

Newark: Families & The Built Environment

Community development policy from the Newark CA General Plan 2013

December 30th, 2019

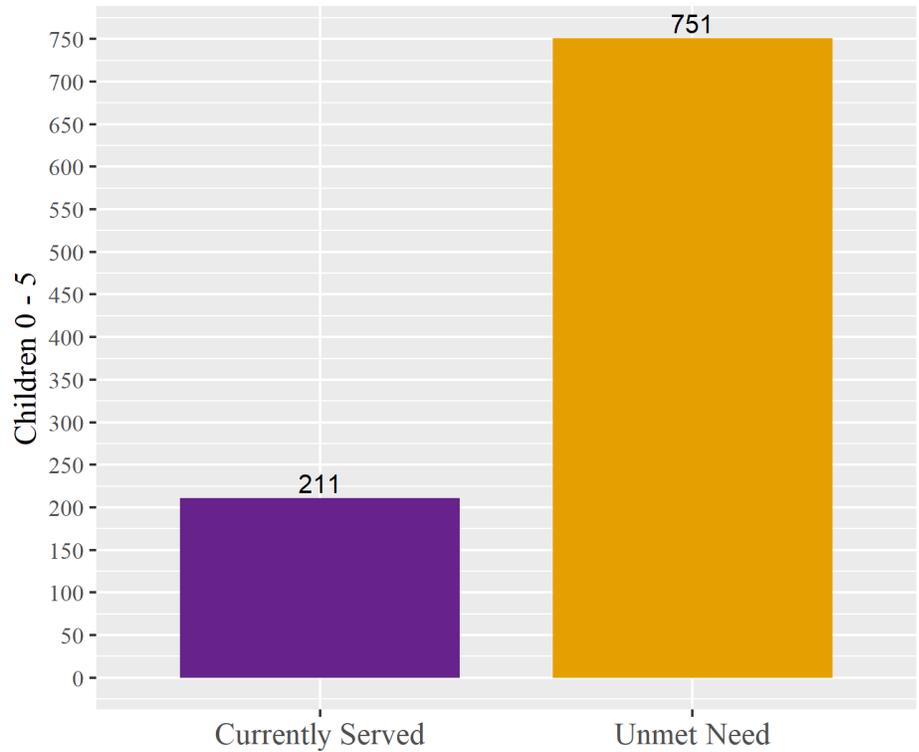
Data

Community Demographics

- Number of income eligible children ages 0 to 5 at or below 85% SMI: 962
- Estimated percent of children 0-5 not served: 78%
- County Kindergarten Readiness rate: 44%

Children Served & Estimated Unmet Need for Income Eligible Children 0-5

Newark



Data from the 2016 AIR Early Learning Needs Assessment Tool

Planning Framework

3-10: "The City of Newark provides municipal services to residents and businesses, including recreation, senior services, child care, public works, and law enforcement. Other agencies also provide services, either directly or through agreements with the City. Newark Unified School District operates a high school, a middle school, eight elementary schools, and several alternative schools. Ohlone College operates a state-of-the-art community college campus on Cherry Street. Newark's Public Library is part of the Alameda County Library System and is located within the Civic Center complex next to City Hall. The Alameda County Fire Department operates three fire stations in Newark and provides fire and emergency medical services to residents."

Land Use

3-11: Low Density Residential (Less than 8.7 units per net acre).

"This designation is intended for single-family residential development on lots larger than 5,000 square feet. It corresponds to most of Newark's residential neighborhoods. [...] Other compatible uses, such as schools, childcare centers, parks, and religious facilities may also locate in areas with this designation, subject to appropriate permitting requirements."

Low-Medium Density Residential (8.7 to 15 units per net acre).

"This designation is intended for small lot single-family homes, zero lot line and patio homes, mobile home parks, and other areas characterized by a mix of older single-family homes and small multi-unit buildings. [...] Other compatible uses, such as schools, childcare centers, parks, and religious facilities may locate in all areas with this designation, subject to appropriate permitting requirements."

Medium Density Residential (14 to 30 units per net acre).

"This designation is intended for garden apartments and condominiums, townhomes, row houses, 4 to 8 plexes, and older areas that contain a mix of multi-family and single-family homes within this density range. [...] Other compatible uses, such as schools, childcare centers, parks, and religious facilities may also locate in areas with this designation, subject to appropriate permitting requirements."

3-12: High Density Residential (25 to 60 units per net acre).

"This designation is intended for apartment and condominium complexes that are generally three stories or more. [...] Other compatible uses, such as schools, childcare centers, parks, and religious facilities may also locate in areas with this designation, subject to appropriate permitting requirements."

3-15: Special Industrial.

"This designation is intended to foster 21st Century workplaces developed to the highest standards of building design, landscaping, and aesthetic amenities. [...] Special Industrial areas include business parks, industrial parks, technology parks, and other master planned industrial subdivisions. Such developments may include complementary uses which support the employee population, such as hotels, restaurants, office buildings, childcare facilities, and business services."

3-32: "Non-residential uses such as churches and large childcare centers will continue to be allowed in residential areas, as they are today. The City will continue to administer permitting procedures which ensure that the public is involved when such facilities are proposed, and that impacts on parking, traffic, noise, and other factors are appropriately mitigated."

