

PARKS, RECREATION AND NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

The mission of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services is to build healthy communities through people, parks, and programs.

PARKS, RECREATION AND NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

THE NATIONAL CITIZEN SURVEY™

39% of San José residents surveyed rated San José's recreational opportunities as "excellent" or "good"

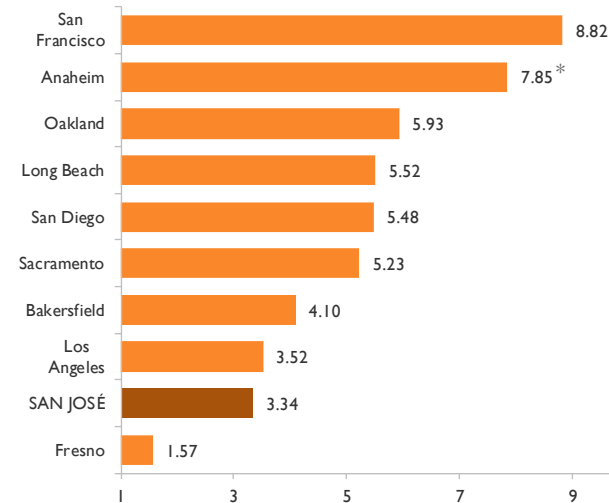
The Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department (PRNS) operates the City's regional and neighborhood parks, as well as special facilities such as Happy Hollow Park & Zoo. [Happy Hollow Park & Zoo](#) served over 460,000 visitors and generating \$7.3 million in revenues in 2014-15.

PRNS also operates community and recreation centers and provides various recreation, community service, and other programs for the City's residents. In 2014-15, PRNS' departmental operating expenditures totaled \$63 million*. Staffing totaled 511 authorized positions, 17 more positions than 2013-14. This included additional funding for Park Ranger positions, increased funding to support the summer recreational swim program at Mayfair and Overfelt High Schools and increased operation and maintenance costs for new property developments. Nonetheless, PRNS staffing is significantly below its high of 755 employees in 2007-08.

PRNS has a goal of recovering 40 percent of its direct program costs through collected revenues (e.g., fees, charges, leases, grants). For 2014-15, PRNS reported its direct program cost recovery rate was 39 percent which is slightly below its goal and the previous year but up from 28 percent five years ago. Program fees accounted for approximately 70 percent of collected revenues.

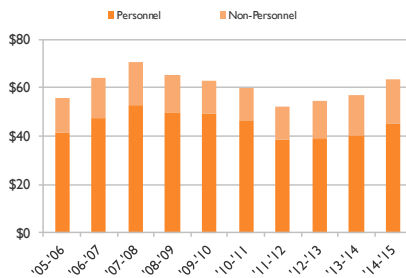
*PRNS was also responsible for \$7 million in Citywide expenses. Significant Citywide expenses included \$4.8 million for San José B.E.S.T. and the Safe Summer Initiative, \$400,000 for the Children's Health Initiative, \$1 million for workers' compensation claims, and \$420,000 for after school education and safety programs. Departmental operating expenditures also do not include certain capital expenditures, reserves, or pass through items such as federal Community Development Block Grant funds.

Parks and Recreation Employees per 10,000 Residents

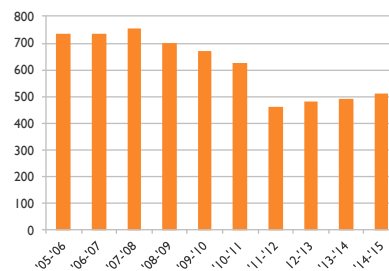


* Based on previous year data
Source: [2015 City Park Facts](#)

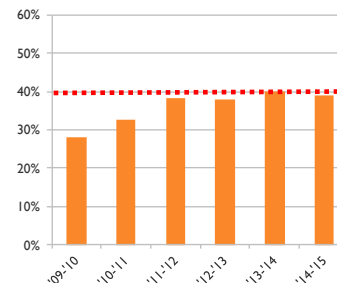
PRNS Operating Expenditures (\$millions)



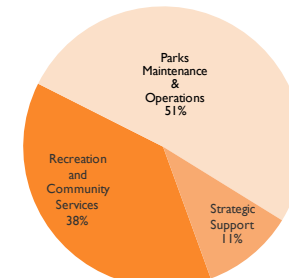
PRNS Authorized Positions



5-Year Program Cost Recovery**



PRNS Operating Expenditures Breakdown



**For information about the department's fee activity programs see our recently completed audit: [PRNS Fee Activities: The Department can better reflect the City's goals for tracking and recovering costs, setting fees and promoting affordable access.](#)

