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**DRAFT**

# **Glossary**

## **Commonly Used Terms**

### **Relevant to Parks and Recreation**

**November 1, 2002**



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Parks and Recreation is a field that is not just important, it is suprisingly complex. Its professionals are simultaneously involved in a myriad of areas of specialized subject matter ranging from landscape design to civil engineering to resource ecology to public administration. There is a wide range of legal, administrative and regulatory aspects, which define and link these subjects.

A basic and common understanding of the very language of this wide range of subject matters is important to the many thousand park and recreation professionals that currently work in California, whether at the city, district, county, state or federal level. It is also important to those who wish to support parks and recreation through non-profit organizations, advocacy groups, as volunteers or as private individuals.

Everyone in the parks and recreation field has a wide range of information about certain aspects of their field. This glossary is designed to broaden and expand this knowledge still further through providing definitions of a wide variety of terms, phrases and acronyms that span the breadth of the profession.

This document has been produced with the help and consultation of many individuals and agencies. Gratitude is offered for their thoughtful assistance; residual errors remain the responsibility of the authors. It is expected that this glossary will be just the first edition of a publication that will expand and evolve through new editions issued in coming years. Thus, users of this glossary are encouraged to contribute new entries and to offer suggestions to improve the ones that are in place.

This publication is the second in a series of informational and technical assistance publications that will be produced in coming years by California State Parks. These documents – published under the common title of Concepts: Practical Tools for Parks and Recreation - are part of the continuing program associated with the California Outdoor Recreation Plan. The inside of the back cover provides information on recently published documents that may be of advantageous to the park and recreation professional.

A quick word of caution, if a law is referred to, or a section of a public resource code or other statutory document is referenced, we strongly recommend the reader use the full legal definition and language and not rely on the abbreviated version in this document. Also some definitions differ by programs in various Bond Acts and the definitions provided in this document have been abbreviated. We strongly recommend the reader refer to the grant program's specific procedural guide for each program.

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# Glossary

## Commonly Used Terms Relevant to Parks and Recreation

### *ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS*

<b>404 Permits</b>	Permits required by federal agencies for any activity impacting navigable waters, such as development of recreational boating facilities or conversion of wetlands.
<b>501 (c) (3)</b>	Charitable organizations/foundations – Federally registered (IRS)
<b>AALR</b>	American Association for Leisure and Recreation
<b>AB</b>	Assembly Bill
<b>ADA</b>	Americans with Disabilities Act
<b>AF</b>	Acre Foot
<b>AFRS</b>	Armed Forces Recreation Society
<b>APE</b>	Area of Potential Effort (Section 106, NHPA)
<b>APN</b>	Assessor’s Parcel Number
<b>APRS</b>	American Park and Recreation Society
<b>APWA</b>	American Public Works Association
<b>ATB</b>	All Terrain Bike
<b>ATRA</b>	American Therapeutic Recreation Association
<b>ATV</b>	All Terrain Vehicle(s)
<b>BLM</b>	Bureau of Land Management, US Dept. of the Interior
<b>BMP</b>	Best Management Practice
<b>BOT</b>	Board of Trustees
<b>BSC</b>	California Building Standards Commission
<b>CalEPA</b>	California Environmental Protection Agency (CEPA)
<b>CALCOG</b>	California Association of Councils of Government
<b>Caltrans</b>	California Department of Transportation
<b>CAP</b>	Council of Affiliated Presidents
<b>CAPRCBM</b>	California Association of Park and Recreation Commissioners and Board Members
<b>CARA</b>	Conservation Reinvestment Act (proposed successor to the Land & Water Conservation Fund)
<b>CARA Lite</b>	Abridged version of the Conservation Reinvestment Act
<b>CARPOSA</b>	California Association of Regional Parks and Open Space Administrators
<b>CARPD</b>	California Association of Recreation & Park Districts
<b>CBM</b>	Citizen Board Member
<b>CBO</b>	Community Based Organization
<b>CBRPC</b>	California Board of Recreation & Park Certification
<b>CCC</b>	California Conservation Corps or California Coastal Commission
<b>CCMP</b>	California Coastal Management Program
<b>CCR</b>	California Code of Regulations
<b>CDBG</b>	Community Development Block Grant

## **ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS** *(continued)*

<b>CDF</b>	California Department of Forestry
<b>CED</b>	Council of Executive Directors
<b>CEQA</b>	California Environmental Quality Act
<b>CFD</b>	Community Facilities District
<b>CFRs</b>	Code of Federal Regulations
<b>CFS</b>	Cubic Feet Per Second
<b>CIP</b>	Capital Improvement Program
<b>CLCA</b>	California Land Conservation Act (Williamson Act)
<b>CLP</b>	Certified Leisure Professional
<b>COBRA</b>	Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act
<b>COE</b>	United States Army Corps of Engineers
<b>COG</b>	Council of Governments
<b>CORP</b>	California Outdoor Recreation Plan
<b>CPI</b>	Consumer Price Index
<b>CPRS</b>	California Park and Recreation Society
<b>CRHR</b>	California Register of Historical Resources
<b>CRMP</b>	Coordinated Resource Management Plan
<b>CRTS</b>	Commercial Recreation and Tourism Society
<b>CSD</b>	Community Services District
<b>CSDA</b>	California Special Districts Association
<b>CSHBSB</b>	California State Historical Building Safety Board
<b>CSP</b>	California State Parks
<b>CTC</b>	County Transportation Commission
<b>CUP</b>	Conditional Use Permit
<b>CVC</b>	California Vehicle Code
<b>CWHR</b>	California Wildlife Habitat Relationships
<b>DFG</b>	California Department of Fish & Game
<b>DOT</b>	U.S. Department of Transportation
<b>DPR</b>	California Department of Parks & Recreation
<b>DSHPO</b>	Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
<b>EA</b>	Environmental Assessment
<b>EBCC</b>	East Bay Conservation Corps
<b>EEMP</b>	Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program
<b>EIA</b>	Environmental Impact Assessment
<b>EIR</b>	Environmental Impact Report
<b>EIS</b>	Environmental Impact Statement
<b>EMS</b>	Ethnic Minority Society
<b>EOC (OES)</b>	Emergency Operations Centers
<b>EPA</b>	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
<b>ERAF</b>	Education Revenue Augmentation Fund
<b>ERS</b>	European Recreation Society
<b>ESA</b>	Endangered Species Act
<b>ESHA</b>	Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Area
<b>FAR</b>	Floor Area Ratio
<b>FEMA</b>	Federal Emergency Management Agency
<b>FERC</b>	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

## **ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS** *(continued)*

<b>FHWA</b>	Federal Highway Administration
<b>FONSI</b>	Finding of No Significant Impact
<b>FUDS</b>	Formerly Used Defense Site
<b>GIS</b>	Geographical Information System
<b>Gov. Code (§)</b>	Government Code Section
<b>GP</b>	General Plan
<b>HABS</b>	Historic American Building Survey (NPS program)
<b>HAER</b>	Historic American Engineering Recordation (NPS program)
<b>HCD</b>	Housing and Community Development (State)
<b>HCF</b>	Habitat Conservation Fund
<b>HCP</b>	Habitat Conservation Plan
<b>HCLP</b>	Habitat Conservation Land Use Planning
<b>HMO</b>	Health Maintenance Organization
<b>HPF</b>	Historic Preservation Fund
<b>HUD</b>	US Department of Housing and Urban Development
<b>HWRF</b>	Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund
<b>ID</b>	Irrigation District
<b>IFD</b>	Infrastructure Financing District
<b>ISTEA</b>	Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991
<b>JPA</b>	Joint Powers Agreement
<b>LAS</b>	Leisure and Aging Section
<b>LAFCO</b>	Local Agency Formation Commission
<b>LCP</b>	Local Coastal Program
<b>L&amp;L</b>	Lighting & Landscaping Assessment District (L&LAD or LLD)
<b>LESA</b>	Land Evaluation and Site Assessment
<b>LOS</b>	Level of Service
<b>LUP</b>	Land Use Plan
<b>LWCF</b>	Land and Water Conservation Fund
<b>MAC</b>	Municipal Advisory Council (or committee)
<b>MOA</b>	Memorandum of Agreement
<b>MOU</b>	Memorandum of Understanding
<b>NAB</b>	National Aquatic Branch
<b>NAHC</b>	Native American Heritage Commission
<b>NARRP</b>	National Association of Recreation Resource Planners
<b>NCB</b>	National Certification Board
<b>NCTRC</b>	National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification
<b>NegDec</b>	Negative Declaration
<b>NEPA</b>	National Environmental Policy Act
<b>NHL</b>	National Historic Landmark
<b>NHPF</b>	National Historic Preservation Fund
<b>NIAC</b>	National Issues Action Committee
<b>NIMBY</b>	“Not-in-my-backyard”
<b>NMFS</b>	National Marine Fisheries Service
<b>NOA</b>	Notice of Availability
<b>NOD</b>	Notice of Determination
<b>NOP</b>	Notice of Preparation

## **ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS** *(continued)*

<b>NPCA</b>	National Parks and Conservation Association
<b>NPS</b>	National Park Service
<b>NPSI</b>	National Playground Safety Inspector
<b>NRA</b>	National Recreation Area
<b>NRHP</b>	National Register of Historic Places
<b>NRPA</b>	National Recreation and Park Association
<b>NRT</b>	National Recreation Trails
<b>NSPR</b>	National Society of Park Resources
<b>NTHP</b>	National Trust for Historic Preservation
<b>NTRS</b>	National Therapeutic Recreation Society
<b>NTS</b>	National Trails System
<b>OHP</b>	State Office of Historic Preservation (Dept. of Parks and Recreation)
<b>OHMVR</b>	Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division (Dept. of Parks and Recreation)
<b>OHV</b>	Off-Highway Vehicle
<b>OHVF</b>	Off-Highway Vehicle Trust Fund
<b>OPR</b>	Office of Planning and Research
<b>OTD</b>	Offer to Dedicate
<b>PA</b>	Public Agency
<b>PCP</b>	Per Capita Program
<b>PLEA</b>	Park Law Enforcement Association
<b>PLI</b>	Public Lands Institute
<b>PRC</b>	Public Resources Code; also State Parks and Recreation Commission
<b>PSA</b>	Public Service Announcement
<b>PSA</b>	Public Streamlining Act
<b>PUD</b>	Planned Unit Development
<b>Pub. Res. Code</b>	Public Resource Code
<b>PWP</b>	Public Works Plan
<b>QUANGO</b>	Quasi Non-governmental Organization
<b>RABA</b>	Revenue Aligned Budget Authority
<b>RRMP</b>	Recreation Resources Management Plan
<b>RTIP</b>	Regional Transportation Improvement Plan
<b>RTP</b>	Recreational Trails Program
<b>RWQCB</b>	State Regional Water Quality Control Board
<b>RZH</b>	Roberti-Z' Berg-Harris Block Grants
<b>SAC</b>	Substantial Adverse Chance (per CEQA)
<b>SB</b>	Senate Bill and Student Branch
<b>SCH</b>	State Clearinghouse
<b>SCORP</b>	Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan
<b>SHPO</b>	State Historic Preservation Office/State Historic Preservation Officer
<b>SLC</b>	State Lands Commission
<b>SMARA</b>	Surface Mining and Reclamation Act
<b>SPRE</b>	Society of Park and Recreation Educators
<b>SRAC</b>	State and Regional Advisory Council
<b>STE</b>	Statewide Transportation Enhancements
<b>STIP/TIP</b>	State Transportation Improvement Plan/Transportation Improvement Plan

## **ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS** *(continued)*

<b>TAC</b>	Technical Advisory Committee
<b>TDR</b>	Transfer of Development Rights
<b>TEA-21</b>	Transportation Equity Act for the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century
<b>TSM</b>	Transportation System Management
<b>UBC</b>	Uniform Building Code
<b>UPARR</b>	Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program
<b>US/ICOMS</b>	United States/International Committee on Monuments and Sites
<b>USC</b>	US Code
<b>USDA</b>	US Department of Agriculture
<b>USFS</b>	US Forest Service
<b>USFWS</b>	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
<b>WCB</b>	Wildlife Conservation Board
<b>WHPP</b>	Wildlife Habitat Protection Program ('Whip')
<b>WLRA</b>	World Leisure Recreation Association
<b>YIMBY</b>	'Yes-in-my-backyard'

###

# GLOSSARY

## *Commonly Used Terms Relevant to the field of Parks and Recreation*

### A

**Abiotic** – Often referring to the nonliving components of an ecosystem such as water rocks, and mineral soil.

**Access (Egress/Ingress)** – The ability to enter a site (ingress) from a roadway or trail and exit a site (egress) onto a roadway or trail by vehicle, horse, bike, walking, etc. See **Kiosk**.

**Accessibility** (for people with disabilities) – Under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, state and local governments that construct new buildings and facilities, or make specific alternations to existing buildings, facilities and programs, must make them accessible. Title II requires a public entity to ensure that persons with disabilities are not excluded from services, programs, and activities because existing building and facilities are inaccessible. Beyond Federal law, the state has established standards for accessibility in the California Building Code. Title I and Title III would also be applicable. See **Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990**. [www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/adahom1.htm](http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/adahom1.htm) and [www.access-board.gov/news/recreule.html](http://www.access-board.gov/news/recreule.html)

**Accretion** – Enlargement of a beach or waterway caused by either natural or artificial means. Natural accretion is the build-up or deposition of sand or sediments by water or wind. Artificial accretion is similar, but caused by human activity, such as the accretion due to construction of a breakwater, or a beach filled by mechanical means.

**Accrued Interest** – Coupon interest accumulated on a bond or note since the last interest payment, or for a new issue, from the ‘dated’ date to the date of delivery. Since interest on municipal bonds is payable semi-annually, every six months, when you buy a bond in mid-term you are only entitled to the interest the bond earns after you buy it. The interest earned previously, referred to as the accrued interest, belongs to the seller. Some first-time bond buyers think this payment is a hidden charge or fee, not realizing that they will get it back in full at the next interest payment date as tax-free interest. [www.info@californiatax.data.com](mailto:info@californiatax.data.com) and [www.investopedia.com/terms/a/accruedinterest.asp](http://www.investopedia.com/terms/a/accruedinterest.asp)

**Acquisition and Development** – Park and recreation acquisition and development means the purchase or lease of real property (or interests in real-properties) for park or recreation purposes (acquisition) and all design and construction (development) associated with the development or improvement of any park or recreation facility or program amenity, including any equipment and labor used on development project work. See **Capital Improvement Program**.

**Acre-foot (AF)** – 325,851 gallons; the volume of water filling one acre to a depth of one foot. On average, this amount of water could supply one to two households with water for a year at current consumption rates. An acre-foot is equal to 43,560 cubic feet of water. Acre-foot [http://www.ocwd.com/html/water101/water101\\_02.htm](http://www.ocwd.com/html/water101/water101_02.htm)

**Acres, gross** – The entire acreage of a site, used for density calculations.

**Acres, net** – The portion of a site remaining after public or private rights-of-ways or other non-buildable areas are subtracted from the total acreage.

**Act** – Legislation that has passed both Houses of Congress or the Legislature and is signed by the Governor or the President and becomes law.

**Ad Valorem Taxes** – Taxes that are based on the value of property, such as the standard property tax. The only new taxes based on the value of property that are allowed currently are those imposed with a two-thirds voter approval for capital facilities' bonded indebtedness. See **Taxable Value**. [www.acpafl.org/services/faq.htm](http://www.acpafl.org/services/faq.htm)

**Adaptive Land Use Management** – An interactive approach to managing ecosystems, where the methods of achieving the desired objectives are unknown or uncertain; a formalized process for the interactive management of a mitigation project. See **Mitigation** and **Ecosystem**.

**Adaptive Use** – Use of a historic structure for a purpose other than that for which it was originally intended. This may require alterations to a structure's interior, while maintaining the original exterior appearance.

**Advisory Board of Directors** – An Advisory Board of Directors are individuals appointed to advise the elected and/or supervisory board of directors. An advisory board is not bound by the duties imposed upon elected board members but may be bound by open meeting laws. The elected and/or supervisory board is not required to follow the recommendations of the advisory board. See **Board of Directors**, **Citizens Advisory Committee**, and **Brown Act**.

**Advocacy Planning** – A view of planning popular in the 1960s that sought to stabilize urban neighborhoods by improving the lives of the poor; community gardens are a modern example.

**Agency** – Any state, county, city, joint powers of authority, special district or other local or non-governmental entity. See **Special District**. [www.info@californiatax.data.com](http://www.info@californiatax.data.com)

**All-Terrain Bike (ATB) Trail** – Off-road trail for all-terrain (mountain) bikes; see **Bikeway**.

**Allowable Use Intensity** – This measure identifies the appropriate types and uses of activities for areas within a park based on resource sensitivities and constraints. Allowable use intensities are generally established during the preparation of general plans. See also **Carrying Capacity**.

**Alternative Work Program** – A county administrated program, where the sheriff's department places workers with a contractor (for example a Park District or CalTrans) and participants serve on a work crew by providing community service instead of serving jail time.

**Alternatives** – A collection of actions or action categories assembled to provide reasonable options for solutions to problems; for purposes of CEQA, other feasible projects that meet or substantially meet the stated objectives of the project being reviewed. See **California Environmental Quality Act**. <http://ceres.ca.gov/ceqa/> and <http://opr.ca.gov>

**Amended or revised budget** – The current year adopted budget adjusted to reflect all budget amendments approved by the legislative body through the date indicated. See **Budget**.

**Amendment** – A change in a bill or document by adding, substituting or omitting a portion of it. See **Clean Bill**.

**Amenity Infrastructure** – The system of amenity-based resources, including both landscape and structures such as museums, libraries, sports facilities, stadiums, community centers, and performing and visual arts centers, which individually and collectively contribute to a livable community. See **Infrastructure**.

**American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration (AAPRA)** – An organization of practitioners and scholars committed to the advancement of the park and recreation field. Through the *Journal of Park and Recreation Administration* and other projects, the Academy encourages both practitioners and educators to develop and enhance administration in the parks and recreation field. <http://www.rpts.tamu.edu/AAPRA/Index.html/>

**American Association of Retired Persons (AARP)** – AARP is a nonprofit organization addressing the needs and interests of persons 50 and older. “Through information and education, advocacy and service, the AARP seeks to enhance the quality of life by promoting independence, dignity, and purpose.” [www.aarp.org](http://www.aarp.org)

**American Public Works Association (APWA)** – Serves members by promoting professional excellence and public awareness through education, advocacy, and the exchange of knowledge. [www.pubworks.org/](http://www.pubworks.org/)

**American Therapeutic Recreation Association (ATRA)** – A national organization representing the interests and needs of recreational therapists. Recreational therapists are health care providers using recreational therapy interventions for improved functioning of individuals with illness or disabling conditions. <http://www.atra-tr.org/atra.htm>

**Americans for Our Heritage and Recreation (AHR)** – A broad and diverse organization representing conservationists, the recreation and sporting goods industries, park and recreation specialists, wildlife enthusiasts, advocates for urban and wilderness areas, preservationists of cultural and historic sites, land trust advocates, youth sports organizations, and civic groups seeking to revitalize the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program (UPARR). See **Land and Water Conservation Fund, Urban Park and Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program (UPARR)**. [www.ahrinfo.org](http://www.ahrinfo.org)

**Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)** – Ensures equal access to all users of public (and private) facilities and programs. Federal civil rights legislation for persons with disabilities passed in 1990. The ADA covers a wide range of disabilities, from physical conditions affecting mobility, stamina, sight, hearing, and speech, to conditions such as emotional illness and learning disorders. The ADA also addresses access to the workplace. See **Accessibility**.  
[www.access-board.gov](http://www.access-board.gov)

**Annexation** – The extension of city limits into unincorporated territory of the county, thereby making this new land part of the city, not the county. State law regulates annexations. The Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) is involved with the annexation process at the county level. See **Local Agency Formation Commission**. [www.calafco.org/](http://www.calafco.org/)

**Antiquities Act of 1906** – Authorized Presidents to set aside “historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest” in federal custody as national monuments. See **Historic Resources**. [www.cr.nps.gov/local-law/anti1906.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/local-law/anti1906.htm)

**Appropriation** – The legal authorization of funds granted by a legislative body such as the County Board of Supervisors or the City Council to make expenditures and to incur obligations for specific purposes. An appropriation is usually limited in amount and to a time period within which it can be expended. See **Balanced Budget**.

**Appropriation Bill** – A bill before the Legislature authorizing the expenditure of public money and stipulating the amount, manner, and purpose for the expenditure items.  
<http://www.ustreas.gov>

**Aquifer** – Underground water-bearing strata; source of well water.

**Archaeological District** – An area defined by a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites.

**Archaeological Site** – A bounded area of a resource containing archaeological deposits or features that is defined in part by the character and location of such deposits or features. See **The Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979**.

**The Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979** (16 U.S.C. 470aa) – Provides for protection of terrestrial and submerged archaeological resources. Authorizes criminal prosecution for the excavation, removal, or damage of archaeological resources on public or Indian lands without appropriate permit. Governs the transportation of illegally obtained materials, access to information, and the permitting process. See **Archaeological Site**.  
<http://exchanges.state.gov/culprop/96-95.html>

**Area Plan** – General or Comprehensive-type plan, though usually more detailed, for a defined portion of a jurisdiction (neighborhood, unincorporated community and surroundings, etc.)

**Arterial** – A major street carrying the traffic of local and collector streets to and from freeways and other major streets, with controlled intersections and generally providing direct access to properties.

**Assessed Valuation (AV)** – The total value of property for taxation purposes as determined by state and county assessors. The assessed valuation of a Community Facilities District will influence the total property tax income for a recreation and park agency. Ever since Proposition 13 in the late 1970’s, the assessed values of properties in California are adjusted to the true market value only at the time of new construction or transfer of ownership. For all other properties, the assessed value grows by a maximum of 2% a year, resulting in the assessed value of many properties being far less than their current market value. See **Community Facilities District, Taxable Value** and **Proposition 13 (Jarvis-Gann)**. [www.info@californiatax.data.com](http://www.info@californiatax.data.com)

**Assessment District** – An area within a public agency’s boundaries that received a special benefit from the construction of a public facility. It requires property owners to pay based on the benefit each property receives from the construction of the public infrastructure. Examples are schools, parks, roads, and other public services. The most common types of public improvements financed include roads, sidewalks, sewer facilities, and water facilities. See **Bond, Benefit Assessment, Public Finance, and Infrastructure**. [www.info@californiatax.data.com](http://www.info@californiatax.data.com)

**Assessor** – The Assessor oversees local assessors and property taxation in California. The Assessor’s job is to annually derive assessed values for all taxable real property in the county according to the California Constitution and the California Revenue and Taxation Codes. See **Taxable Value**. [www.info@californiatax.data.com](http://www.info@californiatax.data.com)

**Assessor’s Parcel Map** – A map depicting the establishment of up to four new parcels by splitting a recorded lot. Parcel maps are subject to the California Subdivision Map Act and an agency’s subdivision regulations and are allowed for the purpose of sale, leasing or financing. See **Subdivision Map Act, Quimby Act** and **Tentative Map**. [www.info@californiatax.data.com](http://www.info@californiatax.data.com)

**Assessor’s Parcel Number (APN)** – Identifies each parcel or lot for tax assessment purposes and location within official jurisdiction map books. [www.info@californiatax.data.com](http://www.info@californiatax.data.com)

**At-Risk-Youth** – Persons who have not attained the age of 24 years, and who are at high risk of being affected by criminal activity, adolescent pregnancy, school failure or dropout, juvenile delinquency, gangs, or substance abuse. <http://www.lin.ca/resource/html/Vol24/v24n2a5.htm>  
[http://www.guidancechannel.com/detail\\_sponsor.asp?index=3](http://www.guidancechannel.com/detail_sponsor.asp?index=3)

## B

**Balanced Budget** – A budget where expenditures are equal to or less than the amount of revenues plus other available resources projected as revenues in the budget. See **Appropriation, Budget, and Expenditure**.

**Ballot Box Budgeting** – [need definition](#)

**Ballot Box Zoning** – Zoning that is adopted by citizen initiative rather than by the legislative body. See **Zoning** and **Initiative**.

**Baseline Budget** – A baseline budget reflects the anticipated costs of carrying out the current level of service or activities as authorized by the governing body. It may include an adjustment for cost increases, but does not include changes in level of service over that authorized by the governing body.

**Beginning Fund Balance** – Unencumbered resources available in a fund from the prior/current year after payment of the prior/current year’s expenses. Not necessarily cash on hand. See **Ending Fund Balance, Encumbrances, and Fund**.

**Benefit Assessment** – This is an assessment based on a special and/or extra benefit that a parcel receives from the existence of certain services, improvements, or facilities provided by a special district or other designated area. See **Special District, Public Financing and Assessment District**. [www.info@californiatax.data.com](mailto:www.info@californiatax.data.com)

**Benefits-Based Approach** – An approach to evaluating the delivery of park and recreation resources, facilities and services that focuses on identifying the economic, environmental, personal and social benefits specifically and directly attributable to the park and recreation opportunities utilized by the public.

**Benefits-Based Programming** – An outcome-oriented approach that focuses the programmer’s efforts on producing identified benefits for participants as a result of their participating in specific recreation programs.

**Bicycle Lane** See **Bikeway, Class II**

**Bicycle Route/Bike Path** – See **Bikeway, Class I**

**Bikeway** – All facilities that provide bicycle travel routes or primarily support bicycle use. See **Recreational Trails, California Rail Connection and Connector Trails**.

