

# 8 ● OPEN SPACE & RECREATION



## Introduction

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Open space and recreation areas have different meanings for different people. They can be small or large venues, hosting sports facilities, or offering unimpeded access to contemplative natural area open space. Southern Scottsdale residents have recognized their active community parks and passive open spaces as essential to the overall well-being of their community.

These open space and recreation areas provide several important functions for Southern Scottsdale. They serve the public by providing connections to other regional open space amenities, the public good of flood control and air cleansing, and benefit natural systems through surface water retention and groundwater percolation. Yet most noticeably, these spaces create greater social interaction and enhance Southern Scottsdale's economy by attracting tourists and supporting outdoor recreation.

As Southern Scottsdale continues to evolve, future increased demands on open space and recreational facilities must be addressed. The following chapter provides goals and policies to provide, maintain, and enhance quality open space and recreational opportunities for the Southern Scottsdale community.

## Goals and Policies

### GOAL OSR 1

DEVELOP, IMPROVE, MAINTAIN, AND ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF SOUTHERN SCOTTSDALE'S OPEN SPACE ENVIRONMENTS.

- **Policy OSR 1.1**  
Promote the acquisition of additional urban public open space within Southern Scottsdale.
- **Policy OSR 1.2**  
Protect mature vegetation while encouraging indigenous and adapted plant materials to inhabit open and recreational spaces, streetscapes and private development landscaping throughout Southern Scottsdale.
- **Policy OSR 1.3**  
Provide regulatory incentives to proposed development in exchange for the creation of new open spaces throughout Southern Scottsdale.
- **Policy OSR 1.4**  
Promote public and private partnerships and intergovernmental agreements to protect, preserve, maintain, enhance, and/or expand regional open spaces in and around Southern Scottsdale.
- **Policy OSR 1.5**  
Rethink the roles and functions of urban service alleyways as viable paths and open space connectivity opportunities for Southern Scottsdale residents.



Low-water use plant materials along a public trail.

## GOAL OSR 2

DEVELOP AND IMPROVE OPEN SPACE AND PARK FACILITIES FOR RECREATION PURPOSES.

- **Policy OSR 2.1**

Improve, enhance, and upgrade existing open spaces, indoor and outdoor recreational facilities, and equipment that are outdated to continuously offer quality recreational opportunities to the community.

- **Policy OSR 2.2**

Develop new recreational facilities, parks, and open spaces to meet future needs of the Southern Scottsdale community.

- **Policy OSR 2.3**

Foster a balance between passive open space resources and the provision of neighborhood, specialty, and regional parks' programmed recreational activities.

- **Policy OSR 2.4**

Promote a year-round range of indoor and outdoor recreational opportunities for residents of all ages and abilities and encourage inter-generational participation in activities.

- **Policy OSR 2.5**

Improve access and parking for open space, recreation, and park areas by acquiring property or land easements, as necessary, to meet long term Southern Scottsdale park visitor needs.

- **Policy OSR 2.6**

Continue to upgrade the canal systems found within Southern Scottsdale for recreation and open space amenity purposes.

## GOAL OSR 3

CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE INDIAN BEND WASH AS A PRIMARY OPEN SPACE RESOURCE THAT PROVIDES FOR COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL RECREATION NEEDS.

- **Policy OSR 3.1**

Encourage public and private investments to improve, enhance, and upgrade existing open spaces and indoor and outdoor recreational facilities throughout Indian Bend Wash to continuously offer quality recreational opportunities to the community.

