

Parks, Open Space, Trails, and Public Facilities

Existing Conditions Overview

August 2023



Introduction

This report summarizes the analysis of parks, open space, trails, and public facilities in Marina. This will serve as the baseline for the General Plan Update and environmental review, providing an important snapshot of where the community is now.

Topics addressed in this report include:

- Parks
- Open Space
- Trails
- Public Facilities (Civic, Medical, and Schools)

The report concludes with key findings on the topic.

Planning and Regulatory Context

The following list includes planning and regulatory documents related to parks, open space, trails, and public facilities.

- **Quimby Act** – Authorizes jurisdictions to require the dedication of land or to impose fees for park or recreational purposes as a condition of the approval of a tentative or parcel subdivision map for residential development (key funding mechanism for new public parks)
- **Government Code section 65560** – Open Space Element requirements (Outdoor Recreation, Public Health and Safety, Military Support)
- **Marina Local Coastal Program Land Use Plan & Implementation Plan** – Establishes appropriate land uses by type and density for the Marina Coastal Zone and addresses public access to and along the beach and coastal recreation facilities
- **Senate Bill 1425** – Updated Open Space Element Requirements for Environmental Justice and Climate Resilience
- **Measure Q** – established the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) to protect current open space areas north of the City limits

Planning & Regulatory Context

- **City of Marina General Plan (2000):** As amended, the Community Land Use Element describes the open space system of the City, including land use designations for the City's parks and open space. Five designations are detailed on the City's 2012 Land Use Map; Agriculture, Parks and Recreation, Habitat Preserve & Other Open Space, Golf Course, and UGB Open Space. The City's 2000 General Plan provides standards for types of parks, though the current data does not categorize parks into different types.
- **City of Marina Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan (2005):** This Master Plan guides the development and improvement of the City's parks and recreational facilities. It includes design concepts and cost estimates for new parks and park improvements.
- **Marina-Salinas Multimodal Corridor Conceptual Plan (2015):** The Plan includes design concepts for the improvement of multi-use paths along the multimodal corridor connecting the Cities of Marina and Salinas. The multi-use paths would accommodate various recreational activities, including walking, running, and bicycling.
- **Specific Plans:** Several adopted Specific Plans include acres of formal parks and trails that add, or will one day add, to the city's existing inventory of public parks, open space, and trails.
 - **Marina Station Specific Plan:** This specific plan designates approximately 55 acres for formal parks, linear parks, and trails.
 - **Dunes at Monterey Bay Specific Plan:** 9 acres of linear parks, 6 acres of passive open space, access to future city parks
 - **Sea Haven Specific Plan:** 35 acres of parks and greenbelts
 - **Marina Municipal Airport Business and Industrial Park/UC MBEST Center Specific Plan:** 11.08 acres of open space

Parks

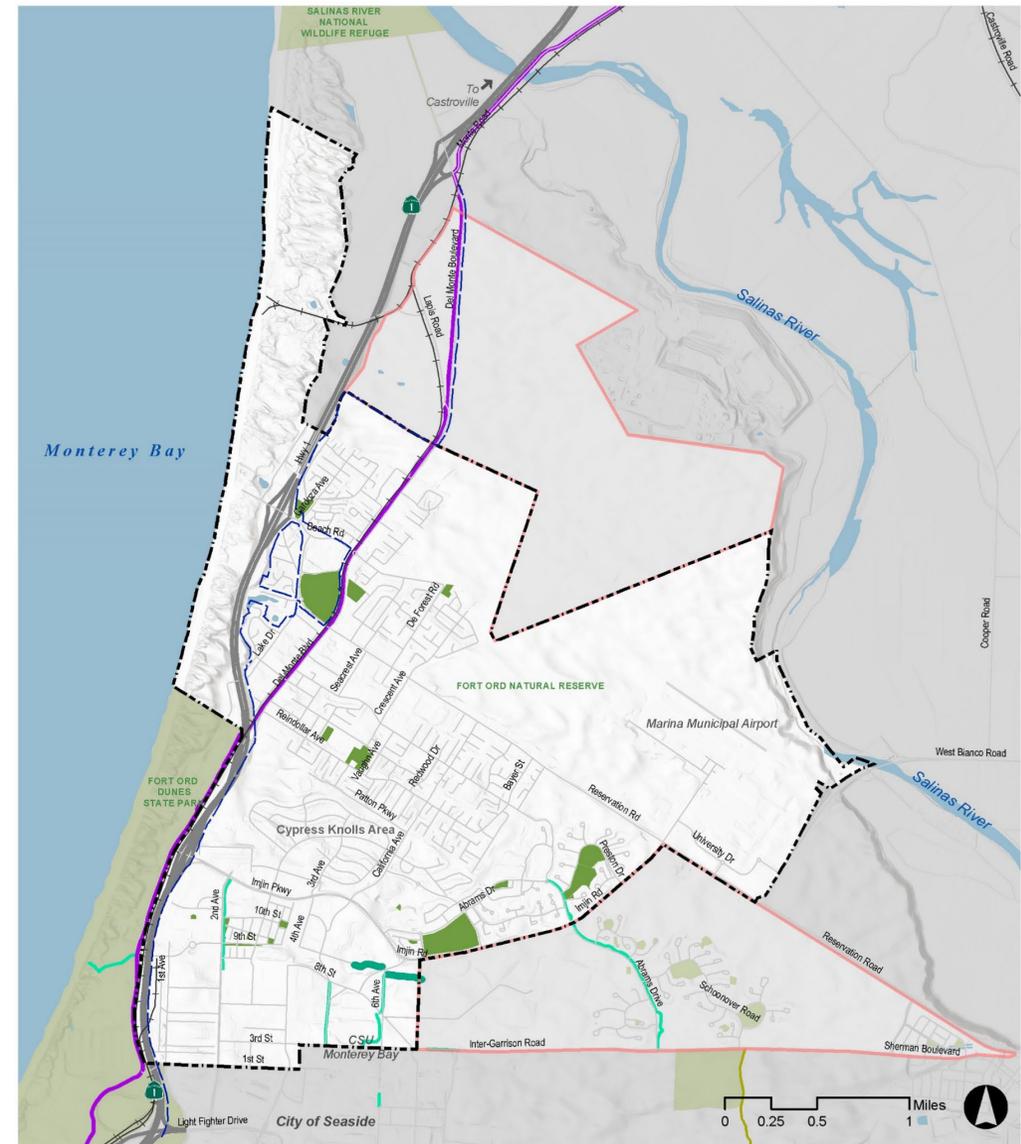
Parks

This section provides an overview of publicly accessible parks in the City of Marina and its Sphere of Influence (SOI) including park location, size, managing agency, walk access, and planned improvements/future parks.

