



CLARK COUNTY PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE PLAN

2022-2027



Clark County Public Works - Parks & Land Division
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www.clark.wa.gov/public-works/clark-county-parks



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Purpose

The Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan is a six-year plan that anticipates the programming and capital projects necessary to meet the community's needs for parks, recreation, and open space, as well as trails. This plan allows the community to express what recreational opportunities the Clark County should offer in our parks in anticipation of changing needs and growth in park use due to the population increase in the county. This plan identifies local, regional, and national growth trends in recreational activities such as walking, cycling, team sports and picnicking. When new sports or recreational activities such as disc golf or having a space to play with a beloved dog become more popular, the PROS Plan helps the County determine what recreational activities should be developed for the residents of Clark County.

The PROS Plan for Clark County is a functional part of the County's Comprehensive Plan. It provides a six-year strategic plan and policy framework to meet the county's park and recreational needs. The purpose of the plan is twofold – to meet Growth Management Act (GMA) requirements and to set forth a six-year capital facilities program for park development and acquisitions focused on gaps in levels

of service, asset diversity, and diversity, equity and inclusion. This review of our current facilities, facility condition, location and recreation offerings provided in comparison with trends and level service. This comparison assists in the development of goals and objectives that inform a plan of action for the next 6 years for improvement to and development of new facilities. In this way, the PROS Plan helps identify and prioritize needs for capital reinvestment.

The PROS Plan is also required to maintain the county's eligibility for grant funding through the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO). RCO funding can be an important resource for addressing park maintenance and renovation projects such as shelter replacement, ballfield renovation and ADA retrofit of facilities. With a current PROS Plan in place, Clark County can request state/federal funding from RCO to enhance our local resources. The Plan also keeps us competitive for other grant programs from both public and private partners.

Process

Public Engagement

Developing a PROS Plan creates a needed and unique opportunity for the public to provide input on our recreation assets, maintenance practices, desires for future levels of service or specific facility offerings. The public engagement effort for the development of this plan was challenged by social distancing requirements brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff and our consultant support were unable to hold traditional open house or public hearings to engage the public and seek input. Creative technology driven approaches were needed to engage the public in a meaningful conversation about our parks and their vision for the future of the system. In the introduction of the PROS Plan (page 7) you will find an outline and specifics on the community engagement effort that was undertaken for this plan. Additionally, a complete catalogue of the outreach materials and findings can be found in Appendix B, C, D and E of this plan.

System Inventory and Analysis

A critical element of the drafting of this plan was the development of a clear understanding of the demographics of the county and distribution of the population in the various urban and rural areas of the county. An inventory and geographic distribution of the recreation resources Parks and Lands provides, in combination with our various local and state partners is also an important component of the plan as it relates to the demographics and population distribution.

With a clear understanding of the communities we serve and the inventory of the facilities providing that service, the plan analyzes local and national recreation trends, levels of service and local demand for facilities received through community engagement we can identify gaps or deficiencies in service. complete outline of the process is provided in the Plan starting on page 4 with an inventory of facilities starting on page 11.

Goals and Objectives

Goals and Objectives are a foundation for any recreation plan. To ensure success in serving the public, clearing stated goals with corresponding objectives provide clarity and direction for staff. The goals and objectives in the plan are based on the findings of a complete outreach effort when cross referenced with an accurate inventory and analysis.

Plan of Action

A plan of action informed by the findings, analysis, and feedback is a critical component of any meaningful plan. This plan sets the course for Clark County for the next six years and is based on sound evidence. Establishing realistic capital and operations objectives is a key piece of the Action Plan and informs the overall Capital Improvement Plan for the near future. A summary of the Action Plan and the larger Capital Improvement Plan can be found on page 60 of this plan.

Once adopted, the 2022-2027 PROS Plan will be one of the guiding documents for capital reinvestment for Clark County. It will be the baseline for project planning and staffing year over year and will be the basis for an updated plan in 2028.



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INTRODUCTION

Clark County is in Southwest Washington bordered by the Columbia River to the south and west, the Lewis River to the north and the Cascades to the East. The 629 square miles in the county is a diverse patchwork of natural areas, shoreline, forest lands, managed timberlands, wildlands and developed Urban areas. At the time of the development of this report the county was home to nearly 500,000 citizens. The Clark County Public Works Parks & Lands Division is charged with providing recreation access to the citizens of the non-incorporated portions of the county through development and management of county parks, trails, and open spaces.

The Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan (PROS) for Clark County is a functional part of the County's Comprehensive Plan. It provides a six-year strategic plan and policy framework to meet the county's park and recreational needs. The PROS Plan is focused on county managed parks specifically. The county currently provides a regional park system with a significant part of the system within the Vancouver Urban Growth Area (VUGA) that is a portion of the Greater Clark Parks District (GCPD).

The purpose of the plan is twofold – to meet Growth Management Act (GMA) requirements and to set forth a six-year capital facilities program for park development and acquisitions focused on gaps in levels of service, asset diversity, and diversity, equity and inclusion. The plan is not static. It is intended to be a living document with some flexibility to adapt to changing conditions including growing population, emergencies such as COVID-19, availability of resources, etc.

Process Overview

The PROS plan represents the culmination of a robust two-year planning effort to define the community's needs for parks, trails, and conservation lands over the next six years. Dozens of staff, hundreds of stakeholders, and thousands of community members engaged in the planning process and helped shape this plan. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, much of the public involvement occurred online. A record number of people participated in online outreach and public involvement with underrepresented communities included through focus groups and stakeholder discussions.



The Parks Advisory Board served a key role in helping to define the plan's outreach, priorities, and assisting staff on various technical items.

Vision

We envision a Clark County rich in natural resources, parklands, and open spaces, which sustain and support our local community, economy, and quality of life. To achieve this vision, we strive to:

- Provide quality parks, lands, and recreational experiences to all of Clark County.
- Facilitate and engage in environmental programs to maximize ecosystem services.
- Empower our employees to be innovative collaborators and problem-solvers.
- Utilize an open and honest communication style both internally and externally focused on sustainability, inclusion, and equity.

Mission

Clark County Parks & Lands Division strives to strategically preserve, care for, and protect our community lands for the use, enjoyment, inspiration, and benefit by present and future generations.

Current Opportunities

Growth & Development

The county's population grew by over 17% between 2010 and 2020 impacting both the need to develop parks in the county and the operation and maintenance of existing facilities. Earlier versions of the PROS plans were largely based on an obsolete model of park standards and the County struggled to meet both growth and development goals as previously outlined in the 2015 PROS Plan. To develop a parks system plan that responsive, reasonable and achievable within growth, development, and available resources, the 2021 PROS plan is based on a system of nationally recognized parks metrics. These metrics were selected by the Parks Advisory Board to help guide the parks system into a more innovative and modern future.

Fiscal Challenges

For the past several years, strains on operating and capital budgets have led to the re-evaluation of current and future projects. Previous iterations of the PROS Plan featured potential projects with no specified funding packages. The prior plan included both a six year and a 20-year vision for parks. The 2022 PROS Plan is structured with the County Council's objective of fiscal prudence and includes a conservative list of projects that could be funded within the budget forecasted over the next six years. A project's ability to leverage other funding sources, development costs, and the future operation and maintenance are considered. The County is focused on ensuring a financially sustainable direction – helping secure long-term viability of its parks system.

Equity & Diversity

According to National Recreation and Parks Association's (NRPA) 2021 Story Map report, historically local, state, and federal governments in the United State's regulated land-use and environmental policies that increased local park access for some, while significantly limiting it for others. Those groups most impacted were, low-income, limited education, illiteracy, race, and ethnicity. In addition to intentional policy decisions and exclusionary practices, violence and discrimination throughout history have discouraged and made it difficult for some to visit parks and engage in recreational activities. Clark County is committed to equity, inclusion and diversity and strives to include social equity in parks planning and investment priorities.

Collectively, county council, staff and the parks board strive to understand, recognize, celebrate, and connect equity, diversity, inclusion, and the sense of belonging to the parks plan and the management of the park system day to day. To that end, an equity and diversity criterion has been added to the six-year capital facilities plan.

Active, Aging Population

The county is committed to an aging in place concept, which shifts planning efforts, including parks, to an

accessible infrastructure. Aging in place is defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as “the ability to live in one’s home and community safely, independently, and comfortably regardless of age, income, or ability level.” Parks and recreation facilities are a vital part of creating an age friendly community. As such, the county is taking a comprehensive approach to their aging populations’ recreational needs. The county plans to develop an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition plan for parks to help identify challenges and incorporate those findings into the capital planning process. ADA is a criterion in the six-year capital facilities plan.

Park Facilities & Condition

Since the county and the City of Vancouver dissolved the unified parks department in 2014, the county has worked diligently to create a parks program which meets the needs of the community it serves. Council has supported growth and expansion of parks, while concurrently looking for innovation, public and private partnerships, and cost recovery options. As a result, the current system of parks facilities is robust and largely new. The county will be looking at a business plan for the parks system, updating its levels of services, developing foundational programs for short- and long-term management success, and regularly evaluating its capital facilities plan and this PROS framework.

Guiding Documents

The following plans were reviewed and selected summaries appear in Appendix F.

- 2022 Clark County Conservation Futures Acquisition Plan
- 2020 Lewis & Clark Regional Trail Concept Plan
- 2015 Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan
- 2015 Clark County Comprehensive Plan
- 2014 Conservation Futures Acquisition Plan
- 2010 Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan
- 2007 Vancouver-Clark Comprehensive Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan
- 2006 Regional Trails and Bikeways System Plan

Several jurisdictions within Clark County have developed and implemented their own park plans that include strategies for identified park locations. Once adopted, these community plans are a part of the Clark County Comprehensive Plan.

Report Organization

The remainder of the PROS Plan is organized as follows:

- **Chapter 1: Introduction** - Identifies purpose, community context, community outreach, and key findings
- **Chapter 2: Inventory-** Defines parks and recreation categories and provides inventory with classification specific needs and recommendations
- **Chapter 3: Goals & Objectives** – Defines goals, objectives, and recommendations derived from analysis and community feedback.
- **Chapters 4: Needs Analysis** – Defines level of service standard and analyzes parks and recreation facility needs.
- **Chapter 5: Action Plan** – Prioritizes park facility upgrades and identifies various methods for funding.
- **Chapter 6: Appendices** – Supplemental Information

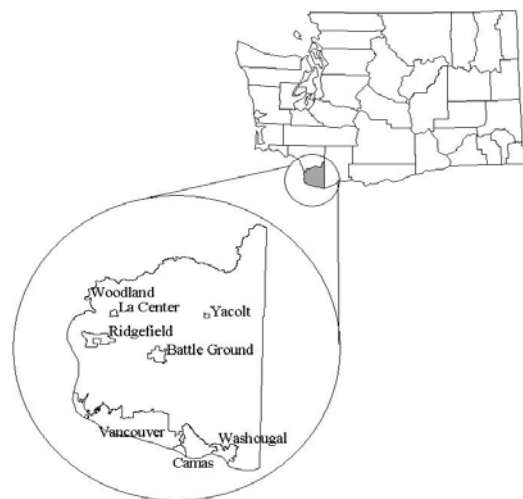


Figure 1. Location of Clark County within Washington State



Community Profile

Clark County lies in a geographic basin known as the Willamette-Puget Trough, which is formed by the Cascade Mountains and Coast Range. The county includes over 41 miles of shoreline on the Columbia River, and the land area covers 629 square miles, which is characterized by four topographic zones. Low-lying bottomlands extend along the Columbia River. A series of alluvial plains and terraces extend north and northeast from the Columbia River bottomlands. These plains and terraces transition into uplands which range in width from two to seven miles and in many places are separated from the plains and terraces by an escarpment of 100 to 200 feet.

The east and northeast portions of the county consist of the foothills of the Cascade Mountain Range. The major peaks of Mount St. Helens, Mount Adams, and Mount Hood can be seen from many areas of the county. The county encompasses a variety of local, state, and federal wildlife refuges and conservation and greenway systems, including the Ridgefield and Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuges on the Columbia River.

Urban development is most extensive in the plains and terraces that extend along the Columbia River in the southern section of the county and along the Interstate 5 corridor. Cities in this area include Vancouver (the county's largest city), Camas, Washougal, La Center, Ridgefield, Woodland (a portion of which is also in Cowlitz County), and Battle Ground. Rural residential and agricultural lands extend north and east from the Vancouver urban growth area to the slopes of the Cascade Mountain range.

Most new development in Clark County is expected to occur inside the city of Vancouver's Urban Growth Area (VUGA) and the other cities' urban growth areas.

Demographics	Clark County	Washington
Population Characteristics		
Population (2020)	499,200	7,656,200
Population (2010)	425,363	7,183,700
Population (2000)	345,238	5,894,121
Percent Change (2000-20)	44.6%	29.9%
Persons with Disabilities	12.1%	12.7%
Household Characteristics (2019 ACS)		
Households	171,522	2,932,477
Percent with Children	66.0%	27.0%
Median Household Income	\$71,636	\$78,687
Average Household Size	2.69	2.55
Owner Occupancy Rate	66.5%	62.7%
Age Groups (2019 ACS)		
Median Age	38.2	37.9
Population < 5 years of age	6.3%	6.0%
Population < 18 years of age	24.6%	21.8%
Population 18 - 64 years of age	60.8%	62.3%
Population > 65 years of age	14.6%	15.9%

Sources: Washington Office of Financial Management Population Estimates, 2020
U.S. Census, 2000 Census, 2010 Census, 2019 American Community Survey

Figure 2. Population Characteristics: Clark County and Washington

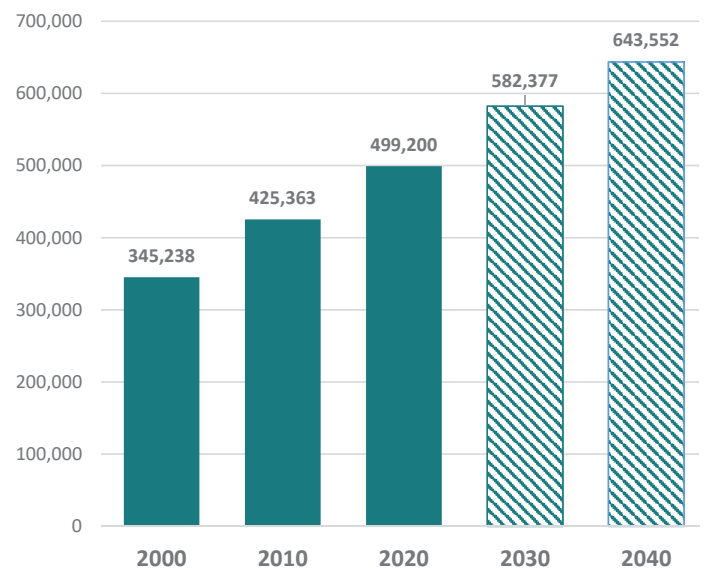


Figure 3. Population - Actual and Projected: 2000-2030 Population

Demographics

Population

Clark County is the fourth fastest growing county and the fifth most populated county in Washington State. Clark County's current (April 1, 2020) population is 499,200 people, making up 6.5% of the state's population. Between 2010 and 2020, the county's population grew by over 17%. The county also continues to grow as a share of the total state population, increasing from 4.6% of the state in 1980 to 6.5% in 2020 (Figure 2).

There are eight incorporated cities and towns within the county. The largest is Vancouver, which is in the southwest portion of the county. Vancouver has an estimated in-city population in 2020 of 185,300. The 2020 total population of the remaining cities previously mentioned was 79,400 people.

Population projections for Clark County indicate continued steady growth over the next 20 years. The Washington State Office of Financial Management and Clark County estimate that the county's population in 2040 will be 643,552, based on their medium growth forecast, a 29% increase from today (Figure 3). This growth would result in a population density of about 981 people per square mile.

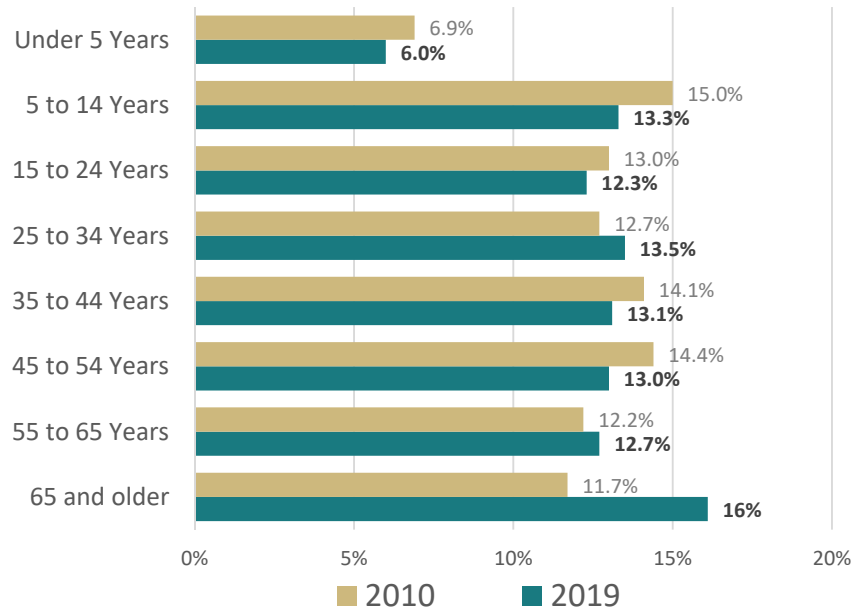


Figure 4. Age Group Distributions: 2000-2019

Age of Residents

Since 2010, the county's population has aged. The number of residents between 60 and 74 years of age increased by 66% from 2010 to 2019. Conversely, the percentage of the population in the county of children under 9 years old during this same period stagnated. The Orchards, Camas, and Battle Ground areas of the county have the largest youth population (Figure 4). The County did see a modest growth in the number of residents between 25 and 34 years of age from 2010 to 2019.

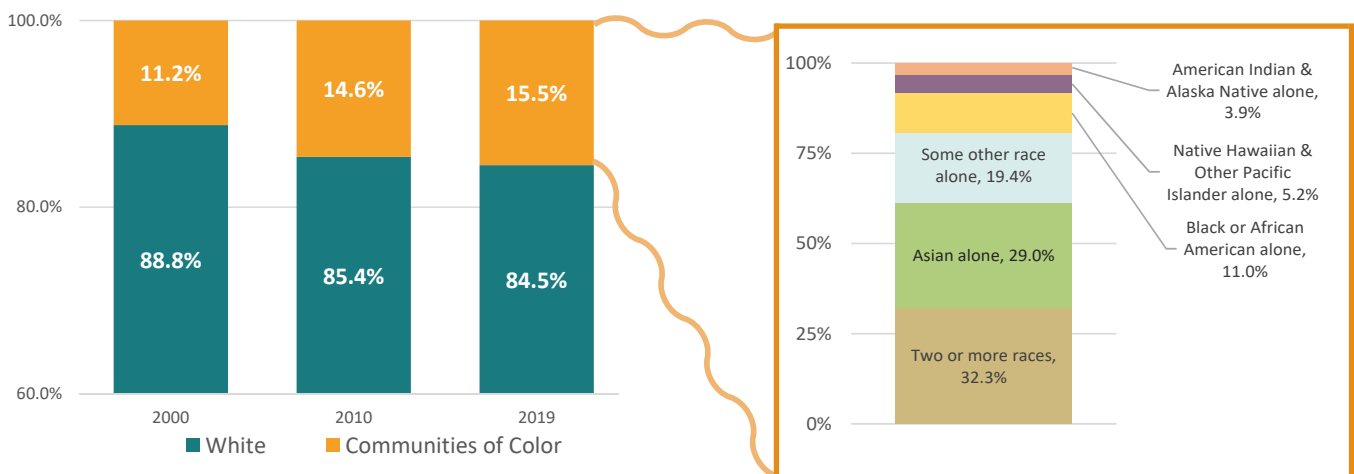


Figure 5. Changes in Racial Composition - 2000-2019



Diversity

According to the Racial-generation gap report from The University of Southern California (USC), 78 percent of America's seniors were white, while 49 percent of the nation's youth were people of color — a phenomenon that they called the racial generation gap. While Clark County's trends are below those nationwide, the county's diversity continued to expand in the past decade (Figure 5). The largest growth in diversity appears to be in Minnehaha, Orchards, Five Corners, and Hazel Dell areas. Census data shows that the increase in Hispanic and mixed-race residents is on the rise.

The 2019 American Community Survey shows that 4.5% of the county's population identified as Asian, 1.7% as Black or African American, 0.8% as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, and 0.6% as American Indian or Alaskan Native. The survey also identified that approximately 5% of residents identified as two or more races, 3% identified as a race not listed, and 9.3% identified as Hispanic or Latino. 84.5% of the population of Clark County identified as White.

People who identify as Black or African American, Native American or Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander, Asian, or two or more races represent 16-20% of residents in these communities. Additionally, these areas tend to have a higher percentages of people who identify as Hispanic or Latino (10-13%). According to the 2018 American Community Survey, over ten percent of residents were born outside the United States and approximately 15% of residents

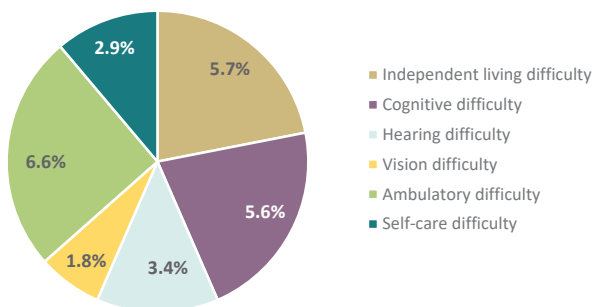


Figure 6. Percentage of Population with Disabilities that Interfere with Life Activities (section of multiple disabilities accommodated)

speak a language other than English at home and 6% reported to speak English less than very well. Communities with the highest number of residents who speak English less than very well include Battle Ground, Five Corners, Hazel Dell, and Orchards. The changing demographics are creating an opportunity to provide for a more robust parks system, with equitable, inclusive, and responsive programs and in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

People living with Disabilities

The 2018 American Community Survey reported 8.5% of Clark County's population between 5 years and 64 years as having a disability that interferes with life activities, including ambulatory and cognitive difficulties (Figure 6). This is consistent with national averages. The communities with the largest numbers of people between the ages of 5 and 64 who are living with disabilities include Hazel Dell, Orchards, Battle Ground, Salmon Creek, and Camas, each with between 1,400 and 1,700 affected residents. This signals a potential need to design inclusive parks, recreational facilities, and programs.

Economic Character

Historically, Clark County depended heavily on resource-based industries such as agriculture, timber, and mining. After 1950, heavy manufacturing and then high-tech industries became important components of the county's economy. The County's economy grew steadily between 2000 and 2019, as the county's population grew and the local economy diversified. In 2018, there were approximately 10,600 businesses registered in Clark County with nearly \$6.4 billion in total annual payroll. However, the COVID-19 pandemic related business closures have caused a recession with deep impacts to business earnings, viability, consumer confidence, and unemployment rates. The near and long-term economic impacts of this crisis have yet to be fully determined.

Factors that contributed to Clark County's economic growth over the past two decades include high-quality transportation services and facilities. Clark County and the Vancouver-Portland metropolitan

area provide several transportation facilities that help make Clark County a regional hub for commerce. Commercial river traffic utilizes the Columbia River, and the Port of Vancouver provides facilities for deep-draft ocean-going vessels. North-south and east-west transcontinental railroad lines serve Clark County. Interstate 5, Interstate 205, and State Highway 14 provide major freeway access. The Portland International Airport is located immediately south of the Columbia River and provides national and international airline service for both passengers and freight.

Income & Poverty

In Clark County, 11.5% of households earn less than \$25,000 annually, and 6.4% of local families live below the poverty level (\$24,600 for a family of four). Poverty affects 13% of youth under 18 and 7% of those 65

and older. Poverty rates are highest in the Hazel Dell, Five Corners, Fern Prairie, Meadow Glade, Orchards, and Salmon Creek areas, where about 10% live below the poverty line. Serving the low-income community is a priority for the county and the Parks Advisory Board. As such, income and poverty are considered as a criterion in the six-year capital facilities plan.

A community's level of household income can impact the types of recreational services prioritized by community members and their willingness and ability to pay for recreational services. Lower-income residents can face several barriers to physical activity, including poor access to parks and recreational facilities, a lack of transportation options, a lack of time, and poor health. Lower-income residents may also be less financially able to afford recreational service fees or to pay for services, such as childcare, that can help make physical activity possible.

Land Use & Density

Clark County is the second most densely populated county in Washington, with 676 people per square mile. The cities of Vancouver, Washougal, and Battle Ground have the highest population densities with 2,500 to 3,500 people per square mile. Population density and growth are rapidly changing the character

and land use patterns of several areas within the county. Some areas that were once characterized by small communities, productive farmland, and harvestable and protected forests are now facing rapid development. As more people move into unincorporated urban and rural areas, the need for recreation facilities and services will increase. Increasing density, smaller lot sizes, and disappearing open space have increased pressure to find close-to-home places to play. Open space developed parks and recreation facilities will be critical as these areas continue to develop.

Community Engagement

Community engagement and input played an important role in identifying current community priorities. The county received a significant amount of community feedback throughout this planning process, even though the project was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Public outreach methods were varied and adjusted to be sensitive to the realities of the pandemic. Public engagement was redirected toward virtual meetings and included the following elements:

- Community-wide, online survey on recreation (in English, Spanish and Russian)
- Second online community survey on priorities
- Focus group sessions with various groups
- Outreach to underrepresented communities
- Targeted communications with service providers serving low income communities
- Individual stakeholder interviews
- Meetings with Parks Advisory Board, Planning Commission, and County Council
- County website and social media postings

Community Survey

A community-wide, online survey was conducted to assess the recreational needs and priorities of Clark County residents in the summer of 2020. In all, 2,709 survey responses were received. The 20-question online survey was posted to the County's website on June 12, 2020. The survey was available in English, Russian and



Spanish. Information about the survey was provided on the County's website home page and on the PROS Plan project page. It was promoted via multiple County Facebook posts, Facebook ads and with flyers at regional parks and trails. The survey was closed on August 31st, and preliminary data was compiled and reviewed.

Survey respondents were asked about:

- Quality of parks and open spaces
- Usage of County parks and outdoor recreation facilities
- Overall satisfaction with the value of services being delivered by the County
- Input about the need for various park, recreation, and trail improvements
- Priorities for future park and recreation amenities and facilities

Major survey findings are noted below, and a more detailed discussion of results can be found in the needs assessment chapters (Chapters 6-8).

A complete summary of survey findings can be found in Appendix C.

Major Findings from Survey

- Clark County residents strongly value their parks and recreation facilities:
 - 98% think parks and recreation are important to quality of life in Clark County.
- Residents visit parks frequently:
 - Nearly 91% of respondents visit public parks at least once a month. Fewer than 3% of respondents either did not visit a park in the past year or don't know.
 - 80.4% respondents utilize walking and biking trails at least once a month.
 - 84% participate in walking and hiking activities. This is consistent with statewide and national recreation data. Three of the top five activities (walking/hiking, bicycling, and jogging/running) are trail related.

- Residents are generally satisfied with existing parks and recreation facilities:
 - 89% rate park maintenance and upkeep as either excellent or good. 1.5% rated maintenance and upkeep of parks as poor.
- Residents would like to see improvements made to the parks & recreation system.
 - 97% for trails and 98% for natural areas are important to improve or expand
 - 88% of respondents rated water views, 79% picnic facilities and 74% playgrounds as important
 - 82% rated nature-base and natural play spaces as either very important or important.
 - Regarding trail-based improvements, respondents indicated the following as either very important or important: trailhead parking (96%), unpaved trails (94%), restrooms at trailheads (90%), and paved, shared-use trails (87%).

Priorities Survey

A second survey was circulated to seek feedback on project priorities and explore the responses from the first survey conducted in the summer of 2020. An 11-question survey was posted to the County's website on November 4, 2020. Information about the survey was provided on the County's website home page and on the PROS Plan project page. It was promoted via multiple County Facebook posts, along with direct email outreach to respondents to the first community survey from emails provided. The survey was closed on November 15th, and preliminary data were compiled and reviewed. In all, 982 responses were received of which 246 respondents (26%) had participated in the first survey as well.

Major Findings from Survey

- Providing recreational trails was noted as the highest priority, with 42% saying it should be the highest priority and 90% saying it is one of the top three priorities.

- Nature-based play space, unpaved trails in natural areas, paved shared-use trails, and trail amenities such as restrooms and parking ranking highly as priorities.
- Respondents were offered a list of five items and asked to allocate a hypothetical \$100 across the projects. One-quarter of the amount (\$25.58) was allocated toward improvements and maintenance of existing facilities. Slightly more than 40% were allocated toward acquisitions, with \$23 going to the acquisition and development of trails and \$19 going to acquiring new parkland in gap areas.

A complete summary of survey findings can be found in Appendix D.

Stakeholder Sessions

Focus group discussions and one-to-one interviews with internal and external stakeholder were conducted to assess the opportunities more broadly for partnership and coordination.

Stakeholders were identified by county staff based on their past coordination with the County and their involvement or interest in the future of park, recreation, or trail facilities. The group-based discussion sessions were conducted via Zoom and occurred between early May and September 2020. Representatives from the following organizations participated:

Sport User Groups

- BMX group
- Pacific Soccer Club
- Salmon Creek Soccer Club
- Vancouver Girls Softball Association
- Hazel Dell Little League
- Harmony Sports / Cascade Little League
- Kings Way Christian
- Rugby

Trail User Groups

- Clark County Executive Horse Council
- Whipple Creek Restoration Committee
- Lacamas Trails Advocacy Group - NWTA
- Bike Clark County
- Washington Trail Association
- Clark County Bike & Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Other Stakeholder Groups

- Friends of the Columbia Gorge
- National Federation of the Blind
- Friends of Vancouver Lake
- Clark County Public Health
- Clark County Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board
- Visit Vancouver USA



Diversity & Inclusion

Additionally, individual interviews were conducted with representatives from the local development community (Lennar Corp., Wollam & Associates, and the Clark County Development and Engineering Advisory Board), and with other organizations related to equity and diversity (Hands of Favor, Educational Services District (ESD) 112, and Vancouver School District).

Specific recommendations are reflected in the need's assessment chapters and stakeholder discussion summaries are provided in Appendix E.

Parks Advisory Board Meetings

The Clark County Parks Advisory Board (PAB) was actively engaged in soliciting community feedback and providing guidance in the preparation of this PROS Plan update. The PAB discussed the PROS Plan at eight sessions during 2020 and shared their thoughts on the current state of parks and recreation in Clark County and ideas for key projects and policy considerations.

Key Project Ideas from the Parks Advisory Board:

- Creating a metric for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion to be a key criterion in evaluating potential parks projects.
- Focus diversity and equity efforts on serving communities of color and low-income neighborhoods.
- Implement the remaining district parks commitments.
- Balance needs for development with land acquisition opportunities and be prepared for action of strategic purchases.
- Expand options for inclusive play with a focus on aging in place priorities.

Other Outreach

In addition to the direct outreach opportunities described above, the Clark County community was informed about the planning process through a variety of media platforms. The following methods were used to share information about the project and provide opportunities to participate and offer their comments:

- Project website – Clark County maintained a website for the PROS Plan update, which provided information about the plan's work scope and contained a link to the existing 2015 parks plan.
- Email blasts – A variety of user and stakeholder databases were utilized to share news and updates about the planning process and opportunities for participation.
- Social media: Facebook – numerous postings and paid ads were used to promote the plan and solicit community feedback through the two community surveys.



2

INVENTORY

The County is responsible for operating and maintaining 7,166 acres of dedicated park land (Figure 7). Ninety five developed parks have been developed across the county. The system is bifurcated into a regional park system and a urban park system. This dual role was created when the GCPD wsa established.

The regional parks are defined as destination parks showcasing the natural beaurty of the county. The urban parks create close to home recreational assets to meet the recreational needs of the unicorporated urban areas north of the City of Vancouver and City of Camas.

	Number of Sites	Developed Acres	Total Acres
Parks			
Regional Parks	13	347.8	2,603.5
Community Parks (VUGA)	14	245.4	478.5
Neighborhood Parks (VUGA)	47	156.3	243.0
Total Developed County Parks	74	749.5	3,325.0
Natural Areas			
Regional Natural Areas	14	53.8	3,028.5
Special Use Areas & Facilities	14	174.3	692.7
Urban Natural Areas (VUGA)	8	0.0	120.1
Total County Parklands	95	977.6	7,166.3

Figure 7. Summary of Clark County Parklands



PARK SYSTEM CLASSIFICATIONS

The county park system is composed of a hierarchy of park classifications to help manage the public land inventory; guide operations and maintenance; and direct acquisitions, design and development of additional facilities. Classifying public parkland by function allows the county to evaluate its needs and to plan for an efficient, cost effective and usable park system that minimizes conflicts between park users and adjacent uses. The classification characteristics are meant as general guidelines addressing the intended size and use of each type of public-access park. The following seven outdoor recreation classifications are utilized in Clark County and are defined below:

- **Regional Parks**
- **Community Parks**
- **Neighborhood Parks**
- **Natural Areas**
- **Trails**

Regional Parks

Regional parks are recreational areas that serve residents throughout Clark County and beyond. Regional parks are usually larger than 50 acres in size and provide opportunities for diverse recreational activities. Facilities may include sports fields, extensive trail systems, or large picnic areas. In addition, regional parks often include passive recreation space and unique features, such as significant natural areas or access to lakes or rivers. Because of their large size and broad service area, regional parks typically require more support facilities, such as parking and restrooms. These parks are usually designed to accommodate large numbers of people.

Clark County has 13 regional parks that provide 2603 acres of parkland, with approximately 13% of that acreage developed for a variety of day uses (Figure 8 & Map 1). Regional parks also include sub-classification of parks including special use facilities and Boat Ramps (Figure 9 & 10).

Park Name	Developed Acres	Total Acres
Bratton Canyon	18.0	80.0
Brush Prairie	7.5	84.0
Daybreak Park	6.0	189.6
Frenchman's Bar	37.0	162.5
Green Mountain	0.0	360.0
Lacamas Lake	7.4	297.4
Lewisville Park	90.0	158.5
Lucia Falls	28.4	48.4
Moulton Falls	27.0	440.9
Salmon Creek	35.0	174.0
Vancouver Lake	52.0	234.0
Whipple Creek	4.0	299.4
Capt. William Clark Park	35.5	74.7
Total Regional Park Acres		2,603.5
Total Developed Regional Park Acres		347.8

Figure 8. Regional Parks of Clark County

Special Use Facilities

Special use areas are stand-alone facilities, such as sport complexes, boat launches, rifle ranges, campgrounds or golf courses that provide space for a specialized activity. Since special use areas vary widely in function, there is no minimum size, but special use areas must be large enough to accommodate the intended use. Support facilities, such as parking and restrooms, are often included. Many of these facilities may be operated by franchised entities, separate from any park operations. Overall, these special facilities add to the breadth of outdoor recreational opportunities in the county.

County-owned Special Use Facilities

Bratton Canyon Campground
Camp Currie
Camp Lewisville
Clark County Fairgrounds
English Pit Shooting Range
Tri-Mountain Golf Course

Figure 9. Special Use Facilities



Map I: Existing Regional Parks



Site	Ownership	Improved ramp	Shore launch
Battle Ground Lake State Park	WA SP	X	
Columbia River Renaissance Trail	NPS		X
Daybreak Park	County	X	
Francis Moorage	Camas	X	
Lacamas Park	County		X
Landerholm Boat Launch	WDFW	X	
Lewisville Park	County		X
Marine Park	Vancouver	X	
Paradise Point State Park	WA SP		X
Parker's Landing	Washougal	X	
Ridgefield Marina	Port of Ridgefield	X	
Sandy Swimming Hole	Washougal	X	
South Vancouver Lake	WDFW	X	
Steamboat Landing Park	Washougal	X	
Washougal River Greenway	Washougal	X	

Figure 10. Public Water Access & Boat Launches

Boat Ramp & Shore Launch Facilities

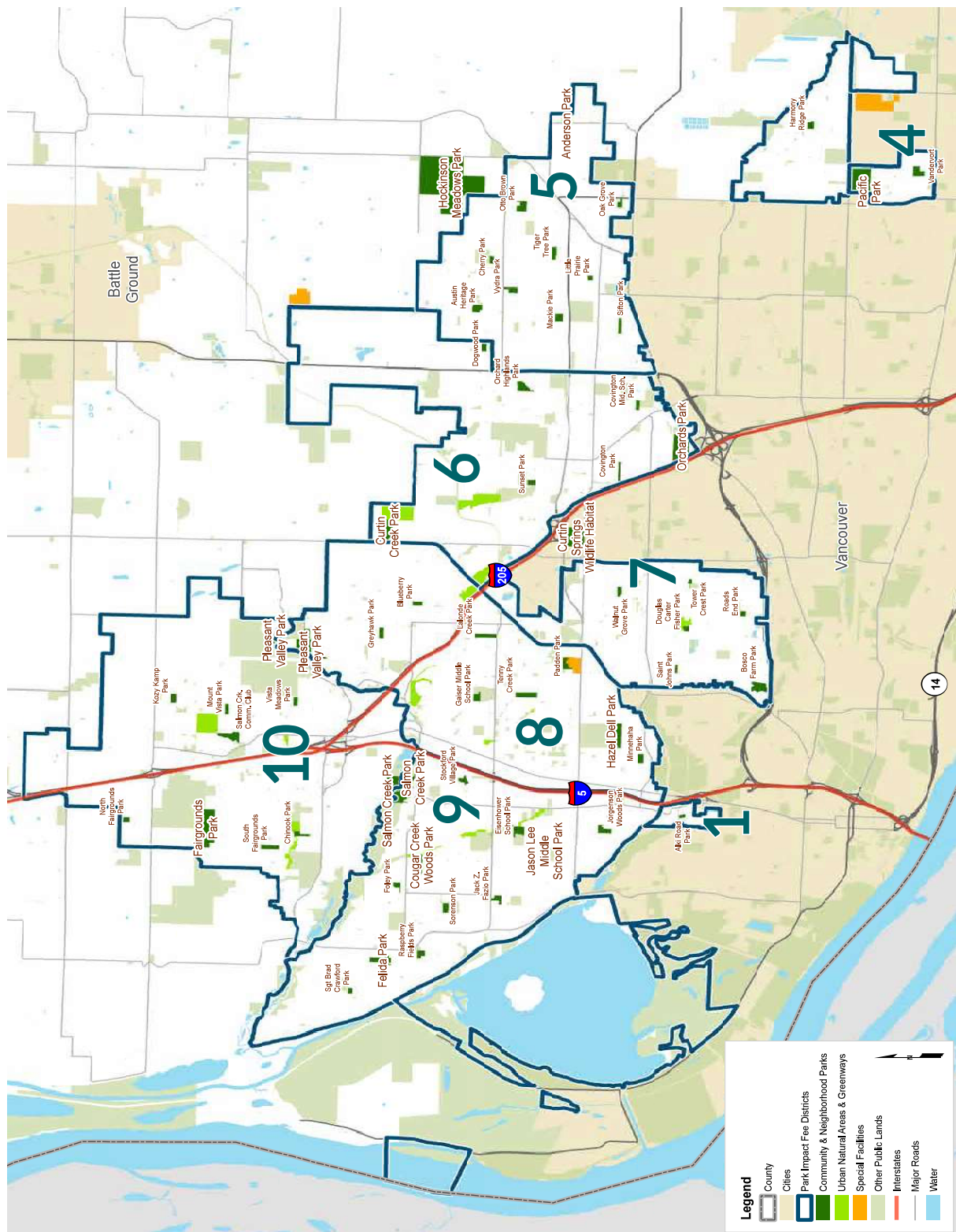
Clark County is bordered on three sides by rivers and contains Vancouver Lake, Lacamas Lake and Battle Ground Lake (at the state park); all are accessible for various forms of boating and fishing. The Columbia River has major fishing resources and its tributaries offer more waterways for exploration and recreation.

Improved boat ramps and less formalized shore launches are located along most of these waterways. In addition to the public waterfront access sites, several private marinas along the rivers bordering Clark County offer riverside ramps and support amenities (usually for members or a daily use fee).

	Community Parks		Neighborhood Parks		Urban Natural Areas
	Developed Acres	Total Acres	Developed Acres	Total Acres	Total Acres
Park Impact Fee District #1*	13.0	13.0	0.0	1.8	-
Park Impact Fee District #4*	13.0	13.0	5.0	8.0	-
Park Impact Fee District #5*	53.0	68.7	37.3	53.8	-
Park Impact Fee District #6	70.0	115.6	12.8	25.2	-
Park Impact Fee District #7*	0.0	33.6	16.6	24.7	6.2
Park Impact Fee District #8	20.0	60.3	26.7	40.4	25.3
Park Impact Fee District #9	46.3	98.1	37.1	41.5	22.2
Park Impact Fee District #10	30.2	76.2	20.9	47.6	66.4
District Totals	245.4	478.5	156.3	243.0	120.1
Total Urban Park Acres					841.6
Total Developed Urban Park Acres					401.7

* County portion only

Figure 11. Summary of Urban Parklands



Map 2: Existing Urban Parks & Urban Natural Areas



Community Parks

(Urban Park System only)

Community parks provide a focal point and gathering place for broad groups of users. Usually 20 to 100 acres in size, community parks are used by all segments of the population and generally serve residents with a 3-mile service area. Community parks often include recreation facilities for organized activities, such as sports fields, skate parks, and play courts. Community parks may also incorporate passive recreation space. Because of their large service area, community parks require more support facilities, such as parking and restrooms. Some middle and high school sites are included in the community parkland inventory, since these facilities can serve some of the community park needs.

There are currently 245 acres of developed Community

Parks spread out between 14 sites (Figure 11 & Map 2).

Sports Fields & Courts

Sports fields and sports courts are high priorities in the park system, particularly for accommodating youth sports programming. The county owns and/or maintains parklands and special facilities that contain 61 sports fields, plus an additional 14 fields provided through partnerships with other landowners or leagues (Figure 12).

Luke Jensen Sports Complex is owned and operated by Clark County and offers premier all-weather sport fields for year-round play. The county rents these facilities for seasonal practices, games, and tournaments primarily for baseball and soccer with occasional softball and football use.

Other county-provided sport fields are managed by different sport organizations and leagues who maintain the facilities and program the seasonal schedules. In instances where sport fields are integral to community or regional parks, the county may provide the bulk of

		Field Type										
Field Location	Turf Type	Baseball		Softball		Soccer		Rugby		Football		Multi-use
		Youth	Adult	Youth	Adult	Youth	Adult	Youth	Adult	Youth	Adult	All
Felida Community Park	Grass					3						
Harmony Sports Complex	Artificial					3						
Harmony Sports Complex	Grass	5	1		3	6						
Hockinson Community Park	Grass	3	1		2	4						
Lewisville Park	Grass		1									
Luke Jensen Sports Park	Artificial											3
Luke Jensen Sports Park	Grass	2										
Pacific Community Park	Grass				1							1
Prairie Fields	Grass				6							
Salmon Creek Park	Grass			6								
Total County Fields		10	3	6	12	16	0	0	0	0	0	4
Partner / Other Provider Fields												
Alki School Park	Grass											1
Amboy	Grass	1										
All Saints EC Fields	Grass					1						
HB Fuller Park	Grass	2	1	2	1	4						1
Total Partner Fields		3	1	2	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	2
TOTAL PROGRAMMABLE FIELDS	65	13	4	8	13	21	0	0	0	0	0	6
ARTIFICIAL	6											
GRASS	59											

Figure 12. Sport Field Locations by Managing Organization

Fields on County Parkland	
Location	League or Operator
Felida	Salmon Creek Soccer Club
Frenchman's	County
Harmony	WA Timbers FC; Cascade LL
Hockinson	Evergreen LL, Pacific FC
Lewisville	County
Luke Jensen Sports Park	County
Pacific	Vancouver Metro Sr. Softball Assn. (VMSSA)
Prairie Fields	Prairie Fields Association
Salmon Creek	Vancouver Girls Softball Assn. (VGSA)
Vancouver Lake	County
Fields developed with County Parks Support	
Location	League or Operator
Alki	Vancouver SD
Amboy	Amboy Baptist Church
All Saints EC	All Saints EC, Salmon Creek Soccer, Clark County
HB Fuller	Hazel Dell LL

Figure 13. Sport Field Locations by Managing Organization

field maintenance, leaving the specialized lining and infield raking to the sports leagues. Some sports fields were developed as part of the GCPD capital program and are located on private or school property through development and use agreements between the county and the owner.

The county also provides sand volleyball courts at Frenchman's Bar and Vancouver Lake Parks and a tennis court at Lewisville Park. Basketball courts are incorporated into the Lewisville Park tennis court. Numerous half courts for basketball are incorporated into urban neighborhood and community parks. Additional sport fields and sports courts are available at schools and city parks across the county.

All-Inclusive & Nature Playgrounds

Traditional playgrounds are provided in the county's urban parks as a core play element, and these playgrounds typically consist of post and platform structures or kinesthetic play elements for climbing or swinging. To expand opportunity for users of different abilities, the county should continue to consider the installation of all-inclusive playgrounds to enhance options for local children with special needs and to

accommodate access for caregivers.

At present, an all-inclusive playground is planned for Felida Park and additional playgrounds should be added to the urban park system as funding allows. All Inclusive playgrounds are designed to provide a safe place where children of all abilities can play together and are developmentally appropriate for children with and without disabilities.

Nature play and natural play areas have been growing in demand and are regularly being incorporated into park designs. The recently completed Waterfront at Parks Landing nature play area built by the Port of Camas-Washougal attracts families with children to engage in climbing and exploring natural materials for play experiences along the waterfront trail. Public park providers are expanding their range of nature play design and integration into their park systems. Nature play is an approach considered in the development of new park play areas.

Disc Golf Courses

Two disc golf courses are currently available in Clark County; one is at Leverich Park in Vancouver and the other is at Paradise Point State Park in Woodland. The



Picnic Shelter Locations	Quantity
Captain William Clark Park	2
Fairgrounds Park	2
Felida Park	1
Frenchman's Bar Park	2
Hazel Dell Park	2
Hockinson Meadows	1
Lewisville Park	13
Orchards Park	1
Pacific Park	1
Salmon Creek Park/Klineline Pond	2
Vancouver Lake Park	2
Reservable Shelters Total	29

Figure 14. Existing Reservable Picnic Shelters

county has plans for additional disc golf courses at Hockinson Meadows Community Park (currently in design and permitting stages), Frenchman's Bar Park and Daybreak Park based on approved master plans.

Skate Parks

Skate features are provided within the urban park system, which includes a skate park at Pacific Park and several smaller skate "spots" that feature one or two skateboarding skill challenges at four neighborhood parks. The existing inventory includes the following:

- Pacific Park
- Harmony Ridge Park
- Little Prairie Park
- Oak Grove Park
- Tenny Creek Park

County, and they range from very new in the urban area to the older, log-structures in Lewisville Park (Figure 14). All picnic shelters contain picnic tables. Some shelters have electricity, adjacent BBQ grills and potable water.

Picnic Shelters

In county parks, picnic shelters provide covered eating and gathering areas for small and large groups. Most of the existing GCPD picnic shelters are available for reservation for a fee or, when unreserved, free on

a 'first come' basis. Twenty-nine picnic shelters are provided by Clark County, and they range from very new in the urban area to the older, log-structures in Lewisville Park (Figure 14). All picnic shelters contain picnic tables. Some shelters have electricity, adjacent BBQ grills and potable water.

Off-Leash Areas / Dog Parks

Off-leash areas or dog parks continue to be popular features for parks and open space lands in Clark County. These recreational facilities tend to become social gathering places for dog-owners and contribute to increased daily visits to those parks with off-leash areas. Usage of dog parks tends to continue even in bad weather as dog owners try to ensure daily physical activity for their canine companions. Thus far, the county has limited off-leash areas to community or regional parks to allow for adequate space. Partnerships with the dog advocacy group, DOGPAW, help provide some extra monitoring and amenities at dog park facilities. The existing inventory of off-leash areas includes the following:

- Pacific Park
- Hockinson Meadows Park
- Brush Prairie Park

County code mandates the use of leashes at all times except within designated off-leash areas. Informal off-leash dog uses have become a common occurrence within the Salmon Creek Greenway and within regional parks. These unauthorized off-leash activities suggest the need for additional geographically distributed off-leash areas within the Vancouver urban unincorporated area.

While no adopted standard has been established for provision of dog parks or geographic distribution of off-leash areas within the urban area, past planning recommended an approach for providing multiple, appropriately sized sites (2-4 acres in size) through negotiations led by the parks and recreation department with off-leash area user groups (such as DOGPAW) partnering for the development, operation and maintenance of the off-leash areas. The planning approach aimed to target non-park lands to the extent possible by relying on BPA, Clark Public Utilities

(CPU), and other public lands as appropriate. If future, off-leash areas are designated as part of developed parks, they should be developed in accordance with current best practices (see Appendix K) and be adjacent to parking and restroom facilities.

Neighborhood Parks

(Urban Park System only)

Neighborhood parks are intended to serve residential areas within proximity (up to 1/2-mile walking or biking distance) of the park and should be geographically distributed throughout the community. They provide access to basic recreation opportunities for nearby residents, enhance neighborhood identity, and preserve neighborhood open space. Neighborhood parks often include amenities such as playgrounds, turf areas, pathways and trails, picnic tables, sports courts, and benches. They are designed primarily for non-organized recreation.

Neighborhood parks usually range from 0.5 to five acres in size, depending on a variety of factors including neighborhood need, physical location and opportunity. Elementary school sites have been included under the neighborhood parkland classification, since they often have neighborhood park elements and serve some of the neighborhood park needs.

There is currently 156 acres of developed Neighborhood Parks spread through 47 sites (Map 2).

Natural Areas

Clark County contains a wide range of natural areas, open space, wildlife refuges, and working forest lands. Many of those public lands are open for various degrees of public access and recreation. According to The Intertwine Alliance Regional Conservation Strategy Biodiversity Guide, there are almost 80,000 acres of public lands in the county. Major landowners include the Washington Department of Natural Resources (60,000 acres), the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (3,067 acres), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife

Parkland Name	Acres	Ownership
Camp Bonneville	3,840	Clark County
East Fork Lewis River Greenway	901	Clark County
East Vancouver Lake	301	Clark County
Frenchman's Bar Trail	48	Clark County
Green Lake	195	Clark County
Hockinson Meadows	160	Clark County
La Center Bottoms Stewardship Site	97	Clark County
Lewis River Greenway	77	Clark County
Lewis River Trail Ranch	89	Clark County
Salmon Creek Greenway	401	Clark County
Siouxon	160	Clark County
South Vancouver Lake (Clark County)	224	Clark County
South Vancouver Lake (Vancouver)	153	Vancouver
Washougal River Greenway	11	Clark County
Total Regional Natural Areas	6,658	

Figure 15. Inventory of Regional Natural Areas

Service (6,243 acres), the Gifford Pinchot National forest (1,239 acres), and Clark County (7,277 acres). Federal, state, regional and local agencies own and manage these public lands based on different mandates.

Natural areas are primarily undeveloped spaces, which are managed for both their natural and ecological values and where appropriate for light-impact recreational use. These areas can range in size from one to thousands of acres, and may include wetlands, wildlife habitats, or stream corridors. Natural areas provide opportunities for nature-based recreation, such as bird-watching and environmental education. Natural areas also provide opportunities for active recreation such as walking and running, bicycle riding, and hiking. These lands can provide relief from urban density and may also preserve or protect environmentally sensitive areas, such as endangered animal habitat and native plant communities.



Aside from the urban natural areas that are measured as part of the urban area park impact fee program, conservation lands across the county are acquired and managed by multiple jurisdictions and agencies. The county-owned conservation lands extend across major stream and river systems and focus on protecting critical habitat areas.

Urban Natural areas

Urban natural areas (UCA) are natural open spaces, primarily undeveloped, in the urban unincorporated area that provide relief from urban density and may also preserve or protect environmentally sensitive areas, such as endangered animal habitat and native plant communities. These undeveloped parklands are managed for their natural, ecological value and occasionally for light-impact recreational use. These areas can range in size from a few to almost 100 acres, and may include wetlands, wildlife habitats, or stream corridors. Some urban natural areas allow for nature-based recreational opportunities, such as birdwatching, fishing, and environmental education. Natural areas also provide opportunities for active recreation such as walking and running, bicycle riding, and hiking. County-owned UCA lands add over 200 acres to the open spaces in the VUUA.

Regional Natural areas

In the Clark County park system, the Regional Natural Area (RNA) classification primarily covers natural areas and open spaces that are mostly undeveloped and are managed for their natural and ecological value. Some regional natural areas also allow access for light-impact outdoor recreational use. Some RNA sites can provide opportunities for outdoor recreation such as fishing, hiking, walking, and mountain biking. RNA properties may also be extensions of state or federal lands where conservation value is enhanced by preserving the natural environment. The RNA classification is assigned to county-owned natural areas as listed below (Figure 15).

Some RNA properties may eventually become extensions to existing developed regional parks. Camp Bonneville, the former military training camp, will be undergoing a master planning process to eventually develop some designated areas as a new regional park. Other RNA sites may provide lands for connecting regional trails across the county as proposed in the county regional trail plan.

Other Provider Natural areas

Clark County have extensive conservation lands that are owned and managed by state and federal agencies (Figure 16). The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission manages state park lands. In the county, Paradise State Park, Battle Ground State Park and Reed Island State Park have a range of developed park amenities and conservation areas open for public use.

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources owns and manages the Yacolt Burn State Forest to generate sustainable timber sale revenues that

Other Provider: Natural Areas

Parkland Name	Ownership
Lacamas Creek Greenway	Camas
Washougal River Greenway	Camas
Lacamas Heritage Trail	Camas
Burnt Bridge Creek Greenway	Vancouver
Paradise Bluffs	CLT
Washougal Gateway	CLT
Whipple Creek (Land Trust)	CLT
Lewis River Preserve	Pacific Power
Caterpillar Island	USDFW
Gifford Pinchot NF	USFS
Daybreak Easements	WDFW
Eagle Island	WDFW
Lewisville Park	WDFW
Shillapoo Wildlife Area	WDFW
Vancouver Lake Wildlife Area	WDFW
Washougal River Greenway (WDFW)	WDFW
Bells Mountain Trail	WDNR
Yacolt Multiple Use Area	WDNR

Figure 16. Inventory of Other Providers of Natural Areas

support public school construction. The 90,000-acre State Forest extends into four counties. These forest lands also provide for outdoor recreation activities including hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, off-road vehicle riding and camping.

The U.S. Department of Interior includes the National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Both agencies manage lands in Clark County. Fort Vancouver is a national historic site within the City of Vancouver. Steigerwald and Ridgefield are two national wildlife refuges within the county that provide over a combined 6,000 acres of natural areas and allow some public trails on a portion of the preserved public lands. Additionally, the Gifford Pinchot National Forest extends into a portion of the county. These managed forest lands extend over one million acres and across the southwestern portion of the state.

Forest Stewardship Planning

There are several county regional parks and regional natural areas that have significant forest cover. With that in mind, the county started a Sustainable Forestry Program in 2011 and began developing individual stewardship plans for recently acquired properties obtained through the state's Trust Land Transfer program and through the acquisition of the former Camp Bonneville military installation.

In 2017, the county incorporated the properties of Camp Bonneville, Spud Mountain, Green Mountain, Camp Hope, Bratton Canyon, and Lake Rosannah into a single document, Clark County Forest Stewardship Plan (also known as a Forest Management Plan). Any new property added to the program will be incorporated into the plan.

Many of these properties are covered by dense, even-aged Douglas-fir stands with the majority of stands in landscape forest health.