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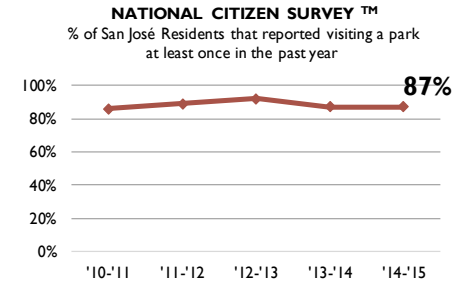
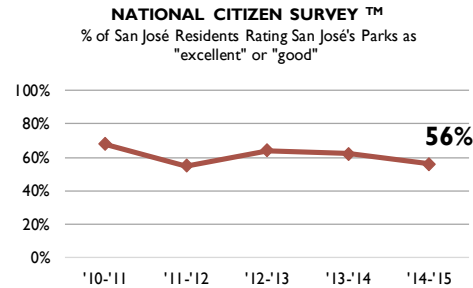
PARKS

In 2014-15, the City maintained 187 neighborhood parks and 9 regional parks, as well as other facilities, such as community gardens, trails, and skate parks. Excluding golf courses, the developed portion of these facilities covered 1,727 acres. There were an additional 1,439 acres of open space and undeveloped land. The City has added 21.1 acres of new developed parkland since 2009 (see box below for a list of park additions). The department is embarking on the process of updating its Greenprint Strategic Plan. It plans to review its methodology for its parks inventory and acreage as part of that process.

The cost to the City's General Fund to maintain developed parkland was \$9,930 per acre, down from \$12,000 in 2008-09. According to PRNS staff, the City's budget deficit has been a major driver for this reduction.

The [City's Envision 2040 General Plan](#) includes goals for park acreage per resident of 3.5 acres of neighborhood/community serving parkland per 1,000 residents. (1.5 acres of public parkland and 2.0 acres of recreational school grounds). It also has a goal of 7.5 acres per 1,000 residents of Citywide/regional park or open space lands through a combination of facilities owned by the City and other public agencies.

The City's adopted Green Vision sets forth a goal of 100 miles of interconnected trails by 2022. For 2014-15, there were 56.77 miles of trails. An additional 76.75 miles have been identified or are being studied for further development, or are in the planning or construction phases of development (For a list of City trails see [City trails](#)).



KEY FACTS (2014-15)

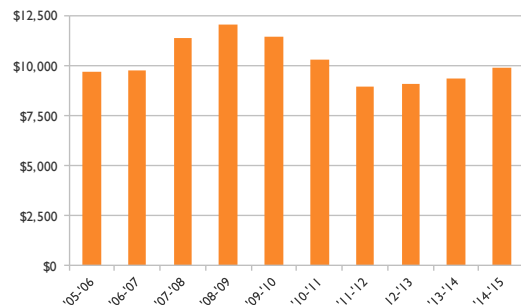
Neighborhood Parks (187 parks)	1,197 acres
Regional Parks (9 parks)	530 acres
Golf Courses (3 courses)**	321 acres**
Open space and undeveloped land	<u>1,439 acres</u>
Total*	3,486 acres**

*State, county, or other public lands within San José's boundaries are not included in the above figures.

**Does not include 50 acres open space. Total may not add due to rounding.

***For more information about golf courses see the September 2015 audit: [Golf courses: Loss of customers and revenues requires a new strategy](#)

Cost per Acre to Maintain Parks and Other Facilities



Note: General Fund only. Does not include golf courses.

Developed Neighborhood Parkland Added Since 2009

- Fleming Park (0.5 acres)
- Jackson/Madden Park (0.3 acres)
- Carolyn Norris Park (1.3 acres)
- Luna Park (1.3 acres)
- Piercy Park (0.8 acres)
- St. Elizabeth Park (0.9 acres)
- Nisich Park (1.3 acres)
- Newhall Park (1.5 acres)
- River Oaks Park (5 acres)
- Commodore Park (3.2 acres)
- <NEW> Antonio Roberto Balermino Park (1.8 acres)
- <NEW> Del Monte Park (2.2 acres)
- <NEW> West Evergreen Park (1 acre)



For a list of City parks see [City parks](#)

PARKS, RECREATION AND NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

RECREATION PROGRAMS AND COMMUNITY CENTERS

PRNS program offerings include (but are not limited to) after-school programs, aquatic programs, arts and crafts, dance, educational programs, health and fitness programs, sports, therapeutic classes designed for persons with disabilities, and programs for seniors. For a list of all programs and classes, see [City Activity Guide](#).

