

12.0 CITY OF SUNNYVALE

The services that are evaluated in this service review include:

- Wastewater
- Solid Waste
- Parks and Recreation
- Storm Water Drainage
- Law Enforcement
- Library

12.1 CITY LOCATION

The City of Sunnyvale (City) is bounded on the west by Mountain View and Los Altos, on the south by Cupertino, and on the east by Santa Clara and San Jose. The City occupies 24 square miles. A map showing the City's boundaries is located after Section 2.0 of this Service Review.

12.2 GOVERNANCE AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The City was incorporated on December 24, 1912 and the original City Charter became effective May 18, 1949. The City operates under a Council-Manager form of government. There are seven Council Members elected for staggered 4-year terms, with a two-term limit.

Regularly scheduled Council Meetings are held on most Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. The agenda is posted in five locations throughout the city: City Clerks Office, the kiosk just outside the Council Chambers, the posting board outside of City Hall, the posting board at the Department of Public Safety (DPS), and the Sunnyvale Library. The agenda is posted by 5:00 p.m. on the Thursday before the Tuesday evening Council Meeting. The agenda is also available on the City's Web site,¹ usually after 7:00 p.m. on the Thursday before the Tuesday Council Meeting. The meetings are shown on KSUN Live and replayed throughout the week.²

The City has several boards and commissions, which may provide recommendations on direction to the City Council, but they do not direct the Council. These include:

- Board of Library Trustees

¹ <http://sunnyvale.ca.gov/City+Council/Council+Meetings/>.

² <http://sunnyvale.ca.gov/Departments/Office+of+the+City+Manager/Communications/KSUN-15+Schedule.htm>.

- Heritage Preservation Commission
- Parks and Recreation Commission
- Personnel Board
- Planning Commission
- Arts Commission
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
- Board of Building Code Appeals
- Child Care Advisory Board
- Housing and Human Services Commission

The City publishes a quarterly newsletter, which includes information regarding City activities, issues of concern to the community, City boards and commissions, and City programs.

12.3 FINANCE

The City prepares a detailed budget every 2 years and annually reviews the upcoming fiscal year budget. The 2-year cycle for operating programs was established by the City to recognize the fact that service levels typically change only modestly from year to year, and that resource requirements can be more effectively planned over a 2-year time frame. Since most programs are not normally reviewed extensively the second year, a significant amount of staff time is saved.

The following outlines the City's annual budget process:

- In January of each year, a City Council workshop is held to discuss important fiscal issues, which may have short-term or long-term effects, on how the City provides and maintains services to its residents, businesses, and other customers.
- In May, the City Manager submits to the City Council a recommended budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1. The City Charter requires that the City Council receive the City Manager's budget no later than 35 days prior to June 30.
- In May the City Council holds a workshop on the budget, which is open to the public.
- In June the City Council holds a public hearing, as required by the City Charter, where the public may submit written or oral comments regarding the entire budget or portions thereof.
- Prior to June 30 of each year, the budget as modified by the City Council is enacted by adoption of a budget resolution.

In the City, the key government-wide revenue sources are property taxes, service fees, sales and other taxes, and operating grants and contributions. Table 12.A provides a list of the citywide sources of funds and the citywide uses of funds for the fiscal year (FY) 2004–2005.

Table 12.A: City of Sunnyvale Sources and Uses of Governmental Funds

| Sources of Governmental Revenues | |
|---|-------------------|
| Source | Percentage |
| Property taxes | 27% |
| Sales and other taxes | 38% |
| Charges for services | 14% |
| Operating grants and contributions | 15% |
| Capital grants and contributions | 1% |
| Investment income | 5% |
| Uses of Governmental Funds | |
| Planning and management | 12% |
| Public safety | 46% |
| Community development | 16% |
| Transportation | 7% |
| Socio economic | 10% |
| Cultural | 7% |
| Environmental management | 2% |

Source: City of Sunnyvale Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2005

As shown in Table 12.B, the City has had expenditures exceed revenues in FY 2004 and 2005. In addition, the City is expecting to use \$7,371,781 in reserve funds in FY 2006–2007.

Table 12.B: City of Sunnyvale Summary of Revenues and Expenses for Governmental Funds

| | 2003–2004 Actual | 2004–2005 Actual | 2006–2007 Budgeted |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Total revenues | \$204,800,000 | \$217,200,000 | \$239,598,813* |
| Total expenses | \$215,300,000 | \$220,000,000 | \$239,598,813 |
| Net revenues (loss) | (\$10,500,000) | (\$2,800,000) | 0 |

Source: Comprehensive Annual Finance Report for FY 2005; City of Sunnyvale 2006–2007 Budget

* Revenues include the use of \$7,371,781 in reserve funds.

The City’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2005 notes that in FY 2003–2004 budget, a structural imbalance of \$14–\$15 million was identified, and a plan consisting of a combination of service level/expenditure reductions and fee increases was implemented to bring the General Fund into balance over the 20-year planning period. The City has been funding this imbalance through use of the 20-Year Resource Allocation Plan Reserve.