- **Class I Bikeway (Bike Path)** provides a completely separated right of way designated for the exclusive use of bicycles and pedestrians with crossflows by motorists minimized. Note: Mopeds are prohibited from bike paths and trails unless specifically authorized by the agency having jurisdiction over the facility. See **Bicycle Route/Bike Path**.
- **Class II Bikeway (Bike Path)** provides a restricted right-of-way designated for the exclusive or semi-exclusive use of bicycles with through traffic by motor vehicle or pedestrians prohibited, but with vehicle parking and crossflows by pedestrians and motorists permitted. Note: Mopeds are permitted to operate in bike lanes, per California Vehicle Code § 21209. See **Bicycle Lane**.
- **Class III Bikeway (Bike Route)** provides a right-of-way designated by signs or permanent markings and shared with pedestrians or motorists.
- **CLASS IV Bikeway** is a bikeway where particularly rough conditions may exist and where durable bicycles are recommended.

- The ideal **All-Terrain Bike (ATB) Trail** is natural or native soils (unpaved) with only a minimum of grading required. Some brush removal may be advisable to offer an unobstructed path. This type of trail should have some short, steep grades to challenge the rider and ideally is limited to only ATB users. See **All-Terrain Bike Trail**.

**Bill** – Legislation introduced in either the House or Senate; or, at the State level, the Assembly or Senate could even be joint or concurrent.

**Biocorridor** – A route that allows movement of species from one region or place to another; segments of land with appropriate habitat that links one core reserve area to another and provides for normal wildlife movements and migrations necessary for the preservation of animal and plant species that use ecosystems. See **Connectivity**, and **Ecosystem**.

**Biodiversity** – The variety of life forms and their processes at several levels of organization. Biological diversity or ‘Biodiversity’ means the full range of variety and variability within and among living organisms and the ecological complexes in which they occur, and encompasses ecosystem or community diversity, species diversity, and genetic diversity." See **Ecosystem**.  
<http://www.biodiversityscience.org/xp/CABS/home>

**Biological Integrity** – The ability to support and maintain a balanced, integrated adaptive assemblage of organisms having species composition, diversity, and functional organization comparable to that of natural habitat of the region. As a result of evolution, each organism is adapted to the environmental conditions in its native biogeographic region. An environment that supports an assemblage of organisms similar to that produced by long-term evolutionary processes. Changes of the environmental condition resulting from human activities cause a decline in biological integrity and can make the environment uninhabitable for appropriate organisms. [www.cbr.washington.edu/salmonweb/](http://www.cbr.washington.edu/salmonweb/)

**Biotic** – Living components of an ecosystem; all animals and plant life, including fungal and microorganisms.

**Blight** – A condition of deterioration of a site, structure, or area that may cause nearby buildings and/or areas to decline in attractiveness and/or utility or economic value, as in “urban blight.”

**Board of Directors** – A group of people charged with the responsibility to govern an organization. In a nonprofit corporation, the board reports to stakeholders, particularly the local community members that the nonprofit serves. As a legislative body, the board may be appointed or elected and may act in an advisory capacity. In a for-profit corporation, the board of directors is responsible to the stockholders. See **Advisory Board of Directors, Citizen’s Advisory Committee, Chair** and **California Association of Councils of Governments**.

**Board of Supervisors** – A county’s legislative body. Board members are elected by popular vote and are responsible for enacting ordinances, imposing taxes, allocating funding appropriations and enforcing county policy. The board adopts the general plan, zoning, and subdivision regulations. See **Chair**.

**Bond** – Written evidence of the issuer’s obligation to repay a specified principal amount on a certain date (maturity date), together with interest at a stated rate, or according to a formula for

determining that rate. Bonds are financial instruments of debt. An issuer borrows money from an investor and agrees, by written contract, to repay the amount borrowed plus an agreed upon rate of interest at a specified date (maturity date). The amount borrowed or the amount of the bond is called the principal. See **Assessment District**, **Debt Financing**, and **Debt Services**.

**Brown Act** – The Ralph M. Brown Act requires cities and counties to provide advance public notice of hearings and meetings of their councils, boards, and other bodies. Meetings and hearings with some exceptions (legal, personnel, etc.) must be open to the public. (Government Code § 54950 et seq.) See **Advisory Board of Directors**, **Closed Hearing** and **Citizens Advisory Committee**. [www.vanguardnews.com/brownact.htm](http://www.vanguardnews.com/brownact.htm)

**Brownfields** – Previously developed lands, contaminated and now vacated, sites that could be restored for new uses, e.g., abandoned rail yards and former pumping operations. See **Hazardous Material**. [www.brownfields.com](http://www.brownfields.com)

**Budget** – An annual financial plan consisting of proposed expenditure for specified purposes and the proposed means for financing them. See **Expenditure**, **Capital Outlay Budget**, **Continuation Budget**, and **Balanced Budget**.

**Buffer** – An area of land separating two distinct land uses, which acts to soften or mitigate the effects of one land use on another.

**Bureau of Land Management** – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), an agency within the U.S. Department of the Interior, administers 262 million acres of public lands, located primarily in 12 Western States. The BLM sustains the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. See **Recreation and Public Purposes Act**. [www.BLM.gov/nhp/](http://www.BLM.gov/nhp/)

## C

**California Association of Councils of Governments (CALCOG)** – The California Association of Councils of Governments was established in 1977, and represents 30 California regional government planning agencies. The California Association of Councils of Governments represents California’s Regional Councils of city council members and county supervisors. In many areas there are also board members representing the state and other local and regional agencies. See **Council of Governments** and **Board of Directors**. [www.calcog.org](http://www.calcog.org)

**California Association of Recreation and Park Districts (CARPD)** – An organization representing special recreation and park districts throughout California. See **Special District**. [www.carpd.org](http://www.carpd.org)

**California Association of Regional Parks and Open Space Administrators (CARPOSA)** - Association of professional staff members from a variety of local and regional park and open space management agencies. The association works with counties and state and federal agencies to promote effective and meaningful programs and legislation and to promote funding of open space, park, and recreation programs.

**California Board of Recreation and Park Certification (CBRPC)** – Non-profit organization that develops and maintains a program of voluntary registration and certification that will assure high standards for professional preparation and conduct of recreation and park personnel in order to protect the health and welfare of consumers of recreation and park services in California.

[www.cprs.org/cbrpc/](http://www.cprs.org/cbrpc/)

**California Building Standards Law** – Established in 1953, by the California Building Standards Law, the California Building Standards Commission (BSC) is an independent commission within the State and Consumer Services Agency. Commission members are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the State Senate. The BSC's mission is to produce sensible and usable state building standards and administrative regulations that implement or enforce those standards. [www.intres.com/calcode.html/](http://www.intres.com/calcode.html/) and

[http://www.bsc.ca.gov/abt\\_bsc.html#mission](http://www.bsc.ca.gov/abt_bsc.html#mission)

**California Coastal Act** – The California Coastal Act (California Public Resources Code § 30000 et seq.) was enacted by the State Legislature in 1976 to provide long-term protection of California's 1,100-mile coastline for the benefit of current and future generations. The California Coastal Act created a unique partnership between the State (acting through the California Coastal Commission) and local government (15 coastal counties and 58 cities) to manage the conservation and development of coastal resources through a comprehensive planning and regulatory program. The 1976 Act made permanent the coastal protection program launched on a temporary basis by citizens' initiative that California voters approved in November 1972 (Proposition 20 – the "Coastal Conservation Initiative"). The Act's coastal resources management policies and governance structure are based on recommendations contained in the California Coastal Plan called for by Proposition 20 and adopted by the Coastal Commission in 1975 after three years of planning and hundreds of public hearings held throughout the State. [http://ceres.ca.gov/topic/env\\_law/cca/stat/](http://ceres.ca.gov/topic/env_law/cca/stat/) See **Coastal Act Policies** and **Coastal Commission**.

**California Committee for the Promotion of History (CCPH)** – A statewide nonprofit organization founded in 1977 as a state committee of the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History. It has grown to represent almost every area of historical activity in California: government agencies, businesses, archives, local historical societies, museums, private consulting, and colleges and universities, and other educational institutions. The purpose of CCPH is to foster, facilitate, and coordinate efforts which enhance appreciation of historical heritage, application of history skills in the public and private sectors, and ensure the preservation, interpretation, and management of California's historical resources.

<http://www.csus.edu/org/ccph/>

**California Conservation Corps (CCC)** - The California Conservation Corps (CCC) engages young people in meaningful work, public service and educational activities that assist them in becoming responsible citizens, while protecting and enhancing California's environment, human resources and communities. CCC members help park and recreation agencies with the construction of trails, planting trees, fire suppression, recycling efforts, and other similar projects. <http://www.ccc.ca.gov/cccweb/ABOUT/about.htm>

**California Department of Parks and Recreation** – See **Department of Parks and Recreation, California (DPR)**.

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)** – The California Environmental Quality Act, Public Resources Code § 21000 et. seq.; Title 14, California Code of Regulations § 15000 et. seq. CEQA is a statute that requires state and local agencies to identify the significant environmental and historical impacts of their proposed actions and to avoid or mitigate any adverse impacts, if feasible. CEQA applies to certain activities of state and local public agencies. A public agency must comply with CEQA when it undertakes an activity defined by CEQA as a "project." A project is an activity undertaken by a public agency or a private activity which must receive some discretionary approval (meaning that the agency has the authority to deny the requested permit or approval) from a government agency which may cause either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect change in the environment.

CEQA influences virtually all prospective land uses and public agency projects within California. CEQA establishes procedures to ensure that state and local agencies disclose, consider, and attempt to mitigate the environmental impacts of their actions. The Resources Agency has adopted the State CEQA Guidelines to assist agencies in implementing the law. Typically, projects comply with CEQA in one of three ways: through use of a categorical exemption, preparation of a negative declaration, or preparation of an EIR.

The environmental review required imposes both procedural and substantive requirements. At a minimum, an initial review of the project and its environmental effects must be conducted. Depending on the potential effects, a further, and more substantial, review may be conducted in the form of an environmental impact report (EIR). A project may not be approved as submitted if feasible alternatives or mitigation measures are able to substantially lessen the significant environmental effects of the project. See **Mitigate, Mitigated Negative Declaration, Mitigation, Mitigation Measure, Ecosystem, Master Environmental Assessment, Technical Advisory Committee, Tiered Approach, Statement of Overriding Consideration** and **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)** <http://ceres.ca.gov/ceqa>, <http://opr.ca.gov> and [www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html).

**California Heritage Fund Grant Program** – The California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Historic Preservation administers this grant program to preserve California's heritage. See **Historic Preservation** and **Office of Historic Preservation**. <http://ohp.parks.ca.gov>

**California Land Conservation Act**, aka “**The Williamson Act**” – The California Land Conservation Act of 1965--commonly referred to as the Williamson Act--enables local governments to enter into contracts with private landowners for the purpose of restricting specific parcels of land to agricultural or related open space use. In return, landowners receive property tax assessments that are much lower than normal because they are based upon farming and open space uses as opposed to full market value. Local governments receive an annual subvention of forgone property tax revenues from the state via the Open Space Subvention Act of 1971. See **Open Space**. [www.consrv.ca.gov](http://www.consrv.ca.gov) and [www.consrv.ca.gov/DLRP/Lca/lrcc/](http://www.consrv.ca.gov/DLRP/Lca/lrcc/)

**California Local Government** – There are four basic units of California local government: cities, counties, special districts, and regional bodies. All exist under the authority of the State of California and its laws, in particular the California Government Code. California gives cities and counties the “home rule” option, which means that they can choose to be governed under the

framework of the California Government Code or they can adopt a charter, which gives them more latitude in running their affairs. The former is known as ‘general law’ jurisdictions and the latter are known as “charter” jurisdictions. The larger cities and counties tend to be charter Jurisdictions. See **Special Districts and Regional Bodies**.

[www.igs.berkeley.edu/library/localweb.html](http://www.igs.berkeley.edu/library/localweb.html)

**California Local Government Information Website** – Starting point for finding web based information about California local government and their laws. [www.statelocalgov.net](http://www.statelocalgov.net)

**California Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP)** – See **California Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)**.

**California Resources Agency** -The California Resources Agency is responsible for the conservation, enhancement, and management of California's natural and cultural resources, including land, water, wildlife, parks, minerals, and historic sites. The Agency is composed of departments, boards, conservancies, commission and programs. <http://resources.ca.gov/>

**California Park and Recreation Society (CPRS)** – Founded in 1946, the California Park and Recreation Society provides park, recreation, leisure and community service professionals and interested citizens with the knowledge and resources to enhance their leadership role in providing personal, social, economic and environmental benefits through recreation and parks.

[www.cprs.org](http://www.cprs.org)

**California Preservation Foundation (CPF)** – Is dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of California's historic built environment. The Foundation emerged in response to the need for a statewide organization that could focus on issues common to all, and provide the cohesive and vital link between state, regional and local preservation interests. CPF is a statewide network of its members: individuals, businesses, organizations, and local governments long committed to historic preservation. Through this network the Foundation serves as a clearinghouse for preservation ideas, technical information and advice. <http://www.californiapreservation.org/>

**California Society of Archaeologists (CASSP)** – Is a network of concerned people committed to protecting California's rich cultural heritage. The program recruits professional archaeologists and trained volunteers as stewards to monitor sites throughout the state. Stewards promote protection through monitoring, education, research, and public awareness. Their presence on site enhances the preservation of California's cultural resources for all. Program goals are to protect and to preserve in perpetuity prehistoric and historic archaeological resources for the purposes of conservation, scientific study, interpretation, and public enjoyment; to increase public knowledge and awareness of the significance and value of cultural resources; to support the understanding of national, state, and local preservation laws; to support the recordation and to provide the on-going physical record of the site to assist with permanent site management.

<http://www.cassp.org/>

**California Special Districts Association (CSDA)** – An organization dedicated to advocating and strengthening special district governance by providing service and support to its members.

[www.csda.net](http://www.csda.net)

**California State Association of Counties (CSAC)** – Organization that represents county government before the California legislature, administrative agencies and the federal

government. CSAC places emphasis on educating the public about the value and need for county programs and services such as park facilities and recreation programs. [www.csac.counties.org](http://www.csac.counties.org)

**California State Parks** – A Department of the Resources Agency of California, responsible for a variety of statewide park and recreation programs including the Office of Grants and Local Services, Office of State Historic Preservation, the Off Road Vehicle Division and the operation of the State Park System. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**California State Park Rangers Association (CSPRA)** – An organization of park professionals dedicated to advancement of the principles of public service, established to support and preserve the California Department of Parks and Recreation for present and future generations. See **Department of Parks and Recreation, California (DPR)**. [www.cspra.com](http://www.cspra.com)

**California State Parks Foundation** – A non-profit membership organization dedicated to protecting, enhancing and advocating on behalf of the California Department of Parks and Recreation. See **Department of Parks and Recreation, California (DPR)** [www.calparks.org](http://www.calparks.org) and [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**California State Parks and Recreation Commission** – Established in 1927 to advise the Director of California State Parks and Recreation on the recreational needs of the people of California. The Commission is appointed by the Governor and schedules public hearings to consider classification or reclassification and the approval of general plans (and amendments) for each park unit. See **Department of Parks and Recreation, California (DPR)**. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**California Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)** – Also referred to as CORP, the California Outdoor Recreation Plan. A plan produced by the California Department of Parks and Recreation which assesses the most critical issues faced by park and recreation service providers at all levels; identifies the most appropriate actions by which public agencies might address them; required to be published every five years by Public Resources Code § 5099 (et al) and by the National Park Service in order to maintain the State's eligibility to receive Federal Land and Water Conservation Funds. The findings of SCORP are used to help shape the open project selection process. See **National Park Service, Department of Parks and Recreation, California (DPR)** and **Land and Water Conservation Fund**. [www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page\\_id=796](http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=796) and <http://www.nps.gov/>

**California Trail Connection** – Web resource for news and in-depth information about California's Trails and Greenways. See **Trail and Bikeway** [www.caltrails.org](http://www.caltrails.org)

**California Wild & Scenic Rivers System/Wild & Scenic Rivers Act** – (Public Resources Code § 5093.50) – Federal and State statutes enumerating river values that should be protected and managed. [www.nps.gov/rivers/](http://www.nps.gov/rivers/) and [www.ncrc.nps.gov/programs/WSR/index.html](http://www.ncrc.nps.gov/programs/WSR/index.html)

**California Wildlife Habitat Relationships (CWHR)** – An information system on California's wildlife maintained by the California Department of Fish & Game. CWHR contains life history, management, and habitat relationship information on 675 species of amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals known to occur in the state. CWHR products are available from the DFG to anyone interested in understanding, conserving, and managing California's wildlife. See

**Department of Fish and Game, California (DFG).**

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/whdab/html/cwhr.html>

**California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990 – See Habitat Conservation Fund Grant Program.**

**Capital Improvement Program (CIP)** – A program for expanding the capital assets of an organization through the acquisition of real property or the development of facilities permanently fixed to the land. See **Acquisition and Development, Capital Outlay, and Design Engineering.**

**Capital Outlay/Capital Equipment** – Is typically a “large ticket” item in terms of its cost, such as office furniture, fleet equipment, data processing equipment, park maintenance equipment etc. See **Capital Improvement Program** and **Capital Outlay.**

**Capital Outlay Budget** – The financial plan of capital project expenditures for the fiscal year, including land acquisition, facilities construction, major rehabilitation, modification of existing facilities, and the equipment which is related to such construction. See **Budget, Fund** and **Expenditure.**

**Carryover** – Appropriated funds that remain unspent at the end of the fiscal year and are allowed to be retained by the department so that they may be expended in the next fiscal year. See **Fiscal Year** and **Fund.**

**Carrying Capacity** – The level of land use, human activity or development for a specific area that can be accommodated permanently without an irreversible reduction in the quality of air, water, land or plant and animal habitats. It may also refer to the upper limits beyond which the quality of human life, health, welfare, safety, or community character within an area will be impaired. Carrying capacity is a concept used to determine the potential of an area to absorb development and use. See **Allowable Use Intensity.**

**Categorical Exemption** – A categorical exemption can only be used where the project fits within one of the 32 classes of project determined to be usually exempt from CEQA under the State CEQA Guidelines (Guidelines Code § 15301 – 15332). An exemption cannot be used where a project may result in a significant impact (Guidelines Code § 15300.2). See CEQA and Alternatives. <http://ceres.ca.gov/ceqa/> and <http://opr.ca.gov>.

**Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA)** – This federal legislation, signed into law on October 30, 1992, mandates major changes in the management of the federal Central Valley Project. The CVPIA puts fish and wildlife on an equal footing with agricultural, municipal, industrial, hydropower and recreational users of water conveyed through the Central Valley Improvement Project. [www.mp.usbr.gov](http://www.mp.usbr.gov)

**Certificate of Appropriateness (COA)** - A COA is an application upon which the Historic and Scenic Preservation Commission makes a decision to alter, demolish, move, or subdivide a building/property which has been designated Landmark or Historic Resource by the City Council. This means that any modification to the outside of the structure must be approved through this application. <http://www.ci.redlands.ca.us/40185.html>

**Certificate of Compliance** – A document issued and recorded by a local agency certifying that the subject parcel complies with the requirements of the Subdivision Map Act and also with local ordinances certifying that the parcel will comply with such requirements upon satisfaction of certain conditions. See **Subdivision Map Act**.

**Chair** – Presiding officer; as in ‘Chair of the Board of Supervisors’, or as ‘Chair of the Advisory Board of Directors’. See **Board of Directors** and **Board of Supervisors**.

**Charter City** – A city incorporated under its own charter adopted by a majority vote according to provisions of state law, rather than under the general laws of the state. The charter operates as the city’s constitution and allows cities discretion to establish land use processes.

**Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)** – Non-profit associations and public agencies may use citizen advisory boards and committees to provide advice and other assistance to the governing bodies of the jurisdictions that appoints them. The advisory board may serve important functions:

- Interpreting the program, facilities, and services;
- Making studies and recommendations on advancing park and recreation services; and
- Being a sounding board that exerts broad influence throughout the community to improve and expand park and recreation services.

An advisory board is not a governing board in that it has limited powers that it may only make recommendations to the ultimate governing authority for their approval or consideration. It has no legal power or ability to enforce recommendations, but is required to follow open meeting laws. See **Brown Act**, **Board of Directors** and **Advisory Board of Directors**.

**Citizen Enforcement** – The process by which private citizens and citizen groups use litigation to enforce, for example, planning laws.

**City Council** – A city’s legislative body. The popularly elected city council is responsible for enacting ordinances, imposing taxes, making funding appropriations, establishing policy and hiring certain city officials. The council adopts the local general plan, zoning, and subdivision ordinance.

**Civic Center Act** (Education Code § 38130 et seq.) – Every public school facility is considered a civic center where citizens, school-community councils, and clubs as well as senior, recreation, education, political, artistic, and other organizations may meet. The school district *may* grant the use of the school facilities and grounds upon certain terms and conditions deemed proper by the governing board, subject to specified limitations, requirements, and restrictions set forth within the law. See **Joint Powers Agreements** and **Partnering/partnership**.

[www.idea practices.org/ideaquests/obligations](http://www.idea practices.org/ideaquests/obligations)

**Clean Bill** – A clean bill is simply the original bill, along with the amendments adopted by the full committee, which is introduced again and assigned a new number. See **Amendment**.  
[www.house.gov/rules](http://www.house.gov/rules)

**Closed Hearing** – Hearings closed to all but members, staff and witnesses testifying; also called Executive Hearings. The Brown Act specifies that these hearings are exempt from the open

meeting requirements. Personnel actions or pending legal issues are examples of subjects discussed during a closed hearing. See **Brown Act**.

**Cluster Development** – Development in which the dwelling units, allowable under a parcel’s underlying zoning, are grouped in close proximity to allow for common open space and park areas for the residents. See **Zoning** and **Open Space**.

**Coastal Act Policies** – Coastal Act policies constitute the standards used by the Coastal Commission in its coastal development permit decisions and for the review of local coastal programs prepared by local governments and submitted to the Commission for approval. These policies are also used by the Commission to review federal activities that affect the coastal zone. Coastal cities and counties must incorporate these policies into their individual local coastal programs.

The policies require: protection and expansion of public access to the shoreline and recreational opportunities and resources, including commercial visitor-serving facilities; and protection, enhancement and restoration of environmentally sensitive habitats, including intertidal and nearshore waters, wetlands, bays and estuaries, riparian habitat, certain wood and grasslands, streams, lakes and habitat for rare or endangered plants or animals; protection of productive agricultural lands, commercial fisheries and archaeological resources; protection of the scenic beauty of coastal landscapes and seascapes; the establishment of urban-rural boundaries and directing new housing and other development into areas with adequate services to avoid wasteful urban sprawl and leapfrog development; provision for the expansion, in an environmentally sound manner, of existing industrial ports and electricity-generating powerplants, as well as for the siting of coastal-dependent industrial uses; and protection against loss of life and property from coastal hazards. See **California Coastal Act**, **Coastal Zone**, and the **Coastal Commission**. [www.ceres.ca.gov](http://www.ceres.ca.gov) and <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/index.html>

**Coastal Commission** – The California Coastal Commission was established by voter initiative in 1972 (Proposition 20) and made permanent by the Legislature in 1976 (the Coastal Act). The primary mission of the Commission, as the lead agency responsible for carrying out California’s federally approved coastal management program, is to plan for and regulate land and water uses in the coastal zone consistent with the policies of the Coastal Act. The Coastal Commission has 12 voting and 4 non-voting members. The voting members are appointed equally by the Governor, the Rules Committee of the state Senate, and the Speaker of the state Assembly. The Commission meets once a month in various coastal communities. See the **California Coastal Act**, **Specific Project Approval** and **Coastal Zone**. [www.coastal.ca.gov/web/](http://www.coastal.ca.gov/web/)

**Coastal Zone** – A coastal zone is simply defined as the interface between the land and coast. These zones are important because a majority of California’s population inhabit the land portion of the zones. The coastal zone encompasses some 1.5 million acres of land and reaches from three miles at sea to an inland boundary that varies from a few blocks in the more urban areas of the State to about five miles in less developed regions. The coastal zone stretches from the California border to the Oregon border to Mexico. See **Coastal Act Policies**. [www.tulane.edu](http://www.tulane.edu)

**Commercial Recreation** – Recreation conducted by a business enterprise for profit and open to the public on a fee or charge basis. Examples of commercial recreation include tour-led activities, overnight accommodations, and travel services. See **Eco-Recreation** and

**Concessions.** <http://www.infography.com/content/494962918336.html> and <http://www.r-c-r-a.org/>

**Commission Accreditation Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA)** – The mission of the Commission is (1) to promote programs that will serve more effectively in providing quality public recreation, (2) enhance the performance of park and recreation services, and (3) to provide standards and procedures for the evaluation of public park and recreation agencies through a program of self-evaluation and peer review for the purpose of national accreditation. [www.nrpa.org](http://www.nrpa.org)

**Community Based Organizations (CBO)** – Refers to local non-profit or public benefit groups that provide community services or special programs. CBOs often have an IRS 501 (c) (3) status and may receive funding from a public agency through Community Development Block Grants or other grant sources. See **Community Development Block Grants**.

**Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)** – A grant program administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the State Department of Housing and Community Development. This grant allots federal monies to cities and counties for housing and community development. Park and recreation professionals may use CDBG funds to construct recreation facilities and affiliated improvements. The annual appropriations for CDBG is split between states and local jurisdictions called “entitlement communities.” Entitlement communities are central cities of Metropolitan Statistical Areas; other metropolitan cities with populations of at least 50,000; and qualified urban counties with population of entitled cities. Each state distributes the funds to localities that do not qualify as entitlement communities. See **Federal Funding Sources** and Community Base Organizations. <http://housing.hud.ca.gov> and <http://www.hud.gov/progdesc/cdbgent.cfm>

**Community Facilities District (CFD)** – Legally constituted districts created by cities, counties, and/or other jurisdictions under the Mello-Roos law to finance the construction of needed community infrastructure and services. The CFD is empowered to levy additional property taxes on land located inside the district by 2/3 voter approval; thus creating a dependable revenue stream that can be used in issuing bonds to pay for the new infrastructure and/or special taxes to finance recreation programs and maintenance. Sometimes referred to as Special Districts or Community Benefits Districts. For example, besides providing park and recreation services, the CFD could also provide mosquito abatement, cemetery services and irrigation services. See **Mello-Roos, “Dirt-Bond,” Assessed Valuation, Special Districts, and Proposition 218**. <http://www.ccp.ucdavis.edu/pubs/pdf/ccpt1may.pdf>

**Community Park** – Focus is on meeting community-based recreational needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. Community parks are generally larger in scale than neighborhood parks, but smaller than regional parks and are designed typically for residents who live within a three-mile radius. Community parks are usually six to sixty acres in size depending on the community and have a variety of park and recreation facilities and amenities. Facilities may include those found at a neighborhood park, plus permanent restrooms, large turfed and landscaped areas, and specialized recreation facilities and/or equipment, such as a community center, swimming pool or tennis court complex. See **Regional Park, Neighborhood Park, Urban Park and Mini-Park**.

**Community Plan** – A portion of the local general plan that focuses on a particular area or community within the city or county. Community plans supplement the policies of the general plan. See **General Plan**.

**Community Trails** – Existing and proposed trails located on lands under local jurisdiction or maintenance, which are oriented toward meeting the immediate day-to-day use of recreation and transportation needs of residents. See **Bikeway** and **Trail**.

**Companion Bill** – Identical bills introduced separately in both the Senate and the Assembly on a State level.

**Competitive Programs** (as in grants) – As used by the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services, means the allocation of monies for one or more projects for the acquisition and development of recreational lands and facilities on a project-by-project basis, based upon criteria, through a ranking process. See **Grant(s)** and **Grantee**.  
[www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

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[www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Comprehensive Plan** – An official document adopted by a local government that describes general policies for the desirable physical, social, and economic development of a city, county or district. See **Community Plan**, **General Plan**, **Strategic Plan**, **Leadership Plan**, and **Constraint**.

**Concessions** – A contract with persons, corporations, partnerships, or associations for the provision of products, facilities, programs and management and visitor services that will provide for the enhancement of park visitor use, enjoyment, safety, and convenience. Concessions may be for food service, overnight accommodations, boat launch areas, equipment rentals (canoes, rafts, skis), gift stores, etc. Concessions may also be for recreational activities such as a golf course, archery range, equestrian center, gun range, pony ride, train ride, merry-go-round and reservable group picnic facilities. See **Commercial Recreation**.

**Conditional Use Permit (CUP)** – Pursuant to the zoning ordinance, a CUP may authorize uses not routinely allowed on a particular site. CUPs require a public hearing and if approval is granted, are usually subject to the fulfillment of certain conditions by the developer. Approval of a CUP is not a change in zoning. See **Zoning Ordinance**.

**Connectivity** – The state of being functionally linked by movement of organisms, materials, or energy. For example, The Wildlands Project ([www.scwildlands.org](http://www.scwildlands.org)) works with private property owners, non-profit organizations, and government agencies to provide land corridors large enough and connected to one another to assure species viability. See **Biocorridor**.

**Connector Trails** – Trails that emphasize safe travel for pedestrians, equestrians, bicyclists, and others to and from parks and open space areas around the community, and to outlying trails. Connector trails also link users to community centers, work areas and shopping facilities. See **Bikeway, Trails and Regional Trails**.

**Conservancies (California State)** The California Resources Agency is responsible for the conservation, enhancement, and management of California's natural and cultural resources, including land, water, wildlife, parks, minerals, and historic sites. The Agency is composed of departments, boards, conservancies, commission and programs. Conservancies include: Baldwin Hills Conservancy, California Tahoe Conservancy, Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy, San Gabriel & Lower Los Angeles Rivers & Mountains Conservancy, San Joaquin River Conservancy, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and the State Coastal Conservancy. See **Secretary of Resources**. <http://resources.ca.gov/>

**Conservation** – The management of cultural and natural resources to prevent deterioration, loss or waste; management actions may include preservation, restoration, and enhancement. Webster's dictionary defines Conservation as "careful preservation and protection of something, planned management of a national resource to prevent exploitation, destruction, or neglect." Conservation of a cultural resource includes the preservation of the original material/fabric, information, or knowledge. See **Conservation Planning, Conservation Easement, and Natural Resource Areas, Offer to Dedicate and Ecosystem**.

**Conservation Easement** – Instrument of land and structures (buildings) ownership in which specified rights to property development are separated from property ownership. Typically such rights are secured under contract to preclude any substantial change in the current use of the land and/or to protect valuable natural, historical or cultural resources. See **Conservation, Conservation Planning, Offer to Dedicate, and Easement**.  
[www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html) and [www.natlands.org/library/consease.html](http://www.natlands.org/library/consease.html)

**Conservation Planning** – Recovery of species listed under the Endangered Species Act and provision for viability of at-risk species that are not yet listed. See **Conservation, Conservation Easement, Endangered Species Act**.

**Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA)** – Federal legislation, which allows an employee and/or family member to continue their group health plan enrollment when Agency supported coverage is lost through separation, retirement, etc.  
[http://www.khsonline.com/khs/khs/products\\_plan\\_flex/COBRA.asp](http://www.khsonline.com/khs/khs/products_plan_flex/COBRA.asp)

**Constraint** – Something that restricts, limits or regulates a given course of action. It is used in a General Plan to describe "constraints" to development. Environmental constraints include, but are not limited to, steep slopes, poor soils and rare and endangered plant and animal species. Infrastructure constraints can include poor roads, antiquated water distribution systems, a lack of service capacity of the park district and a lack of a community sewer system. See **General Plan, Comprehensive Plan, and Infrastructure**.

**Construction Engineering** – Engineering work during the construction process which ensures that projects are constructed in accordance with design parameters and specifications.

**Consumer Price Index** – A measure which is used to track the change in prices for common household goods over time. The consumer price index is developed using a “market based” approach. That is, researchers determine the cost of a particular set of goods and services every year. This cost is then compared against the cost of goods and services from other years. [www.bls.gov/cpi/home.htm](http://www.bls.gov/cpi/home.htm)

**Continuation Budget** – Is a level of funding which enables an organization to provide the same amount of services in the following fiscal year as the organization provides in the current fiscal year. A continuation level budget does not necessarily provide funding for growth in demand for services. See **Fiscal Year and Budget**.

**Cortese-Knox Act** – See **LAFCO (Local Agency Formation Commission)**  
. <http://www.calafco.org/>

**Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA)** – An increase in funding for government programs, including revenue limits or categorical programs. Current law ties the COLA to the annual percentage change in the “Implicit Price Deflator” for State and Local Governments – a government price index. <http://www.ssa.gov/OACT/COLA/colasummary.html>

**Council of Governments (COG) (Regional)** – A body of member jurisdictions from a designated region established to provide planning assistance of a regional nature. Regional councils of government are multi-purpose, multi-jurisdictional, public organizations. Created by local governments to respond to federal and state programs, regional councils bring together participants at multiple levels of government to foster regional cooperation, planning and service delivery. They have a variety of names, ranging from councils of government to planning commissions to development districts. See **California Association of Councils of Governments (CALCOG)** [www.narc.org](http://www.narc.org) and [www.calcog.org/cogs.calcog.htm](http://www.calcog.org/cogs.calcog.htm).

**Cross-country Ski Trail** – Trails developed and usually groomed for Nordic-style cross-country skiing. Frequently (but not always) the trails are looped and found in larger parks and natural resource areas such as State Parks, U.S. Forest Lands, and utility company lands and may be privately operated. See **Trail**. [www.trailsources.com/skiing/index.asp](http://www.trailsources.com/skiing/index.asp)

**Cultural Landscape** – A geographic area (including both the cultural and natural resources) associated with a historic event, activity, or person or exhibiting cultural or aesthetic values. For example, the type of cultural landscape that is called a ‘historic vernacular landscape’ categorizes Crystal Cove Historic District in Orange County. This type is a landscape that evolved through use by people whose activities or occupancy shaped it. See **Historic District, Historic Preservation Fund, and Cultural Historic Landscape Report**, and **Cultural Zone**. <http://www.ichs.harvard.edu/language/whatare.html>

**Cultural/Historic Landscape Report (CLR)** – The primary report that documents the history, significance, and treatment of a cultural landscape. A CLR evaluates the history and integrity of the landscape including any changes to its geographical context, features, materials, and use. CLRs are essential tools in providing planners with information for creating Management Plans for cultural landscape resources. See **Cultural Landscape** and **Cultural Preserve**.

**Cultural Preserve** – This classification protects areas of outstanding historic interest in the state park system including such features as sites, buildings, or zones where significant events in the

flow of history in California occurred. Cultural Preserves need to be large enough to protect resources from potential damage and to permit effective management and interpretation and must also have complete integrity of the resources; no conflicting improvements, such as roads, are permitted. Natural resource values are secondary to historical values in cultural preserves.

**Cultural Significance** – To be significant, a cultural resource (object, building, structure, site, area, or place) must be at least 50 years old, have a high degree of integrity, and be especially meaningful to the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military or cultural history of California. It should have the potential to yield important information and contribute to interpreting the broad currents of California’s local, regional or statewide prehistory and history. See **Cultural Zone**.

**Cultural Zone** – This is a land use zone that distinguishes areas of the park or community within which there are cultural resources with special significance, but it would not place any specific restrictions upon development or activities within these area unless they would be detrimental to the cultural resources. See **Cultural Significance** and **Cultural Landscape**.

**Cumulative Impacts** – The incremental effects of an individual project reviewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects in order to ascertain the overall effect on the environment. Two or more environmental effects which, when considered together, are considerable or which compound or increase other environmental impacts. A cumulative impact assessment is a requirement of CEQA. See **California Environmental Quality Act**. [www.ceres.ca.gov/ceqa](http://www.ceres.ca.gov/ceqa) and <http://opr.ca.gov>.

## D

**Debt Financing** – Issuance of bonds and other debt instruments to finance municipal improvements and services. See **Bond**.

**Debt Service** – The dollars required to repay funds borrowed by means of an issuance of bonds or a bank loan. The components of the debt service payment typically include an amount to retire a portion of the principal amount borrowed (i.e., amortization), as well as interest on the remaining outstanding unpaid principal balance. See **Bond**.

**Dedication** – A condition of development approval, usually taking the form of land and/or facilities and/or funds turned over to the jurisdiction where the development is located. For example, the Quimby Act requires developers to make parkland dedications or pay in lieu fees. See **Quimby Act, Development Fees, and Development Rights, Transfer of**. [www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html)

**Dedication, In Lieu of** – Cash payments that may be required of an owner or developer as a substitute for parkland dedication, usually calculated in dollars per lot or square foot of land or building area, and referred to as in lieu fees or in lieu contributions. See **Park acreage standards**.

**Dedication of Land** – The turning over by an owner or developer private land for public use, and the acceptance of land for such use by the governmental agency having jurisdiction over the public function for which it will be used. Dedications for roads, parks, school sites, or other public uses are often made conditions for approval of a development. See **Development Fees, Development Rights, Transfer of, and Quimby Act**.

**Dedication, Parks and Open Space** – Lands acquired for parks and open space purposes and formally dedicated under law for that purpose.

**Demand** – Level of requests for service, that determines the types and scope of service delivery. For example, as California’s senior population increases, the demand for recreation services to accommodate an aging population will increase.

**Density Bonus** – The allocation of development rights that allows a parcel to accommodate additional square footage or additional residential units beyond the maximum for which the parcel is zoned, usually in exchange for the provision or preservation of an amenity at the same site or at another location, an oak grove or for a park area, for example. See **Parcel Tax, Development Rights, Transfer of, and Zoning**.

**Department** – The basic unit of service responsibility, encompassing a broad mandate of related activities, as in the Public Works Department, the Department of Parks and Community Services, the Department of Fish and Game, and the like.

**Department of Fish and Game, California (DFG)** – The Mission of the Department of Fish and Game is to manage California's diverse fish, wildlife, and plant resources, and the habitats upon which they depend, for their ecological values and for their use and enjoyment by the public. <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/html/dfgmiss.html>

**Department of Parks and Recreation, California (DPR)** – The Mission of the California Department of Parks and Recreation is to provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation. California State Parks contains the largest and most diverse natural and cultural heritage holdings of any state agency in the nation.

Under the Resources Agency, the California Department of Parks and Recreation manages and operates the 273 units (2002) of the State Park System. In addition, the Department provides leadership on a statewide level through the State Office of Historic Preservation, the Office of Grants and Local Services, the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division, the Planning Division, and other programs. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Department of Water Resources, California (DWR)** – To manage the water resources of California in cooperation with other agencies, to benefit the State's people, and to protect, restore, and enhance the natural and human environments. <http://www.dwr.water.ca.gov/>

**Design Engineering** – The process of identifying project options, developing a project scope, conducting feasibility analyses, and creating plans, specifications and estimates for a capital improvement. See **Capital Improvement Program and Feasibility Study**.

**Design Guidelines (agency)** – Guidelines established by an agency are intended to advise and direct the design of buildings, roads, parking facilities, park amenities, etc. for architects, engineers, park and recreational professionals, and landscape architects in the planning, and design process. For example, campground or cross-country trails loops designed so users enter to the right moving counterclockwise. See **Design Review**.

**Design Review** – The process by which a decision-making body considers a project’s consistency with the design standards and guidelines established for new development or alterations. See **Design Guidelines** and **Design Review Committee**.

**Design Review Committee** – A group appointed to consider the design and aesthetics of development within design review zoning districts. See **Zoning** and **Design Review**.

**Developable Land** – Land which is suitable as a location for structures and which can be developed free of or with minimal development constraints, and without disruption of, or significant impact on, natural resources.

**Developed** (as in park and recreation) – Park acreage that has received a level of improvements at least equal to the basic landscaping associated with Phase I development, i.e. grading, drainage, turf, trees, and irrigation. See **Phase I** and **Phase II Development**.

**Development (grants)** – As used by the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services, means ‘improvements to real property by construction of new facilities or renovation or additions to existing facilities’. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Development Fees** – Fees charged to developers or builders as a prerequisite to construction or development approval. The most common are: (1) impact fees (such as parkland acquisition fees, school facilities fees or street construction fees) related to funding public improvements which are necessitated in part or in whole by the development; (2) utility connection fees (such as water line fees) to cover the cost of installing public services to the development; (3) permit fees (such as building permits, grading permits, sign permits) for the administrative costs of processing development plans; and, (4) application fees (rezoning, variance, etc.) for the administrative costs of reviewing and hearing development proposals. See **Infrastructure, Impact Fees, Development, Quimby Act, Land-Secured Bonding Mechanism, Dedication, Dedication of Land, Mello-Roos, and “Dirt Bonds.”**

**Development Rights, Transfer of (TDR)** – A program which can relocate potential development from areas where proposed land use or environmental impacts are considered undesirable to another site chosen on the basis of its ability to accommodate additional units of development beyond that for which it was zoned, with minimal environmental, social, and aesthetic impacts. See **Zoning, Dedication, Dedication of Land, and Density Bonus**.

**Direct Impacts** – Primary environmental effects that are caused by a project and occur at the same time and place.

**Direct Nexus** – Legal term meaning a direct relationship or connection between a development fee or land dedication and the project on which it is imposed. For example, a coastal developer must provide access for public viewing if the development obstructs the public's view of the ocean. See **Development Fee, Dedication of Land and Access/Egress/Ingress**.

[www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html)

**“Dirt Bond”** – Another name for the Mello-Roos bond, so-called because it is backed by the value of the land involved, not by general tax revenue. See **Mello-Roos, Land-Secured Bonding Mechanism, and Community Facilities District (CFD)**. [www.mello-roos.com](http://www.mello-roos.com) and [www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html)

**District** - Means:

- Any regional park district, regional park and open-space district, or regional open-space district formed pursuant to the Public Resources Code, Article 3 (commencing with § 5500) of Chapter 3;
- Any recreation and park District formed pursuant to Chapter 4, Public Resources Code, (commencing with Code § 5780) or an authority formed pursuant to Division 26 (commencing with Code § 35100);

See **Assessment District, Community Facilities District, and Special Districts**.

**Division** – A sub-unit of a department that encompasses more specific functions of that department and may consist of several activities, e.g., Seniors Division, Parks and Operations Division and Team Sports Division.

**Downzone** – This term refers to rezoning of land to a more restrictive or less intensive zone (for example, from multi-family residential to single-family residential or from residential to agricultural). See **Zoning**.

## **E**

**Easement** – A written interest or use of land owned by another that entitles its holder to a specified limited use. Usually the right to use property owned by another for specific purposes. For example, easements can include roads, agricultural preservation, scenic, wildlife, open space, preservation, construction and public utility easement. An easement may remain regardless of land ownership. See **Land Conservancies and Land Trusts, Offer To Dedicate (OTD) and Conservation Easement**. [www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html)

**Eco-Recreation** aka **Eco-Tourism** and **“Eco-Rec”**– Low impact recreation where the natural resources utilized are the major attraction; outdoor recreation opportunities dependent upon a diverse and undisturbed landscape setting; recreational opportunities and facilities using alternative, sustainable design (such as solar/wind power and composting toilets) so as not to impact the natural resources. See **Tourism and Commercial Recreation**.

**Ecological Assessment** – A comprehensive assessment of the entire area potentially affected by development or proposed as a mitigation site. An ecological assessment includes an evaluation of both the biotic and abiotic components of the subject area. See **Ecosystem, Ecological Sustainability, Mitigation, and Mitigation Measure**.

**Ecological Sustainability** – Maintenance or restoration of the composition, structure, and processes of ecosystems, including the diversity of plant and animal communities and the productive capacity of ecological systems. Important to park and recreational professionals as all life is dependent on ecological sustainability. See **Ecological Assessment**.

**Economic Multipliers** – Numerical measurements of the total effect of recreation spending on the economy of a local community; economic impact assessments made by managers of park, recreation and resource areas at all levels and even special events. Park and recreation managers can similarly use multipliers to perform economic impact assessments.

**Ecosystem** – A dynamic complex of plant, animal, fungal, and microorganism communities and their associated nonliving environment interacting as any ecological unit. See **Adaptive Management**, **Bio-corridor**, **Biodiversity**, and **California Environmental Quality A.** <http://ceres.ca.gov/ceqa/> and <http://opr.ca.gov>

**Education Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF)** – The State fund used to collect the property taxes that are shifted from cities, counties and special districts within each county, prior to their distribution to K-12 school agencies. [www.co.shasta.ca.us/departments/TTC/piechart.htm](http://www.co.shasta.ca.us/departments/TTC/piechart.htm)

**Element (as in General Plan)** – A chapter or section of the general plan that addresses a specific topic and sets forth public policies and programs pertaining to that topic. California Planning Law mandates that each city and county prepares and adopts a general plan containing at least seven specified elements (land use, circulation, open space, conservation, noise, safety, and housing). ‘Parks and Recreation’ are one of many optional elements. See **General Plan** and **Comprehensive Plan**.

**Eminent Domain** – The right of a government entity to appropriate private property for public use.

**Emergency Operations Centers aka EOCs** – Refers to a centralized location where designated city, county, or district staff manages responses to a specific emergency, for example, wildfire, flood, earthquake, and terrorism.

**Encumbrances** – Obligations in the form of purchase orders, contracts, salaries, and other commitments chargeable to an appropriation for which a part of the appropriation is reserved. It is also an amount of money committed for the payment of goods ordered but not yet received. See **Appropriation** and **Beginning Fund Balance**.

**Endangered Species** – A species of animal or plant that is considered to be endangered when its prospect for survival and production are in immediate jeopardy from one or more causes. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the California Department of Fish and Game make this designation. See **National Environmental Policy Act**, **Threatened Species**, and **California Environmental Quality Act**. <http://endangered.fws.gov/>

**Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA)** – Federal and state legislation that provides protection for species that are in danger of extinction; species of animal or plant listed in Code § 670.2 or 670.5, Title 14 of the California Administrative Code; or Title 50, of Federal Regulations, Code § 17.11 or Code § 17.2, pursuant to the federal Endangered Species Act designating species as

rare, threatened or endangered. See **National Environmental Policy Act** and **Endangered Species**. <http://endangered.fws.gov/esa.html>

**Ending Fund Balance** – Funds remaining at the end of the fiscal year. Within a fund, the revenue on hand at the beginning of the fiscal year, plus revenues received during the year, less expenses equals the ending fund balance. See **Fund, Beginning Fund Balance, Carry Over, Revenues, Expenditures, and Fiscal Year**.

**Enterprise** – A governmental facility or service that is self-supporting through fee and charge revenue. In the enterprise activities, revenues can also be classified as operating or non-operating. Operating revenues are those revenues directly related to the fund’s primary service activity and consist primarily of user fees and charges. Non-operating revenues are incidental to, or by-products of the enterprise’s primary service. See **Operating Budget**.

**Enterprise Fund** – The fund used to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises, wherein the stated intent is that the costs (including depreciation) of providing goods and services be financed from revenues recovered primarily through user fees.

**Entitlement** – A permit or other instrument typically granted by local governments entitling the holder to develop or improve land and/or existing structures and facilities.

**Environment** – The physical conditions that exist within an area that will be affected by a proposed project. The conditions include land, air, water, minerals, flora, fauna, noise, and objects of historical or aesthetic significance. See **Ecosystem**. <http://www.epa.gov/>

**Environmental Analysis** – The task of addressing the potential impact of any given plan or development project on the state’s environment, an analysis that can range across any number of topics including air pollution, toxics, and impact on wildlife.  
[www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html)

**Environmental Assessment** – An Environmental Assessment is the NEPA analog to an Initial Study under CEQA. After determining that a proposed action is not categorically excluded, a federal agency generally prepares an Environmental Assessment. Like a CEQA Initial Study, an Environmental Assessment has several purposes. It helps the federal agency determine whether an EIS is required by briefly evaluating whether a proposed action may have significant environmental effects. If an agency decides that an EIS is not required, the Environmental Assessment provides the documentation to support a ‘Finding of No Significant Impact’ (FONSI). When an agency decides and EIS must be prepared, the Environmental Assessment helps determine the scope and content of the EIS. An Environmental Assessment is a formally recognized part of the NEPA process and should be distinguished from informal studies that are often referred to as environmental assessments. See **California Environmental Quality Act, NEPA, ‘Finding of No Significant Impact’, Environmental Impact Statement and Master Environmental Assessment**. [www.ceres.ca.gov/ceqa](http://www.ceres.ca.gov/ceqa)

**Environment-Based Education**– Focus is on educational results: using the environment to engage students in their education through “real-world” learning experiences, with the goals of helping them achieve higher levels of academic success as well as an understanding of and appreciation for the environment. See **Environmental Education**.

**Environmental capacity:** The capability of the environment either to accommodate changes induced by human activities without long term damage, to sustain natural resources for future developments or to assimilate the residuals generated by such activities.

**Environmental Education** – Focuses on environmental “literacy.” Learning about and caring for the total environment, understanding how humans interact with and are dependent on natural ecosystems, and developing critical-thinking skills to resolve environmental issues. See **Environment-Based Education and Ecosystem**. <http://ceres.ca.gov/education/>

**Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program** – This program, administered by the California Resources Agency (CalTrans/California Department of Transportation) provides for the mitigation of the environmental impacts of modified or new public transportation facilities. Local agencies have been successful in receiving grant funds for interpretive trails, for example.

**Environmental Impact Report (EIR)** – A detailed informational document prepared by the lead agency responsible for carrying out a project as part of the CEQA public review process that describes and analyzes a project’s potential significant environmental effects and discusses ways to mitigate or avoid those effects. See **California Environmental Quality Act, Initial Study, Mitigated Negative Declaration, Environmental Impact Statement, Tiered Approach and Notice of Determination**. [www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html)

**Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)** – The equivalent of an Environmental Impact Report, as prepared under federal law. See NEPA. [www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html)

**Environmental License Plate Fund** – The California Environmental License Plate Fund is a program administered by the California Department of Motor Vehicles. The fund provides a variety of programs and activities throughout California that benefit from the revenues generated include:

- the protection of threatened and endangered plants and animals;
- the enhancement and restoration of fish and wildlife habitat at key locations around the state;
- the purchase and restoration of sensitive natural areas for the California State Park System and for local and regional parks;
- the reduction of soil erosion and the discharge of sediment into Lake Tahoe, including the restoration of disturbed wetlands and sensitive stream areas;
- a wide variety of environmental education programs that actively involve schools, wildlife areas, community groups, and other public and private partners across California.

[http://plates.ca.gov/personalized\\_plates.html](http://plates.ca.gov/personalized_plates.html)

**Environmental Scan** – A situational analysis involving identification of agency strengths and weaknesses, and external opportunities and threats, for the purpose of developing a strategic approach to planning.

**Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** - The mission of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is to protect human health and safeguard our environment. <http://www.epa.gov/>

**Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Area (ESHA)** – Any area in which plant or animal life or their habitat are either rare or especially valuable because of their special nature or role in an ecosystem and which could be easily disturbed or degraded by human activities and development. Public Resources Code § 30108.5. [www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html) or [www.coastal.ca.gov/recap2/glossary.pdf](http://www.coastal.ca.gov/recap2/glossary.pdf)

**Equestrian Trail** – Trails developed for horseback riding. Equestrian trails are frequently looped trails located in larger parks and natural resource areas. Sometimes these trails are developed as multipurpose with hiking and all-terrain biking where conflicts can be controlled. See **Trails**.

**Erosion** – The loosening and transportation of rock and soil debris by wind currents, rain, running water, wave action and human activity.

**Exaction** – The process of shifting forward to new development the cost of infrastructure, the need for which is generated by new residents. Park land and the development of recreation facilities can be exacted from a developer as land, cash in lieu of land and/or an impact fee as a condition of subdivision map approval; usually refers to mandatory dedication or fee in lieu of dedication. See **Dedication, Development, Development Fees, Impact Fees, Infrastructure, Subdivision, and Subdivision Map Act**.

