal changes.

### ***Future Trail Heads***

All current and existing parks can be considered as trail heads if trails are developed as planned and could include benches, bicycle racks, and information stations within the parks to indicate that they are a trail head for a particular trail. If easements, rights-of-way, or other consent can be obtained for trails crossing private property located between the City and public hillside and mountain areas, trailheads can be established at locations providing logical access points.

Consideration should be given to developing a trailhead area at Rees's Flat to give access to natural trails within that area.

## **Open Space**

### ***Importance of Open Space***

Open space contributes greatly to the character of a community. Without planning, ill-conceived changes in land-use patterns can dramatically alter a community in a short period of time. Valued natural resources would

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<sup>1</sup> (National Recreation and Park Association, Park, Recreational, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines, 1995.)

**Table 7 Existing Trails and Improvements**

	Trail	Type/System	Status	Length	Cost to Develop (2012 Prices)
1	Trail Between Orgill Park and Canyon View Park	Dirt /Pedestrian	Developed as a dirt trail. (Future Needs: This trail should be paved and bridges completed)	.12 Miles	
2	Trail Hwy 132	Paved along the road	Developed	.25 miles	
3	Old Mill Pathway	Sidewalk Pathway/Pedestrian	Developed	.12 Miles	
4	Canyon - Canal – Fairground Phase 1	Bike/Pedestrian Class I	Undeveloped	1.1 Miles	\$870,000
5	Canyon - Canal – Fairground Phase 2	Bike/Pedestrian Class I	Undeveloped	1.1 Miles	\$870,000
6	Golf Course - High School Phase 1	Bike/Pedestrian Class I	Undeveloped	.78 Miles	\$620,000
7	Golf Course -High School Phase 2	Bike/Pedestrian Class I	Undeveloped	.55 Miles	\$430,000
8	400 East Schools Phase 1	Bike/Pedestrian Class I or II based on if it is a sidewalk or a paved 10' trail	Undeveloped	2 Miles	\$1,500,000
9	400 East Schools Phase 2	Bike/Pedestrian Class I or II based on if it is a sidewalk or a paved 10' trail	Undeveloped	.84 Miles	\$660,000
10	400 East Schools Phase 3	Bike/Pedestrian Class I	Undeveloped	.94 Miles	\$720,000
11	North Connector Phase 1	Bike/Pedestrian Class I	Undeveloped	.71 Miles	\$560,000
12	North Connector Phase 2	Bike/Pedestrian Class I	Undeveloped	.4 Miles	\$320,000
13	North Connector Phase 3	Bike/Pedestrian Class I	Undeveloped	.84 Miles	\$660,000
14	Main Street Bike Lane Phase 1	Bike Route/Lane Class III	Undeveloped	2.84 Miles	\$19,000 striping only
15	Main Street Bike Lane Phase 2	Bike Route/Lane Class III	Undeveloped	1 Miles	\$6,700 striping only
16	Main Street Bike Lane Phase 3	Bike Route/Lane Class III	Undeveloped	.77 Miles	\$5,200 striping only
17	Main Street Bike Lane Phase 4	Bike Route/Lane Class III	Undeveloped	2.38Miles	\$18,000 striping only

not be preserved, maintained, and restored; it is only through thoughtful planning and active stewardship that these important resources can be protected.

Planning now to protect important open space can greatly enhance the attractiveness of a city and encourage compatible growth in the future. Planning allows cities to confront and manage aspects of growth and development in ways that preserve, protect, and enhance the environment.

By planning for open space, residents benefit, and the "green infrastructure" of a community is protected. Planning this "green infrastructure" of water supply, land, working farms and forests, viable wildlife habitats,

and greenways is as important to the economic future of a community as planning for schools, roads, water, and wastewater infrastructure.

## Proposed Open Space

### *Passive Open Space*

Areas within the community should be preserved for passive recreation. Candidate areas identified include:

**Gun Range** – Undeveloped portions of gun range could be considered as this type of open space.

**Land that the City owns along Hwy 132 going up Salt Creek Canyon** – Large portions of this property could be considered passive open space.

**Rees’s Flat**– Large portions of this could be developed as passive open space along with developing some picnic areas and parking facilities. A large portion of it should be designated as natural open space.

Additional lands should be evaluated to understand their value to the City and its recreation needs.

### **Natural Open Space**

Areas of the community, such as along the waterways that flow through the community, could be considered natural open space, and areas within a designated flood plain or wetland should be preserved as natural and passive open space to allow the land to perform its natural function.

### **Winter Recreation:**

Recreation opportunities within Nephi City limits are scarce due to the topography and climate of the area. Some opportunities exist for snowmobiling, sledding, and cross-country skiing in the mountains immediately east of the City. The trails being proposed could lead to cross-country skiing available within City limits, depending on the weather and snow depth.

### **Timing for Future Planned Parks, Trails, and Open Space**

Within this analysis of park land and trails, data shows that for Nephi City’s current population 2.20 miles of trail are needed to meet this goal for the current population. **There is no set time recommendation made on the development of park/open space land, and trails. However, the future needs listed for the existing parks and facilities should be considered as priorities when developing future budgets or making grant applications.** Along with this, City officials and City staff could consider the development of a City-owned baseball/softball complex in the near future in order to eliminate the City’s current dependency on the

shared school-district-and church-owned fields.

Planning for and being prepared to have a completely City-owned complex could be considered as one of the goals and priorities of this plan.

As the population increases over the next 20 years, opportunities for affordable land, donated land, or grants should be considered to lessen the burden of land and development cost in the future. As development comes to the community, the list of future parks, trails, and facilities that have been planned for can be evaluated and updated based on the timing and pace of growth, allowing for the needs and goals of the plan to be satisfied.

