

# El Rio Watercourse Master Plan

## Estrella Mountain Regional Park

### RECREATION RESOURCES

With the West Valley burgeoning in size in recent years, recreation facilities are recognized as a prime need of all communities for the use and enjoyment of the populace. Prior to the mid-1990s, the West Valley was largely an agricultural setting with towns of small (Buckeye) to medium (Goodyear, Avondale) size in the area. With a few notable exceptions, recreation facilities supporting the individual communities of the West Valley were primarily smaller neighborhood and community parks with no regional significance. However, the exceptions are by and large the patriarchs of the recreation facilities county-wide, including the Estrella Mountain Regional Park, which was recognized with its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2004, White Tank Mountain Regional Park, and South Mountain Park which dates to 1924. To this day, these properties represent the majority of active recreational amenities with regional influence in the vicinity of the El Rio project.

Possible recreation multi-use design concepts identified as part of the recreation resources evaluation include:

- Trail connections between local and regional existing/proposed trail systems
- Possible entry nodes into the El Rio recreation corridor
- Vista points from natural high-points or overlooks
- General location of the Maricopa County Regional Trail along the banks of the Gila River
- Secondary trail loops in the vicinity of the river
- Possible parkway alignment on the north bank of the Gila River

Source: El Rio Watercourse Master Plan, page 18 and Figure 4 (March 2006, Final Report).