**Exotic Species (or alien, non-native or non-indigenous species)** – A species occurring in an area outside of its historically known natural range that has been intentionally introduced or has inadvertently penetrated the system. Also known as introduced species, non-native or non-indigenous species or ornamental. Star thistle and pampas grass are examples of frequently found exotic species in California. See **Non-native Species**.

**Expenditure** – The actual spending of funds authorized by an appropriation. Expenditures can be divided into the following classes of individual line items (example only):

- Employee Services
- Other Services and Supplies
- Equipment
- Contractual obligations
- Dept Service
- Capital Improvement Project or Grant Labor Offset
- Capital Improvements

See **Balanced Budget, Surplus, Capital Outlay Budget and Budget**.

## *F*

**Facility Space Standards** – An expression of the amount of space required for a specific recreation facility, such as a children’s playground, picnic area, community center or softball diamond.

**Feasibility Study** – A feasibility study is an examination of the market or demand for a product or service to detect the success and feasibility of new projects. It provides information on the market and the possibilities for investment. It is important to conduct a feasibility study before

the start of a new project to determine the chances of success and survival in the market as it indicates demands, needs, and existing risks. See **Design Engineering**.

**Federal Coastal Act, The Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972** (16 U.S.C. § 1451, et seq.), as amended – Federal Consistency Review, as described in the 1972 Federal Coastal Zone Management Act, requires approved coastal management programs are responsible for reviewing proposed federal activities to assess their consistency with the state program. These activities, within the coastal zone or outside the coastal zone, that affect any land or water use or natural resource of the coastal zone shall be carried out in a manner which is consistent with the enforceable policies of the coastal management program. See **Coastal Zone and Coastal Act Policies**. [www.coastal.ca.gov](http://www.coastal.ca.gov)

**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)** – The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is an independent regulatory agency within the Department of Energy that licenses and inspects private, municipal and state hydroelectric projects, and oversees environmental matters related to natural gas, oil, electricity and hydroelectric projects. Many of these hydroelectric projects have a significant influence on the provision of outdoor recreation opportunities in California. <http://www.ferc.fed.us/>

**Federal Funding Sources** – See [www.nrpa.org](http://www.nrpa.org)

- Department of Agriculture, [www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/](http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/)
  - Food Nutrition Service
    - Child and Adult Care Food Program
    - Summer Food Service Program
- Forest Service, [www.fs.fed.us/](http://www.fs.fed.us/)
  - Urban and Community Forestry
- Natural Resources Conservation Service, [www.nhq.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nhq.nrcs.usda.gov)
- Conservation Technical Assistance
  - Resource Conservation and Development
- Department of Commerce, <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/otiahome/top/grants/application.htm>
  - Technology Opportunities Program
- Department of Education
  - 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers
  - Rehabilitation Services Special Recreation Program
- Department of Health and Human Services, [www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cbb](http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cbb)
  - Administration for Children and Families:
    - Child Care Development Block Grant
    - Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
    - Minority Community Health Coalition Demonstration
- Department of Housing and Urban Development, [www.hud.gov/bedifact.cfm](http://www.hud.gov/bedifact.cfm)
  - Brownfields Economic Development Initiative
  - Community Development Block Grant Entitlements Programs
  - HUD E-Maps
- Department of the Interior, [www.doi.gov](http://www.doi.gov)
  - Fish and Wildlife Service
    - Aquatic Resource Education
    - Boating Infrastructure Grants Program, [www.boatus.com/gov](http://www.boatus.com/gov)
    - Clean Vessel Act Pumpout Grant Program, [www.iafwa.org/](http://www.iafwa.org/)

- Hunter Education Program, [www.iafwa.org/documents/State](http://www.iafwa.org/documents/State)
  - National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grants Program
  - Sport Fish Restoration Act, [www.iafwa.org/](http://www.iafwa.org/)
  - Wildlife Conservation and Restoration Program [www.iafwa.org/](http://www.iafwa.org/)
  - Wildlife Restoration Act, [www.iafwa.org/](http://www.iafwa.org/)
  - National Park Service, [www.nps.gov/](http://www.nps.gov/)
    - Cultural Preservation Assistance Program
    - Federal Lands to Parks
    - Land and Water Conservation Fund
    - Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance
    - Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program
  - Department of Justice
    - Incentive Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Programs (Title V)
    - Gang Free Schools and Communities Initiative
    - Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities
    - Weed and Seed
  - Department of Labor
  - Youth Opportunity Grants
    - Young Offender Initiative
  - Department of Transportation, [www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/cmaq.htm](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/cmaq.htm)
    - Federal Highway Administration
      - Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program
      - Recreation Trails Program
      - Transportation Enhancements (TEA-21)
      - Coast Guard
        - Recreational Boating Safety
  - Environmental Protection Agency, [www.epa.gov/](http://www.epa.gov/)
    - Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilots
    - Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund Pilots
    - Children's Health Protection
    - Environmental Education Grants Program
    - Environmental Justice Grants to Communities
    - Technical Assistance Grants Program
  - Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) <http://www.fema.gov/>
- See **Community Development Block Grant**.

**Federal Lands to Parks (FLP)** – The National Park Service administers this program, which helps communities create new parks and recreation areas by transferring surplus federal land to state and local governments. When federal land (such as military base closures) becomes available for reuse, the notices of availability are reviewed by the NPS and they notify relevant state, regional and/or local park agencies. A state or local government agency interested in property for parks or recreation areas notifies the Federal Lands to Parks Program regional office in writing. Former federal lands can meet a number of community reuse purposes and will remain available for public beneficial use, subject to accepted stewardship principles and practices. See **National Park Service**. <http://www.ncrc.nps.gov/PROGRAM/FLP/>

**Federal Standards** – Laws, executive orders and regulations that are upheld by the federal government. For a complete listing of federal government standards that affect natural areas,

historic properties, recreation sites and activities, check [www.cr.nps.gov/linklaws.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/linklaws.htm). This web site will list all regulations, standards and executive orders in full text.

**Final Map Subdivision** – Final map subdivisions (also called tract maps or major subdivisions) are land divisions, which create five or more lots. They must be consistent with the general plan and are generally subject to stricter requirements than parcel maps. Such requirements may include installing road improvements, the construction of drainage and sewer facilities, schools, parkland dedications, and open space. See **General Plan, Subdivision, and Subdivision Map Act**.

**Finding of No Significant Impact** – See **Environmental Assessment**

**Findings** – Written legal conclusions prepared by a public agency that explain the disposition of each significant environmental effect and alternative identified in an Environmental Impact Report. See **Environmental Impact Report** and **California Environmental Quality Act**.

**Fire Hazard Zone** – An area where, due to slope, fuel, weather, or other fire-related conditions, the potential loss of life and property from a fire necessitates special fire protection measures and planning before development occurs. See **Fuel Break**  
<http://www.realtydisclosure.com/fire.html>

**Fiscal Year** – Sets the calendar boundary for a governing body’s spending plan; varies among agencies, but typically July 1 – June 30. The federal fiscal year is October 1 – September 30. Fiscal Year is also referred to as Budget Year. See **Surplus, Continuation Budget, and Carryover**.

**Flood, 100-Year** – The magnitude of a flood expected to occur on the average every 100 years based on historical data. The 100-year flood has a one one-hundredth, or one percent, chance of occurring in any given year, an important consideration when deciding upon park and recreation facility locations and for insurance requirements.

**Flood Plain** – All land between a natural or manmade waterway and the upper elevation of the one hundred-year flood. This area is typically not suitable for infrastructure and structural recreation improvements such as community centers, tennis courts and play equipment areas.

**Floor Area Ratio** – aka FAR, this is a measure of development intensity. FAR is the ratio of the floor area of a building to the area of its site. For instance, a one-story building that covers an entire lot has an FAR of 1. Similarly, a one-story building that covers ½ of a lot has a FAR of 0.5. <http://www.mit.edu/~alexkav/FAR/home.html>

**Force Account (grants)** – As used by the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services, means project work or the dollar equivalent thereof performed by a grantee’s own work force. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Foundation, Types of** – The category of nonprofit organizations known as foundations includes, by law and label, four very different types. They are:

- **Operation Foundation**: An organization that uses its resources to conduct research or provide a direct service. Endowment usually provided from a single source, but eligible for

maximum tax deductible contributions from public. Makes few, if any, grants. Grants generally related directly to the foundation's programs.

- **Independent Foundation:** An independent grant-making organization established to aid social, educational, religious, or other charitable activities. Endowment generally derived from a single source such as an individual, a family, or a group of individuals. Contributions to endowment limited as to tax deductibility. Decisions may be made by donor or members of donor's family; by an independent board of directors or trustees; or by a bank or trust officer acting on the donor's behalf.
- **Company-Sponsored Foundation:** An independent, grant-making organization with close ties to the corporation providing funds. Endowment and annual contributions from a profit-making corporation. May maintain small endowment and pay out most of contributions received annually in grants, or may maintain endowment to cover contribution in years when corporate profits are down. Decisions made by board of directors often composed of corporate officials, but which may include individuals with no corporate affiliation. Local company officials may also make decisions.
- **Community Foundation:** Most often a publicly-supported organization which makes grants for social, educational, religious, or other charitable purposes in a specific community or region. Contributions received from many donors. Usually eligible for maximum tax deductible contributions from public. Decisions made by board of directors representing the diversity of the community.

**Fuel Break** – A strip of land on which plants have been thinned, trimmed, pruned, or changed to types that burn with lower intensity, so that fires can be more readily controlled. A park and recreation professional may design a multi-purpose play field in such an area to meet a fuel break need. Fuel breaks are also created and managed where park open space areas are intermixed with residential development. The steeper the terrain, the longer the flame length can be anticipated in a wild-land fire. For example, East Bay Regional Park District manages a fuel break in their Oakland-Berkeley park areas. See **Fire Hazard Zone**.

**Full-time Equivalent (FTE)** – A count of full-time and part-time employees where part-time employees are reported as an appropriate fraction of a full-time position. This fraction is equal to the ratio of time expended in a part-time position to that of a full-time position. For example, a permanent employee funded and paid for 40 hours/week and 52 weeks/year or two employees funded and paid for 20 hours/week and 52 weeks/year would be equal to one full-time equivalent. See **Funded Positions**.

**Fund** – An accounting unit used to record cash and other financial resources as well as an offsetting amount of liabilities and other uses. The resources and uses are segregated from other resources and uses for the purpose of carrying on specific activities or attaining specific objectives in accordance with special regulations, restrictions, or limitations.

**Fund Balance** – The net of assets less liabilities at any given point in time.

**Funded Positions** – The number of authorized positions for which funding is included in a given fiscal year's budget. See **Full-time Equivalent**.

**Funding Sources** – The type or origin of funds to finance recurring or non-recurring expenditures. Examples include revenues such as ad valorem taxes, user fees, licenses, permits,

and grants and non-revenues such as fund balance and interfund transfers. See **Expenditures, Ad Valorem Taxes, User Charges/Fees, In-Kind (grants) and Grants.**

## G

**Gann Spending Limit** – A ceiling, or limit, on each year’s appropriations of tax dollars by the state, cities, counties, school districts, and special districts. Proposition 4, an initiative passed in November 1979, added controls on appropriations in Article XIII B of the California Constitution. Using 1978-79 as a base year, subsequent years’ limits have been adjusted for: (1) an inflation increase equal to the change in the Consumer Price Index or per capita personal income, whichever is smaller; and (2) the change in population, which for school agencies is the change in average daily attendance. Proposition 111, adopted in June 1990, amended the Gann limit inflation factor to be based on the change in per capita personal income.

<http://www.caltax.org/member/digest/July2000/jul00-9.htm>

**Gateway** – A point along a roadway entering an area at which a motorist gains a sense of leaving the surrounding environs and of having entered the city, park or other particular area; visual gateways or portals into parks or the city could be a flashy showing of landscaping along a major transportation route leading to or away from the park or city’s core.

**General Law City** – A city incorporated under and administered in accordance with the general laws of the state.

**General Fund** – Fund used to account for all of a jurisdiction’s normal, unobligated financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund (e.g., enterprise or grant funds). The general fund is typically the account where unobligated fees, revenues, taxes and related income sources are deposited. See **Enterprise Fund** and **Fund**.

**General Obligation Bonds** – Bonds that are a “general obligation” of the government agency issuing them, i.e., their repayment is not tied to a selected revenue stream. Bond elections in a school district must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the electorate and state bond measures require only a majority vote. See **Proposition 218** and **Public Financing**.

**General Plan** – A legal document required by the State of every city or county regarding its long-term development; a document providing broad public policy and programmatic guidance regarding development and management of an individual unit of the State Park System, essential to the Department Managers, Staff and stakeholders. A General Plan is sometimes called a “comprehensive plan” or “master plan.” See **Comprehensive Plan, Constraint, Land Use Element Leadership Plan, Zoning Tiered Approach, Community Plan, Constraint, and Master Plan**.

**General Plan Amendment** – A change or addition to a General Plan. For example, a general plan can be amended to include a Tree Ordinance or to allow for more open space requirements. See **General Plan** and **Ordinance**.

**Geographic Information System (GIS)** – A computer system capable of assembling, storing, manipulating and graphically displaying geographically referenced information. A GIS allows analysis of spatial relationships between many different types of features based on their location on the ground. <http://www.usgs.gov/research/gis/title.html>

**Grant(s)** – Contributions of cash or other assets from another governmental agency or nonprofit foundation to be used or expended for a specific purpose. Program revenues provided by external sources, which are restricted to a specific purpose, have a time limit for use, and frequently are reimbursed after incurring eligible costs. For example, the Office of Grants and Local Assistance with the California Department of Parks and Recreation administers a range of competitive and per capita grant funds, [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov) See **Federal Funding Sources** **Historic Preservation Fund “Save America’s Treasures Program”/National Park Service, State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, and Stewardship** . <http://www.nps.gov/>

**Grantee (grants)** – As used by the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services, means an applicant who has been awarded grant funds. See **Grant(s)** and **Federal Funding Sources**.

**Green Infrastructure** – Integrated network of watersheds, airsheds, woodlands, wildlife habitat, greenways, parks, working farms, ranches, forests, urban trees and parkways, and other open spaces that when incorporated into local and regional plans, policies, and practices provide vital services that sustain and ensure the quality of life. See **Open Space, Regional Plan, and Comprehensive Plan**. <http://www.greeninfrastructure.net/>

**Greenbelt** – A strategically located, landscaped, natural or agricultural area of variable width maintained in “green” or “live” condition throughout the year, designed to slow or stop the spread of fire, to prevent soil erosion and to buffer land uses. Frequently greenbelts contain trails used by bicyclists, equestrians, walkers or joggers and serve as linkages between park amenities and/or public recreation space. See **Greenway, Meander Belts, Trails, Bikeway, Biocorridor, Erosion, Open Space, and Fire Hazard Zone**.

**Greenway** – A linear area maintained as open space in order to conserve natural and cultural resources, and to provide recreational opportunities, aesthetic and design benefits, and linkages. More specifically, a coordinated system of open space that links existing facilities using streets, railroad rights-of-way, utility easements and natural features such as stream corridors and drainage channels. Greenways also provide corridors for wildlife habitat, as well as acting as visual buffer zones between developments. See **Greenbelt, Trails, Erosion, Bikeway, Biocorridor, Open Space, Infrastructure, Easements, and Fire Hazard Zone**.

**Growth Management** – The community use of a combined variety of techniques to establish the amount, type, and rate of growth desired by the community and to channel that growth into designated areas. Growth management policies can be implemented through zoning, capital improvements programs, public facilities ordinances, urban limit lines, constraints analysis systems, and other programs. Growth management requires planning for additional park and recreation facilities and open space for the increased population. See **Smart Growth and Urban Sprawl**.

**Growth Rate** – The level at which expenditures, revenues, and population are expected to increase annually.

**Guidelines** – General statements of policy direction around which specific details may later be established. National standards or guidelines used in the park and recreation profession include the number of park acres recommended per 1,000 population, the number of people served by a tennis court, swimming pool, soccer field etc.

## H

**Habitat** – The physical location or type of environment in which an organism or biological population lives or occurs; often characterized by a dominant plant form or physical characteristic (e.g., the oak-savanna, wetland, or a coastal habitat)

**Habitat Conservation Fund Grant Program** – The Habitat Conservation Fund Grant Program was established under the California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990. Cities, counties, and districts are eligible to apply and require a dollar-for-dollar match from a non-state source. Funding categories vary from fiscal year to fiscal year. The California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services administers a grant program under this fund. The Department of Fish and Game provides oversight for the Habitat Conservation Fund Grant Program. See **Grant(s)** and **California Wildlife Protection Act (1990)**. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)** – The product of a process providing species protection and habitat conservation within the context of non-federal development and land use activities; prepared under the federal Endangered Species Act, it permits development in some areas in exchange for conserving an equivalent amount of land in other areas where endangered species are likely to be found. See **Endangered Species Act** and **Land-Banking**. <http://endangered.fws.gov/hcp/#about>

**Habitat Enhancement** – Improves habitat through alteration, treatment, or other land management of existing habitat to increase habitat value for one or more species without bringing the habitat to a fully restored or naturally occurring condition. See **Habitat** and **Habitat Restoration**. <http://www.r5.fs.fed.us/sequoia/fishing/habitat.htm>

**Habitat Fragmentation** – The process by which habitats are subdivided into smaller and more isolated units which becomes less capable of providing for the needs of resident species. See **Habitat**.

**Habitat Indicator** – A physical attribute of the environment measured to characterize conditions necessary to support an organism, population, or community in the absence of pollutants; e.g. salinity of estuarine waters or substrate type in streams or lakes.

**Habitat Restoration** – Returns the quality of habitat to some previous naturally occurring condition, most often some baseline considered suitable and sufficient to support self-sustaining populations. See **Habitat** and **Habitat Enhancement**.

**Half-Life** – 1. The time required for a pollutant to lose one-half of its original concentration or example, the biochemical half-life of DDT in the environment is 15 years. 2. The time required for half of the atoms of a radioactive element to undergo self-transmutation or decay (half-life of radium is 1620 years). 3. The time required for the elimination of half a total dose from the body.

**Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund (HWRF)** – This fund provides funding for boating safety programs. The California Department of Boating and Waterways administers this program. See **Grant(s)**. [www.dbw.ca.gov](http://www.dbw.ca.gov)

**Hazardous Material** – Any substance that, because of its quantity, concentration, or physical or chemical characteristics, poses a significant potential hazard to human health and safety, or to other organisms in the environment. Lead-based paint is an example of a hazardous material. See **Brownfields**.

**Heritage Tree or Grove** – A tree or group of trees designated to be of historical or cultural value, outstanding specimens, unusual species, or of significant community benefit due to size, age, or other unique characteristics, and protected from development projects.

<http://www.ancienttrees.org/article13.html>

[http://www.ci.vancouver.wa.us/vmc/Title\\_20/96/105.html](http://www.ci.vancouver.wa.us/vmc/Title_20/96/105.html)

**Historic Context** – An organizing framework for interpreting history that groups information about historical resources sharing a common theme, geographic area, or chronology. The development of ‘historic context’ is a foundation for decisions regarding the planning, identification, evaluation, registration, and treatment of historical resources based upon comparative historic significance. See **Cultural Landscape**.

**Historic District** – A collection of historic or prehistoric resources and landscapes, typically a grouping of historically related buildings in the context of their original setting. [www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov)

**Historic Fabric** – (1) With regard to an historic building, means the particular materials, ornamentation, and architectural features, which are consistent with the historic character of the building. (2) With regard to an historic district, means all sites buildings, structures, features, objects, landscaping, street elements, and related design components of the district which are consistent with the historic character of the district (3) With regard to an archaeological district means sites, standing structures or buildings, historic landscape (land disturbances such as grading or construction), features (remnants of walls), and objects (artifacts) which are consistent with the historic character of the district. See **Historic District** and **Historic Context**.

**Historic Preservation Fund “Save America’s Treasures Program”** – Administered by the National Park Service in partnership with the National Endowment of the Arts, the program offers dollar-for-dollar matching grants to preserve the country’s most significant historic sites and collections. The grants are available to eligible federal agencies, state, local and tribal governments and nonprofit organizations. Projects are selected based on national significance, need for urgent preservation, educational or other clear public benefit and the likelihood of non-federal matching funds. See **Grants** and **Historic Districts**. [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)

**Historic Resource/Historic Resources** – Any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which is historically or archaeologically significant, or which is significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural history of California.

“Includes, but is not limited to any object, building, structure, site, area, or place that is historically or archaeologically significant, or is significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, education, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California” (Public Resources Code § 5020.1). See **Antiquities Act of 1906** and **Historic Districts**. [www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html)

**Historical Rehabilitation** – Generally means the reconstruction, restoration, renovation, or repair of the interiors or exteriors of historical properties or their relocation for the purposes of restoring or preserving their historical or architectural significance or authenticity, preventing their deterioration or destruction, continuing their use, providing for their feasible reuse, or providing for the safety of the occupants or passersby. It also includes, but is not limited to the repairing of architectural facades or ornamentation; removal of inappropriate additions or materials, replacement of facades etc. that have been removed; repairing of roofs, foundations, and other essential structural elements; installing parking areas, if required by local regulation or law for the use for which the property in order to comply with rehabilitation standards.

**Historical Property** – Means any building or part thereof, object, structure, monument, or collection thereof deemed of importance to the history, architecture, or culture of an area as determined by an appropriate governmental agency. An appropriate government agency is a local official historic preservation board or commission, a legislative body of a local agency, or the State Historical Resources Commission. Includes objects, buildings, structures, monuments, or collections thereof on existing national, state, or local historical registers or official inventories, such as the National Register of Historic Places and State Historic Landmarks.

## I

**ISTEA (Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act)** – Pronounced “Ice Tea,” this landmark federal legislation signed into law in 1991 made broad changes in the way transportation decisions are made. ISTEA emphasized diversity and balance of modes, as well as the preservation of existing systems before construction of new facilities. ISTEA expired in 1997, but much of its program structure is carried forward in current federal legislation – TEA-21/TEA-3. See **Grant(s), Transportation Enhancement and Federal Funding Sources**. <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tea21/>

**Impact Analysis** – The section of an Environmental Impact Report that analyzes the significant, unavoidable, and irreversible environmental effects of a proposed project. See **Environmental Impact Report**.

**Impact Fees** – A one-time fee levied against new development to cover the development’s proportionate share of the cost of providing the infrastructure (including parks and recreation) needed to fill the demand created by residents of the development. Also referred to as

development exactions or development impact fees. See **Exactions, Development Fees, Infrastructure, Dedication, Subdivision Map Act,** and **Quimby Act.**

**Impact Mitigation Measure** – Action or change to a project that will minimize its negative environmental effects. See **California Environmental Quality Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Mitigation Measure,** and **Mitigation.**

**Impervious Surface** – Surface through which water cannot penetrate, such as a roof, paved road, tennis courts, basketball courts, and other paved surfaces. The amount of impervious surface increases with development and establishes the need for drainage facilities to carry the increased runoff.

**Implementation Program** – A coordinated set of measures to carry out the policies of a General Plan. For example, if the community desires 10 acres of parkland per 1,000 persons, it must describe how this will be accomplished. See **General Plan.**

**In-fill Development** – Development of vacant parcels of land, established core, or in established communities, which for some reason were passed over when the initial development occurred, or were cleared of substandard structures and are ready for new development. The opposite of urban sprawl or leapfrog development. Similar to cities, in counties it applies to properties that are zoned at a higher (more dense) capacity than currently being used, for example a parcel that is now zoned for 5 acres that was previously zoned at 20 acres or more in size. See **Urban.**

**In-holdings Properties** – The California Department of Parks and Recreation defines in-holding properties as being at least 50% surrounded by existing State Park ownership. In-holding property is typically surrounded by publicly owned land and may be on the proposed acquisition list for eventual purchase.

**In-kind match (grants)** – As used by the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services, means donations of materials, services, and volunteer time that may be from local, state, or private sources. See **Grant(s).** [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**In-kind mitigation** – A type of compensatory mitigation in which the adverse impacts to one habitat type are mitigated through the creation, restoration, or enhancement of the same habitat type at a different location. See **Mitigation, Mitigation Measure, Habitat** and **Out-of-kind mitigation.**

**In-Lieu fees/contributions** – see **Dedication, In-Lieu of.**

**Incidental Take** – Taking of endangered or threatened species if the take (species) is part of an overall effort to improve the condition of the species. For example, some wildlife biologists have “taken” endangered birds to protect them from pending development. See **Endangered Species.** <http://courses.washington.edu/vseminar/Esc350-20/tsld012.htm>

**Incorporated Area** – A legally recognized city or town. See **Unincorporated Area.** [www.granthealth.org/adgcpopulation.doc](http://www.granthealth.org/adgcpopulation.doc)

**Independent Special District** – A special district governed by and elected or appointed board of directors that serve for a fixed term. Independent special districts governing boards typically

have 3 to 11 board members. However, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California has a 37-member board.

**Indirect Expense (costs) and Overhead** – Those elements of indirect cost necessary to the operation of the park and recreation agency or in the performance of a service that are of such nature that the amount applicable to each accounting unit or to specified project cannot be separately identified and are charged as a flat percentage of project costs.

**Indirect Impacts** – Also referred to as secondary effects, indirect impacts are caused by a project and occur later in time or at some distance from the project; however, they are still reasonably foreseeable.

**Inflationary Increase** – An adjustment made to reflect current year or estimated future year national or regional change to categories of expense as affected by monetary inflation. Generally, inflationary increases are based on the Consumer Price Index. See **Expenditure**.