The plan has been certified by the American Tree Farm System (ATFS) under the requirements of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI) and by the Forest Stewardship Council™ (FSC). These dual certifications provide a platform to implement rehabilitation of the forest's health. The properties are also recognized by

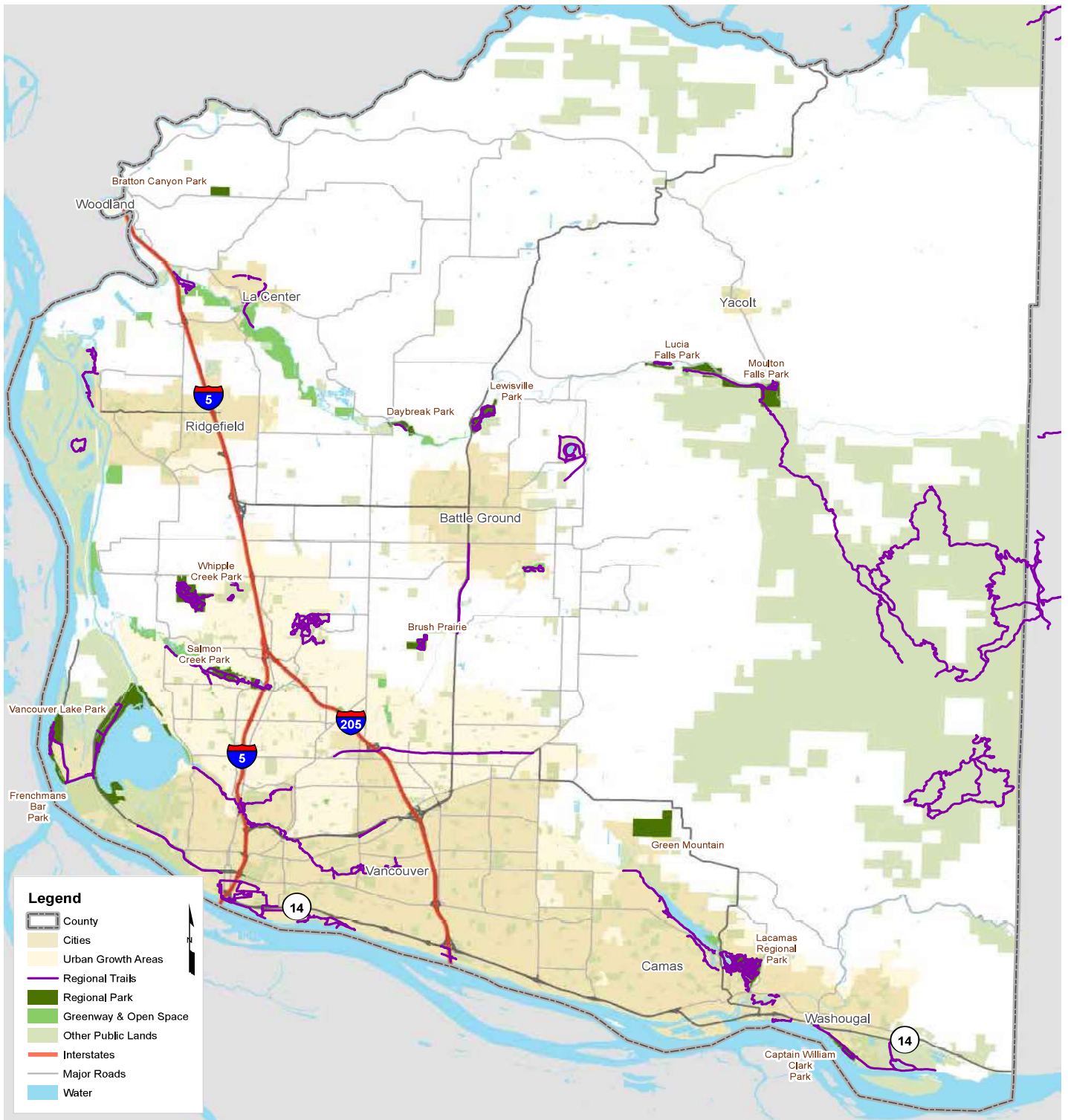
Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in cooperation with USDA Forest Service, in managing to an approved Forest Stewardship Plan, which are eligible to display the "Stewardship Forest" sign in recognition of the owner's efforts.

The primary financial goal of the Forest Stewardship Plan is to develop enough revenue to cover all management costs. It is anticipated that by conducting past-due thinning and moving towards actively managing forests, the forests can provide positive revenue back to the County to help support property management. Essentially the timber revenue generated could also be used to provide essential services to the public.

As a result of these structure-based management techniques, county forest lands will emerge as natural looking, multi-storied diverse forests that supports a variety of plants and animals while generating some modest revenue from its sustainable harvest.

Conservation Futures Funding & Legacy Lands Program

For more than 34 years, the County has been leveraging Conservation Futures funding through its Legacy Lands program to acquire, conserve and protect natural resources and special lands throughout the community. The primary county revenue source is the Conservation Futures levy, enabled by the State of Washington's RCW 84.34 Conservation Futures. This funding has supported the purchase of over 100 conservation acquisition projects, all of which have been achieved through a combination of grants, partnerships, and donations. Parks, greenways, trail corridors, waterfront access, riparian corridors, and natural areas have been acquired through the program.



Map 3: Existing Regional Trails

Classification	Function	Use Type	Users	Surfaces	Width
Regional Trail	Major alignments along greenways & through community	Shared-use	Pedestrians, cyclists, skaters. Equestrians (where feasible)	Asphalt, concrete, boardwalk.	12 - 16'
Connector Trail	Connects parks, trails, neighborhoods and destinations	Shared-use	Pedestrians, cyclists, skaters.	Asphalt, concrete, boardwalk. Gravel, possible.	8 - 12'
Park / Local Path	Interior paths or point-to-point routes in public spaces	Shared use	Pedestrians, cyclists, skaters. Equestrians (where feasible)	Asphalt, concrete, boardwalk. Gravel, possible.	5 - 10'
Special Use Trail	BMX/mtn. bike flow, skill training, designed for special use	Shared or single use	Mountain bikers, equestrians, hikers.	Native soil, constructed features.	2 - 6'
Primitive Trail	Trails on public lands. Links to state/nat'l forest trails	Shared or single use	Pedestrians, mountain bikers, equestrians (where feasible)	Firm soil	2 - 4'
Water Trail	Navigable waterway along rivers & lakes	Shared-use	Boaters & non-motorized watercraft	Existing waterways	varies

Figure 17. Trail Classifications

Trails

The county has adopted several plans that focus on or include substantial sections on trails and each offers a trail classification nomenclature (Figure 17). Six trail types are identified in this plan:

- **Regional Trail:** Multi-use trails that provide the major access networks across the County
- **Connector Trail:** Connects parks and neighborhoods to regional multi-use trails and typically includes bike lanes and routes
- **Park / Local Path:** Interior paths or point-to-point routes in public spaces
- **Special Use Trail:** BMX/mountain bike flow, skill training, designed for special use
- **Primitive Trail:** Soft-surface trails on public lands
- **Water Trail:** Navigable waterway along rivers & lakes

Existing Trail Plans

Trails in Clark County are part of the community-wide pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure that provides mobility and supports an active lifestyle for Clark County residents. Review of the plans listed below provide the context and background for the inventory of trails in the County.

Regional Trail and Bikeway Systems Plan

The 2006 Regional Trail and Bikeway Systems Plan encompassed 16 regional trails (land-based) supporting a network of nearly 240 miles of regional trails and bikeways. The plan also added the Lower Columbia River Water Trail. Recognizing the importance of transportation alternatives as well as the value of outdoor recreation in contributing to the quality of life in Clark County, the plan also provides opportunities for investment in trails as an economic catalyst in an effort to make Clark County a great place to live and work.

The regional trails (proposed & existing) identified in the 2006 plan include:

- Lewis and Clark Discovery Greenway
- Chelatchie Prairie Rail-with-Trail
- Lake to Lake
- Salmon Creek Greenway
- Padden Parkway
- I-5 Corridor
- I-205 Corridor
- East Fork Lewis River Greenway
- Battle Ground/Fisher's Landing
- Washougal River Corridor
- North Fork Lewis River Greenway
- Whipple Creek Greenway



- North/South Powerline
- East Powerline
- Livingston Mountain Dole Valley
- Camp Bonneville
- Lower Columbia River Water Trail

In 2006, the existing regional trail system provided 46.2 miles of built shared pathways. (Map 3 & Figure 18)

Lewis River-Vancouver Lake Water Trail Plan

The Lewis River-Vancouver Lake Water Trail covers much of western Clark County and extends from the borders of Woodland and La Center to Ridgefield and Vancouver. The 32-mile water trail follows portions of the North Fork and East Fork of the Lewis River, a short section of the Columbia River, the entire reach of Lake River and Bachelor Slough, and reaches into the full extent of Vancouver Lake. Recommendations from the water trail plan included improving public access sites; developing a water trail wayfinding sign system; developing a mobile paddling guide app; adding launch site improvements to local jurisdictions' capital facilities plans; and forming a water trail coalition to promote water-based recreation.

Greater Clark Parks District Local Trails

A feasibility study was conducted in 2008 to determine the proposed alignments for local trails within the Greater Clark Parks District. As part of the park development program, seven miles of trail alignments were to be acquired with GCPD funding to help provide local trails within the urban area. Once alignments connected significant destinations, volunteer programs and organizations were assumed to be the resource for constructing the trails. The six GCPD trails identified in this local trail program include Burnt Bridge Creek, Cougar Creek, Curtin Creek, LaLonde Creek, Salmon Creek, and Whipple Creek. These local trails were not intended to replace sidewalks and regional trails or meet the design standards for regional trails, rather the local trails allow for better connectivity within and through neighborhoods. In 2011, because of the economic recession, the trail alignment acquisition program was postponed.

Clark County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan

The bicycle and pedestrian plan envision an interconnected network of sidewalks, on-street bikeways, and off-street trails throughout the county. The plan identified top priority projects for the county

Regional Trail Name	Miles Planned	Miles Completed	Comments / Details
Battle Ground - Fisher's Landing Trail	16.1	4.0	North-south route from Columbia River to Battle Ground Lake State Park
Camp Bonneville Trail	12.1	0.0	Within the former Army site
Chelatchie Prairie Rail with Trail	34.2	2.7	Follows the railroad alignment
East Fork Lewis River Greenway Trail	28.4	4.1	Connecting from the confluence of the East & North Forks to Dole Valley Trail
Lake to Lake Trail	22.3	11.4	Includes Burt Bridge Creek Trail & Lacamas Lake Trail
East Powerline Trail	16.5	0.7	Follows powerline from Burnt Bridge Trail to Heritage Trail (Camas)
Lewis and Clark Trail	50.0	9.5	Along the Columbia River from SE to NE corners of county
Livingston Mtn/Dole Valley Trail	21.0	0.0	From Lacamas Lake Park to east of Moulton Falls
North/South Powerline Trail	20.6	0.0	From Vancouver to North Fork Lewis River
North Fork Lewis River	31.5	0.0	Along the south side of the North Fork from La Center to Yale Dam
Padden Parkway	10.0	9.7	Along Padden Parkway from NE 78th St to NE Ward Road
Salmon Creek Greenway	24.9	3.1	Completed section from NE 39th St to Klineline Rd.
Washougal River Corridor	10.0	1.5	From Baz River Front Park along Washougal River
Whipple Creek Greenway	4.8	0.0	From the mouth of Whipple Creek at Lake River to Farigrounds Park
I-5 Corridor/Bi-State Trail	13.0	2.0	Alignment from the interstate bridge to the north end of Clark County
I-205 Corridor/Bi-State Trail	13.0	2.0	Portion planned in Washington. Completed section on I-205 bridge.
Total Land-based Regional Trails	328.4	50.7	
Lower Columbia River Water Trail	146	-	In waters of Columbia River from Bonneville Dam to Pacific Ocean
Lewis River to Vancouver Lake Water Trail	32	-	In Vancouver Lake, all of Lake River, and sections of East and North Forks of Lewis River
Total Water-based Regional Trails	178	-	

Figure 18. Regional Trails of Clark County

to connect neighborhoods, schools, public facilities, business districts, and natural features. The primary focus of the 2010 bike and pedestrian master plan was the on-street network for active transportation facilities county-wide. The master plan utilized the 2006 Regional Trail and Bikeway Systems Plan to identify where new on-street bicycle and pedestrian facilities could connect and leverage with existing trails and proposed trail alignments.

The top ten priority off-street projects (designated as a park department responsibility) included sections of the Salmon Creek Greenway, the North-South Powerline, and the Chelatchie Prairie Rail-with-Trail. The plan also restates existing county policies (related to parks) that direct the provision of a comprehensive trail system to interconnect the regional trails and the transportation systems of sidewalks and bike lanes.

Bi-State Regional Trails Systems Plan

The trail system within Clark County is also part of a bi-state, multi-metropolitan regional trail system, called The Intertwine, that connects active transportation and outdoor recreation users across Clark County and throughout the Portland metropolitan area. In April 2010, The Intertwine released the Bi-State Regional Trails System Plan “to coordinate the efforts of local businesses, non-profit organizations, government agencies and citizens to build the world’s greatest network of parks, trails and natural areas.” As part of a trail system extending across the Columbia River, the bi-state plan encompasses all the county-wide regional trails included in the 2006 Regional Trail and Bikeway Systems Plan.

County Subarea Plans

The County conducts subarea planning for more detailed growth management in specific geographic areas to help formulate focused community design standards, as part of county-wide growth management planning. Some of these subarea plans have specific proposed local trail alignments or suggested additional trail connections. The Highway 99 Subarea Plan

identified specific local trails to help connect residential, commercial, and recreational designations via off-street alignments through natural areas. The proposed trails as part of this plan mainly are within existing rights-of-way, with some off-street trail segments within existing parks and conservation lands. The proposed Tenny Creek trail is a series of trails intended to be built in conjunction with new development to provide pedestrian connections to Tenny Creek Park. The proposed Cougar Creek Trails would connect pedestrian circulation between commercial and high-density residential areas.

Lewis River-Vancouver Lake Water Trail Plan

The Lewis River-Vancouver Lake Water Trail covers much of western Clark County and extends from the borders of Woodland and La Center to Ridgefield and Vancouver. The 32-mile water trail follows portions of the North Fork and East Fork of the Lewis River, a short section of the Columbia River, the entire reach of Lake River and Bachelor Slough, and reaches into the full extent of Vancouver Lake. Recommendations from the water trail plan included improving public access sites; developing a water trail wayfinding sign system; developing a mobile paddling guide app; adding launch site improvements to local jurisdictions’ capital facilities plans; and forming a water trail coalition to promote water-based recreation.

Trail Inventory Changes

Since the 2015 PROS plan, the Port of Camas-Washougal completed a section of its Washougal Waterfront Trail along the Columbia River. The City of Vancouver added a half-mile of paved shared-use pathway within its new waterfront mixed-use development. The Port of Vancouver has been completing sections of its Renaissance Trail from the downtown waterfront area westward toward Vancouver Lake and Frenchman’s Bar. The Port of Ridgefield completed its waterfront trail. These short sections have added some mileage to the regional Lewis and Clark (aka Discovery Greenway) Trail. To ensure a



more satisfactory pace of trail project completion, the county will need to proactively seek more resources and leverage their partnerships to close the trail gaps.

Trails use represents the highest known level of participation for public outdoor recreation across the county and state. The county included trail development within its park impact fee program to assist in the implementation of trail connections, since the lack of dedicated funding posed a continual challenge for closing the gaps on the need and demand for more trail linkages.

Other Providers of Public Lands

Within Clark County, the following federal and state agencies also provide parks and open spaces:

- National Park Service (NPS)
- U.S. Forest Service (USFS)
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)
- Washington State Parks (WSP)
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
- Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

There is over 74,500 acres of public lands open to the public by these land managers. (Figure 19)

Jurisdiction / Agency	Acres
Federal Lands	
US Forest Service	1,239
National Park Service	209
US Fish and Wildlife Service	6,243
State Lands	
Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife	3,075
Washington Dept. of Natural Resources	60,000
Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	884
Washington Department of Transportation	16
Local Jurisdictions	
City of Vancouver	1,577
City of Camas	808
City of Washougal	88
City of Battle Ground	140
City of Ridgefield	154
City of La Center	20
Town of Yacolt	5
Port of Camas-Washougal	75
Total	74,533

Figure 19. Providers of Other Public Lands in Clark County



Goals and Objectives supply the framework for the PROS Plan. The goals were developed by analyzing the current park and trail system and identifying objectives for progress. The extensive input from the community in the surveys, public meetings and engagement with the PAB and County staff were the core to developing these goals and objectives. Plan goals were influenced by the Washington Growth Management Act that encourages retention of open space, development of recreational opportunities, and conservation of fish and wildlife habitat. Furthermore, the Clark County Comprehensive Plan, the prior PROS plan and other county-wide planning policies provide a framework for the goals developed.



Partnerships

Goal 1: Forge and maintain strong public, private and non-profit partnerships to support the parks system.

Objectives

- 1.1. Develop partnerships with public and private organizations to increase publicly accessible parks and recreation opportunities and to help offset operations and maintenance demands of county park system facilities.
- 1.2. Open discussions with city parks and recreation agencies in the county to identify high priority projects across jurisdictions to jointly seek funding and otherwise collaborate on their implementation.
- 1.3. Collaborate with other agencies in acquiring, developing and operating parks and recreational facilities for the regional population, such as water access, trails, and regional parks.
- 1.4. Foster active partnerships with schools, ports, and utilities to help implement regional trails connections and safe routes to parks.



Communication

Goal 2: Promote and market the County's parks system.

Objectives

- 2.1. Work to improve access to quality parks, park planning and decision-making by underserved communities.
- 2.2. Continue to use a variety of methods and media to publicize and increase awareness about recreational opportunities available across Clark County.
- 2.3. Continue to support and promote the Parks Advisory Board as the forum for public discussion of park and recreation issues.
- 2.4. Promote Clark County as an outdoor recreation and tourism destination by effectively marketing the County's parks, trails, special facilities, open spaces, and natural resources.
- 2.5. Enhance the County Parks web presence with active engagement of social media.
- 2.6. Engage local media more actively to report on county parks activities, events, volunteer work parties, etc.
Engage
- 2.7. CVTV to produce a series of park and trail stories that serve to inform the community about the variety of outdoor recreation resources available in the county.



Developed Parks

Goal 3: Provide a diversified system of parks, trails, and open spaces that contribute to a high quality of life for residents.

Objectives

- 3.1. Proactively seek parklands in gap areas based on funding opportunities including grants, PIFs, and leveraged partnerships.
- 3.2. Prioritize facility development based on demonstrated demand, access by underserved communities, regional appeal, and cost recovery potential.
- 3.3. Develop park sites based on master plans, management plans, or other adopted strategies to ensure parks reflect local needs, community input, recreational and conservation goals, and available financial resources.
- 3.4. Offer parks, trails and sports fields and support services to accommodate the needs of various existing users and future users with population growth and demographic changes.
- 3.5. Continue to engage and support user groups that build and maintain special facilities.
- 3.6. Coordinate with public and private stakeholders to provide additional access for fishing, wading, swimming, and non-motorized and motorized boating where appropriate, including enhancements to water trails.



Trails

Goal 4: Create a seamless trail system

Objectives

- 4.1. Continue implementing the Regional Trail and Bikeway Systems Plan and the Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan.
- 4.2. Collaborate with Public Works Transportation's sidewalk program to implement safer routes to parks to improve access for all potential users.
- 4.3. Coordinate with public and private stakeholders to develop a trails and bikeways network and collaborate to capture outside funding to close trail gaps.
- 4.4. Prioritize project implementation to leverage the highest valued benefits ("most bang for the buck") such as short gaps between existing built trails to create longer more usable connections.
- 4.5. Connect more residents to urban parks and regional trails through implementation of GCPD local trail projects.

A photograph of a natural landscape. In the foreground, a white bird is perched on a wooden post. The background shows a field of dry, brown grass and trees under a hazy sky.

Natural Areas

Goal 5: Conserve significant Natural Areas

Objectives

- 5.1. Preserve the region's scenic beauty through protected natural areas and corridors along with providing outdoor recreation, where appropriate.
- 5.2. Implement and periodically update the Natural Areas Acquisition Plan.
- 5.3. Collaborate actively with the Columbia Land Trust and other conservation organizations to link open spaces and parks.
- 5.4. Connect greenways for riparian conservation and regional trail connections.
- 5.5. Cooperate with other county departments and neighboring jurisdictions to identify and conserve open space.

A photograph of a large, dry, brown leaf lying on a ground covered with fallen leaves. The background is slightly blurred, showing more of the same ground and some greenery in the distance.

Heritage

Goal 6: Preserve local heritage to reflect County identity

Objectives

- 6.1. Protect and improve historic and cultural features through sustainable design approaches for existing and newly acquired park and trail sites.
- 6.2. Support Heritage Farm business and marketing planning efforts.
- 6.3. Collaborate with area historic preservation agencies.



Equity & Access

Goal 7: Support & Advance diversity, equity, inclusion and access to parks

Objectives

- 7.1. Develop an ADA Transition Plan Clark County Parks, Lands and Trails.
- 7.2. Prepare a Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) plan as a long-term planning tool, built from culturally relevant outreach and conversations with diverse groups.
- 7.3. Continue to examine accessibility barriers (socio-economic, language, physical, geographic, transportation) to parks and trails. Develop a priority matrix to allocate resources to address known gaps.
- 7.4. Implement signage and information in multiple languages at all parks and trails, and include information about amenities, etiquette, trail length, difficulty, material/accessibility.



Operations

Goal 8: Maintain to improve experience & protect assets

Objectives

- 8.1. Develop an operations and maintenance funding plan to help preserve and protect public property, preserve its value, and ensure its intended function or use, life expectancy, safety, security, and appearance.
- 8.2. Consider the maintenance costs and staffing levels associated with acquisition, development, or renovation of parks or natural areas, and adjust the annual operating budget accordingly for adequate maintenance funding of the system expansion.
- 8.3. Develop a revolving replacement fund for capital repairs and replacements over time based on the deferred maintenance backlog.
- 8.4. Incorporate sustainable practices design, development, operations and maintenance.
- 8.5. Investigate the feasibility of incorporating security patrols or a park ranger program to ensure safety of park and trail users with and additional goal of protecting facility infrastructure.



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DEMAND & NEEDS ANALYSIS

The PROS plan analyzed the County's park and recreation facility needs based on existing level of service, comparisons with similar communities, public engagement along side a review of state and national recreation trends. The recommendations in this section will be reflected in the Capital Improvement Plan (Chapter 5) that outlines major maintenance and enhancements with an eye toward sustainability, fiscal responsibility and funding constraints.

Trends & Perspectives

Examining current trends in recreation can help inform potential park and recreation improvements and opportunities that can create a more vibrant parks system for the future. Additional trend data and summaries are provided in Appendix G.

National & Statewide Trends

Sports, Fitness & Leisure Activities Participation Report

Prepared by a partnership of the Sports and Fitness Industry Association (SFIA) and the Physical Activity Council (PAC), this 2020 participation report establishes levels of activity and identifies key trends

in sports, fitness, and recreation in the US. (Figure 20) The largest focus of activities continues to be toward fitness. Fitness sports and activities continue to have the highest participation rates at 67% of the US population ages 6 and over engaging in these activities.

Fitness sports, such as aquatic exercise, dance, step and other choreographed exercise to music, yoga, along with treadmill use, continue to be the activities most participated in for the 5th consecutive year, increasing 2% from 2018. Outdoor activities continued to lead each of the household income segments. Fishing, camping, bicycling, and swimming and hiking were the top 5 aspirational activities in 2019. Team sports increased for the first time since 2016, attributable to a significant increase in basketball and outdoor soccer participation.

While age clearly affects how often one participates, what they do can also be age dependent as well. Youth, ages 6 to 17, who tend to be more active overall, focus on team sports and outdoor activities. While Boomers (57-75 years old) prefer fitness activities, especially low impact such as aquatic exercise, cycling, and walking. Millennials (25-40 years old) are more likely than the other generations to participate in water sports, such as stand up paddling, boardsailing, and surfing.



Outdoor Participation Report

According to 2019 Outdoor Participation Report, published by the Outdoor Foundation more than 151.8 million Americans (50.5%) participated in an outdoor activity at least once in 2018. These outdoor participants went on a total of 10.2 billion outdoor outings, a decrease from 10.9 billion in 2017. Participation in outdoor recreation, team sports and indoor fitness activities vary by an individual's age. Recent trend highlights include the following:

- Running, including jogging and trail running, was the most popular activity among Americans when measured by number of participants and by number of total annual outings.
- Only 17.9% of the total population recreated outside at least once a week.
- Hispanic participation growth was the strongest among the ethnic groups over the past year.
- From 2017 to 2018, there were participation surges in some individual activities, like BMX biking and sailing.
- Kids went on 15% fewer annual outings in 2018 than they did in 2012. The decline in youth activity was particularly concerning as youth participation is a strong indicator of future activity and health.
- Data shows that adults who were introduced to the

outdoors as children were more likely to participate in outdoor activities during adulthood than those who were not exposed to the outdoors as children.

Washington Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)

The 2018-2022 SCORP identified near and long-term priorities with specific actions within each priority to help meet the outdoor recreation and conservation needs within the state.

Five priority areas identified:

1. Sustain and Grow the Legacy of Parks, Trails, and Conservation Lands
2. Improve Equity of Parks, Trails, and Conservation Lands
3. Meet the Needs of Youth
4. Plan for Culturally Relevant Parks and Trails to Meet Changing Demographics
5. Assert Recreation and Conservation as a Vital Public Service

Current statewide participation rates in outdoor activities also were surveyed as part of the plan.

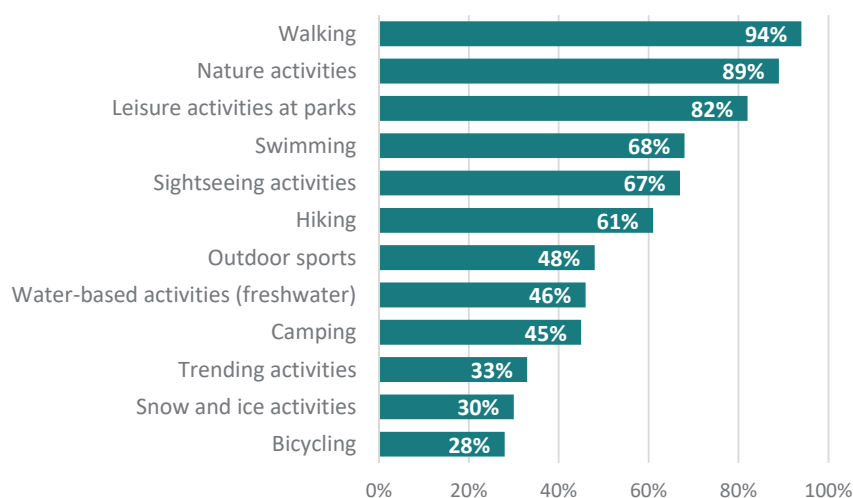


Figure 20. Participation Rates for Washington residents in outdoor activities

Focus on Improving Equity

SCORP also restates an equity goal for its citizens. SCORP identified the need to improve the recreation opportunities for underserved populations as a priority. Additionally, the Governor’s Task Force on Outdoor Recreation found that many populations of low income families, people of color, and persons with disabilities are not getting outdoors as much as the rest of the population.

As a first step to assessing the needs of underserved populations, the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) created a Grant Applicant Data Tool to display the demographic characteristics of each census tract in the state. The map also includes an inventory of recreation land and facilities. This map is

a first step to assessing whether communities with high percentages of low income residents, people of color, and people with disability have access to recreation experiences. The map shows that underserved communities can be found across the state in both urban and rural communities.

Local Recreation Need Assessment

Local recreation demands and needs were explored through a variety of public engagement efforts to gather feedback on strengths and limitations of existing park and recreational resources available to Clark County residents. Public outreach to generate input on the PROS Plan included a

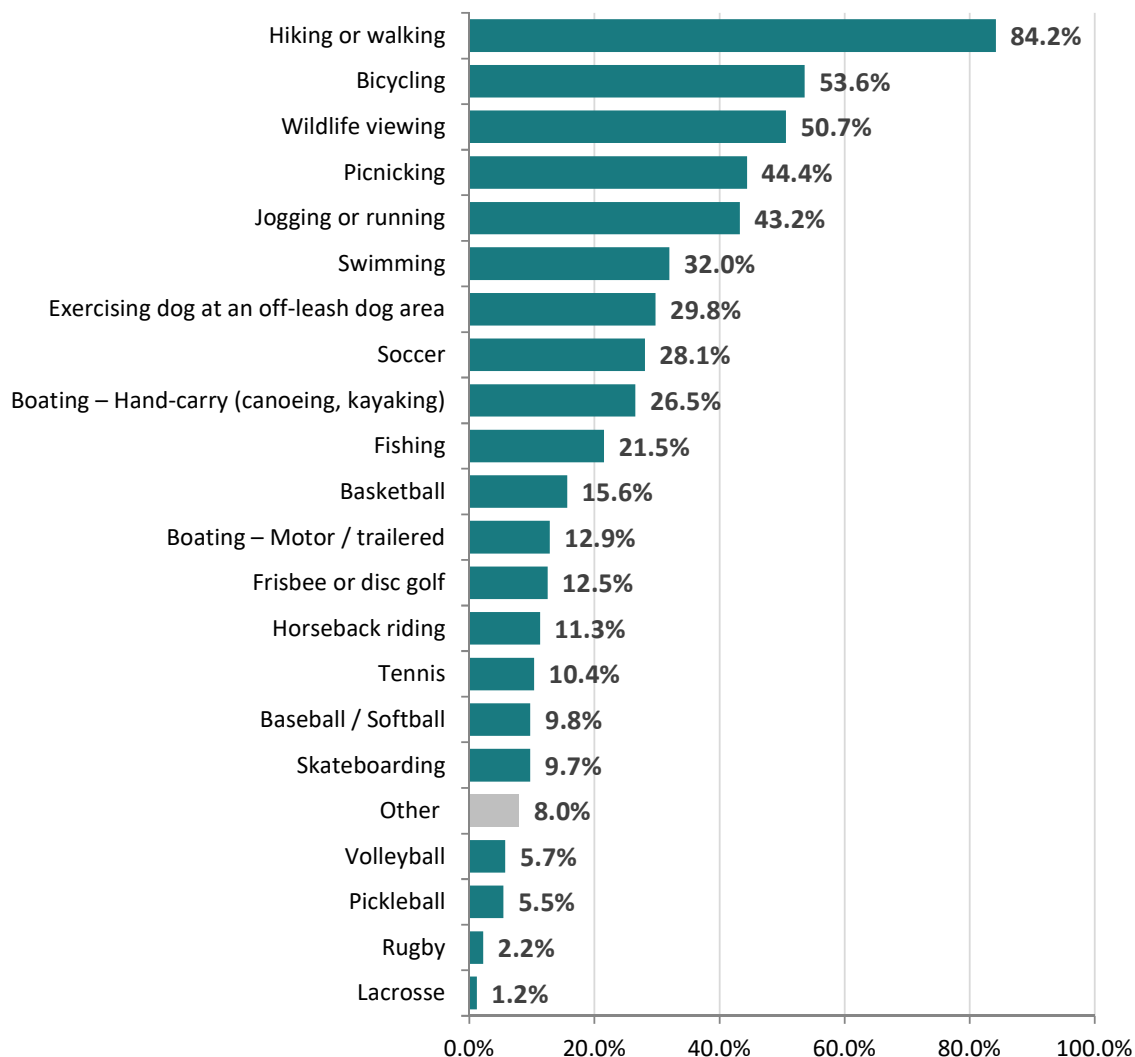


Figure 21. Participation Rated for Outdoor Recreational Activities



three-month long online community survey, stakeholder discussions, and a second community survey in lieu of an in-person open house to explore project priorities and opportunities to enhance the county's park system.

Community Survey Highlights

A community survey was conducted from June to August, 2020 to measure the level of satisfaction with existing parks and recreation opportunities in Clark County and the community's priorities for future improvements and services. (Figure 21)

Clark County residents strongly value their parks and recreation facilities.

- Nearly all residents (98%) think parks and recreation facilities are important to quality of life in Clark County.

Residents visit parks and trails frequently.

- Nearly 91% of respondents visit public parks at least once a month.
- 80.4% of respondents visit walking and biking trails at least once a month.

Residents are generally satisfied with the maintenance and upkeep of existing parks.

- 89% of respondents rate park maintenance and upkeep as either excellent or good. 1.5% of respondents rated maintenance and upkeep of parks as poor.

Residents would like to see improvements made to the parks & recreation system.

- 97% of respondents think that trails and 98% think natural areas are important to improve or expand.

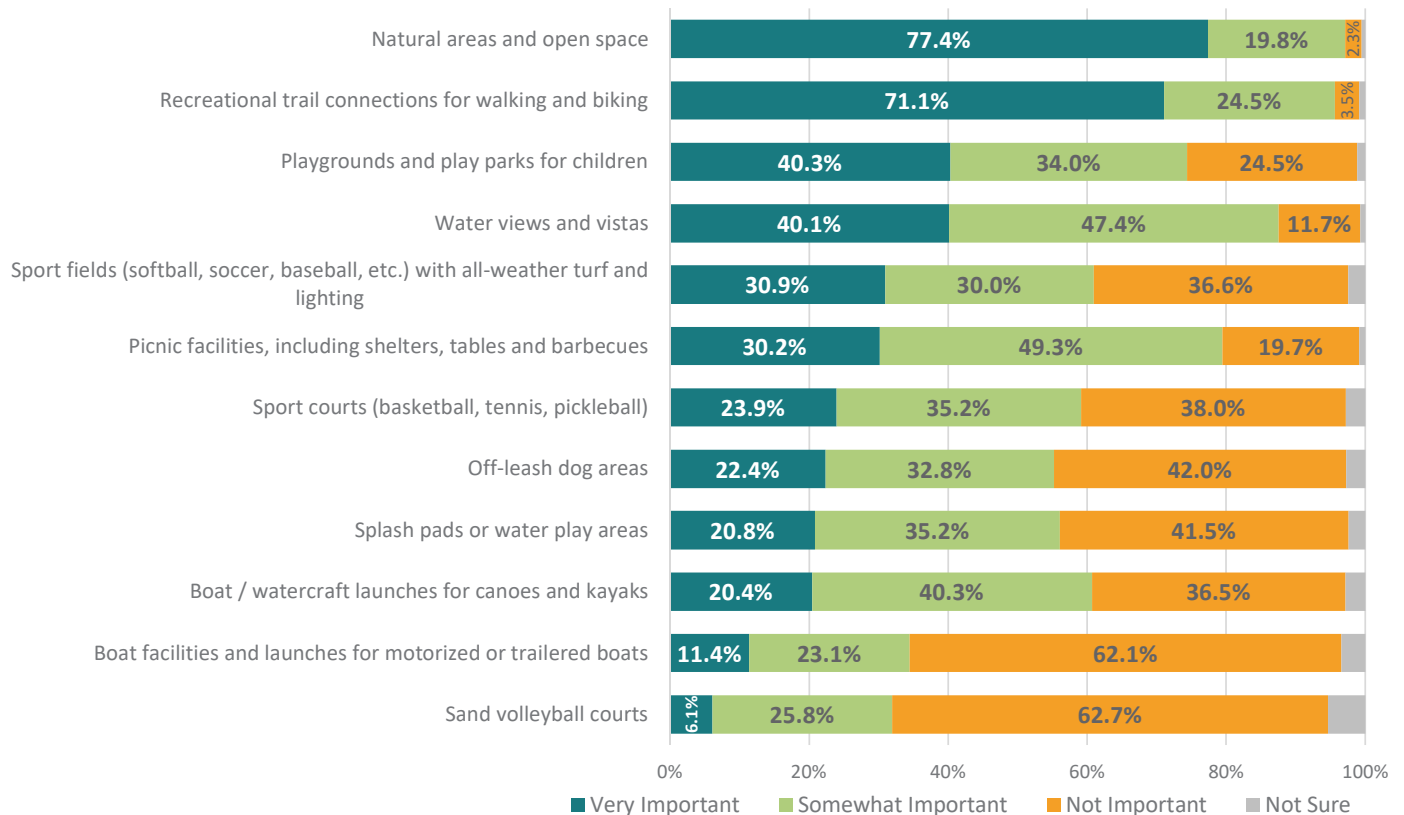


Figure 22. Level of Importance of various Outdoor Recreational Amenities

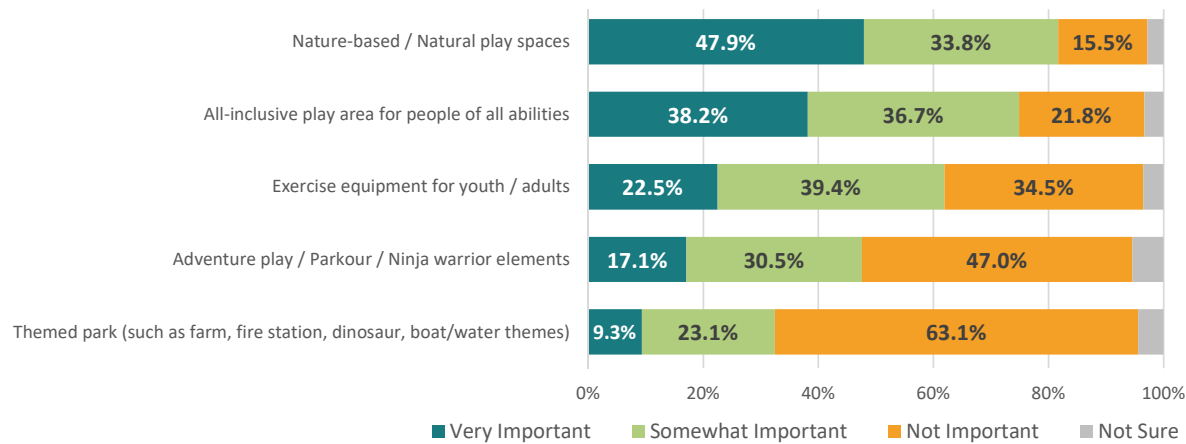


Figure 23. Level of Importance of various Playground Amenities

- 88% of respondents rated water views, 79% rated picnic facilities and 74% rated playgrounds as important.
- 82% of respondents rated nature-base and natural play spaces as either very important or important.

County residents visit local parks and recreation facilities for a variety of reasons. The survey asked about participation in a variety of outdoor recreation activities over the past year. 84% of respondents participate in walking and hiking. This degree of participation is consistent with statewide and national recreation data for these activities. Additionally, three of the top five activities (walking/hiking, bicycling, and jogging/running) in many instances are trail related.

Respondents were asked to rate the level of importance to their visits to county parks for a series of outdoor recreational amenities. (See Figure 22) 98% of respondents noted natural areas and 97% noted recreational trails as very important or important. 88% of respondents rated water views, 79% rated picnic facilities and 74% rated playgrounds as important. Sand volleyball courts and boat launches were rated as the least important for respondents, with each noted as ‘not important’ by approximately 62% of respondents.

Focusing specifically on playground amenities, the survey asked about the relative importance of different amenities for the respondent’s household. (Figure 23) 82% of respondents rated nature-base and nature play spaces as either very important or important. All-inclusive play areas followed closely with 75% of respondents noting it as important.

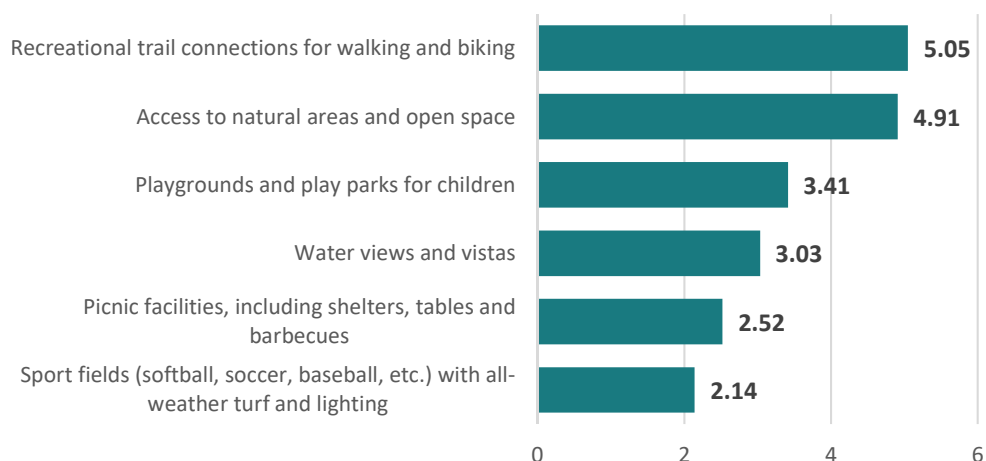


Figure 24. Comparing Top Priority Amenities from First Community Survey

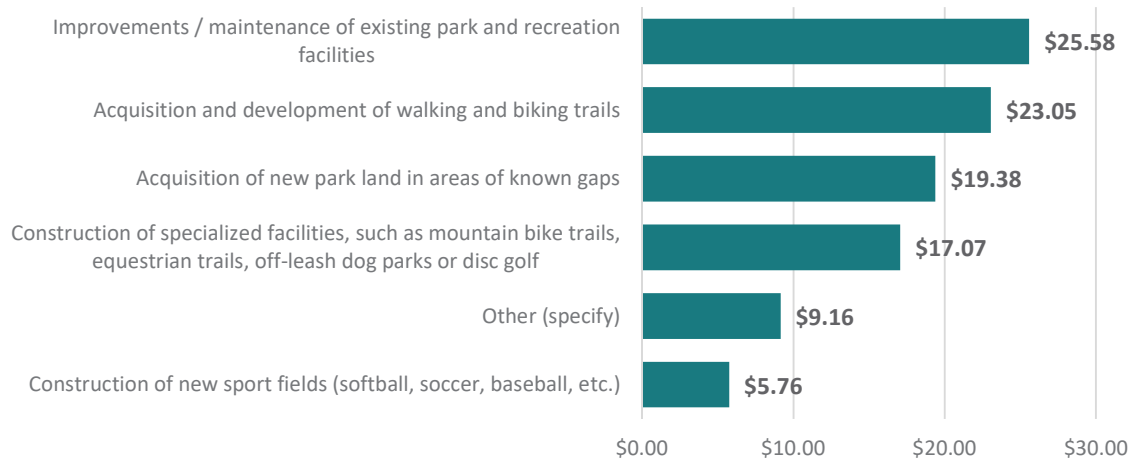


Figure 25. Comparing Top Priority Amenities by funding allocation from First Community Survey

The survey asked respondents to share their ideas and suggestions regarding additional recreation opportunities or preferred investments in parks and recreation. Over 1,100 respondents (40%) provided written comments. Common themes from these comments include:

- Trail improvements: Provide more options for mountain biking and accommodate more single-track mountain bike trails; Improve and expand trail connections and link trails together
- Cleanliness & maintenance: Provide more garbage cans, more dog waste stations, clean restrooms more often, address the unhoused encampments.
- Park improvements: Pave and upgrade parking at Harmony Sports Complex; Provide more sport fields with turf and lighting; Provide more horse trailer parking, more horse trails and skills areas; Provide bike skills areas and pump tracks; Add more splash pads to parks.
- Safety: Add lighting to trails and parks; Add crosswalks at all parks.
- Stewardship: Improve water quality; Restore habitat and plant more native species; Add interpretive signage.

A second community survey was conducted in November to assess project priorities. (See Figure 24) Respondents were asked to sort and

rank project types in a variety of ways. The initial request was to rank six potential project types that were strongly supported from the initial survey. Recreational trails were the highest priority (42%) and 90% of respondents had it as one of the top three priorities. In looking at weighted averages of the priority rankings, respondents identified that recreational trail connections are a priority (5.05, 84%) and access to natural areas and open spaces are a priority (82%).

Respondents were asked to rank a list of six items based on their sense of priority. Nature-based play spaces (4.6, 76.6%) and unpaved trails in natural areas (4.59, 76.5%) were nearly equally ranked. Trail amenities, such as water fill stations and benches, were also strongly supported (66.6%) and ranked third on the list of six items.

A list of six project types that typically cost more to install and/or maintain was provided to respondents. In forced ranking between the list items, trail amenities such as restrooms and parking ranked as the top item (4.6, 80.5%). The second highest ranking was for paved, shared use trail connections (71%).

A list of five items was provided and respondents had to allocate a hypothetical \$100 across the projects. (Figure 25) An 'other' option was also provided for write-in comments. The sum of the allocations was required to equal \$100 and respondents could spread the dollars or allocate to a single item. 25% was allocated toward

improvements and maintenance of existing facilities. Slightly more than 42% allocated toward acquisitions, with \$23 going to the acquisition and development of trails and \$19 going to acquiring new parkland in gap areas. Specialized facilities received lower allocations overall.

Inclusion & Diversity Responses

Over 10% of all survey participants self-identified as a race or ethnicity other than white. The following responses were received:

- 83% of non-white respondents rated current park maintenance as either excellent or good.
- Participation in outdoor recreation activities, respondents indicated slightly higher participation rates for bicycling (60%, compared to 54% overall), soccer (35%, compared to 28% overall), fishing (25%, compared to 22% overall) and skateboarding (13%, compared to 10% overall).
- Reasons for not using parks or trails more often, minority community member responses were slightly higher for there not being enough parking (15%, compared to 12% overall), not feeling safe (9%, compared to 7% overall), and that facilities are not well maintained (9%, compared to 4% overall).
- Trail-based amenities, respondents noted drinking fountains and mountain biking trails as slightly more important.
- Other systemwide improvements, respondents were slightly more supportive of providing water views and vistas, sport fields, sport courts, and picnic areas.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Clark County aims to support and advance diversity, equity, inclusion and access to the county's system of parks, trails, and natural areas. This goal is echoed by park agencies across the country and supported by the NRPA.

Due to historic and ongoing patterns of investment, lower-income communities, people with disabilities, and communities of color often had fewer recreational opportunities and face greater barriers to access than their white, able-bodied, or more affluent neighbors. This lack of access can contribute to disparities in physical and mental health and wellness. Intentionally advancing equity and inclusion in park and recreation decisions can help address these disparities and improve community vitality and the success of all residents.

Clark County serves a diverse community. Nearly one in six county residents identifies as Black, Indigenous, or a person of color. About one in eleven residents identifies as Hispanic or Latino. The most racially diverse areas of the county are unincorporated urban areas just to the north of Vancouver, including in the Minnehaha, Orchards, Five Corners, and Hazel Dell areas. In addition, approximately 6% of residents have limited English proficiency and many more speak a language other than English at home. About one in twelve county residents between 5 and 64 years of age lives with disability that interferes with life activities, indicating a need for inclusive parks and facilities.

To achieve its equity goals, Clark County can work to provide recreational options, information, and engagement opportunities that are accessible to, and meet the needs of, all community members. Working to achieve these diversity, equity and inclusion goals can also advance the County's efforts to meet the requirements of Title II and Title VI of the American Civil Rights Act.

Recommendations

Develop a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Plan as a long-term tool to guide both the division's internal operations and community investments.

The plan will give particular consideration toward multi-cultural, racial and ethnic communities including Black, Indigenous and people of color; people living with disabilities; refugee and immigrant communities; low income communities,



and community members with limited English proficiency. It will include specific policies, actions, and recommendations to advance social equity.

Make meaningful investments in underserved communities. Evaluate the ability of Clark County's existing and planned park, recreation, and trail systems to meet the needs of diverse users.

Future investments will be developed with a strategy to identify and prioritize relevant investments in under-served communities. While striving for universal accessibility, the county will work to identify accessibility barriers that may prevent residents from using park and recreation services and ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Work toward more equitable and accessible community involvement, communications, and participation in decision-making.

Work to remove barriers to participation in park planning, policy changes, budgeting, and other decisions by underserved communities.

Explore partnerships with other public agencies, as well as private organizations and non-profits, to provide inclusive park and recreational opportunities.

Potential partners could include the other cities in Clark County, Cowlitz Indian Tribe; non-profit

organizations serving local communities of color; the regional school districts; the Area Agency on Aging & Disabilities of Southwest Washington; PeaceHealth, Legacy, and other healthcare providers; C-TRAN; and local faith-based organizations.

Regional Parks Analysis

Regional parks level of service standard (LOS) 10 acres per 1,000 population, with a development standard targeting at least 18% (equivalent to 1.8 acre per 1,000) of each regional park site.

Regional park acreage totals 2,603.5 acres with 361.1 acres of developed park areas. The LOS for the current population is 4,992 acres of regional parks, with at least 898.6 acres of developed park areas. The LOS deficit is currently at 2,288.6 acres with a shortage of 550.8 acres of developed areas. The current LOS is 5.2 acres per 1,000 and 0.7 acres per 1,000 developed park areas. The County is at 52% for land area and 39% for developed park area of the current LOS. (Figure 26)

Regional Parks Gap Analysis

By 2030, the county-wide population is projected to increase to 582,377 residents creating a LOS for regional park acreage to increase to 5,823.8 acres. The current LOS with today's inventory would increase the LOS deficit to 3,220.3 acres. The need for developed regional park space would increase to 700.5 acres.

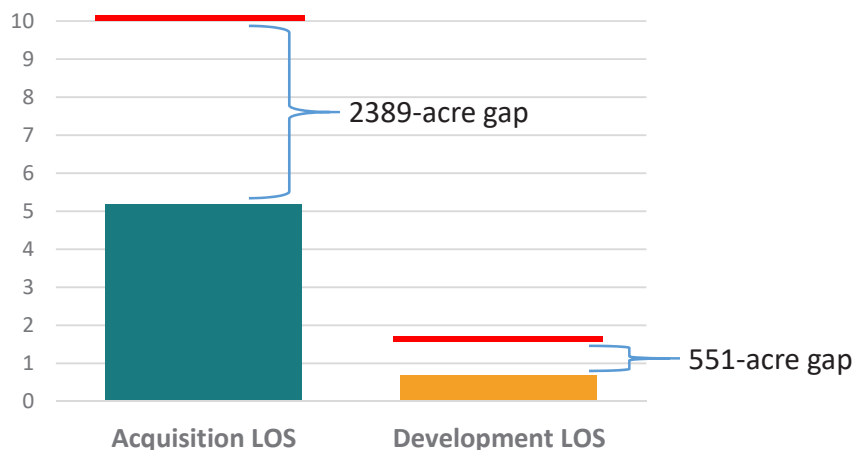


Figure 26. Current 2020 Level of Service & Performance to Regional Parks Standards (County property only)

Parkland Acreage		Regional Parks	
County Regional Parks		2,603.5 acres	
Other Providers of Regional-like Parks		6,848 acres	
Total		9,451.5 acres	
Level of Service		2020	2030
Current Service Standard		10.0 acres per 1,000	
Effective Level of Service based on total acreage (acres/1,000 residents)		18.93	16.23
Net LOS to Standard (acres/1,000 residents)		8.93	6.23
Performance to Standard		189%	162%
Acreage surplus (deficit)		4,459	3,628

Figure 27. Need for Regional Parks: Combined with other Providers

The planned development of Camp Bonneville and Brush Prairie regional parks will offset the current LOS deficiency for regional parks.

Other public land agencies in the county provide facilities comparable to regional parks. These include Battle Ground Lake State Park, Paradise Point State Park, Fort Vancouver National Historic Park, Ridgefield Wildlife Refuge and Steigerwald Wildlife Refuge. They provide an additional 6,848 acres of regional parks to the community. The LOS for regional park acreage would be 9,452 acres if these facilities were considered. This would exceed the LOS by 189% in 2020. The county will consider these other facilities as property that contributes to the regional park recreational capacity moving forward. (Figure 27)

Recommendations for Regional Parks

Regional parks in Clark County attract significant outdoor recreation seekers from walkers and runners to picnickers, fishermen, hikers, birders, dog walkers, boaters, and nature lovers.

Plan the development of Camp Bonneville & Brush Prairie Regional Parks

Some regional parks are challenged with visitation that exceeds the park's carrying capacity. Implementing projects to develop currently undeveloped regional parks can provide additional

regional park experiences and improve the regional park's carrying capacity. Master planning of undeveloped regional park sites will incorporate operational costs and cost recovery methods to assist in offsetting the operational and maintenance costs for these parks.

Level of Service Metric

The regional park system metric will be reviewed to transition it from its historic acreage per capital goal to a value more in-line with the current inventory or toward a distribution and access standard that focuses on the recreational capacity of the network of regional parks to serve county residents.

Regional parks will work to provide the basic amenities including:

- Restrooms and parking,
- Trails that access both park features and natural spaces,
- Special outdoor recreation activities can be added where feasible

Undeveloped regional parks will be planned to determine the site's appropriate outdoor recreational development capacity.



Community Parks & Neighborhood Parks Analysis

The county provides community parks and neighborhood parks within the Vancouver urban unincorporated area (VUUA). Due to the overlap, they will be assessed as a single unit of urban parks.

There are 61 neighborhood and community parks totaling over 720 acres, plus nine urban natural areas that protect another 120 acres. Park impact fees have financed park acquisition and development since the 1990s, and real estate excise taxes have supplemented the PIF program to support funding of park development. The Greater Clark Parks District (GCPD) program has provided a property tax-based funding for the maintenance and operations of most new parks in the VUUA since its creation in 2005. The inventory of sport fields has increased with the implementation of the GCPD levy and along with improving trail connections.

Amenity Assessment

The county parks in the VUUA provide a wide range of outdoor recreation. Neighborhood and community parks provide open grass areas for non-programmed play. Playgrounds with structured play equipment and safety fall surfacing are in every developed urban park. Paved walking paths connect amenities within each park and often provide loop alignments and connections to nearby residential neighborhoods. Picnic tables and park

benches are provided, and most newer facilities are ADA-accessible. Community parks typically provide parking and restrooms. Natural areas and woodlands can be components of the park experience as well.

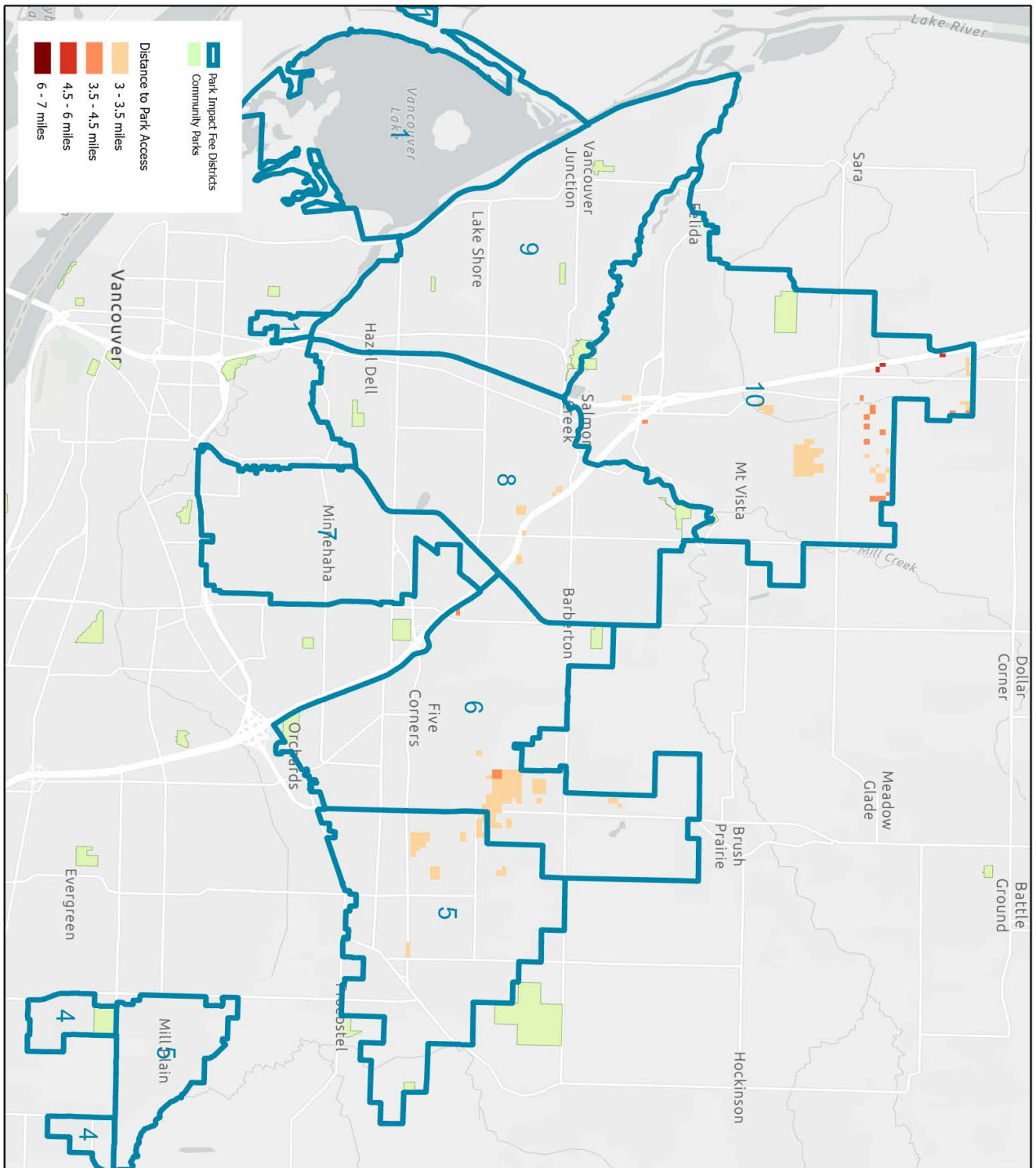
Park Distribution – Gap Analysis

Clark County's projected growth will place further pressure on access to new recreational lands. Understanding the known gaps for urban parks and evaluating the County's existing LOS for parks will provide a foundation for strategic planning for a balanced distribution of parks, trails, and recreation amenities in the future.