Economic Development

6-17: GOAL ED-1: Sustain a thriving and growing local economy that is resilient to economic and financial cycles.

>Policy E D-1.3: Revenue Generation.

"Support continued expansion of the municipal tax base, including property, transient occupancy, and sales taxes, to ensure adequate funding for public facilities and services. Development should generally have a positive fiscal impact on the City, unless other compelling community benefits will be provided. An example of a project with a neutral or slightly negative fiscal impact that provides a "compelling community benefit" might be senior housing or childcare. Such uses help create and sustain a strong community but do not necessarily generate revenue for the city."

Parks, Recreation, & Open Space

8-10: "As indicated in Table PR-2, Newark's community parks provide an array of facilities. Sportsfield Park includes the Silliman Activity and Family Aquatic Center, with an indoor water park and pool, gymnasium, teen area, fitness center, dance studio, childcare center, and meeting rooms."

Environmental Hazards

9-20: "The potential for adverse psychological and physiological impacts related to noise requires that criteria be established for determining acceptable levels of noise for different land uses. Certain land uses are considered "sensitive receptors," meaning they are more prone to the adverse effects of high noise levels than others. These include residential areas, schools, childcare centers, hospitals, churches, libraries, and nursing homes, among others. Future land use decisions should protect these uses from high levels of noise. At the same time, when land uses such as housing and schools are developed in the future, it is important that they are located and designed in a way that protects occupants from potential impacts from existing noise sources."

Health & Wellness

10-4: "Children are more susceptible to asthma than adults. This has implications for the design of housing, schools, childcare facilities, and other uses near freeways and industrial uses where air pollutant concentrations may be higher."

Community Services & Facilities

11-1: "Community services include education, law enforcement, fire protection, emergency medical response, senior assistance and childcare, and other administrative services provided by the City of Newark and other agencies. Community facilities include the buildings and infrastructure used to deliver these services, including schools, fire stations, libraries, and municipal buildings. Community facilities also include the utilities necessary to sustain development, including water, sewer, storm drainage, waste management, power, and telecommunications. Although State law does not mandate a specific chapter of the General Plan on these topics, planning for community services and facilities is integral to planning for the future of Newark."

11- 8: "Childcare programs assist working parents and provide socialization and early childhood education for Newark's youngest residents. The 2010 Census indicated that there were 3,142 residents under age 5, and another 2,929 residents between ages 5 and 9. Together these groups represent over 14 percent of Newark's population. In many Newark households, both parents are employed, which leads to a need for childcare facilities. There are also over 1,000 single parent households with one or more children under 18. Affordable childcare provides an important benefit to these households and can provide the flexibility needed to find and maintain a decent job.

The City of Newark has operated a full time State-licensed childcare program for over 20 years. The program operates from the Newark Community Center and serves 3- to 5-year-olds. Its curriculum offers individual and group activities, including kindergarten preparedness, art, science, computers, music, and playtime. Pre-school activities are also provided at the Silliman Recreation Center. In addition, the Newark Unified School District operates the June Whiteford Pre-School on the MacGregor School campus. The Pre-School enrolls 67 students and has a speech therapist, a psychologist, and a district nurse on staff. Other childcare resources include a Head Start Center adjacent to Ash Street Park."

Community Services & Facilities

11-8: "There are also private day care providers in the City. For example, Challenger School has a private pre-K program. Newark has a number of Montessori schools and several local churches include on-site childcare centers. There are also 17 homebased childcare centers, most subject to size limits that are established by State law. The City's zoning regulations allow small family day care centers (typically with fewer than 8 children) as a permitted use in residential areas. Large family day care centers (typically with 8 to 14 children) are conditionally permitted in most locations."

11-9: "General Plan policies express Newark's commitment to maintaining quality, licensed childcare facilities in the city. This will include a combination of public facilities and private facilities, meeting the needs of persons of all incomes and backgrounds. The City also supports the inclusion of childcare centers in new workplaces, and will continue to provide zoning incentives for incorporating such centers in new development."

11-24: Policies:

>Policy CSF-3.1: Childcare Facility Development.

"Encourage the development of reasonably priced childcare facilities and services in a variety of settings to meet the needs of Newark residents and employees. Ensure compliance with all State regulations for permitting small and large family day care facilities."

>Policy CSF-3.2: Childcare and the Faith Community.

"Encourage local churches and religious institutions to provide child and elder care services and facilities."

>Policy CSF-3.3: After School Programs.

"Support the continued provision of after school programs and services at Newark public schools."

>Policy CSF-3.4: Information on Childcare Resources.

"Work with childcare advocacy groups and service providers to provide additional information to the community about childcare facilities and resources in Newark."

11-24: Actions:

>Action CSF-3.A: Incentives for Childcare Facilities.

"Provide incentives to residential and non-residential developers to provide space for childcare facilities in new development. State law includes density bonus incentives for projects which include childcare facilities. These are codified in Newark's zoning regulations. In addition, the City will work with local employers to determine the possibility of providing on-site day care facilities, or contributing to the provision of day care services nearby."