

PUBLIC SERVICES
AND FACILITIES

6



6.1 INTRODUCTION

Responsive public services and integrated, accessible public facilities are key to maintaining and strengthening quality of life in Dixon. Public parks, public facilities, and recreational and cultural programming provide spaces and occasions for neighborly interaction and healthy living. Schools, libraries, and educational programs build informed citizens and create opportunity for people of all ages. Public safety services like police and fire departments keep the populace safe. And adequate public infrastructure underpins the City's daily activities and ensures that life can run smoothly. Given Dixon's relatively small size, it is critical that investments in public services and facilities are made wisely and in response to the City's existing and future needs.

The purpose of the Public Services and Facilities element is to establish a framework under the General Plan that supports the enhancement of existing public services and facilities and provides for the future expansion to ensure they contribute to a high quality of life for local residents. Dixon's public services and facilities are also considered in Chapter 2, Natural Environment, Safety and Hazards, Chapter 3, Land Use and Community Character, and Chapter 4, Economic Development. Where policies and actions found elsewhere in the plan are related to the achievement of the goals in this chapter, connections are cross-referenced.

6.2 PUBLIC SAFETY

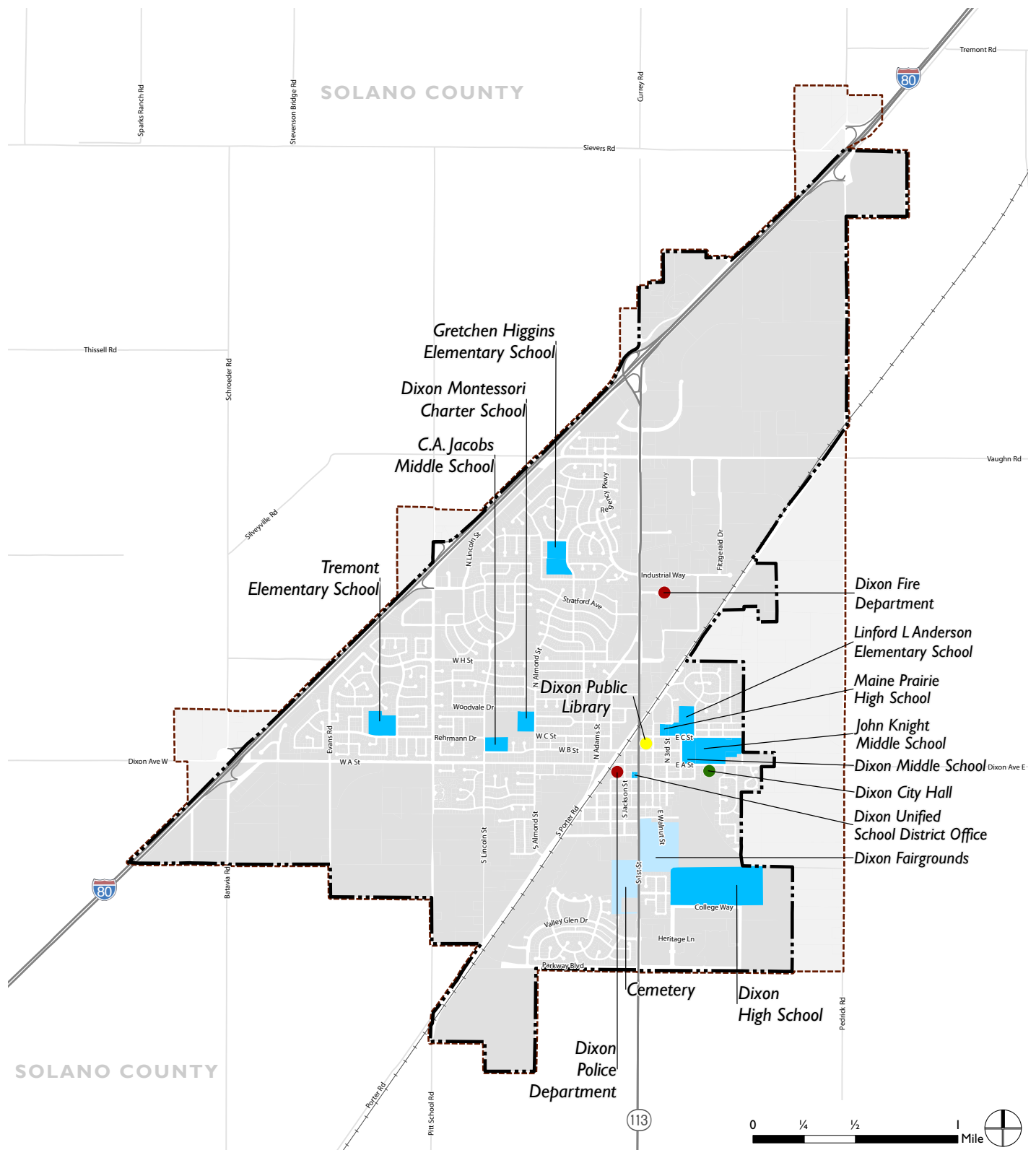
More and more communities are adopting a community-based approach to public safety, actively involving residents to ensure neighborhoods remain safe and ready to respond in the event of an emergency. Neighborhood watch groups and training for residents in emergency response and fire prevention can not only help prepare the community to respond in times of crisis but can also help relationships between police and

community members, keeping the whole city safer. City of Dixon professional police and fire departments work with the community to keep Dixon secure, providing public safety services, fire, and emergency personnel. Safety facilities and services, including the police and fire departments and fire protection districts, are distributed throughout the City, and are shown in Figure PSF-1.






Source: Google Streetview

Figure PSF-1 Public Facilities



Data Source: City of Dixon, 2019; Dyett & Bhatia, 2019

-  Railroad
-  Dixon City Limit
-  Sphere of Influence





POLICE

The Dixon Police Department provides law enforcement services for Dixon residents and businesses. Operating out of a station located at 201 West A Street, the Dixon Police Department is divided into the Field Operations Division which provides preventative patrol functions and the Support Services Division, which encompasses Investigations, Property and Evidence, Records, Code Enforcement, and Community Services. The Dixon Police Department also operates a variety of community programs, including school safety and a police cadet program. A Community Services Section within the department works actively to build and maintain relationships between the Department and the community. Dixon police officers attend community events and inter-organizational meetings, including Neighborhood Watch Meetings, Career Days at local schools, and training and programs with other law public safety agencies in the county.

Dixon enjoys a relatively low crime rate as compared to surrounding cities; however, any crime is too much crime.