To better understand where acquisition efforts should be considered, a gap analysis of the urban parks was conducted to assess the current distribution of parks across the VUUA. The analysis reviewed the locations and types of existing facilities, land use classifications, park district boundaries, transportation/access barriers and other factors to identify preliminary acquisition target areas. Residentially zoned lands were isolated in the assessment since neighborhood and community parks primarily serve those areas. Walksheds were defined for neighborhood parks using a 1/2-mile service area with travel distances calculated along the road network starting from known and accessible access points at each park. Walksheds for community parks were derived using 3-mile travel distances to acknowledge that community parks serve a wider array of users and

Acquisition Level of Service		2020			
Current UUA Population		157,870			
Park Classification	Combined	Community	Neighborhood	Natural Area	
Current Acquisition Standard (acres/1,000 residents)	6.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
Effective Level of Service based on total acreage (acres/1,000 residents)	5.33	3.03	1.54	0.76	
Net LOS to Standard (acres/1,000 residents)	(0.67)	0.03	(0.46)	(0.24)	
Performance to Standard	89%	101%	77%	76%	
Acreage surplus (deficit)	(105.6)	4.9	(72.8)	(37.8)	

Figure 28. Urban Park System Level of Service to Acquisition Standard



Map 4: Urban Community Park Walkability Map (3-miles)



Acquisition Level of Service		2030			
Projected UUA Population		183,332			
Park Classification	Combined	Community	Neighborhood	Natural Area	
Current Acquisition Standard (<i>acres/1,000 residents</i>)	6.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
Effective Level of Service based on total acreage (<i>acres/1,000 residents</i>)	4.59	2.61	1.33	0.66	
Net LOS to Standard (<i>acres/1,000 residents</i>)	(1.41)	(0.39)	(0.67)	(0.34)	
Performance to Standard	77%	87%	66%	66%	
Acreage surplus (deficit)	(258.4)	(71.5)	(123.7)	(63.2)	

Figure 29. Urban Park system Level of Service to Acquisition Standard to 2030

driving to such sites is typical.

Maps 4 through 6 illustrate the application of the distribution criteria from existing parks. The analysis shows that approximately 50% of residential areas have reasonable access to parks. Areas with darker color do not have an urban public park within reasonable walking distance of their home.

Striving to provide a neighborhood or community park within a reasonable distance may require acquiring new park properties in currently underserved locations and improving multi-modal transportation connections to allow residents to reach their local park. As the VUUA continues to develop and acquisition opportunities diminish, a strategic approach will be needed to better serve residents. In concert with the search for developable park land, coordination with proposed residential land development projects is needed to ensure consideration of when and how a public

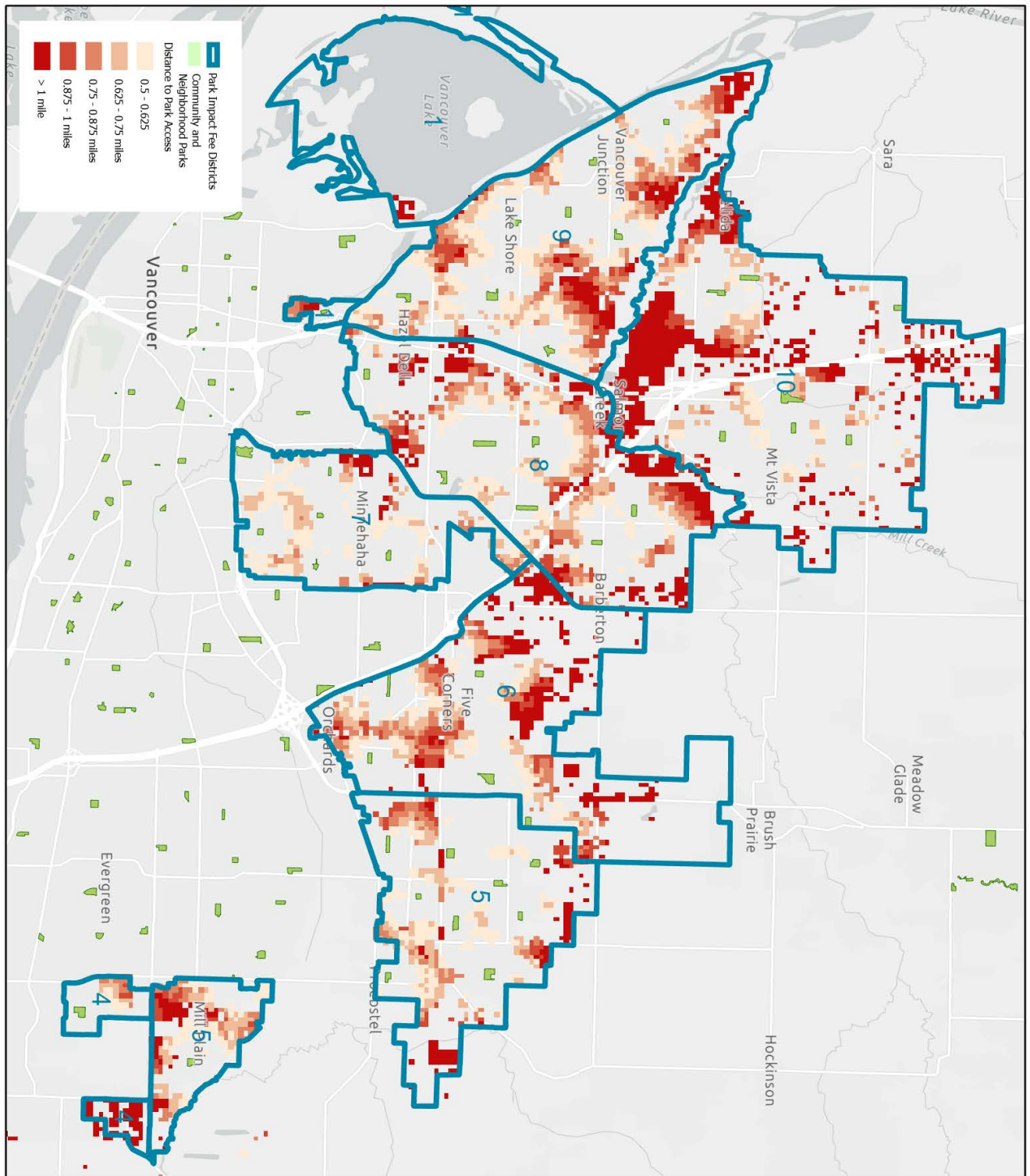
park could be incorporated into the planning of new residential communities.

Potential acquisitions priority areas are identified using Maps 4 through 6. The mapping identifies areas where parks are needed, based off of the denser color. No specific sites or properties are identified, however in reviewing this data and LOS data 21 future park sites have been targeted by park district:

- Park Districts #5: acquisition of 4 sites (estimated as 9-10 acres)
- Park Districts #6: acquisition of 3-4 sites (estimated as 9-11 acres)
- Park Districts #7: acquisition of 2 sites (estimated as 3-4 acres)
- Park Districts #8: acquisition of 4 sites (estimated as 9-10 acres)
- Park Districts #9: acquisition of 3 sites (estimated as 3-5 acres)
- Park Districts #10: acquisition of 5-6 sites (estimated as 15-40 acres)

Park Development Level of Service		2020		
Current UUA Population		157,870		
Park Classification	Combined	Community	Neighborhood	
Current Development Standard (<i>acres/1,000 residents</i>)	4.25	2.25	2.0	
Effective Level of Service based on total acreage (<i>acres/1,000 residents</i>)	2.54	1.55	0.99	
Net LOS to Standard (<i>acres/1,000 residents</i>)	(1.71)	(0.70)	(1.01)	
Performance to Standard	60%	69%	50%	
Acreage surplus (deficit)	(269.2)	(109.8)	(159.4)	

Figure 30. Urban Park System Level of Service to Development Standard



Map 5: Urban Neighborhood Park Walkability Map (1/2-mile)



Park Development Level of Service		2030		
Projected UUA Population		183,332		
Park Classification	Combined	Community	Neighborhood	
Current Development Standard (acres/1,000 residents)	4.25	2.25	2.0	
Effective Level of Service based on total acreage (acres/1,000 residents)	2.19	1.34	0.85	
Net LOS to Standard (acres/1,000 residents)	(2.06)	(0.91)	(1.15)	
Performance to Standard	52%	59%	43%	
Acreage surplus (deficit)	(377.5)	(167.1)	(210.4)	

Figure 31. Urban Park System Level of Service to Development Standard to 2030

These acquisition targets represent a long-term vision for improving parkland distribution across the VUUA and are designed to accommodate additional park sites in the urban unincorporated area. (Figure 28 & 29)

Level of Service Standard

The combined park (community and neighborhood parks) acreage standard within the VUUA is 5 acres per 1,000 population. The park distribution goal is to locate community parks so residents can be within a three-mile drive of a park. For neighborhood parks, the park distribution is based on a ½-mile watershed, as described for the gap analysis.

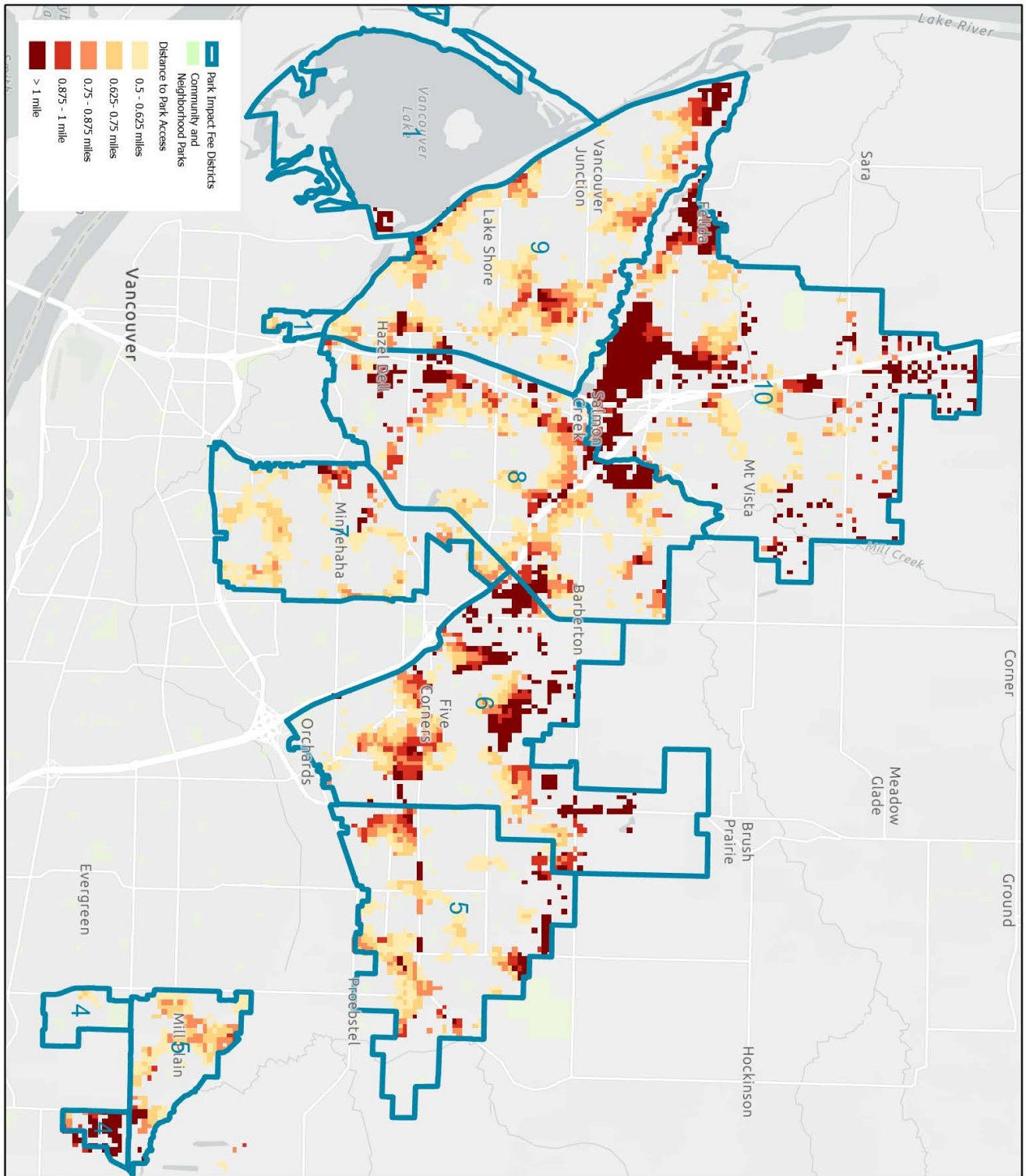
The VUUA is divided into park impact fee (PIF) districts that also contain the boundaries of the GCPD. As annexation into the City of Vancouver occurs or the growth area expands, the PIF district boundaries also expand. However, the GCPD boundaries are static, unless enlarged through a majority vote of residents within a potential annexation area.

At approximately 842 acres, the current LOS for the urban parks of the VUUA is 5.3 acres per 1,000 people, which exceeds the LOS of 5 acres per 1,000.

GCPD / UUA Metrics	District 5	District 6	District 7	District 8	District 9	District 10
Per Capita LOS by Classification						
Neighborhood Parks: Performance to Standard (2 ac/000)	75.7%	49.0%	77.8%	69.9%	68.7%	110.1%
Neighborhood Parks: LOS Grade	B	C	A	B	B	A+
Community Parks: Performance to Standard (3 ac/000)	88.7%	149.6%	70.6%	69.6%	108.3%	117.6%
Community Parks: LOS Grade	A	A+	B	B	A+	A+
Natural Areas: Performance to Standard (1 ac/000)	0.0%	0.0%	39.2%	87.6%	73.6%	307.1%
Natural Areas: LOS Grade	F	F	D	A	B	A+
Parkland Access (within walksheds)						
Population within Service Area*	35,567	25,745	15,876	28,880	30,189	21,613
Percent Service Area with Access to Neighborhood Parks	60.8%	41.3%	64.7%	48.5%	54.6%	27.7%
LOS Grade	B	D	B	C	B	F

* Note: The percentage of land area covered by service area walksheds is a proxy for the population within the residential portion of the District.

Figure 32. Current Acquisition Level of Service (2020) by PIF District



Map 6: Composite Urban Park Walkability Map (3-miles)



Urban park development is performing at 60% of the adopted standard, providing 2.5 acres of developed parkland per 1,000 population compared to the standard of 4.25 acres per 1,000. (Figure 30) A current deficit of 269 acres exist for developed parkland across the entire VUUA.

With the projected population growth in the VUUA, future need for urban parkland will grow to approximately 258 acres to meet the acquisition standard and 378 acres to meet the park development standard. (Figure 31)

The analysis identifies a need for neighborhood parks, rather than community parks, to serve the VUUA. This demand for additional parkland will need to be balanced with ensuring existing urban park facilities are maintained adequately, given typical fiscal constraints.

Community Parks

Since the 2015 PROS Plan, community parkland acreage has increased from a total acreage of 335 acres (150 developed acres) to the current total of 478 acres (245 developed acres). Community park acreage increased by 42% and developed community park acreage increased by 63%. This increase in acreage across the VUUA has resulted in community parks meeting the current acquisition LOS. However, individual park districts may not meet the LOS for that district. Developed community park areas require 109.8 acres to meet

the 2.25 acres per 1,000 population LOS. The demand for community park acreage will increase over the next decade as the population is estimated to increase by over 13%. The projected acreage and developed park acreage to meet the LOS in 2030 is an additional 71.5 acres acquired and 167.1 acres developed.

Neighborhood Parks

The county-managed neighborhood parks in the VUUA total 243 acres (156 acres developed). Since the last PROS Plan in 2015, neighborhood parks have increased 24% from 194.6 acres (125.7 acres developed). The current level of service for neighborhood park acreage is 1.54 acres per 1,000 population across the VUUA. For developed neighborhood parks, the current LOS is 0.99 acres per 1,000 population. The neighborhood park classification currently performs at 77% of LOS for acreages. For developed neighborhood park acres, the performance is at 50% of LOS. To meet the LOS in 2030 an additional 123.7 acres acquired and 210.4 acres developed is needed.

Urban Parks Level of Service by PIF District

The LOS has been calculated for each PIF district using population figures calculated for each district. In the shared districts (Districts #5 & #7), only the county portion is considered in the assessment. PIF districts #1 and #4 have been excluded since

		2020				2030			
		Community Parks		Neighborhood Parks		Community Parks		Neighborhood Parks	
		Surplus / (-Deficit)		Surplus / (-Deficit)		Surplus / (-Deficit)		Surplus / (-Deficit)	
2030 Population Projection		Acquired	Developed	Acquired	Developed	Acquired	Developed	Acquired	Developed
Park District #5	40,311	(12.1)	(1.1)	(17.3)	(33.9)	(68.0)	(37.7)	(26.8)	(43.3)
Park District #6	29,179	38.3	12.1	(26.3)	(38.7)	(4.1)	(49.1)	(33.1)	(45.6)
Park District #7	17,994	(14.0)	(35.7)	(7.1)	(15.2)	(43.9)	(40.5)	(11.3)	(19.4)
Park District #8	32,732	(26.3)	(45.0)	(17.4)	(31.1)	(37.9)	(53.6)	(25.1)	(38.8)
Park District #9	34,227	7.5	(21.6)	(18.9)	(23.3)	(4.6)	(30.7)	(27.0)	(31.4)
Park District #10	24,496	11.4	(18.4)	4.4	(22.3)	(43.3)	(24.9)	(1.4)	(28.1)

Figure 33. Current Acquisition Level of Service (2020) by PIF District

GCPD / UUA Metrics	District 5	District 6	District 7	District 8	District 9	District 10
Per Capita LOS by Classification						
Neighborhood Parks: Performance to Standard (2 ac/000)	52.4%	24.9%	52.2%	46.2%	61.4%	48.4%
Neighborhood Parks: LOS Grade	C	F	C	D	B	D
Community Parks: Performance to Standard (2.25 ac/000)	98.6%	120.9%	0.0%	30.8%	68.1%	62.1%
Community Parks: LOS Grade	A	A+	F	F	B	B

Figure 34. Current Park Development Level of Service (2020) by PIF District

these are predominantly the City of Vancouver areas and the county-owned parks in these districts provide a high level of service today. The assessment also calculates any shortfalls to reveal the need for additional parkland acreage within each park classification and the needs for additional developed park areas.

The current park impact fee program for the VUUA is structured as a tool to pay for new residential growth. Figure 32 aims to highlight the current LOS by park classification for each of the primary VUUA PIF districts. The chart uses color-coding to illustrate performance to the adopted standards and uses a letter grading system to simplify the snapshot of current conditions by PIF district.

For today's population and current acreage, PIF district #10 shows the strongest performance to the LOS, however parkland distribution in that district is poor. Each of the remaining PIF districts shows relatively good performance to the LOS. All PIF districts are projected to turn to acreage deficits by 2030. Figure 33 shows the projected change in acreage need between 2020 and 2030 for each PIF district.

The county's capacity to improve or meet the LOS for both park classifications will be strongly tied to the ability to pay for the additional operations and maintenance demands of any growth in the park system.

Going Beyond Acreage Standards

Using a service standard for park acreage tied to a community's population provides a common measure for guiding the amount of desired parkland. However, the acreage of parkland per capita provides only a limited measure of the value of recreational access and park amenities in demand for public uses. As the park system matures with increasing residential density, other assessment techniques should be incorporated going forward to gauge the community's need for additional lands, facilities, and amenities, which include the following:

Park Pressure

Park pressure refers to the potential demand on a park. One method of exploration examines the proximity of residential populations to a park and assumes that the residents in a 'parkshed' use the park closest to them and that people visit their closest park more often than those farther away.

Using GIS, the 'parkshed' is defined by a polygon or a park service area containing all households having the given park as their closest park. The population within this park service area can then be calculated, providing an estimate of the number of nearby potential park users. The acreage of the subject park is then used to calculate the number of park acres available per 1,000 people within the parkshed. This measure of probable park use and population pressure identifies the adequacy of the park land (in acres per 1,000) rather than simply the location and 'walkability' determined by the park accessibility metric. Depending on the amenities and attractions within the park, the higher the population within a parkshed will result in greater use and potential increased maintenance and wear.



Park Amenity Mix

Providing unique outdoor experiences, while working to fulfill basic recreational park amenities, will result in parks with a variety of amenities. The variety and location of amenities available within a community's parks and recreational facilities will create a range of different preferences and levels of park usage by residents. Park systems work to ensure an equitable distribution and quantity of the most common amenities like playgrounds, picnic shelters, restrooms, sports courts, sports field, and trails to help distribute the potential usage of load on individual parks.

Park Amenity Condition

In addition to understanding the inventory of park amenities, communities must also assess the condition of each park's general infrastructure and amenities. The condition or quality of park amenities is a key measure of park adequacy and a required assurance of public safety. General park infrastructure may include walkways, parking lots, park furniture, drainage and irrigation, lighting systems and vegetation. Deferred maintenance over a long period can result in unusable amenities when perceived as unsafe or undesirable by park patrons.

Recommendations for Community Parks & Neighborhood Parks

- Complete the development of:
 - Curtin Creek Community Park
 - Pleasant Valley Community Park
 - Kozy Kamp Neighborhood Park
 - Salmon Creek Community Club Neighborhood Park
- Develop five trail corridors
- Enhance & Renovate existing parks
- Complete site assessments for condition and access needs
- Use PIF resources for acquiring future park sites to fill LOS gaps
- Analyze PIF district structure, LOS and PIF credits to enhance administration

Natural areas Analysis

There are existing plans that assist the county in managing and acquiring additional natural areas.

Clark County Comprehensive Growth Management Plan 2004-2024

The adopted 20-Year comprehensive plan for the county identifies several goals that provide guidance for the conservation of open space, as directed by the Washington State Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70a.020). The Plan includes a rural and natural resource element that supports natural resource industries, an environmental element that focuses on protecting critical habitat and species, and a parks, recreation and open space element that endorses the identification, acquisition and implementation of a system of open space lands that provide for adequate public outdoor recreation and natural resource conservation.

2022 Natural Areas Acquisition Plan

The primary goal of the NAAP is to establish an interconnected system of habitat and greenways along the county's rivers, lakes, and streams, and to conserve other identified high-value habitat and open space lands. The current draft 2020 Natural Areas Acquisition Plan (NAAP) identifies specific project opportunities focused on high-value conservation lands, including greenways, habitat, farm, and forest resources lands. The NAAP seeks to leverage the resources of Conservation Futures (CF) funding through partnerships with public and private agencies to acquire and protect critical habitat, natural resources and expand, connect, or link existing conserved lands.

The NAAP seeks to leverage the bonds with other funding partners to acquire specific high-value conservation lands over the next six years. The targeted sites include future opportunities for park development, trail creation and habitat improvements. Leveraged partnerships between both private entities and public agencies are necessary to implement the full acquisition plan.

Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping and analysis was conducted to identify the interconnected system of habitat and greenways along the county's rivers and streams. The GIS mapping process was used to develop high value conservation lands maps for 19 subareas in the County that provide information about specific sites and potential conservation targets. The overlaying of high value conservation lands with regional trails aligned across eight (8) existing regional trail corridors and coincide with identified water trails along the lower Columbia River, Lake River, Vancouver Lake, and portions of East Fork/ North Lewis Rivers.

Among its habitat and greenways objectives, the NAAP seeks to establish a conservation system that enhances the opportunities for public outdoor recreation and to provide the system of greenways that supports the continual development of the regional trails system (consistent with the county regional trail and bikeway systems plan). An additional objective seeks to provide more public waterway access that supports the county's water trails and opportunities for small watercraft use.

In its latest natural lands acquisition effort, the County authorized issuing \$7 million in bonds to purchase ten properties across the county. These properties have significant value for wildlife, water quality, recreation, farm, forest and/or other conservation values. The subject properties have been identified as:

- Cedar Golf Course
- East Fork Lewis River-Mason Creek
- Three Creeks Greenway
- Horseshoe Falls
- Columbia River Shoreline
- Lewis River Ranch Phase 2
- Lake River Water Trail
- Rock Creek Forest
- Flume Creek Access
- Whipple Creek Regional Park to Faigrounds Community Park

- La Center Bottoms Addition
- Ridgefield Pits
- Lacamas Prairie Natural Area
- Ridgefield Schools to Flume Creek Trail
- East Fork Lewis River-Optimists
- Salmon-Whipple Creeks Farm Preservation

Urban Natural areas

The current inventory of urban natural areas includes 120 acres comprised of eight sites. These properties are not evenly distributed across the VUUA, and they are in PIF districts #4 through #10. The current deficit of 38 acres is expected to increase to 63 acres by 2030 if no additional acquisitions are completed. Since urban natural areas are often undevelopable lands and unique in their natural resource character, it is recommended that their acquisition be viewed over the entire VUUA instead by individual district. Opportunities and desirable conservation values work together to define and identify future urban natural areas acquisition targets.

Recommendations for Natural areas

The 2022 Natural Areas Acquisition Plan identifies nearly 20 potential projects to enhance public ownership of Legacy Lands that accommodate conservation, restoration, and recreation.

The county continues to implement the goals and pursue the projects noted in the NAAP, including the following:

- Completing the conservation futures projects established as part of the 2017 bond sale.
- Reallocate unused bond revenues from withdrawn projects to new projects identified in the 2022 NAAP.
- Pursue additional acquisitions in partnership with landowners, local jurisdictions and non-profit partner organizations.



Trails Analysis

Community Input Analysis

Trails for walking, biking and other specialized uses ranked highly in both community surveys conducted as part of this plan update. Hiking or walking, cycling, wildlife viewing and jogging or running were ranked as four of the top five activities that survey respondents participate in, and all of which can or do occur on trails. Survey respondents also tend to visit frequently, with 81% using a walking and biking trail at least once per month. Approximately 40% use trails at least once a week and another 40% use trails one to three times per month.

Regarding trail-based improvements, respondents were asked about the importance of certain trail-related amenities from a list provided. Most of the respondents indicated the following as either very important or important: trailhead parking (96%), unpaved trails (94%), restrooms at trailheads (90%), and paved, shared-use trails (87%). (Figure 35)

Survey respondents indicated a lower level of importance toward single-purpose trail types for mountain biking (48%) and horseback riding (27.1%); however, write-in comments from other survey questions reinforce the value of and need for these trail types to serve the Clark County community.

From the second survey that focused on system priorities, respondents were provided a different list of six items, which represented project types that typically cost more to install and/or maintain. In forced ranking between the list items, trail amenities such as restrooms and parking ranked as the top item (4.6 on 6-point scale, 80.5%). The second highest ranking as for paved, shared use trail connections (71%). (Figure 36)

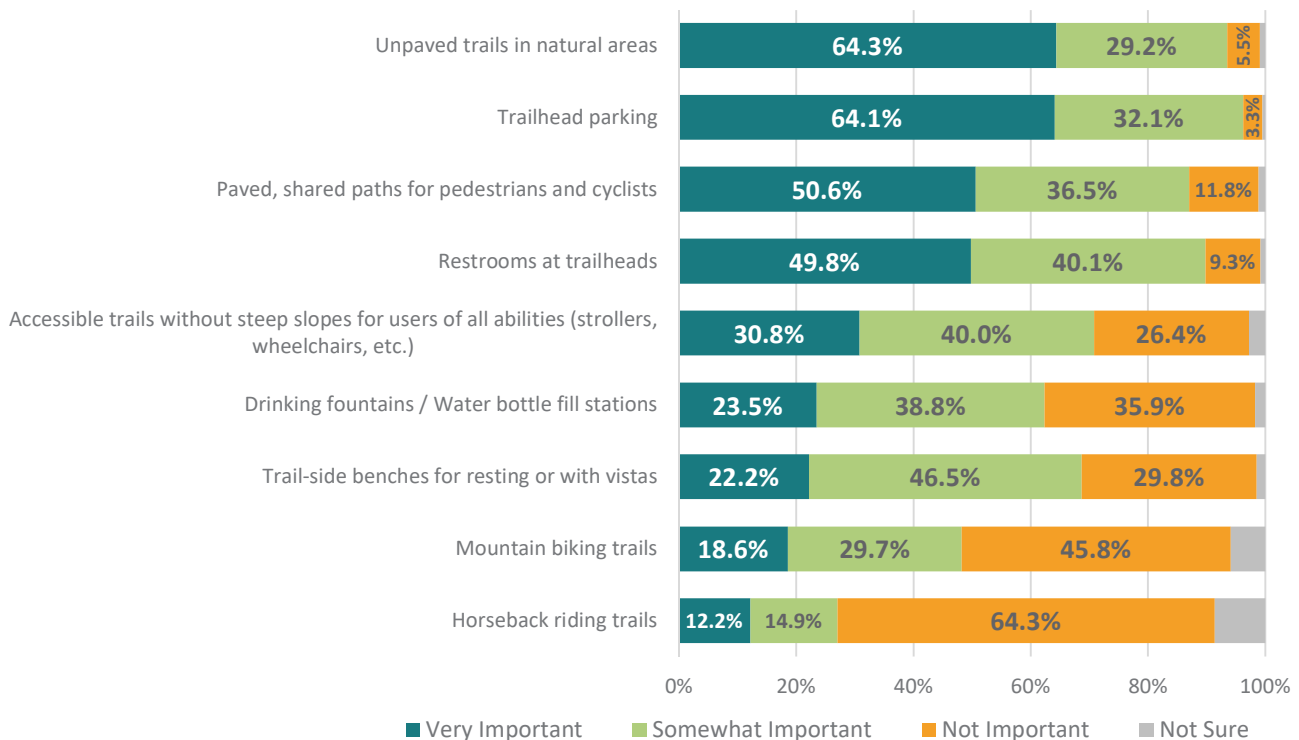


Figure 35. Importance of Trail Type or Amenity to Household

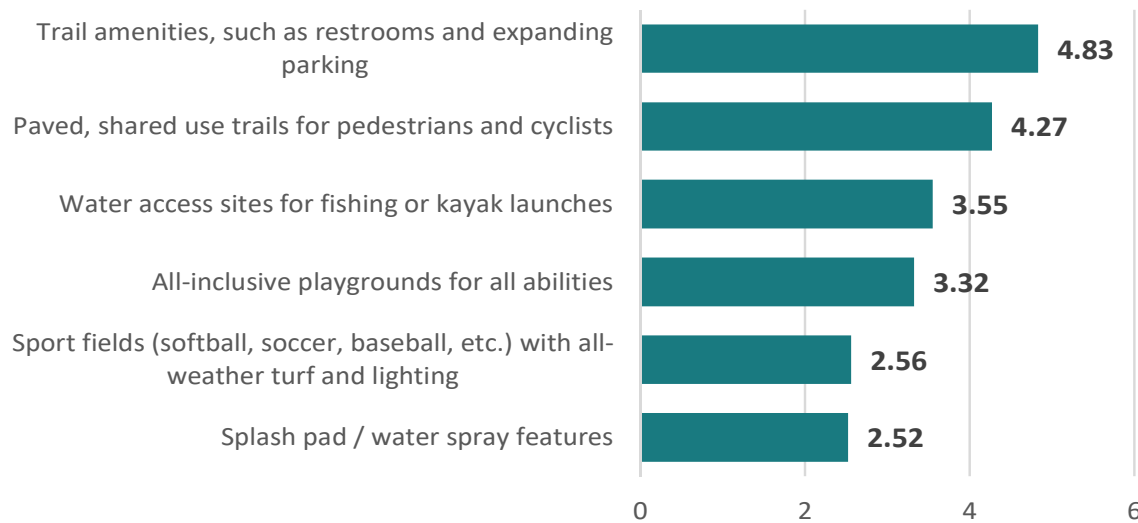


Figure 36. Force Ranking of Importance of Various Project Types

Trail Usage Measurements

The Intertwine, an alliance that advocates for healthy and resilient communities in the Portland-Vancouver region, completes a Trail Snapshot every year to measure the trends in bicycle and pedestrian use across the bi-state area. This report is completed with collaboration from jurisdictions throughout the region. The trail counts are conducted in September and measure two-hour periods on two weekdays and two weekend days. The user counts are extrapolated into annual usage using the National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project methodology.

The 2017 report on regional trail use showed trends from 2008 through 2015. The report showed that, across the region, the share of bicycle and pedestrian users on The Intertwine is split evenly between pedestrians and bicyclists. Bicyclists were predominantly male (70%), but pedestrians were evenly split between genders. Other modes such as wheelchairs, horses, roller blades and skateboards made up approximately two percent of users. The report stated that a trail may have different user profiles based

on location and other characteristics. Shorter trails have higher pedestrian use; longer trails have higher percentage of cyclists. Survey results indicated that for pedestrian use, the trail's scenic qualities are far more important than its connectivity. A majority of bicycle trips on the region's trails were for transportation, while nearly all pedestrian trips were for recreation. The following trails were included in the annual Intertwine regional trail count program:

- Burnt Bridge Creek Trail
- Columbia River Renaissance Trail
- Frenchman's Bar-Vancouver Lake Trail
- Lacamas Heritage Trail
- Padden Parkway Trail
- I-5 Trail
- I-205 Trail
- Chelatchie Prairie Rail with Trail
- Salmon Creek Trail



Trail User Groups

Representatives from trail groups in the county shared their existing challenges and offered their priorities for future trail projects. All trail representatives recognized the value of the existing trail network and the need to make more connections to fill in the gaps.

Trail advocates were interested in supporting the NAAP to help make existing trail connections and extensions along natural areas. During the NAAP planning process there was public support expressed for trails and trail connections.

The need to enhance amenities for trail users such as restrooms, water stations, shade, benches, and wayfinding signage was identified. Providing universal access and equity to trail networks for people with different abilities was also supported.

Equestrian Trails

Equestrians have been active trail advocates and trail builders for many decades. The Clark County Executive Horse Council represents a variety of equestrian groups that are active in the county. Whipple Creek Regional Park is an equestrian trails facility and the planned trail connection from Whipple Creek to the Fairgrounds Community Park is a high priority the Council.

Mountain bikers

Mountain bikers have been active in Lacamas Park for several years. They have partnered with the county to develop a plan for a sustainable trail system for users and reduce environmental impacts of trails near sensitive resources. The project helped to identify the network of existing trails and user-created trails. Mountain biking is a growing trail use in the region and more facilities are needed. Adding features such as pump tracks and skills courses and ensuring regional parks have mountain bike-specific trails will address the use demand and trail congestion on existing trails.

Current Conditions: Gap Analysis

Clark County has 16 adopted regional trails that provide 50 miles of trails around the county. This network is a collection of trail segments with many on street gaps and off-street pathways. The county's sidewalk system within the VUUA is incomplete making it difficult

for residents to connect to parks, schools, shopping, workplaces, and trail linkages.

The county does not have an adopted standard for its trails and greenways, and no specific standard for trails has been proposed. NRPA's previous standards for trails was used as a benchmark. For bicycle and jogging trails, the guideline was 1 mile per 1,000 population. At Clark County's current population, 499 miles of trails would be needed to meet the standard. While the NRPA standard was intended for urban areas, the gap in standards reinforces the need for more mileage within the regional system and for making critical connections.

Recommendations

Prioritize the acquisition of seven trail alignments in the urban unincorporated area (VUUA):

- Curtin Creek Trail
- LaLonde Creek Greenway
- Lalonde Creek Trail
- Cougar Creek Greenway
- Cougar Creek Trail
- Whipple Creek Trail
- Salmon Creek

The following VUUA trail development and improvements projects are also recommended:

- East Powerline Trail
- Vancouver Lake Trail
- Salmon Creek Greenway Trail
- Curtin Creek Trail
- Cougar Creek Trail
- Lalonde Trail
- Salmon Creek Trail
- Whipple Creek Trail

For the regional trail system, the following trail acquisition projects are recommended:

- Livingston Mountain Trail
- Green Mountain Trail
- Chelatchie Prairie RR Trail
- East Powerline Trail Vancouver Lake-Frenchman's Bay Loop
- Lewis River-Vancouver Lake (LRVL) Water Trail Access

Policy Recommendations

The following policy recommendations are directed at building the regional and urban trail system to provide Clark County with more of the economic, health, recreational and environmental benefits of trails.

Expand existing regional and local trail segments throughout the county and the urban unincorporated area.

- Lengthen existing trails in key locations as prioritized by this 2022-2027 Parks and Lands Division Capital Plan.

Capture future trail alignments during the site plan and land development process to ensure future connections.

- Trail alignments for all adopted regional and local (urban) trails should be on official county maps and GIS data sets and incorporated into the Developers Packet as part of site plan review requirements.
- Right-of-way space for the trail alignment should be reserved for future trail construction.

Trail use measurements and trail surveys should be expanded to capture trends and valuable data.

- Participate in The Intertwine annual trail count program.
- Expand use of physical trail counters
- Pursue trail acquisition and development grants through state and federal grant programs.

Partner with other county departments and local jurisdictions to implement trail acquisition and development targets.

- Engage with Public Work Transportation, Community Development, local cities, and port authorities to identify trail alignment acquisition opportunities and development projects.

Partner with trail user groups and non-profits to help design and implement trail projects.

- Leverage the limited public resources and encourage more public support for trail implementation projects.

Improve trailhead facilities to provide basic amenities for trail users.

- Trailheads facilities should be planned to ensure adequate services are located along the trail length and throughout the trail network.
- Expand special use trails through partnerships with local recreational groups to provide more trail facilities.
- Regional parks are a good site for providing specialized facilities for different trail experiences and user groups.

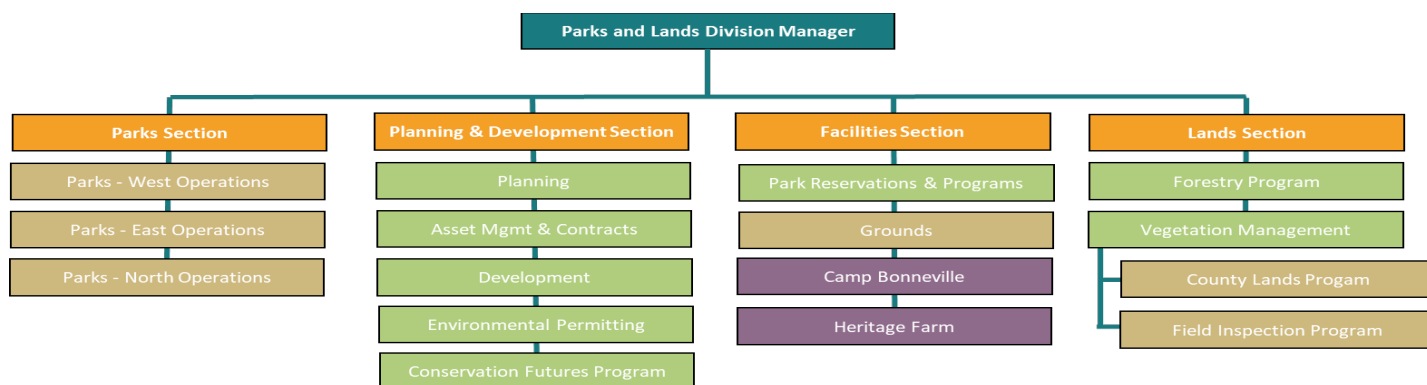


Figure 38. Parks and Land Division Organizational Chart

Analysis of Operation & Maintenance

As the community continues to grow, so will the county park system as we try to meet the demand for outdoor recreation. As new parklands are acquired and parks developed, the operation and maintenance requirements will increase. Staffing, equipment, materials, and supplies need to be increased to care for both the existing and new facilities.

As the system ages, the costs to maintain and rehabilitate existing facilities increases as well. The backlog of capital repairs and deferred maintenance need to be addressed. There is no sustainable funding at this time for operations or deferred maintenance and the parks levy is forecasted to be in the red in just a few years. This will be a challenge to focus on during the levels of service study to align investments with dollars for maintenance.

Regional & Urban Parks

While many park maintenance tasks are identical across outdoor recreation facilities, the county park system operates in two distinctly separate arenas. The urban parks, known as the GCPD, is focused on providing denser, more developed park facilities. These parks include neighborhood and community parks and sports facilities within the GCPD boundaries. With a separate tax levy as the primary funding source, these park operations are tracked separately from the General Fund expenses for regional parks.

Administration, planning and management for these two classifications of parks overlaps to ensure all the county-managed park facilities are coordinated to serve the community. Natural areas are managed as a separate program, but under the same coordinated administration.

Clark County provides the outdoor recreation facilities but, the county does not provide outdoor recreational programming. Programming for recreation is administered by local city park and recreation agencies as well as private sports organizations.

Operations Staff Input

Lead members of parks operations staff shared their perspectives on the current challenges and trends facing county parks maintenance and operations. Staff interviews, performance measures, annual asset management and expenditures were combined to illustrate several trends in park operations over the last few years. From the beginning of 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic caused interruptions in some park services, but the previous five-year period offers a snapshot of how labor forces are allocated across the park system. Comparing those percentages of labor tasks to data from 2010 reports, shows an increase in tree maintenance and litter collection and a decrease in janitorial services.

Parks Labor Distribution	2010	2019
Restrooms - janitorial	25%	17%
Turf Mowing	25%	23%
Tree maintenance	22%	26%
Debris removal	18%	13%
Litter Collection	9%	21%
Vandalism/Repairs	1%	1%
TOTAL	100%	100%

Figure 39. Parks Labor Distribution

These distinct maintenance tasks are tracked each year through the county's asset management system. (Note that this tracking system has gone through some changes over the last decade. Therefore, some information may be estimated.)

A decrease in the use of corrections crews, particularly in 2017, resulted in a significant increase in the cost/acre of regional parks maintenance since those parks relied heavily on those crews for labor-intensive and lower-skilled maintenance tasks. The availability of correction work crews continues to be a challenge.

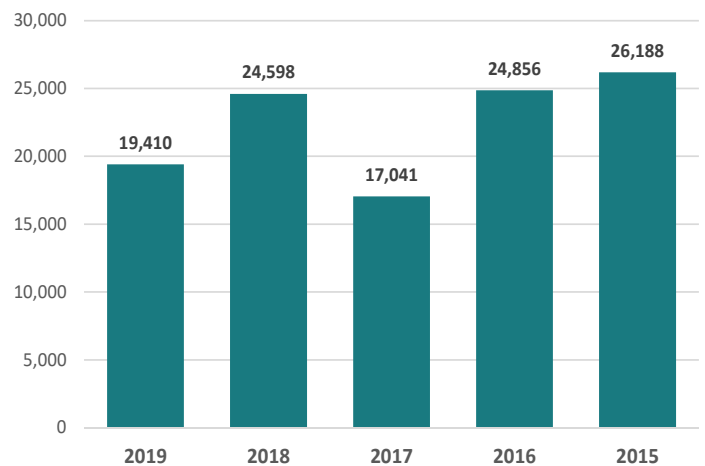


Figure 41. Parks Labor: Offender Crews & Regional Parks

Parks Cost per Acre (2015-2019)	5-Yr Average	2010
Green Spaces Labor Hours/Acre	21	16
Green Spaces Cost/Acre	\$620	\$2,400
Neighborhood Parks Labor Hours/Acre	152	110
Neighborhood Parks Cost/Acre	\$5,469	\$5,500
Community Parks Labor Hours/Acre	111	112
Community Parks Cost/Acre	\$3,800	\$4,400
Regional Parks Labor Hours/Acre	98	100
Regional Parks Cost/Acre	\$3,174	\$3,330

Figure 40. Parks Cost per Acre Based on Park Type: 5-year Average & 2010



Park Agency Performance Benchmarks

The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) conducts nation-wide surveys of park and recreation agencies through their PRORAGIS program. These survey results are used to compare different park and recreation providers in widely different communities across the country.

In April 2020, NRPA prepared an agency performance review for Clark County Parks that provided data from other park and recreation agencies that operated in communities with a similar population density. Comparison with all agencies reporting from across the county were also included in the report. The report offers a snapshot of how the county compares with other peer park agencies throughout the U.S.

It should be noted that not all comparative agencies offer the same range of services. Clark County is almost unique in that it is a county regional park system that also has an urban park system under its jurisdiction. Clark County is also not the sole provider of park and recreation services within the county. The incorporated cities, Washington State and federal land management agencies provide public lands for outdoor recreation as well.

Highlights from the NRPA agency comparison provides some perspectives on the county park system:

- More park facilities (71) vs other agencies (15-20) with comparable population densities.
- Higher acreage (3,318.5 acres) vs the median for other park & recreation agencies (400-437.1 acres).
- 33.25 FTEs vs 31.8-41.4 FTEs for smaller systems.
- 0.7 FTEs/10,000 population vs agencies with 8-8.1/FTEs/10,000.

Asset Management

To maintain a high level of public satisfaction, the county must continue to place a high priority on proactive maintenance and the renovation of park facilities and amenities. Current infrastructure and future facility investments require proper stewardship to ensure the park system continues to provide desired services for decades to come. The county is in the process of updating the Parks asset management program to refine the systematic approach in assessing park assets and developing an annual Capital Improvement Plan.

	Clark County (2019) All Parks	PRORAGIS Median All Agencies	Clark County (2019) Regional Parks	PRORAGIS Median Pop. Density 500-1500/sm	PRORAGIS Median Pop. 100-250K	Clark County (2019) GCPD Parks	PRORAGIS Median Pop.> 250,000
Total # Parks	74	20	13	15		69	
Total Park Acres	3,318.5	437.1	2,600	400		825.4	
Operating \$/Acre Parkland	\$2,079	\$3,342		\$2,929			
FTEs/10,000 pop.	0.7	8.1		8	8.4		5.2
FTE's	33.25	41.9		31.8	123.2		289.7
Volunteer hours	11,020	4,116	6,807	3,060		4,639	
Agency Operating Budget	\$6,614,283	\$4,342,495		\$3,157,428	\$11,795,773		\$28,664,747
Annual Capital Budget	\$289,500	\$1,063,144		\$592,900			
Population	499,200	40,100	499,200	30,170		157,870	
Population Density (pop/sq.mi.)	794		794			3,373	
Operating \$/Capita	\$13.25	\$81.19		\$76.92	\$74.67		\$51.91
Parklands: Acres/1,000	6.6	9.9	5.2	12.4	8.9	5.2	10.9
Residents/Park	6,746	2,281	38,400		2,889	2,288	5,908
Miles of Trails Managed	46.2	11		10	25		84.5
Revenue/Budget per Capita	\$13.25	\$20.93		\$17.23	\$15.44		\$7.41
Square miles of jurisdiction	629	28.5	629	29.4		46.8	

Figure 42. NRPA Agency Performance Comparisons

Life Cycle Planning

With limited budgets and on-going maintenance needs, many jurisdictions struggle to provide adequate maintenance and operation support. This often results in a situation where proactive maintenance is deferred, and assets are repaired, rehabilitated, or replaced only when there is an urgent need. This situation can result in a loss of services, higher long-term maintenance costs, and be more difficult and costly to fix.

Consequently, the county must consider and plan for long-term asset management needs.

An asset management program is a comprehensive inventory and assessment of existing facilities and un-met needs. The county should continue to maintain standardized and systematic inventory documentation of park system infrastructure, including quantity, location, and condition. By tracking installation and the expected useful life of assets, a proactive maintenance and replacement of assets practice can be accomplished in the future. This data can inform future budgeting for capital repairs and overall asset management, as well as for predicting staffing requirements. Going forward, the county should utilize life cycle planning to help predict capital repairs and future capital projects.

Risk Management

Mitigating risk through asset management to ensure unsafe assets are closed to the public when appropriate can be accomplished through annual condition assessments, lifecycle planning for capital replacement

and inspections of key assets as part of the routine maintenance protocols. Key asset replacement, like playgrounds and sport facilities, should be prioritized to reduce the potential risk to the recreating community. Safety and risk are a key criterion for capital planning

Cost Recovery

Some facilities generate revenues that offset operational and maintenance costs. Most park systems have a cost recovery model in place to offset the operational costs associated with individual and group benefiting recreational activities versus community benefiting activities. Sports field rentals, picnic shelter rentals and parking fees account for \$795,000 (FY20) and assist in offsetting GCPD and General Fund expenditures. The following paragraphs will illustrate individual facilities impact on cost recovery.

The Luke Jensen Sports Fields are rented to sports leagues for practices and games for baseball and soccer. Some drop-in football and softball rentals occur on occasion. An average of \$155,246 in cost recovery is generated from those rentals over the last four years. In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic reduced sports rental activities and revenue by 50% or more.

Picnic shelters are available for reservations. There are 29 picnic shelters in the county park system with eight shelters in the GCPD and 21 shelters in regional parks. The rental fees four-year average is \$109,000. The cost recovery is distributed 70% to regional parks and 30% to GCPD parks.

Parks Revenue Trends	2016	2017	2018	2019	2016-2019 Average
Luke Jensen Sports Fields	\$157,481	\$158,675	\$139,642	\$165,187	\$155,246
Picnic Shelters (community & regional)	\$80,319	\$112,062	\$126,608	\$118,250	\$109,310
Parking Fee Program (fees & passes)	-n/a-	\$504,233	\$549,562	\$539,022	\$530,939
				Subtotal	\$795,495
Regional Park Parking Fee Program					
Fee Collection Ops Expense	-n/a-	\$186,570	\$184,196	\$202,877	\$191,214
Parking Fee Program Net	-n/a-	\$317,663	\$365,366	\$336,145	\$339,725
				Subtotal	\$530,939

Figure 43. Park Revenue Program Trends



Four regional parks have a parking fee program that was re-instated in 2017. Those are Frenchman's Bar, Lewisville, Salmon Creek at Kline Pond, and Vancouver Lake Regional Parks. The fee booths are staffed March through September. The parking fee program collects fees at the entry booths for vehicles parking and seasonal passes are available for one year. This program has a cost recovery of \$500,000 per FY. The parking fee program has assisted operations as well by reducing park issues and managing capacity at these parks thereby reducing impacts to the park.

Capital Repairs Program

An annual facility condition assessment does more than assist in capital improvement planning. This systematic approach assists in identifying repairs needed to facilities. These are generally managed under the routine maintenance (operation and maintenance tasks). These tasks could include painting a building, repairing a gutter, or applying a seal coat to a paved parking lot. The goal of the capital repairs program is to catch maintenance items early to reduce costs and extend the life of the park asset.

Similar to the risk management assessments, these are a part of routine maintenance inspections and a critical look is taken annually as part of the facilities inventory and condition review. This review is part of the capital planning process but has impacts for maintenance planning as well.

Recommendations

Develop an Operational Resource Standard

Operation staffing and resources has not kept up with the development of the park system. In reviewing the staffing level vs NRPA comparisons, it appears that our FTE/10,000 population is significantly low. The division needs to complete a maintenance management plan to identify the operational resources needed at the current level of service. This will help define the operational resources gap and inform the division on where resources are needed and evaluate a new LOS for parks maintenance and/or develop standards.

Assess Fee Sites

A review of other parks that use type and level would warrant the implementation of a parking fee. The parking fee program could utilize fee collection boxes, applications and advanced pay (web) options to reduce the staffing requirements. The additional parking fees would assist in offsetting operational costs and manage usage levels to reduce impacts on natural resources.

Develop an annual Inventory of Park Facilities

In order to have a complete capital improvement plan, a clear understanding of what assets the division has and their condition is needed. This should be completed annually. This assists in developing annual preventative maintenance plans and major maintenance projects for the division.

Cost Recovery & LOS Assessment

A systematic review of the parks facilities to review the potential for cost recovery is needed. As each facility and type of use is assessed, then a cost recovery objective should be developed. The objective is to reduce the use of general fund or other resources.

Level of service is the maintenance standards and/or requirements for a site. When that standard is equated into hours of work, it becomes a maintenance management plan. The objective is to be equal in staffing as to what the plan states is required to meet the LOS. If they are not equal, then more staff is required or the LOS needs to be adjusted. Otherwise, the park system will have operational impacts.



5

ACTION PLAN

This chapter includes Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) summaries and implementation strategies to fund the CIP. The ongoing maintenance of the park assets will be identified in the implementation strategy as well. A CIP is a list of anticipated park and facility projects which includes a description, priority, potential funding source and estimated cost. The CIP is updated annually as part of the budgeting process to outline the next FY capital budget and forecast the additional 5 years of capital projects.

Capital Planning

The following CIP summary list identifies the park projects identified for the next six years. Most of these projects entail the maintenance, acquisition and development of parks, special recreation amenities and trails. The following table summarizes the aggregate capital estimates by project type for the next six years (figures 44 and 45). A 20 year project list has been developed as well (figures 46 and 47).

The County is moving to an annual CIP process. Figures 44 and 45 is a list identified for FY22. This potential project list will be updated in FY23 and each

fiscal year after to reflect the fiscal and resource constraints and opportunities the County is facing.

Implementation Strategy

The recommendations for parks and recreation services noted in this plan may trigger the need for funding beyond current allocations and for additional staffing, operations, and maintenance responsibilities. Given that the operating and capital budget of the Parks & Lands Division is finite, additional resources may be needed to leverage, supplement, and support the implementation of proposed objectives, programs, and projects. While grants and other efficiencies will help, these alone will not be enough to realize many of the ideas and projects noted in this Plan. The following recommendations and strategies are presented to offer near-term direction to realize these projects and to continue dialogue between county leadership, local residents and partners.

Additionally, a review of potential implementation tools is included as Appendix I, which addresses local financing, federal and state grant and conservation programs, acquisition methods and others.



