Residents of Walnut Creek appreciate the community for its high quality of life. General Plan 2025 aims to maintain and enhance that experience. This chapter looks at how Walnut Creek’s wide variety of neighborhoods and the array of economic, educational, cultural, and recreational resources contribute to quality of life in the community.

Other essential quality-of-life issues in Walnut Creek are covered in other chapters. Open space and parks are in Chapter 3, Natural Environment and Public Spaces. Transit and traffic can be found in Chapter 4, Built Environment and Chapter 5, Transportation.

This chapter comprises five sections — Neighborhoods and Residential Areas, Local Economy, Community Services, Culture and Arts, and Recreation.

NEIGHBORHOODS AND RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Walnut Creek’s neighborhoods play a major role in what makes the city an attractive place to live and work. Residents are proud of their neighborhoods and seek their protection and enhancement.

Each residential area in the community has a unique character. That character is the product of natural features (e.g., topography, creeks, and open space), the physical arrangement of manmade features (e.g., major roadways, schools, parks, playgrounds, and local shops), and the architectural styles of the homes and apartment buildings.

Two neighborhoods to note are the Almond-Shuey district and Rancho San Miguel. Almond-Shuey is a concentration of older single-family homes within walking distance of downtown. Many of the homes in the Rancho San Miguel area are modernist-style homes designed in the 1950s by noted architect Joseph Eichler. The residents of both of these areas have expressed interest in protecting the character of their neighborhoods, and the City will work with them towards that end.

GOAL 1

Protect and enhance the quality of life in the city’s residential neighborhoods.

Policy 1.1. Protect and enhance the distinctive characteristics of each neighborhood.

Action 1.1.1. Through the City’s review processes, and consistent with existing neighborhood character, encourage high-quality residential design.

Action 1.1.2. Consider strengthening the development regulations established under the Oversize Home Ordinance so that new homes and major additions in existing single-family neighborhoods are compatible with surrounding homes.

Action 1.1.3. Through the City’s review processes, address issues of privacy, proximity, orientation, and view.
Policy 1.2. Protect and enhance neighborhood amenities and services including parks and shopping.

Action 1.2.1. As demographic changes occur in specific neighborhoods, adjust community services and facilitate appropriate retail services.

Policy 1.3. Work in cooperation with other agencies that provide neighborhood amenities and services.

Action 1.3.1. Coordinate with other responsible agencies such as school districts and County libraries for review and comment on City or agency plans and development projects in the city that may affect demand for service.

Policy 1.4. Require that development is compatible with surrounding uses.

Action 1.4.1. Determine appropriate transitional tools, such as design guidelines and zoning overlay districts, where the General Plan Land Use designation differs on adjacent properties.

Policy 1.5. Support neighborhood efforts that strengthen identity and protect or enhance neighborhood character.

Action 1.5.1. For the Almond-Shuey neighborhood, promote compatibility of new development or redevelopment within the neighborhood and along its perimeter. (See Figure 1, this page.)

Action 1.5.2. Study ways to preserve the character of the Eichler homes in Rancho San Miguel. (See Figure 2, this page.)
LOCAL ECONOMY

Walnut Creek’s fiscal health and quality of life depend to a significant extent on economic development.

Well served by major freeways and rapid transit, and with a dense urban core, the city is the regional “downtown” for much of Contra Costa and eastern Alameda counties. Major regional retailers, as well as arts and entertainment venues, are located alongside locally owned specialty stores and restaurants.

Walnut Creek also is home to many successful auto dealerships. Tax on their sales accounts for more than 25 percent of the City’s annual revenues.

The city serves as a medical and health services center for the region. Two major hospitals are located in Walnut Creek: John Muir Medical Center and Kaiser Hospital.

A highly educated and skilled resident workforce attracts entrepreneurs and nurtures growing companies. Because of these attributes, the city experiences low unemployment, even during economic downturns.

The emphasis on economic development in the City’s Economic Development Plan (2004) is expressed in General Plan 2025. Two-thirds of the goals, policies, and actions in this section come from the Economic Development Plan and aim at maintaining Walnut Creek’s competitive advantages and mitigating its economic weaknesses.

Over the long term, Walnut Creek expects to maintain its vibrant economic position in the region. Goals 2 through 4 apply to Walnut Creek as a whole. Goals 5 and 6 focus on specific locations with opportunities to enhance the city’s economic vitality. The City continually works to improve its development review and permitting processes to be customer-friendly and to facilitate high-quality development.