Staffing levels are critical to providing a full range of law enforcement services to the community and the Department has focused efforts on recruitment to improve staffing levels since the end of the Great Recession. As a small agency, partnerships with neighboring jurisdictions are important for effective delivery of services and the Department maintains a strong relationship with the Solano County Sheriff's Office, jointly staffing special operations teams like the Solano County SWAT and Hostage Negotiations teams to ensure that Dixon residents benefit from fully trained and staffed tactical and critical incident response capability. The Department is also increasingly making use of technology for effective service delivery, adopting a new cloud-based Records Management System which allows for greater accountability in tracking the progress of cases and for digital transmission of information to the district attorney and other allied agencies. A continued focus on community-based policing programs can also help ensure the delivery of responsive, effective law enforcement services for the community.

FIRE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The Dixon Fire Department provides emergency fire, rescue, and medical services to the City of Dixon. It also provides fire protection for the Dixon Fire Protection District, a 320-square-mile area that includes the entirety of the Planning Area. The Department consists of multiple divisions, including Fire Prevention, Operations/Training, Advanced Life Support, Administration, Public Education, and Equipment Maintenance, and operates several community safety programs, including fire safety classes, fire extinguisher trainings, disaster preparedness trainings, and smoke detector installations. The Department also receives emergency medical service calls, which make up a plurality of the total calls received.

Current staffing and equipment levels provide an adequate number of firefighters for smaller fires and common medical or rescue situations, and the City maintains mutual aid agreements with other local municipalities. In addition, the City has mechanisms in place to ensure that as the City grows, the level of fire and emergency response service is maintained. Community Facilities Districts (CFD's) are used in Dixon to provide upfront financing for infrastructure improvements to service new development areas. The Southwest Dixon Specific Plan also stipulates the addition of a new fire station within the new development to serve new residents.

The risk of fire in Dixon is typical of that in other primarily suburban California communities. Dixon is comprised predominantly of low-density residential development, and the risk of structural fire associated with this building type is considered moderate. Historic buildings, which are mostly concentrated in and around Dixon's downtown area, represent the majority of fire risk given that most

lack fire sprinklers and modern fire-stopping construction techniques. Dixon also has a potential emergency access issue where the Union Pacific Railroad tracks cross downtown at grade, which act as a barrier when trains pass through. The General Plan policy framework contains policies and actions to help Dixon decrease these risks, including by exploration of an incentive program to increase fire sprinkler installation in historic buildings and by constructing the planned Parkway Overpass project at the rail tracks (see Chapter 5: Mobility for more detailed discussion). It also contains policies and actions aimed at maintaining adequate staffing, equipment, and services from the Dixon Fire Department as the City grows, involving the Department in development review processes, and expanding the reserve firefighter program.

See Chapter 2: Natural Environment for more information on emergency preparedness and response to natural disasters.



GOAL PSF-1: Provide police and fire services that are responsive to community needs and ensure a safe and secure environment for people and property in Dixon.

POLICIES

- PSF-1.1** Provide responsive, efficient, and effective police services that promote a high level of public safety.
- PSF-1.2** Provide fire prevention and emergency response services that minimize fire risks and protect life and property
- PSF-1.3** Maintain police and fire equipment, facilities and staffing at levels that allow for effective service delivery.
- PSF-1.4** Maintain mutual aid agreements that allow for supplemental aid from other police and fire departments in the event of emergencies.
- PSF-1.5** Continue to require that new development make a fair share funding contribution to ensure the provision of adequate police and fire services.
- PSF-1.6** Continue to engage the Police and Fire departments in the development review process to ensure that projects are designed and operated in a manner that minimizes the potential for criminal activity and fire hazards and maximizes the potential for responsive police and fire services.
- PSF-1.7** Encourage the provision of adequate public lighting, windows overlooking streets or parking lots, paths to increase pedestrian activity within private development projects and public facilities in order to enhance public safety and reduce calls for service.
- PSF-1.8** Employ community-based policing strategies and encourage the establishment of neighborhood watch programs in partnerships with community groups.
- PSF-1.9** Support construction of improvements that facilitate emergency access across the rail line, such as over-and underpasses at one or more strategic locations.

ACTIONS

- PSF-1.A** Increase fire fighter staffing levels consistent with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) guidance and expand the reserve firefighter program.
- PSF-1.B** Modify the Fire Department's staffing model to increase efficiency of personnel at the scene of an emergency and build capacity to manage complex incidents.
- PSF-1.C** Explore the cost/benefit of an incentive program to encourage owners of historic buildings with "non-fire stopped" framing construction to retrofit their properties with fire sprinklers, particularly in the downtown area.



6.3 ADEQUATE PUBLIC SERVICES

As infrastructure ages and new development occurs in Dixon, public utilities infrastructure will need to be improved and expanded. In a small city like Dixon, investments must be made strategically, ensuring that built capacity matches need and that improvements for new residents are balanced with the need to maintain quality services for existing residents.

Dixon has a variety of tools at its disposal to fund improvements to existing infrastructure and expansions in response to additional development, including utility rates, development impact fees, and Community Facilities and Assessment Districts. Utility rates, or fees for utility services provided by the City, may be used to cover the cost of operations, maintenance, and capital improvements. Development impact

fees are imposed by the City of Dixon on new construction, both residential and non-residential, to pay for improvements and facilities required to meet the needs of new development as well as diminish the impacts of new development on existing services and facilities such as parks, transportation, and police facilities and services such as sewer connections. In addition, Community Facilities Districts and Assessment Districts are financing mechanisms that can be used to fund public infrastructure and services investments in the context of new development projects. Dixon has a precedent of implementing both Community Facilities Districts and Assessment Districts to fund public utilities investments, including for the mixed-use residential Homestead project in Southwest Dixon, formed in 2019.

POTABLE WATER

Ensuring adequate and high-quality potable water supply is one of the most critical responsibilities of growing California cities. Dixon's water currently comes exclusively from groundwater in the Solano subbasin of the Sacramento Valley Groundwater basin. The distribution system is served by two water service providers, the California Water Service Company (Cal Water) and the City of Dixon. (The water system is described in detail in Dixon's 2016 Water System Master Plan, which provides a framework for the prioritization of improvements.)

