

City of Longview
Park and Recreation Plan

2009 Update

Prepared by the

Longview Park and Recreation Board
with assistance from

Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments
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SECTION I

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this plan is to develop a strategy for defining and meeting future park and recreation needs. Implementation of city policies and recommendations for future recreational facilities are included in this document. This plan was based on Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) guidelines. The RCO was known as the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (IAC) until 2007. Since some reference documents predate the name change, the two terms are used interchangeably.

The RCO Manual 2; Planning Policies (2008), provides direction for planning efforts such as this undertaking. It notes that planning helps “demonstrate that an appropriate process was used to develop grant proposals necessary for RCO eligibility.” Demonstrating eligibility for RCO funding is one of the principal objectives of this activity.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Longview’s 2008 Parks and Recreation Plan is an update of the 2000 plan and is the result of efforts led by the Parks and Recreation Department staff, directed by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, and supported by the Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments staff. There are no major differences between the existing plan and this update. Revisions to the document worth noting include: 1) revising the goals and objectives and the capital improvement schedule; 2) adding school sites with recreational amenities to the inventory of available facilities; 3) analyzing data using a Geographic Information System and providing service area populations by age groups; 4) evaluating land use patterns throughout the city to better understand where recreation demands occur; and 5) presenting information using more graphics and maps, and fewer tables.

The Population section of the document compares 1980, 1990, and 2000 Census data, and is supplemented with 2007 Washington State Office of Financial Management data where appropriate. The planning process followed procedures recommended by the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO, formally IAC) and the document contains the elements necessary to satisfy RCO planning requirements, thus making the City eligible to compete for state grants and other funding opportunities.

Parks and recreation facilities serving the residents of Longview include City and County facilities. The City of Longview maintains over 435 acres of park and open space land that offers active and passive recreational opportunities to residents and preserves natural areas of the community. Facilities owned and operated by Longview include 3,600 feet of shoreline access, 48 acres of surface water, and

5.6 miles of trails. Most of the existing trail miles and surface water are located at Lake Sacajawea Park.

Based on current parks and recreation “level of service” (LOS) standards, Longview currently has a deficiency of neighborhood parkland and trails, which will continue to increase as population growth occurs. See the table below. Geographically, West Longview and the northern area in the hills tend to be underserved by neighborhood parks. In the future, Longview should pursue acquisition of undeveloped parcels in areas where development is likely to occur in order to protect natural areas and environmentally sensitive sites and serve as the location for future parks and recreation facilities.

Park Level of Service Standards					
Class	Level of Service	Existing Demand 2007 35,710 persons	Projected Demand 2016 40,830 persons	Current Supply	Deficiency 2008 / 2016
I (Neighborhood Playlot)	No numerical standard	-	-	-	-
II (Neighborhood Park)	7 acres / 1,000 population	250 acres	286 acres	145 acres	105 / 141 acres
III (Neighborhood Passive Area)	No numerical standard	-	-	-	-
IV (Community Park)	3 acres / 1,000 population	107 acres	122 acres	101 acres	6 / 21 acres
V (Regional Park)	No numerical standard	-	-	-	-
VI (Special Use Facilities)	No numerical standard	-	-	-	-
Trails	1 mile / 1,000 population	35.7 miles	40.8 miles	5.6 miles	30.1 / 35.2 miles

When recommending goals, objectives, and policies to council, the parks and recreation board and staff incorporated public comments received during the planning process, specifically those voiced at the comprehensive plan open houses, survey responses, responses to comment cards available at City facilities, and submittals via e-mail on the Parks Department website. Additionally, this planning effort incorporates recreation-related comments received during other City projects, such as the Highlands Neighborhood Revitalization Planning Strategy, the Community Center Feasibility Study

Survey, and the 32nd Avenue Park Design Survey, in attempt to make it a true element of the City's comprehensive plan.

Parks and Recreation Department Vision and Mission

Our vision is that “we create community through people, parks and programs”. Our mission is to “ensure that the citizens of Longview experience the benefits of leisure pursuits through responsive programming, dedicated leadership, quality parks and facilities, and collaboration with other organizations all for the purpose of enriching lives and developing life skills while appreciating our diversities.”

Our commitment is to provide quality recreational opportunities that address the needs of our community, protect the natural environment through a diversified system of parks and open space, and preserve a high quality living environment for future generations.

Description of the Planning Area

The city of Longview is located in the southwestern portion of Cowlitz County, Washington. It is located at the confluence of the Cowlitz and Columbia rivers, approximately 70 miles east of the Pacific Ocean, 50 miles north of Portland, Oregon, and 150 miles south of Seattle, Washington. The Cowlitz River forms the city's eastern border (flowing south between Longview and Kelso). The Columbia River forms part of Longview's southern border and separates Washington from Oregon. The river is spanned at Longview by the Lewis and Clark Bridge, which links the two states.

Longview is recognized by students of western American history as the first “planned city”. Longview was incorporated in 1924 as a completely planned city where none had existed before. It was built according to a grand design, with private capital, and was guided carefully through each phase of early construction by its benefactor, Robert A. Long.

Today, Longview is a thriving city with a very active Columbia River port and strong links with Asia. Longview shares its location between Seattle and Portland with the city of Kelso, which is located directly east across the Cowlitz River. Longview remains the only planned city of its kind and is unlikely to be copied. Its future remains as challenging and exciting as its past.