Clark County PROS Plan 2022

Clark County PROS 2022 - Capital Improvement Plan

6-Year Potential Annual Capital Projects Allocation List 2022-2027

Project Name - Site	Project Description		2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Preventative Maintenance								
Pavement Preservation	Projects to extend useful life of existing roads, parking areas and trails	R,G,O	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000
Structural Preservation	Projects to extend useful life of existing structures	R,G,O	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000
Vegetation Management	Projects to address park hazards or operational needs outside O&M	G,O	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
Park Amenity Preservation	Projects to extend useful life of existing park amenities	G,O	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
Sub-total			\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000
Major Maintenance								
Lewisville Regional Park	Entrance Congestion Project	R,O	\$ 75,000					
Klineline	Shelter Replacement	R,O	\$ 120,000					
Klineline	Parking Lot Restoration	R,O	\$ 20,000	\$ 100,000				
Moulton Falls Regional Park	Pedestrian Bridge Repair	R,O	\$ 20,000	\$ 100,000				
Lacamas Lake Regional Park	Bridge Replacement	R,O	\$ 20,000	\$ 100,000				
Orchards Community Park	Parking Lot Restoration	G,O	\$ 80,000					
Hazel Dell Community Park	Reroofing of shelters	G,O	\$ 50,000					
Pacific Community Park	Parking Lot Restoration	G,O	\$ 75,000					
Daybreak Regional Park	Caretaker demo, RV pad install	R,O	\$ 50,000					
English Pit Shooting Range	Lead testing ast shooting range	R	\$ 42,000					
Camp Hope	Water system improvements	R	\$ 400,000					
Camp Currie	Public Access Improvements	R	\$ 125,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 225,000			
Multiple Locations	Host Site Improvements & Expansion	R,O	\$ 50,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 50,000			
Vancouver Lake Regional Park	Curbing & Picnic Table Pads Replacement	R,O		\$ 70,000				
Vancouver Lake Regional Park	Cut back turf (beach encroachment)	R,O		\$ 25,000				
Frenchman's Bar Regional Park	Curbing & Picnic Table Pads Replacement	R,O		\$ 70,000				
Frenchman's Bar Regional Park	Asphalt trail restoration	R,O		\$ 35,000				
Hazel Dell Community Park	Parking lot improvements/restoration	G,O		\$ 100,000				
Lacamas Lake Regional Park	Caretaker demo, RV pad install	R,O		\$ 100,000				
Lewisville Regional Park	Crew office replacement	R,O		\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 450,000		
Captain William Clark Park	Caretaker demo, RV pad install	R,O		\$ 70,000				
Lewisville Regional Park	Parking Lot A Restoration	R,O		\$ 80,000				
Chinook	Path repaving	G,O			\$ 15,000			
Captain William Clark Park	Bathroom renovation	O			\$ 50,000			
Lewisville Regional Park	Repave drive near bathhouse (leave parking)	R,O			\$ 35,000			
Lewisville Regional Park	Bathhouse renovations	R,O			\$ 15,000	\$ 60,000		
Lewisville Regional Park	Shelter pad crack restoration	R,O			\$ 40,000			
Lucia Falls Regional Park	Picnic table pad replacement	R,O			\$ 35,000			
Sifton Neighborhood Park	Basketball court restoration	G,O			\$ 25,000			
Whipple Creek	Trail Rehabilitation	R,O			\$ 300,000			
Moulton Falls Regional Park	Parking Lot Restoration	R,O				\$ 140,000		
Salmon Creek Community Park	Splash pad renovation	R,O				\$ 75,000		
Captain William Clark Park	Pothole filling and asphalt restoration	O				\$ 50,000		
Captain William Clark Park	ADA access to beach	O				\$ 50,000		
Lucia Falls Regional Park	Restaurant site Demo	R,O				\$ 60,000		
Minkler (residential property)	Restore siding	R,O				\$ 40,000		
Captain William Clark Park	Bank stabilization	O					\$ 100,000	
Moulton Falls Regional Park	Restroom construction	R,O					\$ 100,000	
Emergent Projects		R,O	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000
Hazard Tree Mitigation		R,O	\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000
Major Maintenance Projects	TBD	R,O					\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,500,000
ADA Transition Planning	Develop plan per PROS	G,R		\$ 25,000	\$ 50,000			
DEI Planning	Develop plan per PROS	G, R	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000				
Sub-total			\$ 1,447,000	\$ 1,670,000	\$ 1,135,000	\$ 1,195,000	\$ 1,670,000	\$ 1,770,000

Figure 44. Six Year Potential Capital Maintenance Projects List

Clark County PROS 2022 - Capital Improvement Plan

6-Year Potential Annual Capital Projects Allocation List 2022-2027

Project Name - Site	Project Description		2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Development								
Felida Community Park	Develop overflow parking area and inclusive playground	R, P, O	\$ 832,450					
Hockinson Community Park	Develop disc golf course, trail and park amenities	R, O	\$ 538,000					
Kozy Camp Community Park	Develop new park	R,P,O	\$ 1,444,000					
Harmony Sports Park	Safety and parking improvements	R,G,O	\$ 150,000	\$ 3,200,000				
Camp Bonneville	Master Plan	O,R	\$ 200,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000			
Curtin Creek Community Park	Develop new park	G,R,P,O	\$ 600,000	\$ 400,000	\$ 6,000,000			
Pleasant Valley Community Park	Develop new park	R,P,O	\$ 50,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 650,000	\$ 3,937,000		
Salmon Creek Community Club Neighborhood Park	Develop new park	R,P,O		\$ 35,000	\$ 272,500	\$ 1,321,250		
Pleasant Valley Community Park	Develop new park	R,P,O		\$ 50,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 650,000	\$ 3,937,000	
Cougar Creek Community Park	Develop new park	R,P,O			\$ 100,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 650,000	\$ 3,937,000
		Sub-total	\$ 3,814,450	\$ 4,035,000	\$ 7,372,500	\$ 6,108,250	\$ 4,587,000	\$ 3,937,000
Acquisition								
Legacy Lands - Cedars Golf Course Acquisition	Addition to Salmon Creek Greenway properties		\$ 5,000,000					
Moulton Falls Trail Acquisition	Transfer of ownership from DNR		\$ 25,000					
Legacy Lands - Lake River Water Trail Acquisition	Acquisition of parcels on Lake River		\$ 50,000					
Legacy Lands - Acquisition #2	TBD			\$ 1,000,000				
Legacy Lands - Acquisition #3	TBD				\$ 1,000,000			
Legacy Lands - Acquisition #4	TBD					\$ 2,000,000		
Legacy Lands - Acquisition #5	TBD						\$ 1,000,000	
District #5 Acquisition	TBD			\$ 500,000				
District #6 acquisition	TBD				\$ 500,000			
District #7 acquisition	TBD							\$ 500,000
District #9 acquisition	TBD							\$ 500,000
		Sub-total	\$ 5,075,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000
Equipment & Vehicles								
Equipment & Vehicles	TBD		\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
		Sub-total	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
Total			\$ 10,536,450	\$ 7,405,000	\$ 10,207,500	\$ 9,503,250	\$ 7,457,000	\$ 6,907,000

Figure 45. Six Year Capital Improvement Potential Projects List



Clark County PROS 2022 - Capital Improvement Plan

20-Year Potential Projects List

2022-2042

Project Name - Site	Project Description	Project Estimate
Preventative Maintenance		
Pavement Preservation	Projects to extend useful life of existing roads, parking areas and trails	
Structural Preservation	Projects to extend useful life of existing structures	\$ 6,000,000
Vegetation Management	Projects to address park hazards or operational needs outside O&M	
Park Amenity Preservation	Projects to extend useful life of existing park amenities	
		\$ 6,000,000
Major Maintenance		
Captain William Clark	Asphalt repair and replace	\$ 50,000
Captain William Clark	Bank stabilization	\$ 300,000
Captain William Clark	Strip and reseal bathroom floor	\$ 6,000
Captain William Clark	Replace porcelain with stainless	\$ 20,000
Captain William Clark	Replace bathroom partitions	\$ 7,500
Captain William Clark	Ramp to beach	\$ 20,000
Daybreak	Demo existing caretaker structure; replace with RV pad	\$ 150,000
Daybreak	Path needs paving	\$ 15,000
Daybreak	Bank stabilization along East Fork Lewis River (near new path)	\$ 4,000,000
English Pit	Lead testing	\$ 42,000
Frenchman's Bar	Curbing needs replacement	\$ 75,000
Frenchman's Bar	Asphalt trail failing	\$ 175,000
Hazel Dell	Replace various picnic table pads	\$ 25,000
Hazel Dell	Need reroofing of shelters	\$ 55,000
Hazel Dell	Parking lot - Repair or Improve	\$ 175,000
Hazel Dell	Shelters need painting, staining	\$ 35,000
Klinline	Replace porcelain with stainless	\$ 20,000
Klinline	Shelter replacement	\$ 150,000
Lacamas Lake	Parking lot suffering aligating, cracking; overflow unpaved	\$ 120,000
Lacamas Lake	Failing ped bridge replacement	\$ 120,000
Lacamas Lake	Demo existing caretaker mobile home; replace with RV pad	\$ 70,000
Lewisville	Redecking	\$ 20,000
Lewisville	Demolish existing office/crew shed; replace with new	\$ 750,000
Lewisville	Repave drive near bathhouse; leave parking lot gravel	\$ 85,000
Lewisville	Bathhouse replacement, plumbing and sewer lines	\$ 250,000
Lewisville	Patch cracking in various shelters	\$ 40,000
Lewisville	Replace various picnic tables	\$ 25,000
Lewisville	Repair A parking lot	\$ 125,000
Lucia Falls	Relocate or improve second entrance	\$ 250,000
Lucia Falls	Assess Repair or removal of Old Restaurant	\$ 75,000
Lucia Falls	Remove Caretaker trailer and replace with RV Pad	\$ 150,000
Minkler (res)	Replace various picnic table pads	\$ 35,000
Moulton Falls	Repaint house; replace siding	\$ 20,000
Moulton Falls	Ped bridge repair	\$ 120,000
Moulton Falls	Parking lot needs slurry seal; asphalt in good condition; old and aggregate is showing through	\$ 15,000
Multiple Parks	Need restrooms (currently portable toilets); portables under canopy; canopy not permitted?	\$ 60,000
Multiple Parks	Hazard Tree Removal	\$ 120,000
Multiple Parks	Hazard Tree Removal	\$ 120,000
Multiple Parks	Emergent Projects	\$ 150,000
Orchards	Emergent Projects	\$ 150,000
Orchards	Paths need new gravel (1.5 in)	\$ 15,000
Orchards	Replace porcelain with stainless	\$ 20,000
Pacific	Asphalt was in fairly good condition	\$ 15,000
Pacific	Repave pathways and trails	\$ 200,000
Pacific	Strip and reseal bathroom floor	\$ 6,000
Pacific	Replace porcelain with stainless	\$ 20,000
Prairie Fields	Paths need new gravel (1.5 in)	\$ 35,000
Salmon Creek	Repair and rehabilitate existing structures on site	\$ 175,000
Sifton	Splash Pad Repairs and Renovation	\$ 200,000
Vancouver Lake	Basketball court needs replacement, undermined by roots	\$ 25,000
Vancouver Lake	Curbing needs replacement	\$ 75,000
Vancouver Lake	Cut back turf from beach	\$ 25,000
Whipple Creek	Replace various picnic table pads	\$ 25,000
Whipple Creek	Parking Lot Improvements	\$ 200,000
Whipple Creek	Bridge condition and traction	\$ 45,000
Whipple Creek	Replace benches	\$ 5,000
		\$ 9,276,500

Figure 46. Twenty Year Capital Improvement Potential Projects List

Clark County PROS 2022 - Capital Improvement Plan
20-Year Potential Projects List
2022-2042

Project Name - Site	Project Description	Project Estimate
Development		
Curtin Creek Community Park	Park Development	\$ 5,649,500
Curtin Creek Community Park	Sports Field Development	\$ 2,920,500
Hockinson Meadows Disc Golf	Park Facility Development	\$ 1,140,000
Felida Park parking & children's playground	Park Facility Development	\$ 993,582
Pleasant Valley Community Park	Park Development	\$ 4,057,459
Salmon Creek Community Club Park	Park Development	\$ 928,818
Mackie NH Park	Park Development	\$ 901,765
Cougar Creek Trail	Hazel Dell Ave to Salmon Cr	\$ 983,454
Whipple Creek Trail	11th ave access/trailhead	\$ 365,790
Cougar Creek Trail	Hazel Dell to 119th St	\$ 115,927
Whipple Creek Trail	11th Ave to Chinook Pk	\$ 238,810
Trail Development	Support volunteer projects	\$ 153,966
Kozy Kamp NH Park	Park Development	\$ 1,349,750
Hantwick Rd. Trailhead	Camp Host Pad	\$ 150,000
Camp Currie	Development	\$ 2,590,000
Brush-Prairie Regional Park	Phase I Development	\$ 1,850,000
LRVL Water Trail Access	Trailhead Parking at Fales Rd	\$ 350,000
Vancouver Lake Trail	Vancouver Lk Park to Lake R	\$ 900,000
Chelatchie Prairie RR Trail	Battle Ground to DNR	\$ 2,650,000
Lower Daybreak Park	Phase I Development	\$ 4,500,000
Chelatchie Prairie RR Trail	Salmon/Morgan to BG	\$ 7,000,000
Berry Creek	Park Development	\$ 2,000,000
Tribe	Park Development	\$ 2,000,000
Anderson Farm	Park Development	\$ 6,000,000
		\$ 49,789,322
Acquisition		
Green Mountain Trail	Acquisition - Green Mt Park to Goodwin Rd	\$ 1,125,000
Van Lake-FB loop	Acquisition - Connection south of game lands	\$ 145,000
Chelatchie Prairie RR Trail	Acquisition - Reversionary rights	\$ 2,500,000
Trust Land Transfer	Accept Trust Lands from DNR	\$ 4,000,000
Chelatchie Prairie Corridor	Acquisition (~320 acres)	\$ 14,406,513
Livingston Mountain Trail	Acquisition - WA State Forest Partnership	\$ 300,000
East Powerline Trail	Easements: 192nd to Lacamas TH	\$ 1,500,000
Ridgefield/Battle Ground Area	Acquisition (~200 acres)	\$ 9,552,418
Neighborhood Park - District 5	TBD	\$ 850,000
Neighborhood Park - District 10	TBD	\$ 600,000
Neighborhood Park - District 6	TBD	\$ 669,500
Neighborhood Park - District 7	TBD	\$ 795,675
Community Park - District 8	TBD	\$ 2,394,880
Neighborhood Park - District 8	TBD	\$ 900,407
Neighborhood Park - District 9	TBBD	\$ 1,043,347
Neighborhood Park - District 10	TBD	\$ 835,837
Lewis River Ranch Phase 2	Acquire property along East Fork Lewis River	\$ 2,300,000
Lake River Water Trail	Acquire property or donation for public use/access on Lake River	\$ 486,000
Middle Salmon & Lower Whipple Creek farm preservation	Easement of farm(s) to preserve farm use	\$ 1,500,000
Cedars Golf Course	Acquire property along Salmon Creek	\$ 3,900,000
Three Creeks Greenway	Acquire property or donation for public use/access on Three Creeks	\$ 620,000
Hantwick Road to Moulton Falls Trail	Acquire property or donation for public use/access on Hantwick Road	\$ 725,000
Flume Creek Access	Acquire property or donation for public use/access on Flume Creek	\$ 662,482
Whipple Creek Regional Park to Fairgrounds	Acquire property or donation for public use/access on Whipple Creek	\$ 527,469
Community Park		
La Center Bottoms Addition	Acquire property or donation for public use/access on La Center	\$ 275,800
Lacamas Prairie Natural Area	Acquire property or donation for public use/access on Lacamas Prairie	\$ 490,012
Ridgefield Schools to Flume Creek Trail	Acquire property or donation for public use/access on Ridgefield Schools	\$ 371,446
East Fork Lewis River-Optimists	Acquire property or donation for public use/access on East Fork	\$ 539,500
Horseshoe Falls	Acquire property or donation for public use/access on Horseshoe Falls	\$ 278,700
Green Mountain Addition	Acquire property to expand Green Mountain area.	\$ 19,300,000
Columbia River Shoreline - SE 192nd Ave	Acquire property along East Columbia River	\$ 2,583,374
Ridgefield Pits	Acquire property along East Fork Lewis River	\$ 1,588,000
		\$ 77,766,359
Vehicles and Equipment		
New Equipment and vehicles	Funding to acquire new assets vs replacement and address replacement short-falls in funding	\$ 1,250,000
		\$ 1,250,000

Figure 47. Twenty Year Capital Improvement Potential Projects List



Key Project

Recommendations

The following is a summary of key project recommendations by goal that the county will work to implement over the next six years.

Goal 1: Partnerships

- Increase partnerships with local and regional recreation groups to help build and maintain trails, sports fields and other assets.

Goal 2: Communication

- Improve County Website for recreational information
- Pilot QR codes or similar system to improve community access to information about parks

Goal 3: Developed Parks

- Master plan & develop Camp Bonneville
- Master plan & develop Pleasant Valley Community Park
- Develop Kozy Kamp Neighborhood Park
- Develop Salmon Creek Community Club Neighborhood Park
- Acquire new park lands
- Develop a Nature play playground

Goal 4: Trails

- Continue to expand Regional Trails
- Develop a purpose-built trail facility (pump track, skills course, etc.)

Goal 5: Natural areas

- Implement NAAP Plan

Goal 6: Heritage

- Complete an interpretive plan for Camp Bonneville

Goal 7: Equity & Access

- Develop an Inclusive playground
- Complete an ADA Transition Plan

Goal 8: Operations & Stewardship

- Integrate an O&M component into master plans
- Explore funding options to offset deferred maintenance needs & future operational costs as park system expands

Park Funding Strategies

GCPD Levy Lid Lift

The GCPD's tax rate is set at a maximum of 27 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value. The currently assessed rate is 17.55 cents per \$1,000. Inflation has risen 40.1% since the GCPD began in 2005. To keep up with inflation, the tax rate would need to be at 24.42 cents per \$1,000. In addition, the urban park system has expanded during this period expanding the operational demands for the division. Due to these structural deficits the GCPD budget is forecast to have a negative fund balance by 2027.

A levy lid lift could be placed on a future ballot to recalibrate the projected expenses of maintenance and operations within the GCPD to an adequate tax rate to support such maintenance. This would require a specific funding package, along with an assessment of potential revenue, political willingness, and potential voter support. A voter-approved levy lid lift will require a 60% majority of voters to approve such a measure.

Realign GCPD Boundary with UGA Boundary

The GCPD boundary was set in 2005 based on a legal boundary description that aligned with the extent of the Vancouver urban growth area at the time. Since 2005, the urban growth area has expanded to bring more developable land within the UGA, but the GCPD boundary remains intact and static to its 2005 limits.

A ballot measure asking voters in the UGA, but outside the GCPD to be annexed into the GCPD is needed.

Capital Renovation & Development Bond

According to the Clark County Treasurer's Office, the county maintains reserve debt capacity for bonds and voter approved debt. Community conversations regarding the need for improvements and enhancements to regional parks and trails warrant a review of debt implications for the county. A bond package for park development could be compiled and polled for a potential bond package.

Park Impact Fee Program Update

Park Impact Fees (PIF) are imposed on new development to meet the increased demand for parks resulting from the new growth. PIF can only be used for parkland acquisition, planning, and/or development. These fees cannot be used for operations, maintenance or repairs of parks and facilities. Clark County currently assesses park impact fees for the VUUA only. A review of the PIF program should address three items: PIF district boundaries, impact fee credits and rate structure.

Partner Coordination & Collaboration

Partners can leverage local and outside resources to advance project implementation. Partnership can help offset operational costs and development costs. These could include intergovernmental, interdepartmental, educational, public/private, and bi-state partnership activities.

Grants & Appropriations

Several state and federal grant programs are available on a competitive basis, such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund, Fast-Act, and Recreation & Conservation Office programs. Pursuing grants is not a cure-all solution for park system funding, since grants are both competitive and often require a significant percentage of local funds to match the request to the granting agency, which depending on the grant program can be as much as 50% of the total project budget. The county must continue to leverage its local resources to the greatest extent by pursuing grants independently and in cooperation with other local partners.

Appropriations from state or federal sources, though rare, can supplement projects with partial funding. State and federal funding allocations are particularly relevant on regional transportation projects, and the likelihood for appropriations could be increased if multiple partners are collaborating on projects.

Other Implementation Tools

Appendix I identifies other implementation tools, such as voter-approved funding, grants, and acquisition tactics that the county could utilize to further the implementation of the projects noted in the Capital Planning chapter.



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APPENDIX A INVENTORY DETAIL



URBAN PARK SYSTEM INVENTORY - DETAILED

COMMUNITY PARKS

					Current Acres			
District	Park Name	Type	Sites	Ownership	Undeveloped	Developed	Total	Location
PARK DISTRICT 3 - City Only PIF District								
3	Pacific	CP	-	Clark County	0.00	12.97	12.97	UUA
District 3 Subtotal			0		0.00	12.97	12.97	
PARK DISTRICT 4 - City Only PIF District								
4	Pacific	CP	1	Clark County	0.00	12.96	12.96	UUA
District 4 Subtotal			1		0.00	12.96	12.96	
PARK DISTRICT 5 - Shared City/County PIF District								
5	Anderson Park	CP	1	Clark County	15.76	0.00	15.76	Regional
5	Hockinson Meadows	CP	1	Clark County	0.00	40.00	40.00	
5	Pacific	CP	-	Clark County	0.00	12.96	12.96	
District 5 Subtotal			2		15.76	52.96	68.72	
PARK DISTRICT 6 - County Only PIF District								
6	Curtin Creek	CP	1	Vancouver	33.45	0.00	33.45	UUA
6	Orchards	CP	1	Clark County	0.00	50.03	50.03	UUA
6	Prairie Fields	CP	1	Clark County	12.09	20.00	32.09	UUA
District 6 Subtotal			3		45.54	70.03	115.57	
PARK DISTRICT 7 - Shared City/County PIF District								
7	Curtin Springs Natural Area	CP	1	Clark County	33.63	0.00	33.63	UUA
District 7 Subtotal			1		33.63	0.00	33.63	
PARK DISTRICT 8 - County Only PIF District								
8	Hazel Dell	CP	1	Clark County	0.00	20.00	20.00	UUA
8	Pleasant Valley	CP	1	Clark County	40.34	0.00	40.34	UUA
District 8 Subtotal			2		40.34	20.00	60.34	
PARK DISTRICT 9 - County Only PIF District								
9	Cougar Creek Woods	CP	1	Clark County	10.00	0.00	10.00	UUA
9	Felida	CP	1	Clark County	0.00	14.54	14.54	UUA
9	Salmon Creek	CP	1	Clark County	41.82	20.00	61.82	UUA
9	Jason Lee Middle School	CP	1	VSD	0.00	11.75	11.75	UUA
District 9 Subtotal			4		51.82	46.29	98.11	
PARK DISTRICT 10 - County Only PIF District								
10	Fairgrounds	CP	1	Clark County	46.06	30.18	76.24	Regional
District 10 Subtotal			1		46.06	30.18	76.24	
COMMUNITY PARK TOTAL (VUGA)			14		233.15	245.39	478.54	

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

					Current Acres			
District	Park Name	Type	Sites	Ownership	Undeveloped	Developed	Total	Location
PARK DISTRICT 1 - City Only PIF District								
1	Alki Road	NH	1	Clark County	1.81	0.00	1.81	UUA
District 1 Subtotal			1		1.81	0.00	1.81	
PARK DISTRICT 4 - City Only PIF District								
4	Vandervort	NH	1	Clark County	3.00	5.00	8.00	UUA
District 4 Subtotal			1		3.00	5.00	8.00	
PARK DISTRICT 5 - Shared City/County PIF District								
5	Austin Heritage	NH	1	Clark County	5.54	0.00	5.54	UUA
5	Cherry	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	2.87	2.87	UUA
6	Dogwood	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	4.86	4.86	UUA
5	Harmony Ridge	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	4.21	4.21	UUA
5	Little Prairie	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	2.26	2.26	UUA
5	Mackie	NH	1	Clark County	5.95	0.00	5.95	UUA
5	Oak Grove	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	3.92	3.92	UUA
5	Otto Brown	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	7.99	7.99	UUA
5	Sifton	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	5.05	5.05	Vancouver
5	Tiger Tree	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	6.12	6.12	UUA
5	Vydra	NH	1	Clark County	5.07	0.00	5.07	UUA
District 5 Subtotal			11		16.56	37.28	53.84	
PARK DISTRICT 6 - County Only PIF District								
6	Covington	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	4.58	4.58	UUA
6	Covington Middle School Park	NH	1	Clark County	4.23	0.00	4.23	UUA
6	Orchard Highlands	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	8.22	8.22	UUA
6	Sunnyside	NH	1	Clark County	4.23	0.00	4.23	UUA
6	Sunset School Park	NH	1	Clark County	3.96	0.00	3.96	UUA
District 6 Subtotal			5		12.42	12.80	25.22	
PARK DISTRICT 7 - Shared City/County PIF District								
7	Bosco Farm	NH	1	Clark County	6.22	5.37	11.59	UUA
7	Douglas Carter Fisher	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	2.37	2.37	UUA
7	Road's End	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	3.01	3.01	UUA
7	Saint Johns	NH	1	Clark County	1.89	0.00	1.89	UUA
7	Tower Crest	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	2.12	2.12	UUA
7	Walnut Grove	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	3.71	3.71	UUA
District 7 Subtotal			6		8.11	16.58	24.69	0.00
PARK DISTRICT 8 - County Only PIF District								
8	Blueberry	NH	1	Clark County	3.82	0.00	3.82	UUA
8	Gaiser Middle School Park	NH	1	VSD	5.00	0.00	5.00	UUA
8	Greyhawk	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	5.00	5.00	UUA
8	Lalonde, Kate & Clarence Park	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	7.76	7.76	UUA
8	Padden	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	5.66	5.66	UUA
8	Tenny Creek	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	8.25	8.25	UUA
8	Faruolo property (in West Minnehaha)	NH	1	Clark County	4.87	0.00	4.87	UUA
District 8 Subtotal			7		13.69	26.67	40.36	



NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS (cont.)

					Current Acres			
District	Park Name	Type	Sites	Ownership	Undeveloped	Developed	Total	Location
PARK DISTRICT 9 - County Only PIF District								
9	Eisenhower Elementary School Park	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	7.75	7.75	UUA
9	Fazio, Jack Z.	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	5.47	5.47	UUA
9	Foley	NH	1	Clark County	4.40	0.00	4.40	UUA
9	Jorgenson Woods	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	7.11	7.11	UUA
9	Raspberry Fields	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	4.32	4.32	UUA
9	Sergeant Brad Crawford	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	2.45	2.45	UUA
9	Sorensen	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	4.97	4.97	UUA
9	Stockford Village	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	5.00	5.00	UUA
District 9 Subtotal			8		4.40	37.07	41.47	
PARK DISTRICT 10 - County Only PIF District								
10	Chinook	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	5.41	5.41	UUA
10	Kozy Kamp	NH	1	Clark County	4.98	0.00	4.98	UUA
10	Mount Vista	NH	1	Clark County	4.01	0.00	4.01	UUA
10	North Fairgrounds	NH	1	Clark County	5.00	0.00	5.00	UUA
10	Salmon Creek Community Club	NH	1	Clark County	12.69	0.00	12.69	UUA
10	Salmon Creek Elementary School Park	NH	1	School District	0.00	1.50	1.50	UUA
10	South Fairgrounds	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	9.00	9.00	UUA
10	Vista Meadows	NH	1	Clark County	0.00	5.00	5.00	UUA
District 10 Subtotal			8		26.68	20.91	47.59	
NEIGHBORHOOD PARK TOTAL (VUGA)			47		86.67	156.31	242.98	

URBAN NATURAL AREAS

					Current Acres			
District	Park Name	Type	Sites	Ownership	Undeveloped	Developed	Total	Location
PARK DISTRICT 7 - Shared City/County PIF District								
7	Bosco Farms Urban Natural Area	UNA	1	Clark County	6.22	0.00	6.22	UUA
District 7 Subtotal			1		6.22	0.00	6.22	
PARK DISTRICT 8 - County Only PIF District								
8	Sherwood	UNA	1	Clark County	21.58	0.00	21.58	UUA
8	Swan Ponds	UNA	1	Clark County	3.72	0.00	3.72	UUA
District 8 Subtotal			2		25.30	0.00	25.30	
PARK DISTRICT 9 - County Only PIF District								
9	Cougar Creek Greenway	UNA	1	Clark County	22.22	0.00	22.22	UUA
District 9 Subtotal			1		22.22	0.00	22.22	
PARK DISTRICT 10 - County Only PIF District								
10	Whipple Creek Greenway	UNA	1	Clark County	22.56	0.00	22.56	UUA
10	Whipple Creek Urban Wildlife Habitat	UNA	1	Clark County	40.00	0.00	40.00	UUA
10	Salmon Creek Community Club	UNA	1	Clark County	0.50	0.00	0.50	UUA
10	Whispering Firs	UNA	1	Clark County	3.31	0.00	3.31	UUA
District 10 Subtotal			4		66.37	0.00	66.37	
URBAN NATURAL AREA TOTAL (VUGA)			8		120.11	0.00	120.11	

REGIONAL PARK SYSTEM INVENTORY - DETAILED

REGIONAL PARKS

District	Park Name	Type	Site Count			Ownership	Current Acres			Location
			City	UGA	Rural		Undeveloped	Developed	Total	
R	Bratton Canyon	RP			1	Clark County	62.00	18.00	80.00	Regional
R	Brush Prairie	RP			1	Clark County	76.48	7.50	83.98	Regional
R	Daybreak Park	RP			1	Clark County	183.64	6.00	189.64	Regional
R	Frenchman's Bar	RP	1			Clark County	125.53	37.00	162.53	Vancouver
R	Green Mountain	RP			1	Clark County	360.00	0.00	360.00	Regional
R	Lacamas Lake	RP			1	Clark County	290.00	7.39	297.39	Regional
R	Lewisville Park	RP			1	Clark County	68.45	90.00	158.45	Regional
R	Lucia Falls	RP			1	Clark County	20.00	28.43	48.43	Regional
R	Moulton Falls	RP			1	Clark County	413.91	27.00	440.91	Regional
R	Salmon Creek	RP		1		Clark County	139.03	35.00	174.03	Regional
R	Vancouver Lake	RP	1			Clark County	182.00	52.00	234.00	Vancouver
R	Whipple Creek	RP			1	Clark County	295.35	4.00	299.35	Regional
R	Capt. William Clark Park	RP			1	Port C-W	39.28	35.46	74.74	Regional
REGIONAL PARK TOTAL			2	1	10		2,255.67	347.78	2,603.45	

LINEAR PARKS & GREENWAYS

District	Park Name	Type	Site Count			Ownership	Current Acres			Location
			City	UGA	Rural		Undeveloped	Developed	Total	
R	East Fork Lewis River Greenway	RNA			1	Clark County	900.88	0.00	900.88	Regional
R	Lewis River Greenway	RNA			1	Clark County	77.32	0.00	77.32	Regional
R	Salmon Creek Greenway	RNA		1		Clark County	395.56	5.80	401.36	UUA
R	Washougal River Greenway	RNA			1	Clark County	10.91	0.00	10.91	Regional
LINEAR PARKS & GREENWAYS TOTAL			0	1	3		1,384.67	5.80	1,390.47	



REGIONAL SPECIAL FACILITIES

District	Park Name	Type	Site Count			Ownership	Current Acres			Location
			City	UGA	Rural		Undeveloped	Developed	Total	
R	Durkee	SF				Battle Ground				Regional
R	Tukes Mt.	SF				Battle Ground			35.05	Regional
R	Sandy Swimming Hole	SF				C/W			1.43	Regional
R	Fallen Leaf Lake	SF				Camas			85.05	Regional
R	Hockinson Meadows Disc Golf	SF			1	Clark Countu	40.00		40.00	Regional
5	Burton Elementary School/Drainage Facility	SF				Clark County			255.70	Regional
R	Camp Currie	SF			1	Clark County	236.76	12.00	248.76	Regional
R	Camp Lewisville	SF			1	Clark County	97.00	10.00	107.00	Regional
R	Chelatchie Rail w/ Trail	SF			1	Clark County		1.31	1.31	Regional
R	Clark County Fairgrounds	SF				Clark County			210.60	Regional
R	Columbia Springs Environmental Ed. Ctr.	SF				Clark County				Vancouver
R	English Pit Rifle Range	SF	1			Clark County	3.00	3.00	6.00	UUA
R	Fales Road	SF			1	Clark County	0.10	0.00	0.10	Regional
R	Haapa	SF			1	Clark County	4.54	4.00	8.54	Regional
R	Harmony Sports Complex	SF	1			Clark County	58.05	0.00	58.05	UUA
8	Heritage Farm	SF		1		Clark County			78.92	UUA
R	Luke Jensen Sports Park	SF		1		Clark County	0.00	12.03	12.03	Regional
R	Tri-Mountain Golf Course	SF			1	Clark County	0.00	131.99	131.99	Regional
R	Enchanted Acres	SF				CLT				Regional
R	Mud Lake	SF				CLT				Regional
R	Cedar Creek Boat Access	SF				Pacific Power				Regional
R	Haapa (Pacific Power)	SF				Pacific Power			11.58	Regional
9	All Saints Mini Mod Soccer Fields	SF				Private				UUA
R	H.B. Fuller	SF				Private				Vancouver
10	Alki Elementary	SF				SD				
10	Chinook Middle School	SF				SD				
6	Covington Middle School sports fields	SF		1		SD				UUA
8	Gaiser Middle School sports fields	SF		1		SD		5.00		UUA
9	Jason Lee Middle School	SF				SD		11.75		
8	Sarah Anderson Elementary School	SF				SD		2.00		UUA
R	WSU-Vancouver Campus	SF				State				Regional
R	Vancouver Tennis Center	SF	1			VSD	0.00	5.73	5.73	Vancouver
R	Steamboat Landing Park	SF				Washougal			1.66	Regional
R	Barber Access & Easement	SF				WDFW				Regional
R	Cedar Creek Pigeon Springs	SF				WDFW				Regional
R	Columbia Springs Environmental Ed. Ctr.	SF				WDFW				Vancouver
R	County Line Access	SF				WDFW				Regional
R	Grist Mill	SF				WDFW				Regional
R	Jenny Creek	SF				WDFW				Regional
R	Lacamas Lake Boat Access	SF				WDFW				Regional
R	Lewis River Estates	SF				WDFW				Regional
R	Moulton Falls (WDFW)	SF				WDFW				Regional
R	North Fork Hatchery	SF				WDFW				Regional
R	Two Forks	SF				WDFW				Regional
R	Wertheimer	SF				WDFW				Regional
R	Fisher Area Waterfront	SF				WDOT				Regional
SPECIAL USE AREAS TOTAL			3	4	7		439.45	198.81	1,299.50	

REGIONAL NATURAL AREAS

District	Park Name	Type	Site Count			Ownership	Current Acres			Location
			City	UGA	Rural		Undeveloped	Developed	Total	
R	Lacamas Creek Greenway	RNA				Camas				Regional
R	Washougal River Greenway	RNA				Camas			125.43	Regional
R	Camp Bonneville	RNA			1	Clark County	350.00		350.00	Regional
R	East Vancouver Lake	RNA		1		Clark County	301.33	0.00	301.33	Regional
R	Frenchman's Bar Trail	RNA		1		Clark County	0.00	48.00	48.00	Vancouver
R	Green Lake	RNA			1	Clark County	195.13	0.00	195.13	Regional
R	Hockinson Meadows	RNA			1	Clark County	160.00	0.00	160.00	Regional
R	La Center Bottoms Stewardship Site	RNA			1	Clark County	96.87	0.00	96.87	Regional
R	Lacamas Heritage Trail	RNA			1	Clark County			14.10	Regional
R	Lewis River Trail Ranch	RNA			1	Clark County	89.00	0.00	89.00	Regional
R	Siouxon	RNA			1	Clark County	160.00	0.00	160.00	Regional
R	South Vancouver Lake (Clark County)	RNA				Clark County	223.55	0.00	223.55	Vancouver
R	Paradise Bluffs	RNA				CLT				Regional
R	Washougal Gateway	RNA				CLT				Regional
R	Whipple Creek (Land Trust)	RP				CLT				Regional
R	Lewis River Preserve	RNA				Pacific Power				Regional
R	Caterpillar Island	RNA			1	USDFW				
R	Gifford Pinchot NF	RNA				USFS				Regional
R	Burnt Bridge Creek Greenway	RNA				Vancouver			391.90	Vancouver
R	Columbia River Renaissance Trail	RNA				Vancouver			26.60	Vancouver
R	South Vancouver Lake (Vancouver)	RNA	1			Vancouver	153.28	0.00	153.28	Vancouver
R	Daybreak Easements	RNA				WDFW				Regional
R	Eagle Island	RNA				WDFW				Regional
R	Lewisville Park	RNA				WDFW				Regional
R	Shillapoo Wildlife Area	RNA				WDFW				Vancouver
R	Vancouver Lake Wildlife Area	RNA				WDFW				Vancouver
R	Washougal River Greenway (WDFW)	RNA				WDFW				Regional
R	Bells Mountain Trail	RNA				WDNR				Vancouver
R	Yacolt Multiple Use Area	RNA				WDNR				Regional
REGIONAL NATURAL AREA TOTAL			1	2	8		1,729.16	48.00	2,335.19	

STATE PARKS & FEDERAL SITES

District	Park Name	Type	Site Count			Ownership	Current Acres			Location
			City	UGA	Rural		Undeveloped	Developed	Total	
R	Battle Ground Lake State Park				1	State Parks	240.00	40.00	280.00	Regional
R	Fort Vancouver National Historic Site		1			NPS	154.00	75.00	229.00	Vancouver
R	Paradise Point State Park				1	State Parks	61.00	35.00	96.00	Regional
R	Reed Island State Park				1	State Parks	510.00	0.00	510.00	Regional
R	Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge		1			USDFW			5,300.00	Regional
R	Steigerwald Lake Wildlife Refuge		1			USDFW			1,049.00	Regional
Other Providers' Areas TOTAL			3	0	3		965.00	150.00	7,464.00	



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A photograph of a young child with blonde hair sliding down a silver metal slide. The child is wearing a dark t-shirt with a graphic and light-colored pants. The slide is part of a larger playground structure with blue and grey panels. The ground is covered in brown wood chips. In the background, there are trees with green and yellow leaves, suggesting an autumn setting. A semi-transparent blue banner is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the title text.

APPENDIX B OUTREACH MATERIALS



Clark County PROS Plan 2022

The following represents a sampling of outreach materials used to promote the PROS Plan update and solicit community feedback.

Project webpage

The screenshot shows the Clark County Public Works website. The header includes the Clark County logo, the text "PUBLIC WORKS", and a search bar. Below the header is a navigation menu with links: "How do I...", "Services", "Departments", "Elected Offices", and "Maps & Records". The main content area is titled "Comprehensive Parks Plan" and features a list of links on the left, including "Public Works", "About Public Works", "Contractors and consultants", "Equal opportunity - Title VI", "Flooding", "Legacy lands and natural resources", "Parks and trails", "Property and survey", "Roads and bridges", "SEPA", "Stormwater", "Traffic", "Transportation", "Vegetation and weed management", "Volunteer", "Wastewater", "Contact", and "Frequently asked questions". The main text area contains the following information:

Comprehensive Parks Plan

CLARK COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS SEEKS ADDITIONAL INPUT ON PARKS RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

Vancouver, Wash. – The Clark County Public Works Parks and Lands Division is updating the Parks and Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan and seeks additional community input to help direct future priorities for the Clark County parks system.

Feedback can be submitted by taking a **quick survey**. The six-question follow-up survey will help inform Clark County staff of as they work to update the PROS plan.

The PROS plan provides direction for the future priorities of the Clark County park system including parks, trails, natural areas, sports fields and other recreation offerings across Clark County.

An update of the PROS Plan is required every six years to maintain eligibility for state and federal grants and is a requirement of the state Growth Management Act.

"Our community is growing fast," said Parks and Lands Division Manager Galina Burley. "This is a great opportunity for community members to offer input and help steer the direction of future park investments."

On the right side of the page, there is a thumbnail image of a park with the text "PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE PLAN" and "Clark County".

On-site promotional signs



Share Your Ideas About Clark County's Parks and Open Spaces



What is the Clark County Pros Plan?

The 2020 countywide Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan (PROS Plan for short) is intended to guide how the county provides high quality parks, trails, natural areas and recreation offerings across Clark County.

The PROS Plan will identify funding needs and park and recreation system goals. An updated PROS Plan will also position Clark County for future grant opportunities and funding.

Take the PROS Plan Survey!

There are several ways to get involved, and we encourage your participation. We need your help to make sure the new plan reflects the growing community and any parks and open space needs.

Take the online community survey today! Use the QR code - or -
Visit www.clark.wa.gov/parks for a link. Please take the survey just once.

English



Español

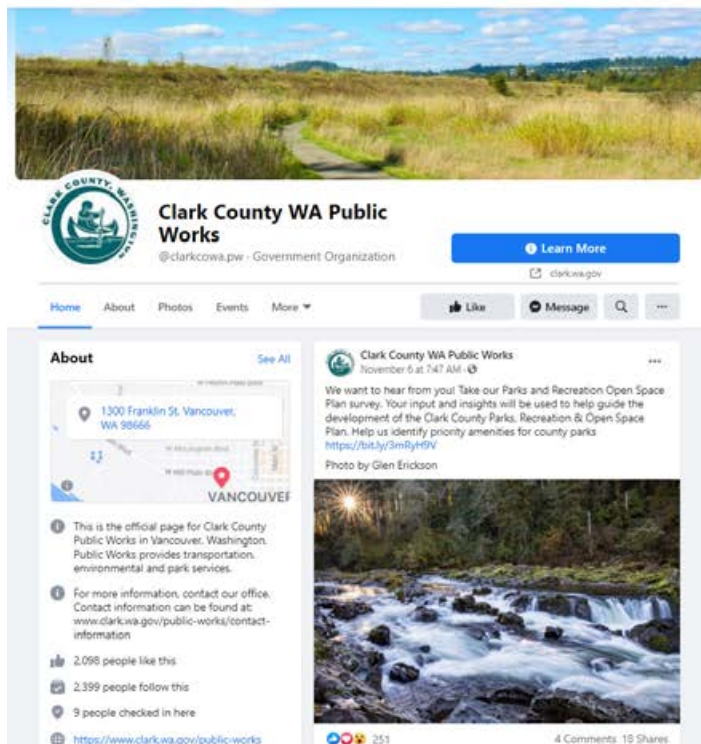


Russian

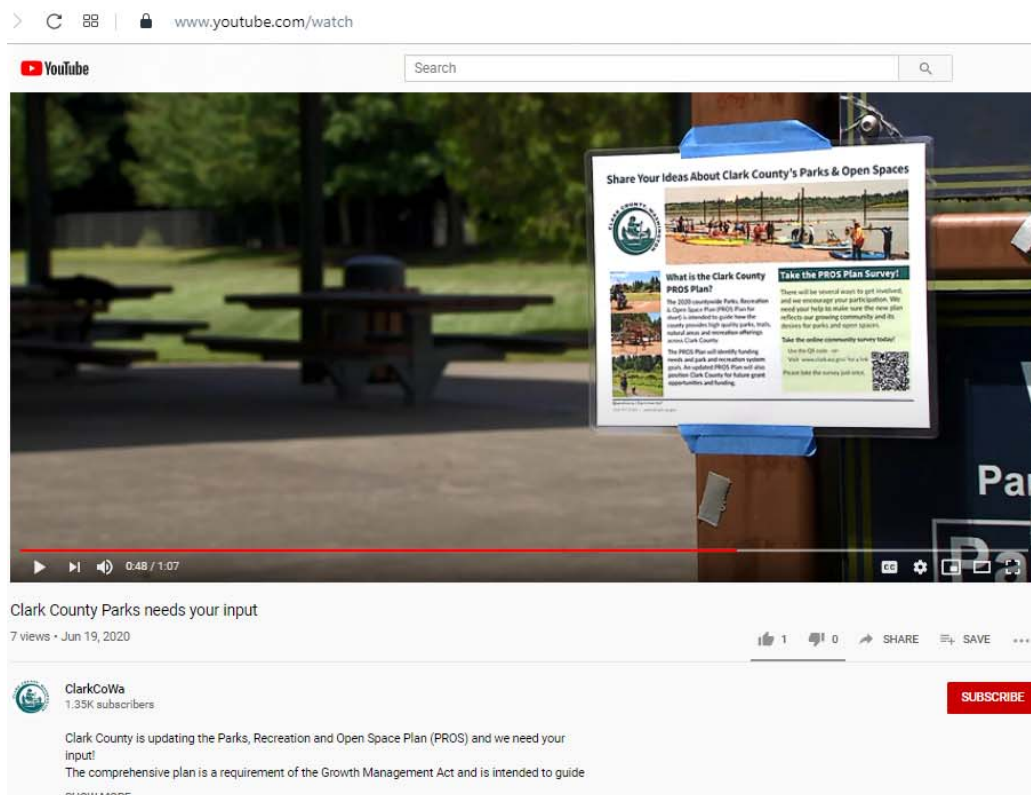


Questions / Comments?
564-397-2285
parks@clark.wa.gov

Facebook posts




Youtube videos





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A woman with reddish-brown hair tied back, wearing a blue long-sleeved shirt, grey leggings, and blue sneakers, is walking a light-colored dog on a gravel path. She is holding a blue bag in her right hand and has a black bag slung over her shoulder. The dog is looking up at her with its mouth open. The background shows a grassy area with some trees and a body of water. A semi-transparent blue rectangular overlay is positioned across the middle of the image, containing the title text.

APPENDIX C

COMMUNITY SURVEY SUMMARY



CONSERVATION
TECHNIX

To: Laura Hoggatt, Resource Development Coordinator / Planner II
From: Steve Duh, Conservation Technix, Inc.
Date: August 31, 2020 (*revised 11/23/20*)
Re: **Clark County PROS Plan Update**
Community Survey Summary Results

Conservation Technix is pleased to present the results of a survey of the general population that assesses the recreational needs, preferences and priorities for the Clark County, Washington parks system.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

In close collaboration with County staff and the Parks Advisory Board, Conservation Technix developed the 20-question survey that was estimated to take approximately eight minutes to complete.

The online survey was posted to the County's website on June 12, 2020. The survey was available in English, Russian and Spanish. Information about the survey was provided on the County's website home page and on the PROS Plan project page. It was promoted via multiple County social media posts including Facebook posts, Facebook ads, Twitter, Instagram and NextDoor. Flyers were posted and distributed at various parks and trail locations. The survey was closed on August 31, and preliminary data were compiled and reviewed. In all, 2,709 survey responses were received.

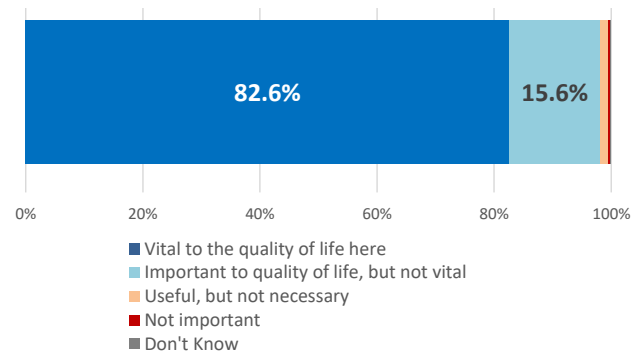
This report includes findings on general community opinions from the non-random survey. Since the survey was open to the general public and respondents were not selected through statistical sampling methods, the results are not necessarily representative of all County residents. A small number of respondents (0.6%) lived outside of Clark County. For consistency, the term "residents" throughout the report represents most survey respondents.

Percentages in the report may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

KEY FINDINGS

Clark County residents strongly value their parks and recreation facilities.

Nearly all respondents (98%) think parks and recreation are important to quality of life in Clark County.



Residents visit parks and trails frequently.

Nearly 91% of respondents visit public parks at least once a month. Fewer than 3% of respondents either did not visit a park in the past year or don't know.

Approximately four out of five (80.4%) respondents visit walking and biking trails at least once a month.

Residents are generally satisfied with the maintenance and upkeep of existing parks.

A large majority of respondents (89%) rate park maintenance and upkeep as either excellent or good. Fewer than two percent of respondents (1.5%) rated maintenance and upkeep of parks as poor.

Residents would like to see improvements made to the parks & recreation system.

A large majority of survey respondents think that trails and natural areas are important to improve or expand (97% and 98%, respectively). More than three-fourths of respondents rated water views, picnic facilities and playgrounds as important (88%, 79% and 74%, respectively). More than four-fifths of respondents (82%) rated nature-base and natural play spaces as either very important or important. Regarding trail-based improvements, significant majorities of respondents indicated the following as either very important or important: trailhead parking (96%), unpaved trails (94%), restrooms at trailheads (90%), and paved, shared-use trails (87%).



FULL RESULTS

How much do residents value parks and recreation?

Nearly all respondents (98%) feel that local parks, recreation options and open space opportunities are important or vital to the quality of life in Clark County. More than eight in ten feels that they are vital, while an additional 16% believe that they are important to quality of life, but not essential. Less than 2% of respondents believe parks are 'Useful, but not necessary'.

No substantial differences exist between the demographic subgroups.

1. Would you say that public parks and recreation opportunities are...

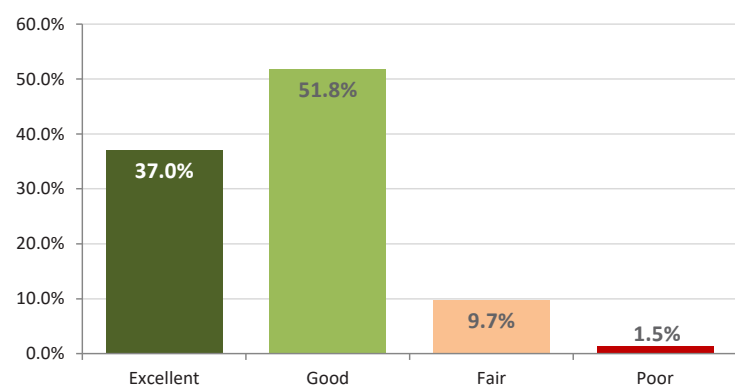
Response options	Percent	
Vital to the quality of life here	82.6%	98%
Important to quality of life, but not vital	15.6%	
Useful, but not necessary	1.3%	
Not important	0.4%	
Don't know	0.1%	

How do residents rate the quality of park maintenance and upkeep by Clark County?

A large majority of respondents (89%) rated the maintenance and upkeep of County parks as either excellent or good. A very small percentage of respondents (1.5%) rated the maintenance and upkeep as poor.

No significant differences exist between the demographic subgroups.

6. How would you rate the maintenance and upkeep of the Clark County parks you have visited, prior to the COVID-19 quarantine?

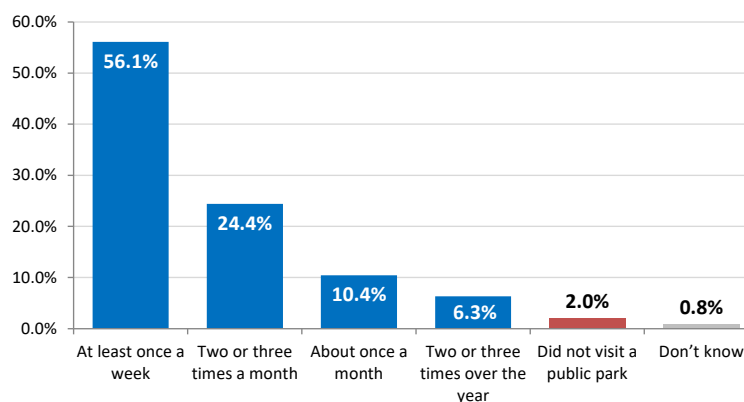


How often do residents use public parks in Clark County?

Respondents were asked how often they, or members of their household, visited a public park in Clark County over the past year. Respondents visit frequently, with 91% visiting a park at least once per month. Approximately 56% visit at least once a week and another 35% visit one to three times per month. About 6% of respondents visit just a few times per year.

Park visitation reports appear to decrease slightly with the age of the respondent. As compared to other age groups, adults 55 and over visit public parks slightly less frequently. Respondents with children in the household tend to visit parks more regularly and at higher rates for weekly usage.

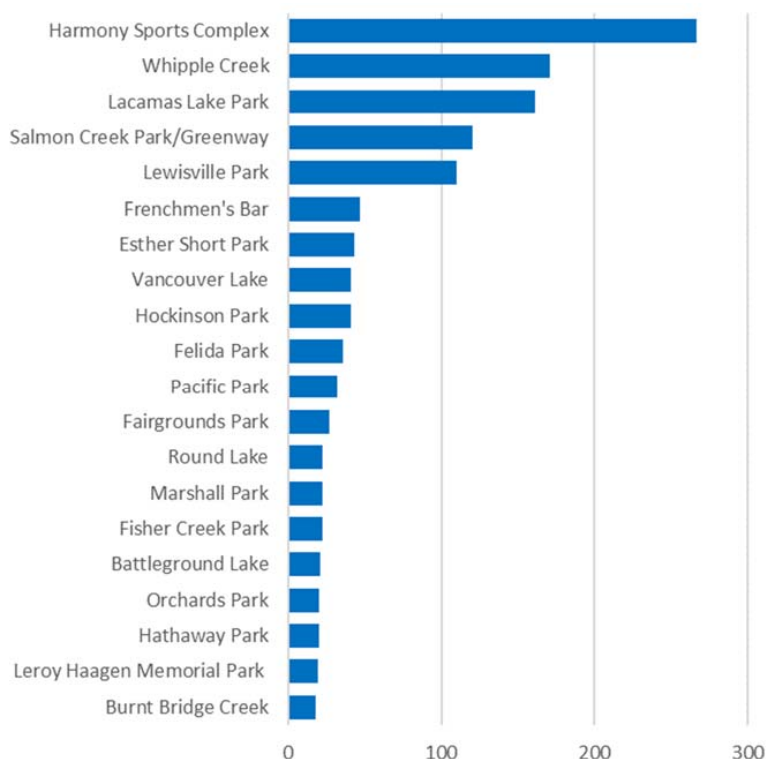
2. How many times over the past year have you or members of your household visited a public park in Clark County?



Which parks are most visited?

Respondents were asked to write-in the park that they visit the most often. In all, 1,910 respondents provided entries. Over 80 unique parks were identified at least three times by respondents. The chart to the right illustrates the top 20 sites noted by respondents. As an open-ended question, the parks listed include those managed by Clark County, as well as parks managed by local jurisdictions and Washington State.

3. Which park do you visit most often?





What mode of travel do residents use to visit their local park?

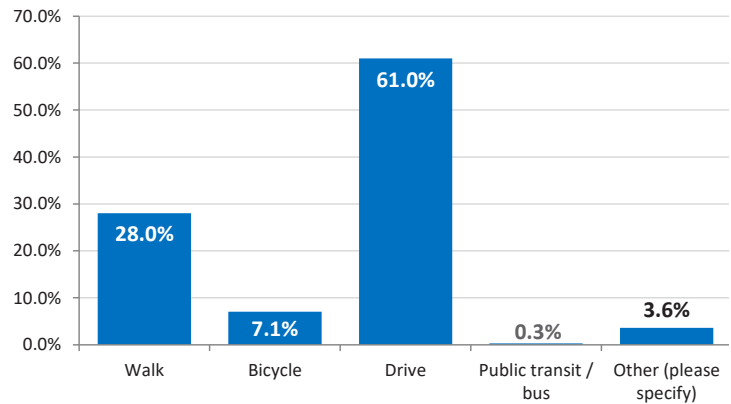
Respondents were asked about their primary mode of travel to their local park. Nearly two-thirds of respondents (61%) drive to visit their local park. Approximately one-third either walk (28%) or bike (7%) to their local park. Visiting the local park by transit or bus was the primary option for only 0.3% of respondents. Write-in responses included running and riding a horse as recurring comments.

There were no significant differences between the subgroup demographics.

In a different question, the survey also asked respondents to identify the name of their local park by writing in the information. Over 2,000 respondents provided the name of the their local park. The most frequently noted parks include the following (listed in descending frequency):

- Lacamas Lake
- Lewisville Park
- Harmony Sports Complex
- Salmon Creek Park
- Whipple Creek Park
- Hockinson Park

4. When you visit your nearby, local park, what is the primary way you get there? (CHECK ONE)



Which recreation activities do residents participate in?

The survey asked about participation in a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities over the past year. The majority of respondents (84%) participate in walking and hiking activities. This degree of participation in walking and hiking is consistent with statewide and national recreation data. Additionally, three of the top five activities (walking/hiking, bicycling, and jogging/running) are or could be considered trail related.

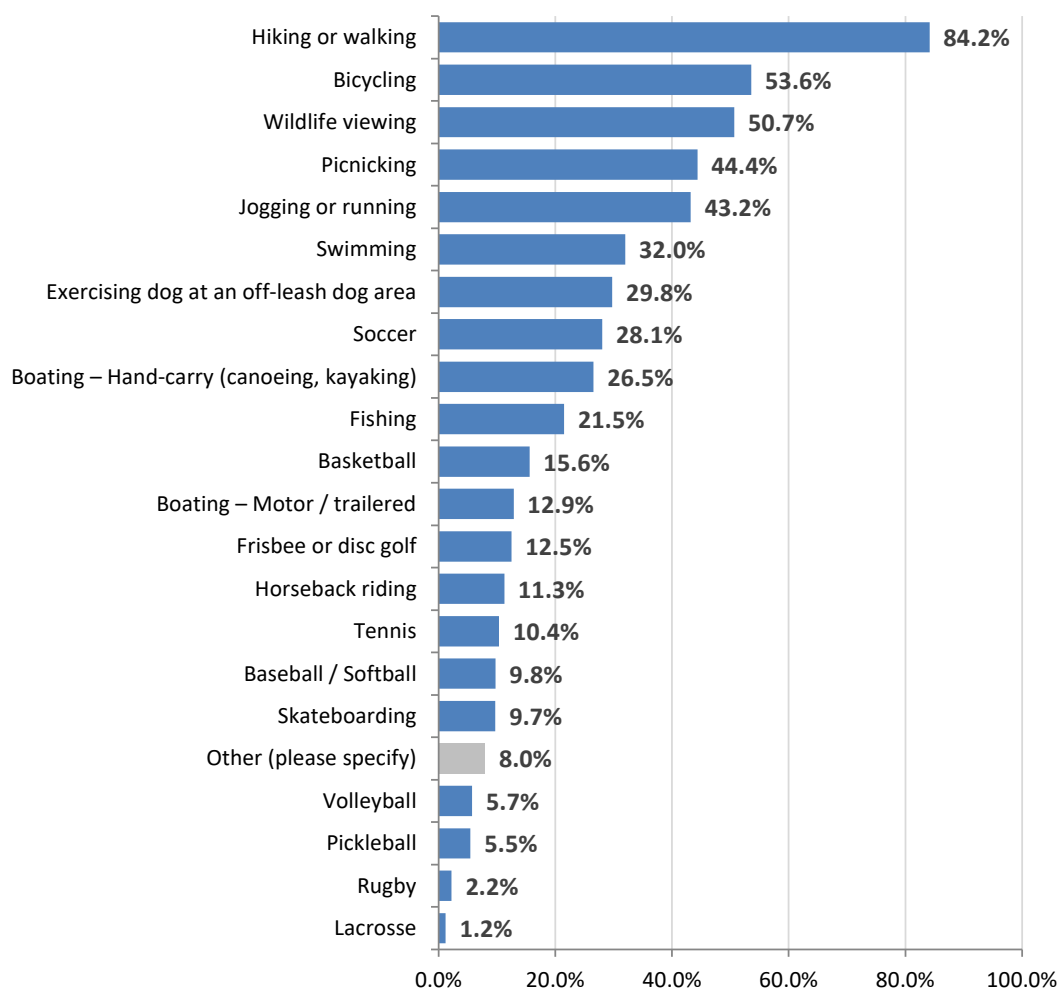
Respondents with children indicated higher participation levels than those without children for swimming, jogging, bicycling and field sports. Respondents over 55 years of age indicated higher participation in pickleball. Respondents between 35 and 54 years of age participated more in soccer, bicycling and basketball. Female respondents indicated higher participation in picnicking and swimming.