Since 2008, per capita water consumption has decreased substantially, largely due to successful water conservation measures enacted during the recent drought. While the City's water system meets existing demand, improvements will be necessary to meet new demand generated by new development in a reliable manner. As climate change makes regional water resources scarcer, and given the potential for the infiltration

of pollutants to existing groundwater resources, integration of other water supply sources could strengthen the sustainability of the groundwater resources and provide the City with a reliable supply of potable water. Existing and projected new residents in Dixon will need new and diversified water sources. The General Plan contains policies and actions to ensure the long-term health of Dixon's water supply, including by diversifying supply with more wells, pipelines, and storage facilities, identifying other surface water supplies, and by exploring partnerships with other regional water transporters, providers, and municipalities. ***(See Goal PSF-1 and associated policies and actions.)***

Water quality, groundwater management, and conservation is discussed in more detail in Chapter 2: Natural Environment (see pages 2-13 and 2-14).

ASSESSMENT DISTRICTS AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICTS

Assessment Districts and Community Facilities Districts levy special taxes on owners in an area in order to distribute the costs of infrastructure investments among property owners fairly and gradually. Assessment Districts can only be used to fund improvements that provide a direct and special benefit to parcels in an area such as streets, sidewalks, curbs and gutters, water, sewer, gas electric, lighting, drainage or flood control facilities, while Community Facility Districts funding is more flexible and can include improvements that provide broader, more general benefits such as schools, parks, and police protection.



DIXON'S WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY

Dixon's new Wastewater Treatment Facility was awarded the Envision Silver rating by the Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure in 2017 for its energy and cost-saving design. The facility's design also proactively addresses groundwater nitrate contamination, which is considered the most significant long-term threat to groundwater quality in agricultural areas across the globe.

WASTEWATER

The City of Dixon's City Engineer/Public Works Department provides all wastewater collection and treatment services for Dixon residents. In 2017, the City of Dixon upgraded its Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) to comply with the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB) regulatory limits of salts in the treated effluent that reaches the groundwater, also known as discharge limits. The updated facility prevents discharge to open channels and creeks near the WWTF. The project also expanded the City's capacity to treat wastewater.

Looking towards the future, the General Plan calls for the preparation

of a computer model and Sewer System Master Plan to help Dixon continue to provide high-quality wastewater treatment. Sewer models have become a standard management tool used by cities to make fully informed decisions about sewer system improvements and future land development impacts on the sewer system. The General Plan also contains policies and actions that ensure that Dixon will have adequate capacity to safely accommodate the wastewater needs of existing and future residents in the wastewater service area, including through ensuring compliance with State water treatment standards and by increasing the wastewater treatment facility, trunk sewer, and pump capacities.

STORMWATER DRAINAGE AND QUALITY

Urban landscapes are primarily composed of impervious surfaces. In Dixon, asphalt roads, concrete sidewalks, and rooftops shed water during rain events, which can create localized flooding. Further, when it rains, the automobile oils and particulate emissions that linger on roadways and nearby surfaces are washed into the drainage collection system, which could lead to pollution and poor water quality. Given Dixon's reliance on groundwater as a source of potable water and the potential for infiltration of pollutants from stormwater, ensuring stormwater

quality is a priority as development occurs: without proactive management, stormwater can disrupt City services and degrade local waterways.

Utilizing Low Impact Development strategies (LIDs) and collaborating with both the Solano County Water Agency and the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) can control the volume and quality of runoff from new and existing development by reducing stormwater runoff and

controlling the sources of pollutants. Using pervious paving or reducing impervious surfacing allows water to soak into and recharge the underground aquifers. Designing sites so that rooftop and paving runoff flows into landscaped areas instead of off the property reduces Citywide runoff. And trees and plants can catch, slow down, and filter stormwater. Implementing these strategies will help Dixon reduce local flooding and regional pollution.

For stormwater that does require conveyance and treatment, service is provided by several agencies, including the City, the Dixon Resource Conservation District (DRCD), Reclamation District 2068 (RD2068), and the Maine Prairie Water District. In 2004, these agencies established the Dixon Regional Watershed Joint Powers Agency (DRWJPA) to cooperatively resolve several long-term, regional drainage problems, including establishing discharge limits from the City into the agricultural DRCD drainage channels and identifying and preliminarily sizing the local water

detention ponds needed to achieve the discharge limits. Stormwater system facility improvements and expansions are funded new through development and the City's Capital Improvement Program. The City has developed plans and sized facilities for much of the expected future growth through previous stormwater master plans and other studies, and improvements required for development are included in development agreements and paid for by and installed concurrently with development as needed. To address drainage issues in the NEQ, Dixon Regional Watershed JPA, Solano County Water Agency and Solano County are currently collaborating to develop a system that involves drainage management, ground water recharge and an associated construct/maintenance fee program that can be implemented for the benefit of the stakeholders.

Policies in this General Plan ensure that new development contributes to stormwater facilities, that the City continue to collaborate with the DRWJPA and other appropriate agencies, and that

LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES



Low Impact Development strategies (LIDs) include designing sites to feature canopy trees and shrubs to absorb rainwater, the use of permeable paving, bioswales and bioretention basins, and other techniques that minimize stormwater runoff. Meanwhile, "best management practice" (BMP) refers to a practice, or combination of practices, that are designed to achieve sustainable groundwater management through what are referred to as Groundwater Sustainability Agencies. Dixon is part of the Solano Groundwater Sustainability Agency, which is currently drafting a Groundwater Sustainability Plan as per State law (California Code of Regulations Title 23, Division 2, Chapter 1.5, Subchapter 2).

low impact design techniques are utilized throughout the City for higher water quality, more infiltration, and reduced overall runoff.

There are three regional watersheds within Dixon: Basin A, which drains to Ulatis Creek, and Basins B&C and Basin D, which drain to Hass Slough. Dixon's water eventually enters the Sacramento River Delta and flows into the Suisun Bay and the San Francisco Bay. Dixon also uses detention ponds to prevent flooding and to allow infiltration into the aquifer below. Now-undergrounded historic creeks and irrigation ditches drain through the city to Ponds A, B, and C, which detain the water and use native vegetation as filtration. The discharge from the

ponds are managed by the DRWJPA, and include some perimeter walking trails for residents to enjoy the open spaces. (See Chapter 2: Natural Environment for more information and policies regarding water conservation in Dixon.)



GOAL PSF-2: Plan and provide utilities and infrastructure to deliver safe, reliable and adequate services for current and future residents and businesses.

