



# Clark County Parks Advisory Board Meeting Minutes



Tuesday, June 10, 2025 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM  
**Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin St, Vancouver, WA 98660**  
In Training Room 679 and Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

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**Board Members:** Jim Kautz, Janis VanWyhe, Teresa Meyer, Donald Meeks, Brandon Erickson, Jessica Barksdale, John Rafanelli

**Clark County Staff:** Amy Arnold, Ross Hoover, Lynde Wallick, David Stipe, Jennifer Coker

<b>Ex-Officio Members:</b>	<b>School District Liaisons:</b>	Cale Piland (Evergreen)* AJ Panter (Vancouver)* Rachel Best (Camas)
	<b>Parks Foundation:</b>	Tim Leavitt*

**Guests and Others:** David Perlick, Kelsey Huwaldt, Karissa Halstrom

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## 4:02 PM Call to Order

Jim called the meeting to order and folks introduced themselves.

## 4:03 PM Administrative Actions

Time	Action Item
4:03 PM	<b>MOTION BY:</b> Donald Meeks <b>SECOND BY:</b> John Rafanelli
	<b>MOTION:</b> Motion to adopt Meeting Minutes for: April 8, 2025 Meeting Minutes May 13, 2025 Meeting Minutes
	<b>DISCUSSION:</b> Both sets of Minutes have been approved.
	<b>IN FAVOR:</b> Unanimous <b>OPPOSED:</b> None <b>ABSTAINED:</b> None

Amy discussed how to use the microphones in the room to speak.

## 4:04 PM Public Comment

There are none.

## 4:04 PM Manager's Report

Ross thanked folks for adjusting to having the meeting in a new space, at the Public Service Center.

Ross discussed that Lynde has taken on the role as Facilitator in the new Washington Recreation and Parks Association (WRPA) network that focuses on planning and design. He said she will be hosting the first statewide professionals' meetings to discuss merging issues, trends, hot topics, etc. and the group will be meeting on a monthly basis. He said their first meeting will be on June 17, 2025.



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Ross also discussed that Parks and Nature continue to meet with Clark County Public Health on a regular basis to focus on climate and built environment and active transportation like trail development and access throughout the county.

Ross discussed the budget requests that have been submitted to Council for consideration and adoption including the 2026 to 2031 draft Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), an additional staff person for operations at the new Curtin Creek Community Park, and replacement vehicles for Operations staff. David shared a link to the current draft 2026-2031 Capital Improvement Plan in the chat, which can be found here: <https://clark.wa.gov/sites/default/files/media/document/2025-05/26-31-parks-and-nature-draft-cip-250529-lr.pdf>. Lynde also shared the live feed of the construction progress at Curtin Creek Community Park which can be found on the site's main Clark County website, here: [Curtin Creek Community Park | Clark County](#).

Ross also discussed the county's water reduction strategy that begins this summer. Ross and Teresa discussed anticipated complaints and outreach notifications for the public, Janis discussed including a notification of a reduction in mowing services for outreach, and Ross and Jim discussed how this affects the risk for fire danger.

#### **4:12 PM Unfinished Business**

There is none.

#### **4:12 PM New Business: Regional Parks Funding – Ross Hoover.**

Ross discussed Council's request to form a task team to discuss options for a sustainable future to do some benchmarking with local elected officials, like with David Perlick, the Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services at the City of Vancouver. Ross also discussed other Council meetings he has attended with the City of Vancouver, City of Battle Ground, and City of Washougal and upcoming meetings he plans to attend with the City of La Center, City of Camas, and City of Yacolt. David Perlick discussed this great opportunity to work collaboratively with the county staff partners to start thinking regionally and utilize the great diversity of the facilities to work together and grow the systems.

Ross discussed his presentation regarding the rapid growth rate and how it's increased over time and the need to work with other systems to provide resources throughout the regions. Ross also discussed the current funding and how the task team will be utilized. Don and Ross discussed why people are moving to Clark County and the people that the parks and nature system is serving, and Ross discussed the Charter for the task team that



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focuses on its goals and objectives. Jim and Ross also discussed the work that's occurring in other groups, like the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC).