The City’s FY 2005–2006 Budget states that in FY 2003–2004 the General Fund ended the year in a better financial position than what was estimated by approximately \$4.8 million. The City had anticipated drawing down on reserves by approximately \$13.5 million, while actual results were a

draw-down of \$8.7 million. For FY 2004–2005, the General Fund also ended the fiscal year in a better financial position than anticipated by approximately \$6.5 million. Revenues were higher than estimated by \$5.1 million and expenditures were less than budgeted by \$1.4 million. This meant that the General Fund drew down the 20-year Resource Allocation Plan Reserve by \$2.7 million rather than the \$9.2 million projected.

The City's FY 2006–2007 Budget states that during FY 2005–2006 the City continued to implement expenditure reductions, cost-saving strategies, and revenue increases to address the structural gap. Additionally, City voters approved increases to the City's Transient Occupancy Tax and Business License Tax rates, which provided additional resources of \$1.4 million annually to address the fiscal challenges. As a result of these efforts and the improving economic climate, the FY 2006–2007 budget does not require any further service reductions.

Reserves

The City has several designated reserves, as follows:

- **Contingency Reserve.** Will be used only in case of emergency or disaster and not intended for normal unanticipated expenditures. This reserve is set equal to 20 percent of the operating budget each year. The Contingency Reserve ended FY 2004–2005 with a balance of \$19,255,142. The projected FY 2005–2006 amount in the adopted FY 2006–2007 budget is \$20,733,359.
- **20-Year Resource Allocation Plan Reserve.** All remaining fund balances not otherwise reserved or designated are designated for this purpose. This reserve functions to levelize economic cycles from year to year. This reserve grows during periods of economic growth and is drawn down during the low points of economic cycles to maintain stable service levels. As stated previously, this reserve fund is being utilized due to the structural imbalance between revenues and expenditures to assist in the funding of existing services. The 20-Year Resource Allocation Plan Reserve ended FY 2004–2005 with a balance of \$44,064,998. The projected FY 2005–2006 amount in the adopted FY 2006–2007 budget is \$50,083,894.
- **Wastewater Enterprise Fund.** There are two reserves established for the Wastewater Enterprise Fund. The contingencies reserve maintains 25 percent of operations expenses, and a Rate Stabilization Reserve also exists. The contingencies reserve ended FY 2004–2005 with a balance of \$1,525,904. The projected FY 2005–2006 amount in the adopted FY 2006–2007 budget is \$1,525,904. The rate stabilization reserve ended FY 2004–2005 with a balance of \$20,005,541. The projected FY 2005–2006 amount in the adopted FY 2006–2007 Budget is \$11,624,996.
- **Solid Waste Enterprise Fund.** There are two reserves established for the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund. The contingencies reserve maintains 10 percent of operations expenses, and a rate stabilization reserve also exists. The contingencies reserve ended FY 2004–2005 with a balance of \$2,398,270. The projected FY 2005–2006 amount in the adopted FY 2006–2007 budget is \$2,600,714. The rate stabilization reserve ended FY 2004–2005 with a balance of \$4,476,347. The projected FY 2005–2006 amount in the adopted FY 2006–2007 budget is \$1,935,724.

Purchasing Policies

The City has a centralized purchasing system for all City departments. The City's policies delineate responsibilities, authorized methods of procurement, and competitive bidding requirements. This objective of the centralized purchasing system is to maintain fair and equitable practices that encourage qualified suppliers and contractors to compete for City business in addition to receiving the maximum value for the funds expended.

Investment Policy

Pursuant to the California Government Code, the City adopts an investment policy annually. This policy is intended to establish objectives and criteria for the investment of the City's temporarily idle funds and to provide guidelines for the City's cash management system. The key provisions of the City's policy are safety, liquidity, and return on investment. The policy states that the Finance Manager and Director of Finance are authorized to manage the City's investment portfolio and delineates authorized institutions and dealers. The Director of Finance is required by the policy to submit monthly transaction reports to the Council, accounting for the investment of funds. In addition, the Director of Finance is required by State law to file a quarterly investment report with the City Council, the City Manager, and Internal Auditor within 30 days following the end of the quarter.

Rates for Service

Each year as a part of the budget process, the City analyzes the current condition and long-term outlook of the City's funds, which receive revenues from service rates or fees. The analysis includes a review of available fund balances, State and federal environmental requirements, anticipated capital infrastructure requirements and operational costs, and a detailed inspection of significant expenditure areas. The results of the analysis lead to recommendations to the City Council of rates that will generate revenues necessary to meet planned expenditures. Periodically, the City also reviews the methodology used to calculate service rates. For example, during FY 2005–2006, all fees that were legally limited were analyzed in detail to ensure that the City was setting fees in accordance with legal requirements. The results of these efforts were then incorporated into the fee schedule.

12.4 LAND USE AND PROJECTED GROWTH WITHIN THE CITY

The City is almost completely developed. The City has stated that in 1995, the City had approximately 100 acres of vacant land. Currently, the City has approximately 67.4 acres of vacant land, as shown in Table 12.C. That is a net loss of approximately 33 acres over a 10-year period, or 3.3 acres/year.