POLICIES

- PSF-2.1** Coordinate with the California Water Service Company (Cal Water) to ensure the provision of adequate water service to Dixon residents and businesses.
- PSF-2.2** Expand the City's water supply system, including wells, pipelines and storage facilities, in order to meet future need as development occurs, particularly in the Northeast Quadrant and in Southwest Dixon.
- PSF-2.3** Improve the reliability of the City's water system to meet future demand, including through the construction of additional wells and the identification of potential surface water supply sources or use of reclaimed water from the City Wastewater Treatment Facility.
- PSF-2.4** Prioritize improvements to the City's water system to ensure the provision of safe, clean water.
- PSF-2.5** Use the performance metrics in the Water System Strategic Asset Management Plan adopted April 10, 2018 to identify and prioritize capital and maintenance improvement program elements.
- PSF-2.6** Provide wastewater collection and treatment services, ensuring that adequate capacity is available to serve existing and future need in the community and that effluent can be treated and disposed in accordance with RWQCB standards.

- PSF-2.7** Operate, maintain and update the City-owned storm sewer system as needed to serve existing and future development.
- PSF-2.8** Coordinate with the Dixon Regional Watershed Joint Powers Agency, the Solano County Water Agency, the Solano Irrigation District and other responsible agencies to address storm drainage and flood control on a sub-regional basis in order to optimize the use of existing and planned conveyance facilities.
- PSF-2.9** Require through development agreements that new development provide necessary storm drainage improvements and ensure that upstream stormwater generators fully address stormwater needs on their property.
- PSF-2.10** Ensure through the development review process that adequate public utilities and services are available to serve new development and ensure that new development pay its fair share of the costs of constructing new public utilities, providing public services, and upgrading existing facilities as needed to accommodate it.
- PSF-2.11** Encourage project designs that minimize drainage concentrations, minimize impervious coverage, utilize pervious paving materials, utilize low impact development (LID) strategies, and utilize Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce stormwater runoff.
- PSF-2.12** Pursue expanded broadband coverage throughout Dixon so that all residents have multiple provider options and improved quality of service.

ACTIONS

- PSF-2.A** Establish a new metered interconnection with the Cal Water system in Southwest Dixon as development occurs in this area in order to augment the backup source of water available to both suppliers in case either system experiences low system pressures or inadequate supplies.
- PSF-2.B** Study options for diversifying and expanding the City's water supply sources.
- PSF-2.C** Investigate opportunities to jointly invest in new facilities, as well as opportunities to share facilities with other regional water transporters and providers or other local municipalities.
- PSF-2.D** Plan and construct centralized water treatment facilities providing wellhead treatment to address hexavalent chromium (Cr(VI)) concentrations in excess of the maximum contaminant level.
- PSF-2.E** Increase wastewater treatment facility, trunk sewer and pump station capacities in order to accommodate future growth within the City's service area.

PSF-2.F Prepare a Sewer Master Plan and computer model of the sanitary sewer system to estimate the sizing and costs of needed improvements; to identify and mitigate sources of infiltration and inflow; and to determine how best to accommodate existing needs and future growth.



6.4 INTEGRATED PUBLIC FACILITIES

SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Quality educational facilities and programs are foundational elements of thriving communities. In Dixon, public educational facilities and programs are provided by the Dixon Unified School District (DUSD). The school district boundaries include the Planning Area as well as parts of Vacaville and unincorporated Solano County. All six of the District's schools are located in Dixon, including three elementary schools, one middle school, and two high schools.

Libraries also play an important lifelong learning role in communities. The Dixon library joined the Solano County Library

System in 2020. The library, which is still housed in its original historic building dating from 1913, has a collection of nearly 50,000 items and computers available for public use.

In addition to its schools and library, Dixon has several other important community gathering places and facilities. The Dixon Teen Center provides recreational facilities, activities, and educational programming for teens in the Planning Area. The Dixon Senior/Multi-Use Center provides services, activities, information, and social opportunities for seniors. Dixon City Hall, on East A Street,

DIXON'S CARNEGIE LIBRARY



Andrew Carnegie donated more than \$40 million for communities to build free libraries across the United States between 1886 and 1919, but the money was only granted when the community could provide a plot of land and prove that they could support the ongoing maintenance and operations of a new library. As a small town of only 1,000 people, turn-of-the-century Dixon didn't have the resources to meet those conditions. The Women's Improvement Club and State Assemblyman J.H.

Peterson didn't give up, though. Peterson sponsored a bill to allow a library to be supported by a special high school district rather than just the city alone. The bill passed in 1910, and in 1911, voters approved a tax measure that would contribute support for ongoing library services, creating the Dixon Union High School District Library District of Solano County, California. The Library District would serve residents in a 196 square mile area of eastern Solano County. Women's Improvement Club member Mrs. O.C. Schulze donated a parcel of land on East B Street, and, meeting all of the conditions for the Carnegie Library grant, the City received a check for \$10,000. The library opened its doors in February, 1913, and has remained an important centerpiece of Dixon life ever since. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2011.

houses the City of Dixon's administration, departments, and City Council meetings. The Dixon May Fair is the oldest district fair and fairgrounds in the state of California, and hosts events such as the annual Lambtown festival, dog shows, and the annual May Fair, now in its 145th year.

Nevertheless, there is a need for new and improved community facilities to serve existing and future residents. The Dixon Senior/Multi-Use Center isn't large enough to accommodate the existing community needs, and a new community

center is planned in the Southwest Dixon Specific Plan area to serve future residents. The General Plan also contains policies and implementing actions designed to expand community offerings and spaces, co-locate City facilities to maximize investment and convenience, pursue funding for expanding the Multi-Use Center, and study the feasibility of creating a new recreation facility.

Dixon's existing schools, library, and other community facilities are shown on Figure PSF-2.



GOAL PSF-3: Locate and design schools and other public facilities as contributors to neighborhood quality of life, identity and pride.

POLICIES

- PSF-3.1** Provide community centers, arts/cultural facilities, senior centers and other public facilities, ensuring they are distributed equitably and conveniently throughout Dixon.
- PSF-3.2** Whenever feasible, co-locate City facilities with other public facilities (schools, post offices, hospitals/clinics) so that multiple services may be delivered from a single location.
- PSF-3.3** Collaborate with DUSD to facilitate the shared use of sports and recreational facilities through a continued/expanded Joint Use Agreement or other vehicles.
- PSF-3.4** Work with DUSD and other local schools to plan for school locations that meet school needs while minimizing traffic and other neighborhood impacts.

ACTIONS

- PSF-3.A** Pursue funding from public, private or philanthropic sources to expand the Multi-Use Center to better serve the needs of Dixon residents.
- PSF-3.B** Study the feasibility of developing a marquee recreational facility in Dixon such as an aquatic center.
- PSF-3.C** Consider updating the Zoning Code to allow senior living facilities as a conditional use in the Public Service District.