Parks in Marina's SOI are included within this analysis due to the City's interest in possible future annexation of land and the desire to capture nearby facilities that serve existing Marina residents outside city limits.

Parks Inventory

- Marina is home to approximately 101 acres of parks within City limits, and an additional 26 acres within the City’s Sphere of Influence, totaling nearly 127 acres of parks across the City and Sphere.
- In addition to City-owned parks, the City has a joint use agreement with Monterey Peninsula Unified School District (MPUSD) that allows shared use of many parks and recreation facilities located on or near school sites.



Sources: City of Marina (2022); CPAD(2021); Urban Footprint (2022); ESRI (2022); USGS & NOAA (2016).



Existing Parks Inventory - City Boundaries

Park Name	Amenities	Managing Agency	Acreage
2 nd Ave Park	Plaza with benches and walking paths	Dunes Developer	1.6
9 th St Linear Park	Linear park with separated pedestrian and bike paths	Dunes Developer	1.3
Bungalow Drive Neighborhood Park	Neighborhood park with play structures and gathering areas	Dunes Developer	0.8
Glorya Jean Tate Park	Park with playground, multiuse field (undergoing major renovation)	City of Marina	4
Locke Paddon Park	Outdoor classroom, nature walks	City of Marina/Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District	29.4
Los Arboles Sports Complex	Sports fields	City of Marina/School District	7
Marina City Park	Sports fields	City of Marina	2
Oak Overlook	Park	Sea Haven Developer	0.35
Otter's Play Park	Playground	Sea Haven Developer	1.4
Palisade/Upwell Park	Playground, multiuse field	Sea Haven Developer/City of Marina	0.5
Preston Park	Sports fields	City of Marina	18

Existing Parks Inventory - City Boundaries

Continued

Park Name	Amenities	Managing Agency	Acreage
Sea Glass Neighborhood Park	Gathering spaces, playground, exercise equipment	Dunes Developer	1
Sea Haven Park	Open space, more amenities planned	City of Marina	26.4
Shorebird Place/Boardwalk Ave Walkway	Greenway, walking trails	Dunes Developer	0.3
Vince DiMaggio Park	Sports fields, community room, walking trails	City of Marina	4.8
Windyhill Park	Multiuse field, walking trails, playground	City of Marina	1.8
Yorktown Community Garden	Community Garden	City of Marin	0.25
TOTAL			100.9 acres

Existing Parks Inventory - Sphere of Influence

Park Name	Amenities	Managing Agency	Acreage
Cordell Hull Park	Park with play structures	East Garrison	1
Eleanor Roosevelt Park	Park with seating	East Garrison	1.1
Patch Playground	Playground	Schoonover Park Apartments	0.9
Saratoga Park	Walking trails, multiuse field	Schoonover Park Apartments	0.7
Schoonover Park	Dog park, playground, sports field, multiuse field	Schoonover Park Apartments	8.4
Trenton Park	Dog park, basketball court, multiuse field	Schoonover Park Apartments	1.7
Wainwright Playground	Playground, basketball court	Schoonover Park Apartments	8.6
Warrelman Park	Basketball court, multiuse field	Schoonover Park Apartments	1.7
Wilderness Court Playground	Playground	Schoonover Park Apartments	0.3
Yorktown Park	Playground, basketball court, multiuse field	Schoonover Park Apartments	1.3
TOTAL			25.7 acres

Proposed Park Facilities and Improvements

Marina has several proposed parks and planned future parks. As part of adopted, undeveloped, Specific Plans, the city anticipates further park developments, including those listed below.

Proposed Parks

- Future Cypress Knolls parks
- Potential reuse of Lake Dr. Corporate Yard

Planned Parks

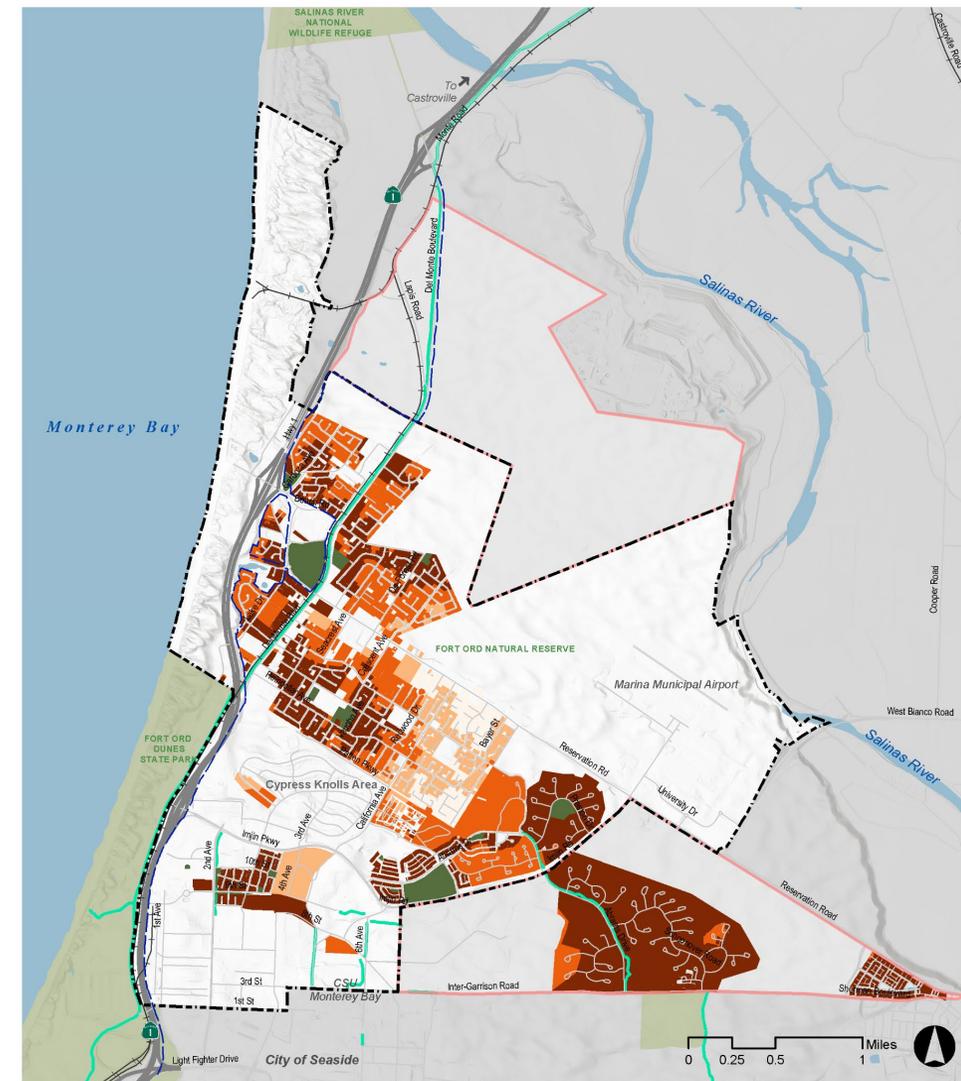
- Dunes Hilltop Park (*under construction*)
- Dunes City Park (former Water City Roller Hockey rink)
- Marina Station Parks and Sports Fields
- Abrams Park (in Sea Haven)

Parks Service Ratio

- Marina and its Sphere of Influence offer a high parks level of service with **5.9 acres of park land per 1,000 residents**
- Marina's current General Plan parks ratio goal is **3 acres of parks per 1,000 residents.**
- The Parks & Recreation Facilities Master Plan (2005) establishes a goal of 10 acres per 1,000 residents, which includes parks, joint-use sites, recreational trails, and accessible open spaces collectively.