DOWNTOWN

In the Bay Area, Walnut Creek’s downtown is rivaled only by San Francisco and Palo Alto in offering a diverse array of value-oriented, specialty, and upscale goods and services. The City works with downtown property owners and retail developers to continue the expansion of Walnut Creek’s local-serving, region-serving, and specialty retail. This effort will support small, independently owned businesses in Walnut Creek’s Traditional Downtown as well as the larger national retailers in Broadway Plaza and elsewhere.

The city isn’t yet—but can evolve into—a full-service overnight lodging destination. That fact presents both a current challenge to further economic development and a long-term opportunity to bring a broader range of overnight visitors and daytime business services to downtown Walnut Creek.

Walnut Creek’s high quality of life, educated and seasoned labor force, and strong economic base offer a major competitive advantage that both fosters the expansion of existing businesses and attracts new businesses.

The City hopes to maintain its economic position in the region—and the revenues the City receives as a result—even as changes occur in
national retail markets and retailing concepts (e.g., new retail developments in competing locations and the growth of on-line retailing).

Recognizing the importance of auto sales tax revenues to the City’s continued fiscal stability, the City established an Automobile Dealership Owners’ Working Group. The group meets to develop strategies for continued success.

In the healthcare and medical fields, the City wants to encourage the growth of local research institutions—especially those connected to biotech and genetics. The City also hopes to spur workforce-training organizations to expand their medical and healthcare education pathways to meet local business needs.

More professional office space is needed to attract, retain, and allow the expansion of small businesses, medical and health services offices, law offices, and similar firms.

Access to affordable housing is important to retaining the workforce on which the local economy depends. Rising housing costs pose a long-term challenge to the city’s attractiveness as a place to live, work, and shop. Housing policies are detailed in the Housing Element of the general plan (see separate document).
Policy 2.6. For areas designated for commercial or business use, plan for adequate sites that allow for expansion of local businesses.

Action 2.6.1. Encourage the development of high-quality small professional office spaces, including those in a mixed-use setting.

Policy 2.7. Provide the means for early detection of possible challenges to Walnut Creek’s retail position and the City’s economic and fiscal vitality.

Action 2.7.1. Monitor retail sales tax within the city.

Policy 2.8. Maintain a range of high-quality housing and affordable workforce housing options.

GOAL 3
Maintain a strong working relationship with the business community.

Policy 3.1. Work with the business community to identify and work toward common goals.

Action 3.1.1. Encourage public/private partnerships.

Action 3.1.2. Cooperate with the business community on promotional activities.

Action 3.1.3. Involve the business community when developing area plans, specific plans, and precise plans.

Action 3.1.4. Work in cooperation with the Downtown Business Association, Chamber of Commerce, and other business organizations.

Action 3.1.5. Encourage the formation of business organizations to represent businesses at the Shadelands Business Park and those along North Main Street north of Ygnacio Valley Road.

THE ARTS

According to a 2002 report by Americans for the Arts, arts events in Walnut Creek drew 900,000 attendees annually and contributed millions of dollars to the local economy. The city’s arts and entertainment make Walnut Creek an attractive place to live and do business. That, in turn, supports the City’s general fund through higher property taxes and taxable retail sales. However, the city can do more to support the economic value of the arts.

GOAL 4

Strengthen Walnut Creek’s position as the regional destination for arts and entertainment.

Policy 4.1. Enhance existing and develop new complementary arts facilities to serve as economic anchors for the downtown.

Action 4.1.1. Consider creating an arts district downtown.

SHADELANDS BUSINESS PARK

As it continues to evolve, the Shadelands Business Park faces two challenges: traffic congestion along Ygnacio Valley Road, and land and buildings owned by multiple parties. Portions of the business park house out-of-date structures, while other parcels are vacant or underutilized. As of 2004, the average floor area ratio in the business park was 0.24, and 25 percent of the park was underutilized (as determined by comparing land value to built improvement value). Approximately 24 acres were vacant.
The City hopes to facilitate future employment opportunities at Shadelands and to encourage the development of high-quality space for small businesses and local professionals. The presence of the Joint Genome Institute—and the lack of available commercial land elsewhere in the city—point to the Shadelands as a strong location for a mix of office uses and R&D.

**UPPER NORTH MAIN STREET**

As of 2005, several buildings and sites along upper North Main Street\(^1\) are underused or inadequately maintained. Several sites have the potential to add commercial space, or to accommodate mixed-use commercial and residential development. Many auto-related businesses are located along this corridor, and improvements on these properties could do much to improve the appearance of this area.