6.5 QUALITY PARKS AND RECREATION

Parks and recreational facilities provide spaces and opportunities for the community to gather and participate in neighborly activities. Dixon residents enjoy access to a wide range of parks and recreational facilities. The City of Dixon's Recreation and Community Services Division of the City Engineer/Public Works Department maintains approximately 96.3 acres of parkland in the Planning Area, summarized in Table PSF-1 and shown on Figure PSF-2, including neighborhood and community parks. Neighborhood parks are designed to provide open space and basic recreational facilities for residents who live in the vicinity of the park, while community parks provide space for organized sports and major facilities for the entire community, such as swimming pools, sports fields, and community centers. In addition to parks, recreational facilities in Dixon include the Jim B. Stevens Arena and the Pat Granucci Aquatics Center. The City of Dixon also maintains a Joint Facility Use Agreement with the Dixon Unified School District to share recreational facilities, including the gymnasium and running track. Dixon residents also have easy access to a variety of regional parks and open spaces in the surrounding area, including the 1,566-acre the Jepson Prairie Preserve, located ten miles south of Dixon, and the County-operated Lake Solano Park, located approximately 12 miles northwest of Dixon.

The City has established a standard of 5.0 acres of community or neighborhood recreational or park facility per 1,000 residents to ensure adequate recreational open space for the enjoyment of the community. To ensure an appropriate

balance of local and community-serving facilities, the Parks Master Plan recommends a target of 1.2 acres of neighborhood park per 1,000 residents and 3.8 acres of and community park per 1,000 residents for a total of 5 acres per thousand residents although this is not a mandate. With its 96.3 acres of City facility, Dixon currently has 4.8 acres of parkland for every 1,000 residents, slightly below the established service ratio standard. At 4.0 acres per 1,000 residents, the community parks ratio meets the target of 3.8, but the neighborhood park ratio is just 0.7 acres per 1,000 residents as compared to a target of 1.2 acres per 1,000 residents.

A development agreement for residential construction pursuant to the Southwest Dixon Specific Plan calls for the construction of 32.6 acres of new parks to meet future demand in the area – 11.2 acres of neighborhood parkland and a minimum 20-acre community park. Additionally, the Parks Master Plan identifies the need for 9.3 acres of additional parkland to satisfy future community demand. Development of these facilities would provide new recreational open space to satisfy future demand, but with a projected population of 28,450 in 2040, an additional 4.85 acres of parkland will be required to meet the established standard. Figure PSF-2 identifies potential locations for these new facilities, adjacent to areas where new housing is envisioned. New residential development will be required to dedicate land for new park facilities or pay a fee that can be used for acquisition of parkland as needed to meet the community-wide standard.

Although the amount of parkland is an essential component to creating a vital network of open spaces, the quality and accessibility of these spaces are equally important elements. As a rule of thumb, neighborhood parks should be distributed so that they serve as a point of focus for residential neighborhoods and are easily accessible for children, families and seniors from their homes. The General Plan seeks to provide a network in which there is neighborhood park accessible within a half-mile, or a ten-minute walk, of each resident's home. The distribution of parkland throughout the community is relatively balanced; most residents live within a half-mile walk of a park or recreational facility. The provision of new facilities at the generalized locations shown on Figure PSF-2 will help ensure access for future residents as well.

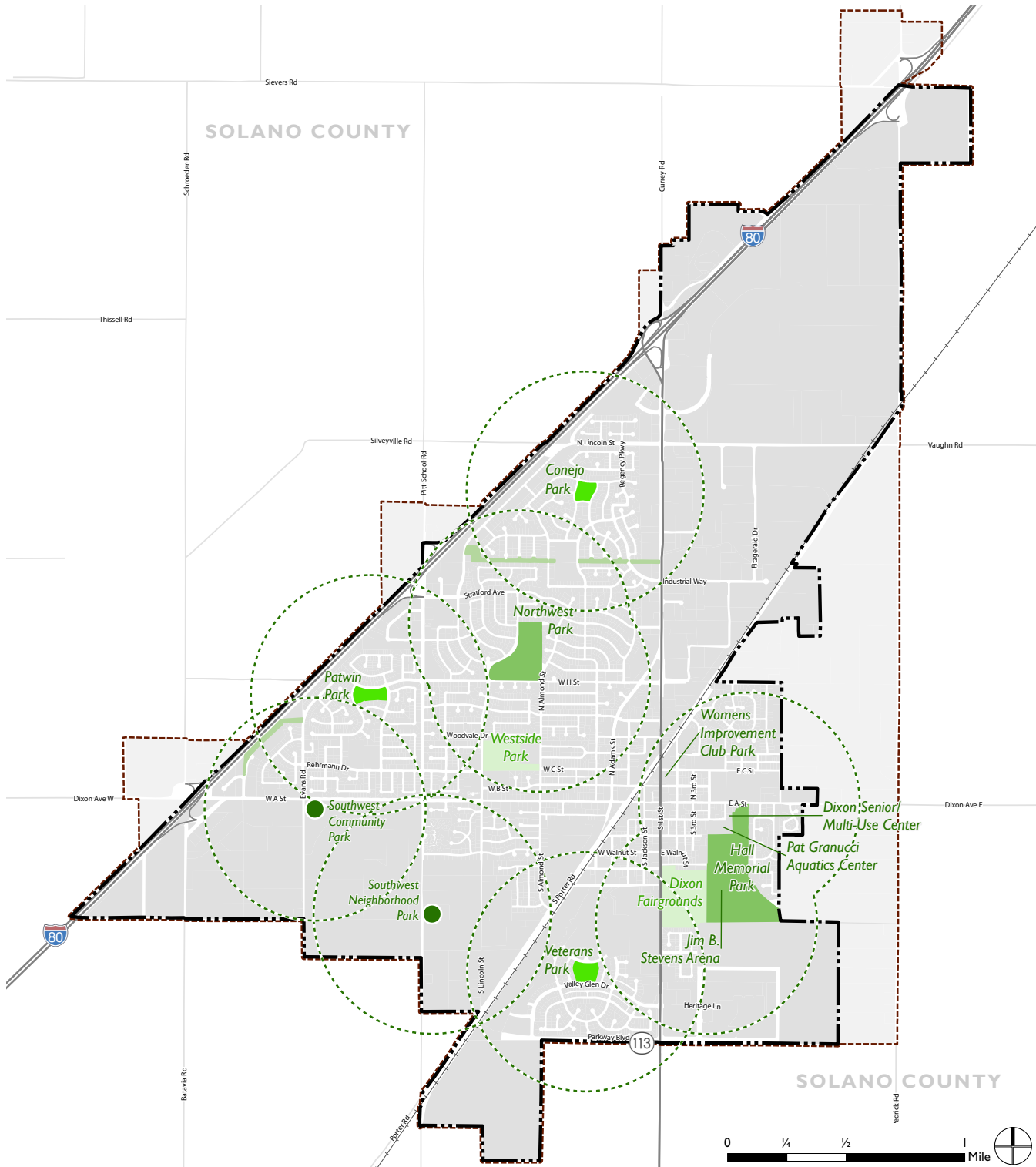
The General Plan provides an overarching framework for the provision of parks and recreational facilities in the community. The Parks Master Plan acts as Dixon's primary implementing tool, bridging the City's General Plan and Capital Improvements Plan. The Parks Master Plan provides a detailed inventory of Dixon's existing parks and recreational facilities and future needs, as well as guidelines for the development of future facilities. Dixon's parkland ordinance, operates under the umbrella of the State of California's 1975 Quimby Act, which allows cities to require developers to contribute to local parks, requires developers in Dixon to dedicate parkland, pay an in lieu fee, or both to ensure that the parkland standard is met for new residents. The Southwest Dixon Specific Plan also contains implementation policies that ensure park dedication in new planned communities meets these standards.