**Infrastructure** – A general term describing public and quasi-public utilities and facilities such as roads, bridges, sewers and sewer plants, water lines, storm drainage, power lines, parks and recreation, public libraries, fire stations, sidewalks and streetlights. Can also be considered a permanent installation such as lighting, sidewalks, buildings, and water systems. See **Amenity Infrastructure** and **Constraint**.

**Infrastructure Financing District (IFD)** – A mechanism for cities and counties to form tax increment financing districts to finance the purchase of open space without raising current property taxes. See **Tax-increment Financing District** and **Open Space**.

**Initial Study** – A preliminary analysis of a proposed project to determine whether an Environmental Impact Report must be prepared or a Negative Declaration will be sufficient and identifying the significant environmental effects to be analyzed in an EIR. The initial study's determination must be based on factual supporting evidence. See **Environmental Impact Report**, **Negative Declaration**, and **California Environmental Protection Act..** [www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html)

**Initiative** – A proposed legislative or constitutional measure that is placed on the ballot by citizen petition, to be approved or rejected by popular vote, thus allowing citizens to enact their own laws, independent of the state legislature or local legislative body. At the local level, initiatives usually propose changes or additions to the general plan and zoning ordinance. For example, the citizens of the City of Davis brought a park and recreation measure up for voter approval. The right to the initiative process is guaranteed by the California Constitution. See **Zoning** and **Ballot Box Zoning**.

**Integrity (Historical)** – A building, structure, or object's ability to convey a sense of history in association with the time it is considered important to that history.

**Interagency** – Indicates cooperative actions between or among two or more agencies in regard to a specific program or effort. For example, many public work departments and park and recreation departments' partner in providing facilities for recreation programs and special events for community use. See **Joint Powers Agreement**.

**Interest, Less than Fee** – An interest in land other than outright ownership; may include the purchase of development rights via conservation, open space or scenic easements, for example as a condition of permit to the Coastal Commission, the Board of Directors or the Board of Supervisors. See **Easement** and **Conservation Easement**.

**Interim Uses** aka **Temporary Use** – Improvements that allow for public access and use of park lands without creating a permanent commitment of the underlying resources; i.e. a gravel or dirt parking area as opposed to a paved lot. Land uses that require temporary structures, land improvements, and landscaping and which, from an economic and political standpoint, can be converted at the end of that limited life.

**Interlocking** (Parcels) – The use of corridors of land and/or water, which connect larger parcels, providing an interconnected system within a community or region. Often called “connectivity corridors” by conservation biologists. See **Biocorridor**, **Connector Trail**, and **Conservation**.

**Intermittent Stream or Creek** – A stream or creek that normally flows for at least thirty days after the last major rain of the season and is dry much of the remainder of the year.

**Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act** – See **ISTEA**

**Interpretation** – A communication process designed to reveal meanings and relationships of our cultural or natural heritage through involvement with objects, artifacts, landscapes, sites, and oral histories. See **Interpretive Exhibits** and **Unifying Theme**. [www.interpretation.org/](http://www.interpretation.org/)

**Interpretive Activities** – See **Self-Guided Interpretive Activities**.

**Interpretive Exhibits** – A media in which historical or natural history objects or ideas are displayed imparting messages relative to certain themes. The educational interpretive exhibit provides, but is not limited to, cultural heritage, historical information, natural history, and recreational activities. The purpose of the interpretive exhibit is to educate and inspire the visitor. It can be as simple as a trailside sign or as extensive as a visitor center/museum. See **Interpretation**, **Vignettes** and **Visitor Center/Interpretation Center**. [www.interpexhibits.com/interpretive.shtml](http://www.interpexhibits.com/interpretive.shtml)

**Interpretive Period** – A date or set of dates that set the historic framework for interpretation within a park unit, directing and focusing interpretive themes, facilities and activities to represent a specific span of years. There may be primary or secondary interpretive periods for the park. See **Historic Resources**, **Interpretation**, and **Interpretive Exhibits**. [www.epa.gov/guidance](http://www.epa.gov/guidance)

**Interpretive Significance** – Statement derived from the unit purpose, which focus on the park’s statewide, regional, and intrinsic (cultural, historical, biological) values. The emphasis of the statement is on why the parcel/unit was acquired.

**Interpretive Trails** – See **Self-Guided Trails**.

**Inverse Condemnation** – Claims by landowners that a regulatory taking has occurred, causing a reduction in a property’s market value, and that just compensation is due the landowner by the government under the Fifth Amendment. For example, if a city approved a development project

with exactions without showing a direct nexus to the project, a cause of action for a “regulatory taking” could be initiated in a court of law. See **Nexus Study** and **Exactions**.

## *J*

**Joint Powers Agreement** – An agreement of two or more public agencies or non-profit organization for joint or cooperative action in specific areas or purposes. Also referred to as Joint Use Agreement. See **Civic Center Act** and **Partnering/partnership**.  
[www.mnasbo.org/committees/purchase/documents/jp\\_agreement.htm](http://www.mnasbo.org/committees/purchase/documents/jp_agreement.htm)

## *K*

**Kiosk** – A building frequently found at the entrance or exit of a park facility to control access/egress of park users, collect fees, provide information, first-aid and public safety, etc; usually located in at a key access point. For example, educational brochures and maps are found at many regional park kiosks. See **Access/Egress/Ingress**.

## *L*

**LAFCO (Local Agency Formation Commission)** – A county commission that reviews and evaluates all proposals for the formation of special districts, incorporation of cities, annexation to special districts or cities, consolidation of districts, and merger of districts with cities. Each county’s LAFCO is empowered to approve, disapprove, or conditionally approve these proposals. The Cortese-Knox Act establishes a LAFCO to be made up of elected officials of the county, as well as the cities, and in some cases, special districts in that county. A LAFCO establishes spheres of influence for all the cities and special districts in each county. See **Sphere of Influence**, **Cortese-Knox Act**, and **Annexation**.  
[www.opr.ca.gov/localplanning/LAFCOReform.shtml](http://www.opr.ca.gov/localplanning/LAFCOReform.shtml)

**Labor/Supply Offset** – Amounts for employee salaries/benefits expected to be charged to capital improvement projects or grants, thus reimbursing the operating budget for these costs. See **Capital Improvement Program**, **Grant(s)**, and **Operating Budget**.

**Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Program (LWCF)** – This federal fund provides for the planning, acquisition, and development of lands and waters for outdoor recreation purposes. The program is administered by the National Park Service and became effective in 1965. Funds for the program are derived from federal recreation fees, sales of federal surplus real property, the federal motorboat fuels tax and the Outer Continental Shelf mineral receipts. Cities, counties, and districts are eligible to apply for acquisition or development grants. The state is the point of disbursement. The program requires a dollar-for-dollar match. The California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services administers a grant program under delegation from the federal government. See **Americans for our Heritage and Recreation**, **National Park Service**, **Grant(s)**, **Statewide Comprehensive**

**Outdoor Recreation Plan** and **Federal Funding Sources.** [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov) and <http://www.nps.gov/>

**Land-Banking** – When a government agency buys land and holds it for resale, future use or mitigation purposes. For example, the City of Plymouth purchased land for open space and parks for possible resale. Park Districts also buy land to set aside and hold in land-bank status for future park development. Funds may not be available at the time of purchase for park development or opening for public use, but land-banked properties in park district ownership are preserved for future public use.

**Land Conservancies and Land Trusts** – Private and non-profit organizations whose purpose is to purchase land or easements in order to prevent land from being developed. Often they are formed to promote resource stewardship through acquisition, conservation, protection, and public education. Acquisition includes purchase, donation, trade, transfer or through easements. For example, a conservation easement could be acquired for a wildlife habitat specifying eco-recreational uses only. Once acquired, many land conservancies and land trusts re-sell or transfer their lands on to public agencies for long-term management. See **Conservation Easement.** [www.lta.org](http://www.lta.org)

**Land Fallowing** – Allowing previously farmed agricultural land to temporarily lie idle (fallow) and for a variety of purposes, allowing it to remain out of production.

**Land-Secured Bonding Mechanism** – Bonds backed by the value of the land involved; not by tax revenue, such as Mello-Roos bonds. See **“Dirt Bond”** and **Mello-Roos.**

**Land Use Designations** – A classification system for the designation of appropriate use of properties. The land use designations include the various residential, commercial/industrial, recreational and public service land uses assigned to property. Park planning land use designations could include high impact recreation amenities, for example, such as sports fields and community centers versus passive use areas such as informal use turfing areas.

**Land Use Element** – A basic element of the General Plan, it combines text, and maps to designate the future use or reuse of land within a given jurisdiction’s planning area. A land use element serves as a guide to the structure of zoning and subdivision controls, urban renewal and capital improvements programs, and official decisions regarding the distribution, density and intensity of development and the location of public facilities and open space, including park facilities and recreation areas. See **General Plan, Community Plan, Zoning, Ordinance, Variance, Land Use Plan, and Capital Improvement Program.**

**Land use incompatibility:** A situation in which the co-existence of a particular land use on a site, or two or more land uses in close proximity, either creates adverse impacts (e.g., environmental) beyond acceptable limits or compromises the proper functioning of the affected land uses.

**Land Use Plan (LUP)** – The relevant portion of a local government's general plan or local coastal element that is sufficiently detailed to indicate the kinds, location, and intensity of land uses, the applicable resource protection and development policies and, where necessary, a listing of implementing actions. For instance, a regional park with its various amenities could be an element of the LUP. See **General Plan, Community Plan, Zoning, Ordinance, Land Use**

**Element, Variance and Capital Improvement Program.**

[www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html)

**Land Use Regulation** – A term encompassing the regulations of land in general and often used to mean those regulations incorporated in the General Plan, as distinct from zoning regulations (which are more specific). Agriculture is a preferred land use in some rural counties. See **General Plan, Community Plan, and Land Use Element.**

**Landmark (historical)** – Refers to a building or site (including a specific tree) having historic, architectural, social or cultural significance and designated for preservation by the local, state or federal government. For example, the City of Los Angeles has been designated “El Pueblo” for preservation because of its historic, architectural, social and cultural significance. See **Historic Preservation, Historic Resources, Historic District, and Office of Historic Preservation.**

[www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Landscape Architects (LAs)** – Landscape Architects design residential, commercial and community areas such as, parks, college campuses, shopping centers, golf courses and industrial areas so that they are not just functional and beautiful, but that they are compatible with the environment. They plan the location of buildings, roads, walkways, and trails, and the arrangement of vegetation, as well as assist in guiding the public in general plan development during public meetings and the like. Increasingly, landscape architects are becoming involved with projects in environmental remediation, such as preservation and restoration of wetlands. Historic preservation is another important objective to which landscape architects may apply their knowledge of the environment, as well as their design and artistic talents. <http://stats.bls.gov/oco/ocos039.htm> and <http://www.asla.org/>.

**Landscape Destruction** – Relates to actions resulting from those resource-planning decisions that abruptly alter the landscape in either a reversible or irreversible manner.

**Landscape Enhancement** – Modification of the natural or cultural landscape that tends to add visual, aesthetic, and recreational interest.

**Landscaping** – Plantings including trees, shrubs, and ground covers suitably designed, selected, installed and maintained so as to enhance a site, the surroundings of a structure, or the sides or medians of a roadway. Landscaping may also refer to structural improvements like retaining walls, structures, walkways, drainage, and lighting.

**Latent Demand** – Number of facilities or the activities that people would more often participate in if there were more opportunities and facilities available within a reasonable distance and at a convenient and acceptable time and price.

**Lead Agency** – The public agency that has the principal responsibility for carrying out or approving a project.

**Leadership Plan** – An element of the comprehensive park, recreation and open space plan that sets forth the mission, management philosophy, and values of the organization, including the organizational structure and leadership positions needed to implement each action item of the plan. See **General Plan and Comprehensive Plan.**

**League of California Cities** – The League of California Cities is an association of California city officials who work together to enhance their knowledge and skills, exchange information, and combine resources so that they may influence and educate policy decisions affecting cities. [www.cacities.org/](http://www.cacities.org/)

**Leapfrog Development** – See **In-fill Development**.

**Leisure** – Any portion of individual's time not occupied by employment or essential activities. See **Recreation**.

**Leisure/Recreation Industry** – Is composed of organizations or government agencies offering lands, facilities, programs and services in the:

- Private for-profit sector of business enterprises including what is referred to as commercial recreation and travel and tourism;
- Non-profit sector, encompassing the many associations concerned especially with social concerns and the quality of life; and
- Public sector, commonly noted as park and recreation agencies at the local, state, and national levels.

**Level of Service (LOS)** aka 'park acreage standards' – An expression of the minimum recreation and park infrastructure capacity (land or facilities) required to satisfy the park and recreation needs of residents of a community. The LOS is expressed as acres/1000 population.

**Level-One Environmental Assessment** – An early analysis or review to determine if environmental contamination and liability is present on a site proposed for acquisition and/or development. See **Hazardous Material, Brownfields, and Environmental Impact Report, California Environmental Quality Act, Environmental Assessment**.

**Lighting and Landscaping Act of 1972** – The 1972 Act lets cities, counties, and special districts levy assessments for land purchase and construction, operation and maintenance of parks, landscaping, lighting, traffic signals, and graffiti abatement. See **Maintenance Assessment Districts**. [www.shilts.com/landscap.htm](http://www.shilts.com/landscap.htm) <http://ceres.ca.gov/ceqa>

**Lighting and Landscaping Assessment Districts (L&L) (L&LAD)** – The Lighting and Landscaping Act of 1972 enables cities, counties, and special districts to, among other things, acquire land for parks, recreation and open space through the creation of a special assessment district by 2/3rds of the property owners of that district. See **Lighting and Landscaping Act of 1972, Maintenance Assessment Districts, Public Financing and Special Assessment**. [www.shilts.com/landscap.htm](http://www.shilts.com/landscap.htm) and <http://ceres.ca.gov/ceqa>

**Living History Program** – Programs that combine authentic activities, objects, and historic persona where actors in replica attire recreate an event through which visitors gain insights into the history of a site, occurrence, and/or period. Living history has become an important interpretive medium for many historic parks. See **Interpretation**.

**Lobbying** – Process of attempting to influence Legislators in the passage, defeat, or content of legislation, or regulations by individuals or a group.

**Local Agency (Government)**– Any city or county, whether general law or chartered, special district, school district, joint powers entity, redevelopment agency, or any other municipal corporation, district, or political subdivision of the state. Also called Local Government. See **California Local Government** and **California Local Government Information Website**.

**Local Agency Formation Commission** – See **LAFCO**.

## M

**“Magic or grandfathered” Subdivision** – A subdivision that predates the original passage of the state subdivision legislation. Often provisions of parks and recreation facilities can be negotiated even though not legislated. See **Subdivision Map Act** and **Subdivision**.

**Maintenance** – Tasks undertaken on a regular basis to keep park and recreation facilities in a safe, attractive and usable condition. See **Rehabilitation** and **On-going/Deferred Maintenance**.

**Maintenance Assessment Districts** – A mechanism for local agencies, including park and recreation agencies, to charge property owners a fee for the benefit derived by the property as a result of local agency service improvements. See **Special Districts** and **Lighting and Landscaping Act of 1972** (Code § 22500 of the Street and Highways Code).

**Management Plans** – In California State Parks, management plans define the objectives, methodologies, and/or designs on how management goals will be accomplished. Occurring on an as-needed basis, they are typically focused on specific management topics, goals, or issues. Depending on their focus, the plans can apply to all or part of a unit. Management plans are consistent with systemwide plans and policies, and with the unit’s general plan. Unlike general plans, individual management plans are more dynamic, changing as necessary to serve management’s needs. See **Specific Project Plans**.

**Mandate** – Requirement imposed by a legal act of the federal, state, or local government.

**Mandatory Dedication** aka **Parkland Dedication Ordinance** – An ordinance that requires a developer to dedicate parkland (and/or cash in lieu of land) as a prerequisite for subdivision map approval. See **Dedication, In Lieu of, Dedication, Dedication of Land**, and **Subdivision Map Act**.

**Master Environmental Assessment** – A thoroughly documented assessment of the existing physical and environmental conditions of a given area. See **California Environmental Quality Act, Environmental Assessment**, and **Environmental Impact Statement**.

**Master Plan** – Master plans are tangible statements of where the park is now, what it should be in the future and what is required to get there. While circumstances vary from place to place, the decision to develop a master plan is often determined by the need to understand the current conditions of the park, to generate and build community interest and participation, to create a new and common vision for the park’s future, and/or to develop a clear and solid set of recommendations and implementation strategy. Master Plans may also be developed for a

complex of parks, neighborhoods, communities, etc. with the same general objectives. See **General Plan** and **Comprehensive Plan**. <http://pps.org/topics/design/masterplan/>

**Master-Planned Development** – A development designed to create an entire self-contained community, rather than an addition to an existing one. Sometimes called a “new town,” it includes necessary public services such as roads, infrastructure, sewers, schools, and parks. See **Master Plan**, **General Plan** and **Comprehensive Plan**.

**Match (grants)** – Means the funds or equivalent in-kind contributions that are required in addition to grant funds for some programs. Gifts of land may qualify as in-kind contributions for acquisition grants. See **Grant(s)**, **Federal Funding Sources**, and **In-Kind (grants)**. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Meander Belt** – Protecting and preserving land in the vicinity of a river channel in order to allow the river to meander in a natural way. Meander belts are a way to allow the protection of natural habitat around a river. See **Greenways**, **Greenbelts**, **Connectivity**, and **Biocorridor**.

**Mello-Roos** – The Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982 (Gov. Code § 53311 ET seq.) is a tax-based financing method available to cities, counties, and special districts. It authorizes local governments to establish Community Facilities Districts within which they may levy special taxes and issue bonds to finance open space acquisition, parks and recreation programs, maintenance, schools, libraries, and other government facilities. Funding for the district is obtained from a special tax or charge levied against the parcels in the district. See **Community Facilities Districts**, **“Dirt Bonds,” Special Districts**, **Tax Exempt Bond**, **Special Assessment Bonds**, and **Maintenance Districts**. [www.mello-roos.com](http://www.mello-roos.com) and <http://www.clta.org/Publications/Title%20Consumers/Mello-Roos.htm>, [www.californiataxdata.com/A\\_Mello\\_Roos/index.asp](http://www.californiataxdata.com/A_Mello_Roos/index.asp)

**Mello-Roos Bond** aka ‘**Dirt Bond**’– A bond issued pursuant to the establishment of a Community Facilities District (CFD) created for a new development. The CFD levies additional property taxes on land located inside the district; thus creating a dependable revenue stream that can be used in issuing bonds to pay for the new infrastructure. Mello-Roos funds have been traditionally used for the acquisition, development, and maintenance of parks, recreation programs, and open space. See **Community Facilities Districts**, **“Dirt Bonds,” Special Districts**, **Special Assessment Bonds**, and **Maintenance Districts**. [www.mello-roos.com](http://www.mello-roos.com), <http://www.clta.org/Publications/Title%20Consumers/Mello-Roos.htm> and [http://www.californiataxdata.com/A\\_Mello\\_Roos/index.asp](http://www.californiataxdata.com/A_Mello_Roos/index.asp)

**Midden** – Refuse heap or other deposit left by ancient humans. Many Native American midden areas are protected from disturbance and development. See **Historic Preservation**, **Cultural Landscape**, and **Cultural Preserve**.

**Migration** – The periodic passage from one region to another for feeding or breeding. Migration is one of many ways wildlife cope with the changing seasons. Birds, aquatic, wildlife, and even some mammals and insects repeat their long journeys year after year in search of better weather, food supplies, and breeding opportunities. For example, whales are frequently seen in the fall migrating from Baja California to Alaska. [www.nwf.org/](http://www.nwf.org/)

**Mini-Park** aka ‘**Pocket park**’– A classification used to address limited or isolated recreational needs. Frequently these park facilities are ¼ acre or less and serve specific needs, such as a small picnic area or a tot-lot, or a specific neighborhood. See **Neighborhood Park, Community Park, Regional Park, and Urban Park**.

**Minimum Service Level (MSL)** – Defines the base outputs which are either legally mandated or considered to be the most important set of outputs of an organization. The minimum service level corresponds directly to the purpose or mission of the organization. MSL is the effort, expressed in terms of service and cost, below which it is not realistic or feasible to operate.

**Miscellaneous Funding Source** – Revenues other than those received from standard sources such as taxes, licenses and permits, grants and user fees. See **Revenues and Funding Sources**.

**Mission Statement** – A broad statement of purpose derived from an organization’s or values and goals. See **Vision Statement**.

**Mitigate** – To ameliorate, alleviate, or avoid to the extent reasonably feasible. According to CEQA, mitigations include: (a) avoiding an impact by not taking a certain action or parts of an action; (b) minimizing an impact by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation; (c) rectifying an impact by repairing, rehabilitating or restoring the environment affected; (d) reducing or eliminating an impact by preserving and maintaining operations during the life of the action; (e) compensating for an impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments. For example, providing an alternate route instead of closing the area and restoring it to its original environment could mitigate a campground built along a waterway leaving no room for a wildlife corridor. See **California Environmental Quality Act** and **Mitigation**. [www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html) <http://ceres.ca.gov/ceqa>

**Mitigated Negative Declaration** – A CEQA document prepared when a project would have significant environmental effects as originally proposed, but the developer can and will eliminate those effects by changing the project or adopting mitigation measures. After a public hearing and review period, the city council or county board of supervisors accept or reject the document. An example of a mitigated significant environmental effect would be to offer wetlands in another area in exchange for the wetlands affected by a proposed development project. See **California Environmental Quality Act, Mitigate, and Mitigation**. [www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html) or <http://ceres.ca.gov/ceqa>

**Mitigation** – Actions or project design features that reduce environmental impacts by avoiding adverse effects, minimizing adverse effects, or compensating for adverse effects. See **Adaptive Management, Mitigate, Mitigation Measure and California Environmental Quality Act..** [www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html), <http://ceres.ca.gov/ceqa>

**Mitigation Measure** – Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), when an environmental impact or potential impact is identified, measures must be proposed that will eliminate, avoid, rectify, compensate for, reduce or compensate for those environmental effects. See **California Environmental Quality Act, Mitigate and Mitigation**. [www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html), <http://ceres.ca.gov/ceqa>

**Mixed mode transit** – Travel involving a combination of walking and/or bicycling with bus or train, such as light-rail services.

**Monitoring Data** – Systematic collection of physical, biological, or economic data or a combination thereof in order to measure, evaluate and/or make decisions regarding an operation or program.

**Mountain Bikes** – Designed for unpaved trails and roads. See **All-terrain Bike Trails**.

**Multi-use or Multi-purpose Trail** – A narrow corridor of land planned to include an appropriately surfaced trail intended as a circulation connection for a variety of uses (bicycle, hiking, pedestrian, equestrian). See **Trail** and **Bikeway**.

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/sheboygan/cnred/trails/>

**Multiple Use Management** – Management of the public lands and their various resource values so they are used in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the general public.

**Municipal Trails** – Existing and proposed trails located on lands under jurisdiction of incorporated cities. See **Trail** and **Bikeway**. <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/sheboygan/cnred/trails/>

**Murray-Hayden Urban Youth Services Grant Program** aka ‘**Murray-Hayden Program**’ – Funds under the provisions of Proposition 12 have been allocated by the Office of Grants and Local Services, Department of Parks and Recreation. However, Proposition 40 also provides funds for the Murray-Hayden Urban Youth Services Grant Program. The Murray-Hayden program provided grant funds for cities, counties, districts, non-profit organizations, and federally recognized California Indian tribes. Funds could be used for capital projects, including parks, park facilities, environmental enhancement projects, youth centers, and environmental youth service centers that were within immediate proximity of a neighborhood that has been identified as having a critical lack of parks and/or open space and/or deteriorated park facilities that were in an area of significant poverty and unemployment, and had a shortage of services for youth. Priority was given to capital projects that employ neighborhood residents and at-risk youth. The California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services administered this grant program. See **Grant(s)** and **Proposition 12**. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

## N

**National Association of Recreation Resource Planners (NARRP)** – The National Association of Recreation Resource Planners is an organization of outdoor recreation professionals and others interested in recreation resource planning. It is a nationwide organization with members representing federal and state agencies, land managers, consultants, and academic institutions. <http://www.narrp.org/>

**National Association of State Park Directors (NASPD)** – An organization of State Park Directors of each of the 50 state park agencies. Provides a common forum for exchange and collective positions on issues affecting the state park programs and development of professional leadership and partnering with other agencies involved in park and recreation programs.

[www.indiana.edu/~naspd/about.html](http://www.indiana.edu/~naspd/about.html)

**National Center on Accessibility (NCA)** – A program of Indiana University’s Department of Recreation and Park Administration, funded in part by the U.S. Government through the National Park Service. NCA focuses primarily on accessibility as it relates to parks, recreation, and tourism industries. Major objectives include conducting research, providing technical assistance, developing resources and training materials, and conducting educational programs. See **National Park Service**. [www.ncaonline.org](http://www.ncaonline.org) and <http://www.nps.gov/>

**National Commission on Accreditation for Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA)** – [www.nrpa.org](http://www.nrpa.org)

**National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)** – The federal law that requires an environmental review process in all federal projects and requires each state to adopt an Environmental Protection Program. The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; 42 U.S.C. 4321-4347 NEPA is the basic national charter for protection of the environment. It establishes policy, sets goals, and provides means for carrying out the policy. NEPA requires federal agencies to prepare Environmental Impact Statements for federal actions significantly affecting the human environment. See **California Environmental Quality Act** and **Environmental Impact Statements**. <http://www.epa.gov/epahome/laws.htm>

**National Historic Preservation Act of 1966** – Established the National Register of Historic Places. Created a partnership between federal, state, and local agencies to extend the national historic preservation programs to properties of state and local significance.