Table 12.C: City of Sunnyvale Existing Vacant Land

| Zoning | Vacant Land (acres) | Percentage |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Commercial | 3.2 | 4.7% |
| Industrial | 30.9 | 45.8% |
| Office | 2.2 | 3.2% |
| Public Facilities | 0.6 | 0.8% |
| Residential | 29.7 | 44.1% |
| Downtown Specific Plan | 0.9 | 1.3% |
| | 67.4 | 100.0% |

Source: City of Sunnyvale Community Development Department, October 2006

Assuming the current zoning remains unchanged; the City is expecting approximately 50 percent of vacant land to convert to residential development and the other half to convert primarily to industrial development.

Based on the City’s land use trends and projected growth for the next 20 years, the City considers 3 acres or less per year of vacant land converting to be a realistic projection. Likewise, the City has stated that almost all new development in the City will be an intensification of already developed properties. Table 12.D shows the City’s recent and projected development.

Table 12.D: City of Sunnyvale Recent and Projected Development

| Type of Development | 2003–2004 Actual | 2004–2005 Actual | 2005–2006 Projected |
|----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Commercial square footage | 801 | 220,580 | 43,311 |
| Industrial square footage | 0 | 871,023 | 146,787 |
| Single-family residential | 84 | 30 | 30 |
| Condo/townhomes | 194 | 244 | 200 |
| Multifamily residential (rental) | 123 | 89 | 0 |

Source: City of Sunnyvale 2006–2007 Budget

The City has stated that its population figures are generally consistent with the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) projections. However, the City has never been comfortable with ABAG’s projection of jobs in the City, which from the City’s perspective, have been typically either over- or underreported.

Unincorporated Pockets

The City has noted two unincorporated pockets that exist within the City’s USA. The City has stated that it would anticipate annexing the parcels when they are proposed for development.

The City has a policy to “Protect the quality of life for residents and businesses in Sunnyvale by actively participating in discussions and decisions on potential uses of Moffett Federal Airfield” (Land Use and Transportation Element of the General Plan, R1.12). An action statement related to that policy is to “Pursue annexation of that portion of Moffett Federal Airfield within Sunnyvale’s sphere of influence” (LUTE R1.12.3).

12.5 WASTEWATER

The City of Sunnyvale is currently providing and will continue to provide wastewater services from flows that are generated within the Moffett Field area. Please refer to Section 13.0 of this document for a description of the wastewater services provided to Moffett Field by the City.

The City provides wastewater services within City limits and in a small area in northern Cupertino. Operations include the transport of sewage to the treatment plant, wastewater treatment, recycled water production, industrial discharge inspection and enforcement, and many other services related to wastewater. The City provides wastewater services to 23,518 single-family residences, 29,509 multifamily units, 1,721 commercial customers, and 64 industrial users.

The City’s 2001 Wastewater Management Sub-Element of the General Plan states that the City had 5 sewer lift stations, over 5,700 sewer manholes, and 327 miles of wastewater mains, and a total carrying capacity of 55.7 million gallons per day (mgd). The lines range from 6 inches to 36 inches in diameter. The City’s wastewater flows are treated at the Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant. The facility provides tertiary treatment and has a maximum capacity of 29.5 mgd. The plant is currently processing approximately 15 mgd.

Because the City is almost fully developed, it is not anticipated that wastewater flows will exceed the actual or permitted capacity of the overall collection system. However, there are specific locations within the collection system that may require additional capacity. There are two vacant parcels that will increase flows when they are developed (although no applications are currently pending). In addition, there is a major project anticipated for the downtown area in the next few years, which will increase wastewater flows.

The Water Pollution Control Plant discharges its treated effluent into south San Francisco Bay. In addition, the plant has the ability to produce approximately 16 mgd of recycled water per day, which reduces the amount that is discharged into the bay. The recycled water is distributed through approximately 75,000 feet of 8–36-inch pipelines, a pump station, and a 2-million-gallon storage tank. In 2006, the system served more than 95 public and private facilities in the northern part of the City. The City also manages and operates a biosolids treatment program. The biosolids are treated, dewatered, and disposed. Currently, the biosolids are transported for beneficial use as a soil amendment in Merced County.

The Water Pollution Control Plant is a 50-year-old facility. The City has stated that due to age, many components of the Plant have reached the end of their useful life and are in need of major rehabilitation; however, there have not been any regulatory violations as a result of the aging infrastructure. The City has developed a Total Asset Management Program to provide for the long-term care of the infrastructure and a systematic approach to capital planning. An extensive assessment

of the infrastructure's condition was recently completed to pinpoint and prioritize rehabilitation needs. Several infrastructure projects have been budgeted and/or are under construction.

The City puts aside funding for maintenance and improvements in the Plant's Infrastructure Fund and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Over the next 10 years, there are budgeted Plant improvement projects amounting to approximately \$34.5 million. However, a recent study of the Plant indicates that approximately \$55–65 million is needed in the next decade alone for the timely replacement of Plant facilities. CIP projects are funded through user fees, connection fees, and other wastewater fees. The City Fiscal Sub-Element also identifies the funding of an infrastructure reserve and the use of debt financing, if appropriate.