# Chapter 5 Goals, Strategies, and Actions

## Goal Philosophy

The goals, strategies, and actions reflect the priorities set forth by the Community Coordination Team, Planning Commission, and City Council. One of the key goals listed in this plan is that priorities for parks, facilities, trails,

and open space should be reviewed bi-annually to insure the goals are in line with the current objectives of the community. Additionally, since the priorities of planned goals will shift over time, and new goals may need to be set, the plan itself should experience a comprehensive review and update at least every five years.

## Funding Opportunities

Funding Source	Types of Projects	Application Time	Match Required
UDOT Transportation Enhancement (UDOT)	Trail Development	September	20% Match (cash and/or in-kind is acceptable however this agency likes at least some cash)
Utah Parks Non-Motorized Trail Grants (Utah State Parks and Recreation)	Trail Development	May	50% Match (cash and/or in-kind is acceptable however this agency likes at least some cash)
Land and Water Conservation Grant (Utah State Parks and Recreation)	Park Development	October	50% Match (cash and/or in-kind is acceptable however this agency likes at least some cash)
LeRay McAllister Grant (Governor's Office of Planning and Budget)	Purchase land for Open space	May	Match required (cash and/or in-kind is acceptable however this agency likes at least some cash)
Safe Routes to School (UDOT)	Trail/sidewalks	November	20% Match (cash match)
Safe Sidewalk Program (UDOT)	Sidewalks		25% Match
Bikes Belong ( Private )	Trails for Bikes	Quarterly	50% Match (cash match)
CIB	Park/Facility and Trail Development	Quarterly	Like to see a match
Rural Development	Facility Development	No real deadline	Very limited funds
Private Foundations/Corporations	Park/Facility and Trail Development	No real deadline	Can apply any time, usually like to see some money coming from the community

## Goal Categories

These are only sample goals, strategies, and actions that I have put together to give us some talking points these can be changed or eliminated based on the desire of the City. They are listed in the following categories: General Planning, Parks and Trails Facilities, and Funding and Budgeting.

# Planning Goals

General Planning Goals				
Goals	Strategies	Actions	Timing	Agency
<b>1. Review the community needs and priorities for parks, facilities, trails, and open space projects bi-annually</b>	Schedule bi-annual reviews in public meetings	Take public comments and make recommendations	Bi-annually	Planning commission/ city council
		Adopt new priorities as needed		
<b>2. Adopt a citywide goal of 6.75-acres of park land/open space per 1,000 residents as the park/open space land service goal and .50 miles of trail per 1,000 residents as the trails service goal, and review the need to establish impact fees</b>	Analyze the park, trails, and open space needs as population increases	Analyze the need for park, facilities, trail, and open space impact fees, as a means of funding future parks, facilities, trails, and open space	Bi-annually	Advisory staff and city council
		Adopt city-wide goal for park land/trails by resolution		
<b>3. Adopt standards of development for all parks, trails, and open space by ordinance</b>	Specify development standards and requirements for all future parks, trails, and open space developed within the community	Document standards and requirements by ordinance	0-1 year	Public works, advisory staff, city engineer, planning commission, and city council
<b>4. Perform a comprehensive update of the Nephi City Recreation Facilities Master Plan at least every 5 years</b>	Review results of annual reviews and/or amendments to the plan and determine which goals and plan aspects are in need of update	Submit a report on the status and needed updates of the plan	Every 5 years	City staff over parks and trails
		Hold a public hearing for comments about the plan	“ “	Planning commission
		Assign or commission the work of updating the plan	“ “	City council
Parks and Trails Facility Goals				
Goals	Strategies	Actions	Timing	Agency
<b>1. Take opportunities to acquire land when it is available at a reasonable price.</b>	Explore the possibilities for dedication and/or purchasing of future parks/open space and trails before land prices preclude development	Contact land owners, developers, and private sources for gifts, dedications, purchases, or trades	0 – 5 Years	City council and city staff

<b>2. Complete needed improvements to existing parks</b>	Review and amend the recommended improvements for the parks and trails as listed in this plan	Submit recommendation to the city council	0 – 2 Years	City staff and planning commission
		Approve plan and budget for park and trail improvements	0 – 2 Years	City council
<b>3. Identify any additional areas where future parks/open space or motorized and non-motorized trails may be needed</b>	Review needs in bi-annual public meeting	Submit recommendation for any future facilities	Bi-annually	City staff and planning commission
		Adopt plan amendments as needed	Bi-annually	City council
<b>4. Plan and document a map of motorized trails and trail heads for use within and near Nephi City and document the areas where parking could be available to park trailers transporting ATV's</b>	Determine the facilities needed, and rules and regulations for the trail areas including times available for use	Work in conjunction with County and private land owners to develop map and guidelines for use	0-4 Years	City staff, planning commission, city council, county staff, private landowners

**Funding and Budgeting Goals**

<b>Goals</b>	<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Timing</b>	<b>Agency</b>
<b>1. Obtain funding from as many outside sources as possible</b>	Identify funding possibilities from federal, state, regional, and local sources	Apply for grants for specific parks, trails, and open space projects	0 -5 Years	City staff and public works
		Create and cultivate good relationships with important funding sources	0 -5 Years	City staff and public works
	Investigate opportunities for private funding	Contact land owners and private sources for gifts, donations, and dedications	0 -5 Years	City staff and public works
<b>2. Prepare annual budget to address priority projects</b>	Hold a work meeting to determine the needs, priorities, goals, and budget for parks, trails, and open-space projects	Prepare/ revise a strategic plan for budgeting and accomplishing the goals of this plan during the next 5 years	Annually	City council
		Adopt a budget which includes accomplishing the identified goals for that year	Annually	City council