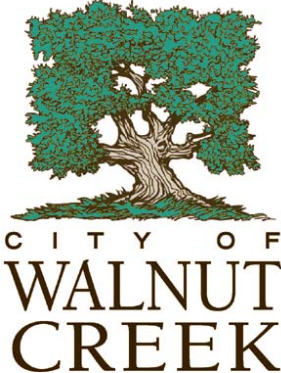


**OPEN SPACE VISION PROJECT
BACKGROUND REPORT
APPENDICES**



March 2008

Prepared for:



Prepared by:



**Open Space Vision Project
Background Report
Appendices**

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March 2008

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**Appendix A:
Annotated Bibliography of Policy and Background Documents**

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Appendix A: Annotated Bibliography of Policy and Background Documents

Policy, plan, and resource background documents on the open space system and preserves are listed in chronological order:

1. ***Open Space Conservation Plan, Contra Costa County***, Contra Costa County Planning Department. August 1973.

This plan is a combined Open Space Element and Conservation Element, as part of the Contra Costa County General Plan. The stated purpose of the plan is to provide the basic policy framework for implementing the County's open space and conservation programs.

2. ***Walnut Creek Parks, Trail, Conservation and Open Space Plan***, Walnut Creek Citizen's Open Space Action Committee, Duncan and Jones, September 1973,

This document (the Plan) is effectively the guiding "constitution" of the open space system, setting the original goals and policies for what was to be achieved, and how. The Plan details policies for conservation, open space and trails, as well as conventional parks and an summary inventory of the planned open space lands, their resources and the potential for public recreation. The recommendations of the Plan resulted in the formation of Contra Costa County Service Area R-8, approved by the Board of Supervisors in March 1974 and approved by the voters in June 1974 to protect open space in and around Walnut Creek.

3. ***Draft EIR Lime Ridge – Shell Ridge Trail & Rudgear Park – Sugarloaf Trail***, City of Walnut Creek Planning Staff, July 1977.

The completed trails are a portion of the Briones, Las Trampas to Mount Diablo Regional Trail system. This trail was a joint project of the City of Walnut Creek-Contra Costa County Service Area R-8, and the East Bay Regional Park District.

4. ***Operational Plan and Policy Guideline for the Walnut Creek Open Space***, City of Walnut Creek staff and Citizens' Advisory Committee, March 1978, revised April 1980 and July 1981.

This document (the Guidelines) reiterates and expands on the policies of the *Parks, Trail, Conservation and Open Space Plan* addressing conservation, open space and trails, as well as conventional parks. New policy sections cover Administration, Basic Planning and Management, and a set of Specific Policies providing more detailed direction for acquisition planning, operation, and management of lands, facility development, and public use (see more detailed analysis for additional information).

5. ***Master Plan – Shell Ridge Recreation Area***, City of Walnut Creek staff, Citizens' Advisory Committee and AEP Associates, January 1980. Includes three main elements: open space preserves, trails system, and activity areas:

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- The **open space preserve policies** are generally consistent with the *Operational Plan and Policy* and current practice, but in some instances may be inconsistent.
 - The **trails system policies** are generally consistent with, but much less extensive than, the current trail system.
 - The **activity areas policies** included “trailside rest” areas at Ames Pond/Deer Lake, and at Joaquin Ridge with picnic tables, restrooms and water. These improvements were never implemented (*true?*). The historic portion of the Ranch Center, now referred to as the Old Borges Ranch, was preserved/improved as illustrated. Area 1B, around Bob Pond, was generally improved with the type of facilities envisioned, but not in the configuration and extent shown, and not including overnight camping facilities.
 - A brief **resource analysis section** is included in the appendices. It does not contain specific management or restoration recommendations.
6. ***Lime Ridge Regional Recreation Area – Master Plan and Resource Analysis***, Larry Seeman Associates for Cities of Walnut Creek and Concord. October 1985.

The Master Plan includes four main elements: open space preserves, nature preserve, trails system, and activity areas.