**GOAL 5**

Encourage development of the Shadelands Business Park as a premier business and employment center. (See Chapter 4, Policy 7.3.)

Policy 5.1. Support feasible transit improvements and innovative traffic solutions along Ygnacio Valley Road that serve the Shadelands Business Park.

Policy 5.2. Give small employment-based businesses greater development flexibility in the Shadelands Business Park.

**GOAL 6**

Develop upper North Main Street as a key economic corridor.

Policy 6.1. Encourage reuse or redevelopment of underutilized sites on upper North Main Street.

Action 6.1.1. Along upper North Main Street, work collaboratively with auto dealers, business owners, and property owners to facilitate property improvements that support City goals.

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\(^1\) That part of North Main Street north of I-680.
COMMUNITY SERVICES

A wide range of City-sponsored and other community services are available to area residents. More than 80 nonprofit groups and community organizations are based in the city, and 75 percent of Walnut Creek’s adult residents volunteer in some type of community organization. The nonprofits and community organizations offer a wide variety of inclusive and community-building opportunities.

The City uses Federal Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) to support service providers and a variety of activities for persons of lower income or with special needs. The City also provides Civic Pride and Community Service grants to promote projects that improve the quality of life in areas such as housing, education, or cultural arts.

As of the 2000 Census, an unusually high 25 percent of Walnut Creek residents were 65 or older. As the population ages, more people will be living with physical limitations. General Plan 2025 considers ways to ensure that all persons can live as independently as possible, and to encourage living environments suited to persons at all stages of life.

Youth, too, have specific needs. The Youth Council, RealWC, and the City’s summer interns actively contributed in providing ideas for General Plan 2025. A key idea that emerged, for both youth and seniors, was the need for activities that can be reached by public transportation. That issue is addressed in policies in Chapter 5, Transportation and in subsequent sections of this chapter.

Many community services are provided in City facilities. Figure 3 shows the location of community facilities in the Planning Area.

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GOAL 7

Promote strong community support systems for families and individuals of all ages.

Policy 7.1. Use Community Development Block Grants and Community Service grants to support projects that meet the needs of lower-income community members and those with special needs.

Policy 7.2. Use Civic Pride grants for projects that improve the quality of life in Walnut Creek.

Policy 7.3. Facilitate the provision of safe, affordable, high-quality childcare facilities and services to families who reside or work in Walnut Creek.

Action 7.3.1. Encourage and assist the development of adequate, affordable, and high-quality childcare throughout Walnut Creek.

Action 7.3.2. Help extended-day childcare providers obtain additional space on or near elementary and middle school facilities serving Walnut Creek students.

Action 7.3.3. Consider establishing City-operated childcare programs and facilities.

Action 7.3.4. Encourage developers to include childcare programs and/or facilities in large commercial and residential developments.

Action 7.3.5. Encourage the establishment of childcare centers near the Walnut Creek and Pleasant Hill BART stations.

Policy 7.4. Facilitate the provision of safe, accessible youth activities, facilities, and services.

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2 City of Walnut Creek, Community Library Needs Assessment: New Downtown Walnut Creek Library, revised December 2003, page 25.
Chapter 2, Quality of Life

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Figure 3. Community Facilities in the Walnut Creek Planning Area

Museums and Art Facilities
1. Dean Lesher Regional Center for the Arts
2. Shadelands Ranch Historical Museum
3. Lindsay Wildlife Museum
4. Del Valle Theater
5. Shadelands Civic Arts Center
6. Borges Ranch
7. Walnut Creek Model Railroad Society
8. Bancroft Gardens

Libraries
9. Library, Ygnacio Valley (Thurman G. Casey Memorial) Branch
10. Library, Downtown Branch

Civic Facilities
11. City Hall and Police Department
12. City Corporation Yard
13. Contra Costa County Superior Court - Walnut Creek

Hospitals
14. Kaiser Permanente Walnut Creek Medical Center and Medical Offices
15. John Muir Medical Center

Other Government Offices
16. Internal Revenue Service, Taxpayer Assistance Center
17. Social Security Administration Office
18. State Department of Motor Vehicles
19. US Postal Service, Main Branch
20. US Postal Service, Station A
21. US Postal Service, Dollar Ranch
22. US Postal Service, Rossmoor Postal Store
23. US Postal Service, Ygnacio Valley
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Action 7.4.1. Involve youth in planning for youth services and programs.