Brandon, Ross, and David P. discussed the regional funding and whether the goal was to raise funds to distribute to existing parks departments or do a consolidation of the parks systems between the City of Vancouver and Clark County. Brandon and Ross also discussed looking at the efficiencies of the organizational structures of having multiple parks departments.

Don and Jim discussed the status of the Lewis and Clark Regional Trail, Ross indicated we would investigate this, and David S. answered that it's currently in the draft 2026-2031 CIP. Ross thanked folks for their feedback on his presentation and thanked David P. for attending.

#### **4:33 PM New Business: Outreach and Planning Efforts for Hazel Dell Community Park– Lynde Wallick**

Lynde discussed the park plan and access/play equipment improvements project at Hazel Dell Community Park reviewing the location of the site, the development of the concept plan and its elements, the theme or inspiration board from the master plan development, and what the site improvements include. Lynde also discussed replacing the play equipment at this property and that two concept designs for the new equipment were created in a treehouse theme and a medieval theme. Lynde said that she shared these themes with some first graders at Sarah J. Anderson Elementary School for their feedback.

Lynde also discussed the next steps for this project, the timeline for the public access improvements, and the timeline for the playground replacement. Lynde also mentioned that this Saturday, June 14, 2025, the Parks and Nature department will hold a play date in the park.

Jim and Lynde discussed if there can be a connecting trail from the Burnt Bridge trail to the Ellen Davis trail to the site. Brandon and Lynde also discussed the number of consultants that responded to the RFQ (Request for Qualifications) submittal.

#### **4:52 PM Roundtable**

Brandon discussed that he attended the Curtin Creek Neighborhood Association meeting a couple of weeks ago and that they're excited for the park. He also discussed that his company, Erickson Structural Consulting Engineers, PC, will be spreading bark chips on June 30, 2025 at the Thomas Wetland East park.



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Lynde shared the live feed stream of the construction progress at Curtin Creek Community Park again and explained where some of the new park elements will be located. Brandon and Lynde discussed where the link can be found, and Jim discussed that his wife received a flyer about a house for sale and it was advertised that it was close to the new community park, which is exciting.

Lynde, Jessica, Teresa, and Brandon discussed the flyer of outreach and engagement events that the Planning and Development team is promoting.

David discussed where the draft 2026-2031 CIP can be found and that the public comment period is live and ends on June 25, 2025. David also discussed the feedback the county has received and the plan to bring this back to the Advisory Board in July.

John discussed the design concepts for the playground equipment at Hazel Dell Community Park.

Jennifer thanked Lynde and David Perlick for their continued excitement and support towards the planning efforts.

**5:00 PM Adjourn**

**Respectfully submitted, Amy Arnold**



# Hazel Dell Community Park

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Park plan & access / play equipment improvements