Parks Access from Existing Residential

- Very good parks access overall; 79% of residents live within a 10-minute walk of park
- Approximately 52% of Marina residents live within a 5-minute walk to a park



Sources: City of Marina (2023); CPAD(2021); Urban Footprint (2023); ESRI (2022); USGS & NOAA (2018).



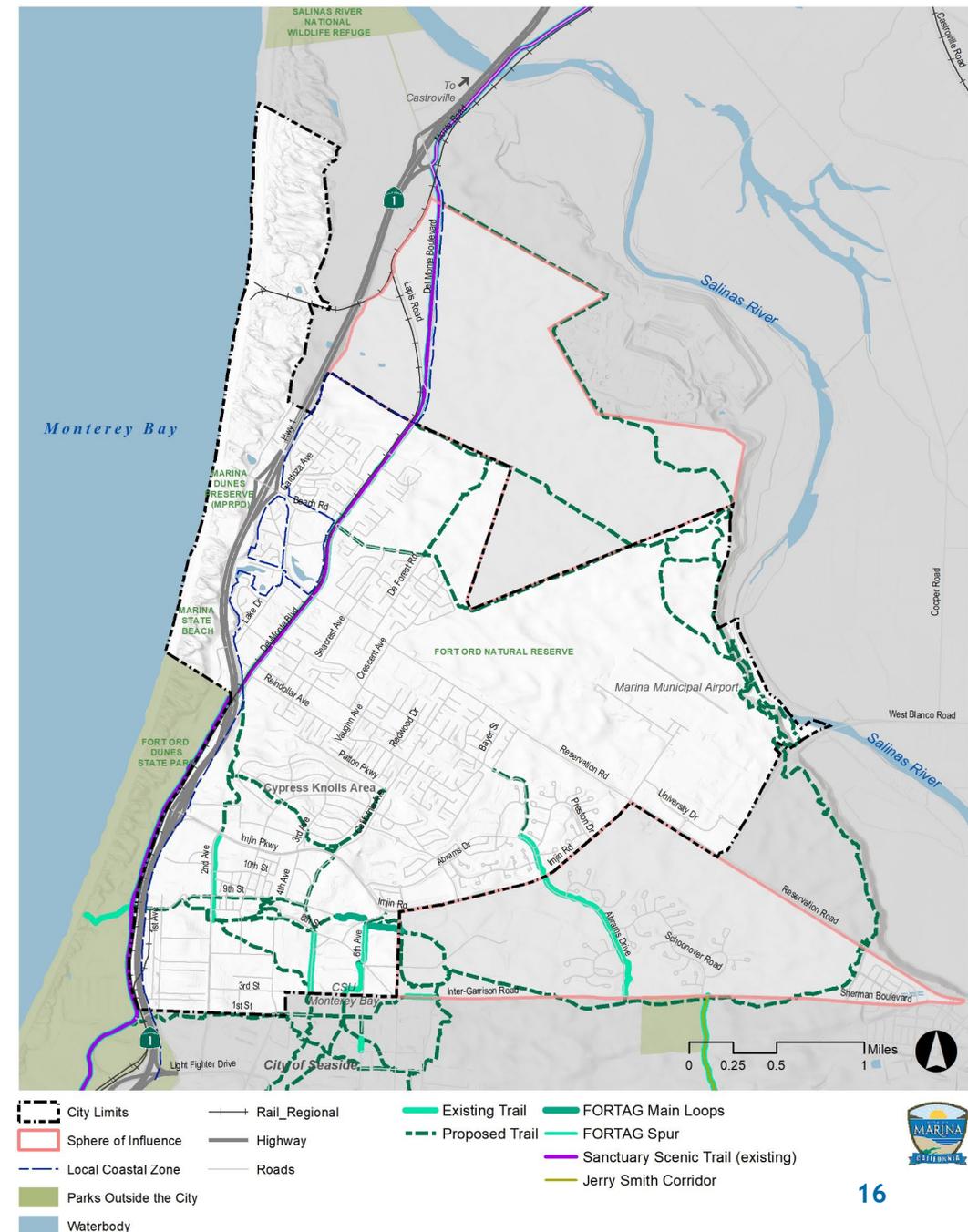
Trails

Trails Overview

This section provides an overview of the trail network within and adjacent to Marina.

Existing Trails Inventory

- Several southern segments of the FORTAG loop have been developed in Marina, as shown on the map, though much remains undeveloped at this time.
- The Monterey Bay Coastal Recreation Trail (labeled as Scenic Trail) runs on the outer edge of the Dunes State Park, turns inward moving north along the coastline, then becomes a separated Class I bike lane on Del Monte Boulevard.



Sources: City of Marina (2023); CPAD(2021); Urban Footprint (2023); ESRI (2022); FORTAG (2023); USGS & NOAA (2016).