Action 7.4.2. Plan youth facilities and programs in locations accessible by transit or close to schools and bicycle trails.

Action 7.4.3. Encourage youth involvement in such programs as the Youth Council, RealWC, and Police Explorer.

Action 7.4.4. Work with businesses to make available safe, youth-oriented venues.

Action 7.4.5. Work with businesses to make jobs available for area youth.

Action 7.4.6 Serve as a role model for local businesses by providing summer jobs for local youth.

Action 7.4.7. When events advance City goals, look for areas where the City can co-sponsor programs and share resources with schools and nonprofits.

Action 7.4.8. Support the availability of affordable youth activities.

Policy 7.5. Facilitate the provision of safe, accessible senior activities, facilities, and services.

Action 7.5.1. Pursue partnerships with local healthcare and service organizations to provide health, leisure, recreational, and other programs and services to meet the needs of Walnut Creek’s seniors.

Action 7.5.2 Promote the provision of safe, affordable, high-quality adult care facilities and services to families who live or work in Walnut Creek.

Policy 7.6. Promote multigenerational programming where appropriate.

Action 7.6.1 Co-sponsor multigenerational programs between schools, youth organizations, the Senior Center, senior living facilities and Rossmoor.

GOAL 8

Make Walnut Creek a community accessible to all.

Policy 8.1. Partner with community organizations to help remove barriers to mobility and access to public and private facilities and services.

(For policy and actions related to public sidewalks, see Chapter 5, Transportation Goal 6.)

Action 8.1.1. Consider developing a “universal design” program that encourages new residential development to go beyond federal and State accessibility requirements.

Action 8.1.2. As part of the City’s project review processes, consider the needs of persons of all abilities.

SCHOOLS

Five public school districts and several private and post-secondary schools provide a high quality of education to Walnut Creek residents of all ages. (See Figures 4, 5, and 6 on pages 2-14, 2-15, and 2-16.) The schools’ excellence draws families to Walnut Creek. At the same time, employers locate in Walnut Creek to access the highly educated workforce.

Schools have been evolving into vital neighborhood centers—providing space for meetings, workshops, and extracurricular activities for all ages. The City will continue to work with the schools to encourage this role.
Chapter 2, Quality of Life

G O A L  9
Facilitate lifelong educational opportunities for all ages, and support the success of schools.

See Chapter 5, Transportation Goal 6, Policy 6.1, Action 6.1.1, and Action 6.1.2 regarding safe routes to school.

P U B L I C  L I B R A R I E S
The 21st century library serves as more than a book repository. It provides a central place where people gather for a wide variety of activities, including meetings, forums, and education.

Contra Costa County operates Walnut Creek’s two public libraries. The primary branch in Walnut Creek is the downtown library, located at the southern edge of Civic Park. Built in 1961, the downtown branch has not been renovated in 45 years and is outdated and undersized. The Ygnacio Valley branch, located at Oak Grove Boulevard, was built in 1975 and updated in 2004 with private funds. The Walnut Creek Library Foundation raises private funds to support the libraries. Friends of the Walnut Creek Library and Friends of the Ygnacio Valley Library also raise funds and provide children’s and cultural programs.

Since 1991, Walnut Creek has been planning for a new downtown library that would also serve as a community center with more space and enhanced programs, collections, and services.
GOAL 10

Enhance and maintain the quality of the libraries in Walnut Creek.

Policy 10.1. Partner with the County, other agencies, and library support organizations to provide high-quality library facilities and services.

Action 10.1.1. Build a new downtown library.

Action 10.1.2. Promote the multifunctional use of Walnut Creek’s libraries as centers for lifelong learning and as community centers.
Chapter 2, Quality of Life

Figure 4. School District Boundaries within Planning Area
Figure 5. Public Schools (K-12) Attended By Walnut Creek Residents
Figure 6. Private Schools

1. Contra Costa Christian High School (PK-12) and Woodlands Christian School (PK-6)
2. Palmer School (K-8)
3. Seven Hills School (PK-8)
4. North Creek Academy and Preschool (PK-8)
5. Walnut Creek Christian Academy (K-8)
6. Eagle Peak Montessori (1-6)
7. Berean Christian High School (9-12)
8. St. Mary Elementary School (K-8)
9. Dorris-Eaton School (PK-8)
10. Carondelet High School, Concord (9-12)
11. De La Salle High School, Concord (9-12)
COMMUNITY HEALTH

Walnut Creek is home to important health care facilities, including John Muir Medical Center, John Muir Trauma Center, and Kaiser Hospital. These facilities provide high-quality health services and programs that benefit the community and region.