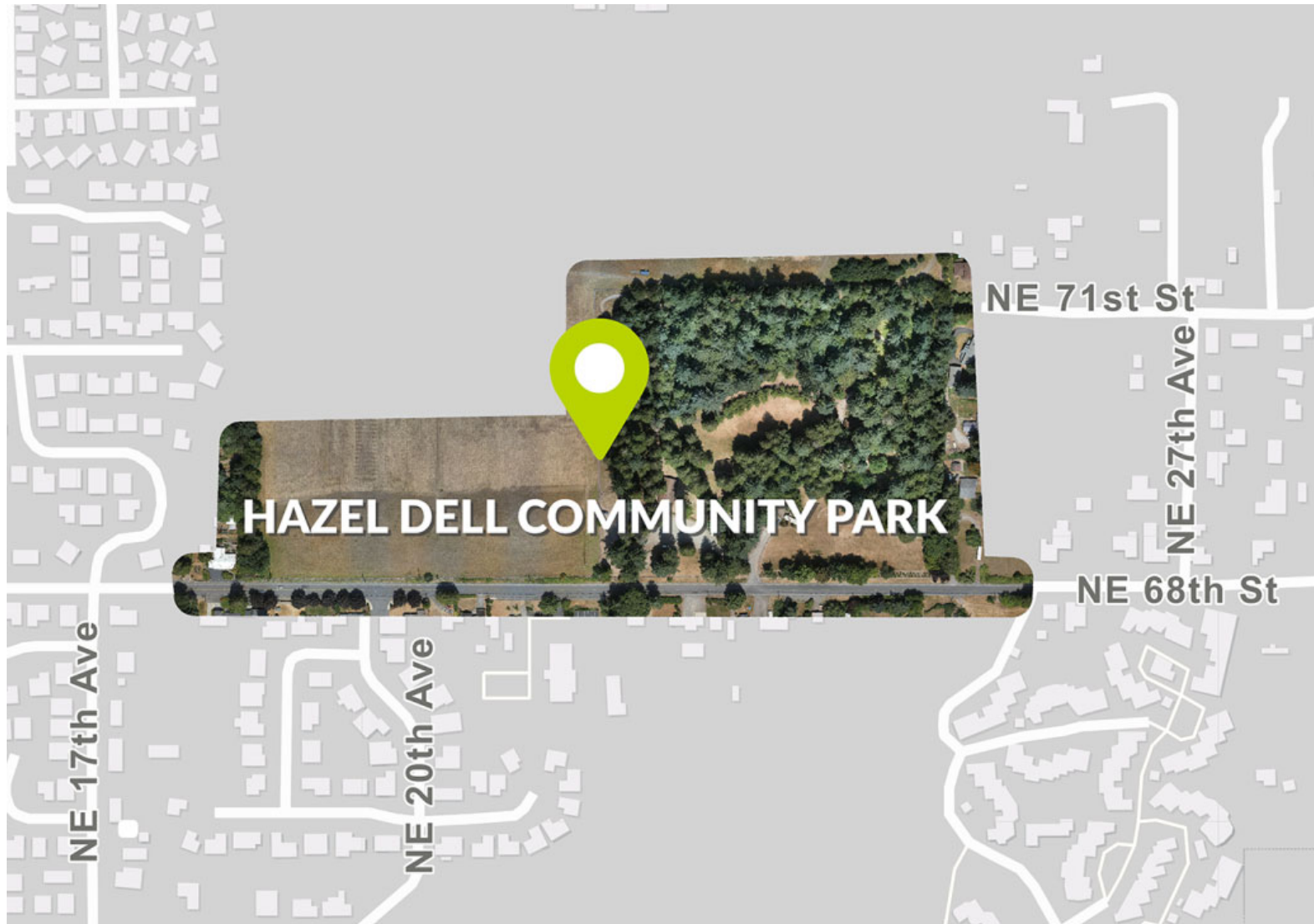
June 10, 2025

Lynde Wallick  
Clark County Park & Trails Planner



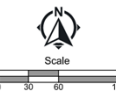
# Park information—park overview

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# Park plan update—concept

- Rustic & natural
- Nature play course
- Outdoor classroom
- Recreational trails (12' & 8' wide)
- Extended parking, 80+ stalls (10 ADA)
- Interpretive trail nodes





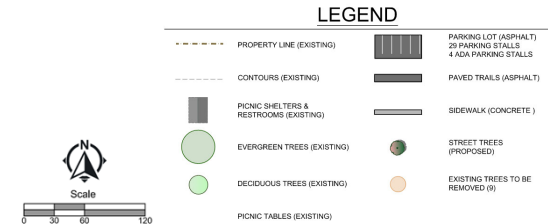
# Park plan update—concept inspiration board





# Plan development—site improvements

- 28 parking stalls, 6 ADA
- Improved access to north play areas
- ADA trail improvements to restroom/picnic tables



# Play equipment engagement

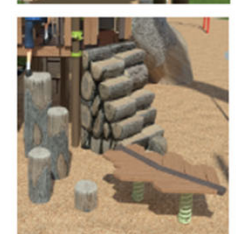
## Choose your favorite Treehouse



5 - 12 years



2 - 5 years





# Play equipment engagement



## Choose your favorite Medieval



5 - 12 years



2 - 5 years





# Next steps

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## Park Plan Update

- Finalize park plan document
- PAB / Planning Commission review
- Council review / adoption