The major infrastructure and capital projects included in the FY 2006–2007 CIP are as follows:

- Replacement of the heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning systems at the Water Pollution Control Plant: estimated cost, \$575,000
- Rehabilitation of digesters and replacement of four digester lids: estimated cost, \$7.6 million
- Pond sediment removal: estimated cost, \$11.7 million
- Replacement/rehabilitation of sewer pipes: estimated cost, \$18.5 million
- Replacement/rehabilitation of sanitary manholes: estimated cost, \$2 million
- Primary sedimentation basin renovation: estimated cost, \$10.7 million
- Rehabilitation of four air flotation tanks: estimated cost, \$3.2 million
- Rehabilitation of three fixed growth reactors: estimated cost, \$6.9 million
- Rebuild five sewer lift stations: estimated cost, \$1 million

The City has extended wastewater services to an area outside of the City's boundary and urban service area (USA). This area is known as the Rancho Rinconada area in the Cities of Cupertino and San Jose. The areas serviced are bounded by Stevens Creek Boulevard, Lawrence Expressway, Blaney Avenue, and Bollinger Road in the City of Cupertino, and by Bollinger Road, Lawrence Expressway, Johnson Avenue, and Castle Glen Avenue in the City of San Jose. These areas consist of approximately 1,867 connections. Currently, the area contains 1,862 single-family homes, 2 duplexes, 2 small apartment buildings, and a commercial building. On an annual basis, the City Council reviews a resolution to place wastewater service charges on the property tax roll for each property connected to and using the system.

The City is serving this area because in the mid 1950s, when the area was developed, it was an unincorporated area of the County that had no direct access to a sewer collection system. To provide service to the area, the City entered into a series of agreements with the developers that allowed the Rancho Rinconada sewer system to be tied into a 15-inch City sewer main that was extended 1.7 miles. The agreements required developers to construct sewers that met the City's standards and allowed the City to collect fees from the homeowners for the purpose of reimbursing the City for its costs of providing ongoing sewer service. The area is being reviewed for possible jurisdiction changes to allow for service through the Cupertino Sanitary District. However, capacity and historic practices may require that the City continue to be the service provider for this area. The District has stated that

it could now serve this area if the area's sewer infrastructure is upgraded to existing levels of District facilities prior to the District assuming responsibility.

Wastewater Rates

The City's wastewater rates are set as monthly fees, as shown in Table 12.E. The City increased wastewater rates by 6.0 percent, which became effective in July 2006. Commercial and industrial rates are dependent on the amount and type of flow. The City has a rate stabilization fund, which enables wastewater rates (in addition to other utility rates) to maintain a fairly consistent pattern of rate increases.

Table 12.E: City of Sunnyvale Monthly Wastewater Rates

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Single-family residential | \$22.10 |
| Multifamily residential | \$13.81 per unit |
| Commercial and industrial | Calculated depending on use |

12.6 SOLID WASTE SERVICES

Solid waste service is provided by the City via contract with Bay Counties Waste Services, doing business in the City as Specialty Solid Waste & Recycling. The majority of the solid waste that is collected within the City is hauled to the Sunnyvale Materials Recovery and Transfer (SMaRT[®]) Station, where recyclable materials are diverted. The station was opened in 1993 and is located on a 9-acre site north of Caribbean Drive. The station has the capacity to process 1,500 tons of solid waste per day and currently processes approximately 1,000 tons per day and 260,000 tons annually. This station is owned and operated under a cooperative agreement among the cities of Sunnyvale, Mountain View, and Palo Alto.

Per the CIWMB, solid waste generated within the City is disposed of in the landfills listed below. Additional detail regarding these facilities can be found in Appendix A.

- Altamont Landfill Resource and Recovery Facility
- Arvin Sanitary Landfill
- B-J Drop Box Sanitary Landfill
- Foothill Sanitary Landfill
- Forward Landfill, Inc.
- Guadalupe Sanitary Landfill
- Kirby Canyon Recycling and Disposal Facility
- Newby Island Sanitary Landfill
- Redwood Sanitary Landfill

- Vasco Road Sanitary Landfill
- Zanker Material Processing Facility
- Zanker Road Class III Landfill

According to the most recent information posted by California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB), the City disposed of 94,556 tons of solid waste in 2005.¹ CIWMB shows that the solid waste disposal generation factor for the City is 1 pound per resident per day and 4.6 pounds per employee per day.

Diversion rates are defined as the percentage of total solid waste that a jurisdiction diverted from being disposed in landfills through reduction, reuse, recycling programs, and composting programs. The California Public Resources Code (PRC 41780) required all jurisdictions to achieve 50 percent solid waste diversion after 2000. Per CIWMB, the City exceeded this goal and had a 61 percent diversion rate in 2004, which is the most recent Board-approved data posted.

In April 2006, the City increased rates for solid waste services by 5.5 percent, which became effective on July 1, 2006. As shown in Table 12.F, the City has varying rates for residential solid waste services, which are dependent on the size and number of trash containers (e.g., 32-, 64-, or 96-gallon). Commercial rates are based on the refuse bin size and the number of pickups per week.