**National Historic Preservation Fund (NHPF)** – This fund provides for the preservation of properties that are significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, and culture. The California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Historic Preservation administers this funding source. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**National Maritime Heritage Grants Program** – Administered by the National Park Service, currently, there is no funding available. The grants program is funded from 25% of the proceeds from scrapped vessels of the National Defense Reserve Fleet (NDRF). Unfortunately, problems in meeting adequate environmental and worker safety standards during the scrapping process have caused delays in the disposal of NDRF vessels. This has resulted in a decline in the profits generated by this resource and a loss of funds available for our grants program. See **National Park Service**. [www.cr.nps.gov/maritime/grants.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/maritime/grants.htm) and <http://www.nps.gov/>

**National Monuments** – See **Antiquities Act of 1906**.

**National Park Service** – The National park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world. See **Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan**. [www.nps.org](http://www.nps.org)

**National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA)** – A non-profit organization supporting National Parks. [www.npca.org](http://www.npca.org)

**National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA)** – A national organization dedicated to advancing parks, recreation, and environmental conservation efforts that enhance the quality of life for all people. [www.nrpa.org](http://www.nrpa.org)

**National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)** – The National Register of Historic Places is the Nation's official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation. Authorized under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Register is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect our historic and archeological resources. Properties listed in the Register include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. The National Park Service administers the National Register, which is part of the U.S. Department of the Interior. See **National Park Service**.

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/about.htm>

**National Trails** – Existing and proposed trails of national significance located on national park, national forest, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), or other lands under federal jurisdictions. Some trails may cross non-federal lands such as State Parks or regional parks. See **Bureau of Land Management and Trails**.

**National Trust for Historic Preservation** – The National Trust for Historic Preservation provides leadership, education and advocacy to save America's diverse historic places and revitalize our communities <http://www.nationaltrust.org/>

**Native Species** – A plant or animal that is historically indigenous to a specific area. See **Ecosystem and Environment**.

**Natural Communities Conservation Program (NCCP)** – Federal multi-species Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) established to encourage landowner cooperation in long-term regional conservation efforts. This plan provides certainty and predictability for land use planning and landowners by defining areas for habitat conservation and land development. See **Habitat Conservation Plan and Land Use Plan**. <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/nccp/>

**Natural Resource Areas** – Lands set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual aesthetics/buffering. See **Conservation**.

**Naylor Act** – Government Code § 54220 et seq. This act states that land deemed surplus by a state or local agency be made available in writing by the affiliated jurisdiction to another state or local agency for acquisition consideration. [www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html) and <http://ceres.ca.gov/ceqa>

**Negative Declaration/Mitigated Negative Declaration** – Essentially a finding that the project, or the project as amended/mitigated, will have no significant environmental impact. When a project is not exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and will not have a significant effect on the environment, a negative declaration must be written. The negative declaration is an informational document that describes the reasons why the project will not have a significant negative impact on the proposed area and therefore, does not require an EIR. Also known as “Neg Dec.” See **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Environmental Impact Report**. [www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html), and <http://ceres.ca.gov/ceqa>

**Neighborhood Park** – A relatively small area or park site (usually ten acres or less) that serves the recreational and social focus of the adjoining neighborhood. Publicly owned land intended to serve the recreation needs of people living or working within a one-half mile radius of the park and also intended to contribute to a distinct neighborhood identity. Typical park features include walkways, a small play area, picnic area, benches, trees, and other landscaping. See **Park, Regional Park, Mini-Park, and Urban Park**.

**New Urbanism** – A movement in architecture, planning, and urban design that emphasizes a particular set of design principles, including pedestrian and transit-oriented neighborhood design, and a mix of land uses as a means of creating more cohesive communities. See **Urban**.

**Nexus Study** – A study that documents the connection between an exaction and a development project or class of projects. A nexus study could show, for example, the relationship between commercial expansion and the need for more bikeways to alleviate added traffic. See **Exaction, Dedication, Development Fees, Subdivision Map Act**.

**NIMBY (‘Not in my back yard’)** – Refers to the attitudes of residents, homeowners and adjacent property owners who oppose acquisition and/or development simply because it would be located close to their property. Resistance to change, growth, and development often characterizes NIMBY. [www.rri.wvu.edu/wpapers/pdffiles/nimby.pdf](http://www.rri.wvu.edu/wpapers/pdffiles/nimby.pdf)

**Noise Attenuation** – Reduction of the level of a noise source using a substance, material or surface, such as earth berms, fencing, walls, etc. Park design, for instance, could include vegetative buffering between a sports complex and a bikeway or campground.

**Non-Motorized Trails Grant Program** – Eligible applicants include cities, counties, eligible districts, and the eligible local agencies formed for park purposes, and federally recognized California tribes. This competitive grant program funds the development, improvement, rehabilitation, restoration, and enhancement of non-motorized trails and associated interpretive facilities for the purpose of increasing public access to, and enjoyment of, public areas for increased recreational opportunities. The California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services administered this grant program. All funds have been allocated. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Non-native Species** – Introduced species or exotic species; refers to plants and animals that originate elsewhere and are brought into a new area, where they may dominate the local species or in some way negatively impact the environment for native species. (e. g. star thistle) Also known as non-indigenous species. Now native oak trees are being considered in urban park design because of their ability to tolerate drought conditions better than non-native tree species. See **Exotic Species**.

**Non-profit Organization** – Means an organization eligible for tax-exempt status pursuant to § 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. 501 (c) (3) – The organizations described in Federal Government Code § 501 are commonly referred to under the general heading of “charitable organizations.” Organizations described in Code § 501 (c) (3), other than testing for public safety organizations, are eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions in accordance with § 170. The exempt purposes set forth in Code § 501 (c) (3) are charitable, religious, educational, scientific, library, testing for public safety, fostering national or international amateur sports

competition, and the prevention of cruelty to children or animals. See **Foundations**. <http://www.irs.gov> {type in 501 (c) (3) to further your search}.

**Notice of Availability** – Public notice of the availability of a Draft EIR or a Negative Declaration, provided by the Lead Agency, to enable public agencies and individuals to review and comment on the document. Public Resources Code § 21092.

**Notice of Completion (CEQA)** – A brief notice filed with the Office of Planning and Research by the Lead Agency, as soon as it has completed a draft EIR. See **Environmental Impact Report and California Environmental Quality Act**. [www.ceres.ca.gov/ceqa/flowchart/](http://www.ceres.ca.gov/ceqa/flowchart/).

**Notice of Determination** – A brief notice filed by a public agency after it approves or determines to carry out a project. A Notice of Completion is filed by a public agency stating that all contracted work has been completed and final payment made. To protect against liens by sub-contractors. See **Environmental Impact Report and California Environmental Quality Act**. [www.ceres.ca.gov/ceqa/flowchart/](http://www.ceres.ca.gov/ceqa/flowchart/) and [www.ucop.edu](http://www.ucop.edu).

**Notice of Exemption** – A brief notice, which may be filed by a public agency, after it has decided to carry out or approve a project for which an exemption to CEQA applies. See **Environmental Impact Report and California Environmental Quality Act**. [www.ceres.ca.gov/ceqa/flowchart/](http://www.ceres.ca.gov/ceqa/flowchart/) and [www.ucop.edu](http://www.ucop.edu).

**Notice of Preparation** – A brief notice or document sent by a Lead Agency notifying the responsible trustee and involved federal agencies that it plans to prepare an EIR for a project. It is the first step in the EIR process. See **Environmental Impact Report and California Environmental Quality Act**. [www.ceres.ca.gov/ceqa/flowchart/](http://www.ceres.ca.gov/ceqa/flowchart/) and [www.ucop.edu](http://www.ucop.edu).



**Objective** – A statement specifying achievements to be attained within a prescribed time frame. An objective is exchanged/superseded by another objective at the expiration of the time frame. An objective is directly connected to how the resources of an organization will be used. An objective statement begins with an action verb and includes the quantified statement of the results expected as an outcome of the action, such as *Provide* (the action verb) *with existing manpower, 24-hour security coverage for five community center buildings at daily cost not to exceed \$22.50* (quantified results) *during the applicable fiscal year* (explicit timeframe).

**Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV)** – Motorized recreational vehicles. Also called motocross, dunebuggies, Quad-runners, All Terrain Vehicles and snowmobiles. <http://ohv.parks.ca.gov/>

**Off-Highway Vehicle Trust Fund (OHVF)** – A funding source administered through the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division, that provides for the planning, acquisition, development, construction, maintenance, administration, operation, conservation, and law enforcement of lands in the system. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Off-Site Mitigation** – A mitigation project located away from the adversely affected site. See **Mitigation** and **On-Site Mitigation**.

**Offer To Dedicate (OTD)** – A legal document, recorded against the title to a property, which is an offer of dedication to the people of the State of California of an easement over the property or a portion of the property. Generally, an OTD allows for specific uses in the area of the property involved (for example, allowing the public to walk across private land to reach a regional park site). The offer conveys an easement in perpetuity only upon its acceptance on behalf of the people by a public agency or by a nonprofit private entity. See **Easement**.

**Office of Historic Preservation (OHP)** – The government agency primarily responsible for the statewide administration of the historic preservation program in California. Its responsibilities include identifying, evaluating, and registering historic properties and ensuring compliance with federal and state regulatory obligations. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Old Growth** – The older developmental stages of natural forests; a mature forested area not previously logged. Also referred to as “virgin forest.”

**On-going/Deferred Maintenance** – The continued maintenance of parks, playgrounds, play areas, playground equipment, lighting and other recreational facilities. Includes the continued maintenance of sidewalks, trails, pools, irrigation, trees, shrubs, grass, benches, restrooms, existing statuary, fountains and other ornamental structures and facilities. This maintenance continues for the life of the site or the life of the recreational equipment. When lack of funds results in deferred maintenance, resources deterioration usually results with higher costs later for repair. See **Rehabilitation** and **Maintenance**.

**On-Site Mitigation** – A mitigation project at or near the adversely affected site. See **Mitigation** and **Off-Site Mitigation**.

**Open Space** – Land that has been acquired to be maintained in its natural state for its intrinsic and/or open space value (buffer, habitat preservation, heritage tree stands, park and recreation, conservation of natural resources or historic or scenic purposes.) For example, parks are often classified as open space in many city and county general plans, yet golf courses may not qualify. See **Buffer**, **Urban Park**, **In-fill Development**, **California Land Conservation Act**, **Cluster Development** and **Park**.

**Open Space District** – A special district formed for the purpose of acquiring, operating and managing open space and conservation lands. Open space districts may receive funding from traditional property taxes, or if approved, from a special tax. See **Open Space and Offer to Dedicate**, **Conservation Easement**, and **Conservation Planning**.  
[www.ceres.ca.gov/planning/open-space/](http://www.ceres.ca.gov/planning/open-space/)

**Open Space Subvention Act** – See **California Land Conservation Act**.

**Operating Budget** – The annual appropriation of funds for on-going program costs, including employee services, other services and supplies, equipment, and debt service.

**Operating Transfers** – Transfers from a fund receiving revenue to a fund that will expend the resources. See **Fund** and **Revenues**.

**Ordinance** – A law or statute. The term is used to designate the enactments of the legislative body of a municipal corporation, and is often used in conjunction with zoning, building, and safety. For example, a Tree Ordinance could protect an oak grove in an otherwise developable area. See **Zoning** and **Land Use Designations**.

**Out-of-Kind Mitigation** – Out-of-kind mitigation is a special type of compensatory mitigation in which the adverse impacts to one habitat type are mitigated through the creation, restoration, or enhancement of another habitat type. <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/weteval/we7.html>  
See **In-kind Mitigation**.

## P

**Par course** – A jogging-health-oriented trail where a series of fitness stations with equipment and instructions have been provided stressing flexibility and muscular development. See **Trail**.

**Parcel Map** – A minor subdivision resulting in fewer than five lots. The city or county may approve a parcel map when it meets the requirements of the general plan and all applicable ordinances. The regulations governing the filing and processing of parcel maps are found in the state Subdivision Map Act and the local subdivision ordinance. See **Subdivision**, **Subdivision Map Act**, and **Assessor's Parcel Number**.

**Parcel Tax** – A special tax that is a flat amount per parcel and not ad valorem based (e.g., according to the value of the property). Parcel taxes must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the electorate. (See Government Code § 50079, et al.) See **Proposition 218**, **Density Bonus**, and **Special Assessment**. [www.ceres.ca.gov](http://www.ceres.ca.gov)

**Park** – Is understood to include a wide variety of parks and recreation areas ranging from developed urban sites (e.g., playgrounds, sports fields, par courses, mini-parks, pocket parks, and tot-lots) to remote, essentially natural areas and even pristine wilderness areas. It is also believed that parks may include cultural buildings and sites developed or preserved for their educational and historic (or pre-historic) value (e.g., museums, historic buildings), and may include active areas for motorized and non-motorized vehicle recreation, in addition to trails, waterways, and greenways. See **Regional Park**, **Neighborhood Park**, **Urban Park**, **Mini-Park**, **Greenbelt**, **Greenway**, **Level of Service** and **Open Space**.

**Park acreage standards** aka **Level of Service (LOS)** – An expression of the minimum recreation and park infrastructure capacity required to satisfy the park and recreation needs of residents of a community. For example, the LOS may be expressed as acres/1000 population. See **Dedication, in Lieu of**.

**Park Facility (grants)** – As used by the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services, means improved lands or structures for recreational use on property open to the public. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Parkland Dedication Ordinance** – See **Mandatory Dedication**.

**Park Trail** – Multi-purpose trails located within greenways, parks, and natural resource areas. Focus is on recreational elements and connection with the environment. See **Trail and Connector Trails**.

**Parkway** – A linear area of land located along a roadway, waterway, bikeway, or other common corridor. The size varies and the overall shape is generally elongated and narrow. See **Buffer**.

**Partnering/partnership** – An umbrella term that includes agreements, cooperative ventures, joint arrangements, alliances, collaborations, coalitions, and work forces. See **Joint Powers Agreements** and **Civic Center Act**.

**Per Capita** – Equally to each individual; per unit of population. For example, the highest per capita income of any county in the state.

**Per Capita Grant Program** (as in Propositions 12 and 40) – Block grants allocated to eligible cities, counties, and eligible districts. Eligible projects under Proposition 40 are the acquisition, development, improvement, rehabilitation, restoration, enhancement and interpretation of local park and recreation lands and facilities. Proposition 12 per capita grant program funds have been allocated. The California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services administer this grant program. See **Proposition 12** and **Proposition 40**. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**PERS (Public Employees' Retirement System)** – Retirement fund that classified employees, their employer, and city, county and state contributions. <http://www.calpers.ca.gov/>

**Personnel Years** – The actual or estimated portion of a position expended for the performance of work. For example, a full-time position that was filled by an employee for half of a year would result in an expenditure of 0.5 personnel years. See **Full-time Equivalent (FTE's)**

**Phase I Development** – Basic park development that includes grading, drainage, irrigation, landscaping and at least one of the recreation elements designated in the site master plan for every four acres. See **Phase II Development, Master Plan, and General Plan**.

**Phase II Development** – Park development that includes lighting and expanded facility development and/or improvements beyond the basic development associated with Phase I. See **Phase I Development, Master Plan, and General Plan**.

**Planned Unit Development (PUD)** – Land use zoning that allows the adoption of a set of development standards that are specific to the particular projects being proposed. PUD zones usually do not contain detailed development standards; these are established during the process of considering the proposals and adopted by ordinance if the project is approved. See **Land Use Plan (LUP), Land Use Element, Land Use Regulation, and Zoning**.

**Planning** – A systematic process of collecting and organizing information to support decision-making. Planning is an essential function of all park and recreation managers. There are different types of planning, including community, strategic, and comprehensive planning, also recreation program and physical resources planning. [www.wtp.net/wirth/parkrec.htm](http://www.wtp.net/wirth/parkrec.htm)

**Planning Commission** – A group of residents appointed by the city council or board of supervisors to consider land use planning matters. The commission’s duties and powers are established by the local legislative body and might include hearing proposals to amend the general plan or rezone land, initiating planning studies (road alignments, identification of seismic hazards, etc.), and taking action on proposed subdivisions.

**Pocket Park** – See **Mini-Park**.

**Point of Historic Interest** – The California Point of Historical Interest Program (Public Resource Code § 5021) is a state historical resources registration program, established in 1965, which provides official recognition for historical resources that are significant at a county or regional level, but do not qualify for designation as California Registered Historical Landmarks.

**Porter-Cobey Federal Water Project Recreation Act** – An act in which State and local public agencies are encouraged to participate with the Federal government with respect to recreation and fish and wildlife enhancement facilities at Federal water projects to the extent that such facilities are deemed necessary and desirable by the participating state or local public agency. (Public Resource Code § 5094-5094.5)

**Private Park and/or Recreation Facility** – Parks and recreation facilities that are privately owned yet contribute to the public park and recreation system. A KOA campground or private golf courses are examples of a private recreation facility.

**Pro rata** – Refers to the proportionate distribution of the cost of infrastructure improvements associated with new development to the users of the infrastructure on the basis of projected use. See **Infrastructure**.

**Project (Environmental review process)** – The entirety of an action that has a potential for resulting in a physical change in the environment. See **California Environmental Quality Act, Environmental Analysis, Environmental Assessment, and Environmental Impact Report**.

**Project Scope (grants)** – As used by the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services, means the description or activity of work to be accomplished on the project. See **Grant(s)**. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Projected Expense** – Is the estimated expense through the end of the current fiscal year for a budget line item. See **Expenditure, Fiscal Year, and Budget**.

**Proposed Budget** – Proposed level of expenditures/revenues/personnel as outlined in the agency’s proposed budget document. For example, the City Manager or County Executive recommends a budget, which will be submitted to city council, District Board, or the County Board for approval. See **Appropriation, Amended or Revised Budget, Expenditure, Fiscal Year, Budget, and Revenue**.

**Proposed Park** – Land that has been identified by the agency for potential park use, but has not yet been acquired. See **Park or Open Space (grants) and Open Space**.

**Proposition 12** – “*Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000*,” was intended to respond to the recreational and open-space needs of California’s growing population and expanded urban communities.

Programs administered by the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services are: Per Capita, Non-motorized Trails, Marine Sanctuaries, Roberti-Z’Berg-Harris, Murray-Hayden, Specified Grants, Locally Operated State Parks, Zoos & Aquariums, Urban Centers, Soccer/baseball and Riparian/Riverine. Most grant program funds administered by the Department of Parks and Recreation have been allocated; however, other state agencies administer other Proposition 12 programs. The Office of Historic Preservation administers the California Heritage program. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov).

**Proposition 13 (Jarvis-Gann Initiative)** – An initiative amendment passed in June 1978 adding Article XIII A to the California Constitution. Under Proposition 13, tax rates on secured property are restricted to no more than 1% of full value. Proposition 13 also defines assessed value and requires a two-thirds vote to increase existing taxes or levy new taxes. Also referred to as “The Jarvis-Gann Initiative”, (limits property tax assessments.) See **Assessed Valuation**. [www.hjta.org/content/ARC000024A\\_Prop13.htm](http://www.hjta.org/content/ARC000024A_Prop13.htm) and <http://www.lao.ca.gov>

**Proposition 13 (Water Bond Act)** - California voters approved Proposition 13 (2000 Water Bond), which authorizes the State of California to sell \$1.97 billion in general obligation bonds to support safe drinking, water quality, flood protection and water reliability projects throughout the state. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) will help allocate \$763.9 million of these funds to local projects throughout California. <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/prop13/>.

**Proposition 40 (2002 Park Bond Act)** “*California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002*”, also know as, ‘The 2002 Park Bond Act’) – Voters approved this \$2.6 billion bond act in 2002. State Parks is allocated \$225 million, local agencies will receive \$832.5 million, and historical and cultural resources will receive \$267.5 million. \$1.275 billion is set aside for conservancies, the Wildlife Conservation Board, protection of waterways, California Conservation Corps, Air Resources Board, urban forestry projects and for the preservation of agricultural lands. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov).

**Proposition 98** – An initiative passed in November 1988, and amended in June 1990, that provides a minimum funding guarantee for school districts, community college districts, and other State agencies that provide direct elementary and secondary instructional programs for Kindergarten through grade 14 (K-14) beginning with fiscal year 1988-89. Also, used to refer to any expenditures that fulfill the guarantee. <http://www.lao.ca.gov>

**Proposition 218** – Limits authority of local governments to impose taxes and property-related assessments, fees and charges. Requires majority of voters approve increases in general taxes and reiterates that two-thirds must approve special tax. Assessments, fees, and charges must be submitted to property owners for approval or rejection, after notice and public hearing. Assessments are limited to the special benefit conferred. Fees and charges are limited to the cost of providing the service, and may not be imposed for general governmental services available to the public. See **General Obligation Bonds**. [www.calvoter.org](http://www.calvoter.org) and <http://www.lao.ca.gov>

**Public Finance** – The following are the three basic types of public financing:

- **General obligations:** The general fund or treasury of the public agency is responsible for paying back what was borrowed. This kind of financing is rapidly becoming endangered, largely because of the shrinking size of general funds that are property tax based.
- **Special fund obligations:** These come from specially established funds like recreation, park, or open space funds, distinct from the general fund. Developer fees create these special funds or fees collected from users of park or open space facilities.
- **Special assessments or special taxes on certain lands:** Assessments by a public agency on lands that will be benefited by the acquisition of park or open space lands or the development of facilities resulting from these assessments.

See **General Obligation Bonds, Special Assessment Bonds, Special Assessment, Tax-exempt Bond, Mello-Roos, Quimby, Benefit Assessment and Acquisition and Development.**

<http://www.lao.ca.gov>

**Public Hearing** – Is a special meeting, which allows the public to comment on proposed plans and projects before policy makers provide a final decision. Public hearings are open to the public. See **Brown Act and Assessment District.**

[www.co.pierce.wa.us/pc/services/home/property/pals/hearings/](http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/pc/services/home/property/pals/hearings/)

**Public Resources Code (PRC)** – California law that addresses natural, cultural, aesthetic, and recreational resources of the State, in addition to the State Constitution and Statutes.

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html>

**Public Trust Lands** – Public Trust Lands are all lands subject to the Common Law Public Trust for commerce, navigation, fisheries, recreation, and other public purposes. Public Trust Lands include tidelands, submerged lands, the beds of navigable lakes and rivers, historic tidelands, and submerged lands that are presently filled or reclaimed and which were subject to the Public Trust at any time. (From California Code of Regulations, Code § 13577)

**Public Works Plan (PWP)** – The Public Works Plan process (Public Resource Code § 30605) is an alternative process to the conventional coastal permit review by local governments, established for more efficient project implementation of state parks. See also **Specific Project Approval.**

## Q

**QUANGO (Quasi Non-Governmental Organization)** – A non-technical term defining non-profit groups that can be comprised of trail advocates with the purpose of facilitating the trail planning and implementation process. Advantages of establishing QUANGOs are that they have fundraising legitimacy (with a 501 (c) (3)-tax status), provide oversight to the trail planning process and can apply for competitive grant funds and trail implementation.

**Quality of Life** – The degree to which persons perceive themselves able to function physically, emotionally and socially. Quality of life is considered to be a more of a subjective than objective measure. In a general sense, Quality of Life is that which makes life worth living. Park facilities, recreation programs and libraries are referenced by policy makers as measures of a community's quality of life.

**Quimby Act** – Gov. Code § 66477 that allows jurisdictions to adopt ordinances requiring residential subdivisions to dedicate land and/or pay in-lieu fees to provide for new park and recreation use. The ordinance, when adopted by each jurisdiction, specifies acceptable uses or restrictions on the expenditure of such funds; provides standards and formulas for determining the exaction; and, provides such exactions must be closely tied to a project’s impacts as identified through nexus studies and other impact analysis required by the CEQA. See **California Environmental Quality Act, Assessor’s Parcel Map, Quimby Fee, Dedication, Dedication of Land, Subdivision Map Act, and Development Fees.** [www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html)

**Quimby Fee** – An in-lieu fee paid to create public parks pursuant to the Quimby Act. See **Quimby Act.**

## R

**Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC)** – A 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, that enriches America’s communities and countryside by creating a nationwide network of public trails from former rail lines and connecting corridors. [www.railtrails.org](http://www.railtrails.org)

**Rational Nexus Test** – A court-fashioned test that says the exaction of land and/or money for recreational purposes from a subdivision map developer is a valid exercise of the police power if there was a “reasonable connection” (nexus) between the need for the additional recreational facilities and the growth generated by the new development. See **Nexus Study** and **Exaction.**

**Reasonable Accommodation** – Are those adjustments within a work or school site that allow an otherwise qualified employee or student with a disability to perform the tasks required. See **Americans with Disability Act** and **Accessibility.** <http://www.doi.gov/diversity/5civil.htm>, <http://www.bu.edu/cpr/reasaccom/whatareras.html> and [www.ada.gov](http://www.ada.gov)

**Reasonable Relationship** – The legal standard by which any exaction can be imposed, so long as it furthers the implementation of the city or county’s general plan and bears at least an indirect relationship to the development project being proposed. See **General Plan.**

**Recreation** – The pleasurable and constructive use of leisure time. To ‘recreate’ is to impart fresh life to; refresh mentally or physically; to take recreation. Also, to create anew, restore, refresh; refreshment of strength and spirits; means of refreshment or diversion.

**Recreation and Public Purposes Act** – Authorizes the sale, lease or transfer of public lands for recreational or public purposes to State and local governments and to qualified non-profit organizations. Administered by the Bureau of Land Management. See **Bureau of Land Management.** [www.BLM.gov/nhp](http://www.BLM.gov/nhp)

**Recreation Facility** – A place for organized leisure (non-commercial) sports, outdoor recreation, permanent and non-permanent play structures and equipment areas, and multipurpose structures designed to meet the special recreational, educational, vocational, physical, and social needs of the public.

**Recreation Needs Analysis** – A systematic evaluation of the recreational needs of a community or region based on a recommended recreation standard.