Department Organization

There are four divisions in the Parks and Recreation Department, consisting of the Recreation Services Division, Parks Services Division, Mint Valley Golf Course Division, and Facility Maintenance Division. The Parks and Recreation Director is responsible for the overall management and operation

of the department. The Director is also the liaison between the department and the City Manager, City Council, citizen boards and commissions, and other department directors.

Recreation Services Division

The division is responsible for the administration of recreation programs and activities offered by the city and special events such as “concerts in the park”. There are eight full-time employees, approximately 24 part-time employees, and approximately 50 individuals instructing programs on a contractual basis.

Recreation provides comprehensive, year-round recreational programs, activities, and special events designed to meet the needs of all Longview citizens. The division offers programs primarily at the McClelland Center, Woman’s Club Building, Elks Memorial Building, Senior Center, Catlin Center, Square Dance Center (by agreement with the City of Kelso), Longview schools, local businesses and the YMCA.

Programs are funded through a combination of fees, charges, and general fund resources. Where feasible, the division’s philosophy is to set program fees to cover the direct costs of providing programs and a portion of the indirect or administrative costs, including marketing and staffing. However, for many programs, including those for senior citizens, youth, high-risk teens, and individuals with special needs, it is policy not to charge full cost recovery

Park Services Division

The parks division maintains the parks, boulevards, the grounds of city hall and the library, trails, undeveloped park lands, park facilities, the urban forest, and beautification sites throughout the city. Responsibilities include care of turf, shrubs and flowerbeds, irrigation and water systems, trail maintenance, installation and maintenance of playground equipment, cleaning and maintenance of restroom facilities, and oversight of park amenities such as tennis courts, athletic fields, skate park, and boat launch. Staff is also responsible for the development, care, and maintenance of the city's 12,000 street and park trees. There are currently 18 full-time employees on staff and a varying number of part-time employees working from spring through fall.

Facility Maintenance Division

This division is an enterprise activity within the Parks and Recreation Department and is staffed with four full-time employees. It receives funding through annual, internal transfers from most of the city departments for overall maintenance and care of the 36 city owned buildings. These facilities include city hall, police station, police satellite office, library, fleet shop, fire stations #81 and #82, street department shop and garages, traffic shop and garages, facility maintenance shop, water/sewer shop, recreation administration office, parks office and maintenance shop, Woman's Club building, Elks Memorial Building, McClelland Art Center, square dance hall, city bus garage, transit center, senior center, Mint Valley Racquet complex, Mint Valley Golf Course clubhouse and maintenance building, solid waste recycling office, and city owned rental properties. These add up to over 250,000 square feet under roof.

Mint Valley Golf Course and Racquet and Fitness Complex Division

The golf course division is responsible for the administration of all operations relating to the Mint Valley Golf Course. Specifically, these operations include: An 18-hole championship golf course; a 6-hole par three course; full service practice facility with a covered driving range, chipping and sand bunker areas, and a practice green; pro-shop and restaurant facility; course and equipment maintenance facility; and a 40-power cart storage rental facility. The division employs a maintenance staff of four full-time employees and up to seven part-time employees. The pro-shop/restaurant operations are contracted out with a pro/manager who hires his own staff. He retains a percentage of the green fees, lessons, cart rentals, and driving range rentals, and all of the pro-shop equipment sales and restaurant revenue. The golf course does not receive any city general fund revenue to help offset operating expenditures. It is required to be a self sustaining operation supported by fees and charges.

Although the racquet and fitness complex is not a stand alone division of the Parks and Recreation Department, it is a responsibility of the department. The facility has four tennis courts, four racquetball courts, a viewing lobby, fitness center with cardiovascular station and free weights, a small

pro-shop, and locker rooms. Other than competitive play in tennis and racquetball, the courts are used for pickleball, walleyball, lessons, and rentals. Currently, it is managed and operated by an outside contractor. This person is responsible for all aspects of the facility with the exception of capital improvements.

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

There are three volunteer organizations that assist the Parks and Recreation Department and play an advisory role to the Director of Parks and Recreation and the City Council.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

This five member board has the powers and performs the duties as provided by the laws of the state relating to boards of park commissioners. They make recommendations to City Council concerning acquisition, planning development, grant awards, park design, tree policies, and naming of parks. They advise regarding facility and recreation fees, policies and planning development, and establishing rules and regulations governing the division. They also serve as the Tree Board and the Play Board.

Visual Arts Commission

This five member commission is authorized to take action on behalf of the city, to encourage, conduct, sponsor, or co-sponsor public programs to further the development and public awareness of, and interest in the visual arts. They make recommendations to the City Council concerning the acquisition and location of public art.

Mint Valley Golf Course Advisory Committee

This five member advisory committee acts as a liaison between the golfing public and the golf course division in order to provide feedback regarding division needs and operations. They perform studies and make recommendations concerning long-range planning and development, and assist with financial decisions, policy matters, and operations decisions.

Figure 2

Organizational Chart

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

Setting policies helps the staff formulate goals and establish steps to take in order to implement departmental improvements. The approach is to provide goals statements followed by policy statements that propose concrete steps to be taken to accomplish the goals.

A. Parks Policies

An integrated system of parks, trails and open space will be provided and managed within the City.

PA-1. Protect Longview's natural beauty through a vibrant system of parks, trails, and open space.