In 2014-15, the City operated 10 hub community centers (one in each of the City's Council Districts). In addition to the 10 hub community centers, the City operated the Grace Community Center which is a therapeutic recreation center, and the Bascom Community Center/Library which opened in 2012-13.

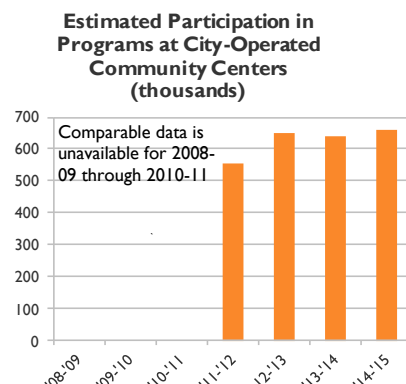
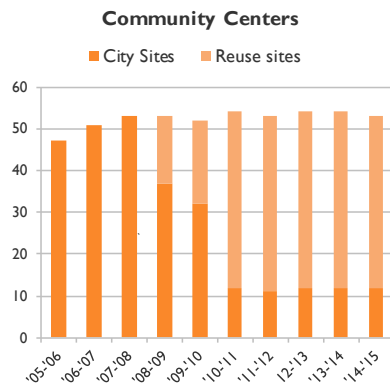
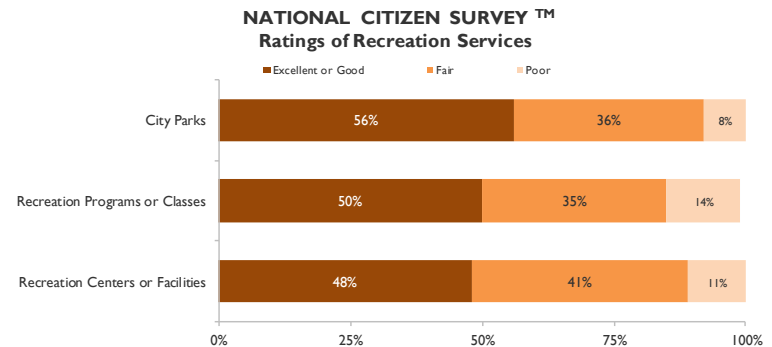
The City's 10 hub community centers and the Bascom Community Center were open from 42 to 72 hours per week which is unchanged from the previous year. No City run centers had regularly scheduled Sunday hours.

KEY FACTS (2014-15)

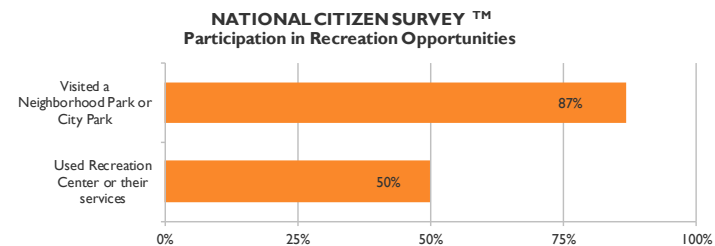
Community centers (including reuse sites)	53
Community center square footage*	578,000 sq. ft.
Average weekly hours open (hub community centers)	59
Estimated recreation program participation at City run programs**	662,400

* This includes hybrid centers.

**This is a duplicated count (i.e., individuals are counted for each program attended).



Data is tracked through a registration system and does not include drop-in clientele, senior nutrition participants, or therapeutic clientele at the Grace Community Center.