Table 12.F: City of Sunnyvale Monthly Solid Waste Rates

| Residential | |
|---|--|
| Single-, two-, and three-family units | \$30.99, unlimited |
| Mobile home park | \$20.57, unlimited |
| Commercial | |
| Bins supplied by customer | \$91.64–\$19,979.61, depending on size of bin and number of pickups per week |
| Bins supplied by Specialty Solid Waste and Recycling | \$99.97–\$20,022.46, depending on size of bin and number of pickups per week |

Source: <http://sunnyvale.ca.gov/Departments/Public+Works/Solid+Waste+and+Recycling/MultiFamily/Garbage+Rates.htm>, accessed 09/18/06

12.7 PARKS AND RECREATION

The City owns and maintains numerous park and recreational facilities, as listed in Table 12.G.

¹ Web site:
<http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Profiles/Juris/JurProfile2.asp?RG=C&JURID=519&JUR=Sunnyvale>,
accessed March 20, 2007.

Table 12.G: City of Sunnyvale Parks

| Park and Location | Amenities | Acreage |
|---|---|----------------|
| Sunnyvale Baylands Park 999 E. Caribbean Dr. | Nature trails/amphitheater, eight small group picnic sites, four large picnic sites, two family picnic sites, four play areas, two miles of unpaved pathways | 72.0 |
| Braly Park 704 Daffodil Ct. | Sand volleyball court, lagoon, water play, children's play area, restrooms, horseshoe pits, shuffle board, sand volleyball court, spray pool with timer, picnic site | 5.6 |
| Cannery Park 900 W. California Ave. | Picnic area, playground | 0.7 |
| De Anza Park 1150 Lime Dr. | Roller skating rink, handball/racquetball court, picnic sites, children's play area, horseshoe pits, restrooms, skating rink | 9.4 |
| Encinal Park 999 Corte Madera Ave. | 0.25-mile parcourse, sand volleyball court | 4.2 |
| Fair Oaks Park 540 N. Fair Oaks Ave. | Skate park, sand volleyball court, basketball courts, children's play area, horseshoe pits, lighted tennis courts, multiuse field, restrooms, spray pool with timer | 15.3 |
| Fairwood Park 1255 Sandia Ave. | JWC greenbelt, parcourse, two sand volleyball courts, picnic site, children's play area, restrooms, bike path, radio control car track | 1.9 |
| Greenwood Manor Park Ramona & Blair Ave. | Playground | 0.4 |
| Lakewood Park 834 Lakechime Dr. | Mini skate park, water play, two handball courts, picnic sites, basketball courts, bike path, children's play area, handball court, horseshoe pits, multiuse field, restrooms, skating rink, swimming pool, tennis courts | 10.7 |
| Las Palmas Park 850 Russett Dr. | Dog park, water play, 16 tennis courts, picnic sites, children's play area, restrooms, multiuse field | 24.3 |
| Murphy Park 130 E. California Ave. | Historical museum/amphitheater, lawn bowling green, picnic sites, horseshoe pits, restrooms, stamp mill, outdoor stage | 5.4 |
| Orchard Gardens 238 Garner Ave. | JWC greenbelt | 2.6 |
| Ortega Park 636 Harrow Way | Water play, picnic areas, cricket pitch, basketball courts, children's play area, cricket pitch, horseshoe pits, multiuse field, restrooms, shuffleboard, tennis courts | 18.0 |
| Panama Park 755 Dartshire Way | Ball field, multiuse field, picnic area, restrooms | 4.9 |
| Ponderosa Park 811 Henderson Ave. | Sand volleyball court, picnic sites, basketball courts, children's play area, horseshoe pits, multiuse field, restrooms, sand volleyball court, tennis courts | 9.1 |
| Raynor Park 1565 Quail Ave. | Roller skating rink, picnic sites, children's play area, horseshoe pits, multiuse field, restrooms | 14.7 |
| San Antonio Park 1026 Astoria Dr. | Ball field, multiuse field | 5.8 |
| Serra Park 730 The Dalles | Roller skating rink, water play, picnic sites, children's play area, lighted tennis courts, parcourse, restrooms | 11.5 |
| Victory Village Fair Oaks at Kifer | Picnic tables only, fence playground for tots | 1.0 |
| Washington Park 840 W. Washington Ave. | Handball, picnic site, basketball courts, children's play area, horseshoe pits, multiuse field, restrooms, swimming pool, tennis courts | 11.8 |
| Total Acreage | | 334.3 |

Source: www.sunnyvale.ca.gov

The City does not have a formal policy related to the provision of parkland per population. However, to provide a concept of the level of service being provided, the City is currently providing 2.5 acres of

City owned or leased parkland per 1,000 residents based on the 2006 State Department of Finance population estimate for the City (133,544). In addition, to the lands listed in Table 12.G, the City also utilizes another 118 acres of school district owned sports fields, which are maintained and programmed by the City during non-school hours.

The City has agreements with several other agencies regarding the joint use of facilities to provide additional opportunities for recreational activities. These agreements are summarized below.