## Public Access Improvements

- Finish RFQ process / consultant selection
- Design / permitting beginning August 2025
- Submit for permits – December 2025
- Bid advertisement Feb 2025
- Fall 2026 – Complete construction

## Playground replacement

- Park Playdate 6/14/25
- Online survey until 7/11/25
- Installation – December 2025
- Party in the park – Spring 2026



# Regional Parks Funding

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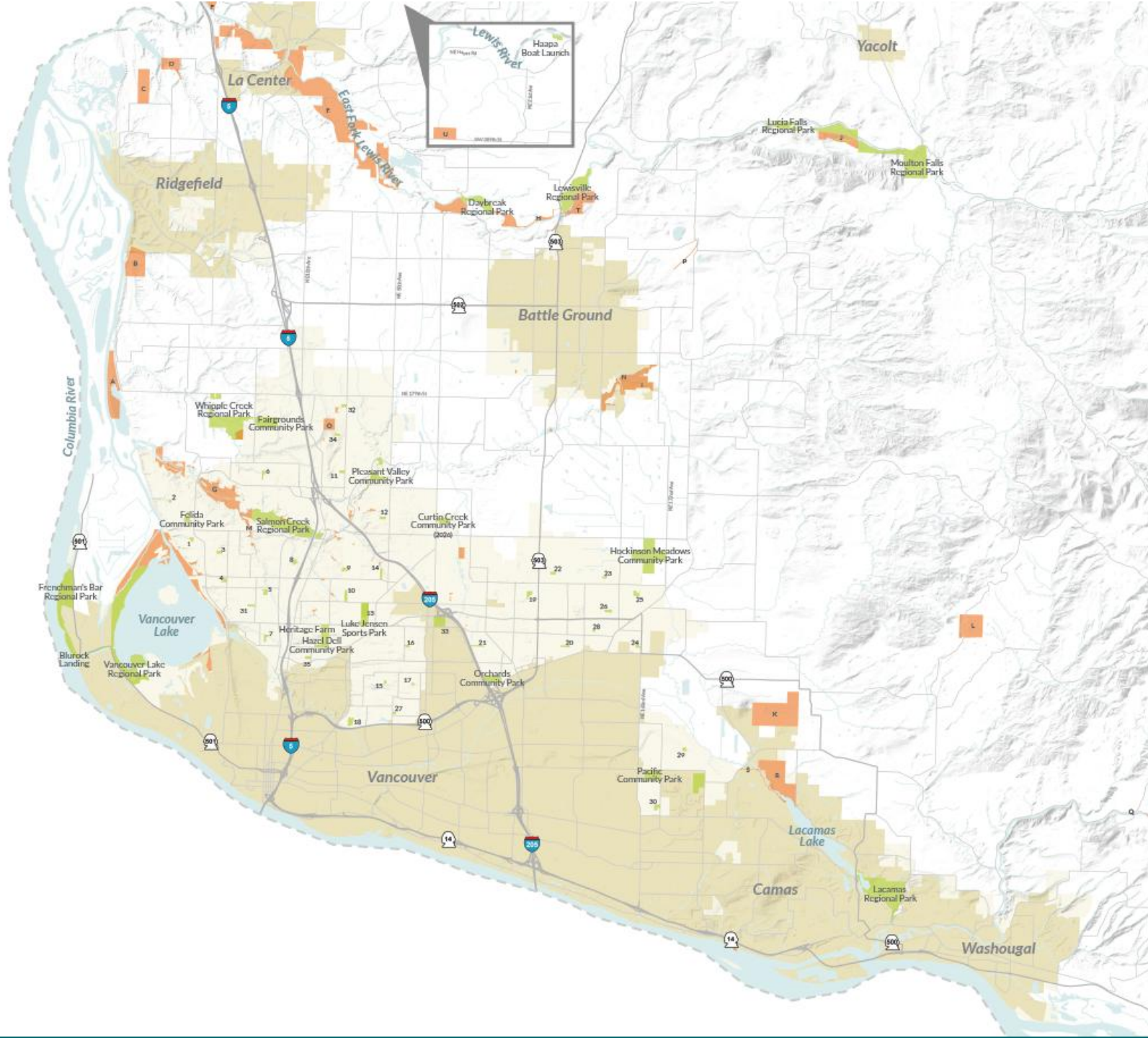
Sustainable Future