The Parks Master Plan defines community and neighborhood parks as follows:

* **Community parks** are designed to meet the need a large-scale recreation facilities designed to serve the entire community. Community parks are typically twenty acres or larger. These parks offer facilities that require large areas including playing fields for organized sports, such as Little League and soccer. Community parks also provide specialized facilities, such as swimming pools, which, because of costs, are most efficiently operated at centralized locations. Cultural features, including community centers, are typically located at community parks, which serve as central gathering places. Community parks typically also provide features commonly found in neighborhood parks to serve the population within about a one-half mile distance. (Res. 00-052)

* **Neighborhood parks** are designed to provide informal basic outdoor recreation and leisure opportunities for all age groups within easy walking distance (approximately one-half mile) of homes. Typical neighborhood park services include children's play areas, picnic tables and barbecues, small scale sports facilities such as basketball half courts, and turf and landscape areas for strolling and informal sports. The minimum size of neighborhood parks is about three acres. (Res.00-052)

Figure PSF-2: Parks, Open Spaces, and Recreational Facilities



Data Source: City of Dixon, 2019; Dyett & Bhatia, 2019

City Facilities

- Planned Parks
- Community Park
- Neighborhood Park
- Linear Facility
- Railroad
- Half-mile Radius/10-minute Walk
- Dixon City Limit
- Sphere of Influence

Table PSF-1: Existing and Planned Parks

Park Name	Acres	Amenities
Existing Facilities		
Neighborhood Parks	20.54	
Patwin Park	4.93	Children’s play area, group picnic area, fitness apparatus, basketball half course
Conejo Park	3.61	Children’s play area, gazebo, picnic areas
Veterans Park	5.00	Children’s play area, group picnic area, basketball court
Hall Memorial Park (portion)	3.00	
Northwest Park (portion)	4.00	
Community Parks	73.33	
Hall Memorial Park	54.80	Picnic areas, two children’s play areas, baseball and football fields, tennis courts, skate park, aquatic center, community center, open turf and play areas and walking paths
Northwest Park	18.53	Picnic areas, a basketball court, soccer fields, two children’s play areas, walking paths, and barbecue pits
Other Parks	2.40	
Women’s Improvement Club Park	0.65	Benches
Linear Path ¹	1.75	Turfed open space, benches
Subtotal	96.27	
Current acres of park per 1,000 residents (2018)²	4.80	
Planned Facilities		
Neighborhood Parks	11.20	
Southwest Phase 1 Neighborhood Park	4.80	
Southwest Phase 2 Neighborhood Park	3.60	
Southwest Phase 3 Neighborhood Park	2.80	
Community Parks	21.40	
Southwest Community Park (portion)	21.40	Swimming pool, community center, multi-purpose fields, tennis courts
Subtotal	32.60	
Total existing and planned parks	128.87	
Existing and planned acres of park per 1,000 residents (2040)³	4.53	
Additional Parkland Needed		
Neighborhood and Community Parks	13.38	TBD
Total	142.25	
Projected acres of park per 1,000 residents³	5.00	
Notes:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acreage does not include the 3.5 acre pathway. 2. Assumes a 2018 population of 20,100 people. 3. Assumes a 2040 population of 28,450 people. 		

Source: City of Dixon Parks Master Plan Update, October 2015; Dyett & Bhatia, 2019.

GOAL PSF-4: Provide and maintain a comprehensive system of quality parks and recreational facilities to meet the needs of Dixon's current and future population.

POLICIES

- PSF-4.1** Expand the network of parks and public spaces and ensure they are equitably distributed throughout the city so that every Dixon resident can access a neighborhood park within one half mile of their home.
- PSF-4.2** Maintain a standard of 5 acres of community and neighborhood recreational or park facility for each 1,000 Dixon residents, with a target of 1.2 acres of neighborhood park land and 3.8 acres of community park land per 1,000 residents.
- PSF-4.3** Require that proponents of new development projects contribute to the acquisition and development of adequate parks and recreational facilities within the community, either through the dedication of park land or the payment of in-lieu fees
- PSF-4.4** Design and construct parks, public spaces and recreational facilities for flexible use, adaptability over time, and ease of maintenance.
- PSF-4.5** Improve access to existing facilities, with emphasis on the young, elderly, and persons with disabilities.
- PSF-4.6** Prioritize the maintenance and, where feasible, improvement of parks and recreational facilities to ensure safe, attractive facilities that are responsive to community needs.
- PSF-4.7** Continue to provide a range of recreational facilities and programs serving the diverse age and interest groups in the community based on citizen input.

ACTIONS

- PSF-4.A** Use the Parks Master Plan as the primary tool for planning specific capital improvements and parks and recreation programming in Dixon. Update the Master Plan to plan for the additional parkland as needed to maintain the established service ratio in 2040.