- Agreement between City and NASA AMES Research Center for lease of lands that are used as part of the Sunnyvale Golf Course.
- Agreement between the City and Foothill-De Anza College District for provision of after-school art programs operating at Braly, Fairwood, Lakewood, Nimitz, and San Miguel Schools in the City
- Agreement between City, Cupertino Union School District, and Cupertino Schools Public Facilities Financing Corporation to provide maintenance and improvements to open space areas within certain school sites.
- Agreement between City and Fremont Union High School District for the development and operation of a 50-meter swimming pool and related facilities and use of tennis facilities at Fremont High School
- Agreement between City and Santa Clara Unified School District for the use of the multipurpose rooms and various other buildings and open space areas at the Braly and Ponderosa School Sites
- Agreement between City and Sunnyvale School District for City use of various buildings and open space areas at multiple school facilities; for community recreation after school sports and activity programs at various schools; and development and operation of a neighborhood service center at the Columbia Middle School.

The City provides funding for park and recreational facilities through the Park Dedication Fees that are collected when developers of multifamily housing do not dedicate land for use as parks. The City’s FY 2006–2007 Budget and Resource Allocation Plan states that the City plans to use these fees to fund all park-related infrastructure projects in the 20-year planning period through a transfer to the Infrastructure Rehabilitation and Replacement Fund.

Recreation

The City offers a wide variety of recreation classes for residents of all ages. The types of classes provided by the City are listed in Table 12.H. In FY 2004–2005, approximately 26,711 people registered for recreation classes through the City.

Table 12.H: Types of Recreation Programs Offered by the City of Sunnyvale

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|
| Arts and crafts | Dance | Gymnastics | Music |
| Baby and toddler programs | Fitness | Yoga | Preschool |
| Aquatics | Ice skating | Sports | After-school programs |

12.8 STORM WATER DRAINAGE

The City owns and operates approximately 140 miles of storm drain lines, 3,200 storm drain inlets, 2 pump stations, and 145–150 miles of storm drains, as detailed in the City’s Surface Runoff Sub-Element of the General Plan. The Santa Clara Valley Water District, which is responsible for all regional flood control facilities within the County, owns and operates all channels and creeks within the City, which include Stevens Creek, Calabazas Creek, Sunnyvale East and West Channels, and El Camino Channel. Storm water is conveyed through the City’s infrastructure and discharged into the regional creeks and channels, which then lead to San Francisco Bay.

The City’s two storm drain pump stations collect runoff from low-lying areas and discharge to creeks and sloughs, which are at a higher elevation. Levees were constructed in the northern portion of the City to control flooding and salt water intrusion from San Francisco Bay.

The City’s Surface Runoff Sub-Element states that the capacity of the City’s existing storm drain system is adequate to prevent flooding.

12.9 LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Sunnyvale Police Department (department) is located at 700 All America Way. The department provides the following services:

- K-9 unit with bomb and drug detection capabilities
- SWAT team
- Special Operations Bureau consisting of
 - Traffic Safety Unit
 - Community Safety Services
 - Animal Control
 - Investigations
 - Nuisance vehicle abatement
 - School crossing guard services
 - Office of Emergency Services
- Gang Enforcement Team
- All sworn members certified as EMT-Basic
- Crisis Negotiators
- Juvenile diversion and probation services in cooperation with the Santa Clara County Probation Department.
- Fire services; each police officer is a fully trained firefighter and fire services consist of fire operations, fire prevention and environmental services, and EMS services.

The department currently employs 210 sworn officers and 72 staff members. Sworn personnel are divided between police and fire operations. The police traffic, investigations, and community services divisions are currently staffed with a total of 111 sworn personnel. Based on the State Department of Finance 2006 population estimate for the City (133,544), the City is currently providing 0.83 officers per 1,000 population. There were 46,858 calls for service in FY 2005–2006, which equates to 2.37 officers per 1,000 calls for service.

The department staffs its own communications center on a full-time basis. 911 calls are received and transferred into the Computer Aided Dispatch system, given a priority, and routed to the appropriate field resources. Table 12.I below lists the City’s response time goal and average response times for FY 2005–2006. As shown, the City is exceeding its response time goals.

Table 12.I: City of Sunnyvale Law Enforcement Response Time Goal and Average Response Times, FY 2005–2006

| Call Type | Response Time Goal (minutes) | Average Response Time (minutes) |
|------------------|--|--|
| Emergency | 4:30 dispatch to on-scene 90 percent of the time | 2:51 |
| Urgent | 11:00 dispatch to on-scene 90 percent of the time | 3:59 |

Source: City of Sunnyvale Police Department, October 2006

The department participates in all standard regional mutual aid agreements as outlined by the County Chiefs of Police and has informal agreements that provide assistance in the form of equipment and personnel to other jurisdictions. Additionally, the department has stated that it is very active in the acquisition of Homeland Security grant funding and is continuing to seek out cooperative relationships with other agencies in the area of domestic preparedness. The department anticipates that these relationships will lead to shared/interoperable resources related to the deterrence, prevention, response, and recovery from terrorist events and disasters.

The City evaluates law enforcement services in several methods. Department managers monitor the performance measures by utilizing service data. Additionally, external monitoring through other City departments (i.e., Finance, Office of the City Manager) and consulting firms occurs on a random basis.