There is a growing understanding that good health can be promoted through community design. Past practice of relegating schools, stores, employment, recreation, and homes to scattered locations accessible only by automobile has had some unintended community health consequences, including obesity and frailty.

Providing comfortable walking and bicycling environments and destinations can be an effective and natural method of ensuring that people are active—a first step toward improved public health.

An active lifestyle is also encouraged by the provision of a variety of easily accessible, passive and active recreation programs and facilities.

GOAL 11
Promote a healthy community.

Policy 11.1. Strive to retain vital health care providers within the city.

Action 11.1.1. Facilitate the availability of high-quality health care—routine and advanced—including trauma and other clinical services in appropriate locations close to Walnut Creek residents.

Action 11.1.2. Working cooperatively with local health care and civic organizations, promote community health care programs.

Policy 11.2. Promote health and fitness for all members of the community through healthy community design.

Action 11.2.1. Encourage pedestrian- and bike-friendly development and redevelopment that encourages physical activity.

See the Chapter 2, Recreation subsection and Chapter 3, Natural Areas and Public Spaces, for additional information on parks and recreation opportunities. See Chapter 5, Transportation, for more information on trails and walkways.

CULTURE AND ARTS

The City provides a wide variety of cultural and arts facilities and activities for all ages and interests. The cultural arts have been a powerful stimulus for the local economy, helping transform downtown from a daytime success into an 18-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week regional center.

CULTURE

The city boasts two museums: the Lindsay Wildlife Museum in Larkey Park and the Shadelands Ranch Historical Museum on Ygnacio Valley Road.

Founded in 1955, the Lindsay Wildlife Museum displays live native California wildlife and operates the oldest and one of the largest wildlife rehabilitation hospitals in the United States, treating more than 6,000 injured and orphaned wild animals each year. The City operated the wildlife museum from 1965 to 1986, after which it became an independent nonprofit organization. The wildlife museum boasts a pet education program and children’s discovery room and offers hands-on activities, classes, trips, and tours.
Chapter 2, Quality of Life

The Lindsay Wildlife Museum

The Shadelands Ranch Historical Museum houses historical artifacts, old newspapers, photographs, and government records. Housed in the 1903 redwood-framed home built by Walnut Creek pioneer Hiram Penniman, the museum showcases a rich archive of Contra Costa and Walnut Creek history. The City-owned building is on the National Register of Historic Places. The Walnut Creek Historical Society operates the museum.

Walnut Creek has two gardens open to the public. The Gardens at Heather Farm—a nonprofit education center established in 1968—is a public garden on Marchbanks Drive in Heather Farm Park. It accommodates a broad range of plants in 20 demonstration gardens and learning sites. The private Ruth Bancroft Garden is sponsored by the Garden Conservancy and is known for its rare and diverse plants.

Other cultural facilities open to the public include the following:

- The City’s historic Borges Ranch
- Diablo Valley Lines, a permanent, 1,800 square-foot model train layout maintained by the Walnut Creek Model Railway Society

In addition to facilities, there are numerous events, such as the Walnut Festival, the Art and Wine Festival, the annual Borges Ranch days and various street fairs that enrich the community.

For Winter 2005, a seasonal ice rink was co-sponsored in Civic Park by the City, Chamber of Commerce, and Downtown Business Association.

THE ARTS

Bay Area regional arts conditions have changed substantially since adoption of the 1989 General Plan. The City’s Arts Vision Master Plan (June 2004) concluded that Walnut Creek should continue to strengthen all of the City’s arts programs, while filling programmatic gaps with new facilities over the life of General Plan 2025.

The city is home to several art centers and galleries. The Dean Lesher Regional Center for the Arts (the DLRCA) opened in 1990 on Civic Drive between North Main Street and California Boulevard. It houses three theaters with 800, 300, and 130 seats respectively; the Bedford Gallery; offices; and rehearsal space.

The Shadelands Arts Facility and the Civic Park Community Center provide space for arts classes of all types. The Civic Arts Education program provides extensive art, music, dance, and drama activities for individuals, educators, artists, and schools. The Civic Arts offerings include model arts education programs in schools throughout the county, exceptional performing and visual arts training, and a wide range of classes and workshops. For
adults, Civic Arts offers classes in calligraphy, printmaking, computer arts, interior design, ceramics, glass, and more. Children’s classes focus on dance, music, drama, and art. Civic Arts Education operates a fine arts preschool for children ages 2-5; early childhood art education classes for children ages 18 months to 5 years; and a community music school that offers lessons, classes, and programs.