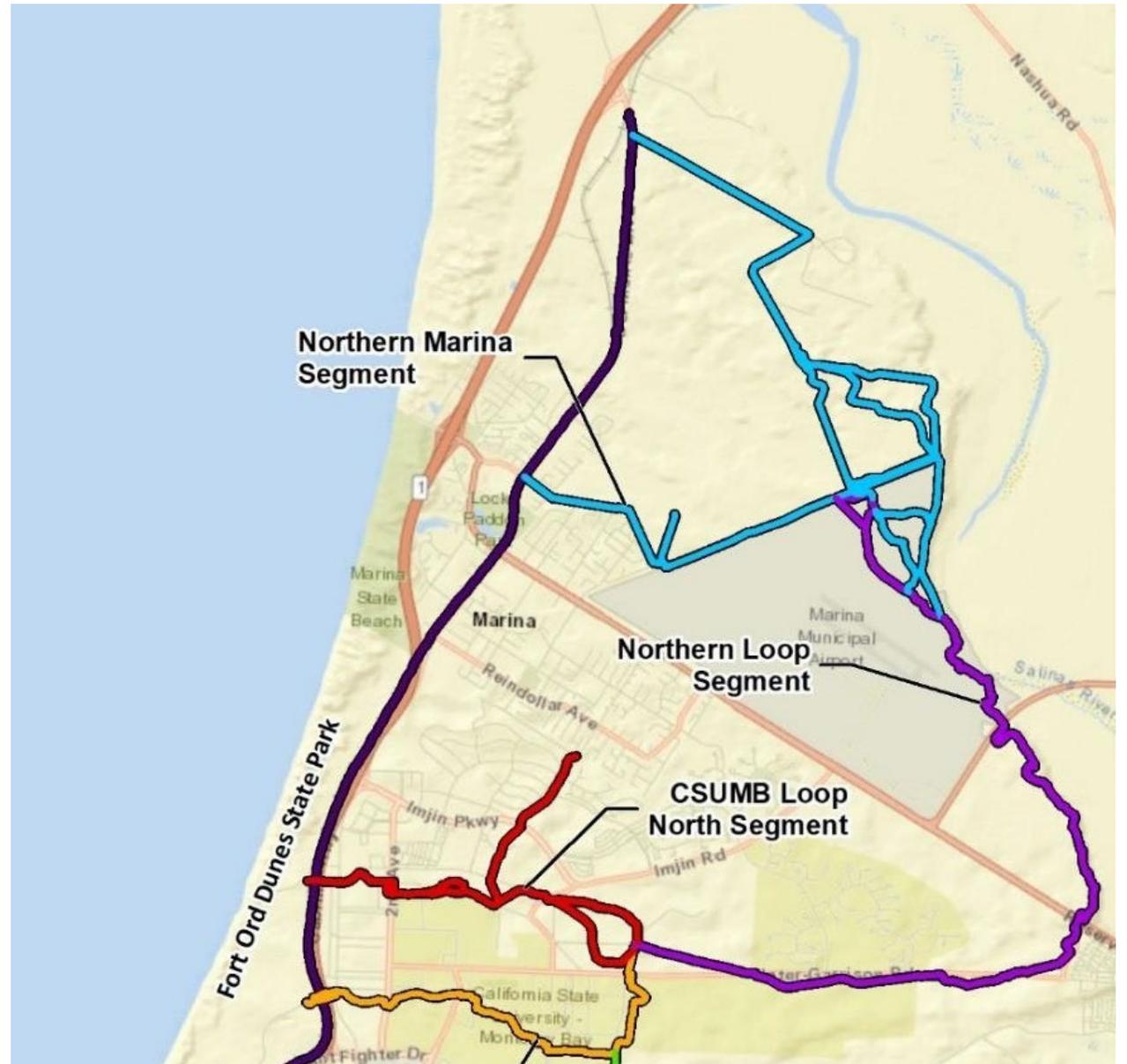
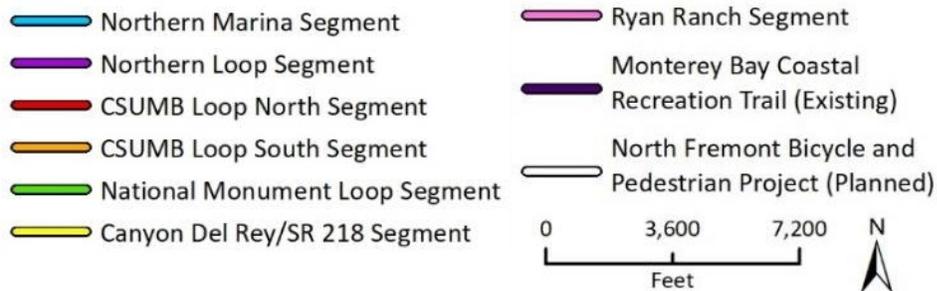
Fort Ord Regional Trail & Greenway (FORTAG)

- FORTAG is a proposed 30-mile regional trail that is made up of bicycle trails, greenways and other accessible connections to open space.
- Portions of the trail system are constructed in Marina and surrounding cities
- When complete, the trail will include a continuous 12-ft wide paved bicycle and pedestrian trail through several parts of Marina



Proposed FORTAG Trail Map

- This map represents the latest official proposed FORTAG Map from the 2020 FORTAG Master Agreement
- Displays the existing and planned trail segments in and around Marina



Monterey Bay Coastal Recreation Trail

- The Monterey Rec Trail is a portion of the larger 18-mile trail that runs along the coastline of several Monterey Bay Area cities.
- Approximately 3 miles of paved multi-use path are developed through Marina.
- The trail is located adjacent to SR-1 and Del Monte Blvd, within Caltrans right-of-way, and provides bicycle connections to the surrounding cities.



Open Space

Open Space Overview

Marina has a variety of open space types including coastal open space, research and educational open spaces, and habitat conservation areas. The following section provides an overview of type, access, location, and description of open spaces in Marina.

Similar to the Parks section, open spaces within Marina's SOI are included in this analysis due to the City's interest in possible future annexation of land and the desire to capture nearby facilities that serve existing Marina residents outside city limits.

Open Space Types

- Marina is surrounded by various types of state, regional, and local protected accessible and inaccessible open spaces, a total of approximately 3,650 acres.
- For this analysis, open space is categorized as follows:
 - Open Space: Approximately 262 acres that are protected open space within the City and Sphere of influence and largely open to the public for recreation. These areas are permanently preserved for open space and do not currently allow development.
 - UCSC Fort Ord Open Space: Approximately 683 acres of open space that are preserved from development. These areas are only accessible for research and education, and not permitted for public recreation. Public access is by reservation only, for guided tours through the University.
 - Habitat Management Area (HMA): Approximately 600 acres of open space managed for conservation of Monterey Sand Gilia (*Gilia tenuiflora*), a federally endangered flowering plant, among other species. HMAs have limited access to the public.

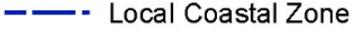
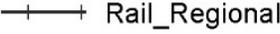
Open Space Types Continued