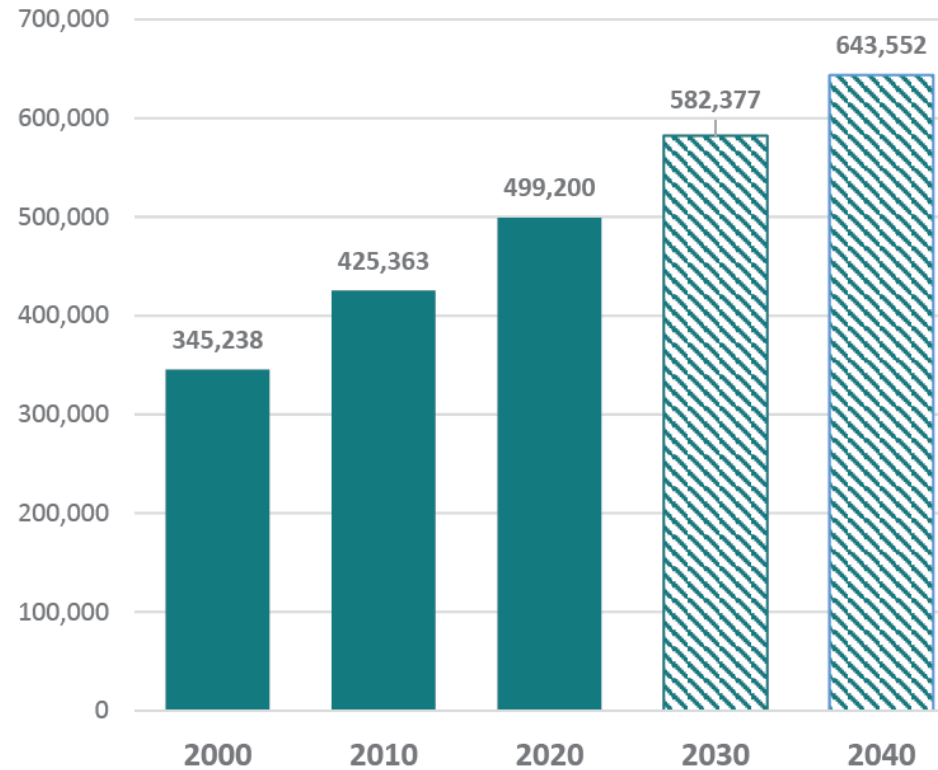
**CLARK COUNTY WASHINGTON**

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**PUBLIC WORKS  
PARKS AND NATURE**



# Rapid Growth



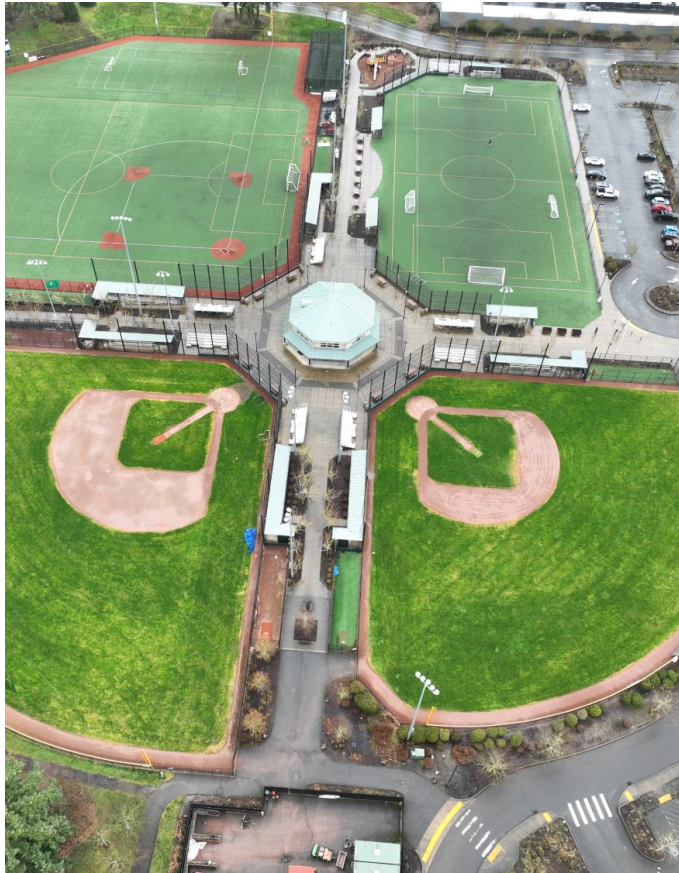
	OFM Adj. Census	Estimate		Projection					
	2020	2021	2022	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050
Clark	503,311	513,100	520,900	543,507	583,307	622,329	660,653	698,416	735,724