PA-2. Provide a parks, recreation, and open space system to accommodate both existing development and planned growth.

PA-3. Encourage the acquisition of greenbelts and park land to maintain the sense of open space, protect environmental resources, provide circulation linkages and ensure adequate separation and buffers between various land uses.

PA-4. Work to reduce the impacts of developments and ensure provisions for open space by requiring all residential developments to provide land for parks, trails, walkways, and open space through the land dedication ordinance.

PA-5. Pursue private dedication of land through a variety of methods to facilitate public access to parks, and provide a continuous system of parks, trails, and open space.

PA-6. Seek funding opportunities from a variety of sources (federal, state, and private) for the acquisition and development of parks, trails, and open space.

PA-7. Encourage and coordinate park planning and land acquisition with other city plans therefore maximizing the benefits available from public lands for parks, programs, and recreational activities.

PA-8. Promote the street tree program through the planning process for new developments, and ensure the safety and well being of the existing tree inventory during construction projects.

PA-9. Complete the development of an urban forest management plan.

PA-10. Complete a health assessment of all mature city-owned trees and a policy for dealing with their replacement.

PA-11. Continue practices that insure that Tree City USA designation is obtained annually.

PA-12. Utilize quasi-public land, and dual-use facilities where possible (Consolidate Diking Improvement District lands, Bonneville utility corridors).

PA-13. Develop a capital improvement plan for parks and recreation that can be funded at a level that allows for a reasonable implementation schedule.

PA-14. If any rail right-of-ways are no longer used for rail service, the right-of-way should be acquired and preserved for multi-use trails. A multi-use trail shall be designed for the exclusive use of non-motorized users and be designed to accommodate pedestrians, bicyclists, skaters, and other non-motorized users.

PA-15. Identify and mitigate safety and security issues in the parks.

PA-16. Complete the playground equipment replacement program bringing equipment into compliance with safety and accessibility guidelines.

PA-17. Develop and implement a 10-year repair and replacement schedule for park buildings.

PA-18. Pursue options for location of off-leash dog areas.

PA-19. Develop an integrated pest management plan (IPN) to manage pests that are harmful to the health, function, and aesthetic value of park landscapes and other city properties in a manner that is efficient, effective, and environmentally responsible with careful attention to public and employee safety using multi-faceted strategies that minimize economic and health risks.

B. Recreation and Cultural Program Policies

These policies describe how the city will provide for the recreation, activity, events, programs and cultural needs of the community.

RE-1. Provide citizens of all ages with recreational and cultural opportunities in clean, properly maintained, safe, and accessible facilities.

RE-2. Recreation programs and facilities should be available to all segments of the population.

RE-3. Provide recreation and leisure programs that are comprehensive, enriching, and affordable for all citizens.

RE-4. Create physical activity and play opportunities for residents.

RE-5. Provide athletic facilities for organized, competitive sports either operated by the recreation department or through various sports organizations.

RE-6. Provide non-competitive, active recreation opportunities in both indoor and outdoor environments.

RE-7. Develop and maintain relationships with other governmental agencies and organizations allowing for shared usages of facilities in order to maximize our ability to provide a variety of programs for the community.

RE-8. Continue to pursue opportunities for the development of a multi-purpose community center to include teen center and senior center elements.

RE-9. Provide or partner in making facilities available that support cultural activity and events.

RE-10. Provide facilities and land for environmental, education, and passive, contemplative, and sensory recreation (e.g., Wake Robin Environmental Center, Japanese Island, park benches).

RE-11. Provide a linkage system, which connects the park system, schools, and other important public facilities within the city and surrounding area (e.g., bicycle lanes and multi-use trails).

RE-12. Develop policies that give city residents priority of preference in registration for parks and recreation programs.

RE-13. Focus planning efforts in portions of the city that are experiencing rapid growth or currently lack recreation service and involve citizens.

RE-14. Distribute parks and recreation facilities throughout the city in a manner, which, as much as possible, provides an equitable service radius.

RE-15. Measure performance and service through evaluations and surveys.

RE-16. Address long-term solutions to resolve senior center facility and management issues.

RE-17. Create more leadership opportunities for teens by expanding the junior leadership program, providing more opportunities for teens to volunteer, and establishing a new teen government program.

C. Conservation of Public Land and Natural Areas Policies

These policies provide for the protection of public lands that are important natural areas. Additionally, they provide for the acquisition of environmentally sensitive areas.

CO-1. Design and construct park facilities and features in a manner that is compatible with the neighborhood and the environment. This would include considering the latest in design efficiency and conservation to the greatest extent possible.

CO-2. Work with other governmental agencies and private organizations to provide a complete parks and recreation open space system for the city and surrounding region.

CO-3. Preserve our quality living environment for future generations.

CO-4. Conserve existing public lands currently in a natural state through careful planning and cooperative agreements between appropriate government agencies and private enterprise.

CO-5. Use appropriate acquisition methods to protect natural areas which are sensitive to urban development or represent a significant natural and visual asset.

CO-6. Develop a native plant policy designed to ensure the continued viability and diversity of indigenous plant communities in specific park properties, and promote the use of plants naturally adapted to local conditions through identification of native, nuisance, and prohibited plants.