- The brief **open space preserve** concepts are consistent with the *Operational Plan and Policy*, which is summarized in the document, and current practice.
 - The **nature preserve** called out for Willow Quarry has been implemented and maintained as the Lime Ridge Nature Preserve Area.
 - The **trails system** shown on the Master Plan diagram is significantly different than the current system in location, and included some paved trails that were never developed. It had approximately the same extent of trails as the current system.
 - The **activity areas** concepts included four major sites on the west side of the preserve to accommodate group picnicking, camping, and an amphitheater. Several other picnic/rest stop areas were envisioned around the interior of the preserve. Five staging/parking areas were included associated with the activity areas. None of these facilities has been constructed as proposed.
 - A **resource analysis section** is included as an appendix. It includes a general level of resource information and some specific management or restoration recommendations.
7. ***Final Report on Management Options for Improving Biodiversity in Shell Ridge, Lime Ridge, Acalanes, and Sugarloaf Open Space Areas***, Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management, University of California at Berkeley, prepared for the City of Walnut Creek, August 1995.

This report details the plant and animal species found in the city’s open space areas, as well as recommendations for preservation and restoration. It includes:

- A description of monitoring methods, which included 34 permanent transects and photo points for monitoring biodiversity.

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- Overall species lists and vegetation type descriptions.
- Vegetation condition descriptions, habitat maps and management options for each preserve (maps are in Aldus Freehand).
- Detailed forms and results for the monitoring transects.
- A description of and information from the California Wildlife habitat Relationships Database.
- A detailed plant species list for each preserve.
- Mulch and yellow star thistle management guidelines for range land.
- Soil type maps for each preserve.
- An extensive annotated bibliography of references, including academic papers, for habitat types including chaparral, grasslands, oak woodlands, riparian, and general.

Overall, the report includes substantial useful information and recommendations for many general and some specific resource management actions, and establishes a means of monitoring results, but stops short of setting out a specific action plan.

8. ***The Roots of a Legacy: A History of Walnut Creek, California's Open Space***, Sande DeSalles, 1997.

This California State University Master of Arts in History project was funded in part by a grant from the Borges Ranch Interpretive Association. It provides a detailed history and commentary on the formation of the City's open space program.

9. ***Walnut Creek General Plan 2025, Chapter 3, Natural Environment and Public Spaces***, Public Review Draft, June 3, 2005.

The General Plan is a document required under state law to set forth the policies and plans for the development and management of the land, facilities, and environment within the City. This chapter is one of the nine elements required under state law, which may be combined or re-titled within certain limits. The draft chapter provides an overview, goals, policies and actions pertaining to the open space system, as well as to public parks and plazas. The goals pertinent to open space are:

- Maintain and enhance open space lands.
- Acquire additional open space lands or conservation easements.
- Maintain and enhance the area's creek systems, their riparian environments, and their recreational amenities.
- Provide a system of well-developed, well-connected, and well-maintained trails.

Most of the supporting policies and actions are general, and could be considered consistent with existing practices, but some call for specific steps:

- Action 1.1.1: Prepare and adopt a plan for the protection, management, and improvement of the City's open space lands.
- Policy 1.2 and associated actions call for a more concerted effort to manage natural habitat so that it is improved and expanded.

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- Policy 1.3 and its actions call for assessment of user demand and impacts and establishment of rules, and allowing only facilities and activities that are compatible with conservation and preservation.
- Policies and actions under Goals 2 and 3 call for a specific plan and program to acquire additional open space lands and easements in the City.

Overall, the Draft General Plan calls for an increased effort to plan, protect, enhance, and expand the open space, protected creek, and trail system.

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**Appendix B:
*Analysis of Parks, Trail, Conservation and Open Space Plan and
Operational Plan and Policy Guideline***

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Appendix B: Analysis of Parks, Trail, Conservation and Open Space Plan and Operational
Plan and Policy Guideline

The Walnut Creek Parks, Trail, Conservation and Open Space Plan, Walnut Creek Citizen's Open Space Action Committee, Duncan and Jones, September 1973 (incorporated in *Operational Plan and Policy Guideline for the Walnut Creek Open Space*, 1978).