**Recreation Resource Management Plan (RRMP)** – The purpose of a Recreation Resource Management Plan is to guide and facilitate the management of existing and future recreation resources associated with a defined geographic area. The RRMP provides a vision of the desired future condition of a specific area, establishes long-term management goals and objectives for managing recreation resources in the area, and identifies both site-specific and programmatic recreation measures to be implemented over the term of the plan. Programs typically included in an RRMP include a facility development program, an operations and maintenance program, a monitoring program, a resource integration program, an interpretation and education program, and a plan review and revision plan.

**Recreational Therapists** – Health care providers using recreation for therapy interventions for improved functioning of individuals with illness or disabling conditions. See **Therapeutic Recreation** and **American Therapeutic Recreation Association**. <http://www.atra-tr.org/atra.htm>

**Recreational Trails** – Public areas that include pedestrian trails, bikeways, equestrian trails, boating routes, trails and areas suitable for use by people with limited physical ability, trails, and areas for off-highway recreational vehicles, and cross-country skiing trails. See **Trails** and **Bikeway**.

**Recreational Trails Grant Program (RTP)** – The RTP provides funds for recreation trails and trails related projects. The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) administers the program at the state level and the Federal Highway Administration at the federal level. The U.S. Congress first authorized the RTP in the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991. It was reauthorized in 1998 under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (TEA-21) Nonmotorized projects are administered by the DPR's Office of Grants and Local Services Section and motorized projects are administered by the DPR's Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Recycle** – The process of extraction and reuse of materials from waste products or discarded objects.

**Redevelopment** – The legally-authorized process of rehabilitating or rebuilding a deteriorated section of a city using municipal powers and finances to assemble properties, replace infrastructure, or otherwise assist in creating new facilities and stimulating private development through creation of a Redevelopment Agency.

**Reduction-in-Force (RIF)** – The process whereby employment is terminated because of a budgetary need to reduce the staff rather than because of any performance inadequacies of the employee. See **Full-time Equivalent**.

**Referendum** – A ballot measure challenging a legislative action by the city council or county board of supervisors. When sufficient voter signatures are filed before the council or board, the council or board must either set aside its action or call an election on the matter. Use permits, variances, and subdivisions cannot be challenged by referendum. See **Ballot Box Zoning**.

**Regional bodies** – Address concerns that extend beyond local city and county boundaries. Some are advisory only, and others have true regulatory powers. Councils of government, which have a regional planning function, are an example of the former. Air quality management districts are an example of the latter. Some regional bodies, such as the Bay Area’s Metropolitan Transportation Commission, allocate federal funds in their regions, and in this way exercise considerable power. Regional bodies tend to have appointed boards, often consisting of elected officials from the cities and counties in which the regional bodies are located. See **Special Districts, California Local Government, and California Government Code**.  
[www.igs.berkeley.edu/library/localweb.html](http://www.igs.berkeley.edu/library/localweb.html)

**Regional Park** – A locally operated park typically 150-500 acres in size or more, although can be 2,000 to 5,000 acres in size in some regions. A regional park focuses on activities and natural features not included in most other types of parks and often based on a specific scenic or recreational opportunity. Facilities could include those found at a neighborhood and community park, and specialized features such as an art center, amphitheater, boating facility, golf course, or large natural area with interpretive trails. See **Urban Park**.

**Regional Trails** – Typically trails located on lands under County or other regional district linking trail systems on national, state lands, regional or city park lands. Often have multiple agency cooperative agreements and ownership such as water, gas, telephone, or sewer utility agency as well as old railroad right-of-way easements. A regional trail is linear parkland in itself and can provide a vital link between many urban communities. Regional Trails may be paved, multi-use, unpaved multi-use, hikers-only, or hikers/horses/bike riders only. In an urban setting such as the East Bay, regional trails provide alternative means of transportation for commuters who may bike or walk to work, school or shopping areas. See **Trails, Bikeway, California Trail Connection, Connector Trails, Cross-country Ski Trail, Greenbelt and Greenway**.

**Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA)** – A state-designated agency responsible for preparing the Regional Transportation Plan and the Regional Transportation Improvement Program, administering state funds, and other tasks. For example, Sacramento Area Council of Governments is the RTPA for Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba Counties.  
[www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/p&r/MPO](http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/p&r/MPO)

**Regional Youth Soccer-Baseball Facilities Grant Program** – Regional youth soccer facilities and/or baseball facilities were eligible for this Proposition 12 grant, however all Proposition 12 grant funds administered by the Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services have been allocated. This grant administered by the California [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Rehabilitation** – Tasks undertaken on a periodic or “as needed” basis to restore or improve deteriorated facilities and bring them up to a preferable agency standard. As used by the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services, rehabilitation means improvements to real property by construction to bring that property to its original or “near” original condition. See **Restore/Restoration, Urban Renewal and Maintenance**. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Reimbursements** – An amount received as a repayment of the cost of work, or service performed, or of other expenditures made for, or on behalf of, another governmental unit or department. Reimbursements represent the recovery of expenditures in accordance with the budgeted amount.

**Renewable Energy Resources** – Energy sources whose natural supplies are not depleted in producing work, including solar energy, geothermal, wind flow, and tidal action. See **Sustainable Design and Sustainable Landscape**. <http://rredc.nrel.gov/>

**Reserves and Refunds** – Refers to a budget category for funds required to meet both anticipated and unanticipated needs; the balance of anticipated earmarked revenues not required for operation in the budget year; estimated reimbursements to organizations, state, or federal governments for revenues received and not spent, and those required to be set aside by bond covenants.

**Responsible Agency (Environmental Review)** – A public agency that proposes to carry out or approve a project for which a Lead Agency is preparing or has prepared an Environmental Impact Report or a Negative Declaration. For purposes of CEQA, the term “Responsible Agency” includes all public agencies other than the Lead Agency that have discretionary approval power over the project. See **California Environmental Quality Act, Negative Declaration, and Environmental Review**.

**Restore/Restoration** – Involves working with original fabric and materials in order to return the site/item to its original documented appearance at a specific date and time and/or serviceable condition, or nearly so. See **Rehabilitation and Maintenance**.

**Retrofit** – The addition of non-original materials and/or devices to an existing building or system to improve its operation or efficiency.

**Revenue** – Funds received from the legislative body by external sources; income. Generally, revenues are to be differentiated from funding sources, which include fund balance, interfund transfers, reimbursements, etc. For example, revenues may be derived from:

- Taxes – Revenue including sales tax, property tax, utility tax, etc., collected to fund general operation programs.
- Charges for fees and services – Fees charged to the user of any specific service provided by the agency not supported by the General Fund. The fee cannot exceed the cost of providing the service.
- Licenses and Permits – Revenues collected for construction, maintenance, and/or operation of designated equipment, businesses, buildings, and private property including animals.
- Use of Money and Property – Interest earned on legislative investments or held funds.
- Inter-governmental – Revenue disbursements from other agencies such as State Motor Vehicle in Lieu Tax & State Homeowners Property Tax Relief, and revenue reimbursement for services provided to other agencies.
- Fines, Forfeitures, and Penalties – Revenues collected for violations of city ordinances, late payments, etc.
- Miscellaneous Revenues – Unanticipated revenues.

See **Reimbursements, Fund, Unrestricted Revenues and Expenditure**.

**Right-of-Way** – The strip of land over which certain transportation facilities are built, such as roadways, railroads and utility lines.

**Riparian** (land or area) – The strip of land adjacent to a natural watercourse such as a river or stream. Often supports vegetation that provides fish habitat values when growing large enough to overhang the bank. See **Riparian Habitat**.

**Riparian and Riverine Habitat Grant Program** – This grant program administered by the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services provided funds on a competitive basis to increase public recreational access, awareness, understanding, enjoyment, protection, and restoration of California’s rivers and streams. All grant funds administered by the Department of Parks and Recreation have been allocated. See **Grant(s)**. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Riparian Habitat** – The land and vegetation bordering a watercourse or lake; riverine is habitat within or alongside a river or channel. See **Riparian**.

**Risk Management** – The systematic prevention and reduction of accidents through design and selection of safe equipment, elimination of unsafe conditions, and provision of adequate information or supervision that effectively describes the potential risks and ways to avoid injury.

**Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA)** – Provides advice and technical assistance to state and local governments, nonprofit groups and Indian tribes on a wide variety of open space, rivers, trails and related projects. The program helps local groups to plan greenways, conserve rivers and waterways and develop new trails through voluntary partnerships. The program does not provide direct funding. [www.nps.gov/](http://www.nps.gov/)

**Roberti-Z’Berg-Harris Block Grants (RZH)** – Eligible recipients of these state Bond Act block grant funds are cities, counties, and districts in urbanized areas. Eligible projects include the acquisition, development, and special major maintenance of park and recreation areas and facilities, and innovative recreation programs.

There are various grant programs (Proposition 12 and Proposition 40) associated with the Roberti-Z’Berg-Harris Grant Program, including the Block Grant Program and Urbanized and Non-Urbanized, Need-Basis (competitive) grants. For information on these grant-funding sources, contact the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services. See **Grant(s), Proposition 12 and Proposition 40**. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Roughly Proportional Test** – A court created term that says no precise calculation is required, but the agency must make some sort of individualized determination that the required dedication is related both in nature and extent to the impact of the proposed development. See **Dedication of Land, Dedication, In Lieu of, Dedication, and Development Rights**.

**Runoff** – That portion of rainfall or surplus water that does not percolate into the ground and flows overland and is discharged into surface drainages or bodies of water.

## S

**Salary Savings** – Salary savings reflect personnel cost savings resulting from vacancies and downward reclassifications as a result of turnover of employees. The amount of budgeted salary

savings is an estimate generally based on past experience.

**Scenic Corridor** – A transportation corridor, bikeway or waterway of outstanding scenic beauty warranting special scenic conservation treatment.

**Scenic Highway Corridor** – The visible area outside the highway’s right-of-way, generally described as “the view from the road” or viewshed.

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LandArch/scenic/scpr.htm>

**School Impact Fees** – Proposition 13 put a limit on property taxes and thereby limited the main source of funding for new school facilities. California law allows school districts to impose fees on new developments to offset their impacts on area schools. See **Proposition 13**.

**School-Park** – Allows for expanding the recreational, social, and educational opportunities available to the community by merging school and park facilities. It is usually land owned by a school district and designated under special agreement with the city or county for joint operation and maintenance to meet general public and school recreation needs. For example, team sport activities occur on multi-use fields owned in fee by a school district, but are coordinated by a local recreation and park agency. See **Joint Power Agreements**, and **Parks**.

**Scope of Work** – Includes the identification of major issues that a planning effort will address, and estimated future staffing time and costs to be allocated.

**Secretary of Resources** – The Secretary of Resources oversees the State Resources Agency. The Resource Agency through its various departments, boards, commissions, and conservancies is responsible for conservation, restoration, and management of California’s natural and cultural resources, [www.lao.ca.gov/analysis](http://www.lao.ca.gov/analysis)

The following departments and organizations are under the Resources Agency.

- Conservation
- Fish and Game
- Forestry and Fire Protection
- Parks and Recreation
- Boating and Waterways
- Water Resources
- State Lands Commission
- Colorado Conservation Corps
- California Conservation Corps
- Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission
- San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission
- Wildlife Conservation Board
- State Coastal Conservancy
- San Joaquin River Conservancy
- California Tahoe Conservancy
- California Coastal Commission
- State Reclamation Board
- Baldwin Hills Conservancy
- Special Resources Programs
- Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy
- San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy
- Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
- Delta Protection Commission

See **Conservancies (California State)**.

**Self-Guided Interpretive Activities** – Typically, the visitor interacts with the interpretive media unaided by a guide and on their own pace. Activities include, Historical setting museums and vignettes, historic landscapes, interpretive trails, formal exhibits, outdoor exhibit panels, models, audio-visual programs—videos, slides, and film, and brochures – offering interpretive information. See **Interpretation** and **Interpretation Exhibits**.

**Self-Guided Trails** – Trails that interpret the extent of a historic area’s development or a natural area’s variety of life forms, forces, and natural elements. Signs mark self-guided trails, while guided trails follow a brochure available from a park office. aka Interpretive Trails. See **Trails**.

**Setback** – A minimum distance required by zoning to be maintained between two structures or between a structure and property lines. See **Zoning** and **Buffer**.

**Sign, Signage** – Any representation (written or pictorial) used to identify, announce or otherwise direct attention to a particular entity. Interpretive signage tells the meaning and story behind a particular natural, historical or cultural resource.

**Significant Effect (Environmental Review)** – A substantial, or potential, adverse change in any of the physical conditions within the area affected by a project.

**Significant Unemployment (grants)** – As used by the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services, means a higher than state average of unemployed individuals who reside in the neighborhood service area. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Site Planning** – Process used to determine the physical layout of buildings and landscape design.

**Smart Growth** – An evolving approach to development, the goal of which is to balance economic progress with environmental protection and quality of life, therefore incorporating parks, recreation, and open space to enhance both environmental protection and quality of life.

**Socioeconomic Analysis** – The task of assessing the impact of a plan or project on a neighborhood’s social structure, on a community’s fiscal health, on a region’s economic basis, and similar socioeconomic considerations.

**Special Assessment** – Levies upon property owners by local governments in order to purchase and maintain open space, parks, and community services. Owner must be the beneficiary and individual assessment must be strictly proportional to the amount of per-parcel “special benefit.” See **Benefit Assessment**.

**Special Assessment Bonds aka 1915 Act, 1911 Act Bonds** – The California name for Special Assessment bonds, or Improvement Bonds, named for the years in which the enabling legislature was approved. An assessment district is formed, public improvements (streets, curbs, gutters, water or sewer systems, parks, etc.) are constructed, and assessments are levied on all the properties in the district in proportion to the benefit derived from the improvement. For the 1915 Act, bonds are sold and are repaid from the special assessments collected, while individual 1911 Act bonds are payable from the assessments on one specific property only. See **Assessment District**. [www.californiataxdata.com](http://www.californiataxdata.com)

**Special Assessment Taxes** – Special assessment taxes give local governments a means of financing construction projects and other projects that provide special benefits to properties in a specified and limited geographic area of the community. Special assessment taxes are frequently used to finance street and sewer construction projects and can finance capital projects for park and recreation services under certain circumstances.. Property owners who will benefit from the improvement or construction are assessed a fee and must pay their fair share of the cost of the project. Special assessments are not voluntary; they are compulsory.. Consequently, special

assessments are a form of local taxation and are not user fees and charges and differ from general forms of taxation, such as property taxes and general sales taxes, because the individuals benefiting are more easily identified.

**Special District** – Any local or regional public agency, other than a city, county, or school district, formed pursuant to general law or special act for the local performance of governmental or proprietary functions within limited boundaries. Special districts include, but are not limited to, a county service area, a maintenance district or area, or any other zone or area, formed for the purpose of designating an area within which a property tax rate will be levied to pay for a service or improvement benefiting that area; regional park districts, regional park and open-space districts, or regional open-space district; or a recreation and park district. See **Agency, Benefit Assessment, Tax Increment Financing District, California Local Government** and **California Association of Recreation and Park Districts**. [www.csda.net](http://www.csda.net)

**Special Funds** – Generally, special funds is a generic term used for ‘governmental cost funds’ other than the General Fund. Governmental cost funds are commonly defined as those funds used to account for revenues from taxes, licenses, and fees where the use of such revenues is restricted by law for particular functions or activities of government. See **General Fund**.

**Special Use Park** – A broad range of parks and recreation facilities oriented toward single-purpose use, as in a canoers-only campground or a skatepark facility

**Specific Plan** – A plan addressing land use distribution, open space availability, infrastructure, and infrastructure financing for a portion of the community. Specific plans put the provisions of the local general plan into action (see Government Code § 65450 et seq.). A tool for detailed design and implementation of a defined portion of the area covered by a General Plan. A specific plan may include all detailed regulations, conditions, programs and/or proposed legislation that may be necessary or convenient for the systematic implementation of any general plan element(s) or portion thereof. See **Infrastructure, Land Use Plan, General Plan, and Element (General Plan)**. [www.sactaqc.org/Resources/Literature/LandUse/Glossary](http://www.sactaqc.org/Resources/Literature/LandUse/Glossary)

**Specific Project Plans** - In California State Parks, specific project plans are the detailed implementation plans needed to accomplish specific project(s) or management plan(s). See **Management Plans**.

**Specific Project Approval** – Under the Public Works Plan (PWP) process, the Coastal Commission provides Specific Project Approval for park development projects after it has determined whether it is consistent with the park unit’s certified PWP. The Coastal Commission can impose reasonable terms and conditions to bring a proposal in accordance with the PWP. See **Coastal Commission**.

**Sphere of Influence** – The probable ultimate physical boundaries and service area of a local government agency as determined by the local agency formation commission (LAFCO) of each county. See **LAFCO** (Local Agency Formation Commission).

**Sports Complex** – Consolidates heavily programmed athletic fields and associated facilities at larger and fewer sites strategically located throughout the community. Determined by projected demand. Usually a minimum of 25 acres, with 40 to 60 acres being optimal.

**Stabilization** – The preliminary treatment for protection of historic structures by halting further deterioration. It may include structural reinforcement, weatherization, correcting unsafe conditions, or protection from vandalism. See **Historic Preservation**.

**Staging area** – A site where rest and parking facilities are provided along with a trailhead, which may include kiosk, auto and theft resistant bicycle parking, restroom facilities, public telephone, unloading ramps for horse trailers, and air for bicycle tires. Also known as a Trailhead. See **Trailhead**.

**Stakeholder** – Group or individual who can affect, or is affected by, the achievement of the jurisdiction or organization's mission; examples include managers, employees, policy makers, suppliers, vendors, citizens, users, community activists, businesses, and community groups; and who should have a right to participate in the decision-making process.

**State Historic Building Code** – Part of the California Code of Regulations that provides alternative building regulations and building standards (to the Uniform Building Code) for the rehabilitation, preservation, restoration, reconstruction, or relocation of historic buildings.  
[http://www.dsa.dgs.ca.gov/StateHistoricalBuildingSafetyBoard/shbsb\\_incentives.htm](http://www.dsa.dgs.ca.gov/StateHistoricalBuildingSafetyBoard/shbsb_incentives.htm)

**State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)** – The chief administrative officer for the Office of Historic Preservation and is also the Executive Secretary of the State Historic Resources Commission. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**State Historical Landmarks** – The California Registered Historical Landmarks Program, Public Resources Code § 5021 is a state historical resources registration program which was created in 1949 to recognize historical resources with regional and statewide significance to the history of California.

**State Historical Resources Commission (SHRC)** – Commission is appointed by the Governor under Public Resources Code § 5020.4 and 5020.5. The SHRC has broad responsibilities for the statewide historic preservation program that include conducting a statewide inventory of historical resources, establishing criteria for evaluating historical resources, and conducting public hearings to develop and review a statewide historical resources plan.  
[http://ohp.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page\\_id=1067](http://ohp.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=1067)

**State Trail Corridors** – Generally 50-miles or longer "long distance trails," or their ideal corridors for the uncompleted sections, that are identified in the California Recreational Trails Plan. They are non-motorized trail connections located on both public and private lands designed to provide mobility alternatives and recreational benefits to communities. See **Trails**.  
[www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**State Urban Parks & Healthy Communities Act (SB 359)** – Creates the California Youth Soccer and Recreation Development Program in the State Department of Parks and Recreation and the State Urban Parks and Healthy Communities Act. (Public Resource Code § 5095.1)  
[www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov) and <http://www.sen.ca.gov/SFA/2001/>

**Statement of Overriding Consideration** – A written explanation prepared by a public agency that explains why it approved a project, despite the presence of significant, unavoidable environmental impacts. See **California Environmental Quality Act**.

**Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)** – A planning process required for funding under the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) that looks at supply, demand and other issues affecting outdoor recreation opportunities. It is typically a five-year plan and is prepared by the California Department of Parks and Recreation. See **Grant(s)** and **Land and Water Conservation Fund**. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Statewide Transportation Enhancements (STE)** – STE projects may be proposed by state agencies, federal agencies, or regional, local, or private/non-profit agencies acting with a state agency partner; while Caltrans cannot propose its own projects for the STE program, it may serve as a state agency partner to bring forward projects from local or private/non-profit agencies. The state agency partners will in such cases act as the lead agency for satisfying both state and federal requirements and assume responsibility for the project. Federal enhancement funds must be matched with state, local, or other funds. The current match is 88% federal funds with 12% match funds. The Resources Agency (CalTrans), Department of Transportation administers the STE fund. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Stewardship (grants)** – As used by the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services, means the development and implementation of projects for the protection, preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, improvement of natural systems and outstanding features and historical and cultural resources. See **Grant(s)**. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Storm Runoff** – Surplus surface water generated by rainfall that does not seep into the earth but flows overland to other bodies of water; usually carries pollutants from human and agricultural uses into the watershed system.

**Strategic Plan** – The long term plan sometimes referred to as a comprehensive plan or business plan. The purpose is to establish a preferred course of action and to position the agency in the environment in which it operates. See **Comprehensive Plan**.

**Subdivision** – The division of a contiguous tract of land into defined lots, either improved or unimproved, which can be separately conveyed by sale or lease, and which can be altered or developed. Usually called “subdivision” if development project involves five or more parcels. See **Tentative Map**.

**Subdivision Map Act** – Government Code § 66410 – 66499.37 is the principal authority for parkland dedication ordinances, Quimby Act Government Code § 66477. Each local agency must adopt an ordinance regulating and controlling subdivisions for which the Map Act requires a tentative and final map. It was the intent of the legislators that development must pay its own way and requires subdivisions to be well planned, well designed, and feasible, both internally and in relation to surrounding areas. A specific provision in the Map Act authorizes local governments to require dedications of public improvements or payment of in-lieu fees for streets, alleys, drainage facilities, public utility easements, and public easements. See **Quimby Act, Certificate of Compliance and Assessor’s Parcel Map**. [www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html)

**Surplus** – The budgetary excess of total current fiscal resources over total expenditures. See **Fiscal Year and Expenditure**.

**Sustainable Design** – To locate, design, reconstruct, construct, renovate, operate, and maintain built environments that are models of energy, water, and materials efficiency, while providing healthy, productive, and comfortable habitable environments and long term benefits. This design approach is sometimes called “green design” or “green technology.” See **Renewable Energy Resources, Recycle, and Sustainable Landscape**.

**Sustainable Landscape** – A landscape enhanced and maintained to the highest degree of ecological harmony. See **Renewable Energy Resources, Recycle, and Sustainable Design**.

**Systems Planning** – The process of assessing the park, recreation, open space and greenway facility needs of a community and translating that information into a framework for meeting those physical and facility requirements, usually with citizen participation.

## T

**Taxable Value** – The assessed value of property minus any authorized exemptions (i.e., agricultural and homestead exemption). This value is used to determine the amount of ad valorem tax to be levied. The taxable value is calculated by the Property Appraiser’s Office in compliance with State law. See **Assessed Valuation (AV), Ad Valorem Taxes, and Assessor**.

**Tax-exempt Bond** – A bond issued by a government agency and sold to individuals who do not pay taxes on the interest income they receive. Mello-Roos bonds that provide park and recreation facilities are tax-exempt bonds. See **Mello-Roos**.

**Tax-increment Financing District** – A special district created from a redevelopment area in which the future growth in property tax revenues generated is used to finance the redevelopment program itself. In most cases, redevelopment agencies issue bonds against this property tax increment to pay for public investments inside the redevelopment area. Park and recreation facilities could be included as part of the redevelopment plan. See **Special District and Infrastructure Financing District (IFD)**.

**TEA, aka ‘Transportation Enhancement Activities’** – A TEA 21 funding category. Examples of TEA projects include bicycle and pedestrian paths, restoration of rail depots to their historic transportation facilities, acquisition of scenic or open space lands next to travel corridors, and murals or other public art projects. [www.dot.ca.gov/hq/TransEnhAct/](http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/TransEnhAct/)

**TEA 21, aka ‘Transportation Equity Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century’** – Passed in Congress in May 1998, this federal transportation legislation retains and expands many of the programs created in 1991 under ISTEA. Reauthorizes federal surface transportation programs for six years (1998-2003), and significantly increases overall funding for transportation. [www.dot.ca.gov/hq/TransEnhAct/](http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/TransEnhAct/)

**Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** – An advisory committee of planning staff consultants, or other experts to provide a decision-making body with the facts necessary to make decisions during the NEPA-CEQA process. See **National Environmental Policy Act and California Environmental Quality Act**.

**Tentative Map** – A map made for the purpose of showing the design and improvement of a proposed subdivision with the existing conditions in and around it for agency approval. A “Vesting” tentative map meets subdivision requirements. A “Final” map has been accepted and approved by the governing body and filed with the County Recorder. See **Subdivision** and **Assessor’s Parcel Map**.

**Therapeutic Recreation (TR)** – is the provision of treatment services and the provision of recreation services to persons with illnesses or disabling conditions. The primary purposes of treatment services, which are often referred to as recreational therapy, are to restore, remediate or rehabilitate in order to improve functioning and independence as well as to reduce or eliminate the effect of illness or disability. The primary purposes of recreational services are to provide recreation resources and opportunities in order to improve health and well being. See **American Therapeutic Recreation Association**. <http://www.atra-tr.org/atra.htm>

**Threatened Species** – An animal or plant species that is considered likely to become endangered throughout a significant portion of its range within the foreseeable future because its prospects for survival and reproduction are in jeopardy from one or more causes. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the California Department of Fish and Game make this designation. See **Endangered Species**.

**Tiered Approach (Tiering)** – In General Plans, used to meet the requirements of CEQA. The first tier EIR will be prepared for the general plan. Subsequent management plans, area development plans, and specific project plans, implementing the general plan may be subject to additional environmental review (second and third tiers, etc.) The degree of specificity will reflect the level of detail in the general plan and subsequent plans. See **General Plan**, **California Environmental Quality Act**, and **Environmental Impact Report**.