- PSF-4.B** Prioritize the development of neighborhood park facilities in the Southwest Dixon Specific Plan Area to ensure that adequate open space is available to serve the needs of new residents with each phase of residential construction.
- PSF-4.C** Leverage available funding and financing mechanisms to fund energy-efficient park and recreational facility design and refurbishment.
- PSF-4.D** Explore ways to increase funding for park maintenance, including the establishment of Landscaping and Lighting Maintenance districts.
- PSF-4.E** Continue to encourage existing volunteer, service club and community group efforts to maintain and improve parks, such as "Friends of the Parks" organizations.
- PSF-4.F** Maintain and promote the Recreation Scholarship Fund so that low income children may have the opportunity to participate in recreation programs.
- PSF-4.G** Consider developing park design standards based on best practices for accessibility, flexible use, adaptability, energy efficiency and ease of maintenance.

6.6 INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY SERVICES

Dixon residents have access to a range of community programs and services, including youth and adult sports, fitness, and aquatic recreational programs; activities geared toward senior citizens such as monthly lunches, field trips, art classes, and other opportunities for social interaction; and after school social and educational activities for teens. The

Dixon Public Library offers a wide range of services and programs for children and adults, including adult literacy and language programs, computer skills workshops, resume workshops, book clubs and summer reading programs. Dixon also supports a variety of public events organized by community organizations, including Movies in the



DIXON'S LAMBTOWN FESTIVAL



The Dixon Lambtown Festival has been held annually since the 1980s and is sponsored in part by the City of Dixon. The Lambtown Festival commemorates Dixon's history as a major sheep producer while promoting local agriculture. The festival celebrates lamb "from fleece to chops, sheep to shawl, fiber to yarn and herd to champion."

Park, Grillin' & Chillin', the Christmas Tree Lighting Festival, and Dixon's Lambtown Festival. Dixon works with regional and State partners to provide youth with early education services, including Solano First 5 and other programs that foster the development of academic and technical skills, knowledge and training, such as Career Technical Education (CTE), Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM), and the California STEM Learning Network.

As Dixon grows, the City can continue to work in partnership with civic groups to provide these valuable programs and services to its residents, ensuring that programming is responsive to community needs as a result of changing preferences and demographics, including additional programming focused on arts and culture, additional youth programming, and senior services and programming to accommodate an aging population. The Public Facilities and Services policies lay out a framework for maintaining, and, where necessary, expanding these

valuable community programs and services. The General Plan also contains policies and implementing actions to encourage expanded affordable and accessible childcare, senior care, and living support for people with disabilities; expanded arts opportunities for youth, including a youth theater program; and a possible program for the City to provide free WiFi in public spaces, which would ensure that Dixon residents of all income levels have access to information.



GOAL PSF-5: Provide community services that support families and meet the needs of community members of all ages, backgrounds and interests.

POLICIES

- PSF-5.1** Encourage the development of reasonably priced childcare and senior care facilities and services in a variety of settings, including in residential neighborhoods and near work sites.
- PSF-5.2** Partner with the school district and all segments of the community to provide activities for children, youth, and seniors and an environment in which they flourish and become contributing members of the community.
- PSF-5.3** Promote lifelong learning opportunities for community members of all ages and abilities, with a focus on arts, culture, and training.
- PSF-5.4** Support public agencies and local community organizations in the provision of social services to Dixon residents in need, including independent living support services for seniors, people with disabilities, and those facing physical or mental challenges.

ACTIONS

- PSF-5.A** Continue to partner with the Solano County Office of Education and Solano First 5 to support high quality early education programs in Dixon.
- PSF-5.B** Explore establishing a Police Activities League (PAL) chapter in Dixon.
- PSF-5.C** Collaborate with DUSD and local community groups to develop a youth theatre program.
- PSF-5.D** Continue to partner with the Dixon Public Library and Dixon Teen Center to provide after school, weekend, and summer activities for young people, such as homework help, sports and arts activities, reading programs, games, workshops, clubs, and other programming.



- PSF-5.E** Support programs that provide students with academic and technical skills, knowledge, and training, such as Career Technical Education (CTE), Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM), and the California STEM Learning Network.
- PSF-5.F** Expand the range and number of programs offered through the City's Recreation Division and Senior/Multi-Use Center.
- PSF-5.G** Support the Dixon Public Library in providing a range of support programs and services to the community, such as adult literacy classes, English as a second language classes, job training, resume writing support, and computer skills workshops.
- PSF-5.H** Provide information about social assistance programs, including Meals on Wheels and other community services.
- PSF-5.I** Explore the feasibility of providing free WiFi in public spaces including City buildings, parks, and community centers.

6.7 HEALTHY COMMUNITY

Physical and mental health is essential for community members to be able to participate fully in the workforce, at school, and in civic life. Many personal factors affect health, but cities can positively impact residents' health by facilitating access to healthy food, making it safe and convenient to walk and bike, and by providing parks, recreational facilities, and access to medical care. Particularly given the community's agricultural heritage, community gardens, home gardens, and other small-scale agricultural activities have a role to play in increasing residents' access to fresh, locally grown foods. Improved walking and biking infrastructure in Dixon could encourage more people to get around town on their own power rather than in a car, and Dixon residents can exercise in the City parks and at the Pat Granucci Aquatic Center. Residents have access to care at medical and dental offices in the city and at the Dixon Medical Center, which includes an Urgent Care Center.

The City also has partnerships with regional and local organizations that provide nutrition and health services and programs such as Solano Public Health and Dixon Family Services. These partnerships help increase access to medical care and urgent care facilities for those who are uninsured and underinsured, and can help ensure more people seek preventative care.

To improve overall public health, this General Plan contains policies and implementing actions to promote these community health goals through land use and transportation policies that ensure access to open space and healthy foods, allow for the development of more medical care facilities, and provide infrastructure for safe active transportation.

See Chapter 5: Mobility for more information and policies regarding transportation.

DIXON'S FARM STANDS



Dixon has rich agricultural roots and excellent access to local produce. Dixonians and visitors alike have procured local fruits, nuts, and vegetables from the Dixon Fruit Market and Pedrick Produce farm stands for decades. These farm stands provide healthy food to the Dixon community and the region, with the added benefit of supporting local farmers.

GOAL PSF-6: Promote the health and welfare of all community members.

POLICIES

- PSF-6.1** Encourage and promote physical activity, active transportation, and healthy eating.
- PSF-6.2** Encourage farmer's markets, community gardens, home gardening, and other small-scale urban agriculture activities that increase locally-grown, healthy food options.
- PSF-6.3** Improve access to retail sources of affordable healthy food, including organic options, such as full service grocery stores, produce markets, farmer's markets and convenience stores.
- PSF-6.4** Expand access to urgent and primary medical care for all Dixon residents.