In addition, staff continually evaluates the existing and future facility/capital needs of the department. Currently, one capital project is underway that deals with the storage of property. The department’s facilities are currently adequate; however, space utilization is a continuing challenge. In addition, the facility’s heating and cooling system is problematic and requires regular monitoring and maintenance. However, no facilities are currently being planned for future development.

The City has stated that the department has received outstanding achievement awards in the areas of:

- Crime prevention

- Technology
- Traffic Safety
- Emergency services and preparedness
- Academic performance at training academies
- SWAT and K-9 operations

12.10 LIBRARY

The City provides library services to residents of the City. The Sunnyvale Public Library is located at 665 West Olive Avenue in the City. The facility is 60,000 square feet and as of June 2006 contained 339,170 volumes/items and had 99,545 registered cardholders at the library. Of these, 68,027 (68.4 percent) of the cardholders were City residents. In FY 2005–2006 the library had a circulation of 1,891,080 items.

The Sunnyvale Public Library is a member of the Silicon Valley Library System, which is a cooperative system that was established to promote resource sharing and library planning throughout the region. Under this program members provide easy access to each other's collections and, where possible, seek to standardize library practices for the ease of users.

The City's Library Sub-Element of the General Plan states that the existing library's age, structure, and size do not allow the flexibility required to provide library services in the future and that the library's identified service demands cannot be fully accomplished in the existing building. Likewise, the City's 2006–2007 Budget states that during FY 2005–2006 the Library Department conducted a visioning exercise on Library facilities and services. Results of this study indicated that the Library facility and collection were not keeping up with the growing demand for services, and the Library facility is becoming inadequate to support even the current level of services.

Potential plans for a new or renovated facility that would meet service needs over the next 20 years are currently being considered by the City. At the present time it is not known how a new or renovated facility would be funded. Funding options will be addressed in a Needs Assessment and Plan of Service and Building Program that is currently being prepared.

12.11 SERVICE REVIEW DETERMINATIONS FOR THE CITY OF SUNNYVALE

The service review guidelines prepared by the State Office of Planning and Research recommend that issues relevant to the jurisdiction be addressed through written determinations called for in the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 1985 (CKH Act). Based on the above information, following are the written determinations for the City.

Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies

1. There are specific locations within the wastewater collection system that may require additional capacity in the future as areas are developed or redeveloped.
2. The Water Pollution Control Plant has many components that are in need of major rehabilitation. An extensive assessment of infrastructure condition was recently completed to prioritize rehabilitation needs. Several infrastructure projects have been budgeted and/or are under construction.
3. The City's Surface Runoff Sub-Element states that the capacity of the City's existing storm drain system is adequate to prevent flooding.
4. The use of space within the police department facility is a continuing challenge, as the area is barely adequate. In addition, the facility's heating and cooling system is problematic and requires regular maintenance.
5. The library's collection is not keeping up with the growing demand for services, and the Library facility is becoming inadequate to support the current level of services. Potential plans for a new or renovated facility that would meet service needs over the next 20 years are currently being considered by the City.

Growth and Population

1. The City is almost completely developed, with only approximately 67.4 acres of vacant land. Due to this, most growth within the City would result from redevelopment of lands or intensification of lands.

Financing Constraints and Opportunities

1. The City has had expenditures exceed revenues in FY 2004 and 2005. In addition, the City is expecting to use \$7,371,781 in reserve funds in FY 2006–2007.
2. In FY 2003–2004 budget, a structural imbalance of \$14–15 million was identified, and a plan consisting of a combination of service level/expenditure reductions and fee increases was implemented to bring the General Fund into balance over the 20-year planning period. The City has been funding this imbalance through use of the 20-Year Resource Allocation Plan Reserve.
3. In FY 2006–2007 voters approved increases to the City's Transient Occupancy Tax and Business License Tax rates, which provided an additional \$1.4 million annually to address the fiscal challenges.
4. The FY 2006–2007 budget notes that in spite of the fiscal improvements, the City continues to face a number of challenges to its long-term financial stability.
5. CIP projects are funded through user fees, connection fees, and other wastewater fees. The City of Sunnyvale Fiscal Sub-Element also identifies funding through the infrastructure reserve and the use of debt financing.
6. The City provides funding for park and recreational facilities through the Park Dedication Fees that are collected when developers of multifamily housing do not dedicate land for use as parks.

7. It is currently not known how a new or renovated library facility would be funded. Funding options will be addressed by the City in a Needs Assessment and Plan of Service and Building Program that is currently being prepared.

Cost-Avoidance Opportunities

1. The City has adopted purchasing policies and procedures in an effort to control costs and provide for efficiency and accountability.
2. The City has several cooperative arrangements with other agencies that provide services at a reduced cost.
3. The police department is active in the acquisition of grant funding and cooperative relationships with other agencies. These efforts are opportunities for avoiding costs.

Opportunities for Rate Restructuring

1. As a part of the annual budget process, the City analyzes revenues and the costs to provide services and then recommends rates to the City Council that will generate revenues necessary to meet planned expenditures. Periodically, the City also reviews the methodology used to calculate service rates.