This document (the Plan) is effectively the guiding "constitution" of the open space system, setting the original goals and policies for what was to be achieved, and how. The Plan details policies for conservation, open space and trails, as well as conventional parks. The recommendations of the Plan resulted in the formation of Contra Costa County Service Area R-8, approved by the Board of Supervisors in March 1974 and approved by the voters in June 1974 to protect open space in and around Walnut Creek.

Plan contents are summarized below.

1. Conservation

The Plan's conservation policies address the fundamental purpose of the open space: "Conservation of the area's natural resources is basic to further consideration of open space, park land banks and trails." Specific conservation purposes are summarized below:

- a. Air Quality – provide oxygen, reduce pollution.
- b. Water – recharge groundwater.
- c. Mineral Resources – not significant except to restore damage.
- d. Agriculture – only grazing still viable; important to maintain for reduction of fire hazard.
- e. Wildlife – preserve critical natural habitats, corridors.
- f. Vegetation – preserve natural vegetation to reduce erosion, runoff; flood prevention, replenish oxygen, purify air, food and shelter for wildlife.
- g. Scenic Beauty – subjective, but real impact on the community.
- h. Conservation Policies – preserve the land in its natural condition; continue grazing to minimize fire hazards.

2. Open Space

The Plan describes open space areas, their resources and the potential for public recreation. The section opening states: "The most important uses of open space are those which treat open space as a valuable resource and provide 'substantial public benefits'. Ideally development of open space should be limited to the purposes of education, recreation and conservation of scenic and natural resources."

a. Major Open Space Areas

The lands identified are remarkably consistent with the current preserves, except that additional lands have since been added as noted:

1. Acalanes (areas added at north end of northern portion and south end of southern portion)
2. Sugarloaf Hill (area added at southeastern portion)
3. Shell Ridge (area connecting to Howe Homestead Park added)
4. Lime Ridge (areas added at south end)

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b. Open Space Policies.

The policies are consistent with the overarching Conservation policies. The most specific policy direction is in policy (2): "In order of priority, open space areas should be preserved on the basis of their suitability for the following purposes:

- (a) Scenic beauty
- (b) Protection of natural resources
- (c) Public recreation
- (d) Plant and wildlife preservation
- (e) Public safety

3. Parks

The policies on parks are not relevant to the open space system.

4. Trails

This section includes a trails plan covering major trails through the entire City, including and connections to and through the open space areas, but not the internal trail systems of the open space areas. Major trails are described, as well as potential staging area sites. Some of the trails have been implemented as envisioned, as shown on the current City trails map, others have not. The four staging areas recommended have generally been implemented as envisioned.

Operational Plan and Policy Guideline for the Walnut Creek Open Space, City of Walnut Creek staff and Citizens' Advisory Committee, March 1978, revised April 1980 and July 1981.

This document (the Guidelines) reiterates and expands on the policies of the *Parks, Trail, Conservation and Open Space Plan* addressing conservation, open space and trails, as well as conventional parks. New policy sections cover Administration, Basic Planning and Management, and a set of Specific Policies providing more detailed direction for acquisition planning, operation, and management of lands, facility development, and public use.

Guidelines contents are outlined below. Especially significant policies or guidelines are summarized or quoted.

Administration

- A. Describes the Formation of Service Area.
- B. Describes the Organization of County Service Area R-8 and how the associated open space system will be administered, including the City/County Agreement, the roles of the Board of Supervisors, the City Council, the Citizens' Advisory Committee (now the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Committee), and City Staff, coordinated at that time by the Open Space Specialist Position, whose duties are specified: County Staff (the County Service Area Coordinator in the Public Works Department), and the Parks and Recreation Commission (regarding parks).