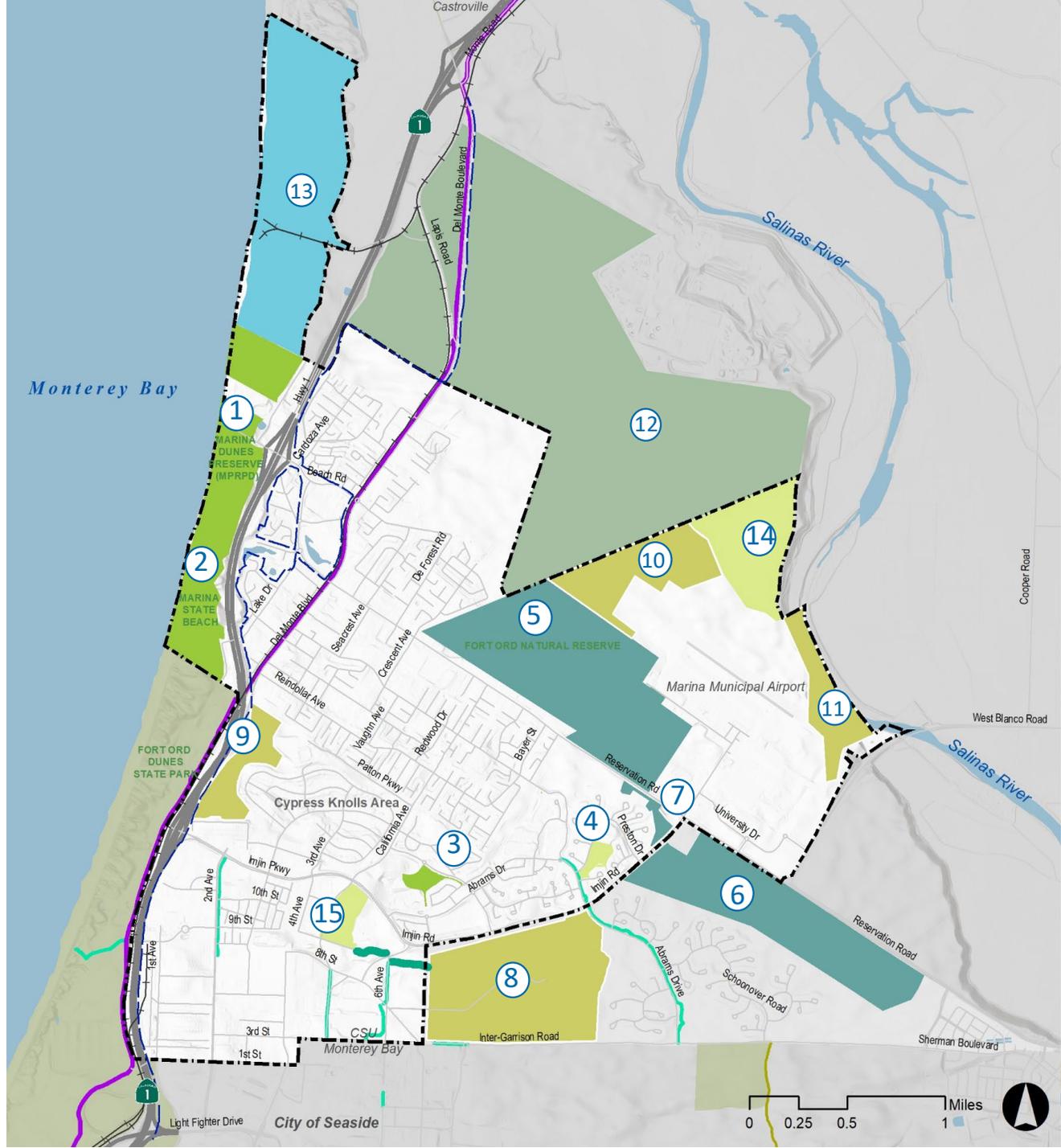
- UGB Ag Land: Approximately 1,572 acres of active agricultural land within the City's Urban Growth Boundary area, within the Sphere of Influence.
 - Future Open Space: Approximately 401 acres of land consisting of the former CEMEX site that the City envisions as future open space.
 - Other Open Space: Approximately 165 acres of open space that do not fit into other open space categories. This includes the Marina Equestrian Center and North Airport Open space. These open spaces are generally not entirely protected from future development.
- The following tables provide descriptions, managing agency, and total acreage for open space in Marina. This corresponds to the Open Space Map provided on page 22.

Open Space Inventory

Existing Open Space

-  Open Space
-  Habitat Management Area
-  UCSC Fort Ord Open Space
-  UGB Ag Land
-  Future Open Space
-  Other Open Space
-  FORTAG Main Loops
-  FORTAG Spur
-  Sanctuary Scenic Trail (existing)
-  Jerry Smith Corridor

-  City Limits
-  Sphere of Influence
-  Local Coastal Zone
-  Parks Outside the City
-  Waterbody
-  Rail_Regional
-  Highway
-  Roads



Open Space

	Open Space Name	Managing Agency	Description	Acreage
1	Marina Dunes Preserve	Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District	Coastal strand and dune habitat	56
2	Marina State Beach	CA Dept. of Parks & Recreation	Coastal strand and dune habitat	185
3	Oak Grove Open Space	Sea Haven Developer	Walking paths and natural vegetation	11
4	Preston Park Open Space	City of Marina	Walking paths and natural vegetation near Preston Park	10

UCSC Fort Ord Natural Reserve

	Open Space Name	Managing Agency	Description	Acreage
5	Fort Ord Natural Reserve	California Regents/University of California	Maritime chaparral and dunes, coast live oak, coastal scrub, grassland. Used for educational and scientific research and habitat protection	407
6	Fort Ord Natural Reserve	California Regents/University of California	Primarily consists of undeveloped natural wildlands Used for educational and scientific research and habitat protection	267
7	Fort Ord Natural Reserve	California Regents/University of California	Primarily consists of undeveloped natural wildlands Used for educational and scientific research and habitat protection	11

Habitat Management Area (HMA)

	Open Space Name	Managing Agency	Description	Acreage
8	Landfill Reserve	City of Marina	Former landfill site Currently used for habitat restoration and conservation	308
9	Cypress Knolls HMA	City of Marina	Natural vegetation	63
10	Airport HMA (West)	City of Marina	Natural vegetation	127
11	Airport HMA (East)	City of Marina	Currently used for habitat restoration and conservation	79

UGB Agricultural Land

	Open Space Name	Managing Agency	Description	Acreage
12	UGB Ag Lands	Monterey County	Active agricultural land	661