Respondents were also offered an 'other' choice in the selection to accommodate write-in responses. Approximately 8% of respondents identified activities other than those from the provided list. The following are the most frequently identified activities.

- Mountain biking
- Dog walking
- Horseback riding
- Golf
- Playgrounds

- Hunting / shooting
- Camping
- Sailing

8. Which of the following outdoor recreational activities did you, or a member of your family, participate in within the last year. (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY).



Which recreation amenities do residents see as important?

Respondents were asked to rate the level of importance to their visits to county parks for a series of outdoor recreational amenities. Nearly all respondents noted natural areas and recreational trails as very important or important (98% and 97%, respectively). More than three-fourths of respondents rated water views, picnic facilities and



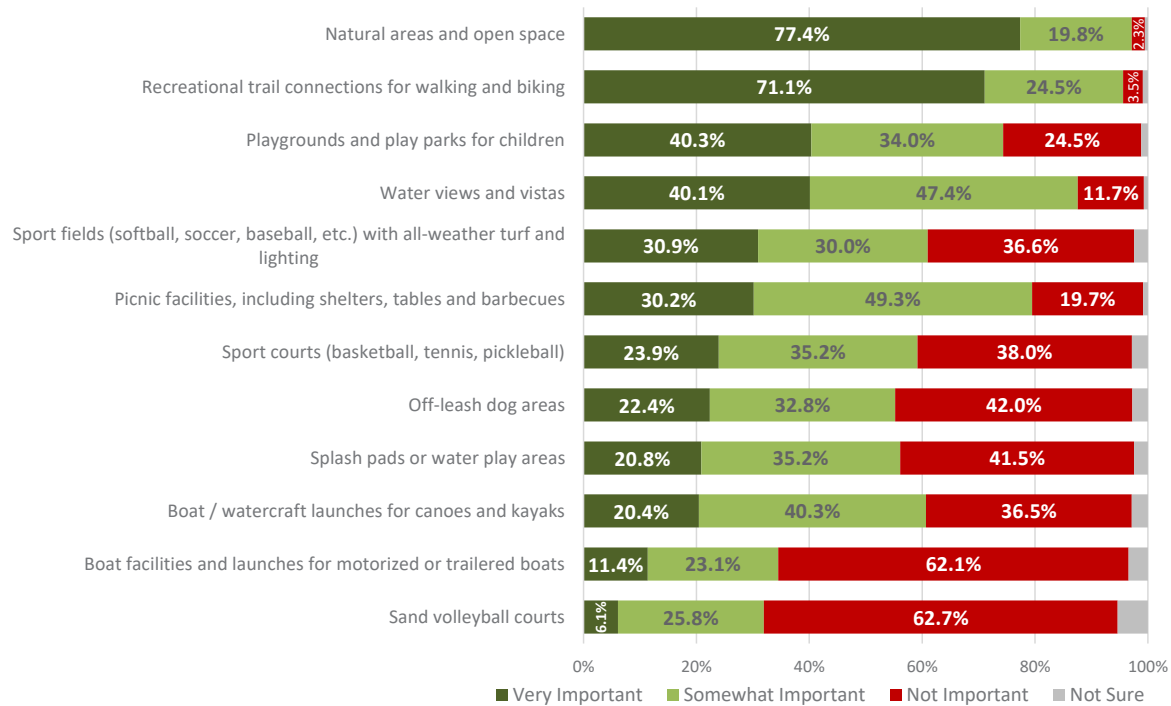
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playgrounds as important (88%, 79% and 74%, respectively). Sand volleyball courts and boat launches were rated as the least important for respondents, with each noted as 'not important' by approximately 62% of respondents.

Respondents without children under 18 noted natural areas and open space as more important than respondents with children. Respondents over 55 years of age indicated that recreational trails were relatively more important, and those under 18 showed a stronger interest in sand volleyball and water views and vistas.

11. Please rate how important each of the following amenities is to your household when visiting a County park.



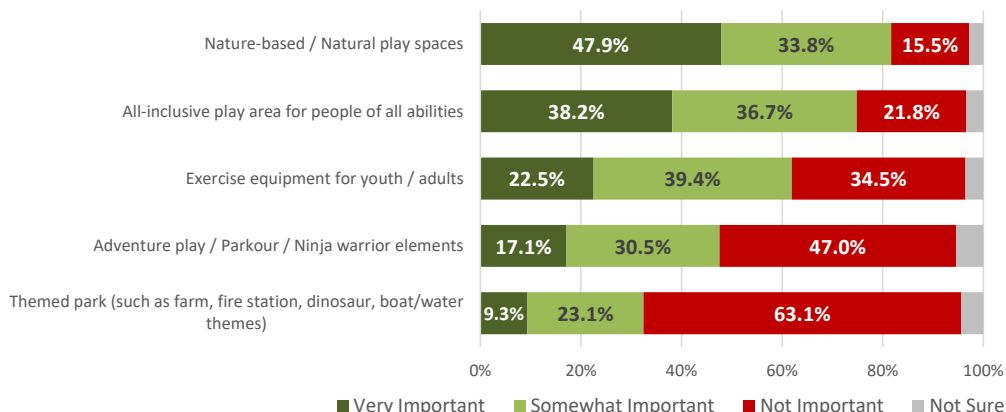
Are expanded playground amenities important to residents?

Focusing specifically on playground amenities, the survey asked about the relative importance of different amenities for the respondent's household. More than four-fifths of respondents (82%) rated nature-base and natural play spaces as either very important or important. All-inclusive play areas followed closely with 75% of respondents noting it as important.

Respondents younger than 45 years of age indicated a higher level of importance

for each of the options provided, except for exercise equipment, which was strongly supported by respondents under the age of 18. Also, respondents who identified as female indicated stronger support for all-inclusive playgrounds and for nature-based play areas. Write-in comments to open-ended questions in the survey re-iterated the rankings for this question and included comments about the needs for all inclusive play options, nature play, varied playgrounds and playground spaces for larger children and smaller children.

12. Please indicate how important each of the potential expanded playground amenities is to your household.

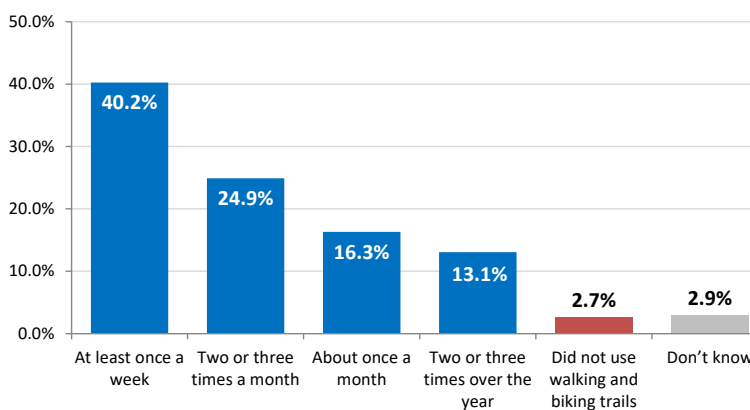


How often do residents use walking and biking trails?

Respondents were asked how often they, or members of their household, visited a walking and biking trail in Clark County over the past year. Respondents tend to visit frequently, with 81% using a walking and biking trail at least once per month. Approximately 40% use trails at least once a week and another 40% use trails one to three times per month. Approximately 13% of respondents visit just a few times per year.

As compared to responses to Question #2 regarding visitation to public parks, walking and biking trail usage does not generally decrease with age. Respondents over 65 indicated a slightly lower frequency of trail usage, but trail visitation was consistent across the other age groups. There were no significant differences between the other demographic subgroups.

7. How many times over the past year have you or members of your household used walking and biking trails in Clark County?





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Why don't residents use parks or trails more often?

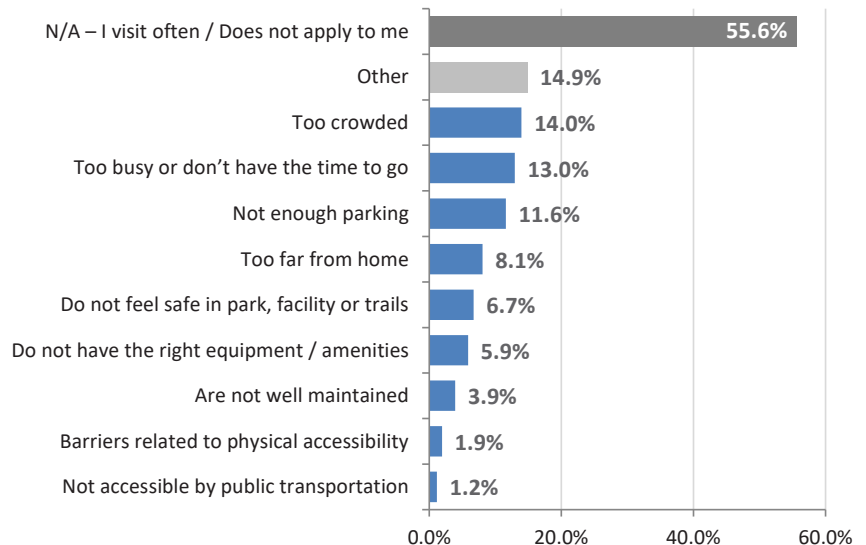
When asked why they do not visit Clark County's parks and recreation facilities more often, the most significant reason is the feeling that parks and trails are too crowded (14%). Nearly the same percentage of respondents (13%) indicated that they are too busy or don't have time to visit parks or trails. Write-in comments included comments about Covid-19, parking limitations, homelessness, safety and other concerns.

Additional responses included lack of parking (12%), safety concerns (7%), lack of desired equipment (6%), maintenance issues (4%), and accessibility issues (2%).

A significant number of respondents (56%) noted that none of these reasons applied to them, since they visit parks and recreation facilities often.

Respondents under 35 years of age were more likely to indicate that they are too busy or don't have time to use parks or trails (41% of respondents under age 35). No substantial differences existed between households with children and those without. Respondents with household incomes under \$50,000 noted a lack of parking (17.5%) and being too busy (16.11%) with slightly higher frequency than other income groups (10.2% and 13.3% respectively).

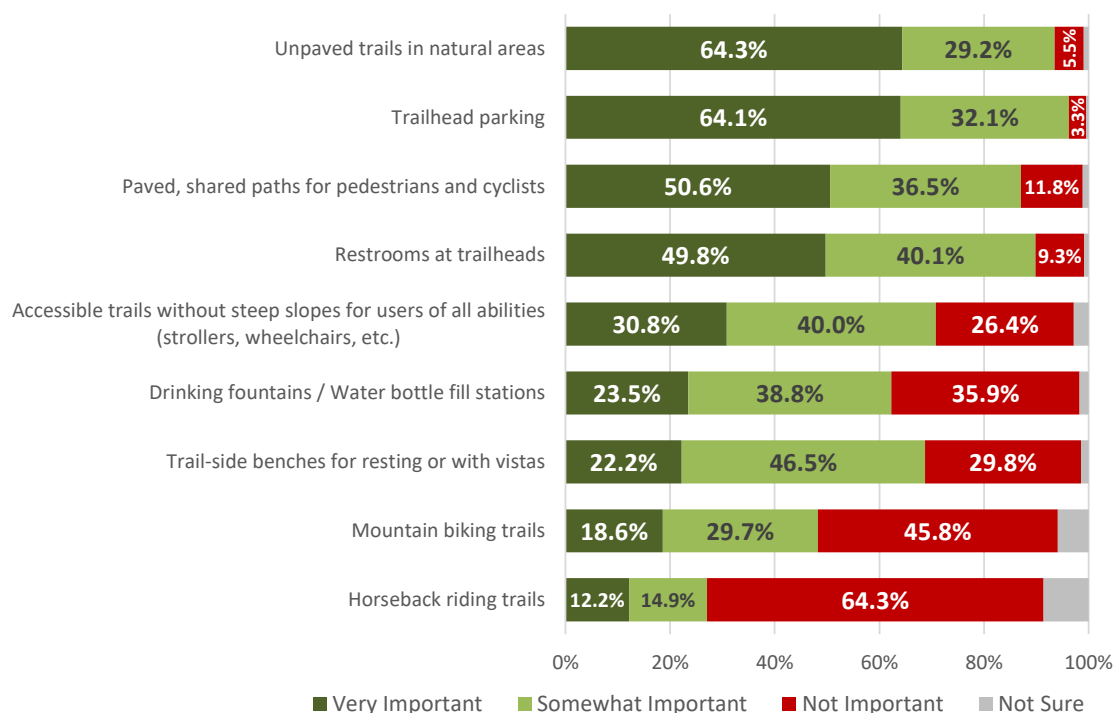
9. Please CHECK ALL the reasons why your household does not use Clark County's parks, recreation facilities or trails more often.



Which trail-based improvements do residents have interest in?

Respondents were asked about the importance of certain trail-related amenities from a list provided. Most of the respondents indicated the following as either very important or important: trailhead parking (96%), unpaved trails (94%), restrooms at trailheads (90%), and paved, shared-use trails (87%).

10. Please rate how important each trail type or amenity is to your household.



Survey respondents indicated a lower level of importance toward single-purpose trail types for mountain biking (48%) and horseback riding (27.1%); however, write-in comments from other survey questions reinforce the value of and need for these trail types to serve the Clark County community.

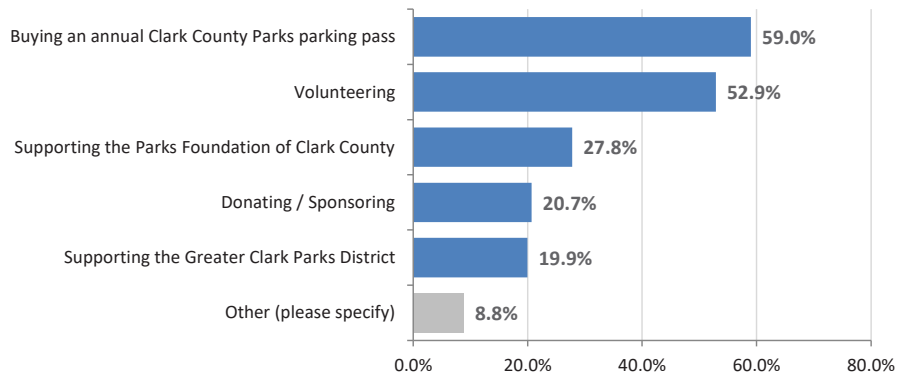
Respondents under 18 indicated a higher importance for paved, shared-use trails. Those with children and female respondents also showed higher support for paved trails, as well as drinking fountains and trailhead restrooms. Those without children were more inclined to support trail-side benches and horseback riding trails. Respondents with household incomes over \$150,000 noted unpaved trails as slightly more important than other income groups. Households with incomes under \$50,000 noted accessible trails, restrooms, drinking fountains and horseback riding trails as slightly more important than other income groups.



In what ways would residents want to support the County's park system?

The survey inquired about ways respondents would be interested in supporting the County's park system. Slight majorities of respondents indicated willingness to support the park system through buying an annual parking pass (59%) and volunteering on projects (53%). Less than one-third of respondents indicated support for the Parks Foundation, donations or the Greater Clark Parks District. Write-in comments included statements about not supporting additional taxes, as well as noting that financial support is already provided through local taxation.

14. Caring for parks takes a community effort including volunteers, donors and community supporters. Please select each of the following ways you would be interested in supporting the County's park system.



No substantial differences existed between most of the demographic subgroups. Respondents with incomes under \$35,000 were slightly more inclined to volunteer, and those with incomes over \$50,000 were slightly more interested in supporting the park system through payment options, such as buying an annual parking pass or donating.

Inclusion & Diversity Responses

In reviewing the race/ethnicity responses, only a few variations in responses from minority community members as compared to the full survey dataset. In all, 318 respondents self-identified as a race or ethnicity other than white, and slightly more than 500 respondents chose not to provide information.

- Minority community respondents were less favorable toward the maintenance and upkeep of County parks, with 83% noting maintenance as either excellent or good.
- Regarding participation in outdoor recreation activities, respondents indicated slightly higher participation rates for bicycling (60%, compared to 54% overall), soccer (35%, compared to 28% overall), fishing (25%, compared to 22% overall) and skateboarding (13%, compared to 10% overall).
- Regarding reasons for not using parks or trails more often, minority community member responses were slightly higher for there not being enough parking (15%, compared to 12% overall), not feeling safe (9%, compared to 7% overall), and that facilities are not well maintained (9%, compared to 4% overall).
- Regarding trail-based amenities, respondents noted drinking fountains and mountain biking trails as slightly more important than survey respondents as a whole.
- Regarding other systemwide improvements, respondents were slightly more supportive of providing water views and vistas, sport fields, sport courts, and picnic areas.

Additional Comments (Open-ended responses)

The survey provided respondents an opportunity to share their ideas and suggestions regarding additional recreation opportunities or preferred investments in parks and recreation. Over 1,100 respondents (40%) provided written comments. Common themes from these comments include:

- **Trail improvements:** Provide more options for mountain biking and accommodate more single-track mountain bike trails; Improve and expand trail connections and link trails together.
- **Cleanliness & maintenance:** Provide more garbage cans, more dog waste stations, clean restrooms more often, address the homeless encampments.
- **Park improvements:** Pave and upgrade parking at Harmony Sports Complex; Provide more sport fields with turf and lighting; Provide more horse trailer parking, more horse trails and skills areas; Provide bike skills areas and pump tracks; Add more splash pads to parks.
- **Safety:** Add lighting to trails and parks; Add crosswalks at all parks.
- **Stewardship:** Improve water quality; Restore habitat and plant more natives; Add interpretive signage.

The word cloud illustrates the most frequently used terms from write-in comments.





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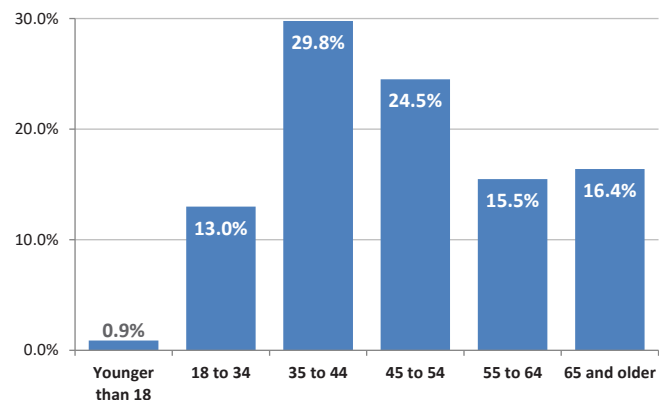
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Demographics

Although the survey was conducted as a non-random, opt-in survey, the results met the original intentions of being widely discernible by a general audience, meeting the goal of being able to evaluate for differences by geography and between different demographic subgroups. Demographic responses were not required (opt-in) and cannot be verified.

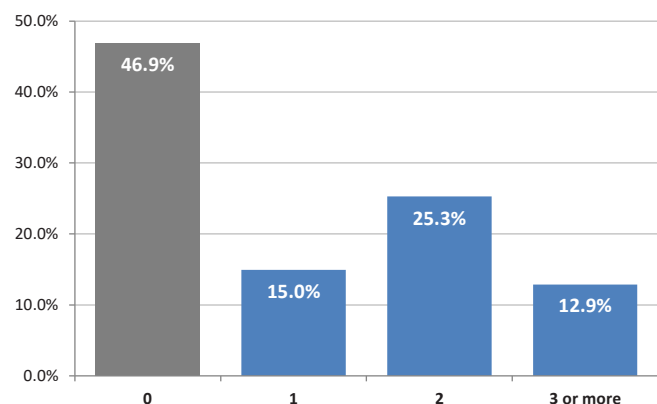
Age

The largest age group who responded to the survey were between 35 and 54 (53%). Respondents were fairly split between respondents under 35 years of age (14%), between 55 and 64 (16%) and over 65 years of age (16%). Twenty respondents were younger than 18 years of age.



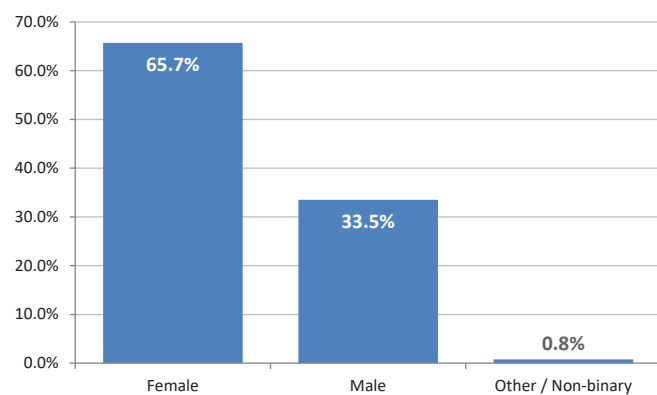
Number of Children in Household

Nearly half of respondents (47%) have no children in their household. These households tended to include older adults (over age 55). The remaining 53% of households have one (15%), two (25%), or three or more (13%) children in the home.



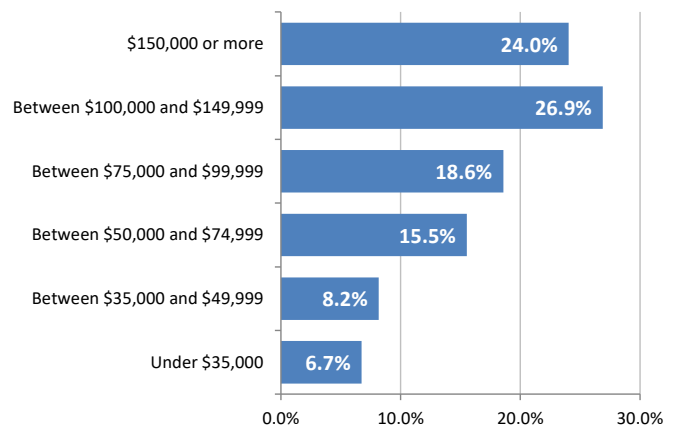
Gender

Nearly two-thirds of all respondents identified as female, with 33.5% identifying as male. Less than one percent of respondents identified as other or non-binary.

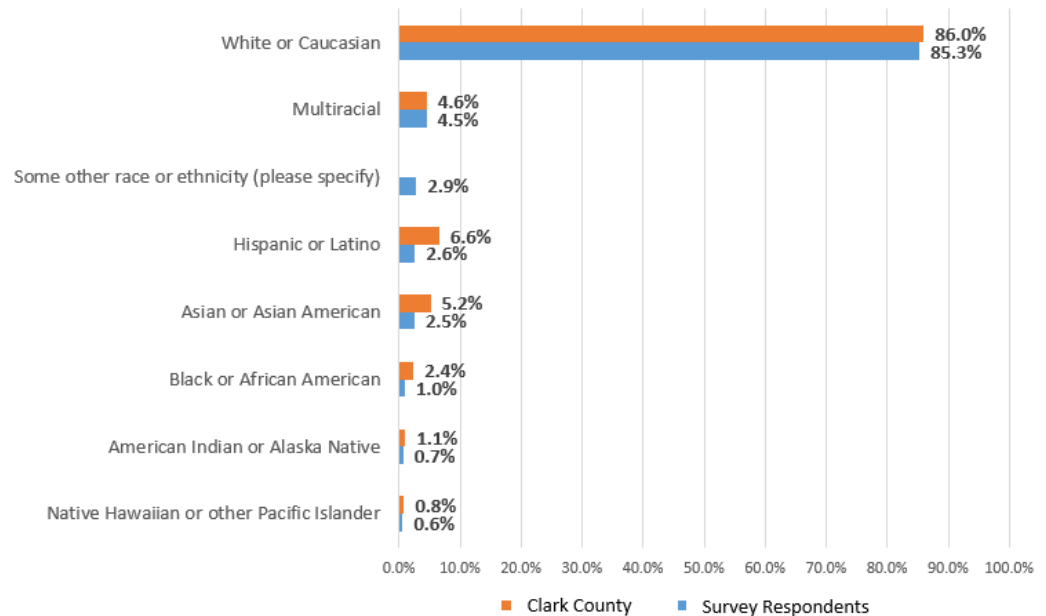


Household Income

Survey responses skew slightly toward more higher income households than median for Clark County. Approximately 51% of survey respondents identified household income of over \$100,000. report an income level above the county's median income for a household. At least 30.4% reported household income below the county's median income (\$80,555 as per US Census 2019 American Community Survey data).

**Ethnicity / Race**

The survey included 85.3% of respondents who identified as white. Nearly 5% of respondents who identified as multi-racial, and fewer than 3% identified as any of the other ethnicities listed.





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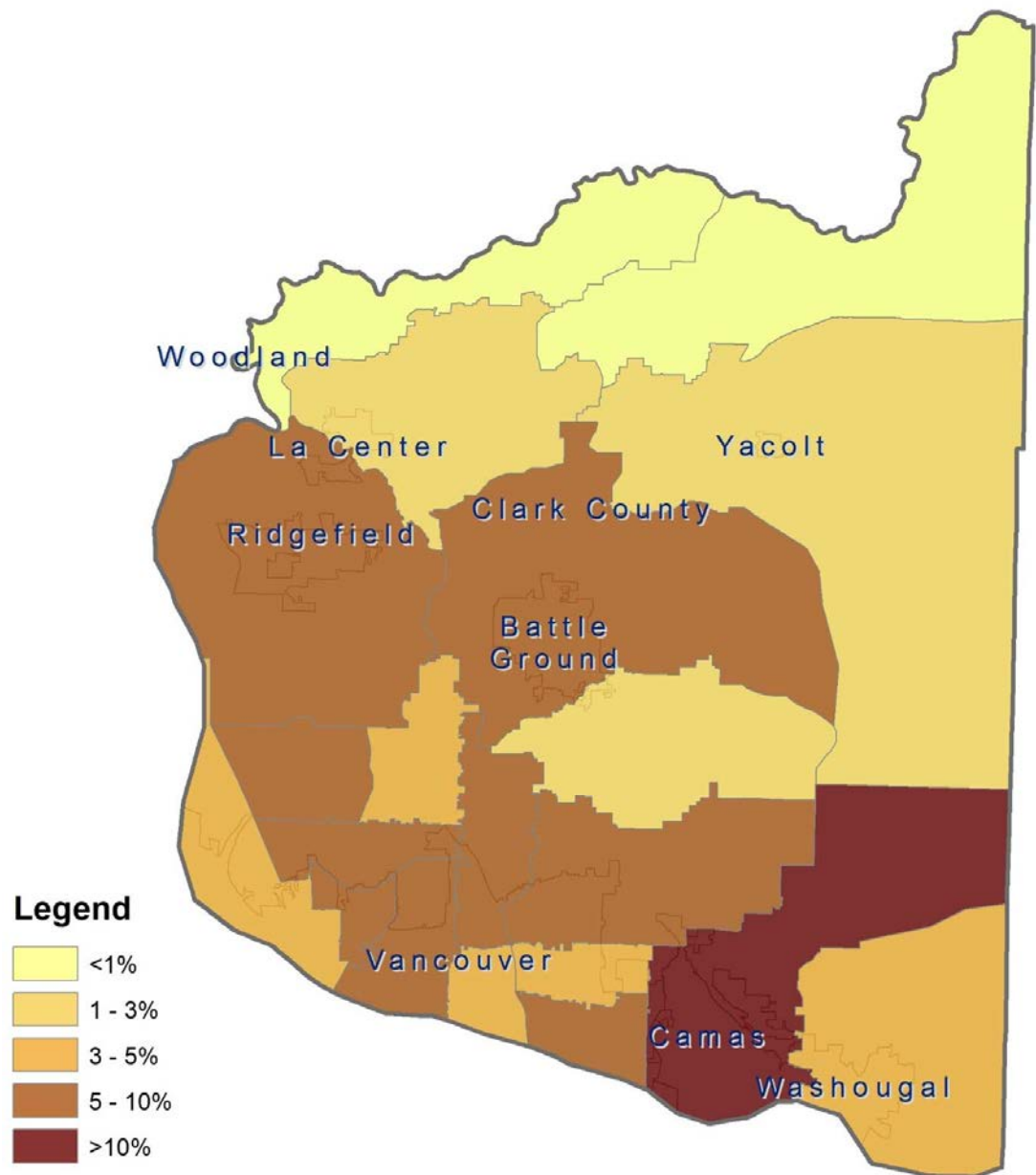
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Zip Code

Survey responses were well distributed across the county, and more than 99% of survey responses were from households in Clark County. Response rates were higher in more populated, urbanized areas of the county. The Camas zip code 98607 had the strongest response rate of 13.5%.

The map on the following page illustrates the distribution of survey responses by percentage returned.

Zip Code	% Responses	Zip Code	% Responses
98601	0.4%	98604	5.4%
98674	0.7%	98662	5.4%
98675	1.2%	98661	5.7%
98629	1.6%	98663	5.7%
98606	2.9%	98683	5.7%
98660	3.1%	98665	5.8%
98664	3.2%	98685	8.7%
98671	3.5%	98682	8.9%
98684	4.2%	98642	9.0%
98686	4.8%	98607	13.5%
		Non-county	0.6%





ATTACHMENT 1. SURVEY INSTRUMENT

(Note: The survey was designed for layout in online format for SurveyMonkey and written in English, Russian and Spanish)

1. Would you say that public parks and recreation opportunities are... (CHECK ONE OPTION)

Vital to the quality of life
Important, but not vital
Useful, but not necessary
Not important
Don't Know

2. How many times over the past year have you or members of your household visited a public park in Clark County?

At least once a week
Two or more times a month
About once a month
A few times over the year
Did not visit a public park
Don't know

3. Which park do you visit most often?

4. When you visit your nearby, local park, what is the primary way you get there? (CHECK ONE)

Walk
Bicycle
Drive
Public transit / bus
Other (please specify)

5. What is the name of your nearby, local park?

6. How would you rate the maintenance and upkeep of the Clark County parks you have visited, prior to the COVID-19 quarantine?

Excellent
Good
Fair
Poor

7. How many times over the past year have you or members of your household used walking and biking trails in Clark County?

At least once a week
Two or three times a month
About once a month
Two or three times over the year
Did not visit a public park
Don't know

8. Which of the following outdoor recreational activities did your household participate in within the last year? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

Jogging or running
Hiking or walking
Bicycling
Picnicking
Fishing
Swimming
Soccer
Lacrosse
Basketball
Frisbee or disc golf
Baseball / Softball
Rugby
Skateboarding
Tennis
Pickleball
Volleyball
Boating – Hand-carry (canoeing, kayaking)
Boating – Motor / trailered
Exercising dog at an off-leash dog area
Horseback riding
Wildlife viewing
Other: _____



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9. Please CHECK ALL the reasons why your household does not use Clark County's parks, recreation facilities or trails more often.

N/A – I visit often / Does not apply to me

Do not have the right equipment / amenities

Are not well maintained

Barriers related to physical accessibility

Not accessible by public transportation

Too far from home

Do not feel safe in park, facility or trails

Not enough parking

Too busy / Don't have the time to go

Too crowded

Other: _____

10. Please rate how important each trail type or amenity is to your household.

	Very Supportive	Somewhat Supportive	Not Supportive	Not Sure
Paved, shared paths for pedestrians and cyclists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unpaved trails in natural areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accessible trails without steep slopes for users of all abilities (strollers, wheelchairs, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Restrooms at trailheads	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trailhead parking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drinking fountains / Water bottle fill stations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trail-side benches for resting or with vistas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mountain biking trails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Horseback riding trails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paved, shared paths for pedestrians and cyclists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

11. Please rate how important each of the following amenities is to your household when visiting a County park.

	Very Supportive	Somewhat Supportive	Not Supportive	Not Sure
Water views and vistas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Boat / watercraft launches for canoes and kayaks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Boat facilities and launches for motorized or trailered boats	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Picnic facilities, including shelters, tables and barbecues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Splash pads or water play areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Playgrounds and play parks for children	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Off-leash dog areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Natural areas and open space	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recreational trail connections for walking and biking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paved, shared paths for pedestrians and cyclists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sport fields (softball, soccer, baseball, etc.) with all-weather turf and lighting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sport courts (basketball, tennis, pickleball)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sand volleyball courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12. Please indicate how important each of the potential expanded playground amenities is to your household.

	Very Supportive	Somewhat Supportive	Not Supportive	Not Sure
Nature-based / Natural play spaces	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Themed park (such as farm, fire station, dinosaur, boat/water themes)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
All-inclusive play area for people of all abilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Exercise equipment for youth / adults	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adventure play / Parkour / Ninja warrior elements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



13. Please share additional needs for additional recreation opportunities or for your preferred investments in parks and recreation.

14. Caring for parks takes a community effort including volunteers, donors, community supporters. Please select each of the following ways you would be interested in supporting the County's park system.

Volunteering

Buying an annual Clark County Parks parking pass

Supporting the Parks Foundation of Clark County

Supporting the Greater Clark Parks District

Donating / Sponsoring

Other (please specify)

15. If you are interested in receiving emails from Clark County about opportunities to contribute or upcoming project meetings for the PROS Plan, please provide your email address.

The following, optional questions help us understand whether we have a cross-section of the community responding to this survey, and the data will help in future grant requests. Thanks for understanding.

16. What is your age?

Younger than 18

18 to 34

35 to 44

45 to 54

55 to 64

65 and older

17. In what ZIP code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code; for example, 98665)

18. How many children under age 18 currently live in your household?

0

1

2

3 or more

19. What is your gender?

Female

Male

Other / Non-binary

20. What is your race / ethnicity?


- White or Caucasian
- Black or African American
- Hispanic or Latino
- Asian or Asian American
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Native Hawaiian or another Pacific Islander
- Multiracial
- Some other race or ethnicity (please specify)

21. Which of the following general income categories best describes your household income last year before taxes?

- Under \$35,000
- \$35,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$74,999
- \$75,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 to \$149,999
- \$150,000 or more



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A photograph of a forest path with a blue overlay for the title. The path is a dirt trail winding through a forest of tall, thin trees. The ground is covered in brown leaves and some green ferns. The sky is visible through the canopy.

APPENDIX D

PRIORITIES SURVEY SUMMARY



CONSERVATION
TECHNIX

To: Laura Hoggatt, Resource Development Coordinator / Planner II
From: Steve Duh, Conservation Technix, Inc.
Date: November 17, 2020
Re: **Clark County PROS Plan Update**
Survey #2 (Prioritization) – Summary Results

Conservation Technix is pleased to present the results of the second survey on project priorities in support of an update to the County's Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

In collaboration with County staff and the Parks Advisory Board, Conservation Technix developed an 11-question survey that was estimated to take approximately five minutes to complete.

The online survey was posted to the County's website on November 4, 2020. Information about the survey was provided on the County's website home page and on the PROS Plan project page. It was promoted via multiple County Facebook posts, along with direct email outreach to respondents to the first community survey if an email was provided. The survey was closed on November 15th, and preliminary data were compiled and reviewed. In all, 982 survey responses were received.

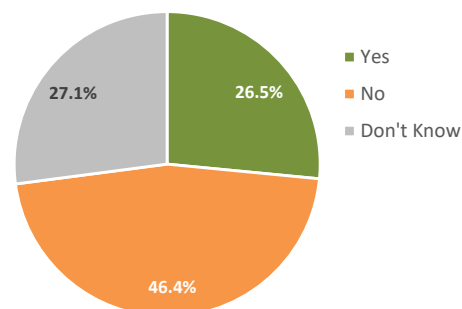
Since the survey was open to the general public and respondents were not selected through statistical sampling methods, the results are not necessarily representative of all County residents.

Percentages in the report may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

FULL RESULTS

Did respondents participate in the first community survey?

Slightly more than one-quarter of respondents (26%) indicated that they participated in the first community survey for the PROS Plan update that occurred during summer 2020. Nearly an equal amount (27%) did not know whether they completed the prior survey. Slightly less than half (46%) did not take the prior survey on recreational interests, preferences and priorities.

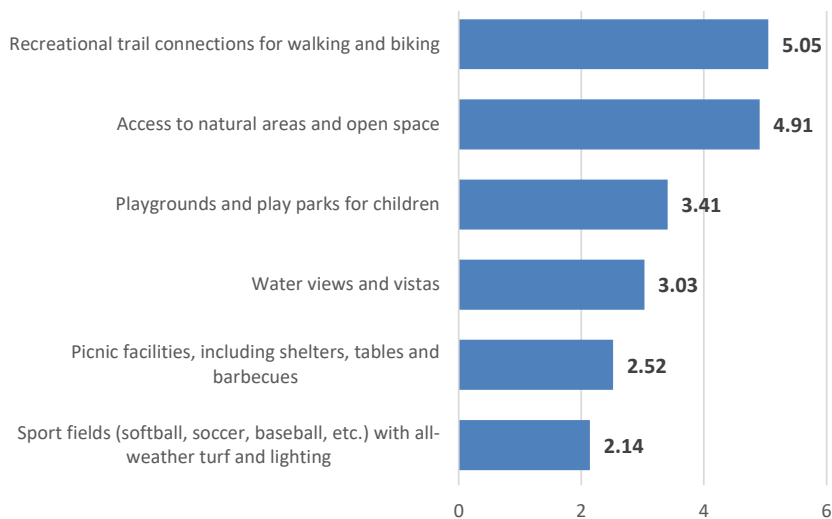


How do residents rank top priorities noted from the first community survey?

When asked how they would rank six potential project types that were strongly supported from the survey conducted in summer 2020, providing recreational trails was noted as the highest priority, with 42% saying it should be the highest priority and 90% saying it is one of the top three priorities. In looking at weighted averages of the priority rankings, respondents identified that recreational trail connections are a priority (5.05 on 6-point scale, 84%) and access to natural areas and open spaces are a priority (82%).

Female respondents and those without children were more supportive of access to natural areas. Female respondents and those between 18-34 and between 55-64 were more supportive of water views and vistas. Respondents between 18-34 were more supportive of recreational trail connections.

2. From prior community outreach and surveys, the following were identified as priority amenities for County parks. For the following list, indicate how you would rank the priority for each. (Note: weighted average of rankings - higher score equals higher priority).



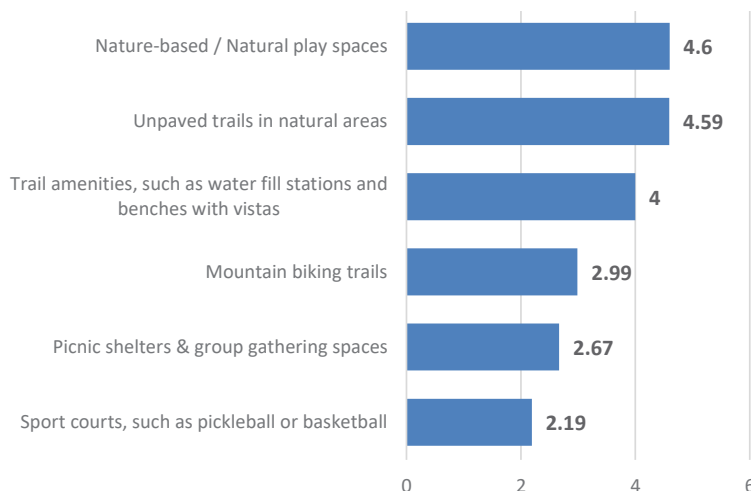


How do residents rank priority improvements?

Respondents were provided a list of six items and asked to rank the list based on their sense of priority. Nature-based play spaces (4.6 on 6-point scale, 76.6%) and unpaved trails in natural areas (4.59 on 6-point scale, 76.5%) and were nearly equally ranked. Trail amenities, such as water fill stations and benches, were also strongly supported (66.6%) and ranked third on the list of six items.

Respondents under the age of 44 and males were more supportive of mountain bike trails. Female respondents were more supportive of trail amenities and nature-base play spaces. Respondents without children were more supportive of trail amenities, unpaved trails and picnic shelters.

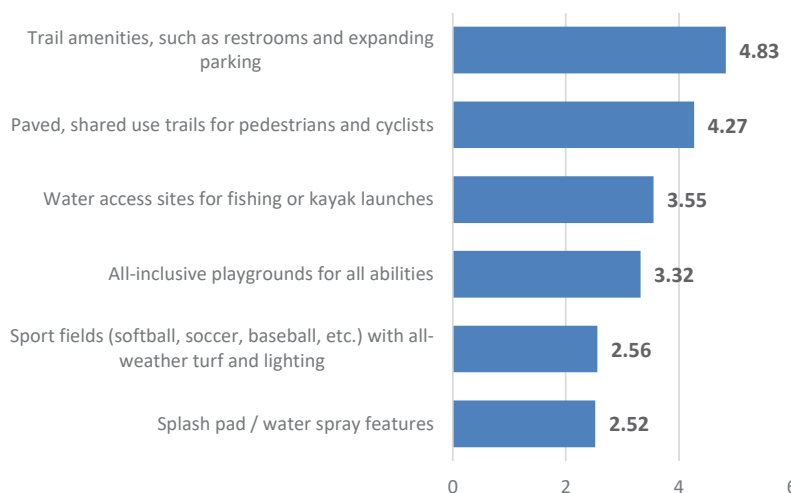
3. Please indicate the importance of these amenities to your household by ranking the list. (Note: weighted average of rankings - higher score equals higher priority).



Respondents were provided a different list of six items, which represented project types that typically cost more to install and/or maintain. In forced ranking between the list items, trail amenities such as restrooms and parking ranked as the top item (4.6 on 6-point scale, 80.5%). The second highest ranking as for paved, shared use trail connections (71%).

Respondents between 45-64 and males were more supportive of water access. Male respondents were also more supportive of sport fields. Respondents over 45 years of age were more supportive of paved trails, and those between 35-44 were more supportive of splash pads.

4. Please indicate the importance of these amenities to your household by ranking the list. (Note: weighted average of rankings - higher score equals higher priority).



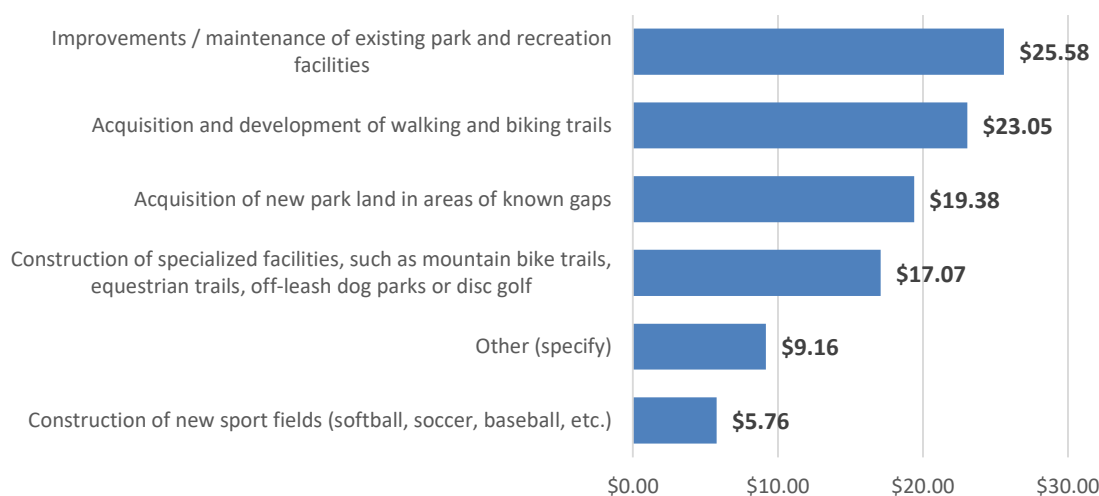
How would residents allocate funds to different project types?

Respondents were offered a list of five items and asked to allocate a hypothetical \$100 across the projects. An 'other' option was also provided for write-in comments. The sum of the allocations was required to equal \$100, and respondents could spread the dollars or allocate to a single item.

One-quarter of the amount was allocated toward improvements and maintenance of existing facilities. Slightly more than two in five dollars were allocated toward acquisitions, with \$23 going to the acquisition and development of trails and \$19 going to acquiring new parkland in gap areas. Specialized facilities received lower allocations overall.

Subgroup differences could not be tallied.

5. If you had an additional \$100 to invest in Clark County parks, open spaces, trails and recreation facilities, how would you allocate the funds among the categories of funding listed below?



Additional Options for Cost Allocation (Open-ended responses)

The survey provided respondents an opportunity to identify other preferred investments in the parks and recreation system. In all, 157 respondents (40%) provided written comments as items to which they would allocate resources. Common items from these comments include:

- Mountain bike trails and jump trails
- Maintenance and security – irrigation, homeless camps
- Restrooms
- Water quality (especially at Vancouver Lake)
- Playgrounds and splash pads
- Equestrian trails

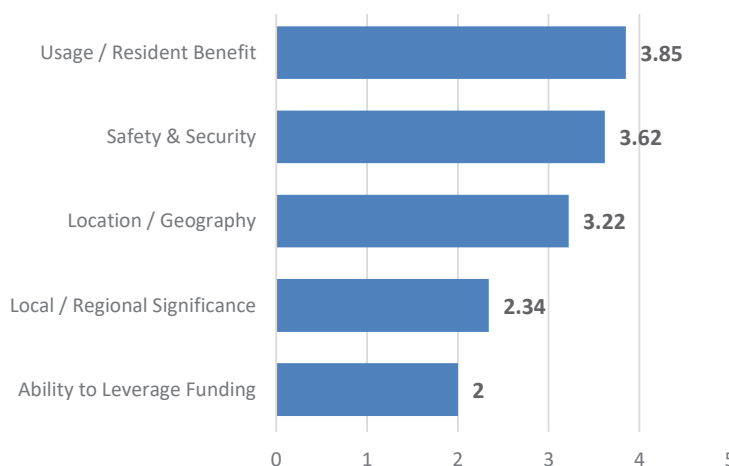
The complete list of comments is provided at the end of this memo.

The word cloud illustrates the most frequently used terms from write-in comments.



The survey provided the respondent with context about the challenges related to balancing the trade-offs between renovating existing facilities, expanding for population growth and creating new recreation options. With definitions for five criteria, respondents were asked to rank scoring criteria that could potentially be used for project weighting.

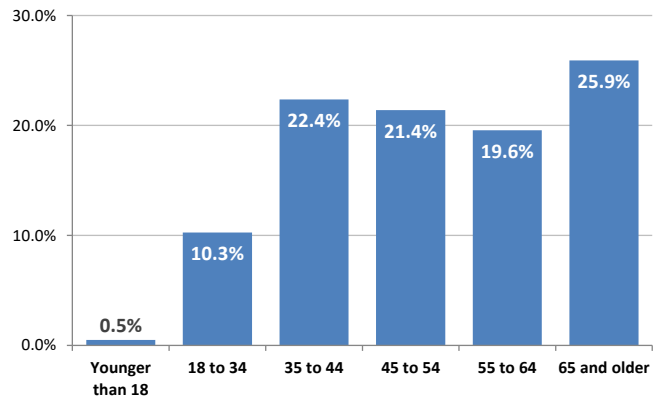
7. To help define how to weight each criteria, please rank the criteria. (Note: weighted average of rankings - higher score equals higher priority).



Demographics

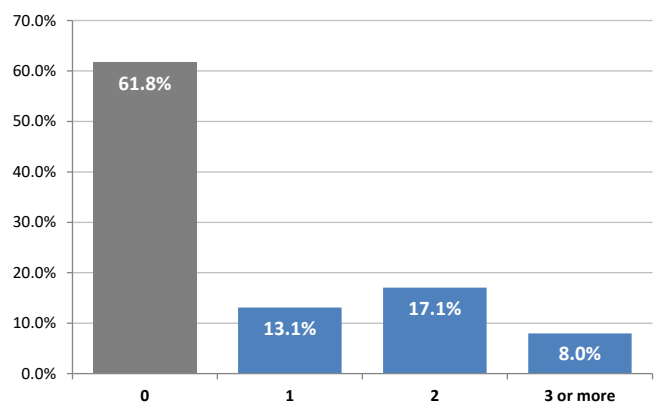
Age

The largest age group who responded to the survey were 55 and over (45%). Respondents were fairly split between respondents between 35 and 44 years of age (22%), between 45 and 54 (21%) and between 55 and 64 (19%). Four respondents were younger than 18 years of age. Approximately 13% of respondents chose to skip this question.



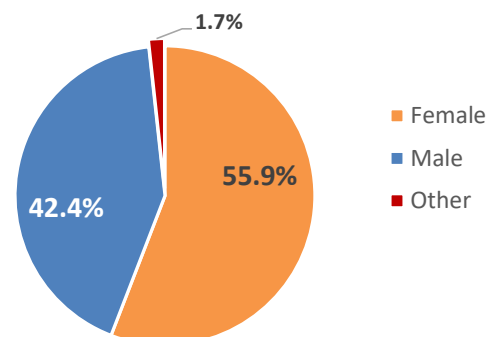
Number of Children in Household

Nearly two-thirds of respondents (62%) have no children in their household. These households tended to include older adults (over age 55). The remaining 38% of households have one (13%), two (17%), or three (8%) children in the home. Roughly 14% of respondents chose to skip this question.



Gender

Respondents skewed more female, with nearly six in ten of all responses. Fourteen respondents identified as other, and 14% of respondents chose to skip this question.



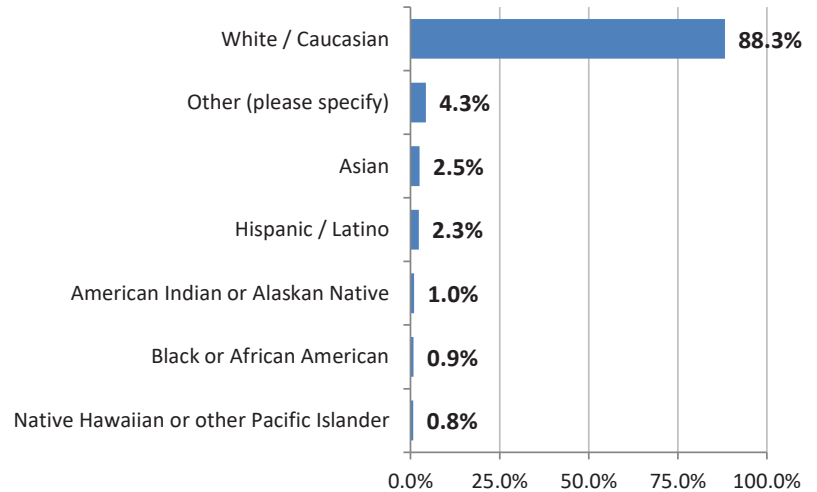


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Ethnicity / Race

Survey respondents skewed slightly more white (88%) than Clark County as a whole. Recent data from the US Census estimates approximately 80% of residents as white. Fewer than 3% identified as any of the other ethnicities. Write-in comments included several remarks about relevance of this question. Approximately 17% of respondents skipped this question.



ATTACHMENT 1. SURVEY INSTRUMENT

1. Did you or a member of your household provide a response to the first community survey for the PROS Plan update that occurred between June and August 2020?

Yes
No
Don't know

2. From prior community outreach and surveys, the following were identified as priority amenities for county parks. Please rank the list from 1 (most important) to 6 (least important). Re-order the list by dragging each line into your preferred order of priority.

Access to natural areas and open space
Recreational trail connections for walking and biking
Playgrounds and play parks for children
Water views and vistas
Sport fields (softball, soccer, baseball, etc.) with all-weather turf and lighting
Picnic facilities, including shelters, tables and barbecues

3. Please indicate the importance of the following amenities to your household by ranking the list from 1 (most important) to 6 (least important). Re-order the list by dragging each line into your preferred order of priority.

Nature-based / natural play spaces
Trail amenities, such as water fill stations and benches with vistas
Unpaved trails in natural areas
Mountain biking trails
Sport courts, such as pickleball or basketball
Picnic shelters / group gathering spaces

4. Please indicate the importance of the following amenities to your household by ranking the list from 1 (most important) to 6 (least important). Re-order the list by dragging each line into your preferred order of preference.

Sport fields (softball, soccer, baseball, etc.) with all-weather turf and lighting
Trail amenities, such as restrooms and expanding parking
Splash pad / water spray features
All-inclusive playgrounds for all abilities
Water access sites for fishing or kayak launches
Paved, shared use trails for pedestrians and cyclists

5. If you had an additional \$100 to invest in Clark County parks, open spaces, trails and recreation facilities, how would you allocate the funds among the categories of funding listed below? [Please be sure your total adds up to \$100.]



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\$ _____ Improvements / maintenance of existing park and recreation facilities
\$ _____ Acquisition of new park land in areas of known gaps
\$ _____ Construction of specialized facilities, such as mountain bike trails, equestrian trails, off-leash dog parks or disc golf
\$ _____ Construction of new sport fields (softball, soccer, baseball, etc.)
\$ _____ Acquisition and development of walking and biking trails
\$ _____ Other: _____
\$ 100 TOTAL

Managing a large park and open space system requires significant resources. Balancing the needs of the system forces trade-offs between renovating existing facilities, expanding for population growth and creating new recreation options. Choosing between different kinds of projects can be challenging across such a variety of users in the county.

Maintenance demands for an 8,000-acre park system are spread across 650 square miles. The budget aims to balance priorities within the following:

- Operations & Maintenance
- Repairs & Replacement
- Geographic Equity & Inclusion for All
- Diversity of Spaces & Experiences

As part of the PROS Plan update, a project list of potential improvements will be created to guide county efforts and future budget discussions. One way to prioritize projects is through scoring each project with weighted criteria. For this system, the following criteria could be used:

Safety & Security: projects that address parks and facilities accessibility, safety and security needs for all users.

Usage / Resident Benefit: projects targeting improvements focused on creating parks and facilities areas of heavy use and/or where few County facilities exist, and where the cost of a project is evaluated against the volume of users.

Location / Geography: projects that support equity and access to parks and facilities across the county.

Local / Regional Significance: projects focused on creating parks and facilities that are destinations for a large number of county residents and visitors and/or where a significant amount of development and space already exists.

Ability to Leverage Funding: projects that meet the criteria (e.g., population size, demographics, income level, and access) for state and federal grants, as well as charitable foundations.

6. To help the county weigh each criterion, please rank the criteria from 1 (most important) to 5 (least important). Re-order the list by dragging each line into your preferred order of preference.

Safety & Security
Usage / Resident Benefit
Location / Geography
Local / Regional Significance
Ability to Leverage Funding

The following, optional questions help us understand whether we have a cross-section of the community responding to this survey, and the data will help in future grant requests. Thank you for your understanding.

16. What is your age?

Younger than 18
18 to 34
35 to 44
45 to 54
55 to 64
65 and older

18. How many children under age 18 currently live in your household?

0
1
2
3 or more

19. What is your gender?

Female
Male
Other / Non-binary

20. What is your race / ethnicity?

White or Caucasian
Black or African American
Hispanic or Latino
Asian or Asian American
American Indian or Alaska Native
Native Hawaiian or another Pacific Islander
Some other race or ethnicity (please specify)



ATTACHMENT 2. OPEN-ENDED SURVEY RESPONSES

Q4: Open-ended Responses - If you had an additional \$100 to invest in Clark County parks, open spaces, trails and recreation facilities, how would you allocate the funds among the categories of funding listed below?