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- C. (III?) Describes the Purpose and Role of the County Service Area
 - 1. (A) Purpose: includes parks and regional trails
 - 2. (B) Role in the Community
 - 3. (C) Definitions
Including Open Space: “Areas of land left basically in their natural undeveloped state to promote the scenic and aesthetic beauty, and to be used for more passive recreational purposes such as, but not limited to, hiking, bicycling, equestrian purposes, and picnicking, as opposed to those more active recreational purposes normally found in a city park such as team sports.”
- D. Goals
 - 1. Major – Resource conservation
 - 2. Secondary – Public access
- E. Objectives (consistent w/ Plan)
- F. Policy (consistent w/ Plan)

Basic Planning and Management Policies

- A. General Planning and Management Policies
 - 1. Open Space
 - a. Planning Unit – defined to avoid piecemeal planning.
 - b. Objective: “...activities which are compatible with the natural features and values, while preserving natural landscape conditions...”
 - c. Development: “...limited primarily to making the Planning Unit available for public enjoyment in a manner consistent with the preservation of natural features and resources.” “...basic, but not elaborate...” Provides some guidance for the land use, management and development.
 - 2. Park Land Banks (not relevant to open space system)
 - 3. Trails. Covers uses, including bicycling, but not dogs; coordination with other agencies on regional connections; trail types should be consolidated (multi-use trails), or separated where incompatible.

Specific Policies

- A. Classification: Open Space Park Land Bank, and Trail.
- B. Intergovernmental: Coordination and non-duplication
- C. Parkland Planning (include open space):
 - 1. Parkland Site Plans
 - 2. Planning Sequence and Review
 - Step 1: Acquisition Evaluation
 - Step 2: Resource Analysis
 - “ . . . complete a resource analysis which will identify features of the parkland that have significant resource value as well as provide a potential plan for revegetation and wildlife management. . . . Guidelines will be established to be used in later planning processes to protect

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significant natural resources which could be adversely affected by parkland use.”

Step 3: Land Use Development Plan

Step 4: Capital Improvement Plan

3. Specific Site Plan Policies
 - a. Site Resources:

“Specific sites will be planned by balancing, sensitively, both environmental and recreational concerns, giving full consideration to site resources as well as public recreation need and demand.”
 - b. Single Purpose Use:

“The multiple use concept is not valid in planning for parkland uses involving fragile resource values.” “...designate areas for specialized single purpose uses if significant environmental resources are to be protected.”
 - c. Need and Demand:

Within constraints of goals and objectives and resource protection, use will be planned based on need and demand expressed by the public.

 1. Operational Policies
 - a. Current Policies
 - Nature Education Policy – “The Service Area will not provide a formal program of nature education and interpretation.” No longer true?
4. Public Hearings
 - a. Advisory Committee shall hold at least 1 meeting before approving Land Use Development Plans
 - b. Any hearing may be continued from time to time.
 - c. Public hearing specifics:
 1. Following completion of resource analysis, to review the analysis and to solicit public comments and suggestions which should be considered in the formulation of the Land Use Development Plan.
 2. Following completion of the Land Use Development Plan, and prior to approval of the plan, to provide and opportunity for additional public review and comment.
- D. Primary and Ancillary Activities and Interest Policy

Include ancillary facilities and activities that do not conflict with the parkland classification
- E. Use Planning Policy

“encourage parkland use by individuals, families and groups”
- F. Trail Policy

Coordinate with other governmental agencies to provide a comprehensive regional trail system.

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G. Recreation Policies

1. Outdoor Emphasis Policy

“primarily make a variety of outdoor, rather than indoor, experiences available to the public.”

“user can be an active participant rather than a passive spectator.”

2. Need and Demand Policy

3. Outdoor Activities Policy

a. Facilities Required Category

b. Facilities Not Required Category

c. Special Facilities

4. Site Operation Policy

5. Camping Policy

6. Recreational Programs Policy

“The Service Area will not commit itself to the operation of large-scale formal recreation programs.”

H. Resources Policies

1. Resource Analysis Policy

“The Service Area will prepare a Resource Analysis for each open space area and adopt land use policies based on the findings, following public review and hearings.”

2. Encroachment on Parklands Policy

Advisory Committee will comment on proposals that may negatively impact the open space.

3. Historic Sites Policy

4. Wildlife Policy

a. The Service Area will apply every consideration to the needs for preservation of wildlife within its holdings, especially as they relate to land management or development policies and practices.

b. The Service Area will play an active educational role in working with adjacent property owners and public agencies regarding the means and necessities for protecting wildlife.

c. The Service Area will discourage the introduction of wild or normally undomesticated birds or animals into its parklands.