# Demand for high quality parks and open spaces

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# Current funding is not adequate

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Operating budgets are stretched thin due to:

- Deferred maintenance
- Rising costs of labor and materials
- Dedicate funding sources have not kept pace with inflation



# Sustainable Future Task Team

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Understand the needs and gaps of each park system



Benchmark systems against national data to see where we stack up



Explore and understand other park system funding models regionally and nationally



Provide and recommend sustainable long-term pathways forward



# **Sustainable Future | Parks and Nature | Task Team Charter**

## **Mission Statement:**

To explore, identify, and recommend sustainable funding strategies for the region to preserve, maintain, and enhance public parks and natural areas, ensuring equitable access, promoting environmental stewardship, committing to health and wellness and enhancing economic vitality for current and future generations.

## **Goals and Objectives:**

1. Assess existing conditions and context: current facilities, services, standards, budgets and priorities to understand shared opportunities and unique positions. Data benchmarking and data contrast and comparison across jurisdictional boundaries.
2. Research Funding Opportunities: Explore diverse funding sources and innovative revenue-generation methods.
3. Engage Key Stakeholders: Involve community members, organizations and policymakers to ensure a collaborative and inclusive approach to funding.
4. Promote Transparency: Develop clear and accessible communication channels to keep the community informed about funding plans and utilization.
5. Understand that city, county and other parks play distinct roles across the region, making it essential to ensure both are adequately funded. By recognizing and respecting local needs, explore shared opportunities and funding sources while also considering options tailored to each organization.
6. Prioritize equity and access by fostering an understanding of underserved areas and populations. This includes examining geographical gaps as well as considering the diverse cultures, ages, lifestyles, and abilities within the community.
7. Establish a Long-Term Sustainability Recommendation: Create a recommended comprehensive funding concept that addresses short-term needs while supporting the long-term health and accessibility of public parks throughout Clark County.

## **Scope of Work:**

The Parks Funding Task Team will focus on the following key areas:

- Reviewing Park infrastructure and program needs throughout the county
- Identifying funding sources that meet regional needs through 2040
- Developing a forum for coordination and partnerships between stakeholders
- Recommending sustainable financial strategies to elected officials

**Membership:**

The team will consist of no more than 12 member representatives from the following groups:

- Local governments
- Other Park providers
- Non-profit organizations
- Youth sports organizations
- Land conservation organizations
- Interest groups
- Community leaders

**Roles and Responsibilities:**

- Staff: Facilitate meeting, set agendas, and oversees the team's progress.
- Secretary: Documents meetings, records decisions, and ensures timely communication with all members.
- Members: Contribute expertise, participate in discussions, and support funding initiatives.

**Meeting Schedule:**

The team will meet bi-weekly for the first two months and then monthly as projects progress.

**Performance Measures:**

Success will be measured by the following outcomes:

- Gaining a shared understanding of the current state and future needs of parks
- Reviewing and evaluating potential funding options and mechanisms
- Increasing community awareness and participation in park funding efforts
- Defining a range of potential economic benefits the result from sustainable parks future.
- Providing a report and recommendation to elected officials on a sustainable future.