D. Open Space Policies

Open space can be enjoyed for both passive and active recreation. The level of recreational use will vary with the ownership of the open space and the environmental sensitivity of the area. Publicly owned open space is available for public use unless the use would damage sensitive environmental resources. Privately owned open space, however, is not available for public use unless permitted by the owner. State law limits the liability of private land owners for public use of their property. This law is intended to encourage land owners to allow public use where appropriate. Where sensitive environmental resources are present, such as bird nesting sites, public access or recreational use may be limited even on public lands. Open space provides valuable natural areas and corridors which enhance the sense of space for a community. They contrast with building footprints and roadways and add to the quality of the natural environment.

OP-1. Longview should develop and implement a long-term and comprehensive acquisition, dedication, and management program for open spaces.

OP-2. Longview should obtain open space throughout the community.

OP-3. Open space should be provided to retain an important component of Longview's character.

OP-4. Longview should provide for an open space system within and between neighborhoods.

OP-5. Clustered residential development and other "Smart Growth" programs that provide a significant percentage of public open space should be encouraged where compatible in style and function with surrounding neighborhoods.

OP-6. Public use of publicly owned open space should be provided at a level that is suited to protecting the natural resources of the area.

OP-7. Private land owners should be encouraged to provide for public use where natural resources will not be adversely affected.

E. Trails Policies

The proposed Cowlitz County Regional Trails Plan provides for a system of trails that link public lands with residential, employment and shopping areas throughout the city. In

addition, the plan provides connections with the surrounding communities and unincorporated Cowlitz County.

TR-1. An interconnected trail system should be developed throughout the Longview planning area in cooperation with local, county and state agencies and private organizations. This system should consist both of multi-purpose and single purpose trails. Multi-purpose trails provide for several trail uses in one linear space or right-of-way. Single-purpose trails provide for one type of trail use either to enhance the user experience or to protect the environment of an area.

TR-2. The primary purpose of most recreational trails is to provide a recreation experience with transportation being a secondary objective. However, paved, multi-use trails should serve both recreation and transportation objectives.

TR-3. Recreational trails should be interesting to the users and maximize the number and diversity of enjoyable viewing opportunities.

TR-4. Trails should be looped and inter-connected to provide a variety of trail lengths and destinations. They should link various parts of the community, as well as existing park sites and public spaces.

TR-5. Trails should be developed throughout the community to provide linkages to schools, parks, and other destination points. Each proposed trail should be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to determine if it should be part of the city's park and recreation program.

TR-6. A variety of trails should be developed, which include those designated as multi-use, hiking or pedestrian only, interpretive, ADA accessible, equestrian, and bicycle trails.

TR-7. Trail alignments should take into account soil conditions, steep slopes, surface drainage, and other physical limitations that could increase construction and/or maintenance costs.

TR-8. Safety should be a major criteria when considering trail development particularly where routes must use existing roadways. The pathway should be designed to minimize potential conflicts between motorists and trail users.

TR-9. During the review process for new development or redevelopment, ensure that multi-use pathways are constructed where such improvements would provide needed linkages between trail routes and access to public destinations.

TR-10. Trailheads are important elements of the trail system, acting as staging areas and offering support facilities along the trail route. Existing parks can act as trailheads when appropriate.

F. Art in Public Properties Policies

The arts are integral to Longview's quality of life, economic vitality, and central identity. The inclusion of the arts in our community ensures our commitment to build an aesthetically pleasing physical environment. The Parks and Recreation Department's role in supporting the arts is to encourage the display of public art in city parks and other public spaces, and in city buildings. The Department also provides a venue for performing arts through its summer concerts in the park series. Enrichment programs provide the opportunity for budding artists to gain skills in all areas of the arts.

AR-1. Public, visual art can be found in the community in the form of fountains, sculptures, statues, paintings, etc. Longview has a budding inventory of both indoor and outdoor public artworks. The city should continue to encourage support of public art through donations and purchases, and partnerships with the arts and business communities.

AR-2. The visibility of public art needs to be increased through the design of an arts walk tour brochure highlighting the existing artwork. This would help to promote further donations of artwork and involvement by the private sector.

AR-3. Promote active participation and attendance of arts events by Longview residents.

AR-4. Many quality arts programs and valuable arts resources are available in the Longview community, and the effective dissemination of information should be an important part of any successful community arts program.

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SECTION III

POPULATION

Because the Park and Recreation Plan is an element of the city’s Comprehensive Plan, the planning area is the Planning Area Boundary (PAB). The PAB includes the area within city limits and those areas surrounding the city limits that receive city services or services can readily be provided, or are likely candidates for annexation over the next twenty years.

This section of the plan compares the city’s 1980, 1990 and 2000 population data by age by Census Tracts. The purpose is to provide an understanding of the population shift from 1980 to 2000, and to more accurately identify where the city’s future community and neighborhood parks should be located.

Because this planning effort is being finalized in 2008 and the region has experienced significant growth since the most recent Census in 2000, the demographic data is supplemented with State of Washington Office of Finance Management (OFM) official population estimates and projections when applicable. Additionally, Cowlitz County Assessor’s Tax Parcel data, which includes land use descriptions and housing unit information, is also used when applicable.

