

Community Focus Statement B: Develop and improve parks and recreational facilities and services for all ages.

Action Statement B.2: Identify opportunities for joint-use of underused and vacant facilities to serve recreation needs.*

IN PROCESS

Benchmark: The Rim of the World Recreation and Park District enters a joint-use agreement program for facilities to address park and recreation needs in the community with available sites, schedules, inspection, and replacement and repair of damages.

Champion: Rim of the World Recreation and Park District

Estimated Cost: \$5,000



Joint-use agreements with schools in the area could provide more recreational space for residents. Photo source: Michael Baker International

It is difficult for communities to effectively share the use of their recreational facilities, which may include libraries, gymnasiums and other athletic facilities, playgrounds, classrooms, multipurpose rooms, and child-care facilities. A tempting solution for a lack of recreational facilities is to build additional facilities. New construction is not only expensive but often requires the use of additional land, which in a mountainous community like the Crest Forest communities is hard to secure without the destruction of environmental resources.

A joint-use program or agreement could be created to provide recreational facilities that are in the best interest of the community, its residents of all ages, and the

environment. This program would allow community organizations, like the Crest Forest Senior Citizen Center and any sports teams or clubs, to enter into a partnership with the school district, the Rim of the World Recreation and Park District, and other organizations that own facilities. Developing cooperative relationships and identifying mutual-need opportunities is a cost-effective and efficient way to increase the available recreational resources in the Crest Forest communities. For example, the local elementary school has a soccer field that is used by students at recess during the day. The soccer field is unused during the evening hours. Instead of building a separate facility for an adult soccer league, the league could enter a joint-use agreement with the school to use the soccer field after school hours. The adult league saves resources by not having to finance and construct a new facility when an acceptable soccer field exists and is unused during the league's desired hours. Additional resources could instead be directed toward improving the existing soccer field, such as installing lights or purchasing new goals. *The Park District has a joint use agreement with the School District for classes.

While schools could potentially serve as key joint-use partners, other community facilities may be utilized as well. A private landowner could lease open space for an archery club. A multipurpose room at a local church could be



used as a classroom for a community art class. Joint-use agreements could also be made prior to development. If a school wanted to develop baseball diamonds, the school could partner with an adult softball league to generate funds and begin construction sooner, rather than if the two organizations tried to initiate the development themselves.

By identifying opportunities for joint use, recreational facilities and programming can be expanded in the Crest Forest communities in an efficient and cost-effective manner. The communities can facilitate the expansion of recreational opportunities, and reap the associated benefits, without incurring additional cost or requiring the construction of additional facilities.

Case Study: Daly City partnered with each of its five local school districts as well as with St. Ignatius, a Catholic high school in San Francisco, and the neighboring Town of Colma in joint-use projects for reciprocal access to swimming pools, gyms, sports fields, and other recreational facilities. For more information, visit: [http://www.changelabsolutions.org/sites/default/files/CA_Joint_Use_Toolkit_FINAL_\(CLS_20120530\)_2010.01.28.pdf](http://www.changelabsolutions.org/sites/default/files/CA_Joint_Use_Toolkit_FINAL_(CLS_20120530)_2010.01.28.pdf)

IN PROCESS

Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Create a local committee to study	Rim of the World Recreation and Park District	Month 1	Rim of the World Recreation and Park District http://rim-rec.org/
2. Identify facilities, playgrounds, classrooms, multipurpose rooms, etc., that can potentially be used as joint-use facilities and enter into a joint-use agreement program.	Community Group with Rim of the World Recreation and Park District and community group	Month 2 - 4	San Bernardino County Regional Parks, Parks Advisory Commission http://cms.sbcounty.gov/parks/aboutus/parksadvisorycommission.aspx .
3. Gather a list of available community facilities and schedules.	Group	Months 2 - 4	
4. Select a program leader from each respective partner agency to provide access and keys to unlock facilities and areas during these scheduled times.	Group with Rim of the World Recreation and Park District	Month 5, on-going	San Bernardino County Regional Parks, Regional Parks http://cms.sbcounty.gov/parks/Home.aspx
5. Select a staff person or volunteer from the Rim of the World Recreation and Park District to inspect facilities for damage and litter and to replace and repair any damage occurring during times of use.	Rim of the World Recreation and Park District with group and partners	Month 5, on-going	Center for Cities & Schools University of California, Berkeley, <i>Partnerships for Joint Use</i> , September 2010 http://citiesandschools.berkeley.edu/reports/Partnerships_JU_Aug2010.pdf
6. Establish and implement a protocol for the program including schedules, inspection, and replacement or repairs.	Rim of the World Recreation and Park District, with support from Regional Parks Advisory Commission, Regional Parks Division, Rim of the World School District	Month 6-10, on-going	ChangeLab Solutions, <i>Opening School Grounds to the Community After Hours</i> , 2012 http://www.changelabsolutions.org/sites/default/files/CA_Joint_Use_Toolkit_FINAL_(CLS_2012_0530)_2010.01.28.pdf