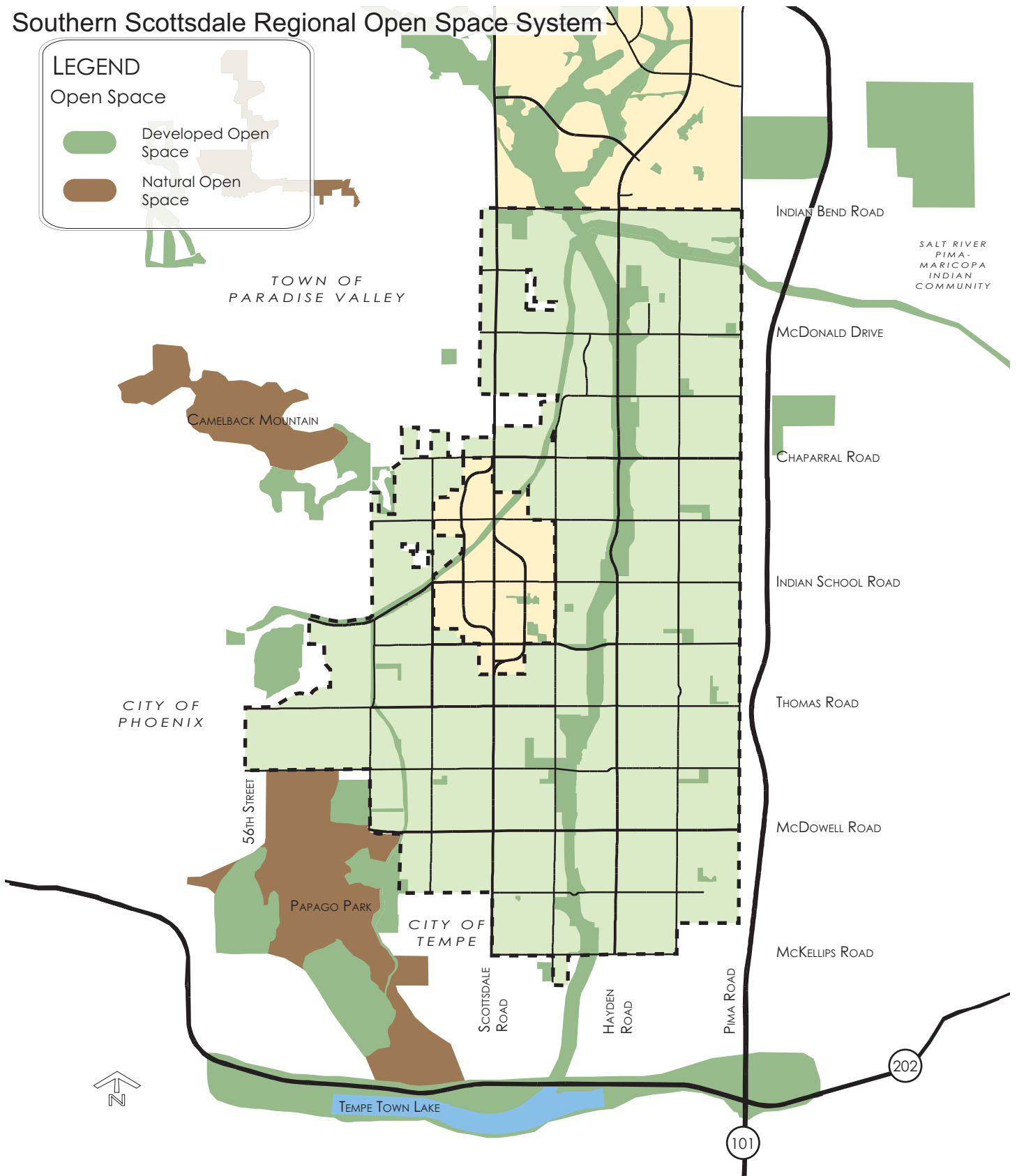


Recreational facilities within Indian Bend Wash.

### Southern Scottsdale Regional Open Space System

**LEGEND**  
Open Space

- Developed Open Space
- Natural Open Space



- **Policy OSR 3.2**

Evaluate a change in land use and development orientation on properties adjacent to the Indian Bend Wash to promote interplay of complementary activities such as dining, recreational/rental facilities, and social gathering spaces.

- **Policy OSR 3.3**

Create new and improve existing access between neighborhoods and the Indian Bend Wash.

## GOAL OSR 4

SCOTTSDALE SHOULD BECOME AN ACTIVE STAKEHOLDER IN PAPAGO PARK IMPROVEMENTS AND USES.

- **Policy OSR 4.1**

Encourage the City of Scottsdale to become a Papago Park land holder through annexation of a portion of the park's land that borders Southern Scottsdale.

- **Policy OSR 4.2**

Plan and develop a range of strategies for enhancing Southern Scottsdale's access and connectivity to and from Papago Park.

- **Policy OSR 4.3**

Support Papago Park restoration efforts for degraded sensitive habitat areas affected by access and recreation activities.

- **Policy OSR 4.4**

Encourage the cities of Phoenix, Scottsdale, and Tempe and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community to enter into an intergovernmental agreement to approve and implement the Papago Park Master Plan.



Papago Park multi-purpose trail.