Table 2 Key Facts – City of Longview

1980 Population ¹	31,052
1990 Population ²	31,499
2000 Population ³	34,660
2007 Population ⁴	35,710
Approximate City Size ⁵	13.7 square miles
Overall population density	2,607 persons/square mile
Total number of housing units ⁶	15,225
Average Persons Per Household ⁷	2.4
Median Household Income ⁸	\$35,171
Projected Population in year 2016 ⁹	40,830

¹ 1980 Census

² 1990 Census

³ 2000 Census

⁴ Washington State Office of Financial Management

⁵ City of Longview Comprehensive Plan

⁶ 2000 Census

⁷ 2000 Census

⁸ 2000 Census

⁹ 1.5% annual increase as provided in Longview Comprehensive Plan page 2-6

The 1980, 1990 and 2000 population comparison by population age group breakdown by Census Tracts within the city's UGA is shown below in Table 2. This table illustrates, for example, that in 1980 the total population for the city of Longview was 31,052 and the Census Tract with the largest total population was CT 6 with 7,645. In 1990, the total population for the city of Longview was 31,499 with the largest concentration of people located in CT's 5.01 and 5.02 for a total of 7,164. In 2000, the population was 34,660 with the largest concentration of people continuing to be in CT 5.01 and 5.02, with 4,128 and 4,177 people respectively. The 2007 OFM official estimate for the city is 35,710. The city adopted an annual increase rate of 1.5%, so a population of 40,830 in the year 2016 is being used for this planning effort.

Figure 3

**Longview Planning Area
1990 to 2000 Percent Population Change by Census Tract**

**Table 3 City of Longview
1980, 1990 and 2000 Population Age Group Breakdown
and Comparison by Census Tracts**

Age Group	CT. 1 1980 Pop.	% of CT. Pop.	CT. 1 1990 Pop.	% of CT. Pop.	CT. 1 2000 Pop.	% of CT. pop.	CT. 2 1980 Pop.	% of CT. Pop.	CT. 2 1990 Pop.	% of CT. Pop	CT.2 2000 Pop.	% of CT Pop
0-4	8	3.0%	5	2.8%	9	4.6%	148	5.2%	191	6.4%	272	7.8%
5-9	11	4.1%	3	1.7%	7	3.6%	115	4.1%	109	3.6%	194	5.6%
10-19	38	14.2%	13	7.2%	27	13.9%	277	9.8%	226	7.6%	350	10.1%
20-34	117	43.7%	66	36.5%	58	30.0%	775	27.5%	780	26.1%	817	23.6%
35-44	22	8.2%	41	22.7%	33	17.0%	208	7.4%	344	11.5%	425	12.3%
45-64	36	13.4%	36	19.9%	35	18.0%	550	19.5%	498	16.7%	555	16.0%
65-84	33	12.3%	16	8.8%	19	9.8%	560	19.8%	640	21.4%	512	14.8%
+85	3	1.1%	1	.5%	6	3.1%	189	6.7%	202	6.8%	318	9.2%
TOTAL	268	100%	181	100%	194	100%	2,822	100%	2,990	100%	3,465	100%

Age Group	CT. 3 1980 Pop.	% of CT. Pop.	CT. 3 1990 Pop.	% of CT. Pop	CT 3 2000 Pop	% of CT Pop	CT.4 1980 Pop.	% of CT. Pop.	CT. 4 1990 Pop.	% of CT. Pop.	CT 4 2000 Pop	% of CT Pop
0.4	60	8.2%	28	3.9%	63	7.3%	160	4.2%	153	4.1%	192	
5-9	49	6.7%	31	4.4%	41	4.7%	151	3.9%	150	4.0%	164	4.4%
10-19	75	10.2%	55	7.7%	77	8.9%	422	11.0%	356	9.5%	371	10.0%
20-34	185	25.2%	138	19.4%	159	18.4%	824	21.5%	679	18.2%	666	18.0%
35-44	61	8.3%	106	14.9%	143	16.6%	317	8.3%	531	14.2%	441	11.9%
45-64	192	26.1%	186	26.2%	242	28.0%	944	24.5%	733	19.6%	887	23.9%
65-84	105	14.3%	153	21.5%	112	13.0%	898	23.3%	964	25.8%	713	19.2%
+85	7	1.0%	13	1.8%	13	1.5%	126	3.3%	168	4.5%	220	5.9%
TOTAL	734	100%	710	100%	864	100%	3,842	100%	3,734	100%	3,705	100%

Table 3 continued . . .

Age Group	NSA 23 1980 Pop.	% of NSA Pop.	CT. 5.01 1990 Pop.	% of CT. Pop.	CT 5.01 2000 Pop.	% Of CT Pop	NSA 09 1980 Pop.	% of NSA Pop.	CT. 5.02 1990 Pop.	% of CT. Pop.	CT 5.02 2000 Pop	% of CT Pop
0-4	250	8.4%	254	8.5%	205	7.3	528	12.8%	493	11.8%	491	11.0%
5-9	253	8.5%	187	6.3%	229	8.1	400	9.7%	482	11.5%	504	11.2%
10-19	457	15.3%	429	14.4%	355	12.6	773	18.7%	677	16.2%	807	17.9%
20-34	784	26.2%	649	21.7%	619	22.0	1,300	31.5%	1,160	27.8%	1,125	25.0%
35-44	279	9.3%	465	15.6%	424	15.1	388	9.4%	561	13.4%	640	14.2%
45-64	605	20.2%	568	19.0%	587	21.0	458	11.1%	518	12.4%	731	16.2%
65-84	337	11.3%	410	13.7%	713	25.4	266	6.4%	263	6.3%	248	5.5%
+85	26	0.9%	25	.8%	220	7.8	15	0.4%	23	.6%	17	0.4%
TOTAL	2,991	100%	2,987	100%	2,810	100%	4,128	100%	4,177	100%	4,509	100%