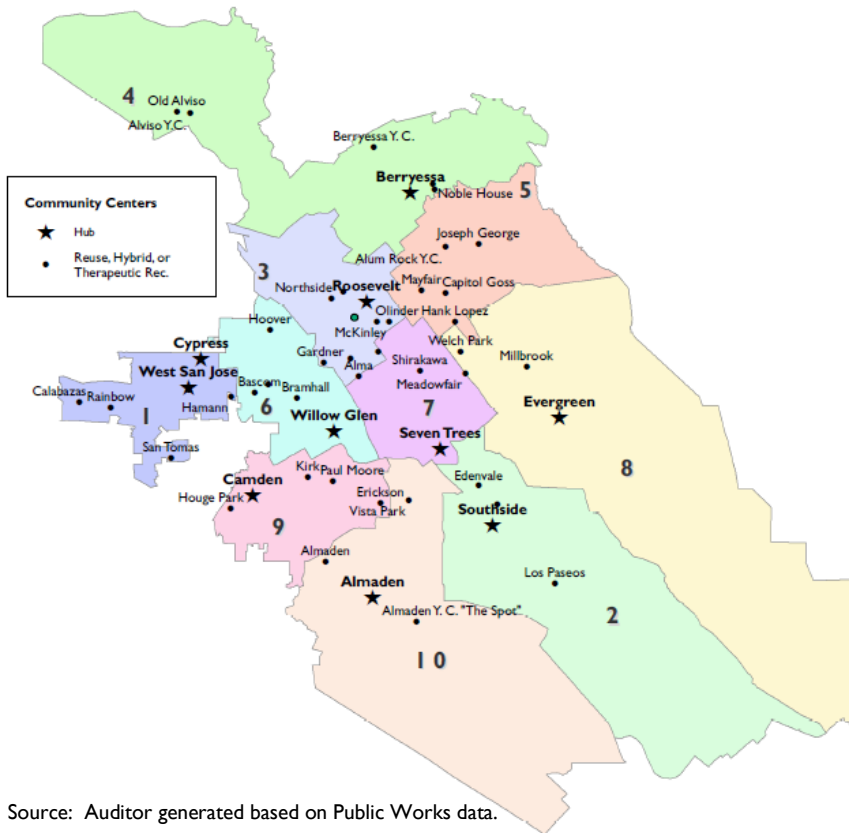


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RECREATION PROGRAMS AND COMMUNITY CENTERS (continued)

In 2004-05, PRNS began a facility re-use program with the intention of reducing operating costs while allowing smaller community centers to remain open. 42 sites were designated as re-use sites. In 2014-15, outside non-profits/organizations operated 27 of such centers. An additional 10 sites were operated by other City programs and/or outside organizations. Two are closed and one smaller center was demolished. We should note that the leases for two additional centers end in 2015-16.

City of San José Community Centers Map



Community Centers

- ***Alma Community Center
- Almaden Community Center (hub)**
- **Almaden Winery Community Center
- * Almaden Youth Center
- **Alum Rock Youth Center
- * Alviso Youth Center
- * Backesto Community Center
- Bascom Community Center (hybrid)**
- Berryessa Community Center (hub)**
- * Berryessa Youth Center
- **Bramhall Neighborhood Center
- **Calabazas Community Center
- Camden Community Center (hub)**
- * Capitol Park/Goss Community Center
- Cypress Senior Center (hub)**
- * Edenvale Community Center
- * Edenvale Youth Center
- Erickson Community Center (lease ends 2015-16)
- Evergreen Community Center (hub)**
- ***Gardner Community Center
- Grace Community Center**
- **Hamann Park Community Center
- **Hank Lopez Community Center
- Hoover Community Center (lease ends 2015-16)
- * Houge Park Community Center
- * Joseph George Community Center
- **Kirk Community Center
- * Los Paseos Community Center
- Mayfair Community Center (hub)**
- * McKinley Community Center
- * Meadowfair Community Center
- **Millbrook Community Center
- * Noble House Community Center
- * Noble Modular Community Center
- * Northside Community Center
- Old Alviso Community Center (Closed)
- Old Hillview Library (Closed)
- * Olinder Community Center
- * Paul Moore Community Center
- * Rainbow Community Center
- *River Glen Park Community Center (Demolished)
- Roosevelt Community Center (hub)**
- * San Tomas Community Center
- Seven Trees Community Center (hub)**
- * Sherman Oaks Community Center
- **Shirakawa Community Center
- Southside Community Center (hub)**
- **Spartan Keyes Neighborhood Center
- * Starbird Community Center
- **Vista Park Community Center
- * Washington Community Center
- * Welch Park Community Center
- * West San José Community Center
- Willow Glen Community Center (hub)**

Facilities in bold are community centers operated by the City .
 *Denotes re-use sites which are operated by non-profit organizations, neighborhood associations, schools and other government agencies to offer services that primarily serve city residents.
 **Denotes re-use sites occupied by City departments or programs, sometimes in combination with outside organizations.
 ***Denotes City facilities operated by multiple agencies including the City.

PARKS, RECREATION AND NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

COMMUNITY SERVICES

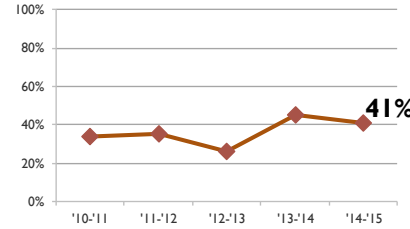
PRNS provides a number of community services including anti-graffiti and anti-litter programs, gang prevention and intervention programs, the Safe Schools Campus Initiative (SSCI)*, the senior nutrition program, and others. In 2014-15, the SSCI team responded to 433 incidents on SSCI campuses, a small increase from the prior year. For 2014-15, the number schools participating in this program increased to 75 schools.

The Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force (MGPTF) has a service component titled Bringing Everyone's Strengths Together (the B.E.S.T. program) and the Safe Summer Initiative Programs. These programs provide services to at-risk youth and their families. For 2014-15 actual expenditures for this program increased slightly (from \$4.7 million in 2013-14 to \$4.8 million in 2014-15). Program participation also increased slightly from 3,829 in 2013-14 to 3,846 in 2014-15. According to PRNS, starting in 2013-14, the decrease in B.E.S.T participants was as a result of a service-delivery shift to provide more individualized case management services, and to give each program participant more services and/or for a longer duration.

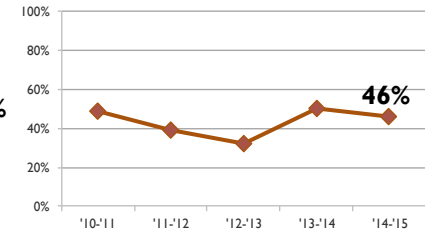
In 2011-12, the City contracted out graffiti abatement**. In 2014-15, the contractor completed 50,265 graffiti removal workorders. The National Citizen Survey reports that 25 percent of residents viewed graffiti removal services as good or excellent. Survey responses were likely based on respondents' overall perception of graffiti removal, including graffiti on highways, expressways, and railroads that are the responsibility of others.

* SSCI is a partnership between school districts and the City (including the Police Department) to address violence-related issues in schools.

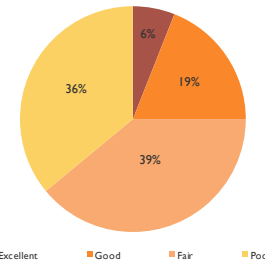
NATIONAL CITIZEN SURVEY™
% of San José residents rating services to youth as "excellent or "good"



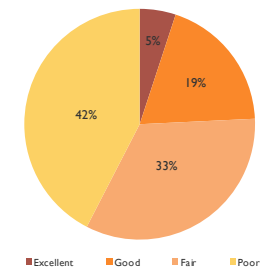
NATIONAL CITIZEN SURVEY™
% of San José residents rating services to seniors as "excellent or "good"



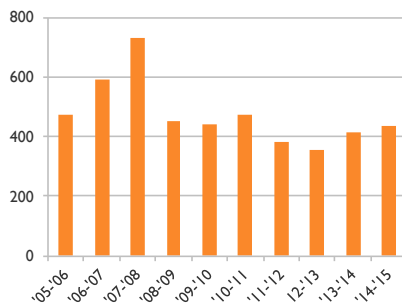
NATIONAL CITIZEN SURVEY™
Resident Ratings of Graffiti Removal



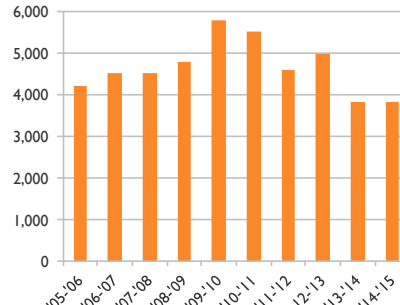
NATIONAL CITIZEN SURVEY™
Resident Ratings of Gang Prevention Efforts



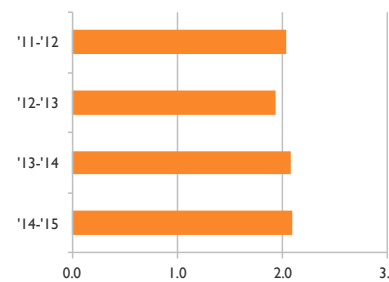
Incidents on Safe School Campus Sites Responded To



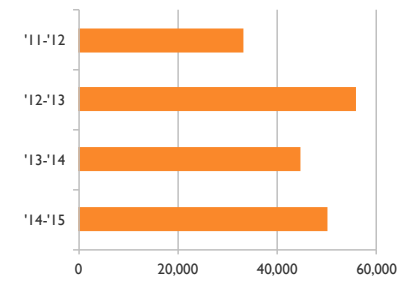
Participants in B.E.S.T. Youth Service Program



Estimated Sq/Ft. of Graffiti Eradicated (millions)



Graffiti Workorders Completed



**For more information about this program see the June 2013 audit – [Graffiti Abatement: Implementing a Coordinated Approach.](#)