5. Natural Conditions Restoration Policy

The Service Area will take into consideration as part of its land and water management program the possibilities of reclaiming lost or altered natural biotic communities where appropriate. Where resource analysis and land use planning indicate the benefits of restoring grassland, woodland, forest, chaparral, or other natural communities, such improvements may be included in parkland development programs.

I. Open Space Preserve Policies

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1. Open Space Role Policy
2. Inter-Agency Cooperation Policy
3. Financing Policy

Service Area funds are derived from five basic sources:

 - a. 1974 Park and Open Space Bond

The Service Area voters approved this bond issue in the amount of \$6,750,000 for the purpose of acquisition and improvement of local park and recreation facilities.

 1. It shall be the policy of the Advisory Committee to utilize bond-generated funds for acquisition purposes only, until such time as all properties identified in the bond election have been acquired.
 2. Properties identified in the bond election shall, as a matter of policy, receive first priority among acquisitions.
 - b. Property Tax
 - c. Parkland Dedication Fees
 - d. Grants, Gifts, Easements and Requests
 - e. Rents and Permits
- J. Parkland Dedication Policies
 1. Dedication in Perpetuity Policy
 2. Dedication Resolution Policy
- K. Operational Policies
 1. Current Policies
 - a. Nature Education Policy

“The Service Area will not provide a formal program of nature education.”
 - b. Public Information Policy
 - c. Public Safety Policy
 - d. Public Meetings Policy
 - e. Information Disclosure Policy
 - f. Affirmative Action Policy
 - g. Lessee Policy
- L. Acquisition Goals and Policies
 1. Basic Acquisition Goal

The basic acquisition goal of the Service Area shall be:

 - a. Open Space
 - b. Park Land Banks
 - c. Trails
 - d. Additional Acquisition
 2. Additional Acquisition
 3. Parkland Acquisition Procedure Policy
- M. Access and Roads Policies

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1. Scenic Road Policy
 2. Park Access Roads Policy
 3. Internal Transportation Systems Policy
 4. Incompatibility of Public Roads Through Parklands Policy
 5. Public Mandate
- N. Plan Review and Public Participation Policies
1. Public Hearings Policy
 2. Citizen Participation Policy

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**Appendix C:
General Plan 2025
Open Space-Related Policies**

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Appendix C: General Plan 2025 Open Space-Related Policies

GOAL 1 Maintain and enhance open space lands.

Policy 1.1. Protect, manage and improve open space lands.

Action 1.1.1. Prepare and adopt a plan for the protection and management of the City's open space lands.

Action 1.1.2. Work with other public agencies (such as water districts, adjacent cities, and park districts) in managing, operating, linking and providing access to open space.

Policy 1.2. Protect and enhance the natural environment.

Action 1.2.1. Identify, protect, restore, and enhance sensitive biological and areas critical for habitat and habitat connectivity. (See Action 2.1.3.)

Action 1.2.2. Strive to eliminate non-native plant species and expand areas with native plants.

Action 1.2.3. Monitor and control the factors affecting the habitat value of open space, including trail use and grazing.

Action 1.2.4. Support resource conservation opportunities on private land.

Policy 1.3. Promote a variety of appropriate activities on open space lands.

Action 1.3.1. Assess user demand and impacts on open space and natural resources.

Action 1.3.2. Allow on open space lands, only facilities, structures, and activities compatible with conservation, preservation, and education.

Action 1.3.3. Review and update existing policies for open space activities and monitor their effectiveness.

Policy 1.4. Provide convenient public access to open space lands and trails.

Action 1.4.1. Secure public access, where possible, to private open space lands.

Action 1.4.2. Provide trailheads, parking areas, gates, and trails that meet generally accepted access standards and are sensitive to neighborhood interests.

GOAL 2 Acquire additional open space lands or conservation easements.

Policy 2.1. Develop a plan for acquiring additional open space lands or conservation easements.

Action 2.1.1. Develop criteria for possible acquisitions of open space lands important to the City.