ACTIONS

- PSF-6.A** Continue to collaborate with Solano Public Health and other partners on programs that facilitate healthy eating, such as programs to encourage markets to stock fresh produce and other healthy foods or expand the acceptance of Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) where healthy food is sold.
- PSF-6.B** Consider adopting urban agricultural regulations or tax incentives.
- PSF-6.C** Explore the feasibility of establishing a community garden and a community garden teaching program together with DUSD and other community partners.

PSF-6.D Amend the zoning ordinance to require a use permit for uses proposing to sell tobacco in proximity to schools and other youth-serving facilities.

PSF-6.E Consider developing and adopting a "healthy development" checklist to evaluate potential new development under appropriate criteria, which might include exposure to harmful levels of air pollution, effects on the noise environment, and relationship to the active transportation network.

6.8 ACTIVE, PARTICIPATORY COMMUNITY

Whether through through volunteering, attending community events, or participating in local elections and decision-making, the more engaged residents are the healthier the community as a whole. These activities make residents feel more connected to their community and to their neighbors, which in turn makes people more likely to take care of each other in the event of an emergency and more likely to work together to improve the quality of life in their neighborhoods.

Particularly in a small town like Dixon, everyone's voice can make a difference. The policies and actions in this Plan engage a broader spectrum of residents, encouraging inclusive, participatory

City processes with a wide range of means, including online surveys, youth involvement, engagement with local community groups, providing childcare at meetings, an annual City-wide survey, and holding meetings in different parts of town will make the City stronger and more cohesive.



GOAL PSF-7: Encourage the active participation of Dixon residents and businesses in civic life.

POLICIES

- PSF-7.1** Encourage inclusive, participatory City processes that emphasize the collaborative exchange of ideas by all segments of the community.
- PSF-7.2** Increase public participation by all segments of the community in City governance with programs and services to facilitate and promote participation in civic life.
- PSF-7.3** Provide decision-makers, project applicants, and residents with information about planning policies and regulations as well as advance notice of upcoming changes, projects or issues.
- PSF-7.4** In with community organizations, encourage and support residents as volunteers to supplement City and agency staff in the delivery of community services, including recreation, youth, and senior programs. Focus efforts on underrepresented populations in particular.

ACTIONS

- PSF-7.A** Conduct an annual community survey to assess resident views on life in Dixon, the City government, and the City's budget.
- PSF-7.B** Expand the use of technology and digital engagement tools such as online surveys and applications to provide public information and obtain input from community members.
- PSF-7.C** Explore options to encourage broader public participation, such as expanding the City's Volunteer Program; providing child-related activities and childcare at public meetings and workshops; including youth representatives in City-sponsored activities and organizations; and periodically holding City Council meetings, commission meetings, and/or "Mobile Mayor" workshops in different locations around Dixon to increase accessibility to City officials and decision-makers.



6.9 DIVERSE COMMUNITY

Dixon is a diverse community with residents from many different cultural backgrounds, income levels, languages, and abilities. About 15 percent of Solano County residents were born outside of the United States, and 43 percent of Dixon residents are Hispanic or Latino. Including these residents in community activities, decision-making, and public spaces increases vibrancy and social cohesion.

This General Plan contains several policies and actions to ensure that Dixon's diverse community is well-represented throughout the City, including ensuring fair hiring practices and eliminating discrimination; encouraging community festivals and art installations throughout the City that celebrate diversity and build connections; providing public information and services in Spanish; and promoting diversity in Dixon's elected and appointed governing bodies.



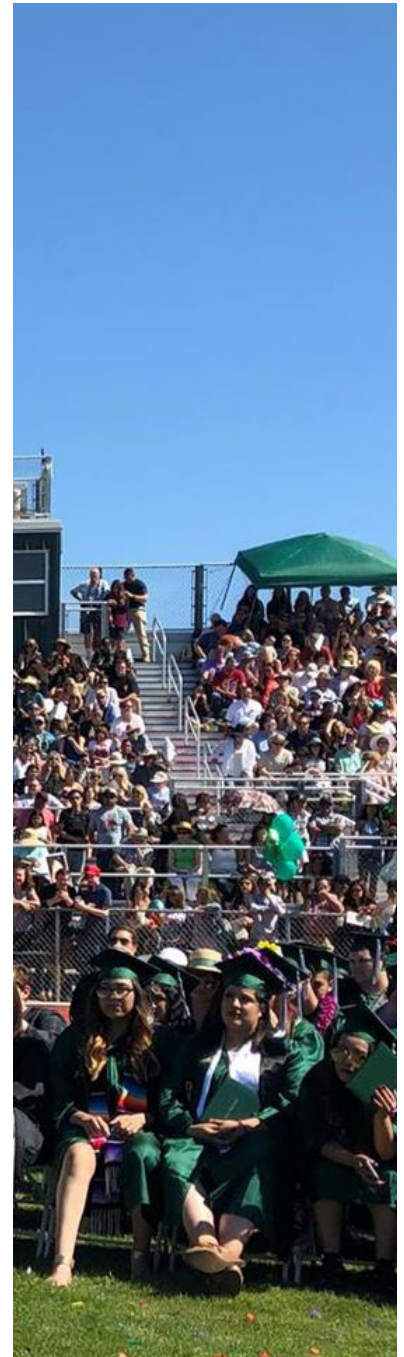
GOAL PSF-8: Embrace differences and serve all in the community equally.

POLICIES

- PSF-8.1** Provide public information and services in Spanish, as feasible.
- PSF-8.2** Encourage community festivals and events and public art installations that celebrate diversity and build connections in the community, such as the Dixon May Fair, Lambtown Festival, farmer's markets, tree planting events, arts and cultural gatherings, and neighborhood clean up days.
- PSF-8.3** Ensure that private firms and public agencies contracting with the City implement nondiscrimination policies and practices.
- PSF-8.4** Encourage diversity in the hiring and training practices of local businesses, providing employment opportunities for people of all educational levels, vocational skills, and physical and mental abilities.
- PSF-8.5** Promote diversity in the composition of Dixon's elected and appointed bodies and provide equal opportunities for economically, physically, and socially disadvantaged people.

ACTIONS

- PSF-8.A** Continue to implement fair hiring practices in recruiting for staff positions with the City of Dixon.
- PSF-8.B** Work with community groups and local businesses to identify public and private spaces, such as plazas, streets, and parking lots, that may be used for cultural awareness activities such as festivals, and art exhibitions.
- PSF-8.C** Establish a citywide arts and culture program to increase opportunities to experience, create, and enjoy arts and culture in Dixon.



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