- Local mountain bike trails! I hate having to drive all the way to Sandy, hood river or castle rock to bike
- Dirt jump biking trails
- All mountain bike trails
- Mountain bike expert jump trails
- Developing mountain bike/hiking/trail running trails.
- Dirt jump biking trails
- New playgrounds
- Already above, but dog parks please
- Retrofitting existing parks for more inclusive design
- Clean up your existing parks (homeless camps) before you spend 1 single dime. This is the stupidest idea since letting rioters riot! Please stop the madness
- Water Improvements at Vancouver Lake.
- Clean up of Vancouver Lake
- Mountain biking trails
- Providing interpretive trails/facilities
- patrolling & litter maintenance
- Added environmental protections and code enforcement
- Safe water access & park & play areas for children/ splash pads
- development of existing recreation areas with MORE LOOP TRAILS vs in and out trails
- Restrooms, benches/seats
- Drinking water access at all parks and rec areas
- We need a bike park/pump track like Gateway Green!!!!
- We have an amazing potential community resource at Vancouver Lake. Let's make it special for the community as a local recreation resource and as a destination/economic driver for the region
- Natural areas, wildlife corridors
- Develop cougar creek park
- New disc golf courses please
- For a Ferris wheel
- Timers for watering at night instead of early morning when walking dogs, covered tables/benches, flat areas for blankets, lawn chairs, etc. fenced area for neighborhood dog and owners socialization, more trees, lights at night
- Camp sites with Full hookups
- Leash law/poop pick up enforcement
- None
- Dirt jump trails for mountain bikes!! Similar to Gateway Green or Eichler Park in Beaverton

- rest rooms
- I would like to see more land set aside for wildlife habitat and more streams and riparian areas set aside for the same.
- Equestrian only trails - no bikes to spook horses
- Parking
- County RV Parks
- Restrooms
- Rails and trails from BG lake.
- Recreational expansion of our waterfront along Lake River.
- Public access to beaches and river 1. Upgrade water reclamation facility so Frenchman's Bar Beach is not polluted with human waste after a storm... it's disgusting. Vancouver needs a viable beach
- More places to swim/water activities during the summer.
- Better outdoor access for disabled. Wider paved trails are essential.
- Dog waste bags, the most important is to feel safe, so whatever it takes to add to a park to feel safe. Perhaps regular well check of the park, for tents and residents.
- homeless outreach for those living in parks or near trails
- More garbage cans on trails
- dog park
- ADA accessibility to all areas
- Restrooms, seating, drinking water facilities
- \$0 - zero
- facilities w excellent handicap access
- I hardly use any parks due to the large number of off-leash dogs
- Disc golf courses
- Restrooms
- Wildlife viewing areas
- community gardens
- dog park in La Center
- Mountain bike trails!
- Horse riding trails
- Splash pad
- water quality of the lake
- Connect existing trails and make street crossings safer like at Hazel Dell
- Walking trails just for walking without having to dodge cyclist with benches and nature.
- Horse equestrian trails
- Water access for fishing and hunting.
- Mountain biking!
- Making sure they are clean, safe & free from used needles & addicts
- Trees that will be hardy in dry weather
- Simple fenced off leash area Dog park



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- Lights! All of our parks are so dark and now with winter here and the sundown at 5 o'clock, it would be really nice to have some lights so we can still go out.
- Sidewalks that lead to these parks. As of now there are no sidewalks that safely lead me my family and neighbors to a park. All require walking in the street on very busy main roads.
- Plenty of parking
- Splash pad
- Increased security patrols and cameras
- Inclusive trails and play spaces
- preserving Ridgefield natural spaces and wildlife from more development
- Event Space e.g. Amphitheaters/gazebos
- Dog park Off leash trails
- Fix Vancouver lake
- More trash cans! And empty them often!
- Off leash dog park
- Pay park staff more
- Habitat restoration in areas of past degradation, e.g., riparian corridors.
- Stop planting MF trees by trails!! Roots damage the paved trails.
- tennis courts
- Give people activities to do example events, festivals, food, and so on...
- planting trees
- Water Improvements at Vancouver Lake
- Children splash pad/upgraded playgrounds
- Inclusive amenities in existing parks
- keeping homeless people from taking it over
- RESTROOMS
- spray water parks as they have in Battleground, and LaCenter
- band stand, concert facilities, educational areas like pottery, guitar lessons, children's theatre
- Splash pad in East Vancouver
- water quality improvement for Vancouver Lake
- Removing the homeless intrusion that make people uncomfortable to be in public areas
- improved safe access to parks from neighborhood, expanding out to .25 miles or more
- a proper splash pad in Vancouver!
- Improve water quality at Vancouver Lake, and when I marked highly for water access, I mean non-motorized boats (sail, SUP, canoe, kayak) not fishing
- We need more marinas in Clark County serving boats, kayaks, etc.
- Wildlife habitat projects such as bat houses, Vaux's swift towers, living snags, native plants, removing invasive plants, education on invasive & native plants, QR code/NFC signage so you can listen to info about that spot on your phone
- Kayak/Canoe/Boat launch at Kline Pond
- But land before it is developed into more homes!!
- Vancouver Lake for sailing
- maintenance on new facilities after built/improved

- Improving water quality at Vancouver Lake
- Fix the facilities we have before adding to them
- Equestrian trail maintenance and development for the whole \$100
- Water Improvement at Vancouver Lake
- Improvements to Vancouver Lake
- Higher spending specific towards primitive, single-track mountain bike trails. Did not pick the mountain bike trail option listed above because it was too vague. Mountain biking has become so popular and there is a huge need for more primitive trails to reduce the volume of users in areas like Lacamas Park. Should be a big focus for future Camp Bonneville planning.
- Water quality Vancouver lake
- Vancouver Lake water health
- Improving water quality in Vancouver Lake
- All inclusive park or more splash parks
- Water quality in the lakes
- Mountain bike trails
- Improve water flow in and out of Vancouver lake to make it usable year round! Take measures to stop algae blooms so people can safely use the lake
- Rugby field
- Water Improvements at Vancouver Lake
- Finish development of Camp Bonneville with a perimeter trail for equestrians as well as hikers and bikers.
- Motor boat ramps and parking (also I am assuming improvements to existing parks to mean constructing improvements on undeveloped existing park lands)
- Youth Rugby Field(s) - Multi Use
- Pickleball only courts
- Pool
- A Community Rugby Field for the Rugby teams in the Vancouver area.
- Gardens. Community and flower/natural
- Skate parks.
- Mountain Bike Park
- Replace rotted boards on the bridges at Whipple Creek and add non-slip rubber stall mats on top so that horses and hikers may safely cross the bridges without slipping. The current bridge conditions are an accident waiting to happen, I have observed several people and horses slipping, falling, almost falling on the poor bridge surfaces.
- Kayak/Fishing
- Only mountain bike trails, not open to equestrians
- Improvements to support outdoor learning by local students (outdoor classrooms)
- pickle ball courts
- restrooms
- n/a
- A pump track and/or area where kids of all ages could develop their biking skills



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- Bike Park with pump track and jump track, legalize e-biking, kayak play wave on EFL, or Washougal, better parking at EFL takeout.
- \$0 - zero
- New Kayak Launches
- \$0 - zero
- pickleball
- Production of on-line and printed recreational guides to help people find facilities
- New parking area for Hazel Dell park
- parking for horse trailers
- Equestrian trails build, winterize
- Bringing restrooms to EVERY park!
- Construction of all-ability parks in various locations
- \$0 - zero
- Mountain bike trails
- Man made trail features for beginner -advanced MTB riders on existing trails. New trails need to utilizing closer resources and land. 1 hr drive to closest trail from Vancouver is shameful. We are behind the curve compared to other comparably sized cities.
- Ensuring and maintaining equitable access for all recreational activities in Clark County, including Hunting, dog training, etc.
- Multi-sport open field space. Home for local kids to practice and play Rugby.
- \$100 Development of regional park on Pearson property
- More trash cans and frequent pickup
- Whitewater park
- Skate/bike parks on the west side of town (like Pacific Park)

A group of children are in a raft on a river, wearing blue life jackets with yellow straps. They are smiling and looking towards the camera. The background shows a river and a forested hill under a clear blue sky.

APPENDIX E

STAKEHOLDER SESSION NOTES



STAKEHOLDER GROUP DISCUSSION NOTES

Project Name:	Clark County PROS Plan Update	Project #:	Proj-# 19-127PLN
Location:	Webex Teleconference	Interview Date:	June 26, 2020
Notes by:	Steve Duh, Conservation Technix	Time:	1:00 pm
Participant:	<p>Tyler Castle, Castle Farms / Whipple Creek Restoration Committee</p> <p>Sandra Day, Ridgefield City Council / Whipple Creek Restoration</p> <p>Rod Hooker, Washington Trail Association</p> <p>Renee Tkach, Friends of the Columbia Gorge</p> <p>Alice Heller, Clark County Executive Horse Council</p> <p>Sean Vergillo, Lacamas Trails Advocacy Group - NWTA</p> <p>Juanita Rogers, RLA, Senior Landscape Architect, WSP</p> <p>Corey Grandstaff, National Federation of the Blind</p>	<p>Dora Hernandez, Volunteer Program Coordinator</p> <p>Eric Hale, Friends of Vancouver Lake</p> <p>Ryan Ojerio, Washington Trails Association</p> <p>Sean Vergillo, Lacamas Trails Advocacy Group / NWTA</p> <p>Melissa Martin, Clark County Public Health</p> <p>Yasmina Akin, Clark County Public Health Pat Lee, Clark County Parks</p> <p>Gary Albrecht, Clark County</p> <p>Laura Hoggatt, Clark County Parks</p> <p>Steve Duh, Conservation Technix</p>	
Subject:	Trails Group Discussion		

PURPOSE

To discuss existing challenges and future needs for regional and local trails in Clark County with representatives from a variety of trail-related organizations. This meeting took place on June 26, 2020 via a Webex teleconference from 1:00 – 2:20 pm.

DISCUSSION

The discussion began with a brief introduction of participants and an overview of the County's plan update process. A set of questions were used to initiate a discussion of priority projects and to consider opportunities for collaboration.

Priorities & Project Ideas

- Clark County is fortunate to have great greenspaces with access to big trees, water and other amenities.
- Growth has to pay for itself. The County included trails into the Park Impact Fee program about two years ago, and the County needs to focus on how PIF can be used to pay for trails.

Interview Notes (continued)

- Can the Park Impact Fees charged to residential developers be reviewed. There are high and low fees in Clark County and the bigger developers may not be paying their share near I-5
- New housing near NW 179th St and NW 11th Ave south of Ridgefield will create more demand for parking at Whipple Creek Park. This park has been a low priority for maintenance by the County, and volunteers maintain a lot of the site. It needs a concentrated effort
- Whipple Creek is only one of five places horses can go in the county.
- The early concept to connect Fairgrounds Community Park to Whipple Creek Park should be implemented for walking, hiking and horse connections
- Whipple Creek Park has a site master plan from 1992. It should be revisited, and all of the stakeholders should be brought together to prepare to build in uses for the future.
- A broader issue is that increasing population will result in increasing trail user volumes. Planning for the trail network should have guiding principles for trail and trail system design. This would include modernization of the system and implementation of best management practices. It should also streamline how community partners work together, and project collaboration at this time tends to be ad hoc.
- The process for the new Conservation Areas Acquisition Plan gathered a lot of public feedback on priorities for trails. Major interests included Flume Creek, Whipple Creek to Fairgrounds Park, northern loop at Lacamas Lake, and Yacolt to Moulton Trail.
- Lewis and Clark Trail is a major piece to the future vision for trails in the county. The section in Washougal at Steigerwald came together through significant coordination between the Port, BNSF, WDOT and others, and the Friends of the Gorge purchased an addition 160 acres to facilitate a trail extension
- As part of a plan to prioritize trail projects, there should be a look at equity and trail access for those with income or health disparities.
- Also provide access for people with different abilities (i.e., access trails via ramps and mobility devices, as well as access trail maps with screen reading software)
- Regarding prioritization, connecting trails is a means to an end. What is the end goal? Goal ideas could be about completing loops (congestion increases with out/back trails, so enabling loops and a logical flow will accommodate higher trail volumes with less congestion/conflict) and connecting to neighborhoods like a trail to a park.
- Connect people and travel through recreation sites to be off road
- Regarding trail congestion, there should be a move toward “sharing the landscape” rather than sharing the trail (i.e., parallel routes or supporting certain users at certain sites). Gateway Green in NE Portland is a good example of diverse users sharing the space.
- The county needs more mountain bike-specific trails that include directional flow to keep things moving, single track routes and signage. Also need progressive designs to develop skills. Look at Duthie Hill Park (near Issaquah) and Stub Stewart State Park (near Banks OR)
- Consider adding features to draw in users and also take some of the load off the trails (e.g., off leash areas, obstacle or skills course for mountain bikes or horses)
- Provide amenities for users, such as restrooms, water stations, shade, benches, etc. This would be bigger investments and vision along the major trails where possible.
- Plan for trailheads along major corridors and popular parks, and plan for emergency access and updated mapping for emergency communications



Interview Notes (continued)

Collaboration

- Consider a move toward collaborative trail construction models. Look at trail design and construction paired with a volunteer stewardship model. Consider multiple entry points to accommodate movement of volunteers, tools and materials.
- Offer guidelines to participation on projects along with order of magnitude cost estimates for trail development
- Look at capturing and promoting information about health indicators related to trail use
- Look at the permitting process related to trail development and streamlining for trail projects related to grading, hardening, stormwater, etc. Extra process doesn't necessarily give better outcomes.

-- End of Notes --



STAKEHOLDER GROUP DISCUSSION NOTES

Project Name: Clark County PROS Plan Update **Project No.:** Proj-# 19-127PLN

Location: Webex Teleconference **Interview Date:** May 27, 2020 **Time:** 2:00 pm

Notes by: Steve Duh, Conservation Technix

Participant:

David Alt, BMX group	Sean Janson, Harmony Sports / Washington Timbers
Brent Bates, Harmony Sports / Cascade LL	Jim Kautz, Rugby
Kristi Burton, Kings Way Christian	Ron Liebelt, Hazel Dell Little League
Brad Butterworth, Kings Way Christian	Cliff Myers, Visit Vancouver USA
Jazlyn Faulstick, Visit Vancouver USA	Jay Chester, Clark County Parks Advisory Board
John Fletcher, Rugby	Laura Hoggatt, Clark County Parks, Planner II
Will Holden, Pacific Soccer Club	Eric Christensen, Sports Field Reservations, Clark County
Nikki Meler, Vancouver Girls Softball Association	Steve Duh, Conservation Technix

Subject: **Sports Group Discussion**

PURPOSE

To discuss existing challenges and future demands and needs for sports facilities and programming in Clark County with representatives from a variety of sports leagues, clubs and programs. This meeting took place on May 27, 2020 via a Webex teleconference from 2:00 – 3:45 pm.

DISCUSSION

The discussion began with a brief introduction of participants and an overview of the County's plan update process. A set of questions were used to initiate a discussion of each organization's perspective and to consider their current and future status regarding facilities and programming.

- Nikki: Vancouver Girls Softball – The league plays at Harmony. The County owns land and provides guidelines. The league would like to see changes to the parking lot.
- Rick Hansen – oversees SW WA adult and youth umpires and is committed to promoting field sports.
- Brent: Harmony Sports – active in making improvements at Harmony (synth turf, master planning, grant applications). The Department of Commerce provided a grant for safety improvements. Section 30 will be developed, and City of Vancouver wants to extend a road through Section 30, which will force site reconfiguration.
- Sean: WA Timbers Football Club – SW WA's largest and oldest soccer club. Collaborations with other stakeholders involved, including Visit Vancouver, City of Vancouver, and County for collaborative planning. Looking for tournament-friendly site that can serve a range of sports, with synth turf, lights, indoor space. Visit Vancouver has a report with sport assessments and metrics.



Interview Notes (continued)

- Jay Chester: PAB – Wants the PROS Plan to allow for growth in field development for multi-sport tournaments and tourism.
- Jim K: rugby for youth and senior men – The club has been around for 20 years. Difficult time finding fields. More fields are needed (multi-purpose).
- John Fletcher: rugby. The club has seen explosive growth over the past 15 years. Excited about the plans for Curtin Creek Park.
- Jazlyn / Cliff: Visit Vancouver USA – Conducted field assessment study to explore the capacity of sport fields for tournaments. The county should use sport facilities as economic engine.
- Brad Burton / Kristi: Kings Way – More multi-sport are needed, including volleyball and basketball, as well as fields. Primary usage is at Luke Jensen for baseball and soccer. Willing to partner for basketball and volleyball. As the Event Director of Hoops on the River and Hoops 360 3-on-3, as well as major tournaments around the country, we can help provide direction, coordination and collaboration with large events.

Sports Recreation Opportunities & Facility Needs

- Clark County is well-suited for development for tournaments – hotels, Clark County Event Center (maybe for indoor drone racing).
- Sports ecosystem model.
- Facilities that have tournament readiness – Review the Visit Vancouver study. For example, some improvements like adding an extra scoreboard or addressing parking could make certain fields workable for tournament play.
- Harmony – opportunity to get site layout ‘right’ – build it to the max to benefit all involved, including the addition of an indoor facility.
- There are no indoor futsal spaces in the county. There are 2 indoor soccer, but futsal uses gym floors.
- Maintenance costs are the biggest burden. Explore more relationships with sport groups for maintenance funding.
- Hazel Dell Little League leases property from HB Fuller and sublets to the County. Salmon Creek Soccer pulled out from the site, so there is some available capacity at HB Fuller now.
- School sites present a challenge since they are not primarily for non-profit groups to use. The schools retain first right for the fields and tie up capacity, so scheduling can be a challenge. Some school districts (i.e., VSD) stop irrigating fields in the summer. Evergreen SD and Camas SD are OK. Field conditions can be highly variable and unsafe for play or practice in some cases. It is also challenging to work with some districts for field improvements due to labor agreements, fees or maintenance needs. Also districts higher fees for fields with synth turf and lights.
- Restraints for softball are the same (re: school district site usage). Vancouver Girls Softball is only in Vancouver and uses VSD sites, which are limited now due to school remodels.

Future Project Ideas

- Curtin Creek Community Park – construction in 2021-22. To include 2 fields, lights, turf (1), 110x70 for soccer and space for rugby, parking, sport courts.
- Regional, tournament-capable facility for economic benefits and tourism. Another example is Optimist Youth Sports Complex in Boise.

Interview Notes (continued)

- Indoor facility (like Centralia's) is needed on a site possibly along I-5 and near the Fairgrounds. This idea has old roots and has fallen away due to funding challenges. It should still be part of the vision.
- Harmony Sports – vision is to include indoor facility to support different sports and accommodate sports therapy. The idea is for a 50,000 sf facility with 2nd level/mezzanine for spectators, etc. It would have the equivalent of 3 futsal fields, 2 basketball courts and 3 volleyball courts with overlapping indoor baseball infield.

Roles & Coordination

- County role is in providing the land base, which is a significant contribution. The County could possibly assist with the development process, permitting and grant writing. Site development would come from the local sports community (development fundraising, donations, grants, sponsorships).
- Leagues can assist in fundraising, site development, site management.
- Work with the county has been positive because leagues have a pay it forward model and are future oriented.
- Non-locals provide the economic boost through sports tourism, tournament fees, hotel stays, etc.
- Consider forming a Stakeholder Advisory Group for league and partner coordination and discussions. The county might not be ready for a full-blown Sports Commission or consortium. Be sure to include Clark College and WSU-Vancouver as partners.

Other Comments & Interests

- Need more bike parks / pump tracks (i.e., Leavenworth, Hood River)

-- End of Notes --



STAKEHOLDER GROUP DISCUSSION NOTES

Project Name:	Clark County PROS Plan Update	Project #:	Proj-# 19-127PLN
Location:	Webex Teleconference	Interview Date:	August 19, 2020
		Time:	10:00 am
Notes by:	Steve Duh, Conservation Technix		
Participant:	Gigi Olguin, Hispanic Metro Chamber of Commerce		Dora Hernandez, Volunteer Program Coordinator
	Yasmina Akin, Clark County Public Health		Jay Chester, Parks Advisory Board
	Melissa Martin, Clark County Public Health		Laura Hoggatt, Clark County Parks
	Emily Kaleel, Clark County Food Bank		Steve Duh, Conservation Technix
	Laura Ellsworth, Council for the Homeless		
Subject:	Diversity & Inclusion Group Discussion (#1)		

PURPOSE

To discuss barriers, challenges and needs related to diversity and inclusion in Clark County's park system. This meeting took place on August 12, 2020 via a WebEx teleconference from 10:00 – 11:00 am.

DISCUSSION

The discussion began with a brief introduction of participants and an overview of the County's plan update process. A set of questions were used to initiate a discussion of priority projects and to consider opportunities for collaboration.

Priorities & Improvements

- Connectivity and accessibility – getting people to trails. Safety concerns of having to ride bikes along county roads to visit places like Whipple Creek, Daybreak and Bell Mountain.
- Prioritize areas with diverse populations, lower income. Aim for greater equity. Develop a priority matrix to allocate resources.
- Transportation is a barrier for many in the Latino community, especially when it is a 1-car household and the family member who works uses the car.
- Some in the Latino community also do not have a clear idea of what to expect at parks and trails. There should be better information available, for example, how long the trails are and locations of trailheads and parking. There is a need to educate the community why parks and open spaces are important and what one can do there.
- Education is also important for trail use and etiquette – what behaviors and uses are appropriate and where.
- Signage should be in multiple languages with information about trail length, difficulty, material/accessibility.

Interview Notes (continued)

- Clarify information and requirements about shelter rentals (i.e., clean up fees, pinata hook-up fees, etc.)
- Regarding homelessness, when there is not enough shelter for folks, people will use public spaces to find a place to rest or sleep. More hygiene facilities relate to cleaner camps. Sending outreach workers to connect folks with resources.
- There is no single answer to homelessness. It is a complex issue that affects humans of every race, color, age and gender identity.
- Outdoor spaces are attractive to people for lots of reasons; people have to live somewhere
- Parks staff uses and shares the 1-page resource guide from the Council for the Homeless when staff are in the field.
- The Clark County Food Bank leases about 10 acres from the County at Heritage Farm
- Partner with WSU and CC Public Health and get more trips to the farm and increase access of youth to Heritage Farm
- Do more and expand the usage of Heritage Farm. Funders and grants to sustain and build a farm to school program

Other Amenities of Interest

- Covered space for picnics. Covid changes how we use outdoor spaces. Parks are places where families can gather and celebrate. There is a diversity of users at picnic shelters.

Barriers to Access

- Acknowledge there is systemic racism for black/brown populations. Make investments in outreach – maybe through mentorship programs. Go to schools and churches to promote trails, community parks and resources available to folks, promote group walks and day hikes among minority communities
- There should be a qualitative investment to help share information about parks and trails to get folks out
- Trails might not feel safe to some groups (emotional safety). Provide info about likelihood of cell phone coverage along trails

Collaborations

- Listen more and talk to people (what do they need to feel safe?)
- Latino Outdoors has a Portland chapter and a Washington chapter based in Seattle. There may not be a SW WA chapter
- Look to older teens as mentors/guides through a community service program
- CC Public Health is a willing partner for future communications

Key Project or Initiative by 2025

- Camp Bonneville – bring the site online as a multi-purpose outdoor area
- Implement signage and information in multiple languages at all parks and trails

-- End of Notes --



STAKEHOLDER GROUP DISCUSSION NOTES

Project Name:	Clark County PROS Plan Update	Project #:	Proj-# 19-127PLN
Location:	Webex Teleconference	Interview Date:	August 20, 2020
		Time:	10:00 am
Notes by:	Steve Duh, Conservation Technix		
Participant:	Diana Avaolos-Leos, SW WA League of United Latin American Citizens	Dora Hernandez, Volunteer Program Coordinator	
	Dellan Redjou, Parks Foundation of Clark County	John Spencer, Parks Advisory Board	
	Bill Baumann, Human Services Council	Laura Hoggatt, Clark County Parks	
	Dale Gaskill, PFLAG SW Washington Chapter	Steve Duh, Conservation Technix	
Subject:	Diversity & Inclusion Group Discussion (#2)		

PURPOSE

To discuss barriers, challenges and needs related to diversity and inclusion in Clark County's park system. This meeting took place on August 12, 2020 via a Webex teleconference from 10:00 – 11:00 am.

DISCUSSION

The discussion began with a brief introduction of participants and an overview of the County's plan update process. A set of questions were used to initiate a discussion of priority projects and to consider opportunities for collaboration.

Priorities & Improvements

- The local neighborhood park is built for younger children. Build them to accommodate the needs of older kids and teens as well; add variety.
- Parks are generally focused on younger ages. There is not much for middle school and high school aged youth.
- Address accessibility for all ages (socio-economic, ethnicity, physical, transportation)
- Bring people to the table during design to capture the needs of a wider range of users. Park improvements might meet ADA standards, but they might not meet the needs of specific, local users. Pacific Park is an example where tactile warning strips were moved away from the edge of the vehicular route because of safety concerns from visually impaired park visitors. The original construction met code, but the revision made for a safer park.

Interview Notes (continued)

Challenges

- Be more intentional about inclusion efforts and use a trauma-informed lens/approach to guide outreach. Need to understand all the barriers from different perspectives: trauma-informed, inclusionary, utilization, access
- Make signage more welcoming by including multiple languages.
- The PROS Plan could be the impetus for preparing a Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI) plan; it would require long-term planning and level-setting. Consider pursuing foundation funding for a DEI plan
- Funding for County Parks is an issue
- Parks Foundation of Clark County has not heard much in terms of DEI requests from local jurisdictions, but they have supported projects improving accessibility (physical, income, geographic) for playgrounds and trails

Barriers to Access

- County website is not easy to navigate. There is too much information and it's hard to find what you're looking for.
- Access/transportation – the only way to get to several parks is by driving. Transportation in Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) communities may have additional limitations for those that live in one car households. Barriers to access creates isolation.
- Connectivity between parks with bike lanes. Need better access to bike lanes and sidewalks to connect to parks. Public transit access to parks is limited. Consider using C-Tran's route maps to identify future park properties that are on/near bus routes to improve transit access to sites.
- Low or no lighting reduces the sense of safety

Key Project or Initiative by 2025

- Complete the Master Plan for Camp Bonneville and work toward getting the park open for public use.
- Simplify/explain terminology about parks and open space to clarify the intended uses for those property types. Non-English and non-native speakers might not understand the terms and might not use the parks.
- Improve awareness and access to information so people can learn the uses of parks and amenities provided
- More linear parks for better accessibility
- Begin creating a DEI and Social Justice Plan as a living document to drive policies and decisions; align it with other outdoor groups, such as Columbia Springs, National Forest, Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge, etc.
- Consider tracking park users (demographics, diversity), with a goal of seeing more minority groups using parks

-- End of Notes --



Clark County Public Works, Parks and Lands Division

Project: Clark County Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan Update

Location: Web-ex

Interview Date: August 26, 2020

Time: 10:00 am

Notes and interviewer: Laura Hoggatt, Clark County Parks and Lands Division

Participant: Nicole Daltoso, Facilities Planning Manager, Vancouver School District.

Stakeholder Discussion Notes

Purpose: To discuss park priorities and potential partnerships between Clark County and area school districts.

Discussion: The discussion began with a brief introduction and overview of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan (PROS) update process. A set of questions were provided in advance and used to initiate dialogue.

Background: Vancouver School District (VSD) covers 58 square miles and includes 21 elementary schools, 6 middle schools and 5 high schools. VSD reported serving 23,457 students during 2019-2020. Of these, 51% live in low-income households, 13.7% receive special education services, and 24% speak a language other than English in their home. The growing population has required growth within the school district facilities. In 2017, voters approved a bond to fund 30 construction projects. More information may be found at: <https://vansd.org/reschools/#>

VSD and Clark County Parks and Lands have partnered to provide public park amenities to local communities. Examples include Jason Lee Middle School Park and Eisenhower School Park.

Discussion Questions

1. What do you or your organization (VSD) see as the key priorities for the county's park, open space and trail system?

Key priority: Inclusion

- Individuals and children with disabilities are provided equal access to park and recreation amenities.
- Include children and families with children in the planning process.
- Include diverse community members in the planning process.
- Provide signage in several languages to encourage participation.

2. Jump forward 5 years and imagine Clark County in 2025. Please share your vision for one stand-out project completed or initiative started to improve access to the park, open space and trail system.

Vision: The park and recreation amenities are very inviting with opportunities for a variety of activities and multi-use features.

- A space with a playground for children of varying abilities and includes access for children with disabilities. Musical instruments can be accessed and enjoyed by most.
- Walking trails that are accessible for varying abilities.
- Open green space for a variety of activities.
- Multifaceted use of topography incorporated into the park design.
- Inviting: Newer up to date pieces, interesting pieces, not cookie cutter.
- The space is interactive and inclusive to draw people to the site.

3. What, if any, are the barriers you see or face in accessing the county's park system? (e.g., physical access, safety, cultural concerns, communications/information)

Barriers: While there are many good things about the parks available in our communities there is room for improvement.

- Accessible playground for children of all abilities.
- Parking is an issue for some of the neighborhood parks.
- Communication and information sharing will help more people access the park system. Many people don't know much about what is available or where parks are located.
- How do people find out about the parks and trails system?
- A robust communication plan may help to inform the community.

4. What should Clark County prioritize in order to advance diversity, equity and inclusion in its parks and facilities?

Priority:

- Communication and information strategies would be important to help to include a larger range of people.
- Communication should be provided in a variety of ways and in several languages.
- Communication can help to involve equity and inclusion.
- Help the public become familiar with the park system.
-

5. What contribution or collaboration can you or your organization bring to the advancement of inclusion in the county-wide park system?

Contributions and Collaborations:

- VSD has prioritized collaborative partnerships with Clark County Parks with the assignment of a liaison to participate in the Parks Advisory Board (PAB) since the inception of PAB in 2014. The VSD liaison provides insight of current policies and projects with PAB to help support inclusion discussions. VSD will continue to share thoughts and ideas on this topic.
- VSD has properties connected to the public park system and partnerships in place to provide recreation opportunities for local communities.

6. Are VSD playgrounds and open space areas open to the public?

While it is a priority of the current superintendent of Vancouver School District to provide public access to school properties, there is a fine balance between student safety and public access. It is fair to say that properties are not open to the public during the same hours as a public park, therefore these spaces might be counted differently in a level of service for public recreation amenities. Observed activities by the public include early morning and after school sport practices; walking adults on tracks and trails where available; and playground use after hours. Community members use greenspace for walking, open field activities, and sledding on hillsides.



Clark County Public Works, Parks and Lands Division

Project: Clark County Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan Update

Location: Web-ex

Interview Date: August 28, 2020

Time: 10:00 am

Notes and interviewer: Laura Hoggatt, Clark County Parks and Lands Division

Participants: Derek Thompson, Executive Director and Regina Thompson, Director of Operations and Development for Hands of Favor, a non-profit organization.

Stakeholder Discussion Notes

Purpose: To discuss park priorities and potential ways to improve community engagement.

Introductions

Derek and Regina Thompson founded Hands of Favor, NPO in 2013. Since then, the non-profit organization has provided services to over 24,000 individuals and partners with 27 organizations on a regular basis. Their mission statement *"Building relationships that rebuild lives"* is fulfilled by providing direct services based on the need of individuals.

In the beginning, Hands of Favor focused on providing free haircuts and other services to restore dignity and renew confidence in individuals who were homeless, or near homeless. They have changed lives by providing kindness, care and a listening ear as each person shared their story while sitting in the barber chair. Hands of Favor has observed the positive impact of this service, but also realized there were other needs to help motivate people to seek employment, go to school or interact with others in public. Over time their ministry grew to partner with other organizations to provide food, clothing, toiletries, shelter and other services.

The impact of Covid-19 closed the personal services portion of their ministry. They have been focusing on helping to build relationships and address social inequities. Hands of Favor is fully committed to fighting injustice, inequality and corruption using the tools and resources available to them. To find out more about the non-profit please visit www.handsfavor.com.

Discussion Questions

1. What do you or your organization see as the key priorities for the county's park, open space and trail system?
 - Continue conversations and engage more BIPOC individuals and organizations in planning.
 - Conversations should include asking diverse community members to determine what is needed.
 - Focus and prioritize bridge building to create a community of inclusion.
 - Transparency and simplicity are keys in communication.
 - Review the current system and get more people involved.
 - Do what is right for the people.
 - Be willing to listen
2. Jump forward 5 years and imagine Clark County in 2025. Please share your vision for one stand-out project completed or initiative started to improve access to the park, open space and trail system.
 - When we look in any of our parks, we see a wide diversity of people of various colors and abilities. They are having fun and enjoying life. It is a place to build family and community. It is so inviting that when a Police Officer drives by, they stop and join in the fun and engage with people in the park.

3. What, if any, are the barriers you see or face in accessing the county's park system? (e.g., physical access, safety, cultural concerns, communications/information)
 - Many people are unaware of what is available in a park or even what they would do there. Sometimes you have to show people what is possible.
 - Redlining is a discriminatory practice that puts services out of reach for residents of certain areas based on race or ethnicity (*Investopedia.com*). Redlining still exists if we are not including community members in planning. The elimination of voices, whether intentional or within a subconscious bias needs to change.
4. What should Clark County prioritize in order to advance diversity, equity and inclusion in its parks and facilities?
 - Engage community members and organizations in continued conversations as an ongoing practice.
 - LISTEN to what diverse community members have to say. Do not decide for them.
 - Look at the plan and ask; "How are the Parks & Recreation plans being diverse enough to include the Black population?"
 - Culturally our children are left far behind. Inclusion and equity in the Clark County park system is important and most often overlooked.
 - Open transparency is important.
5. What contribution or collaboration can you or your organization bring to the advancement of inclusion in the county-wide park system?
 - We are looking for venues to speak to people to provide a different point of view. We would be happy to meet with others to discuss issues of diversity, equity, inclusion, homelessness and more.
 - We believe that love in action rebuilds lives.
 - Our core values are Compassion; Empathy; Love; Laughter and Faith. These values help to further our mission to rebuild lives.
6. One of the challenges we face is homeless encampments in public places. How can we serve people better who are living outside?
 - We often see people who became homeless within these three categories 1) Life circumstances that were no fault of their own; 2) Problems such as addiction or other issues; 3) Life choice to live off the grid. No matter the circumstance, we see people as individuals.
 - Not all individuals who are homeless are living outside. Some have been fortunate enough to get into a shelter, others live in their car.
 - Please remember that individuals experiencing homelessness are human and treat them with care and dignity.
 - Connect them to resources whenever possible.
 - Include agencies who provide resources and services in the solution.



STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSION NOTES

Project Name:	Clark County PROS Plan Update	Project #:	Proj-# 19-127PLN		
Location:	Telephone call	Interview Date:	August 12, 2020	Time:	1:00 pm
Notes by:	Jean Akers, PLA, AICP				
Participant:	Jennifer Halleck, Associate Director Construction, Operations & Projects, ESD 112		Jean Akers, Conservation Technix		
Subject:	Stakeholder Interview – Education Partnerships				

PURPOSE

To discuss any opportunities for collaboration or partnerships between ESD 112 and Clark County Parks. This phone conversation took place on August 12, 2020 from 1 – 1:30 pm.

DISCUSSION

The discussion began with a brief introduction and an overview of the County’s park system plan update process. Jennifer Halleck had been a stakeholder in the last county parks PROS plan while employed at Vancouver Public Schools. She is now an Associate Director within Construction, Operations & Projects for Educational Services District (ESD) 112 that serves a broad section of southwestern Washington State from Centralia to Vancouver to Goldendale.

Background

ESD 112 is one of six educational service districts in Washington. Their role is to provide services to school districts that are more efficient and cost effective than each school district can do on their own. Some larger school districts do not use an ESD as often as smaller districts that have limited resources. ESDs will provide special education support programs, capital infrastructure planning, contracts for early childhood services, implement construction planning & management and write grants for school districts.

Potential Collaboration

Jennifer shared that the current and future trends in most school districts in the state is to focus on modernization, retrofits, and working within the limitations of a “no new growth” environment. New school construction will be very rare as districts are heading into a recession where communities are not supporting school bonds for new growth.

It is very unlikely that in the current economic environment, ESD 112 would have any involvement with Clark County and its potential school district partners.

-- End of Notes --



STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSION NOTES

Project Name: Clark County PROS Plan Update **Project #:** Proj-# 19-127PLN
Location: Telephone call **Interview Date:** August 4, 2020 **Time:** 11:00 am
Notes by: Steve Duh, Conservation Technix
Participant: Kathy Haslam, Salmon Creek Soccer Club Steve Duh, Conservation Technix
Subject: **Stakeholder Interview – Salmon Creek Soccer Club**

PURPOSE

To discuss existing challenges and future needs for youth sports with a representative from Salmon Creek Soccer Club (SCSC). This meeting took place on August 4, 2020 from 11:00 – 11:30 am.

DISCUSSION

The discussion began with a brief introduction and an overview of the County's plan update process. A set of questions were provided in advance and used to initiate a discussion of priority projects.

Background

- SCSC has approximately 1,100-1,200 players. Vancouver West, Timbers and Pacific clubs each have about 2,000 players, and their geographies are larger than SCSC's.
- SCSC offers recreation soccer and is part of a countywide league for youth. SCSC also offers advanced soccer clubs for premier players.

Sport Field Priorities & Comments

- As a club, SCSC is constantly looking for field space and field time. There is a shortage of all-weather turf for practice and game play. The club utilizes school and county facilities (grass fields) for practice and recreational soccer, but these fields generally are not maintained to the standard for play and safety. Grass is too high or ruts/holes exist in fields that are a hazard. Advanced league players pay higher registration fees, in part, for the opportunity to play games on turf fields.
- As with other soccer clubs, SCSC faces challenges with field scheduling due to limited capacity and competition for field space from lacrosse, football and other soccer programs.
- Luke Jensen is primarily a baseball complex, but Pacific Soccer has priority use there, so SCSC rarely plays at those fields. High school fields are good, but the schools mostly utilize them.
- Additional field space is needed. Specifically, a 3-4 field multi-sport complex would be good that can accommodate lacrosse, soccer, baseball and softball.
- Field maintenance at school and county facilities can be improved. Potholes, ruts, tall grass are some of the issues. Overseeding in heavily impacted areas (i.e., at goals) is also needed.



Interview Notes (continued)

- There is a lot of scrambling for fields (across many leagues). Coordinated scheduling with schools, county and leagues would help and should also address priority usage. Some leagues with scheduling priority over fields tend to wait to very last minute before releasing a field that is not needed for their use, which makes it especially challenging to schedule games in advance. Also, there is no penalty for canceling field bookings at the last minute.

Other Comments

- The Vancouver area could use a skate park
- Consider a public pool for the westside
- Continue to install quality playgrounds
- Make sure parks have trees and shade

-- End of Notes --



STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSION NOTES

Project Name: Clark County PROS Plan Update **Project #:** Proj-# 19-127PLN
Location: Telephone call **Interview Date:** August 25, 2020 **Time:** 11:30 am
Notes by: Steve Duh, Conservation Technix
Participant: Terry Wollam, Wollam & Associates / DEAB Steve Duh, Conservation Technix
Subject: **Stakeholder Interview – Development Community**

PURPOSE

To discuss opportunities and challenges related to residential development and park/trail set-asides with a representative from the Development and Engineering Advisory Board (DEAB). This meeting took place on August 25, 2020 from 11:30am – 12:00 pm.

DISCUSSION

The discussion began with a brief introduction and an overview of the County's plan update process. A set of questions were provided in advance and used to initiate a discussion of priority projects.

Terry has had a real estate license since 1997 and has represented up to 20 builders. Currently, his firm represents three builders with staff support ranging from 11 to 20 staff. Terry is the current chair of the Development and Engineering Advisory Board (DEAB).

Comments

- Community amenities, such as pools and parks, used to be seen as regional amenities for residential developers. The development community changes slowly, but around 2014, there started to be more interest in providing amenities within the project. There are still financial risks.
- With growing demands for affordable housing and more pressure on developed property, there will be more pressure on parks for a balanced approach to having open space set aside.
- The current development code is cumbersome and time-consuming, especially if there are individualized negotiations or a single administrative person making decisions. The code is not flexible and doesn't allow for smaller parks, and the standards dictate park size and amenities.
- The County should move more toward using develop agreements to allow flexibility and improve expediency. DEAB recently reviewed draft code update language regarding developer agreements; this is a good step forward. Developer agreements will allow requirements and the intended outcomes for parks and open spaces to be spelled out, while allowing flexibility with site layout. For example, trail alignments might need to shift or might not be feasible if wetlands or other limitation are present on site.



Interview Notes (continued)

- Consider having a board or committee of multiple people oversee developer agreements, and the committee should include a representative from the private side to also balance perspectives. Committee meetings and reviews should be frequent for faster processing.
- Some cities in the county, such as Camas and Ridgefield, require open space set asides. If the County were to implement something similar, it should provide a long lead time – something like a 5-year notice to allow developers time to adjust and account for those requirements in the calculations and costing for land development. If this is considered, consider setting a threshold size where this is triggered (i.e., subdivisions of 20 or 25 lots or larger). Also, consider scaling the requirement as the project gets bigger (i.e., 10% or 15% set-aside for open space). The code should clarify the intent for the set-aside in terms of usability and utility for recreation. Allow for areas that serve multiple-use functions, such as a seasonal rain garden as open space or as part of trail corridor. This would be different than an isolated stormwater facility (fenced/sloped). There should also be flexibility in terms of bonuses for lot size, lot coverage, and density modifications to balance the project demand for laying out houses and accommodating park and open space needs.

Park Impact Fees (PIF)

- The PIF program should be revised to include a review and clarification about what qualifies as a park and how parks serve the local communities. For example, school fields, pocket parks and HOA parks do not count toward the service levels and artificially increase the demand for parks and open space. Trails and linear parks should be included in the program too.
- Park size requirements need to be more flexible, and small parks spread throughout a development would be more efficient for residents to use.
- Impact fees should also be directed toward making improvements at existing ownerships to enhance the amenities offered.
- The County should be a better steward of the dollars they have.
- Look to public/private partnerships on maintenance too. HOAs could be more widely used for funding maintenance of open spaces and pocket parks.

-- End of Notes --



STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSION NOTES

Project Name: Clark County PROS Plan Update **Project #:** Proj-# 19-127PLN
Location: Telephone call **Interview Date:** August 6, 2020 **Time:** 3:30 pm
Notes by: Steve Duh, Conservation Technix
Participant: David Force, Lennar Corp Steve Duh, Conservation Technix
Subject: **Stakeholder Interview – Lennar Corp (local developer)**

PURPOSE

To discuss existing park planning and development through subdivision development with a representative from Lennar Corporation, a regional residential development company. This meeting took place on August 6, 2020 from 3:30 – 4:00 pm.

DISCUSSION

The discussion began with a brief introduction and an overview of the County's plan update process. A set of questions were provided in advance and used to initiate the discussion.

Comments

- It would be quicker and cheaper for the developer to plan and build parks as part of subdivision development, rather than have the local jurisdiction do it at a later time.
- The County needs to be more proactive with developers and enter into developer agreements to define credits, payment, development specifications. Providing fair value in terms of credit and/or cash is crucial, and it is much better than exactions that force set asides. If the developer knew credits were available, there would likely be more interest in planning for and building the park for the future owners.
 - Example 1: North Plains (OR), Lennar took control of subdivision to build 600+ units that also included four new parks. The process required review and consideration by the city parks board, but the boundaries were not well established. This resulted in a series of back and forth discussions with the parks board, redesigns and time spent to satisfy their interests. It was not efficient.
 - Example 2: McMinnville (OR), The city approved a schematic design for the subdivision that included park spaces. Then the developer was able to proceed with final design and construction that was held to the schematic plan for more straight forward approvals.
- Clark County has a good process for land use approvals and has been good to work with.
- Clark County should consider draft code language to accommodate their interests in park planning as part of subdivisions and should utilize developer agreements upfront at the beginning of the process.
- The County should consider options for multiple uses of stormwater facilities or other set aside areas in subdivisions for park or trail uses. Even though these areas might be inaccessible for limited times, they will still provide a community benefit for residents.



Interview Notes (continued)

- Popular amenities include trails, dog parks and skate parks. There is a need for neighborhood/local parks, since new construction only accommodates 15' rear yards.
- Regarding PIF, in working with developers, cash is preferred over credits. The County should consider whether it will do agreements with developers on a case by case model or an overarching, structured approach built around standards. Regardless, the discussion of credits and improvements/payment should occur pre-land use, so values can be determined in advance.

-- End of Notes --



STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSION NOTES

Project Name: Clark County PROS Plan Update **Project #:** Proj-# 19-127PLN
Location: Telephone call **Interview Date:** September 1, 2020 **Time:** 4:00 pm
Notes by: Steve Duh, Conservation Technix
Participant: Michael Andreotti, Bike/Ped Advisory Committee Steve Duh, Conservation Technix
Subject: **Stakeholder Interview – Bike/Pedestrian Issues**

PURPOSE

To discuss existing challenges and future needs for cycling and pedestrian improvements with a representative from the Bike & Pedestrian Advisory Committee. This meeting took place on September 1, 2020 from 3:30 – 4:00 pm.

DISCUSSION

The discussion began with a brief introduction and an overview of the County's plan update process. A set of questions were provided in advance and used to initiate a discussion of priority projects.

Michael is the current chair of the Bike & Pedestrian Advisory Committee. The Committee is advisory to County Council on bike/ped access and safety. Committee members often volunteer with non-profits (such as Bike Clark County) and bike safety events.

Comments

- Beginning in January 2019, County Council directed the Committee to update its bylaws to function more like the Committee on Aging. The changes included reducing the size of the committee to 7-9 members, changing the requirements for attendance, and adding an annual report to the Council.
- The 2010 Bike & Pedestrian Master Plan has held up well over the past ten years. It includes a list of prioritized projects. There is always limited funding, and the Committee continues to work with the County to encourage ways to associate bike/ped projects as part of other public or capital projects in the pipeline.
- In the urban areas, connectivity is still an issue, but it is getting better. Public Works has completed a list of priority sidewalks to address to fill known gaps.
- In the rural areas, there continues to be conflicts between riders and drivers. This is due, in part, to the road designs and widths.



Interview Notes (continued)

Project ideas

- Connectivity and access issues are priority
- Priority projects are listed in the BPMP. Fill the access gaps in the system. Make internal connections to link larger trail corridors. Getting the Lewis and Clark Trail (Camas through Vancouver) would be great.
- Maintain what we have. There is good access and trails now, but maintenance over time will continue to be a big need (vegetation management, safety, etc.)
- Improve connections in lower income areas, such as the Fourth Plain corridor. Pay attention to the needs of everyone. Ensure equity for trail access.
- Pay attention to potential negative impacts of trail projects on neighbors and properties adjacent to trails. Also look at connections between subdivisions to improve walking and bike access.
- Some user groups have very limited access to specialized outdoor spaces (equestrians, mountain bikers, hunters). It's great that Clark County is larger and diverse enough to offer that range of outdoor space. Make sure we don't lose opportunities for these specialized groups as trail systems improve and expand (i.e., trail improvements at Whipple Creek that might limit or reduce use by equestrians).
- Improve access across SR 500. WSDOT removed some traffic lights in 2019 (Stapleton and Falk). WSDOT has plans to install a pedestrian crossing, but funding is needed.

-- End of Notes --



STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSION NOTES

Project Name: Clark County PROS Plan Update **Project #:** Proj-# 19-127PLN
Location: Telephone call **Interview Date:** August 11, 2020 **Time:** 3:30 pm
Notes by: Steve Duh, Conservation Technix
Participant: Peter Van Tilburg, Bike Clark County Steve Duh, Conservation Technix
Subject: **Stakeholder Interview – Bike Clark County**

PURPOSE

To discuss existing challenges and future needs for cycling and pedestrian improvements with a representative from Bike Clark County (BCC). This meeting took place on August 11, 2020 from 3:30 – 4:00 pm.

DISCUSSION

The discussion began with a brief introduction and an overview of the County's plan update process. A set of questions were provided in advance and used to initiate a discussion of priority projects.

Background

- Peter is the executive director and one of the co-founders of Bike Clark County, a local non-profit focusing on cycling education.
- BCC serves three core groups: elementary age, middle school age (bike skills through PE in school) and high school age (skills development and bike maintenance).
- BCC has a fully operational bike shop for maintenance and re-sales; the group also supports helmet giveaways, bike giveaways and advocacy.
- BCC has contributed to past planning efforts, such as the County's Bike/Ped Plan, with an orientation toward city corridors, safety and bike lanes.

Trail Priorities & Comments

- Complete the bike route and fill the gap between Vancouver downtown and Frenchmans Bar and Vancouver Lake.
- There is not a decent east-west connection through Vancouver. There are some sharrows, but there is nothing akin to Burnt Bridge Creek as a safe, separated bike route.
- Plan for and build the extension of the Lewis & Clark Trail from Frenchmans Bar north to Ridgefield.
- Top priority is completing the gap along Lower River Road to Frenchmans Bar.



Interview Notes (continued)

Other Comments

- Rail to Trail networks are great, but BCC does not get many inquiries about riding out along the Chelatchie rail trail.
- Collaborations: If the County builds additional trail miles, BCC can continue to promote and support cycling education, safe biking practices and getting people to the trails.
- County funding toward cycling education for adults and youth would be helpful.

-- End of Notes --

A child is running barefoot on a green grassy field, holding a string attached to a large, colorful kite. The kite has a rainbow pattern and long red and orange tails. In the background, there are trees, a parking lot with cars, and a building under a clear blue sky. A semi-transparent teal banner is overlaid across the middle of the image.

APPENDIX F

SUMMARY OF RELEVANT PLANS



GUIDING DOCUMENTS

Clark County and its incorporated cities have a strong legacy of parks, recreation and open space, dating back to the dedication of Esther Short Park in downtown Vancouver in 1853 (before the City was incorporated) and the establishment of regional parks along the East Fork Lewis River in the early 1900's. The region's parks and recreation resources have grown dramatically as the both the population and land development has expanded.

Clark County adopted its first comprehensive parks and recreation plan in 1965, followed by updates in 1975, 1981, 1987, 1993 and 2000. In 2007, the City of Vancouver and Clark County adopted a combined comprehensive parks, recreation and open space plan to cover both jurisdictions in their entirety, under the consolidated Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department. In 2013, the interlocal agreement that joined City and County park administration and planning was allowed to expire, and the two jurisdictions separated their organizational resources. Clark County adopted its distinct comprehensive parks, recreation and open space plan again in 2015.

This 2020 update to the 2015 PROS plan draws from and builds on previous planning work for the park, recreation, trail and open space system, including:

- 2020 Lewis & Clark Regional Trail Concept Plan
- 2020 Conservation Areas Acquisition Plan Update (draft)
- 2015-2035 Clark County Comprehensive Growth Management Plan
- 2015 Buildable Lands Report
- 2015 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan
- 2014 Clark County Conservation Areas Acquisition Plan
- 2012 Aging Readiness Plan
- 2010 Clark County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan
- 2010 Bi-State Regional Trails System Plan
- 2007 Vancouver-Clark Comprehensive Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan
- 2004 Clark County Comprehensive Plan
- 2004 Sports Field Needs Assessment
- 2003 Conservation Areas Acquisition Plan
- 2000 Clark County Regional Comprehensive Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan
- 1998 Clark County Sports Fields Master Plan
- 1992 Clark County Open Space Commission Report
- Annual Intertwine Trail Counts & Surveys

The Clark County Comprehensive Growth Management Plan discusses parks, and this PROS Plan is intended to supplement and implement the Comprehensive Plan. The goals, objectives and policies presented in this PROS Plan reflect and amplify the goals, objectives and policies that are provided in the county-wide Comprehensive Plan.

Several jurisdictions within Clark County have developed and implemented their own park plans that include strategies for identified park locations. Once adopted, these community plans are considered to be part of the Clark County Comprehensive Plan. Community plans take a community-oriented approach to park and recreation planning, which is different from the regional park perspective and benefits-based approach in this Plan. While many of the recommendations from the Community Plans regarding parks and recreation have been incorporated into this Plan, future local jurisdictions will have the primary responsibility to implement the objectives and policies noted in individual community plans.

RELEVANT PLAN SUMMARIES

In addition to the guiding documents from local and county-wide efforts, the measure of outdoor recreation trends and participation reveals user patterns and preferences and helps direct the future decisions on needed facilities to meet public demand. A series of reports and plans were reviewed to provide guidance on expected public demands and needs for future improvements. Highlights from relevant portions of those reports are summarized below.

2015 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan

Adopted in September 2015, the Clark County Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan documented the goals and recommendations for the next six years towards continuing the support of healthy lifestyles, ecosystem protection, enhanced economic activity and the sense of community that is achieved through the county park system. Ten goals were outlined with specific action items to direct new policies and practices, expand programs and propose capital projects. The following goals were described in greater detail in the PROS Plan: 1) Forge strong public, private and non-profit partnerships; 2) Promote and market the county's park system; 3) Embrace a balanced strategy for achieving a comprehensive parks system; 4) ensure equity & access to parks, trails and facilities for a healthy community; 5) Provide recreational opportunities for the entire community; 6) Be responsible, effective stewards of public lands and finances; 7) Preserve our historic and cultural heritage; 8) Maintain and enhance parks and recreation facilities; 9) Serve the community and develop a dynamic, effective organization; and 10) Seek adequate funding to meet community needs. The PROS Plan developed a 6-year and a 20-year capital facilities plan (CFP) to identify and prioritize implementation and allocated funding resources towards development, enhancement and repairs of facilities throughout the parks system. The CFP identified acquisition needs in the urban area, park development projects for the Greater Clark Parks District, trail connection projects to close existing gaps, sports field projects and other special facilities. The CFP also identified a number of regional park and trail projects from acquisition and development to improvements and repairs. The Plan noted that the CFP projects far exceed existing available funding resources. Additional sources of financial support will be needed through state and federal grants, intergovernmental partnerships, local philanthropy and other resources.

County Comprehensive Plan 2015-2035

The Comprehensive Growth Management Plan (Plan) for Clark County is a long-range guide for managing growth and development with respect to the natural environment and available resources. The current



Plan accounts for population and employment growth for a 20-year horizon and contains 14 elements that address targeted planning goals, policies and strategies. Periodic updates are required every eight (8) years, most recently amended in 2019. The Environmental Element (Chapter 4) supports goals of open space and recreation by encouraging the retention of open space, the development of recreational opportunities, the conservation of fish and wildlife habitat, increasing access to natural resource lands and water and the development of parks. The Parks, Open Space and Recreation Element (Chapter 7) is the most relevant planning element for this PROS planning process. Chapter 7 references the adopted 2015 PROS Plan as the primary guides for park system priorities to further the mission of meeting community needs through an interconnected system of parks, trails and recreation facilities and natural areas. The Plan states the Neighborhood/Community Acquisition Standard as 5 acres/1,000 population and the Urban Open Space Acquisition Standard as 1 acre/1,000 population. All neighborhood and community parks are to be developed to a Level II. The Plan states that while the county has adopted a level-of-service standard of five-acres, it is the city's and the county's goal to achieve the national standard of 6.25 to 10.5 acres/1,000 to address increasing urban densities.

Population-based standards for regional parks and special facilities and resource-based standards for conservation and greenway systems were adopted as part of the Parks Element. Acquisition goal = 10 acres/1,000 population. Acquisition standard = 5 acres/1,000 population. Development standard = 18% of site. Desired minimum size = 200 acres. Regional open space plans and trails plans that have been prepared by the county were incorporated into this 20-year Plan.

The parks element reaffirms the Goals for the urban park system through ten stated goals with their related policies:

- Forge strong public, private and non-profit partnerships.
- Promote and market the county's parks system.
- Embrace a balanced strategy for achieving a comprehensive parks system.
- Ensure equity and access to parks and trails and facilities for a healthy community.
- Provide recreational opportunities for the entire community.
- Be responsible, effective stewards of public lands and finances.
- Preserve our historic and cultural heritage.
- Maintain and enhance parks and recreation facilities.
- Serve the community and develop a dynamic, effective organization.
- Seek adequate funding to meet community needs.

Transportation: Chapter 5 - Comprehensive Plan 2015-2035

The transportation element of the county comprehensive plan provides guidance for the design, construction and operation of transportation facilities and services through the year 2035. The chapter outlines the specific recommendations for arterial roadway projects in the unincorporated county in order to meet roadway safety and capacity needs. Implementation strategies are recommended for land use-transportation concurrency, roadway & transit level-of-service, non-motorized transportation, air quality conformance and freight and goods mobility. The transportation element in the comprehensive plan also presents a funding analyses to meet the transportation improvement needs to address existing deficiencies and meet needs of future growth. The Transportation element feeds into the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) 2020-2025 Priority List and its identified projects for implementation across the county.

2020 Conservation Areas Acquisition Plan (CAAP)

In a related planning effort, the county's 2020 Conservation Areas Acquisition Plan (CAAP) provides the direction and focus for conserving and connecting significant open spaces and natural resources. Clark County possesses a rich variety of landscapes and natural resources that enhance the quality of life for all Clark County residents. Natural resources range from the Columbia River to the Cascade Mountains and include a diversity of streams and lakes, marshes, wetlands, shorelines, meadows and forests. These land and water resources provide critical habitat for fish and wildlife and provide opportunities for hiking, canoeing, picnicking, swimming and other outdoor recreation activities. In 2016, the county reorganized departmental aligned and the Clark County Legacy Lands program was shifted to the Parks & Lands Division within the Public Works Department.

The 2020 CAAP update maintains the core vision established in the 2004 plan and the 2014 update: an interconnected system of habitat and greenways along the county's rivers and streams while also seeking to preserve other sites that have unique or rare conservation values. The CAAP update identifies 19 watershed-based subareas and uses GIS (geographic information system) mapping layers to highlight high-value conservation lands and project opportunities. A wide range of mapping products were assembled to help identify future acquisition targets that help establish and interconnected system of habitat, greenways and open spaces. The update CAAP also recognizes both farmland and forestland conservation objectives and projects that may be of joint interest for parks, trails and recreation in the county. The Plan aligns with eight (8) regional trail greenways that contain high-value conservation lands and supports the development of a system of water trails where compatible recreational uses are within conservation lands. The updated CAAP lists 13 county-led acquisition projects over the next six (6) years, funded with Conservation Futures funding in concert with funding support from grants, REET, and the Columbia Land Trust. An additional 14 projects are listed as partnership projects led by other agencies and partially supported by Conservation Futures funding.