Future Open Space

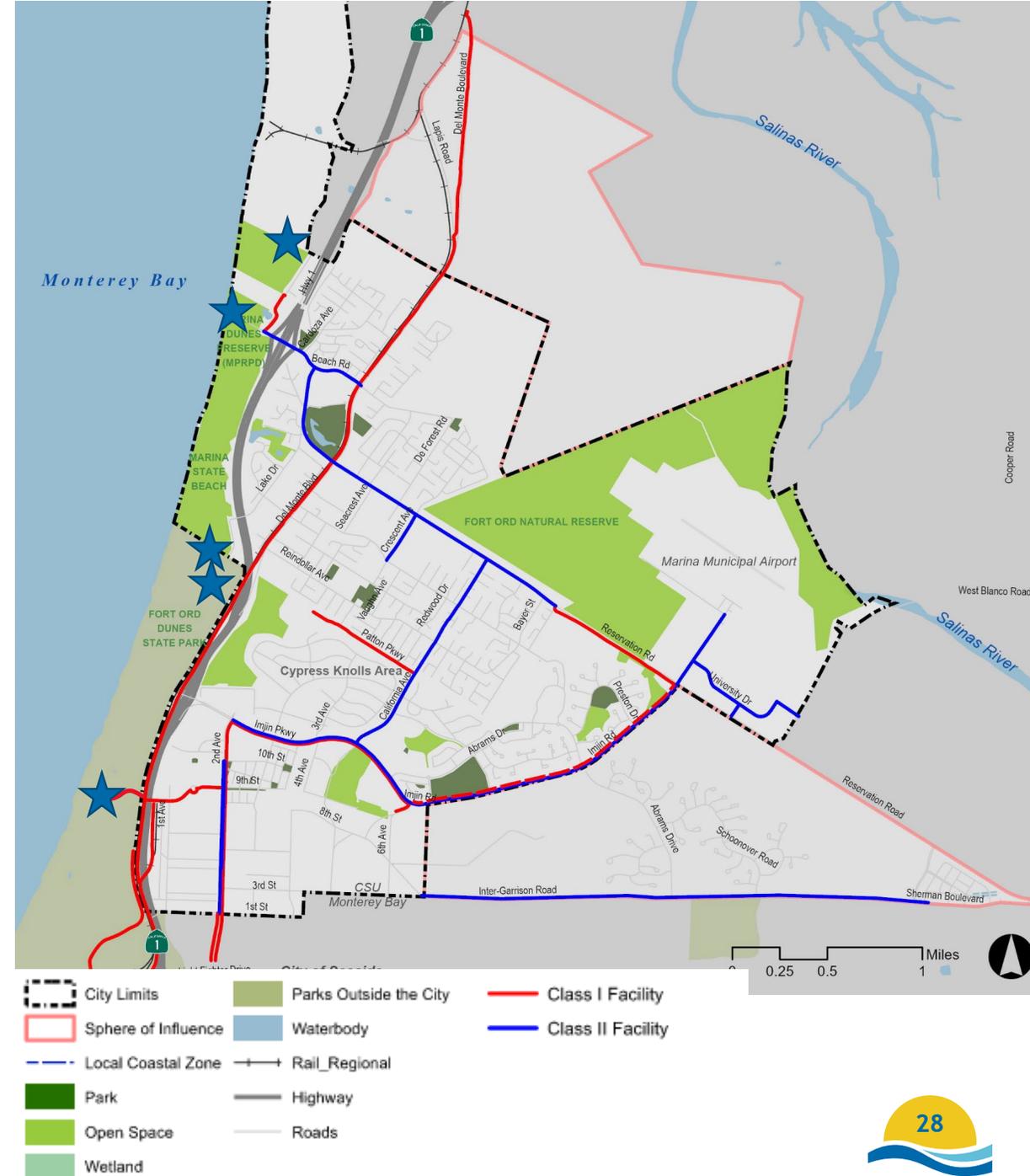
	Open Space Name	Managing Agency	Description	Acreage
13	North Marina Dunes	CEMEX	Privately owned Some industrial operations	366

Other Open Space

	Open Space Name	Managing Agency	Description	Acreage
14	North Airport Open Space	City of Marina	Previously envisioned as a golf course, though undeveloped natural lands	131
15	Marina Equestrian Center	City of Marina	Public horse park, stables, and riding ring plus surrounding areas	34

Access to Coastal Open Space

- There are four coastal access points in Marina and the surrounding area
 - Dunes Drive on private property
 - End of Reservation Road (the main entrance to the State Beach)
 - End of Lake Court provides 2 non-motorized access points
 - 8th Street parking lot
- All coastal access points require users to cross Highway 1 from the core of the city using existing roads and/or trails under the freeway.



Public Facilities

Public/Civic Facilities Overview

Marina provides a variety of civic and public facilities. Public facilities are generally government-owned and operated buildings and quasi-public buildings that serve the public. This includes civic buildings and offices, Marina Library and City services, as well as public recreation facilities like the City's Teen, Youth, and Senior centers.

Existing Public/Civic Facilities

Map #	Name	Address
1	Marina City Hall	211 Hillcrest Ave
2	Marina City Permit Center	209 Cypress Ave
3	Marina Department of Public Safety & Fire Station #1	208 Palm Ave
4	Marina Fire Station #2	3260 Imjin Rd
5	Marina Library	190 Seaside Cir
6	Marina Municipal Airport	781 Neeson Rd
7	Superior Court of California – Marina Division	3180 Del Monte Blvd
8	Marina Youth and Senior Center	211 Hillcrest Ave
9	Marina Teen Center	304 Hillcrest Ave
10	City Corporation Yard	3040 Lake Court
11	City Corporation Yard	2660 5 th Ave
12	Glorya Jean Tate Park Building	3254 Abdy Way
13	Vine DiMaggio Park Building	3200 Del Monte Blvd
14	United State Post Office	3100 De Forest Rd

Medical Facilities Overview

Marina has relatively limited medical facilities and services. Overall, there are 3 medical facilities located in Marina. The facilities include:

- Doctors on Duty provides an urgent care walk-in clinic.
- VA Outpatient Clinic provides a variety of outpatient services to United States Military Veterans.
- Montage Wellness Center offers a variety of services including primary care, psychiatric care, urgent care, radiology, laboratory, and outpatient rehabilitation.