GOAL 12
Maintain and enhance Walnut Creek’s position as a leading regional cultural and arts center.

Policy 12.1. Provide diverse, high-quality experiences for cultural activities and the arts.

Action 12.1.1. Provide for temporary and permanent public art displays and cultural programs on City properties and facilities, in accordance with the Public Art Master Plan.

Action 12.1.2. Require installation of easily viewable public art on private properties or payment of an in lieu fee in accordance with the Public Art Master Plan.

Action 12.1.3. Encourage art fairs and other cultural events downtown and elsewhere in the community.

Policy 12.2. Provide functionally well-designed, conveniently located facilities for cultural activities and the arts, including arts education programs.

Action 12.2.1. Study the potential for an affordable venue for diverse professional and community companies (drama, music, opera, dance).

Action 12.2.2. Undertake a feasibility study, including preliminary planning and site identification, for a large performing arts center (with a theater of 1,500 to 2,500 seats) within walking distance of the BART station.

Action 12.2.3. Study alternatives for providing expanded, climate-controlled gallery space capable of hosting major exhibitions and display space for artists.

Action 12.2.4. Complete construction of facilities for Arts Education programs at the Shadelands Arts Facility in accordance with the Shadelands Campus Master Plan.

Action 12.2.5. In collaboration with others, provide appropriate space and equipment around the community for City Arts Education programs.

Action 12.2.6. Build on the availability of performing arts facilities and programs at local schools.

Action 12.2.7. Identify sites for, and study the feasibility of, outdoor performing arts spaces.

Action 12.2.8. Maximize the accessibility of all arts facilities with convenient access, drop-off, pickup, parking, and delivery.

Policy 12.3. Encourage the attraction of galleries and artists’ studios.

Action 12.3.1. Look for opportunities to develop a live/work center affordable to artists.

RECREATION

Walnut Creek has over 3,000 acres of parks, open space, and recreational areas - about 45.5 acres per 1,000 population - on which it offers a variety of recreational programs and opportunities for all ages. Churches, sports leagues, and not-for-profit organizations provide addi-
tional opportunities for youth, families, and seniors. Additionally, Walnut Creek is located near a major state park and several regional parks that provide recreational, educational, and leisure opportunities for the city’s residents.

“Active recreation” is recreation or activity that requires the use of organized play areas including, but not limited to, fields and courts for baseball, basketball, golf, soccer, softball, tennis and volleyball; swimming pools; and designated areas for various forms of children’s play equipment. Different levels of activity may occur within these areas—for example, pickup sports, organized sports, or no activity.

“Passive recreation” is recreation or activity that does not require the use of organized play areas. It includes, but is not limited to, bicycling, dogs off-leash, hiking, horseback riding, and picnicking.

The City’s Recreation Division offers a variety of programs for all ages at various locations throughout the city. (See Chapter 3, Figure 4, Parks and Recreational Facilities) Fee and free programs are offered year-round in aquatics, sports, therapeutic recreation, special events, and leisure activities.

Community groups or organizations—for example, the Girls VIP/Odyssey Volleyball Camps, Little League, Movies Under the Stars, and Walnut Creek Soccer Club—run many of the programs at City facilities.

Several private facilities in Walnut Creek also provide recreational opportunities. They include Diablo Hills Golf Course (privately-owned public course), Rossmoor Golf Course (private), gyms and fitness centers, martial arts academies, and dance and yoga studios.

Chapter 3, Natural Environment and Public Spaces provides policies related to open space, creeks, trails, and parks and plazas.

GOAL 13

Provide facilities and programs that meet the recreation needs of people of all ages, physical abilities, and economic means.

Policy 13.1. Work with other agencies and partners to plan for and provide a rich diversity of recreation programs.

Action 13.1.1. Regularly assess existing and potential recreational facilities, activities, programs, and needs.

Action 13.1.2. Identify partnering opportunities for recreation facility development, management, and use.

Action 13.1.3. Seek grants and other funds for recreation facility development and maintenance.

Action 13.1.4. Strive for highest quality sports facilities.

Action 13.1.5. Include seniors, youth, and members of the community with disabilities in planning for recreational and leisure programming, siting, and access.