Lewis & Clark Regional Trail Concept Plan 2020

The concept plan for this 50-mile stretch of regional trail was created with the assistance of a National Park Service technical grant and is expected to be complete by May 2020. This regional trail is intended to parallel the water route the Corps of Discovery, led by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, traveled more than 200 years ago. The trail will extend from Stiegerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuge, continue along the Columbia River through Vancouver's new waterfront development, past the Port of Vancouver and into the rural areas of northern Clark County, ending in Paradise Point State Park. The concept plan offers preferred alignment routes and includes considerations for parking areas, water access locations, interpretive signage, historical art and rest areas.

Clark County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan 2010

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan provides a 20-year vision for improving walking and biking safety throughout the county by identifying and implementing public improvements that will expand both transportation and recreation options. The Plan seeks to facilitate coordination and cooperation among local jurisdictions to collaborate with the development of bikeways and pedestrian facilities. Priority Infrastructure projects are identified for sidewalks, bikeways, roadway restriping and trail projects. The Plan also encourages development practices that are supportive of walking and cycling.



Lewis River Vancouver Lake Water Trail Plan

The Lewis River-Vancouver Lake Water Trail covers much of the boundaries of western Clark County and extends from the borders of Woodland and La Center to Ridgefield and Vancouver. The 32-mile water trail follows portions of the North Fork and East Fork of the Lewis River, a short section of the Columbia River, the entire reach of Lake River and Bachelor Slough, and reaches into the full extent of Vancouver Lake. The planning effort included the inventory of existing public and private water access and identified needs for improvement, enhancement and additional access sites. The plan also produced a water trail map for promoting safe and enjoyable use of the existing waterways within the 32-mile route. Recommendations from the water trail plan included improving public access sites; developing a water trail wayfinding sign system; developing a mobile paddling guide app; adding launch site improvements to local jurisdictions' capital facilities plans; and forming a water trail coalition to promote water-based recreation.

Bi-State Regional Trails System Plan 2010

Coordinated by The Intertwine Alliance, the Bi-State Regional Trails System Plan identifies a planned trail system network of 37 regional trails, 17 of these trails are located in Clark County. The Lewis and Clark Trail was named within the top 10 trail priorities for the Intertwine Alliance. The Bi-State Regional Trails System plan reinforces the value of a coordinated regional trails network to help achieve a world-class trail system.

2019 Community Health Needs Assessment

Clark County collaborates with three other counties in the Healthy Columbia Willamette Collaborative (HCWC) health needs assessment in a private-public partnership of 12 organizations in Clark County and Clackamas, Multnomah & Washington counties in Oregon. With a goal to advance health equity, the collaboration develops health improvement plans and activities that leverage collective resources to improve health and well-being of local communities. The collaborative effort identified the broad issues impacting the health of the region to include chronic conditions, language barriers, economic instability, isolation and others. HCWC identified discrimination, racism, and trauma as the overarching issues that shape the lives and health of community members.

2015 Buildable Lands Report

The Buildable Lands Report (BLR) summarizes the evaluation of potential land development and the needs for growth management in the County. The 2015 report covers the years from 2006 to 2015. The BLR is based on actual development densities observed since 2006 and answers two key growth-related questions; 1) is residential development in the urban growth areas occurring at the densities contained in the comprehensive plan and 2) is there an adequate land supply in the urban growth areas to support the anticipated future growth in population and employment. Based on the 2015 vacant and buildable lands model (VBLM), there are 7,513 net buildable acres that could accommodate 136,820 persons. The urban growth estimate is 118,114 persons with the 2015 Clark County population estimate at 448,845. The BLR concludes the capacity is present to accommodate the anticipated urban growth population estimate. The 2015 VBLM also indicates 2,057 net buildable commercial acres and 3,982 net buildable industrial acres that provide a capacity to support a potential 76,978 jobs, plus 16,775 jobs that will occur from redevelopment totaling 101,153 potential jobs. Additionally, the 2015 BLR shows that based on existing zoning, the total vacant and development potential in the rural area is approximately 9,390 lots, indicating a capacity to add

24,977 persons in the rural areas. In 2018, the Department of Commerce issued new guideline for the Buildable Lands Program. The County and its cities are reviewing these guidelines to evaluate any updates to VBLM methodology. The next Buildable Lands Report is due to Commerce by June 2022.

2012 Aging Readiness Plan

The Aging Readiness Plan 2012 assesses the county's readiness to serve as a home for a growing number of older residents. The plan includes strategies to improve the community's capacity to support its growing older population and ultimately benefit all ages. The plan focuses on five (5) key elements to ensure the provision of services for its senior residents: 1) Healthy Communities focuses on the built environment, 2) Housing reviews the adequacy of affordable housing options, 3) Transportation and Mobility concerns safe mobility and ability to connect people while maintaining independence, 4) Supportive Services provides information about and access to critical services that ensure independent living for as long as feasible, and 5) Community Engagement seeks options for a wide range of lifelong learning and social activities. The plan recognizes that a healthy community has access to parks, recreation and open space. The importance of walking mobility and connections also relates to the value of trails and sidewalks as part of complete neighborhoods that support physical activity. The plan outlined a variety of strategies to enhance the existing park and trail system, expand recreation programming, encourage more complete neighborhood design practices, promote volunteer involvement and engage older residents in post-retirement employment options.

Annual Intertwine Trail Counts & Surveys

An annual trail count with accompanying surveys gathers data to guide planning and development of the region's trail system. The trail user data can help support requests for funding trail infrastructure projects and reinforces the value of walking and bicycling transportation options. Nine sites across Clark County were used to gather trail user data. Summarizing trail user data since 2008 collection dates, an average of 97 trail users every two-hours may occur on the county's trails. In 2019 the average trail user counts was 57 trail users in average two-hour counts. Trail counts are conducted every September on three weekdays and two weekend days. Weather is tracked to help account for variables in daily use. Generally, higher trail use occurs on weekends and more pedestrians (average 82%) use the trails than bicyclists (16%). Longer trails had higher percentages of cyclists and shorter or less direct trails had higher percentages of walkers. The trail count is part of the National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project's annual gathering of trail use data nationwide. The Intertwine published a 2010-2015 summary report that highlights findings and trends as trail use will vary from year to year with general 2% increases across the years. Surveys found that most bicycle trips were reported to be for transportation while nearly all pedestrian trips were for recreation. Regional trails in Clark County where trail count data was gathered included Burnt Bridge Creek Trail, Frenchman's Bar-Vancouver Lake Trail, Columbia River Renaissance Trail, Salmon Creek Trail, Padden Parkway Trail and Lacamas Heritage Trail. Trail counts and survey respondents indicate that weather makes a difference with less use in winter and rainier/windier days.



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A man in a yellow shirt, yellow cap, and red and yellow checkered shorts is playing pickleball on a court. He is holding a yellow paddle and is about to hit a yellow ball. The background is a green fence and a sandy area.

APPENDIX G

RECREATION TRENDS



The following summaries from recognized park and recreation resources provide background on national, state and local trends that may reflect potential recreational activities and facilities for future consideration in Clark County's park system. Examining current recreation trends can help inform potential park and recreation improvements and opportunities that may enhance the community and create a more vibrant parks system as it moves into the future.

2019 NRPA AGENCY PERFORMANCE REVIEW

The 2019 NRPA report summarizes the key findings from the National Recreation and Park Association's NRPA Park Metrics, their benchmarking tool that assists park and recreation professionals in the effective management and planning of their operating resources and capital facilities. The report offers a comprehensive collection of park- and recreation-related benchmarks and insights to inform professionals, key stakeholders and the public about the state of the park and recreation industry. The 2019 NRPA Agency Performance Review contains data from 1,075 unique park and recreation agencies across the United States as reported between 2016 and 2018.

Key Findings and Characteristics:

Park Facilities

- There is typically one park for every 2,181 residents.
- The typical park and recreation agency has 10.0 acres of park land for every 1,000 residents in its jurisdiction.
- An overwhelming majority of park and recreation agencies has playgrounds (94.4%) and basketball courts (86.1%) in their portfolio of outdoor assets.
- A majority of agencies offers community centers and recreation centers; two in five agencies offer senior centers.

Programming

- Key programming activities include team sports, social recreation events, fitness enhancement classes and health and wellness education.
- 82.4% of agencies offer summer camp for their community's younger residents.

Staffing

- The typical park and recreation agency has a payroll of 38.2 full-time equivalent staff (FTE's).
- The typical park and recreation agency has 8.3 FTEs on staff for each 10,000 residents in its jurisdiction.
- Operations and maintenance, programming and administration are the main responsibilities of park and recreation workers.

Budget/Finance

- The typical park agency has annual operating expenditures of \$3,834,500.
- The typical park and recreation agency has annual operating expenses of \$78.69 on a per capita basis.

- The median level of operating expenditures is \$6,750 per acre of park and non-park sites managed by the agency.
- The typical park and recreation agency spends \$93,230 in annual operating expenditures for each employee.
- At the typical park and recreation agency, personnel services account for 54.9% of the operating budget.
- The typical park and recreation agency dedicates 44.3% of its operating budget to park management and maintenance and 41.8% to recreation.

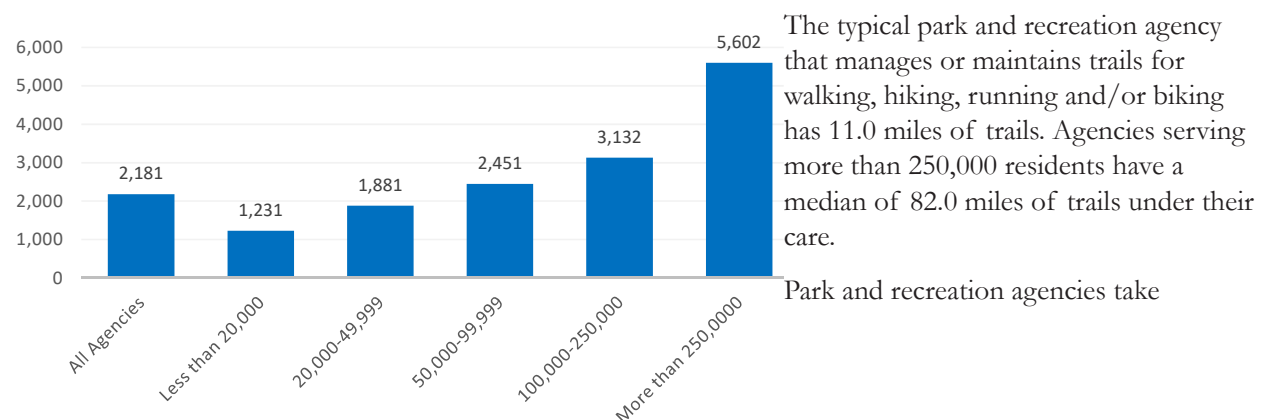
Agency Funding

- Park and recreation agencies derive 59.3% of their operating expenditures from general fund tax support.
- The typical park and recreation agency generates \$20.11 in revenue annually for each resident in the jurisdiction.
- The typical park and recreation agency recovers 27.3% of its operating expenditures from non-tax revenues.
- Park and recreation agencies will spend a median of \$4,007,250 million in capital expenditures over the next five years.
- On average, just over half of the capital budget is designated for renovation, while 30.9% is aimed at new development.

Park facilities differ greatly across the local and regional park and recreation agencies in America. The typical agency participating in the NRPA park metric survey serves a jurisdiction of 39,183 people but population size can vary widely. The typical park and recreation agency has jurisdiction over 19 parks comprising a total of 432.5 acres. Park facilities also have a range of service levels in terms of acres of parkland per population and residents per park. These metrics are categorized by the agency's population size.

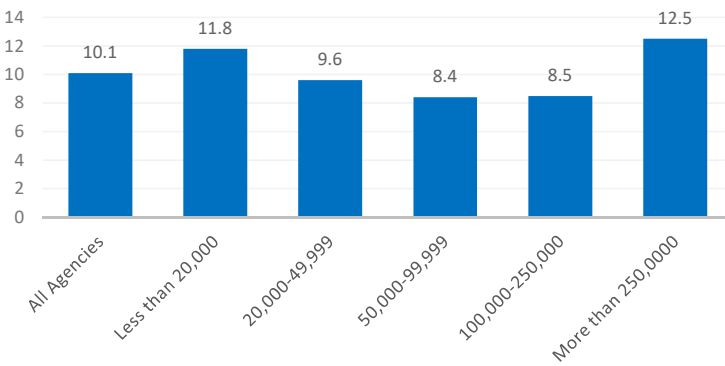
Figure G1. Median Residents per park based on Population Size

Figure G2. Acres of Parkland per 1,000 Residents based on Population Size





on many responsibilities beyond their traditional roles of operating parks and related facilities (96%) and



providing recreation programming and services (93%). In addition to those two core functions, the key responsibilities for park and recreation agencies are listed in the table below, based on percent of agencies.

Figure G3. Key Responsibilities of park and Recreation Agencies

Key P&R Responsibilities	Percent of Agencies
Operate and maintain indoor facilities	87%
Operate, maintain or manage trails, greenways and/or blueways	78%
Conduct major jurisdiction-wide special events	76%
Operate, maintain or manage special purpose parks and open spaces	71%
Include in its operating budget the funding for planning and development functions	67%
Operate and maintain non-park sites	65%
Operate , maintain or contract outdoor swim facilities/water parks	59%
Administer or manage tournament/event quality outdoor sports complexes	57%
Operate, maintain or contract tennis center facilities	51%
Administer community gardens	40%

olf courses, tourist attractions, outdoor
s complexes, campgrounds, performing
: NRPA performance report also noted

trends that have significant impact on agency performance. The report predicts that investments in park infrastructure will rise in 2019-2020 thanks to increased revenues from local tax receipts. As a result, park and recreation agencies - regardless of size, location, population served or budget - will likely be able to plan for and construct more recreation facilities. The growth of new recreation facilities and capital improvements will result in positive impacts on local, regional and state economies.

Technology will continue to have influence on parks from monitoring systems and beacon counters to biometric identification systems. Questions of data security will remain paramount as these technologies become less expensive and more prevalent. Recreational and commercial scale drones are more prevalent and both the advantage for imaging, mapping and monitoring and the potential for disruptive uses will become factors in application and management.

The consolidation of public services continues to affect park and recreation agencies. The potential opportunity to reduce costs and allow for greater efficiencies may pressure governments to combine park facilities with public schools or consolidate with public works. This trend can present both opportunities and threats to the efficient and effective functioning of park and recreation services.

Emerging trends will continue to encourage park and recreation providers to become more nimble and more adaptable to the ever changing conditions and public expectations for sustained high-level performance. Agencies must be proactive in assessing their position and be fully grounded in reliable data about their investments, operations and tangible results.

THE STATE OF THE INDUSTRY REPORT

Recreation Management magazine's 2017 State of the Industry Report summarizes the opinions and information Recreation Management magazine's 2018 State of the Managed Recreation Industry report summarizes the opinions and information provided by a wide range of professionals (with an average 21.3 years of experience) working in the recreation, sports and fitness facilities. The 2018 report indicated that many (86.6%) recreation, sports and fitness facility owners form partnerships with other organizations, as a means of expanding their reach, offering additional programming opportunities or as a way to share resources and increase funding. Local schools are shown as the most common partner (61.3%) for all facility types. Parks and recreation organizations (95.8%) were the most likely to report that they had partnered with outside organizations.

Survey respondents from urban communities are more optimistic about positive changes to revenues, while rural respondents are not. In 2018, 41 percent of respondents said that revenues increased from 2016 to 2017, while 11.1% reported a decrease. Looking forward from 2018 to 2019, 50 percent of urban respondents expect revenues to increase, and just 4.3 percent project a decrease.

In last year's report, parks respondents had reported increases in their average operating expenditures with operating costs that grew by 58% between fiscal 2013 and fiscal 2016. After a significant increase in operating expenditures in fiscal 2016, costs have fallen again in 2017, and are expected to rise more steadily over the next two years, though not to the high reported last year. From 2017 to 2018, respondents said they expect their operating expenses to increase by 1.7 percent, followed by a further increase of 4.9 percent projected in fiscal 2019. The greatest decrease (16.8%) in average operating costs from 2016 to 2017 was reported by parks and recreation respondents.

Relative to costs and revenues, few facilities covered by the survey reported that they cover more than 90 percent of their operating costs via revenue. The percentage recovered varied with type of organization with the average percentage of costs recovered for all respondents hovering near 50%. For parks, the cost recovery rate increased from 43.4 % to 43.9 % from 2017 to 2018.

Over the past decades, public parks and recreation departments and districts have faced a growing expectation that facilities can be run like businesses. Many local facilities are expected to recover much of their operating costs via revenues. While this is the business model of for-profit facilities like health clubs, it's a relatively recent development for publicly owned facilities, which have typically been subsidized via tax dollars and other funding sources. Most recreation providers (80.5%) have been taking actions to reduce



expenditures. Cost recovery actions typically involve reduction in expenses with improving energy efficiency as the most common action (48.3% of respondents). Increased fees and staffing cost reductions and putting off construction or renovation plans were reported as other common methods for reducing operating costs.

Utilization of recreation facilities has shown steady increases by the majority of respondents. Looking forward, more than half of respondents expect to see further increases in the number of people using their facilities. The expectation is that this trend will continue in the next two years.

This year saw a fairly significant drop in the average number of people employed at the organizations covered by the survey. After several years of steady growth, to a high of 147.6 employees in 2017, the average number of employees dropped by 21.7% in the past year. On average, this year's survey respondents employ 28.2 full-time workers, 39.8 part-time employees, 44.8 seasonal workers, 43.2 volunteers, and 9.1 employees of some other designation. In 2018, more than three-quarters (77.7%) of respondents said they plan to maintain existing staff levels, up from 57% in 2017.

A majority of respondents (83.2%) require certifications for some of their staff members to help measure and verify specific types of professional knowledge and skill. Of those respondents that require certification, the most common types of certification required included CPR/AED/First Aid (required by 90.3% of those who said they require some staff members to be certified), background checks (83.4%), and lifeguard certification (56.3%).

Over the past five years, the percentage of respondents who indicate that they have plans for construction, whether new facilities or additions or renovations to their existing facilities, has grown steadily, from 62.7 percent in 2013 to 69.5 percent in 2018. Construction plans of all kinds are most common among camps and parks. For camp respondents, 47.1 percent are planning new facilities, 45.9 percent are planning additions, and 60 percent are planning renovations. They were followed by parks, 33.9 percent of whom have plans for new construction, 32.6 percent for additions, and 57.7 percent for renovations.

Parks saw modest increases to their construction budgets from 2016 to 2018, with respondents expecting to see increases of 13.5%. Public organizations saw the sharpest increase to their construction budgets from 2016 to 2018, with an increase of 28.7 percent, from \$3,877,000 in 2016 to \$4,990,000 in 2018.

Parks respondents were more likely than other facility types to include: playgrounds (86.7% of parks respondents had playgrounds); park shelters (80%); park restroom structures (75.6%); outdoor sports courts (74.4%); community and multipurpose centers (58.4%); bike trails (46.4%); skate parks (41.1%); dog parks (38.8%); community gardens (33.7%); disc golf courses (32.9%); fitness trails and outdoor fitness equipment (32.6%); splash play areas (30.7%); golf courses (19.9%); ice rinks (17.6%); waterparks (16.8%); and bike/BMX parks (11.4%).

Park respondents (56.2%) reported plans to add features at their facilities. The top 10 planned features for all facility types include:

1. Splash play areas (23.6%)
2. Synthetic turf sports fields (17%)
3. Fitness trails and/or outdoor fitness equipment (16.4%)
4. Fitness centers (16.3%)
5. Walking/hiking trails (15.5%)
6. Playgrounds (15.2%)
7. Park shelters (13.6%)
8. Dog parks (13.5%)
9. Exercise studios (12.9%)
10. Disc golf courses (12.9%)

Respondents from community centers, parks and health clubs were the most likely to report that they had plans to add programs at their facilities over the next few years. The 10 most commonly planned program additions in 2018 include:

1. Fitness programs (planned by 25.9% of those who will be adding programs)
2. Educational programs (25.7%)
3. Mind-body balance programs (23.3%)
4. Teen programs (22.7%)
5. Environmental education (20.7%)
6. Day camps and summer camps (20.3%)
7. Special needs programs (18.9%)
8. Adult sports teams (18.5%)
9. Holidays and other special events (18.3%)
10. Individual sports activities (17.5%)

While in general, overall budgets are the top concern for most respondents, equipment and facility maintenance lead the issues of budgetary challenges with staffing as the second most common concern. Marketing, safety/risk management, and creating new and innovative programming are continuing challenges for facility managers. Current concerns on the rise in 2018 include older adult fitness and wellness, legislative issues, environmental and conservation issues and social equity and access.

THE OUTDOOR PARTICIPATION REPORT

According to 2018 Outdoor Participation Report, published by the Outdoor Foundation in Boulder, Colorado, more than 146.1 million Americans (49%) participated in an outdoor activity at least once in 2017. These outdoor participants went on a total of 10.9 billion outdoor outings, a decrease from 11.0 billion in 2016. Participation in outdoor recreation, team sports and indoor fitness activities vary by an individual's age. Recent trend highlights include the following:

- Twenty percent (20%) of outdoor enthusiasts participated in outdoor activities at least twice per week.
- Running, including jogging and trail running, was the most popular activity among Americans when measured by number of participants and by number of total annual outings.
- Nineteen percent (19%) outdoor participants lived in the South Atlantic region of the US, making its population the most active in outdoor activities.
- Walking for fitness was the most popular crossover activity where 45.8% of all outdoor participants also walked.
- Data shows that adults who were introduced to the outdoors as children were more likely to participate in outdoor activities during adulthood than those who were not exposed to the outdoors as children.
- The biggest motivator for outdoor participation was getting exercise.

Figure G4. 3-Year Change in Outdoor Recreation Participation of Youth (6-24)

Favorite activities and participation rates range with demographics. In 2017, the average participant had 15 years of experience enjoying outdoor recreation. The data shows, as would be expected, that the amount of experience increased as the participant aged. Those ages 45 and up averaged 25 years as outdoor participants.

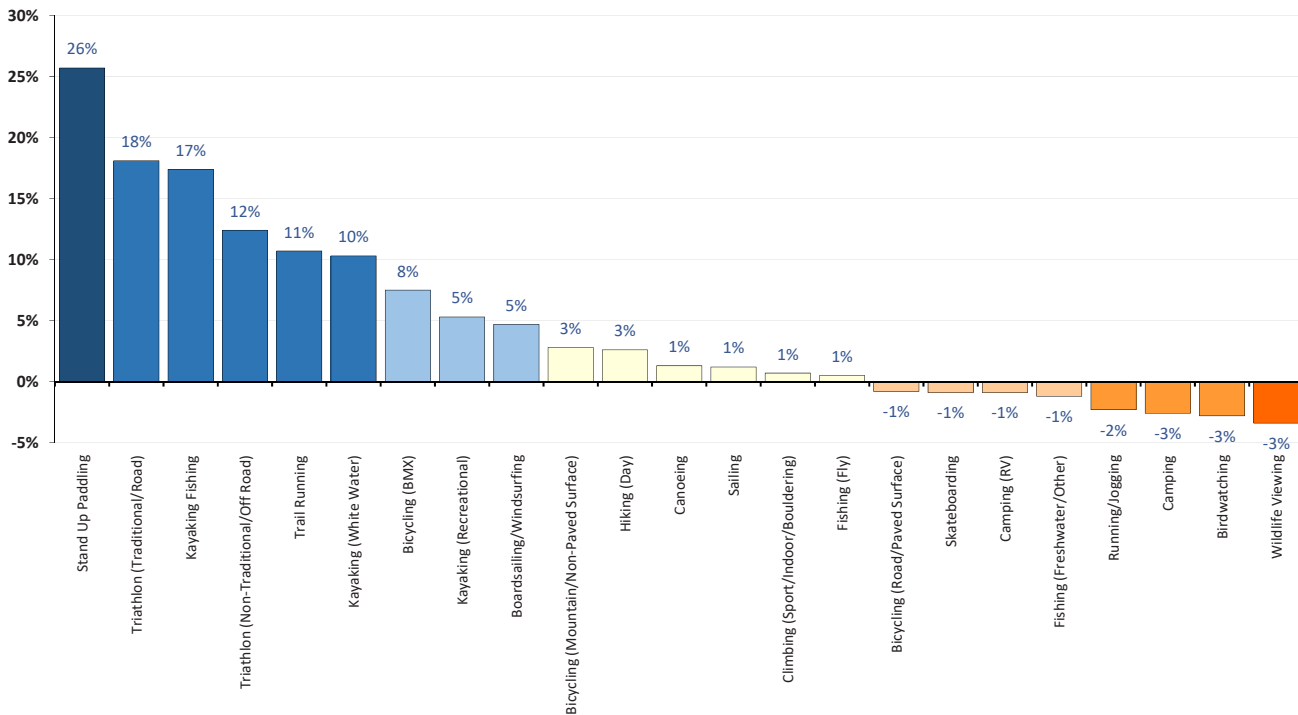
SPORTS, FITNESS & LEISURE ACTIVITIES TOPLINE



PARTICIPATION REPORT

Prepared by a partnership of the Sports and Fitness Industry Association (SFIA) and the Physical Activity Council (PAC), this 2018 participation report establishes levels of activity and identifies key trends in sports, fitness, and recreation in the US. The largest focus of activities continues to be toward fitness sports. Winter sports gained the most of all categories, increasing 2% over the last year. The interest in activities has started moving toward outdoor recreation. The top aspirational activity for all age segments was outside, ranging from camping to biking to birdwatching.

Fitness sports/activities continues to have the highest participation rates; having 64% of the US population



ages 6 and over engaging in activities like running/jogging, high intensity/impact training, row machines, and swimming. Outdoor activities remained second but was flat from 2016; seeing a increase in day hiking and backpacking, but lost participants in canoeing and adventure racing.

While age clearly affects how often someone participates, what they do can also be age dependent. Young kids, ages 6 to 17, who tend to be more active overall, focus on team sports and outdoor activities. While Boomers prefer fitness activities, especially low impact such as aquatic exercise, cycling, and walking. Millennials are more likely than the other generations to participate in water sports, such as stand up paddling, boardsailing, and surfing.

Inactivity rates remain higher than 10 years ago despite the promotion of the benefits of an active lifestyle. Over a quarter of the US population (ages 6 and over) did not participate in even the lowest caloric activity in 2017. Trends continue to show how income affects inactivity. Generally, the affluent are getting more active while the less affluent are becoming more inactive.

Despite aspirations to become more active, the biggest influence on engaging more participants is having a friend or family member to take part in the physical activity. First time participation depends on who you are doing it with more than if you have the time.

NATIONAL SURVEY ON RECREATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The National Survey on Recreation and the Environment (NSRE) is a comprehensive survey that has been collecting data and producing reports about the recreation activities, environmental attitudes and natural resource values of Americans since the 1980s. The NSRE core focus is on outdoor activity participation and personal demographics. The most recent 2012 NSRE reports the total number of people participating in outdoor activities between 2000 and 2007 grew by 4.4% while the number of days of participation increased by approximately 25 percent. Walking for pleasure grew by 14% and continues to lead as the top favorite outdoor activity.

Nature-based activities, those associated with wildlife and natural settings, showed a discernible growth in the number of people (an increase in 3.1% participation rate) and the number of days of participation. American's participation in nature-based outdoor recreation is increasing with viewing, photographing, or otherwise observing nature clearly measured as the fastest growing type of nature-based recreation activity.

AMERICANS ENGAGEMENT WITH PARKS SURVEY (FROM NRPA)

The vast offerings of the local park and recreation agency improve the lives of people throughout our nation. From the fact that Americans on average visit their local park and recreation facilities approximately 29 times a year to the majority of Americans identifying parks and recreation as an important service provided by their local government, the general public is an untapped advocate to spread the public park and recreation story.

This annual study probes Americans' usage of parks, the key reasons that drive their use and the greatest challenges preventing greater usage. Each year, the study probes the importance of public parks in Americans' lives, including how parks compare to other services and offerings of local governments. The survey of 1,000 American adults looks at frequency and drivers of parks/recreation facilities visits and the barriers to that prevent greater enjoyment. Survey respondents also indicate the importance of park and recreation plays in their decisions at the voting booth and their level of support for greater funding.

Key Findings:

- Americans on average visit their local park and recreation facilities approximately 29 times a year, with 3 in 5 saying their most recent visit was within the past month.
- Three in four Americans agree that the NRPA Three Pillars of Conservation, Health and Wellness, and Social Equity represent what they see as the priorities for their local park and recreation agency.
- Nine in 10 Americans agree that parks and recreation are important services delivered by their local government.
- Seven in 10 Americans say they are more likely to vote for local politicians who make park and recreation funding a priority.
- Three-quarters of Americans support increased local government spending for park and recreation agencies with solid support for a nearly 30 percent increase in funding for local park and recreation agencies.

WASHINGTON STATEWIDE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN

The 2018-2022 Recreation and Conservation Plan for Washington State provides a strategic direction to help



assure the effective and adequate provision of outdoor recreation and conservation to meet the needs of Washington State residents. The plan identified near and long-term priorities with specific actions within each priority to help meet the outdoor recreation and conservation needs within the state.

Five priority areas:

1. Sustain and Grow the Legacy of Parks, Trails, and Conservation Lands
2. Improve Equity of Parks, Trails, and Conservation Lands
3. Meet the Needs of Youth
4. Plan for Culturally Relevant Parks and Trails to Meet Changing Demographics
5. Assert Recreation and Conservation as a Vital Public Service

Sustain & Grow the Legacy

A wealth of existing recreation and conservation areas and facilities should be kept open, safe and enjoyable for all. Some modification to meet the interests of today's population may be needed at some facilities. Sustaining existing areas while expanding and building new facilities to keep up with a growing population is one of the five priority goals.

Improve Equity

The National Recreation and Park Association's position on social equity states:

"Our nation's public parks and recreation services should be equally accessible and available to all people regardless of income level, ethnicity, gender, ability, or age. Public parks, recreation services and recreation programs including the maintenance, safety, and accessibility of parks and facilities, should be provided on an equitable basis to all citizens of communities served by public agencies."

The Washington plan restates that equity goal for all its citizens. Improving equity is also a strategy for improving a community's health. Current statewide participation rates in outdoor activities were surveyed as part of the plan.

Figure G5. Participation Rates for Washington Residents in Outdoor Activities

Get Youth Outside

Washington State youth participate in outdoor activities to a greater extent than those found nationally. Park and recreation providers are urged to offer a variety of outdoor activities for youth and to support youth programs. Most youth are walking, playing at a park, trying new or trending activities, fishing in freshwater, exploring nature, and riding bikes. Other activities of interest to youth are activities in freshwater such as boating and paddling, fishing in saltwater, and target shooting, hiking, outdoor sports, and riding off-road vehicles.

Figure G6. Youth Participation Rates for Washington Residents in Outdoor Activities

Plan for Culturally Relevant parks and Trails to Meet Changing Demographics

Participation Rates for Top 12 Categories	
Activity	%
Walking	94%
Nature activities	89%
Leisure activities at parks	82%
Swimming	68%
Sightseeing activities	67%
Hiking	61%
Outdoor sports	48%
Water-based activities (freshwater)	46%
Camping	45%
Trending activities	33%
Snow and ice activities	30%
Bicycling	28%

Washington's population is expected to grow by 2 million people by 2040 leading to more congestion and competition for recreation resources. Between 2010-2040, the percent of people of color are expected to increase from 27 percent to 44 percent. With the cultural change in the population, preferred recreational activities also will change. By 2030, more than one of every five

Washingtonians will be 65 years old or older. By 2040, there will be more seniors than youth. Park and recreation providers should be prepared to create new and diverse opportunities and accommodate the active senior population.

Assert Recreation and Conservation as a Vital Public Service

The 2018-2022 Washington SCORP recognizes that outdoor recreation contributes to a strong economy and is a public investment like other public services and infrastructure. The report cites the Outdoor Industry Association and other economic studies that reinforce the importance of park and recreation services locally, regionally and statewide.

Youth Participation Rates	
Activity	%
Walking	88%
Leisure in parks	78%
Trending activities	77%
Fishing in freshwater	77%
Nature-based activities	75%
Bicycling	74%
Freshwater-based activities*	66%
Target shooting	62%
Hiking	57%
Outdoor sports	57%
Off-road vehicle riding	57%
Fishing in saltwater	53%



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APPENDIX H

ZONING & LAND USE



CONSERVATION
TECHNIX

To: Laura Hoggatt, Resource Development Coordinator / Planner II
From: Jean Akers, Conservation Technix, Inc.
Date: December 7, 2020
Re: **Clark County PROS Plan Update**
Park Design/Development Review – Land Use & Zoning Considerations

Conservation Technix is pleased to present this assessment of planning and zoning issues that influence the design and development of public parks in Clark County. The assessment examines current development code and permitting requirements, along with the challenges and issues that have occurred with site plan review procedures expressed by representatives of the county staff.

Park Design/Development Review Summary

Staff from Clark County Public Works' Parks and Lands Division and Project Management Division, along with staff from Community Development's Development Engineering, Land Use Review and Wetlands and Habitat Review sections, shared their past experiences, current park development situation and suggestions for future code or procedure adjustments. A number of observations and comments were made for further exploration to create smoother park development procedures and communications across county departments and divisions involved in park system development. Overall, the participants emphasized that early communications, whether through due diligence during acquisition, formal procedures of pre-application and/or pre-determination, or simply interdepartmental contact was highly valuable in avoiding surprises and unexpected added costs and delays in park development.

Development Code (Title 40) Changes

Since the last PROS Plan in 2015, a new set of standards was created within the county development code specifically addressing the development of parks. Section 40.260.157, Parks, under the Special Uses and Standards directs the development of neighborhood, community and regional parks relative to types of amenities, need for parking and accessibility, and the different assignment of site plan review process based on park classification. These standards work to provide a degree of clarity in predicting the design and permitting process for park development projects.

Another development code amendment since 2015 added parks to a Public Facility designation under Section 40.230, Commercial, Business, Mixed Use and Industrial Districts. The Public Facilities District (PF), Section 40.230.090, purpose is *"to provide for already developed publically owned parks, open space, and public facilities that are located permanently in a specific location..."* The PF District has no development standards and does not appear to carry any permanent land conservation or protection status.

Park Acquisitions

The acquisition of parkland could consider further due diligence to ensure the avoidance of critical area disturbances. While parks might be enhanced by being adjacent to natural areas, development of the park facilities and amenities should be planned to avoid sensitive environmental areas. Due diligence in the considerations of parkland acquisition should examine potential critical area locations that may impact future park improvements. Future acquisitions should follow the guidelines offered in the 2021 PROS Plan (Appendix J), and staff also should consider a critical areas pre-determination prior to acquiring a site if there are questions about the future developability of the site.

Pre-design/Development

Engineering Requirements: For neighborhood park development, a formal pre-application review is not required. However, some communication with Community Development can be highly valuable prior to design decisions being made for a park development. Community Development staff can provide information about potential road improvements and stormwater requirements with simple knowledge of a park's site location.

Road Improvements: Early communication with Community Development can reveal potential impacts regarding road standards and opportunities to pursue road modification requests. Road frontage improvements have often been significant capital expenses in park development, consuming relatively large portions of the project capital budget when long sections of road frontage must be upgraded from rural to urban standards. Cross circulation and connectivity requirements also have tainted urban park development projects; however, staff indicated that the opportunity exists to pursue a road modification to potentially reduce or eliminate certain requirements based on public interest.

Staff Coordination: An existing interdepartmental agreement between Parks & Lands Division Compliance & Assets Services and Wetlands & Habitat review staff allow for direct consultation to provide critical area information and details on site specific environmental features that may affect the scope and extent of planned park development. This agreement across departments helps clarify environmental permitting issues that could be incurred in proposed park acquisitions or future park developments.

Pre-Application Requirement

A formal pre-application process is required for community and regional park development. The process triggers fees and generates documented site plan review and permitting requirements that guide the park's development. Neighborhood parks are not required to go through this process as Type-I projects. As a result, the development process and code requirements may not be as clearly understood, and some aspects of the review process could be unknown to the park design consultant or developer.



Site Plan Review

With the adoption of the Special Uses and Standards (40.260.157) in 2018 that includes parks, the processes and procedures for park development have greatly improved since the last PROS Plan in 2015. While some adjustments and clarity may be possible, the unanimous suggestion made by community development professionals was to make contact **early** in any park design and development process. Even outside the formal pre-application process that provides written documentation about regulatory issues, contacting community development staff with review and permitting questions can avert bigger hurdles or surprises later in the development process.

Critical Area Permitting

Avoidance of disturbances continues to be at the forefront of critical areas protection and the first priority facing any permitting requirements. Pre-determination procedures are valuable for informing future park design and development to avoid triggering disturbances to high value environmental areas. The Pre-determination process would identify the critical area and document the buffers, setbacks, development issues, and potential mitigation requirements and any proposed disturbance.

Inter-departmental Communications

Park Site Plan Review Planner: The Clark County development code is not always perceived as a clear, straightforward document by those unfamiliar with the layers and requirements for site plan review and permitting. Staff from community development could provide a set of decision-making steps that clarifies each stage of development review for use by staff from Public Works' Project Management Division and Parks and Lands Division. Prior to a recent retirement, Community Development had a designated planner who focused on park design and development review and who served as a resource for guiding the process and being available to answer questions. While park development projects have slowed in recent years, assigning another Community Development planner to park projects would be helpful for both internal and external professionals involved in the park capital improvement process.

Inter-department Coordination: The interdepartmental agreement between Wetlands & Habitat and Parks and Lands Compliance & Assets Services allows for direct communications, services and billing to share critical areas information regarding park properties. This direct access to professional services helps reduce permitting time and clarifies park development concerns. Wherever feasible, Parks and Lands Division should continue with this agreement and potentially other interdepartmental agreements to enable smoother park capital project management.

Future Development Code Changes

Public Facilities District: The recently implemented Public Facilities (PF) zoning designation has not provided the clarity or streamlining to public park development or capital improvement processes. Since the underlying zoning requirements still are in effect, the PF zone is another layer of discernment that requires consideration or evaluation in a site plan review for adding amenities to a developed park. The PF designation does not simplify, clarify or

streamline park development, since it is only used to designate a public park **after** it has already been developed. Additionally, not all public parks have received the PF designation, so its use has been inconsistent. Having no measureable value for parklands, the PF designation should be considered as superfluous and either revised or discontinued.

Critical Area Ordinance Updates: The Critical Area Ordinance will be undergoing a public review process in 2021 to consider opportunities for mitigation value when designing developments that cannot avoid critical area disturbances. The review may create opportunities for permitting requirements to measure the effectiveness of mitigation weighed with the natural resource value. Parks and Lands Division staff should participate in this ordinance amendment process to allow for smoother and compatible park development that may occur in the proximity of critical areas.

Zoning/Comp Plan Designations: Currently, parklands throughout the county have more than 13 different zoning designations and their comprehensive plan land use designations are not always aligned with those assigned zoning districts. This inconsistency, while not critical, can add confusion to the park development process. Ideally, all parklands could have their own land use and zoning designation that serves the public interest, defines the park design, development and stewardship processes and supports the implementation of an overall and equitable county park system. However, as noted with regard to the PF zone, the application of such a zoning and land use designation change should occur after property acquisition and prior to site development – as an avenue to guide park design and development in the future.

--End of Memo--



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APPENDIX I

IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS & TACTICS



Clark County possesses a range of local tools that could be accessed for the benefit of growing, developing and maintaining its parks and recreation program. The sources listed below represent likely potential sources, but some also may be dedicated for numerous other local purposes which limit applicability and usage. County leadership will need to consider the feasibility and potential to modify or expand the use of existing county revenue sources in favor of park and recreation programs.

LOCAL FUNDING OPTIONS

GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND

For the purposes of funding capital projects, such as land acquisitions or facility construction, cities and counties have the authority to borrow money by selling bonds. Voter-approved general obligation bonds may be sold only after receiving a 60% majority vote at a general or special election. If approved, an excess property tax is levied each year for the life of the bond to pay both principal and interest. The state constitution (Article VIII, Section 6) limits total debt to 5% of the total assessed value of property in the jurisdiction.

EXCESS LEVY – ONE YEAR ONLY

Cities and counties, along with other specified junior taxing districts, that are levying their statutory maximum rate can ask the voters, at any special election date, to raise their rate for one year (RCW 84.52.052). As this action increases revenue for one-year at a time it is wise to request this type of funding for one-time uses only.

REGULAR PROPERTY TAX - LID LIFT

Cities are authorized to impose ad valorem taxes upon real and personal property. A city's maximum levy rate for general purposes is \$3.375 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. Limitations on annual increases in tax collections, coupled with changes in property value, causes levy rates to rise or fall; however, in no case may they rise above statutory limits. Once the rate is established each year, it may not be raised without the approval of a majority of the voters. Receiving voter approval is known as a lid lift. A lid lift may be permanent, or may be for a specific purpose and time period.

A levy lid lift is an instrument for increasing property tax levies for operating and/or capital purposes. Taxing districts with a tax rate that is less than their statutory maximum rate may ask the voters to "lift" the levy lid by increasing the tax rate to some amount equal to or less than their statutory maximum rate. A simple majority vote of citizenry is required.

Cities and counties have two "lift" options available to them: Single-year/basic or Multi-year.

Single-year: The single-year lift does not mean that the lift goes away after one year; it can be for any amount of time, including permanently, unless the proceeds will be used for debt service on bonds, in which case the maximum time period is nine years. Districts may permanently increase the levy but must use language in the ballot title expressly stating that future levies will increase as allowed by chapter 84.55 RCW. After the initial "lift" in the first year, the district's levy in future years is subject to the 101% lid in chapter 84.55 RCW. This is the maximum amount it can increase without returning to the voters for another lid lift.

The election to implement a single-year lift may take place on any election date listed in RCW 29A.04.321.

Multi-year: The multi-year lift allows the levy lid to be “bumped up” each year for up to a maximum of six years. At the end of the specified period, the levy in the final period may be designated as the basis for the calculation of all future levy increases (in other words, be made permanent) if expressly stated in the ballot title. The levy in future years would then be subject to the 101% lid in chapter 84.55 RCW.

In a multi-year lift, the lift for the first year must state the new tax rate for that year. For the ensuing years, the lift may be a dollar amount, a percentage increase tied to an index, or a percentage amount set by some other method. The amounts do not need to be the same for each year. If the amount of the increase for a particular year would require a tax rate that is above the maximum tax rate, the assessor will levy only the maximum amount allowed by law.

The election to implement a multi-year lift must be either the August primary or the November general election.

The single-year lift allows supplanting of expenditures within the lift period; the multi-year lift does not, and the purpose for the lift must be specifically identified in the election materials. For both single- and multi-year lifts, when the lift expires the base for future levies will revert to what the dollar amount would have been if no lift had ever been done.

The total regular levy rate of senior taxing districts (counties and cities) and junior taxing districts (fire districts, library districts, etc.) may not exceed \$5.90/\$1,000 AV. If this limit is exceeded, levies are reduced or eliminated in the following order until the total tax rate is at \$5.90.

1. Parks & Recreation Districts (up to \$0.60)
Parks & Recreation Service Areas (up to \$0.60)
Cultural Arts, Stadiums & Convention Districts (up to \$0.25)
2. Flood Control Zone Districts (up to \$0.50)
3. Hospital Districts (up to \$0.25)
Metropolitan Parks Districts (up to \$0.25)
All other districts not otherwise mentioned
4. Metropolitan Park Districts formed after January 1, 2002 or after (up to \$0.50)
5. Fire Districts (up to \$0.25)
6. Fire Districts (remaining \$0.50)
Regional Fire Protection Service Authorities (up to \$0.50)
Library Districts (up to \$0.50)
Hospital Districts (up to \$0.50)
Metropolitan Parks Districts formed before January 1, 2002 (up to \$0.50)



IMPACT FEES

Impact fees are charges placed on new development as a condition of development approval to help pay for various public facilities the need for which is directly created by that new growth and development. Counties, cities, and towns may impose impact fees on residential and commercial “development activity” to help pay for certain public facility improvements, including parks, open space and recreation facilities. Funds received must be spent on approved capital projects within 10 years of collection. Clark County adopted a park impact fee ordinance in 1990. County code (CCC 40.540.050) anticipates that “Impact fee rates shall be adjusted periodically to reflect changes in costs of land acquisition and construction, facility plan projects, and anticipated growth.”

REAL ESTATE EXCISE TAX

Washington law authorizes the governing bodies of counties and cities to impose excise taxes on the sale of real property within limits set by the statute. This authority may be divided into three parts relevant to park systems.

A county may impose a real estate excise tax (REET 1) on the sale of all real property in the unincorporated parts of the county at a rate not to exceed $\frac{1}{4}\%$ of the selling price, to fund “local capital improvements,” including parks, playgrounds, swimming pools, water systems, bridges, sewers, etc. Also, the funds must be used “primarily for financing capital projects specified in a capital facilities plan element of a comprehensive plan . . . “

A county may impose a real estate excise tax on the sale of all real property in the unincorporated parts of the county at a rate not to exceed $\frac{1}{2}\%$, in lieu of a $\frac{1}{2}\%$ sales tax option authorized under state law. These funds are not restricted to capital projects. The statute provides for a repeal mechanism.

A county that is required to prepare comprehensive plans under the new Growth Management Act is authorized to impose an additional real estate excise tax (REET 2) on all real property sales in the unincorporated parts of the county at a rate not to exceed $\frac{1}{4}\%$. These funds must be used “solely for financing capital projects specified in a capital facilities plan element of a comprehensive plan.”

Since REET collections are directly tied to the frequency and valuation of real estate transactions, this funding source is widely variable with local real estate conditions. In the past, Clark County REET 1 revenues have funded the regional park capital repair program.

REAL ESTATE EXCISE TAX - CONSERVATION AREAS

Boards of County Commissioners may impose, with majority voter approval, an excise tax on each sale of real property in the county at rate not to exceed 1% of the selling price for the purpose of acquiring and maintaining conservation areas. The authorizing legislation defines conservation areas as “land and water that has environmental, agricultural, aesthetic, cultural, scientific, historic, scenic, or low-intensity recreational value for existing and future generations...” These areas include “open spaces, wetlands, marshes, aquifer recharge areas, shoreline areas, natural areas, and other lands and waters that are important to preserve flora and fauna.” Clark County does not currently assess a Conservation REET.

CONSERVATION FUTURES TAX

The Conservation Futures Tax (CFT) is provided for in Chapter 84.34 of the Revised Code of Washington. Clark County imposes a Conservation Futures levy for the purpose of acquiring open space lands, including green spaces, greenbelts, wildlife habitat and trail rights-of-way proposed for preservation for public use by either the county or the cities within the county. Funds are allocated annually, and cities within the county,

citizen groups and citizens may apply for funds through the county's process. The CFT program provides grants to cities to support open space priorities in local plans and is administered by the County's Legacy Lands Program in the Parks & Lands Division of Public Works.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS

These funds are intended to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low and moderate income persons. The Department of Housing and Urban Development allocates these funds in a single or "block" grant to eligible cities and counties with the objective of improving communities. The funds are then distributed to municipalities, organizations, and groups through a competitive application process. Clark County administers this funding through the Community Services Department. CDBG funds can be used for a wide variety of projects, services, facilities and infrastructure.

LODGING TAX

The lodging tax is a user fee for hotel/motel occupation. Both cities and counties may impose this tax through legislative action. Cities and/or counties may impose a "basic" 2% tax under RCW 67.28.180 on all charges for furnishing lodging at hotels, motels and similar establishments for a continuous period of less than one month.

This tax is taken as a credit against the 6.5% state sales tax, so that the total tax that a patron pays in retail sales tax and hotel-motel tax combined is equal to the retail sales tax in the jurisdiction. In addition, jurisdictions may levy an additional tax of up to 2%, or a total rate of 4%, under RCW 67.28.181(1). This is not credited against the state sales tax. Therefore, if this tax is levied, the total tax on the lodging bill will increase by 2%.

If both a city and the county are levying this tax, the county must allow a credit for any tax levied by a city so that no two taxes are levied on the same taxable event. These revenues must be used solely for paying for tourism promotion and for the acquisition and/or operating of tourism-related facilities. "Tourism" is defined as economic activity resulting from tourists, which may include sales of overnight lodging, meals, tours, gifts, or souvenirs; there is no requirement that a tourist must stay overnight.

ADMISSIONS TAX

An admissions tax is a use tax for entertainment. Both cities and counties may impose this tax through legislative action. Cities and/or counties may levy an admission tax in an amount no greater than 5% of the admission charge, as is authorized by statute (cities: RCW 35.21.280; counties: RCW 35.57.100). This tax can be levied on admission charges (including season tickets) to places such as theaters, dance halls, circuses, clubs that have cover charges, observation towers, stadiums, and any other activity where an admission charge is made to enter the facility. If a city imposes an admissions tax, the county may not levy a tax within city boundaries.

The statutes provide an exception for admission to elementary or secondary school activities. Generally, certain events sponsored by nonprofits are exempted from the tax; however, this is not a requirement. Counties also exempt any public facility of a public facility district for which admission is imposed. There are no statutory restrictions on the use of revenue.



FEDERAL & STATE CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

NATIONAL RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM

The National Recreational Trails Program (NRTP) provides funds to maintain trails and facilities that provide a backcountry experience for a range of activities including hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, motorcycling, and snowmobiling. Eligible projects include the maintenance and re-routing of recreational trails, development of trail-side and trail-head facilities, and operation of environmental education and trail safety programs. A local match of 20% is required. This program is funded through Federal gasoline taxes attributed to recreational non-highway uses.

WETLANDS RESERVE PROGRAM (WRP)

The WRP provides landowners the opportunity to preserve, enhance, and restore wetlands and associated uplands. The program is voluntary and provides three enrollment options: permanent easements, 30-year easements, and 10-year restoration cost-share agreements. In all cases, landowners retain the underlying ownership in the property and management responsibility. Land uses may be allowed that are compatible with the program goal of protecting and restoring the wetlands and associated uplands. The NRCS manages the program and may provide technical assistance.

WASHINGTON STATE ECOSYSTEMS CONSERVATION PROGRAM

This Washington State Ecosystems Conservation Program was established in 1990 and is divided into federal- and state-managed components. The federal program focuses funds on projects that help restore habitat for threatened, endangered and sensitive species and, secondarily, for species of concern. In addition, the program attempts to concentrate funds within a limited number of watersheds to maximize program benefits. The program provides funds to cooperating agencies or organizations. These grants, in turn, can be distributed among project sites. The program requires a 50% cost-share from cooperating agencies, and individual landowners at project sites must enter into maintenance/management agreements that have a 10-year minimum duration.

GRANTS & CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

RIVERS, TRAILS & CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, also known as the Rivers & Trails Program or RTCA, is a technical assistance resource for communities administered by the National Park Service and federal government agencies so they can conserve rivers, preserve open space and develop trails and greenways. The RTCA program implements the natural resource conservation and outdoor recreation mission of NPS in communities across America.

NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION ACT GRANTS PROGRAM

The North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989 provides matching grants to organizations and individuals who have developed partnerships to carry out wetland conservation projects in the United States, Canada, and Mexico for the benefit of wetlands-associated migratory birds and other wildlife. Two competitive grants programs exist (Standard and a Small Grants Program) and require that grant requests be matched by partner contributions at no less than a 1-to-1 ratio. Funds from U.S. Federal sources may contribute toward a project, but are not eligible as match.

The Standard Grants Program supports projects in Canada, the United States, and Mexico that involve long-term protection, restoration, and/or enhancement of wetlands and associated uplands habitats.

The Small Grants Program operates only in the United States; it supports the same type of projects and adheres to the same selection criteria and administrative guidelines as the U.S. Standard Grants Program. However, project activities are usually smaller in scope and involve fewer project dollars. Grant requests may not exceed \$75,000, and funding priority is given to grantees or partners new to the Act's Grants Program.

WASHINGTON STATE RECREATION & CONSERVATION OFFICE GRANT PROGRAMS

The Recreation and Conservation Office was created in 1964 as part of the Marine Recreation Land Act. The RCO grants money to state and local agencies, generally on a matching basis, to acquire, develop, and enhance wildlife habitat and outdoor recreation properties. Some money is also distributed for planning grants. RCO grant programs utilize funds from various sources. Historically, these have included the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, state bonds, Initiative 215 monies (derived from unreclaimed marine fuel taxes), off-road vehicle funds, Youth Athletic Facilities Account and the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA)

This program, managed through the RCO, provides matching grants to state and local agencies to protect and enhance salmon habitat and to provide public access and recreation opportunities on aquatic lands. In 1998, DNR refocused the ALEA program to emphasize salmon habitat preservation and enhancement. However, the program is still open to traditional water access proposals. Any project must be located on navigable portions of waterways. ALEA funds are derived from the leasing of state-owned aquatic lands and from the sale of harvest rights for shellfish and other aquatic resources.

Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP)

The RCO is a state office that allocates funds to local and state agencies for the acquisition and development of wildlife habitat and outdoor recreation properties. Funding sources managed by the RCO include the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. The WWRP is divided into Habitat Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Accounts; these are further divided into several project categories. Cities, counties and other local sponsors may apply for funding in urban wildlife habitat, local parks, trails and water access categories. Funds for local agencies are awarded on a matching basis. Grant applications are evaluated once each year, and the State Legislature must authorize funding for the WWRP project lists.



Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) provides grants to buy land and develop public outdoor facilities, including parks, trails and wildlife lands. Grant recipients must provide at least 50% matching funds in either cash or in-kind contributions. Grant program revenue is from a portion of Federal revenue derived from sale or lease of off-shore oil and gas resources.

Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF) Program

The YAF provides grants to develop, equip, maintain, and improve youth and community athletic facilities. Cities, counties, and qualified non-profit organizations may apply for funding, and grant recipients must provide at least 50% matching funds in either cash or in-kind contributions.

Salmon Recovery Funding Board

Grants are awarded by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board for acquisition or restoration of lands directly correlating to salmon habitat protection or recovery. Projects must demonstrate a direct benefit to fish habitat. There is no match requirement for design-only projects; acquisition and restoration projects require a 15% match. The funding source includes the sale of state general obligation bonds, the federal Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund and the state Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration Fund.

Boating Facilities Program (BFP)

The program pays for projects that acquire, develop, and renovate facilities for motorized boats and other watercraft, including launching ramps, guest moorage, and support facilities. Typical projects include renovating boat launches, adding guest moorage facilities and building parking, restrooms, and other boating amenities. Local agencies and special purpose districts must provide 25% match for each project, and at least 10% of the total project cost must be from a non-state, non-federal contribution.

Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) Program

The Boating Infrastructure Grant Program provides funding to develop and renovate boating facilities targeting guest recreational boats 26 feet and larger. Grants also may be used for boater education. Typical projects include renovating guest docks, adding utilities to moorage docks, and building moorage docks and floats. A 25% match is required for all projects. Except for state agencies and Native American tribes, at least 10% of the total project cost must be from a non-state, non-federal contribution.

BUSINESS SPONSORSHIPS / DONATIONS

Business sponsorships for programs may be available throughout the year and are generally most suited for specific programs or efforts, such as sport field enhancements, trail development, etc. In-kind contributions are often received, including food, door prizes and equipment/material.

INTERAGENCY AGREEMENTS

State law provides for interagency cooperative efforts between units of government. Joint acquisition, development and/or use of park and open space facilities may be provided between Parks and Lands, other Public Works divisions and utility providers.

PRIVATE GRANTS, DONATIONS & GIFTS

Many trusts and private foundations provide funding for park, recreation and open space projects. Grants from these sources are typically allocated through a competitive application process and vary dramatically in size based on the financial resources and funding criteria of the organization. Philanthropic giving is another source of project funding. Efforts in this area may involve cash gifts and include donations through other mechanisms such as wills or insurance policies. Community fundraising efforts can also support park, recreation or open space facilities and projects.

Parks Foundation of Clark County

The Parks Foundation of Clark County is an independent non-profit organization, dedicated to raising the quality of life by securing funds through memberships, donations, partnerships, and grants. The mission of the Parks Foundation is to improve the quality of life in Clark County by supporting parks, trails, and recreational programs. The Parks Foundation serves all of Clark County through its granting programs.

Wells Fargo: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF): Environmental Grant Program

This program builds partnerships with local environmental non-profits that have projects that focus on strengthening the resiliency of our communities. This includes efforts focused on climate mitigation and adaptation, sustainable agriculture and forestry, water quality, land conservation, and support for building healthy urban ecosystems. The programs operate as a closed RFP, invitation-only process where Wells Fargo engages specific organizations whose work aligns with their giving priorities.

REI in the Community - Non-Profit Partnerships and Grants

Partnerships begin with store teams who may connect with non-profits by promoting or partnering for events and service projects, raising visibility with REI customers, offering product donations, and inviting and selecting organizations for an REI grant.

Kaiser Permanente Healthy Environments - Community Benefit Programs

These programs work with community-based organizations, public agencies, businesses and residents to translate their vision for healthy communities into visible, concrete changes — and ultimately healthier neighborhoods. Kaiser has several assistance programs that encompass support for Environmental Stewardship, Community Health Initiatives, Every Body Walk!, and Physical Activity Guiding Principles.