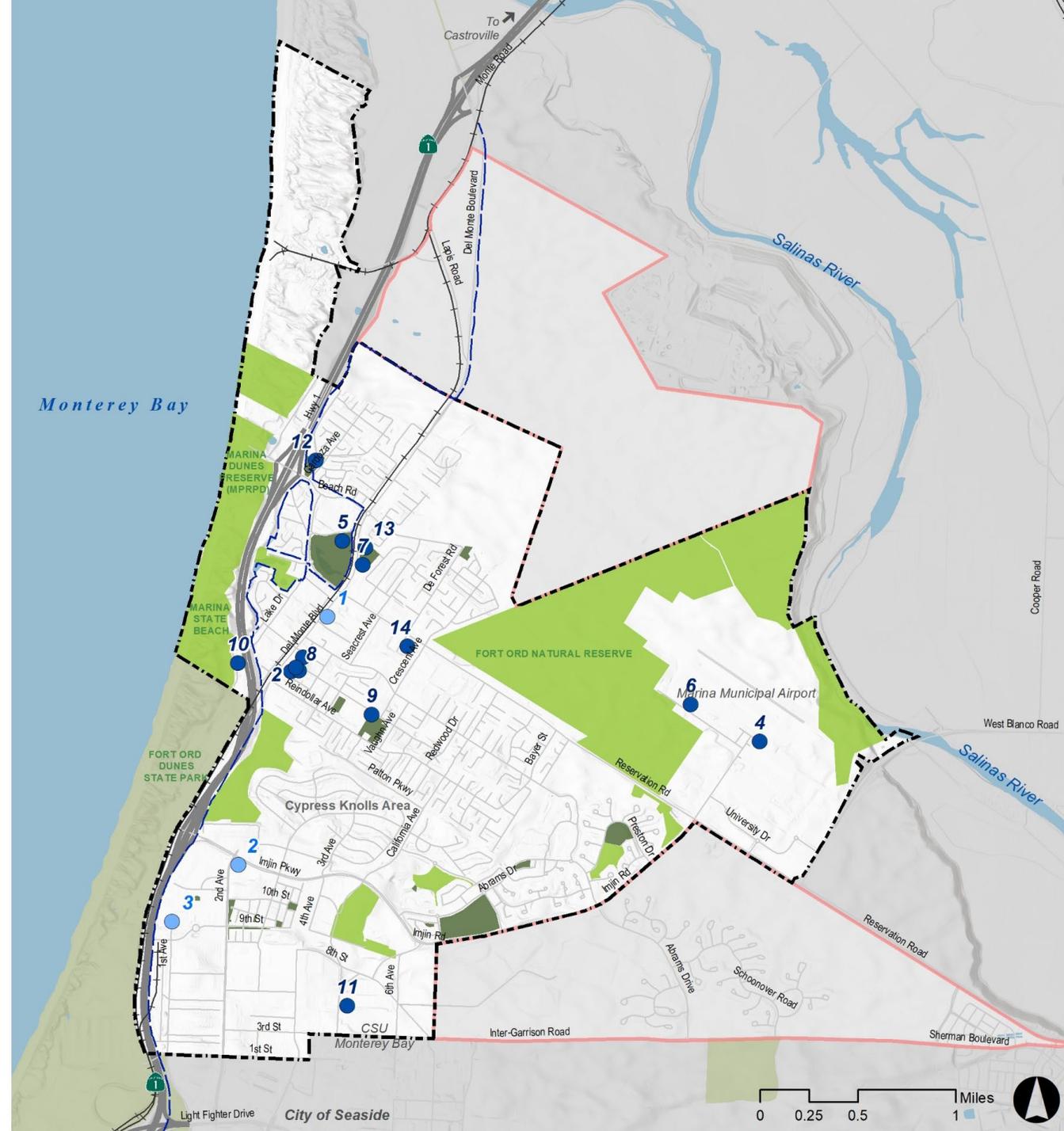
The nearest hospital, Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital, is 10 miles east in the city of Salinas.

Existing Medical Facilities

Map #	Name	Address
1	Doctors on Duty (includes urgent care)	3130 Del Monte Blvd
2	Montage Wellness Center (includes urgent care)	2920 2nd Ave
3	VA DOD Outpatient Clinic	201 9th St

Public & Medical Facilities

-  City Limits
-  Sphere of Influence
-  Local Coastal Zone
-  Parks
-  Open Space
-  Parks Outside the City
-  Waterbody
-  Rail_Regional
-  Highway
-  Roads
-  Public Facilities
-  Medical Service Facilities



School Facilities Overview

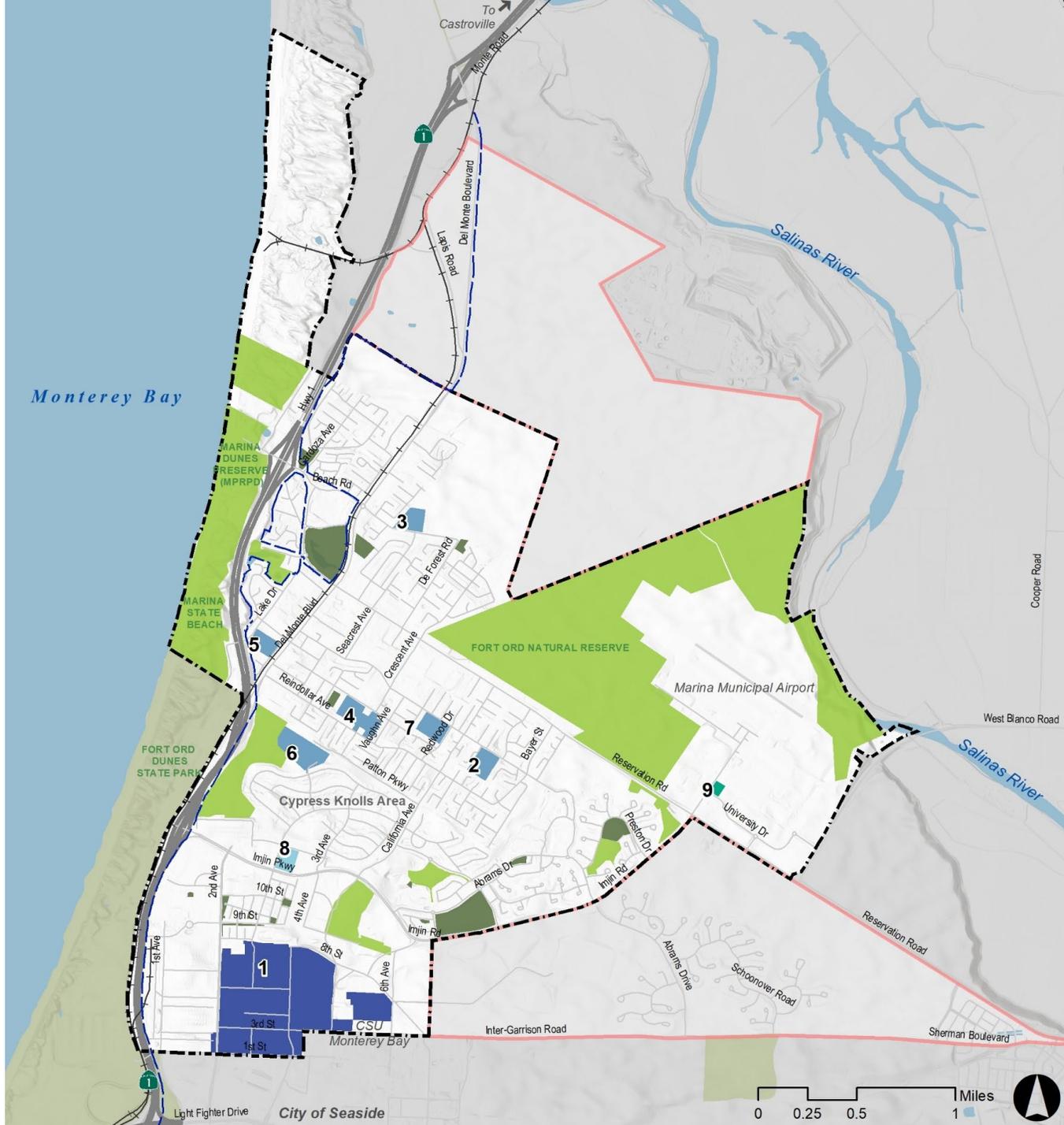
- Marina offers two types of school facilities - public educational facilities offering K-12th grade for Marina residents, and higher educational facilities that serve the greater region.
- The City of Marina is served by the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District (MPUSD), which operates 6 schools within Marina, including 1 preschool, 3 elementary schools, 1 middle school, and 1 high school.
- In addition, 1 charter school serves students who dropped out or were at risk of dropping out of traditional schools across the Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz school districts.
- Monterey Peninsula College has an Education Center campus in Marina, and the California State University Monterey Bay campus extends through the southern boundary of the city.