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Appendix C: General Plan 2025 Open Space-Related Policies

Action 2.1.2. Identify and maintain a list and map of properties where open space acquisition should be considered.

Action 2.1.3. Give priority to acquiring lands that provide connections for animals between open spaces and/or important habitat.

Policy 2.2. Plan for funding for space acquisition or conservation easements.

Action 2.2.1. Establish mechanisms for funding and maintaining new acquisitions and easements.

Action 2.2.2. Seek grants and other funds for acquisition and development.

Policy 2.3. Support retention as open space of the private open space ranch lands adjoining Mount Diablo State Park.

Action 2.3.1. Work cooperatively with property owners toward retention of open space lands adjacent to Mount Diablo State Park.

Policy 2.4. As development projects arise, strive to preserve existing private open space lands under private ownership, and to provide public access to these private open spaces.

Action 2.4.1. Develop and maintain an inventory of private open spaces and conservation easements.

Action 2.4.2. Encourage conservation easements that provide public access over private lands.

Action 2.4.3. Work cooperatively with developers in securing public access where desirable, without requiring the City to maintain private trails.

Policy 2.5. Acquire private open space lands within development projects only when and where public ownership or access is desirable or necessary.

GOAL 3 Maintain and enhance the area's creek systems, their riparian environments, and their recreational amenities.

Policy 3.1. Restore riparian corridors and waterways throughout the city.

Action 3.1.1. Conduct an evaluation of existing creek conditions and restoration opportunities.

Action 3.1.2. Through land acquisition and/or conservation easements, create or improve riparian corridors, riparian lands within parks, wetlands, and buffer zones.

Action 3.1.3. Develop a coordinated set of creek policies covering setbacks from creeks, damage prevention, creek stewardship, nuisance abatement, public access, pathways, and

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Appendix C: General Plan 2025 Open Space-Related Policies

similar public and environmental concerns. Policies may differ for creeks in open space lands and for creeks on private lands.

Action 3.1.4. Cooperate with landowners, the public, regulatory and trustee agencies, and local and State agencies to expand creek restoration efforts and programs.

Action 3.1.5. Seek local, county, regional, State, and federal funds for creek studies and improvement efforts.

Policy 3.2. Make downtown creeks a central feature in new development.

Action 3.2.1. Implement the 1993 Creeks Restoration and Trails Master Plan.

Action 3.2.2. Incorporate the downtown creeks in project designs for new development and redevelopment in the Core Area.

Action 3.2.3. Expose covered creeks and in-corporate open creeks in new development and redevelopment wherever possible.

Action 3.2.4. Encourage the use of volunteers to implement the 1993 Creeks Restoration and Trails Master Plan.

GOAL 4 Provide a system of safe, well-developed, well connected, and well maintained trails.

Policy 4.1. Plan for a full complement of interconnected trails and paths for walkers, joggers, bicyclists, and equestrians, from the regional trails to downtown trails and paths. (See Transportation Action 6.1.1.)

Action 4.1.1. Work with the County, the East Bay Regional Park District, and other agencies to links between residential areas and parks, creeks, transportation, schools, open space, shopping, and various public facilities.

Action 4.1.2. Link adjacent urban or open space trails and nearby open spaces owned by various agencies.

Action 4.1.3. Complete bicycle and pedestrian trail linkages, including the following:

- In the Pleasant Hill and Walnut Creek BART areas
- From Heather Farm Park to John Muir Medical Center
- Along the Iron Horse Regional Trail near the Sugarloaf Open Space, downtown, Las Lomas High School and Walden Park.

Action 4.1.4. Use existing easements and creeks for trail links to neighborhoods.

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Appendix C: *General Plan 2025 Open Space-Related Policies*

Action 4.1.5. Encourage easements in residential neighborhoods for pedestrian connections to trails.

Policy 4.2. Maintain and improve the trails system, including to and within the open space lands.

Action 4.2.1 Provide consistent, clear signage for all trails and at all trailheads.

Action 4.2.2. Promote rancher-friendly conservation and recreational trail easements over key agricultural lands.