Age Group	NSA 21 1980 Pop.	% of NSA Pop.	CT.6. 01 1990 Pop.	% of CT. Pop.	CT 6.01 2000 Pop.	% of CT Pop	NSA 18 1980 Pop.	% of NSA Pop.	CT. 6.02 1990 Pop.	% of CT. Pop.	CT 6.02 2000 Pop	% of CT Pop.
0-4	198	9.8%	350	9.3%	355	9.4%	220	6.7%	193	5.8%	135	4.4%
5-9	158	7.8%	300	8.0%	311	8.2%	245	7.5%	229	6.8%	181	5.9%
10-19	304	15.1%	565	15.1%	498	13.2%	560	17.2%	471	14.1%	366	11.9%
20-34	603	29.9%	931	24.8%	877	23.2%	680	20.9%	524	15.6%	445	14.4%
35-44	190	9.4%	511	13.6%	473	12.5%	367	11.3%	538	16.1%	359	11.6%
45-64	327	16.2%	603	16.1%	738	19.5%	812	24.9%	800	23.9%	933	30.3%
65-84	219	10.9%	456	12.2%	500	13.2%	360	11.0%	567	16.9%	523	17.0%
+85	19	0.9%	34	.9%	72	1.9%	16	0.5%	29	.9%	74	2.4
TOTAL	2,018	100%	3,750	100%	3,782	100%	3,260	100%	3,351	100%	3,083	100%

Table 3 continued . . .

Age Group	BG 2,3,4 1980 Pop.	% of BG 2,3,4 Pop.	CT. 7.01 1990 Pop.	% of CT. Pop.	CT. 7.01 of 2000 Pop.	% of 7.01 Pop	BG 2,3,4 1980 Pop.	% of BG 2,3,4 Pop.	NSA 06 1980 Pop.	% of NSA Pop.	CT. 7.02 1990 Pop.	% of CT. Pop.	CT. 7.02 2000 Pop	% of CT Pop.
0-4	239	10.3%	289	8.8 %	442	7.9%	239	10.3%	226	8.3%	258	8.4%	154	5.2%
5-9	232	10.0%	324	9.9%	508	9.0%	232	10.0%	299	10.9%	297	9.6%	246	8.2%
10-19	400	17.2%	489	14.9%	920	16.4%	400	17.2%	512	18.7%	528	17.1%	496	16.6%
20-34	840	36.1%	858	26.2%	1100	19.6%	840	36.1%	689	25.2%	642	20.8%	496	16.6%
35-44	277	11.9%	590	18.0%	875	15.6%	277	11.9%	333	12.2%	545	17.7%	513	17.2%
45-64	281	12.1%	546	16.7%	1207	21.5%	281	12.1%	487	17.8%	531	17.2%	746	25.0%
65-84	59	2.5%	170	5.2%	515	9.2%	59	2.5%	171	6.3%	274	8.9%	279	9.3%
+85	2	0.1%	5	.2%	67	1.2%	2	0.1%	14	0.5%	12	.4%	34	1.1%
TOTAL	2,330	100%	3,271	100%	5,618	100	2,330	100%	2,731	100%	3,087	100%	2,984	100%

Age Group	1980 Pop.	% of CT. Pop.	CT. 8 1990 Pop.	% of CT. Pop.	CT 8 2000 Pop	% of CT Pop	Total 1980 Pop.	% of Total Pop.	Total 1990 Pop.	% of Total Pop.	Total 2000 Pop.	% Of Total Pop.
0-4	191	5.6%	150	4.6%	147	4.0%	2,497	8.0%	2,364	7.5%	2,626	7.6%
5-9	243	7.1%	233	7.1%	214	5.9%	2,388	7.7%	2,345	7.4%	2,592	7.5%
10-19	660	19.2%	534	16.4%	611	16.8%	4,880	15.7%	4,343	13.8%	4,876	14.1%
20-34	553	16.1%	393	12.1%	326	9.0%	8,104	26.1%	6,820	21.7%	6,686	19.3%
35-44	515	15.0%	592	18.2%	531	14.6%	3,255	10.5%	4,824	15.3%	4,857	14.0%
45-64	947	27.6%	888	27.2%	1,163	32.0%	6,034	19.4%	5,907	18.8%	7,824	22.6%
65-84	296	8.6%	453	13.9%	513	14.1%	3,446	11.1%	4,366	13.9%	4,273	12.3%
+85	25	0.7%	18	.6%	66	1.8%	448	1.4%	530	1.7%	926	2.7%
TOTAL	3,430	100%	3,261	100%	3,637	100%	31,052	100%	31,499	100%	34,660	100%

Source: 1980, 1990, and 2000 U.S. Census.

Notes: 1. Census Tract includes incorporated and unincorporated areas. The population figures are taken from the incorporated portion only.

2. Adjustments in the percentage column were necessary to equal 100% due to rounding of figures.

3. Shading indicates highest population percentages in each Census Tract.

▪ 1980 block group figures for 5.01, 5.02, 6.01, 6.02 and 7.02 were derived from 1980 Neighborhood Statistical Areas (NSA) 23, 09, 21, 18 and 6 respectively. Neighborhood Statistical Areas were used because significant boundary changes from 1980 to 1990 deemed the block group figures incomparable.