Schools

Map #	Name	Level	Enrollment
1	California State University – Monterey Bay	Bachelors Degree, Graduate Degree, Credential and Certificate Programs	7,500
2	Monterey Peninsula College – Education Center Campus	Associate Degree, Certification of Achievement, Training, and Completion	unknown
3	Marina High School	9-12 grade	557
4	Los Arboles Middle School	6-8 grade	568
5	J. C. Crumpton Elementary School	K-5 grade	444
6	Ione Olson Elementary School	K-5 grade	360
7	Marina Vista Elementary School	K-5 grade	448
8	Marina Child Development Center	Preschool	131
9	Learning for Life Charter School	7-12 grade	165

School Facilities

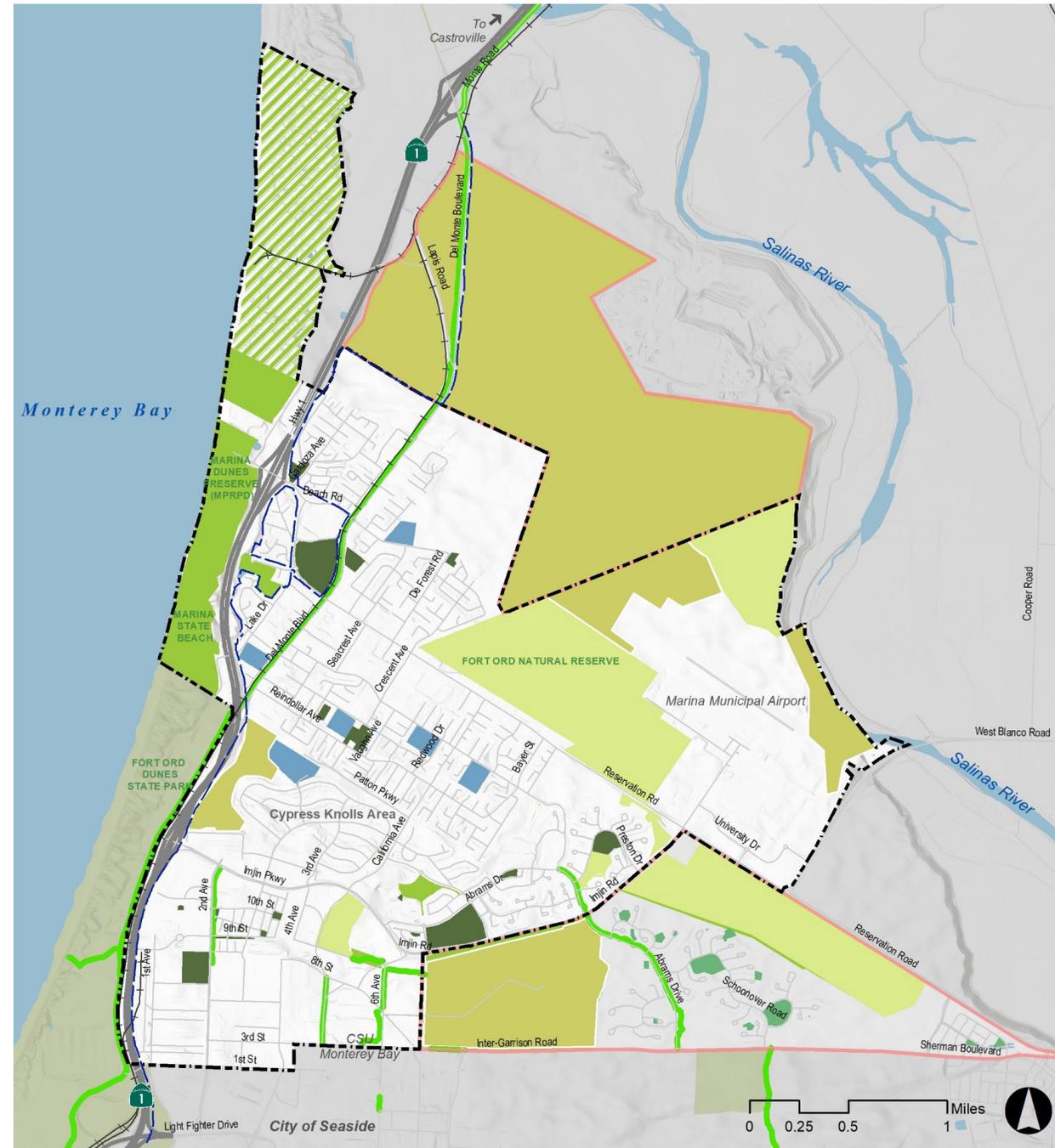
-  City Limits
-  Sphere of Influence
-  Local Coastal Zone
-  Parks
-  Open Space
-  California State University - Monterey Bay
-  Monterey Peninsula Unified School District
-  Monterey Peninsula College - Education Center
-  Charter School
-  Parks Outside the City
-  Waterbody
-  Rail_Regional
-  Highway
-  Roads



Key Findings

Parks, Open Space, & Trails Inventory

- The adjacent composite map provides a comprehensive look at the parks, open space, and trails in Marina.
- As shown, Marina offers a variety of different active and passive open spaces and opportunities to engage with various kinds of outdoor environments.



Key Findings

- Marina offers a high parks service ratio of 5.9 acres per 1,000 residents and good access to parks with 79% of residents (City and SOI) within a 10-minute walk to a park (or accessible open space).
- The planned Fort Ord Regional Trail System will offer nearly 13-miles of trails around Marina, in addition to 3-miles of the Coastal Rec Trail, providing enhanced access to regional parks and open space.
- Future Specific Plans will provide additional parks and open space within the city.
- The City's current General Plan does not classify the types of parks and open spaces, though the Current General Plan provides standards for different types of parks.
- Though Marina is a coastal community, public access to the coast and the city's abundant open spaces are currently limited.
- Two of the City's main recreation facilities--the Teen, and Senior Centers--are co-located at City Hall with limited space.
- City Hall provides minimal gathering areas for the public and is not utilized as a civic center or heart of the City.
- An update to the City's Parks Master Plan is recommended.