ACQUISITION TOOLS & METHODS

DIRECT PURCHASE METHODS

Market Value Purchase

Through a written purchase and sale agreement, the county purchases land at the present market value based on an independent appraisal. Timing, payment of real estate taxes and other contingencies are negotiable.

Partial Value Purchase (or Bargain Sale)

In a bargain sale, the landowner agrees to sell for less than the property's fair market value. A landowner's decision to proceed with a bargain sale is unique and personal; landowners with a strong sense of civic pride, long community history or concerns about capital gains are possible candidates for this approach. In addition to cash proceeds upon closing, the landowner may be entitled to a charitable income tax deduction based on the difference between the land's fair market value and its sale price.

Life Estates & Bequests

In the event a landowner wishes to remain on the property for a long period of time or until death, several variations on a sale agreement exist. In a life estate agreement, the landowner may continue to live on the land by donating a remainder interest and retaining a "reserved life estate." Specifically, the landowner donates or sells the property to the county, but reserves the right for the seller or any other named person to continue to live on and use the property. When the owner or other specified person dies or releases his/her life interest, full title and control over the property will be transferred to the county. By donating a remainder interest, the landowner may be eligible for a tax deduction when the gift is made. In a bequest, the landowner designates in a will or trust document that the property is to be transferred to the city upon death. While a life estate offers the county some degree of title control during the life of the landowner, a bequest does not. Unless the intent to bequest is disclosed to and known by the county in advance, no guarantees exist with regard to the condition of the property upon transfer or to any liabilities that may exist.

Gift Deed

When a landowner wishes to bequeath their property to a public or private entity upon their death, they can record a gift deed with the county assessor's office to insure their stated desire to transfer their property to the targeted beneficiary as part of their estate. The recording of the gift deed usually involves the tacit agreement of the receiving party.

Option to Purchase Agreement

This is a binding contract between a landowner and the county that would only apply according to the conditions of the option and limits the seller's power to revoke an offer. Once in place and signed, the option agreement may be triggered at a future, specified date or upon the completion of designated conditions. Option agreements can be made for any time duration and can include all of the language pertinent to closing a property sale.

Right of First Refusal

In this agreement, the landowner grants the county the first chance to purchase the property once the landowner wishes to sell. The agreement does not establish the sale price for the property, and the landowner is free to refuse to sell it for the price offered by the county. This is the weakest form of agreement between an owner and a prospective buyer.

Conservation and/or Access Easements

Through a conservation easement, a landowner voluntarily agrees to sell or donate certain rights associated with his or her property (often the right to subdivide or develop), and a private organization or public agency agrees to hold the right to enforce the landowner's promise not to exercise those rights. In essence, the rights are forfeited and no longer exist. This is a legal agreement between the landowner and the county that permanently limits uses of the land in order to conserve a portion of the property for public use or protection. The landowner still owns the property, but the use of the land is restricted. Conservation easements may result in an income tax deduction and reduced property taxes and estate taxes. Typically, this approach is used to provide trail corridors where only a small portion of the land is needed or for the strategic protection of natural resources and habitat. Through a written purchase and sale agreement, the county purchases land at the present market value based on an independent appraisal. Timing, payment of real estate taxes and other contingencies are negotiable.

Park or Open Space Dedication Requirements

Local governments have the option to require developers to dedicate land for parks under the State Subdivision Law (Ch. 58.17 RCW) and the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) (Ch. 43.21C RCW). Under the subdivision law developers can be required to provide the parks/recreation improvements or pay a fee in lieu of the dedicated land and its improvements. Under the SEPA requirements, land dedication may occur as part of mitigation for a proposed development's impact. In Clark County, Title 40 contains a section on Park Sites Reservations (Section 40.540.050) that enables the park director to require the reservation of land (undergoing site plan review for proposed development) that has been identified in the parks plan for future park use. The reservation of land would require that the county purchase the designated land within one year of the final subdivision approval.

LANDOWNER INCENTIVE MEASURES

Transfer of Development Rights

The transfer of development rights (TDR) is an incentive-based planning tool that allows land owners to trade the right to develop property to its fullest extent in one area for the right to develop beyond existing regulations in another area. Local governments (e.g., Clark County) may establish the specific areas in which development may be limited or restricted and the areas in which development beyond regulation may be allowed. Usually, but not always, the "sending" and "receiving" property are under common ownership. Some programs allow for different ownership, which, in effect, establishes a market for development rights to be bought and sold.

Density Bonuses

Density bonuses are a planning tool used to encourage a variety of public land use objectives, usually in urban areas. They offer the incentive of being able to develop at densities beyond current regulations in one area, in return for concessions in another. Density bonuses are applied to a single parcel or development. An example is allowing developers of multi-family units to build at higher densities if they provide a certain number of



low-income units or public open space. For density bonuses to work, market forces must support densities at a higher level than current regulations.

IRC 1031 Exchange

If the landowner owns business or investment property, an IRC Section 1031 Exchange can facilitate the exchange of like-kind property solely for business or investment purposes. No capital gain or loss is recognized under Internal Revenue Code Section 1031 (see www.irc.gov for more details). This option may be a useful tool in negotiations with an owner of investment property, especially if the tax savings offset to the owner can translate to a sale price discount for the District.

Current (Open Space) Use Taxation Programs

Property owners whose current lands are in open space, agricultural, and/or timber uses may have that land valued at their current use rather than their “highest and best” use assessment. This differential assessed value, allowed under the Washington Open Space Taxation Act (Ch.84.34 RCW) helps to preserve private properties as open space, farm or timber lands. If land is converted to other non-open space uses, the land owner is required to pay the difference between the current use annual taxes and highest/best taxes for the previous seven years. When properties are sold to a local government or conservation organization for land conservation/preservation purposes, the required payment of seven years’ worth of differential tax rates is waived. The amount of this tax liability can be part of the negotiated land acquisition from private to public or quasi-public conservation purposes. Clark County has a current use taxation program that offer this property tax reduction as an incentive to landowners to voluntarily preserve open space, farmland or forestland on their property.

OTHER LAND PROTECTION OPTIONS

LAND TRUSTS & CONSERVANCIES

Land trusts are private non-profit organizations that acquire and protect special open spaces and are traditionally not associated with any government agency. The Columbia Land Trust is the regional land trust serving the greater Clark County area. Other national organizations with local representation include the Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Land, and the Wetlands Conservancy.

REGULATORY MEASURES

A variety of regulatory measures are available to local agencies and jurisdictions. Available programs and regulations include: Critical Areas Ordinance; State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA); Shorelines Management Program; and Hydraulic Code, Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife.

PUBLIC/PRIVATE UTILITY CORRIDORS

Utility corridors can be managed to maximize protection or enhancement of open space lands. Utilities maintain corridors for provision of services such as electricity, gas, oil, and rail travel. Some utility companies have cooperated with local governments for development of public programs such as parks and trails within utility corridors.

The background image shows a skatepark with a large concrete ramp. A person is riding a bicycle on the ramp, and three other people are on skateboards nearby. The scene is set outdoors with trees in the background.

APPENDIX J

ACQUISITION & DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES



ACQUISITION GUIDELINES

Planning and land acquisition for future parks is a recognized component in land use and urban growth management, since the provision of parks and open space is considered essential to the livability of urban areas. For the recreation resource planner, the land acquisition process is an important task for ensuring the availability of future recreation resources for the majority of the community. The established planning goals for a community's comprehensive plan recognize the development of parks and retention of open space with conservation values as a tool for managing the effects of increased density and fostering livability.

DISTRIBUTION EQUITY (LOCATION/GAPS)

Equitable distribution of public park facilities is a community goal (articulated in this Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan). GIS mapping and analysis documented and tracked the existing public park inventory and areas where public parks are lacking in search for park land acquisition targets. Park acquisition should be prioritized in underserved areas (e.g., where households are more than 1/2-mile from a developed neighborhood park).

SITE SUITABILITY FOR DEVELOPED/ACTIVE PARKS

While existing, urban area community and neighborhood parks range from 0.5 to 100 acres in size, some basic location and land characteristics influence how accessible, “developable” and convenient a potential site might be for a future, public urban park. Evaluating a potential land parcel should include consideration of the following property features:

- **Access and visibility to the property.** An adequate amount of public right-of-way is needed to allow for creating bike/pedestrian pathways, at a minimum, and either on-street parking or a parking lot for park visitors who must drive a vehicle.
- **Existing publicly owned lands, easements and right-of-way.** Are there existing lands under public ownership that could be converted to public park use? What other public amenities are proximate and complementary to a future park development (e.g., schools, police stations, etc.)?
- **Connectivity to trails, schools, parks, neighborhoods and connectivity of the trail links.** Connections to and from related land uses can add value to a potential park location.
- **Environmental constraints, field assessment (does not include Environmental Assessment level detail), regulatory and permitting requirements and GIS data for critical areas.** Sensitive environmental lands should be protected, but often they are not the best sites for development of recreational amenities for public parks. Protected and conserved lands can provide complementary value to public parks, while the public park land can create a buffer for the conserved land.
- **Topography.** Existing landforms, whether flat or hilly, will influence the park's design and best fit for provision of recreational facilities.
- **Land use and development constraints.** Technical analysis of park standards and development costs should be evaluated to help provide realistic site development costs. For example, existing road improvements within the public right-of-way (ROW) or lack of public water and sewer may trigger additional park development costs.

Within identified neighborhoods that may lack or have limited access to public parks, potential properties should be evaluated for suitable site conditions for the development of future recreational amenities and/or access to natural resources and water.

Neighborhood/Community Park Site Suitability Criteria:

- Access / visibility
- Parcel size / configuration
- Contiguous public land / connectivity
- Extent of sensitive areas
- Cost factors (acquisition, development & maintenance.)
- Compatibility with surrounding uses
- Vacant land preference

Trail Site Suitability Criteria:

- Development feasibility
- Continuity / connectivity (“safe routes”)
- Natural, cultural, historic value
- Public ROW access
- Land costs / value

Natural Areas Site Suitability Criteria:

- Ecological, cultural, historic value
- Continuity / connectivity
- Public right of way access
- Development pressure (threat of conversion)
- Acquisition costs, donations, grants, third-party support (i.e., land trusts), etc.

SITE-SPECIFIC CONCERNS

Once a targeted park land acquisition has been identified and evaluated with consideration to its potential suitability as a future public park, more specific assessments should be conducted to ensure a measure of known development variables for future park use.

- A boundary survey and review of the title is important to identify any existing encroachments, encumbrances or entitlements that need to be addressed or corrected prior to closing.
- Environmental constraints, such as wetlands, waterways, other sensitive habitats and any associated buffers, should be identified to determine their impact on developable park spaces.
- An environmental site assessment should be conducted to identify environmental conditions that could have resulted from a past release of hazardous substances and determine any potential mitigation requirements to protect public health. Additionally, environmental law typically leaves the burden of responsibility on the property owner, so conducting an environmental site assessment is important to protect the County’s liability.
- An archeological assessment to review potential cultural resources may also help bring to light future park development costs and variables.
- Any underground tanks, wells, septic systems and existing structures should be evaluated for the need to remove, decommission, or demolish after closing of land sale.



DESIGN STANDARDS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT

Considering a current use of a property is typically not sufficient for evaluating potential environmental concerns. For example, a vacant lot may previously have been used for agricultural purposes and may contain pesticide residues in the soil, or a current retail building formerly may have housed an auto repair business with underground tanks. Additionally, properties that are considered low-risk, such as a residence, could have a leaking underground heating oil tank or other concerns. Therefore, conducting an environmental site assessment is an important step in purchasing and managing property.

Prior to purchasing or accepting ownership of a property, the County should conduct an environmental site assessment to determine if contaminated soil, sediment or groundwater could be present. This process typically begins with a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) per ASTM E1527-13 to identify environmental conditions or other business risk issues that could impact site development, pose a liability to the County, or present a risk to human health or the environment. Depending on the results of the Phase I ESA, a subsequent Phase II ESA may be warranted to sample and test soil, sediment or groundwater for the presence of contamination.

For property currently owned by the County, conducting an ESA prior to redevelopment can help to identify issues that could affect building design or result in construction delays.

For property that will be leased by the County, conducting a baseline environmental assessment may be warranted to establish initial conditions prior to the County occupying the site.

PRESERVING FUNDING ELIGIBILITY

Public outdoor park and recreation areas and facilities are eligible for funding assistance through the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO). Land acquisition projects must be consistent with the outdoor recreation goals and objectives contained in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) or the recreation elements of local comprehensive plans and local master plans. Acquisition of land and waters for public outdoor recreation areas and facilities, including new areas or additions to existing parks, forests, wildlife areas, open spaces and other similar areas dedicated to outdoor recreation may be eligible for assistance through the RCO. To be eligible in the grant programs, the acquisition procedures set forth by the RCO should be closely followed. The grant funding program requires a percent match based on the population size of the eligible jurisdiction.

DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES

With planned park upgrades and the potential for development of park acquisitions, Clark County would benefit from park design and facility standards that help unify the system's amenities, operations and maintenance going into the future. Standards can begin with the adoption of typical bench details and expand to incorporate graphic sign styles, materials, colors and specific site furnishings. With the desire for Clark County to create a unifying identity and enhance park maintenance efficiencies, guidelines for park standards should be planned, endorsed and implemented.

Also, there may be opportunities to partner with residential development projects for providing new parks to

be dedicated to the County upon completion. The establishment of park design and development standards with predetermined requirements for consistency and quality of site amenities would ensure that new parks could readily fit within on-going park operations and maintenance.

All newly developed parks and trails shall adhere to the Final Guidelines for Outdoor Developed Areas as set forth by the United States Access Board.

DESIGN STANDARDS FOR PARKS

Public park space should be clearly identifiable and provide a safe and secure environment for outdoor recreation and enjoyment. To help communicate the identity, amenities and uses within the park, some unified design standards should be applied. These standards are intended to help with public access, communication of safety and appropriate behaviors, and efficiency in operations and maintenance without creating a park system of identical “cloned” urban parks. Standardizing the designs for park signage, benches, picnic tables, drinking fountains, lighting, bollards, irrigation systems and fencing can allow for easier and less expensive procurement, installation, maintenance and replacement. The visual character of unified park amenities can quickly convey to the park visitor that the space is part of an overall system of public spaces where they are welcome.

While sharing standard site furnishings and signage styles helps unify the system identity, each individual park should have its own unique character. The shape and size of the land, the layout of circulation and location of key features, the styles, types and colors of play equipment, the architecture of restrooms, picnic and other park structures should be specific to that park. Even though each park contains some standardized site furnishings, each park site master plan design should strive to create a sense of place that highlights the character of that park in its local context and for its primary purpose (such as passive park with natural area or active sports-oriented facility).

The following tables highlight the range and considerations of various amenities that may be provided within urban parks (community and neighborhood parks) and can provide guidance for negotiating facility development opportunities in situations when private entities propose park development in-lieu of payment or for other, alternative arrangements, such as density bonuses.

Amenity	Considerations - where feasible
Playground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum 2,000 sq.ft. play area Play equipment should be age-specific targeting pre-school and elementary school children Playground should be ADA-compliant
Paved Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ADA compliant surfacing for barrier-free access
Picnic Tables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use standard ADA compliant picnic table style
Drinking Fountain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide ADA-compliant standard fixture
Benches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use standard ADA compliant bench style
Grass Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open play space with sun exposure; 800-1,000 sq.ft. minimum size; irrigated
Trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide shade for portion of playground area Provide tree canopy for >40% of park space
Bicycle Racks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accommodate 2-bike minimum
Trash Receptacles & Dog Waste Disposal Stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum of 1 located at entry

Figure J1. Minimum Site Design Considerations for Mini Parks



Amenity	Considerations - where feasible
Playground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum of 4,000 sq.ft. play area Equipment should be suitable for and developmentally-appropriate for toddlers and elementary school-aged children Playground should be ADA Accessible and play equipment should be ADA Compliant
Loop Walking Path	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum 8' wide ADA-compliant surface to accessible elements (benches, tables, play area) Pathway slope not to exceed 5% grade or no more than 8% for more than 30 lineal feet without switchbacks or railings
Picnic Tables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum of 2, Use standard ADA compliant picnic table style
Drinking Fountain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide ADA-compliant standard fixture
Benches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum of 2, Use standard ADA compliant bench style
Open Turf Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide at least 15% of total lawn area with irrigation, preferably adjacent to the play area
Trees & Landscaping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide shade for portion of playground area New trees and shrubs should be irrigated for a minimum of 2 years until established
Bicycle Racks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum of 2, with capacity to serve 4 bikes
Trash Receptacles & Dog Waste Disposal Stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum of 1

Figure J2. Minimum Site Design Considerations for Neighborhood Parks

For community parks, any or all of the following outdoor recreation features should be considered in addition to the same amenities provided in neighborhood parks.

Amenity	Considerations - where feasible
Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on types of amenities and their parking quantity requirements Include requisite number of handicapped parking stalls at appropriate locations Consider need for parking provision at multiple access points, where appropriate
Loop Walking Path	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a perimeter trail in addition to pathways accessing all major park amenities
Multiple Access Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide connectivity to neighborhoods and public rights-of-way
Restrooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide ADA-compliant standardized design facilities
Picnic Shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide minimum of 1 group picnic shelter
Sports fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type and quantity dependent on available space and current public demand for each sport facility
Sports courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type and quantity dependent on available space and current public demand for each sport facility
Tree Canopy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Target a 25-45% tree canopy dependent on other park amenities and feasibility
Open Grass Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open play area with sun exposure Minimum target of 1 acre
Natural Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on existing and restored environmental characteristics
Off-leash Dog Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum target of 1 acre Fenced enclosure with double-gate access Provide doggy waste dispenser and trash receptacle at entrance

Figure J3. Minimum Site Design Considerations for Community Parks

Amenity	Considerations
Picnic Shelter	▪ Minimum of 400 sq.ft.
Sport field	▪ Practice level for youth soccer, T-ball, baseball and/or softball
Sport court	▪ ½ court basketball court
Tennis court	
Alternative recreation court	▪ Such as bocce ball, pickleball, horseshoes, lawn bowling
Skate spot	▪ 600 to 1,200 sq.ft. with small ramps, bowls or features for beginners
Disc golf course	▪ Minimum 9 baskets
Sprayground	
Natural area	
Water feature	▪ Such as a passive water-based amenity that provides a visual focal point, i.e. fountains, ponds, or waterfalls
Restroom	
Drinking fountain	
Utilities	▪ Automatic Irrigation, Electricity, Water
Parking	

Figure J4. Design Considerations for Other Park Amenities

DESIGN STANDARDS FOR OPEN SPACE & NATURAL AREAS

Open space and natural areas are primarily intended to conserve places with ecological sensitivity or natural landscape value. Most natural areas have some space where low-impact recreational uses and trails can be accommodated without reducing the environmental integrity of the land or water resource. Since the open space can range from wetlands and riparian corridors to fields and forests, design standards are not applied uniformly across the site. Each natural landscape is treated according to its level of sensitivity, need for conservation/restoration and tolerance for outdoor recreational use. However, where passive recreation opportunities such as trails can be provided, the standardized designs for park benches, picnic tables, signs and other site amenities should be applied.

DESIGN STANDARDS FOR SPECIAL USE FACILITIES

Consideration should be given in the design and renovation of any special use facility as to how and how much the site and its amenities should be identifiable within the park system through the application of standardized park signage and site furnishings. For example, a sport field complex could accommodate some of the standardized park benches, picnic tables and signage, but it would also require its own specialized features, such as bleachers, backstops, field lighting, score boards and other equipment, that are unique to the facility. Each master plan design for new facilities should give careful consideration as to how a unique sense of place and identity is conveyed while still communicating that the facility is part of a system of outdoor recreation accommodation provided by Clark County.

DESIGN STANDARDS FOR TRAILS

A successful trail system is integrated with other transportation alternatives to include a range of trail, sidewalk, bike path and connection opportunities designed to the human scale. The typical recreational trail hierarchy is aligned from regional shared-use trails to local neighborhood paths and park trails. Trail systems can also incorporate specially designated trails for single track mountain biking, primitive hiking and equestrian uses.



Designing the actual physical trail starts with overall purpose of the trail, connecting travelers from one location to another (point A to point B) or through a particular environment (loop trail through a park). With a clear purpose for the trail, an appropriate alignment can then be determined to help provide the desired outdoor recreation experience or transportation value. For example, regional multi-use shared trails should be designed to a minimum width of 10 feet. In expanding urban centers, providing a 16-foot trail width can help accommodate significant bike and pedestrian use as the community grows and linkages to public transit enable increased trail usage. The most heavily used urban trails benefit from the installation of permanent pavement to withstand heavy traffic in a variety of weather conditions.

It should be noted that changes in transportation engineering and trail construction methods may warrant the need to update any trail design standards over time. Trail widths and surfacing types will vary across the trail hierarchy. Site furnishings along the trail are one method for standardizing trails as part of the outdoor recreation system provided by Clark County. The same benches, picnic tables, bollards and other site furnishings used throughout Clark County's park system could be installed along its trails to help unify the sense of place, reduce procurement costs and simplify maintenance.

The unifying standard for Clark County's trail system can be visually expressed through a designed wayfinding plan. Linked with the graphic character of the park system wayfinding, the trail signage should provide identification, direction, destination, travel information and safety messaging, while clearly reinforcing Clark County's sense of place.

Trails should be constructed according to County specifications. It is recommended that trail layout and surfacing materials be approved by the County and meet the following general requirements:

- Trail width should be a minimum of 8 feet wide
- Surfacing should be appropriate to the location; paved asphalt or concrete is recommended for upland areas, and wood chip, crusher waste or boardwalks are appropriate in lowland, wet or sensitive areas (County codes shall apply)
- Hard-surfaced trails should comply with ADAAG guidelines for slope and cross-slope; soft-surfaced trails should include properly placed and designed water bars or other surface water management techniques to minimize run-off and erosion.
- Entry signage should be provided at trailheads or access points, and boundary signage should be placed, as appropriate, to demarcate sensitive edges or private property boundaries.
- Trash receptacles should be provided at trailheads.

CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (CPTED)

The inventory assessment highlighted an opportunity to consider incorporating crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) principles to enhance park and trail safety and facilitate the monitoring of park uses and behaviors. CPTED applies four principles that are used to deter criminal behavior in outdoor environments:

- Natural surveillance
- Natural access control
- Territorial reinforcement
- Maintenance

CPTED natural surveillance (“see and be seen”) asserts that sight lines for better visibility can deter undesirable behavior and increase the perceptions of safety and comfort by park patrons. Lowering understory vegetation or raising lower tree branches through intentional vegetation management can provide more clear lines of sight in and around trails and other areas of use. Providing clear visibility and reducing blind corners can also improve safety by limiting conflicts between different users (e.g. runners, cyclists, dog walkers), where unanticipated encounters may result in crashes or entanglements.

Natural access control in park design is often very subtle. Controlling where vehicles enter and exit park facilities through designed barriers, bollards, boulders, and post and cable fencing can protect park users and minimize park property damage from misguided vehicular traffic. Walkways, lighting, fencing and landscaping provide explicit direction for park users. The flow of users through a park will help decrease the opportunity for crime and improve clarity for the intended park behaviors.

Territorial reinforcement comes through clear demarcation of boundaries. For public parks, those boundaries between public and private lands, safe and unsafe areas, and special use, limited access or reserved sites can be delineated with the appropriate placement of fencing, signs, landscaping or other physical or visual design techniques.

Finally, clearly visible, high-quality maintenance is an important element of CPTED, as well as general public safety. CPTED recognizes the “broken window” theory where neglected and poorly maintained amenities are more attractive targets for vandalism or other criminal activity. Deferred maintenance can also result in park amenities that put users at risk. Broken pavement, worn decking, uneven playing fields and missing play safety surfacing can create injuries. Overall attention to CPTED principles can help ensure safer public park environments.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Consultant’s Guide to Park Design and Development; Park and Recreation Department, County of San Diego, CA

<https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/consultantsguide2019.pdf>

2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design

<https://www.ada.gov/regs2010/2010ADASTandards/2010ADASTandards.pdf>

Handbook for Public Playground Safety - National Product Safety Commission

<https://www.cpsc.gov/s3fs-public/325.pdf>



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APPENDIX K

OFF-LEASH AREA GUIDELINES & PRACTICES



DOG PARK DESIGN

Adequate Space

Dogs need room to roam. Avoid small spaces and narrow entries where crowding can trigger reactions. A double-entry vestibule area where leashes can be removed on entry or reattached when exiting avoid mixing dogs that are leashed and unleashed. One acre or more of fenced-in area should be considered for the off-leash dog park. Fences should have minimum 4-foot height. Many fenced-in areas benefit from having two entries on either end of the dog park area.

Smaller Space Option

Some dogs, particularly smaller or shy dogs, benefit from fenced-off segregated areas where they can avoid contact with the larger breed or more enthusiastic dogs. Small, shy or older dogs can feel less pressured in these smaller areas. These spaces can also be used for obedience classes.

Challenges & Play Features

A variety of surfaces and objects that allow for slopes, tunnels, high spots, trees, logs and boulders provide stimulus and play opportunities for dogs to explore. If the dogs enjoy the experience, their owners will appreciate it as well.

Water, water, water

Water for drinking is a key necessity. Drinking fountains with dog bowl features can provide for the comfort of both dog and dog owner. Access to streams, riverfronts, lakefronts or swimmable pools provide great exercise for the dogs who love water or need to cool off in the hot summer months.

Plants in the Landscape

Trees are a necessity for shade and add aesthetic value to the dog park. Clumps of trees or sections of forest allow for more dogs and owners to find shade without crowding under solitary trees. Openings in sunny spaces provide better conditions for open grass surfaces to running and fetching activities. Natural grass areas will suffer wear and tear if located immediately next to gated entries. It's best to have the pathways extend to capture that entry/exit location to provide an all-weather surface. The dog park confinement areas should be inspected prior to use to eliminate any toxic plants.

Human Elements

Dog owners also need to enjoy the dog park to reinforce satisfaction with visitation. Shade, seating and walking paths should all be accessible. Parking near the double entry gates is ideal. All access should be ADA-compliant. Signage and a message board can be essential for encouraging good behavior (by dog owners), guiding proper dog waste disposal, recruiting volunteers or needed funding support for maintenance and improvements and sharing dog-related resource information. Providing dog waste bag dispensers and trash receptacles is essential to promote clean-ups and maintain a reasonably clean landscape.

COMMON DOG PARK RULES

From PAWS website:

<https://www.paws.org/resources/off-leash-areas-for-dogs/>

General Rules

- Consideration of park rules will make the experience enjoyable for all. Dog park etiquette comes down to one basic idea: always be considerate of others.
- Supervise your dog's play. Be attentive and proactive.
- Dogs must be in view at all times, and should not be left unattended. If your dog becomes aggressive or disruptive, remove him from the area.
- Always scoop your dog's poop immediately. Help with "stray poop" and keeping the area clean of other litter, as well.
- Have a leash in hand at all times. Leash your dog while outside the designated off-leash area.
- If an area is designated for smaller dogs, please honor size restrictions.
- You are liable for any damage your dog may cause. For a first time visit, consider visiting the park without your dog to become familiar with the area and rules.

When to avoid an off-leash area

- If your dog is overly reactive or defensive to unfamiliar dogs or people, easily over-stimulated, unresponsive to commands, fearful or timid.
- If your dog is in heat.
- If your dog is ill or has parasites.
- If your puppy is under four months old or has not received all of her vaccinations. Young puppies are vulnerable to trauma from other overbearing dogs, and are susceptible to diseases.

Appropriate dog behavior

- Your dog should have manners when meeting people.
- Dogs should know basic commands such as "come," "sit," and "leave it." Guardians should be able to get immediate control over their dog if necessary.



Appropriate human behavior

- Get your dog spayed or neutered. He or she will be calmer and more interested in play, rather than exhibiting unwanted behaviors.
- Observe park culture, practices and all posted park rules.
- If you are unsure how your dog will react to crowded conditions, return at a less crowded time.
- Limit use of toys or food treats to avoid dog-to-dog conflict.
- Apologize and be willing to leave if your dog has acted inappropriately, is getting overstimulated, or is not having a good time, or if other dogs are out of control.
- Safety should always come first.
- Remember that not all dogs enjoy playing with every other dog. Be aware that dogs have different play styles.
- Avoid disciplining another person's dog even if you must break up a fight. If necessary, leave the park with your dog.
- Keep in mind that dog parks may not be the best place for children. Not all dogs are child friendly and kids may get hurt with dogs' exuberant play.
- Eliminate potential conflicts by not entering the gate area when someone else is there and quickly moving away from the entrance and the fence once you have entered. Some dogs feel threatened when leashed in the presence of unleashed dogs.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Dog Parks 101. 2019. Trust for Public Lands

https://www.tpl.org/sites/default/files/Dog%20Parks%20best%20practices%202019_R3.pdf

Evolving Dog-Park Design Standards. 2006. Parks & Rec Business magazine

<https://www.parksandrecbusiness.com/articles/2006/09/24/evolving-dog-park-design-standards-2>

Recommendations and Guidelines for Dog Park Site Selection, Design, Operations and Maintenance. 2013-2014. Parks & Recreation, City of Ann Arbor, MI

<https://www.a2gov.org/departments/Parks-Recreation/play/Documents/Recommendations%20and%20Guidelines%20for%20Dog%20Park%20Site%20Selection%20updated%204-10-15.pdf>

Establishing a Dog park in Your Community. American Kennel Club

<https://images.akc.org/pdf/GLEG01.pdf>

Want a Dog Park? Here's How To Plan And Design It. Parks & Rec Business magazine.

<https://www.parksandrecbusiness.com/articles/2017/6/want-a-dog-park-heres-how-to-plan-and-design-it>

The Anatomy of a Great Dog Park. John Metcalf, 2017 CITYLAB, Bloomberg.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-04-14/how-to-design-an-excellent-dog-park>

Guidelines for Establishment and Maintenance of Successful Off-Leash Dog Exercise Areas. School of Veterinary Medicine, Davis, CA

<https://thestantonfoundation.org/assets/canine/Dog-Park-Resources/UC-Davis-Study-Dog-Park-Maintenance.pdf>

Dog park rankings for the 100 largest U. S. cities. City Park Facts, 2018. Trust for Public Lands

https://cloud-tpl.s3.amazonaws.com/images/landing-pages/ccpf/2018/City%20Park%20Facts_Dog%20Parks%202018.pdf

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COUNCIL ADOPTION AND ADOPTION PUBLIC COMMENT



CLARK COUNTY STAFF REPORT

DEPARTMENT: Public Works, Parks and Lands Division

DATE: April 19, 2022

REQUESTED ACTION: Approve a resolution adopting the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan, Natural Areas Acquisition Plan and Parks Capital Plan.

____ Consent X Hearing ____ County Manager

BACKGROUND

The Growth Management Act per RCW 35.70A(8), requires jurisdictions to have a six-year capital facilities plan, and a 20-year capital facilities estimate as part of their comprehensive growth management plan. The Parks Capital Plan is the foundation for the updating of the County Comprehensive Plan in 2025.

The Natural Acquisition Plan provides direction and guidance for acquiring natural areas with Conservation Futures funding. The Natural Areas Acquisition Plan was last updated in 2014. A prioritized list of potential projects is included in the plan.

RCW 79A.25.120 requires that jurisdictions seeking funds from the state Recreation and Conservation Funding Board must submit a long-range plan for acquiring and developing outdoor recreation facilities within its authority. An update of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan, or PROS plan, is required every six years to maintain eligibility for grants administered by the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office, or RCO. RCO is a major source of grant funding for Clark County's parks and trails. The last PROS plan was adopted by Clark County Council on September 22, 2015. The PROS Plan provides direction for the future priorities of the Clark County Park system.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Once updated, these plans will be the guiding documents for subsequent park, trail, capital improvements and recreation actions. Actions may include acquisition, development, maintenance, and improvements.

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Once updated, these plans will be the guiding documents for administering the parks of Clark County.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

A total of thirty-two (32) meetings with representative of the public and various recreation groups have been held through the planning process including the Parks Advisory Board, Planning Commission, and County Council among others. Two public surveys were conducted and had over 3,700 combined participants. Clark County Parks and Lands Division has also provided information through the county website, and various social media platforms.

PW22-078

REVIEWED: ↑↑

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

YES	NO	
X		Action falls within existing budget capacity.
	X	Action falls within existing budget capacity but requires a change of purpose within existing appropriation
	X	Additional budget capacity is necessary and will be requested at the next supplemental. If YES, please complete the budget impact statement. If YES, this action will be referred to the county council with a recommendation from the county manager.

BUDGET DETAILS

Local Fund Dollar Amount	N/A
Grant Fund Dollar Amount	N/A
Account	N/A
Company Name	N/A

DISTRIBUTION:

Council staff will post all staff reports to the web. <https://www.clark.wa.gov/council-meetings>

ATTACHMENTS: (1) Resolution; (2) Parks Capital Plan; (3) PROS Plan Presentation

Kevin Tyler

Kevin Tyler (for Rocky Houston)
Parks and Lands Division Manager

Chad Dragon

Chad Dragon, CPA
Financial Program Manager

Eva Haney

Eva Haney, CGFM
Interim Public Works Director

Primary Staff: Rocky Houston, Ext. 1676

APPROVED: *Karen Dill*
CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON
CLARK COUNTY COUNCIL

DATE: *April 19, 2022*

SR# *—*



PW22-078

REVIEWED: *tt*

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-04-10

A resolution to adopt the Clark County Parks Recreation and Opens Space Plan 2022-2027 (PROS), the Natural Areas Acquisition Plan 2022-2027 (NAAP), and the Parks Capital Plan 2022-2027 (PCP).

WHEREAS, the Clark County Council (Council) is the legislative authority of Clark County; and

WHEREAS, in 2014 the Council created the Clark County Parks and Lands Division, a division of the Clark County Department of Public Works, and separately created the Clark County Parks Advisory Board (PAB); and

WHEREAS, the PAB is comprised of various community representatives whose responsibility it is to make policy recommendations to the Parks and Lands Division and the Council; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Lands Division held 32 public meetings between September 2019 and December 2021 to solicit public input on the PROS Plan in lieu of open houses due to COVID-19 restrictions; and

WHEREAS, on December 14, 2021, the PAB reviewed the proposed PROS Plan, the NAAP, and the PCP, and approved them by unanimous recommendation to send them forwarded to Council for adoption; and

WHEREAS, RCW 36.70A.070(8) requires Clark County to include a PROS as a part of the County's comprehensive growth management plan; and

WHEREAS, the PROS Plan has the following statutorily-required elements: (1) an estimate of park and recreation demands for at least a ten-year period; (2) an evaluation of facilities and service needs; and (3) an evaluation of intergovernmental coordination opportunities that provide regional approaches for meeting park and recreational demands; and

WHEREAS, the proposed PROS Plan will serve as a 6-year guiding document for the development of parks, recreation facilities, and trails in unincorporated Clark County; and

WHEREAS, Council held a work session regarding the NAAP on January 5, 2022 and a work session regarding the PROS Plan and the PCP on February 22, 2022; and

WHEREAS, RCW 43.21C.030(c) requires a State Environmental Protection Act (SEPA) determination of non-significance (DNS); and

WHEREAS, Clark County prepared and published a SEPA DNS regarding the PROS Plan on September 30, 2021 per state Growth Management Act requirements and Clark County did not receive any comments from the public and/or government agencies on the SEPA; and

WHEREAS, RCW 35.63 authorizes the Planning Commission to advise Council on matters related to physical development of land in the unincorporated county, review and make recommendations to Council on all policy documents with land use and/or Clark County Comprehensive Growth Management Plan implications; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission held a duly advertised work session regarding the PROS Plan on October 7, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission held a duly advertised hearing regarding the PROS Plan on October 21, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission voted 7-0 in favor of the PROS Plan, recommending the same be adopted by the Council; and

WHEREAS, the State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office requires local jurisdictions to have an adopted PROS Plan to qualify for grant funding; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Lands Division has secured an exception from the State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office for eligibility to apply for grants in 2022 if this plan is adopted after their March 1, 2022 deadline; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Lands Division intends to apply for grants from the State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office; and

WHEREAS, the Council held a duly advertised hearing on April 19, 2022 to consider the adoption of the PROS Plan, NAAP, and the PCP; and

WHEREAS, adoption of this resolution, as proposed, will further the public health, safety, and welfare of Clark County residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. Findings. Council finds that the Clark County PROS Plan, the NAAP, and the PCP are consistent with the goals and policies of the Clark County Comprehensive Plan and in accord with the Growth Management Act.

Section 2. Amendatory. Council adopts the Clark County PROS Plan, the NAAP, and the PCP. Council directs that the Clark County PROS Plan to be incorporated into the 2025 Clark County Comprehensive Growth Management Plan Update, as an element required under RCW 36.70A.070 (8).

Section 3. Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Section 4. Instruction to Clerk.

The Clerk to Council shall:

1. Record a copy of this resolution with the Clark County Auditor.
2. Transmit a copy of this resolution to the state of Washington Department of Commerce within ten days of its adoption pursuant to RCW 36.70A.106.
3. Cause notice of adoption of this resolution to be published forthwith pursuant to RCW 36.70A.290(2)(b).

ADOPTED this 19 day of April, 2022.

COUNTY COUNCIL
CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Attest:


Clerk to the Council

By: 
Karen Dill Bowerman, Chair

Approved as to form only:
ANTHONY F. GOLIK
Prosecuting Attorney

By: _____
Temple Lentz, Councilor


William Richardson
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

By: _____
Julie Olson, Councilor

By: _____
Gary Medvigy, Councilor

By: _____



Sue Marshall
Baurs Corner Farm LLC
4316 NW 169th Street
Ridgefield, WA 98642

Clark County Council
Clark County Public Service Center
1300 Franklin St
Vancouver, WA 98660

April 19, 2022

Re: Support Draft Clark County PROS Plan 2022-2027

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing in support of the PROS Plan 2022-2027 and specifically the **Salmon/Whipple Creeks Farm Preservation Project** as part of the Natural Areas Acquisition component of the Plan. This area was identified in response to the *Agriculture Preservation Strategies Report's* (2008 attached) recommendation to develop a conservation easement* opportunity for farmers as part of a comprehensive list of tools that were advanced to support local agriculture in Clark County - for the long term.

As you know, there has been a steady loss of farmland in Clark County and with continued development pressure coupled with an aging farmer demographic - local farmland is at high risk of conversion in the next ten year. As with most threats, there is also an opportunity to more proactively protect farmland in Clark County.

Initial outreach about conservation easements to farmers in the Whipple Creek area has generated interest among several area farmers. Having spent decades working the land, the desire to see ones efforts protected for future generations is strong.

My family and I live in the Sara area of Whipple Creek (about 2 miles west of the fairgrounds). We are a 4th generation family farm and recently planted a 27 acre hazelnut orchard, adding to couple acres of 60 year old fruit trees, a vegetable garden and cut flowers. It is a long term investment and for us to be successful in the long term, it is important to be part of a larger farming community. Right now, we are in an active farming area with fields of berries, apples, pears, peaches, cattle, grass seed and now hazelnuts. We worry about encroaching development and land subdivisions that often lead to conflicts with active farming. This encroachment makes it more difficult to farm successfully.

Clark County soils are considered part of the Willamette Valley soil profile, some of the best soils in the world for growing crops - laid down in geologic time; it is an irreplaceable natural resource. My father-in-law was a soil scientist and he bought the farm for its soil - Hillsboro silt loam. We were especially grateful for his decision this past summer of extreme heat as one of the important characteristics of Hillsboro silt loam is its ability to retain water. Our 3-year old hazelnut trees all survived the heat without irrigation. We



Clark County PROS Plan 2022

don't have a water right and soil like ours will be increasingly important in adapting to more extreme weather conditions.

All of this is to say, our local agricultural land is a precious natural resource with a high productivity rating and a potential that is not adequately protected. I know several area farmers who are interested in exploring conservation easements. They, like us, want to protect local agriculture in Clark County well into the future.

As I also serve on the Clark Conservation District, I am well aware of the positive environmental role that farming can play - in sequestering carbon, providing wildlife habitat, filtering storm water, retaining floodwaters and a suite of ecosystem services.

It is my hope that in preparing for the update of the Comprehensive Plan, more attention can be given to proactive strategies to protect agricultural lands and support local farming. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan 2022-2027.

Sincerely,

Sue Marshall, Co-owner
Bours Corner Farm LLC

*Conservation easements for agricultural land allow a land trust to pay landowners for the appraised development value of their land, minus the farm land value in order to preserve the land for farming in perpetuity. This provides farmers with needed funds to invest in their farm operation, retire, or offer their farm for sale at an affordable agricultural rate enabling new farmers access to farm land.



Friends of Clark County

PLANTING THE SEEDS OF RESPONSIBLE GROWTH

Monday, February 21, 2022

TO: Chair Bowerman, Councilor Quiring O'Brien, Councilor Lentz, Councilor Olson, Councilor Medvigy, County Executive Otto, Public Works Interim Director Haney, Parks, Recreation and Open Space Division Manager Houston

RE: Comments regarding the Draft PROS Plan, 2022

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, the Friends of Clark County (FOCC), are generally complimentary of the Clark County Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan, 2022. The plan is well thought out. We agree with the Vision and Mission goals. The plan seems to follow, and is built, on other previous iterations with some changes. We commend the County for its efforts to engage the public through the comprehensive community survey to determine what is needed and we agree with the conclusions.

Following are points that we feel remain significant issues:

- Most importantly, we must point out a critical piece in land management in the State of Washington: the Buildable Lands Report (BLR), which summarizes the evaluation of potential land development and the needs for growth management in the County. The Buildable Lands Model must act as the funnel through which open space is maintained for parks, trails, farms, wildlife in balance with accommodation for residential development in the urban growth areas that will accommodate population growth. FOCC disagrees with the model provided by the BIA. We support the model designed by the Consultant and approved by the appointed group, in 2021.

The 2015 report covers the years from 2006 to 2015. The BLR is based on actual development densities observed since 2006. Based on the 2015 vacant and buildable lands model (VBLM), there are 7,513 net buildable acres that could accommodate 136,820 persons.

- The urban growth estimate is 118,114 persons with the 2015 Clark County population estimate at 448,845 (now estimated to be 540,000).
- The BLR concludes the capacity is present to accommodate the anticipated urban growth population estimate. (This can be found on page 145 of the PROS Plan).



- Therefore, we are in line with previous BLR reports. It is working well.

If the County Council approves and submits a Buildable Lands Model based upon incorrect, flawed numbers from questionable sources, we can all assume that plans for and the management of land, including parks, recreational spaces and open spaces, will be flawed - with long lasting, negative impacts.

- Secondly, in the section titled “Inventory”, **Forest Stewardship Planning**, page 19, does not adequately explain what this means. The description leads us to believe it is managing forests and encouraging their sustainability. Sounds like it will preserve trees, but “It is anticipated that by conducting past-due thinning and moving towards actively managing forests, the forests can provide positive revenue back to the County to help support property management. Therefore, timber revenue generated could also be used to provide essential services to the public.” In fact, the paragraph continues with “The primary financial goal of the Forest Stewardship Plan is to develop enough revenue to cover all management costs.” It would appear that the goal of “sustainability” might be harvesting rather than sustaining timber. We need further detailed explanation of “Stewardship”. It should not be selling timber.
- Thirdly, in the section titled “Goals and Objectives”, we note on page 60 of the draft that **Goal 1** is Partnerships. Nowhere under partnerships, nor anywhere else in these recommendations is there mention of conservation of agricultural assets in Clark County. The Clark Conservation District would be a valuable partner as would the Washington Farmland Trust – and the list of potential partners in this category is significant. As a community we must meet the challenges of being far-sighted to accommodate future growth, but also to remain good stewards of what we have and, in particular, what we have that will feed future generations.

Partnerships are critical to the conservation of the County’s agricultural assets, open spaces, as its parklands. We need these partnerships to conserve the County’s agricultural assets, open spaces, as well as parkland.

In “Goals and Objectives”, **Goal 4: Trails....** It is important to point directly to Appendix C, page 8 of the Draft which refers to Major Findings from the [Community Engagement] Survey. The 4th bullet under that paragraph notes that 97% and 98% of the respondents to the survey would like to see improvements made for trails and for natural areas, respectively. Then again under Major Findings from Survey, “providing recreational trails was noted as the highest priority, with 42% saying it should be the highest priority and 90% saying it is one of the top three priorities.”

- The 2022 plan states, “The 2006 Regional Trail and Bikeway Systems Plan encompassed 16 regional trails”, pg. 20 & 50 and identifies the Chelatchie Prairie Rail-with-trail, East Fork Lewis Greenway, Battle Ground/Fishers Landing, Washougal River Corridor, Whipple Creek Greenway, and Camp Bonneville trails. We'd like to question what became of those? All these trails were

considered important in 2006, they still are. **This raises the question of why some, the Chelatchie Prairie Rail-with-trail in particular, fell off the list. We support building them all!**

- Postponement of trail alignment acquisition was delayed because of the economic recession of 2011. That was a decade ago and few trails were added. What are we waiting for?
- It is obvious that the public engagement efforts showed a strong priority on building and maintaining trails. **It is therefore imperative that this County start acquiring trail parcels now, prior to the next recession, and making those projects the priority that the community has supported.**
- It's worth adding here that up zoning (20 acre to 4 - 5 acre lots) proposals along the East Fork Lewis River are appearing before the Planning and County Councils. In its consideration of these proposals, the Planning Commission and County Council need to include the critical impact these decisions, with their additional lots and limited access have on the completion of the East Fork Greenway. making more difficult with additional lots and no trespassing in question.

Continuing with "Goals and Objectives", **Goal #6: Heritage**, we have to point out that this is the only mention in the PROS Plan of Heritage Farm (p. 28)just one sentence.

In the County's original Master Plan Vision and Guiding Principles for the Heritage Farm on NE 78th Street, it has been called "an accessible agricultural, educational and recreational community asset that reflects the area's history and provides a healthy, sustainable environment for future generations." That same document states in its Guiding Principles that the Heritage Farm can "integrate a variety of activities and a resource that provide community access."

- FOCC supports the Heritage Farm Master Plan update as it upholds the vision to preserve the property's agricultural heritage to honor its history and provides a framework for future development of the site and ensures alignment with community guiding principles. We anticipate a well-designed riparian habitat restoration effort on the Heritage Farm site.
- This is an important community asset that needs to be protected and nurtured. We strongly support a greater emphasis in the final PROS Plan 2022 on the meaningful use of the property (certainly, greater than one sentence on page 28), and the collaboration with interested citizens to create safe and secure ways for the public to realize and appreciate this heritage.
- Fourthly, In the section titled "Demand & Need Analysis, page 37, **Regional Park Analysis**, we are concerned to read that "The LOS deficit is currently at 2,288.6 acres with a shortage of 550.8 acres of developed areas. The current LOS is 5.2 acres per



1,000 and 0.7 acres per 1,000 developed park areas. The County is at 52% for land area and 39% for developed park area of the current LOS . . . The planned development of Camp Bonneville and Brush Prairie regional parks will offset the current LOS deficiency for regional parks” (p. 37). Does this mean that once acquired Camp Bonneville will make up the gap? Is that the intent, to shortchange the rest of the County, by claiming a large excess of parkland at the Camp?

Elimination of munitions from Camp Bonneville has taken over 20 years and still is not done. A recent, January 19th, 2022, Dept. of Ecology (DOE) presentation on the cleanup at Camp Bonneville gave grave concerns that the cleanup is incomplete and improperly done. Munitions were only cleared down to a depth of 14” not the 24” as originally agreed to, and as conducted at Ft. Ord, CA. In addition, DOE could not give a good accounting of pollution plumes coming from waste dump sites and flowing into groundwater and Lacamas Creek. The potential of a child getting hurt by exploding ordinance, or a trail of pollution being traced to a Camp Bonneville waste site would not put the County in a good light, resulting in nor suffering a major loss in civil litigation.

When will a completed Camp Bonneville plan be available? How many trees will be cut for revenue?

Expecting that citizens will accept a non-safe, poorly scrutinized Camp Bonneville as a public park is unacceptable.

Continuing with the section titled “Demand & Need Analysis”, we applaud the PROS Plan for more directly addressing **issues of equity** and underserved communities as described on page 39 of the plan. Maps 4 through 6 illustrate the application of the distribution criteria from existing parks. The analysis shows that approximately 50% of residential areas have reasonable access to parks. Areas with darker color do not have an urban public park within reasonable walking distance of their home. Striving to provide a neighborhood or community park within a reasonable distance; may require acquiring new park properties in currently underserved locations and improving multi-modal transportation connections, to allow residents to reach their local parks.

We strongly encourage coordination with the current Housing Options Study and Action Plan to look for funding and grant opportunities to provide neighborhood parks near affordable housing initiatives.

The pandemic elevated the need and important role neighborhood parks play for physical and mental needs, especially for those with limited transportation and resources. We support the concept of walksheds and securing additional funding to advance more equitable distribution of neighborhood parks, particularly in older, urban neighborhoods.

We feel that the general topics of Natural Areas and Legacy Lands require greater attention:

It is quoted in this document that “The Natural Areas Acquisition Plan (NAAP) seeks to leverage the resources of Conservation Futures (CF) funding through partnerships with public and private agencies to acquire and protect critical habitat, natural resources and expand, connect, or link existing conserved lands . . . In its latest natural lands acquisition effort, the County authorized issuing \$7 million in bonds to purchase ten properties across the county. These properties have significant value for wildlife, water quality, recreation, farm, forest and/or other conservation value. The subject properties have been identified as:

- Cedar Golf Course
- East Fork Lewis River-Mason Creek
- Three Creeks Greenway
- Horseshoe Falls
- Columbia River Shoreline
- Lewis River Ranch Phase 2
- Lake River Water Trail
- Rock Creek Forest
- Flume Creek Access
- Whipple Creek Regional Park to Fairgrounds Community Park
- La Center Bottoms Addition
- Ridgefield Pits
- Lacamas Prairie Natural Area
- Ridgefield Schools to Flume Creek Trail
- East Fork Lewis River-Optimists
- Salmon-Whipple Creeks Farm Preservation”

Regarding Legacy Lands, and per the enabling State statute, RCW 84.34, conservation futures funds are dedicated to the **acquisition of farm, forest, and open space lands**. The Clark County Council enacted this program in October 1985, instituting a conservation futures property tax levy on all property within the county at a rate not to exceed 6 ¼ cents per thousand dollars of assessed value. It has two elements:

- “Environmental Element”
 - Goal: Protect and conserve environmentally critical areas (critical areas include: fish and wildlife habitat, wetlands, flood hazard areas, geologic hazard areas, and aquifer recharge areas)
 - Goal: Protect and recover endangered species within Clark County.
 - Goal: Protect, conserve, and recover salmonids within Clark County.
 - Goal: Protect and enhance shorelines of Clark County.
 - Goal: Manage the parks and open space of Clark County consistent with protecting water quality and critical areas, and with enhancing the recovery of listed species.
 - Strategy: Develop incentives that encourage open space, recreation, and protection of the natural environment.



- Strategy: Evaluate a variety of funding sources and their feasibility for acquisition of land and other programs to implement the policies within the Environmental, Rural and Natural Resource elements.
- “Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Element”: **Countywide planning policy 7.0.1:** The county and each municipality shall identify open space corridors, riparian corridors, important isolated open space and recreational areas within and between urban growth areas and should prepare a funding and acquisition program for this open space. Open space shall include lands useful for parks and recreation, fish and wildlife habitat, trails, public access to natural resource lands and water and protection of critical areas.” (2022-2027 Natural Areas Acquisition Plan, Nov. 2021 pg. 16.)

FOCC agrees with both these elements and their goals. The County should soon acquire and protect as much fish and wildlife habitat, wetlands, flood hazard areas, geologic hazard areas, and aquifer recharge areas, as possible. Additional lands are less likely to become available, and the price will not drop in future years. We need to acquire as much as we can now.

The primary goal of the Conservation Areas Plan is to establish an interconnected system of habitat and greenways along the county’s rivers, lakes, and streams, and to conserve other high-value habitat and open space lands (2022-2027 NAAP, pg. 16.) We agree.

There is also a Farmland Conservation component within this plan. “In March 2009, Clark County completed an Agricultural Preservation Strategies Report. A 20-member advisory committee met 11 times during the planning process. The committee’s central charge was to develop a plan “that recommends short- and long-term actions to protect the opportunity to pursue and enhance commercial and non-commercial agriculture in the county.” (2022-2027 NAAP, pg. 17.)

FOCC agrees with the recommendations of the advisory committee. Specifically, to:

- “Continue to explore partnerships that allow existing public lands to be used for farm production.
- Cooperate with agencies and interests to institute a purchase of development rights program that encourages landowners to keep land in agricultural production.
- Funds to acquire additional development rights on farmland should be a component of a major funding initiative for the purpose of acquiring open space and resource lands in Clark County.”
- Cooperate with agencies and interests to support establishment of one or more “Agricultural Production Districts” in Clark County. . .
- Identify funding sources that can be used to conserve high-value agricultural lands (2022-2027 NAAP, pg. 17”).

FOCC believes the acquisition of development rights on farmland from willing sellers, rather than actual land purchase to be the best and most economical solution for maximizing open

space and providing greenways. Acquiring development rights has often been given a low priority in preserving land and open space for the future by the County, who appears to favor actual purchase of acreage.

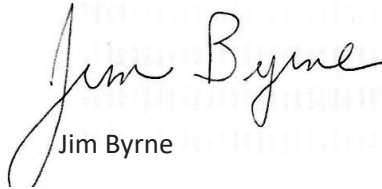
In conclusion, Friends of Clark County requests that you adhere to the PROS Community Engagement survey and to comprehensive, publicly-involved documents, such as that accomplished by the 2009 agriculture advisory committee. These many documents, beginning with an accurate Buildable Lands Model, should nurture a plan for sustaining a livable Clark County in line with the expectations and hopes of all its residents.

Best regards,



Ann Foster

Board, Friends of Clark County



Jim Byrne

Board, Friends of Clark County



References

2022-2027 NATURAL AREAS ACQUISITION PLAN LEGACY LANDS PROGRAM, Clark County Public Works – Parks and Land division, 4700 NE 78th St., Vancouver, WA 98665 (November, 2021)

2022-2027 PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE (PROS) PLAN, 2022, Clark County Public Works -

8225 NE St. Johns, Vancouver, WA (November, 2021)

Planning Eligibility Self-Certification Form

Use this form to certify that the need for any grant projects have been developed through an appropriate planning process. Provide the completed form with the subject plans and adoption documentation to RCO via e-mail or other means of electronic access (i.e. Web link, Box.com, etc.).

Organization Name: Clark County Public Works Parks and Lands Division

Contact Name: David Stipe, Planning and Development Manager

Adoption Date of Submitted Documents:

Seeking Eligibility for: ☐ Recreation Grants ☐ Conservation Grants ☒ Both

Initial Each to Certify Completion	Plan Element Certification	Document and Page Number Location of Information
DLS	1. Goals, objectives: The attached plan supports our project with broad statements of intent (goals) <i>and</i> measures that describe when these intents will be attained (objectives). Goals may include a higher level of service.	PROS Plan Pgs 27-31
DLS	2. Inventory: The plan includes a description of the service area's facilities, lands, programs, and their condition. <i>(This may be done in a quantitative format or in a qualitative/narrative format.)</i>	PROS Plan Pgs 11-26
DLS	3. Public involvement: The planning process gave the public ample opportunity to be involved in plan development and adoption.	App. B thru E Pgs 75-144
DLS	4a. Demand and need analysis: In the plans: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An analysis defines priorities, as appropriate, for acquisition, development, preservation, enhancement, management, etc., and explains why these actions are needed. The process used in developing the analysis assessed community desires for parks, recreation, open space, and/or habitat, as appropriate, in a manner appropriate for the service area (personal observation, informal talks, formal survey(s), workshops, etc.). 	PROS Plan Pgs 32-59
	4b. Level of Service assessment (optional): An assessment of the criterion appropriate to your community. Possibly establish a higher level of service as a plan goal (above).	
DLS	5. Capital Improvement Program: The plan includes a capital improvement/facility program that lists land acquisition, development, and renovation projects by year of anticipated implementation; include funding source. The program includes any capital project submitted to the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board for funding.	PROS Plan Pgs 60-66
DLS	6. Adoption: The plan and process has received formal governing body approval (<i>that is, city/county department head, district ranger, regional manager/supervisor, etc., as appropriate</i>). Attach signed resolution, letter, or other adoption instrument.	April 19, 2022 Pgs 199-203

Certification Signature

I certify that this information is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Print/Type Name: David L. Stipe

Signature (Hand Written or Digital):

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Stipe', written over a horizontal line.

Title: Planning and Development Manager

Date: May 12, 2022