The Parks Needs Assessment establishes a new way to understand and think about parks, recreation, and open space by:

- Considering parks as key infrastructure needed to maintain and improve the quality of life for all County residents
- Using a new series of metrics to determine park need
- Supporting a need-based allocation of funding for parks and recreation
- Emphasizing both community priorities and deferred maintenance projects

### INVENTORY

Accurate data about the size and location of all existing parks in the county were critical to completing the Parks Needs Assessment. These data were not available in a single database; therefore, the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation collaborated with 86 cities to complete the first-ever Countywide inventory of existing parks.

**LOCAL PARKS** are under 100 acres and contain active amenities such as athletic courts and fields, playgrounds, and swimming pools.

**REGIONAL RECREATION PARKS** are over 100 acres and contain active amenities such as athletic courts and fields, playgrounds, and swimming pools.

**REGIONAL OPEN SPACE** includes facilities that are more than 5 acres and generally contain only passive amenities such as visitor centers, trails, picnic shelters, or restrooms.

**NATURAL AREAS** are generally larger than 100 acres and contain no reported amenities.

### PARK METRICS

- **Park Land**
- **Park Pressure**
- **Park Amenities**
- **Park Condition**
- **Park Access**

For more information, visit [LACountyParkNeeds.org](http://LACountyParkNeeds.org)

### How much park land is in the County?

- **LOCAL PARK**
  - 15,723 acres
- **REGIONAL RECREATION PARK**
  - 18,248 acres
- **REGIONAL OPEN SPACE**
  - 98,977 acres
- **NATURAL AREAS**
  - 768,699 acres

### How much land is available to residents in the area around each park?

- **3.3 ACRES**
  - Local & Regional Recreation Park per 1,000 people
  - Low park pressure at 20% of parks in the County
  - More than 3.3 ACRES PER 1,000
  - High park pressure at 80% of parks in the County
  - Regional Open Space & Natural Areas per 1,000 people

### How much of the population has access to parks?

- **49%** of population Countywide lives within 1/2 mile of a park
- **51%** of population Countywide lives beyond 1/2 mile of a park
The results of the analysis of the park metrics were combined to determine an overall park need level for each Study Area. This approach creates a framework for assessing park need from a Countywide perspective.

### Population in Each Need Category*

- **Very High**: 32.2%
- **High**: 16.5%
- **Moderate**: 20.4%
- **Low**: 26.2%
- **Very Low**: 4.6%

*0.1% Not Participating

### Average Acres per 1,000 Residents in Each Need Category

- **Very High**: 3.3
- **High**: 1.6
- **Moderate**: 11.5
- **Low**: 12.5
- **Very Low**: 52.0

### Community Workshops Process

1. Review existing parks and metrics.
2. Develop comprehensive list of potential projects.
3. Prioritize top ten park projects.

### Population reached via media

- **2.5 million+** Traditional Media
- **1.1 million+** Social Media
- **30K+ views** Project Website

### Community Engagement

A Countywide education and awareness effort informed residents about the Parks Needs Assessment and encouraged them to attend a community workshop in their Study Area, where residents prioritized their communities’ top ten parks projects.

### Cost Estimate

Cost estimates were developed for the top ten prioritized park projects from each community workshop and for all deferred maintenance projects.

- **$8.8 billion** Prioritized Projects
- **$12 billion** Deferred Maintenance
- **$0.7 billion** Specialized Facilities
- **$21.5 billion** Total Cost