5. CT - Census Tract

6. BG - Census Block Group

7. NSA - Neighborhood Statistical Area

Census Tract 1

Census Tract 2

Census Tract 3

Census Tract 4

Census Tract 5.01

Census Tract 5.02

Census Tract 6.01

Census Tract 6.02

Census Tract 7.01

Census Tract 7.02

Census Tract 8

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SECTION IV

CLASSIFICATION OF RECREATIONAL AREAS AND PARKS

The most commonly used measurement of recreational opportunities is to classify parks by:

- The SIZE of the park.
- The CHARACTERISTICS of the park.
- The GENERAL USE of the park.
- The USER SERVICE AREA of the park.

These factors are all interrelated and largely determine the recreational capabilities of the park site. Standards for these four elements have been developed from current practices in park system development.

PARK CLASSIFICATIONS FOR THE LONGVIEW PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

- CLASS I: NEIGHBORHOOD PLAYLOT
- CLASS II: NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
- CLASS III: NEIGHBORHOOD PASSIVE AREA
- CLASS IV: COMMUNITY PARK
- CLASS V: REGIONAL PARK/FACILITY
- CLASS VI: SPECIAL USE FACILITIES

These types of facilities are classified and discussed separately, however it should be noted that they will occasionally occur in combinations and overlap services. For instance, the neighborhood playground facilities will often be found within a community park. These facilities must then be recognized as not only serving as part of the community park, but also as forming user service areas for a neighborhood playground. Hence, a larger community or regional park will often be shown as serving the city on a neighborhood level as a playground or passive recreation area.

A brief summary of each class of park is presented which includes a description of the class, a general overview of existing facilities that are in each class, a list of deficiency zones where facilities are needed, and an accompanying map of the city's facilities in each class.

NEIGHBORHOOD PLAYLOT - CLASS I

Size	One acre or less
Characteristics	Play apparatus, paved multi-use area, small open area for group games and informal play, benches and landscaping.
General Use	Active recreation area for preschool and lower elementary age children during school hours, weekends and summertime.
Service Area	1/4 mile or less (3-4 blocks) from the park perimeter.
Needs Analysis	Because of their limited service capacity, the acquisition of additional playlots is not recommended. The emphasis should be placed on acquiring sufficient land to develop additional neighborhood parks.

EXISTING NEIGHBORHOOD PLAYLOTS

Bailey Park (Census Tract 7.02). A .75 acre site located on the S. E. corner of the intersection of 34th Avenue and Oak Street, north of Ocean Beach Highway. The park has new playground equipment, a hard court, picnic shelter and open play area. There are not natural or man-made barriers to the service area. The estimated user population is 639. (See Exhibit "A")

Kellogg Park (Census Tract 6.01). A .5 acre site located at the northern confluence of Dorothy and 33rd avenues, south of Ocean Beach Highway. The park has new playground equipment and picnic tables. There are man-made barriers, due to automobile traffic flow and railroad use: the railroad tracks along the west side of Dorothy and 30th avenues to the east; Ocean Beach Highway to the north. Estimated user population with barriers is 1,544, without barrier the user population is 1,738. (See Exhibit "B")

Rotary Park (Census Tract 7.01). A 1.2 acre site located on the northwest corner of Rosewood and Oak streets. The park has new playground equipment, tennis courts and a picnic shelter. A fence line that runs in a north-south direction along the entire eastern edge of the Mint Valley Golf Course is the identified barrier. Estimated user population with barrier is 1,175. (See Exhibit "C")

EXHIBIT A

BAILEY PARK

INSERT HERE

EXHIBIT B

KELLOGG PARK

INSERT HERE

EXHIBIT C

ROTARY PARK

INSERT HERE

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK - CLASS II

Size	Two to fifteen acres (desirable size - 7+ acres)
Characteristics	Playground apparatus, ballfields, multi-purpose game courts, tennis courts, picnic areas, a shelter or recreation building, and a restroom.
General Use	All ages
Service Area	1/4 to 1/2 mile radius from the perimeter depending on the density of the population and the extent of traffic.
Needs Analysis	Standard: 7 acres/1000 population Current supply: 12 neighborhood playgrounds totaling 145 acres Standard required: (based on a population of 35,710) 7 acres per 1,000 population = 250 acres Current Deficiency: 105 acres Future Need: (based on a population projection for 2016 of 40,830) 7 acres per 1,000 population = 286 acres Deficiency of 141 acres

EXISTING NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Cloney Park (Census Tract 6.02). A 5.35 acre site located on the south side of Washington Way and the north side of Douglas Street at the intersection of Washington Way, Nichols Blvd., and 30th Avenue. The park has playground equipment, skateboard park, BMX bike track, shelter, walk/bike path, restrooms, open play area and recreation building. Nichols Boulevard serves as a man-made barrier for those people within the service area living on the east side of Lake Sacajawea, due to the intensity of automobile traffic at the intersection of Nichols Blvd. and Washington Way. The estimated user population with barriers for the 1/2 mile service area is 5,160. (See Exhibit "D".)