Action 4.2.3. Monitor trails for signs of environmental degradation and repair the ecosystem along trails where necessary.

Action 4.2.4. Identify equestrian staging areas and add or improve as needed. (See the North Gate Specific Plan.)

Policy 4.3. Promote safety on all trails and on the roads leading to them.

Action 4.3.1. Track safety complaints on trails and, where patterns are identified, work with user groups on solutions.

Action 4.3.2. Working with residents and equestrians, respond to identified road/trail (auto/horse) conflicts, including providing improved signage where needed.

Action 4.3.3. In areas where horses frequently are ridden, evaluate the need to develop equestrian trails adjacent to paved roads.

Action 4.3.4 With Contra Costa County, require construction rather than deferral of road improvements (including equestrian trails) in the North Gate Specific Plan area.

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**Appendix D:
Current Open Space Use Regulations and Policies**

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Appendix D: Current Open Space Use Regulations and Policies

Regulations

- Open Space areas are open from sunrise to sunset. *Sec. 11-1.401*
- It is illegal to fail to obey the restrictions stated in any properly posted sign. *Section 11-1.403*
- All fires must be in fire pits or grills installed by the city for that purpose. Upon abandoning a fire, all fires must be completely extinguished and cold to the touch. *Sec. 11-1.503ab*
- No one may possess or use fireworks in any Open Space site. *Sec. 11-1.503c*
- All camping in Open Space sites is restricted to group camping, by permit only. *Sec. 11-1.504*
- No one may possess or use any weapon or destructive device, as defined in the penal code, in any Open Space site. *Sec. 11-1.505*
- No person may, or attempt to, feed, abandon, hunt, capture, disturb trap, take, net, poison or harm any land or water animal in any Open Space site. *Sec. 11-1.506abc*
- All state fish and game laws and regulations shall be in force in all Open Space sites. *Sec. 11-1.506c*
- Horses and other equine animals may be ridden or led only in those areas of Open space sites designated for such use. *Sec. 11-1.506e*
- No person shall pick, damage, remove or destroy any tree, plant or plant material. *Sec. 11-1.506f*
- Dogs must be leashed in activity areas of Open Space sites. *Sec. 11-1.507a*
- Dogs may be allowed off leash in designated sections of Open Space areas when accompanied by, and under the positive control of, the person bringing the dog into the open space. *Sec. 11-1.507b*
- There are signed, designated sections of Open Space areas where no dogs are allowed. *Sec. 11-1.507c*
- No person may swim or engage in any other water contact activity in any Open Space sites. *Sec. 11-1.509*
- No commercial photography is allowed without a permit. *Sec. 11-1.1510*
- No commercial activity without a permit. *Sec. 11-1.1511*
- No smoking is permitted in areas where the risk of fire is substantial whether it has been posted or not. *Sec. 11-1.1513*
- No alcohol beverages are allowed within the Open Space areas including parking lots and picnic areas. *Sec. 11-1.1514*
- Unauthorized motorized vehicles are not permitted in Open Space sites. *Sec. 11-1.1515a*
- All sections of the California Vehicle Code in effect in the City of Walnut Creek shall be enforced in Open Space sites. *Sec. 11-1.1515b*
- Bicycles may not be ridden in a manner that endangers any person, without regard to weather and trail conditions, on any single track trails, or off designated trails. *Sec. 11-1.1516.1abcd*
- Bicycles are permitted on paved roads, paved bicycle trails and unpaved graded road over eight feet in width, unless otherwise posted. *Sec. 11-1.1516.2*
- No person shall place or dump any refuse in any Open Space area. *Sec. 11-1.1517*
- All trash generated within the Open Space area must be placed in receptacles provided for such purpose. *Sec. 11-1.517*

City of Walnut Creek
Open Space Vision Project Background Report
Appendix D: Current Open Space Use Regulations and Policies

Policies

- Close cattle gates after entering
- Bicycles must give right of way to cattle, horses and hikers
- Fishing is for youths and seniors only and is catch and release

Activity Areas Additional Rules and Policies

- Staff feels the need to step up enforcement of dog policy in activity areas and a review of the municipal code allowing dogs off leash.