**Tot Lots** – Playgrounds or areas for toddlers (18-months to 4 years old) situated within larger recreational areas, usually providing shade, and benches for caregivers.

**Tourism** (natural, cultural, eco/cultural and general tourism) – The economic activity of providing services for persons traveling for pleasure. Tourism contributes to the economic vitality of the community by providing revenue to local business. Tourism can be measured through the transient occupancy tax or restaurant sales. See **Commercial Recreation** and **Eco-Recreation**.

**Trail** – A general term describing any route that is intended for use by bicyclists, equestrians, hikers, or joggers. Trail Resources and links for additional trail information:

- CA Trail Connection, a searchable trail database currently under construction at [www.Caltrails.org](http://www.Caltrails.org)
- American Trails [www.americantrails.org](http://www.americantrails.org)
- Beneficial Designs, Inc. [www.TrailExplorer.org](http://www.TrailExplorer.org)
- American Hiking Society [www.americanhiking.org](http://www.americanhiking.org)
- Recreational Opportunities on Federal Lands [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)
- Great Outdoor Recreation Pages or GORP [www.gorp.com](http://www.gorp.com)
- Rails to Trails Conservancy [www.railtrails.org](http://www.railtrails.org)
- Calif. Dept. of Parks & Rec. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

See **Trail Corridor**, **Staging Area**, **Cross Country Ski Trail**, and **Bikeway**.

**Trail Corridor** – A term indicating the general location of a desired trail route. See **Trail**.

**Trail Head** – See **Staging Area**.

**Transfer of Development Rights** – See **Development Rights, Transfer of**

**Transfers** – Moving funds from one budgetary account or sub-account to another. Because of legal or other restrictions, monies collected in one fund may need to be expended in other funds. A transfer is accomplished through Transfers-In (a source of funds) for the recipient fund and an equal Transfer-Out (a use of funds) for the donor fund. When this movement occurs between different funds, it is known as an Interfund Transfer. When it occurs between the restricted and unrestricted portions of the same fund, it is known as an Intrafund Transfer.

**Transportation Enhancements** – Facilities and amenities such as bicycle paths, walking paths, rights-of-way landscaping, lighting, and motorist information signs that are funded from the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA). See **Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA)**. <http://ceres.ca.gov/ceqa>  
[www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html),

**Trustee Agency** – A state agency with legal jurisdiction over natural resources held in trust for the people of the state and that are affected by a project.

## U

**Underwater Park** – An offshore designated area. For example, the California Department of Parks and Recreation manages Underwater Park units at Crystal Cove and Lake Tahoe.  
[www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Undevelopable** – Specific areas where topographic, geologic and/or soil conditions indicate a significant danger to future occupants.

**Unencumbered Balance** – That portion of an appropriation or allotment not yet expended or obligated within a fiscal year.

**Unincorporated Area** – A Community or rural area that is not located within a city. See **Incorporated Area**. [www.lacdc.org/services/cdbg/overview.shtm](http://www.lacdc.org/services/cdbg/overview.shtm)

**Unifying Theme** – An overall theme used when planning park visitor centers or multi-subject exhibits to provide a conceptual focus and general approach for the interpretive offerings within a unit. It establishes the overall tone and direction and implies the desired outcome interpretation should have on visitors' attitudes and perspectives. See **Interpretation**.

**Unit (Park)** – Used by the California Department of Parks and Recreation to describe a classified park of the State Park System. Classifications include: State Beach, State Historic Park, State Historical Monument, State Park, State Recreation Area, State Reserve, State

Seashore, State Vehicular Recreation Area and Wayside Campground. Sub-unit classifications are: Cultural Preserve, Natural Preserve, and State Wilderness. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Unit Data File (UDF)** – In California State Parks, the working file that contains an organized body of information about a unit, and references the location of other information. It acts as an organized library of both unit data and the status of current issues.

**Unrestricted Revenues** – Those revenues that can be used for any lawful expenditure supporting a wide variety of functions, or objectives. See **Revenue**.

**Urban** – The U.S. Census Bureau defines “urban” for the 2000 census as comprising all territory, population, and housing units in urbanized areas and in places of 2,500 or more persons outside urbanized areas. See **Urban Park, Urban Growth Boundary, Urban Growth Management, and Urban Sprawl**. [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

**Urban Centers (URCC), Museums and Facilities for Wildlife or Environmental Education Grant Program (Grants)** – This competitive grant program funded the development or rehabilitation of real property consisting of urban recreational and cultural centers, museums, and facilities for wildlife education or environmental education. The California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services administered this funding source. All grant funds have been allocated. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Urban Growth Boundary (UGB)** – A boundary around a given municipality or developed area beyond which urban development will be reduced or not considered. See **Urban**.

**Urban Growth Management** – A package of public strategies, policies, codes and ordinances which are designed to keep the pace of urban growth in line with the fiscal capability of a jurisdiction to finance the required infrastructure, plan to protect natural resources and the environment, and maintain the desired quality of life in the community. See **Urban**.

**Urban Park** – A public land area that serves the broader community; typically intensively managed for multiple recreational activities, special events and facilities with possibly an open space area which is managed to protect its natural, cultural or historical resource features. See **Neighborhood Park, Community Park, Regional Park, Mini-Park, Open Space, Urban, and Americans for our Heritage and Recreation**.

**Urban Renewal** – A federal program for the physical improvement of primarily urban areas through comprehensive planning and governmental assistance to effect rehabilitation and redevelopment, often including parks and community centers. See **Rehabilitation**.

**Urban Sprawl** – Haphazard growth or outward expansion of a community resulting from uncontrolled or poorly managed development. Sometimes referred to as ‘Leapfrog Development.’ See **Urban and Growth Management**.

**U.S. Access Board (ADA Accessibility Guidelines)** – See **Americans with Disabilities Act and Accessibility**. <http://www.access-board.gov>

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** – The federal regulatory agency empowered by Congress to protect the environment; provide an array of financial assistance programs; and set

standards for State environmental protection. The Office of Environmental Education supports projects that enhance the public's awareness, knowledge, and skills to make informed decisions that affect environmental quality. [www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html](http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html)

**User Charges/Fees** – The payment of a fee for direct receipt of a public service by the party benefiting from the service. These fees help cover (in part or fully) the cost of providing that service to the user (e.g., park fees, building permits, animal licenses).

## V

**Vandalism** – Willful or malicious destruction or defacement of property. Within a park and recreation context, vandalism is the damage or defacement of facilities, picnic tables, benches, landscaping, community buildings, signs, drinking fountains, restrooms, vegetation, or other park and recreational amenities.

**Variance** – A limited waiver from the property development standards of the zoning ordinance. Variance requests are subject to public hearing, usually before a zoning administrator or board of zoning adjustment. Variances do not allow a change in land use. See **Zoning, Land Use Plan, and Land Use Element**.

**Vernacular** – Pertaining to a common recognizable characteristic style, design, construction, or development in the built environment of a particular locality that has been designed/developed without formally trained professionals.

**Vernal Pools** – Vernal pools are seasonal depressional and are covered by shallow water for variable periods from winter to spring, but may be completely dry for most of the summer and fall. These wetlands range in size from small puddles to shallow lakes and are usually found in a gently sloping plain of grassland. Although generally isolated, they are sometimes connected to each other by small drainages known as vernal swales. Beneath vernal pools lies either bedrock or a hard clay layer in the soil that helps keep water in the pool. See **Wetlands**.

**View Corridor** – The line of sight identified as to height, width, and distance of an observer looking toward an object of significance to the community (e.g. ridgeline, river, historic building, etc.) See **Viewshed**.

**Viewshed** – The total area within a view from a defined observation point. See **View Corridor**.

**Vignettes** – Areas within formal exhibits that, with the use of architectural features and/or furnishings, illustrate a particular historical person, event, activity, or period. See **Interpretive Exhibits**.

**Vision Statement** – A vision statement is a compelling image (description) of a desirable state of reality made possible by accomplishing the mission in a way that is consistent with the core values of key stakeholders. The vision statement is an inspiring view of the preferred future. An effective vision statement should include understandable, clear, strong and attractive images of the future; be specific enough to provide direction and purpose (but not measurable); engage the whole person – the heart as well as the mind; speak to why you are doing what you are doing; and identify the impact you want to have. See **Mission Statement**.

**Visitor Capacity** – Pre-determined number of visitors a site is capable of withstanding continued use with no apparent or undue environmental degradation.

**Visitor Center/Interpretive Centers** – Facility that provides a comfortable space where visitors can make a transition from their car or other transportation to the natural, cultural, or recreational environment. Usually includes exhibits and restrooms; sometimes gift shops. See **Interpretive Exhibits**.

## W

**Wastewater Irrigation** – The process by which wastewater that has undergone treatment is used to irrigate agricultural or landscaped land areas.

**Water Conservation** – Those practices that encourage consumers to reduce the use of water. The extent to which these practices actually create savings in water depends on the total or basin-wide use of water.

**Water Quality** – Most generally described as the physical, chemical, and biological integrity of water.

**Water Reclamation** – Practices that capture, treat and reuse water. The wastewater is treated to meet health and safety standards depending on its intended use.

**Watershed** – The total area above a given point on a waterway that contributes water to its flow; the entire region drained by a waterway or watercourse that drains into a lake, reservoir, or other body of water; usually bounded peripherally by a natural divide of some kind such as a hill, ridge, or mountain; the geographical area drained by a river and its connecting tributaries into a common drainage. A watershed may, and often does, cover a very large geographical region.

**Waterway** – Natural or once natural (perennial or intermittent) water including rivers, streams, and creeks. Includes natural waterways that have been channelized, but does not include man made channels, ditches, and underground drainage and sewage systems.

**Wetland Restoration** – An activity that re-establishes the habitats and functions of a former wetland. See **Wetlands**.

**Wetlands** – Lands that may be covered periodically or permanently with shallow water and include saltwater marshes, freshwater marshes, open or closed brackish water marshes, swamps, mudflats, and fens. See **Wetlands Restoration** and **Vernal Pools**.

**Wild and Scenic Rivers** – See **California Wild and Scenic Rivers System/Wild and Scenic Rivers Act**.

**Wilderness (Wilderness Area)** – A wilderness area is defined as an area of relatively undeveloped land that has retained its primeval character and influence or has been substantially restored to a near natural appearance, without permanent improvements or human habitation, other than semi-improved campgrounds and primitive latrines, and which is protected and

managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and which: (1) Appears generally to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. (2) Has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. (3) Has at least 5,000 acres of land, either by itself or in combination with contiguous areas possessing wilderness characteristics, or is of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition. (4) May also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value. Public Resources Code § 5093-30 – 5093.40. [www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html) and <http://ceres.ca.gov/ceqa>.

**Wildlife Care Facilities Grant Program** – This competitive grant program (all funds have been allocated) provides funds for the development, rehabilitation, or restoration of facilities that care for native California wildlife that have been injured or abandoned and that cannot be returned to the wild. The California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services administers this funding source. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

**Wildlife Habitat Protection Program (WHPP)** – Public Resources Code § 5090.35 mandates that the Department of Parks and Recreation shall make an inventory of wildlife populations and their habitats in each area in the system and shall prepare a wildlife habitat protection program to sustain a viable species composition specific to each area. WHPP is used to describe management programs prepared by State Vehicle Recreation Areas and some federal Off-Highway Vehicle recipients to meet the viable species composition mandate.

**The Williamson Act** – The Williamson Act, also known as the California Land Conservation Act of 1965, was designed as an incentive to retain prime agricultural land and open space in agricultural use, thereby slowing its conversion to urban and suburban development by taxing it at a lower rate. See **California Land Conservation Act**. [www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html), <http://ceres.ca.gov/ceqa>

## Z

**Zero-Base Budgeting** – A method of detailed budget analysis and justification that combines elements of management by objectives and program evaluation. It is a vehicle to link management and planning to the budget process. Zero-based budgeting starts with an examination of an agency's basic programs and services by the lowest management level, and continues up the organization as funding packages are prioritized at each level in accordance with available resources and desired outcomes. Zero-based budgeting is a tool for objectively directing the allocation of funds among activities and programs. Its basis is the consideration of the efficiency and effectiveness of activities and programs.

**Zoning** – The division of the city or county by legislative regulations into areas, or zones, which specify allowable uses for real property and size restrictions for buildings and lots within these areas; a program that carries out policies of the General Plan. See **General Plan, Zoning District, Zoning Ordinance, Variance, Cluster Development, Density Bonus, Design Review Committee, and Ballot Box Zoning**.

**Zoning Adjustment Board** – A group appointed by the local legislative body to consider minor zoning adjustments such as conditional use permits and variances. It is empowered to conduct public hearings and to impose conditions of approval. Its decisions may be appealed to the local legislative body.

**Zoning Administrator** – A planning department staff member responsible for hearing minor zoning permits. Typically, the zoning administrator considers variances and conditional use permits and may interpret the provisions of the zoning ordinance when questions arise. His/her decision may be appealed to the local legislative body.

**Zoning District** – A designated section of a city or county for which prescribed land use requirements and building and development standards are uniform. See **Zoning**.

**Zoning Ordinance** – A law (Government Code § 65850) dividing all land in the city into zones that specifies uses permitted and standards required in each zone required for a specific use such as residential, light industrial, etc. and recreation facility, such as a children’s playground, a picnic area, or softball diamond. See **Zoning** and **Conditional Use Permit**.

[www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/landuse.html), <http://ceres.ca.gov/ceqa>

**Zoos and Aquarium Facilities Grant Program** – This competitive grant program (all funds have been allocated) provides funds to cities, counties, and non-profit organizations for the development, rehabilitation, or restoration of facilities accredited by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association that are operated by cities, counties, and non-profit organizations. This program is administered by the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services. [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

##

## OTHER RESOURCES

- *Federal Land Management Agencies*

U. S. Department of the Interior  
*National Park Service (LWCF)*  
1849 C Street, N.W., Room 3624  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-565-1200 or 1203  
[www.ncrc.nps.gov/lwcf](http://www.ncrc.nps.gov/lwcf)

- National Parks Service Regional Offices

**Alaska Area Region**

Regional Director  
National Park Service  
2525 Gambell St. RM 107  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
(907) 257-2687  
<http://www.nps.gov/>

**Northeast Region**

Regional Director  
National Park Service  
U.S. Custom House  
200 Chestnut St., Fifth Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
(215) 597-7013

**Midwest Region**

Regional Director  
National Park Service  
1709 Jackson St.  
Omaha, NE 68102  
(402) 221-3471

**National Capital Region**

Regional Director  
National Park Service  
1100 Ohio Dr., SW  
Washington D.C. 20242  
(202) 619-7222

**Intermountain Region**

Regional Director  
National Park Service  
12795 Alameda Pkwy  
Denver, CO 80225  
(303) 969-2500

**Southeast Region**

Regional Director  
National Park Service  
100 Alabama St. SW  
1924 Building  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
(404)562-3100

**Pacific West Region**

Regional Director  
National Park Service  
One Jackson Center  
1111 Jackson Street  
Suite 700  
Oakland, CA 94607  
(510) 817-1300

National Park Service (UPARR)

[www.ncrc.nps.gov/uparr](http://www.ncrc.nps.gov/uparr)

United States Dept. of Agriculture Forest Service

P.O. Box 96090

Washington, DC 20090-6090

202-205-1248

[www.fs.fed.us/land/staff/lwcf](http://www.fs.fed.us/land/staff/lwcf)

United States Fish and Wildlife Service

4401 N. Fairfax Drive

Arlington, VA 22203

703-358-1713

[www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov)

Bureau of Land Management

MS 1000LS

1849 C Street, N.W.

Washington, DC 20240

202-452-7788

[www.blm.gov](http://www.blm.gov)

- *National Land Conservation and Recreation Organizations*

Americans for Our Heritage and Recreation

1615 M St., N.W.

Second Floor

Washington, DC 20036

202-429-2666

[www.ahrinfo.org](http://www.ahrinfo.org)

The Conservation Fund

1800 North Kent Street

Suite 1120

Arlington, VA 22209

703-525-6300

[www.conservationfund.org](http://www.conservationfund.org)

California Office

436 Fourteenth St., Suite 1201

Oakland, CA 94612

Phone: 510-208-2780

Fax: 510-208-2781

National Recreation and Park Association

1901 Pennsylvania Ave., S.E.

Washington, DC 20006

202-887-0290

[www.activeparks.org](http://www.activeparks.org)

The Nature Conservancy

4245 N. Fairfax Drive

Suite 100

Arlington, VA 22203-1606

703-841-5300

[www.tnc.org](http://www.tnc.org)

California Field Office

201 Mission Street

4th Floor

San Francisco, CA 94105

(415) 777-0487

Fryar Calhoun, Communications

[fcalhoun@tnc.org](mailto:fcalhoun@tnc.org)

U.S. Conference of Mayors

1620 Eye Street, N.W.

Washington, DC 20006

202-293-7330

[www.usmayors.org](http://www.usmayors.org)

Trust for Public Land

116 New Montgomery

4<sup>th</sup> Floor

San Francisco, CA 94105

415-495-4014

[www.tpl.org](http://www.tpl.org)

Land Trust Alliance

1319 F St., N.W.

Suite 501

Washington, DC 20004-1106

202-638-4725

[www.lta.org](http://www.lta.org)

National Association of Recreation Resource Planners

MSC-1777

P.O. Box 2430

Pensacola, FL 32513

[www.narrp.org/](http://www.narrp.org/)

US Soccer Foundation  
1050 17<sup>th</sup> St., N.W.  
Suite 210  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-872-6657  
[www.ussoccerfoundation.org](http://www.ussoccerfoundation.org)

Preservation Action  
1350 Connecticut Ave., N.W.  
Suite 401  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-659-0915  
[www.preservationaction.org](http://www.preservationaction.org)

The Wilderness Society  
1615 M Street, N.W.  
Second Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
202-833-2300  
[www.wilderness.org](http://www.wilderness.org)

Urban Parks Online/Urban Parks Institute  
*c/o* Project for Public Spaces, Inc.  
153 Waverly Place  
New York, NY 10014  
212-620-5660  
[www.urbanparks.org](http://www.urbanparks.org)

American Society of Landscape Architects  
636 Eye St., N.W.  
Washington, DC 20001  
202-216-2334  
[www.asla.org](http://www.asla.org)

Smart Growth America  
1100 17th St., N.W.  
10th Floor  
Washington, DC 20036  
[www.smartgrowthamerica.com](http://www.smartgrowthamerica.com)

Defenders of Wildlife  
1100 14<sup>th</sup> St., N.W.  
Suite 1400  
Washington, DC 20005  
202-682-9400  
[www.defenders.org](http://www.defenders.org)

National Spa and Pool Institute

2111 Eisenhower Avenue  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
703-838-0083  
[www.nspi.org](http://www.nspi.org)

Natural Resources Defense Council

1200 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20005  
202-289-2412  
[www.nrdc.org](http://www.nrdc.org)

National Parks Conservation Association

1300 19<sup>th</sup> St., N.W.  
Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-223-6722  
[www.npca.org](http://www.npca.org)

National Wildlife Federation

1400 16<sup>th</sup> St., N.W.  
Suite 501  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-797-6800  
[www.nwf.org](http://www.nwf.org)

Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association

1150 17<sup>th</sup> St., N.W.  
Suite 407  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-775-1762  
[www.sportlink.com](http://www.sportlink.com)

National Council of Youth Sports

7185 S.E. Seagate Lane  
Stuart, FL 34997  
561-781-1452  
[www.ncys.org](http://www.ncys.org)

Outdoor Industry Association

P.O. Box 1319  
Boulder, CO 80306  
303-444-3353  
[www.outdoorindustry.org](http://www.outdoorindustry.org)

International Mountain Biking Association

P.O. Box 7578  
Boulder, CO 80306  
303-545-9011  
[www.imba.com](http://www.imba.com)

Izaak Walton League of America

707 Conservation Lane  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983  
301-548-0150  
[www.iwla.org](http://www.iwla.org)

American Hiking Society

1422 Fenwick Lane  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
301-565-6704  
[www.americanhiking.org](http://www.americanhiking.org)

International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

444 N. Capitol Street, N.W.  
Suite 544  
Washington, DC 20001  
202-624-7890  
[www.teaming.com](http://www.teaming.com)

National Audubon Society

1901 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.  
Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20006  
202-861-2242  
[www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org)

American Farmland Trust

1200 18th St., N.W.  
Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-331-7300  
[www.farmland.org](http://www.farmland.org)

Civil War Preservation Trust

1515 Wilson Blvd.  
3rd Floor  
Arlington, VA 22209  
703-682-2350  
[www.civilwar.org](http://www.civilwar.org)

- *Regional Organizations*

Northern Forest Alliance

43 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05602  
802-223-5256

<http://www.northernforestalliance.org/>

Highlands Coalition

*Bamboo Brook*  
170 Longview Road  
Far Hills, NJ 07931  
908-234-1225

[www.highlandscoalition.org](http://www.highlandscoalition.org)

Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition

46 Haywood Street  
Suite 323  
Asheville, NC 28801  
828-252-9223

[www.safc.org](http://www.safc.org)

Appalachian Mountain Club

Five Joy Street  
Boston, MA 02108  
617-523-0655

[www.outdoors.org](http://www.outdoors.org)

American Land Conservancy

1388 Sutter Street  
Suite 810  
San Francisco, CA 94109-5453  
415-403-3850

[www.alcnet.org](http://www.alcnet.org)

Continental Divide Trail Alliance

P.O. Box 628  
Pine, CO 80470  
303-838-3760

[www.cdtrail.org](http://www.cdtrail.org)

Appalachian Trail Conference

P.O. Box 807  
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425  
304-535-6331

[www.appalachiantrail.org](http://www.appalachiantrail.org)

Pacific Crest Trail Association  
5325 Elkhorn Blvd., PMB #256  
Sacramento, CA 95842  
916-349-2109  
[www.pcta.org](http://www.pcta.org)

**Regional UPARR Liaisons:**

*National Park Service  
National Center for Recreation  
and Conservation - Room 3624  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
202-565-1200*

National Park Service  
*Northeast Region  
U.S. Customs House  
Stewardship and Partnership  
200 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
215-597-9195  
(CT, DC, DE, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VA, VT, WV)*

National Park Service  
*Southeast Region  
Atlanta Federal Center - 1924 Building  
100 Alabama Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
404-562-3175  
(AL, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, PR, SC, TN, VI)*

National Park Service  
*Midwest Region  
1709 Jackson Street  
Omaha, NE 68102-2571  
402-221/3358  
(AZ, AR, CO, IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, MT, NE, NM, ND, OK, OH, SD, TX, UT, WS, WY)*

National Park Service  
*Pacific West Region  
Columbia Cascade Support Office  
909 First Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104-1060  
206-220-4126  
(AK, ID, OR, WA)*

National Park Service

*Pacific West Region*

*Pacific Great Basin Support Office*

*600 Harrison Street, Suite 600*

*San Francisco, CA 94107-1372*

*415-427-1445*

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**California Department of Parks and Recreation**  
Planning Division

Planning Publications Available

In recent years, the Planning Division has produced a number of publications of interest to Park and Recreation professionals. The following titles are available in state depository libraries and, as supply permits, may be obtained from the division itself.

- *Issues and Actions: the California Outdoor Recreation Plan –1997* A new plan will be released in the spring of 2003
- *Public Opinions and Attitudes on Outdoor Recreation in California - 1997* (March, 1998)  
The third statewide survey, taken every five years, assessing the views of Californians about parks, recreation, open space and related quality-of- life matters. A new study is due to be undertaken and published in the spring of 2003.
- *California State Park System Plan* (December, 2002) A study of the issues and opportunities which the system much address in the coming decade, with recommendations for appropriate Policies and programs.
- *Planning Milestones for the Park Units and Major Properties Associated with the California State Park System: July 2002* (map included). A comprehensive and definitive summary and explanation of the extensive planning work that has been done for the units and properties of the State Park System.
- California State Park System - Annual Statistical Report for July 2002. Available in January, 2003.
- *Concepts: Practical Tools for Parks and Recreation (issued occasionally)*. Reports on the Division's studies and surveys, information and technical assistance.
  - California Leaders' Opinions of Parks and Recreation – *October 2002*
  - Glossary of Commonly Used Terms and Definitions Relevant to the Park and Recreation Professional – *November 2002*
- *Bear Facts: Planning Trends and Information for California State Parks (issued triennially)*. Planning Division newsletter containing information on ideas, trends and happenings in parks and recreation matters.
  - June 2001
  - October 2001
  - February 2002
  - June 2002
  - October 2002

Some of these materials may be available on the Department's internet website at [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov). Most of these materials are available from the state depository library system, the State Library Sacramento, and other public or academic libraries throughout California.



## The Concepts Series

The planning staff of the California Department of Parks and Recreation is actively involved in the examination of a wide range of ideas, situations and conditions relevant to the provision of outdoor recreation lands, programs, services to California's citizens and her visitors. By means of surveys, seminars and other forms of study and investigation, the Department works to understand current issues and their implications. The results of these various efforts are made available to park and recreation professionals and supporters as a series of published reports under the general title of *Concepts: Practical Tools for Parks and Recreation*.

These reports provide current ideas and information, often in the form of technical assistance, to park and recreation practitioners working in government agencies at all levels, as well to those associated with non-profit groups, volunteer organizations, and to private individuals concerned with parks, recreation and open space issues.

The first two reports in this series, and their dates of issuance, are:

- *California Leaders' Opinions of Parks and Recreation* (October, 2002)
- *Glossary of Common Park and Recreation Terms* (November, 2002)

Copies of any report in the *Concepts* series is available, free of charge, from:

Planning Division  
California Department of Parks and Recreation  
1416 9<sup>th</sup> Street, P. O. Box 942896  
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001  
916 653-9901