Opportunities for Shared Facilities

1. The City has several cooperative agreements with other agencies in the County that provide for service provision in a cost-effective manner. This includes the Materials Recovery and Transfer Station, library services, emergency mutual aid, and numerous agreements with public and private agencies that provide recreation opportunities.

Government Structure Options

1. The City has noted two unincorporated pockets that exist within and adjacent to the City limits. The City has stated that it would anticipate annexing the parcels when they are proposed for development. In order to implement more efficient planning boundaries and take advantage of the current streamlined annexation opportunity, the City should consider pursuing annexation of the remaining unincorporated pocket areas in the near future.

Evaluation of Management Efficiencies

1. The City's cooperative projects with other agencies provide management efficiencies in the provision of services.

Local Accountability and Governance

1. The City ensures that local accountability and governance standards are met by holding City meetings pursuant to the Brown Act, having them shown on cable television, and having agendas and staff reports available on the City's Website.

12.12 SOI RECOMMENDATION FOR THE CITY OF SUNNYVALE

Current SOI Boundary

The City's existing SOI boundary, which was adopted in January 1985, is coterminous with the City limits to the east, south, and west. However, the northern portion of the City's SOI boundary extends nearly 2 miles into the San Francisco Bay and the western portion of the City's SOI boundary includes approximately half of Moffett Field. The City of Sunnyvale is substantially bounded by the City of Santa Clara to the east; by the City of Cupertino to the south; and by the Cities of Los Altos and Mountain View to the west. Since 1985, Sunnyvale's SOI boundary has remained significantly unchanged.

SOI Boundary Recommendation

As the existing Sunnyvale SOI is substantially coterminous with the City limits and almost fully bounded by other cities, very little outward expansion is possible. Therefore, it is recommended that LAFCO reaffirm the existing SOI for the City of Sunnyvale.

9.13 SOI DETERMINATIONS FOR THE CITY OF SUNNYVALE

As detailed in Section 1.1, Government Code Section 56425 requires written determinations with respect to the following four factors to update an agency's SOI. Based on the information above, the following determinations are provided to update the City's existing SOI.

1. The Present and Planned Land Uses in the Area, including Agricultural and Open-Space Lands

The Sunnyvale SOI is substantially coterminous with the boundaries of the City; therefore most of the land within the SOI is within the City. The City is almost fully built out, with only 67 acres of vacant land left. The current projected absorption rate is very low (i.e. less than 3 acres per year). Based on the City's current zoning, the City expects most of the vacant land to be developed with residential and industrial uses. The City includes a mix of land uses. Planned land uses in the City are not expected to change.

Finding: The Sunnyvale SOI boundary is substantially coterminous with the boundaries of the City. Planned land uses in the City are consistent with existing land uses.

2. Present and Probable Need for Public Facilities and Services in the Area

The City is expected to experience modest growth mostly through in-fill development and redevelopment of underdeveloped parcels. The need for a full range of public facilities and services is expected to grow modestly in the future.

Finding: The type of public services and public facilities required in the proposed Sunnyvale SOI boundary will not change, although the level of demand will increase modestly.

3. Present Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services that the Agency Provides or is Authorized to Provide

The properties within the City receive a full range of public services from the City. For the most part, the present capacity of public facilities appears to be adequate. However, some specific inadequacies were identified including: (1) wastewater collection system capacity improvements are needed in some areas of the City; (2) the Water Pollution Control Plant has many components that are in need of major rehabilitation; (3) the size of the City Public Safety Department facility is barely adequate and the facility's heating and cooling system is problematic and requires regular maintenance; and (4) the existing City library facility is inadequate to meet the community's existing and future needs. The City is currently considering potential plans for a new or renovated library facility that would meet the community's service needs over the next 20 years. Also, several infrastructure improvement projects have been budgeted and/or are underway at the Water Pollution Control Plant.

Finding: The present capacity of public facilities and public services is generally adequate. However, wastewater improvements are needed in some areas of the City, some components of the Water Pollution Control Plant need major rehabilitation, the City's Public Safety Department Facility needs modernization and additional space, and the City's existing library is inadequate to meet the needs of the community.

4. Existence of Any Social or Economic Communities of Interest in the Area if the Commission Determines that they are Relevant to the Agency

The City's SOI is substantially coterminous with the City limits and USA boundary, which is almost fully bounded by other cities, with the exception of the northern portion of the City's SOI boundary which includes unincorporated areas, extends nearly 2 miles into the San Francisco Bay, and also includes approximately half of Moffett Field. Additionally, the City of Sunnyvale has annexed territory that may never be in the City's USA Boundary (i.e. several salt evaporator ponds located in the San Francisco Bay).

The City's USA boundary also contains two unincorporated pocket areas. The Joint Urban Development Policies of the cities, the County, and LAFCO call for islands or pockets of unincorporated land to be annexed to the applicable city. The City has stated that it would anticipate annexing the parcels when they are proposed for development.

Finding: There exist social and economic conditions that cause interaction and interdependence between the City of Sunnyvale and the areas within the City's SOI boundary.