Victoria Freeman Park (Census Tract 2). A 6.06 acre site located at the intersection of Douglas Street and 9th Avenue. The north end of the park abuts the McClelland Art Center. The park has playground equipment, softball field, informal soccer field, basketball court, picnic shelter, recreation building and parking. Tennant Way on the south; that portion of Drainage Ditch #4 located along the eastern flank of 7th Avenue Park between Hudson Street on the north end and Tennant Way on the south end are man-made barriers. The estimated user population with barriers for the 1/2 mile service area is 2,058. (See Exhibit "E".)

Archie Anderson Park (formerly Highland Park) (Census Tract 5.02). A 6.38 acre site located between 21st and 22nd avenues on the south side of Alabama Street. The park has new playground equipment, baseball fields, hard court area, picnic tables, restrooms and parking lot. This park has the following service area man-made barriers, due to automobile traffic flow and incompatible land uses: Industrial Way to the south and Oregon Way to the east. The estimated user population for the ½ mile service area is 5,060. (See Exhibit “F”.)

Mark Hoehne Park (Census Tract 7.01). A 4.12 acre site located at the intersection of Robbins Street and Finch Drive on the north side of Ocean Beach Highway northwest of 50th Avenue. The park has new playground equipment and picnic shelter. Design plans call for further development including tennis courts, basketball court, walking/bike path and open play area. The following are natural and man-made barriers; (a) those drainage ditches which flow from east to west along the north edge of the Finch Drive subdivision; that ditch which is located along the south side of the park, from 50th Avenue, west to Robbins Street, thence west to its junction with the Finch Drive Ditch along the east flank of the sewage lagoons, and (b) Ocean Beach Highway. A bridge across the ditch would open access to new residential development to the east. The user population with barriers for the 1/4 mile service area is 664. Without barriers the population is 721 for the 1/4 mile service area. (See Exhibit “G”.)

Roy Morse Park (Census Tract 7.01). A 60 acre site with playground equipment, baseball, softball fields - two lighted, soccer fields, picnic tables, horseshoe pits, concession building, maintenance shop, open play areas, tree nursery, restrooms, parking lots. The user population with barriers for the 1/4 mile service area is 610. Without barriers the population is 745 for the 1/4 mile service area. (See Exhibit “H”.)

John Null Park (Census Tract 6.02). A 12 acre site with playground equipment, youth baseball Fields-two(2) lighted tennis courts, open play area, picnic tables, restrooms, parking lot. The estimated user population with barriers for the 1/4 mile service area is 891. Without barriers the population is 1,007 for the 1/4 mile service area. (See Exhibits “I”.)

7th Avenue Park (Census Tract 2). A 29 acre site with playground equipment, softball fields, soccer fields, picnic shelter, concession buildings, restrooms and a parking lot. Expanded soccer use of the Kaiser Permanente property to the north was negotiated by the soccer association. The estimated user population with barriers for the 1/4 mile service area is 1,021. Without barriers the population is 1,021 for the 1/4 mile service area. (See Exhibit “J”.)

Vandercook Park (Census Tract 4). A 3 acre site located between Louisiana and Larch streets and 20th and 21st avenues, east of Lake Sacajawea and west of the Civic Center. The park has new playground equipment, tennis courts, shuffleboard, picnic tables and restrooms. The barriers include Ocean Beach Highway to the north; Washington Way to the north east and south; that portion of 15th Avenue located between Washington Way and Ocean Beach Highway; and, Kessler Blvd. to the west. The estimated user population with barriers for the 1/4 mile service area is 1,828. Without the barriers the population is 1,920 for the 1/4 mile service area. (See Exhibit “K”.)

Windemere Park (Census Tract 7.01). A 3 acre site located along the south side of the drainage ditch, in that subdivision located between 46th and 50th avenues, along the north side of Ocean Beach Highway. The park has new playground equipment, picnic shelter and tables, and open play area. The drainage ditch along its north flank and Ocean Beach Highway to the south are man-made barriers. The estimated user population with barriers for the 1/4 mile service area is 356. Without barriers the population is 940 for the 1/4 mile service area. (See Exhibit “L”.)

Altrusa Park (Undeveloped) (Census Tract 7.01). A 5.4 acre site that was approved for park purposes by the residential developer in 1998. It also includes 3.8 acres of trails along the sloughs which was dedicated to the Diking District with a use agreement to the city. This site should be developed into a neighborhood play-ground. Estimated user population for the 1/4 mile service area is 105 including barriers. (See Exhibit “M”.)

Regency Park (Undeveloped) (Census Tract 7.01). A 6+ acre site that currently is not being used for park services. There is a park deficiency in this area, therefore the site should be developed to include athletic areas. Estimated user population for the ½ mile service area is 850 including barriers. Identified barrier is the golf course along 42nd Avenue to the east and irrigation ditch to the north of the park land. (See Exhibit “N”.)

INSERT d

CLONEY PARK

Insert
EXHIBIT e

VICTORIA FREEMAN PARK

Insert

EXHIBIT "F"

ARCHIE ANDERSON PARK

INSERT EXHIBIT "G"

MARK HOEHNE PARK

Insert

EXHIBIT "H"

ROY MORSE PARK

Insert EXHIBIT "I"

JOHN NULL PARK

Insert EXHIBIT “J”

7th AVENUE PARK

Insert EXHIBIT “K”

VANDERCOOK PARK

Insert EXHIBIT “L”

WINDEMERE PARK

Insert EXHIBIT “M”

UNDEVELOPED PARK LAND
(32nd Avenue)

Insert EXHIBIT “N”

Altrusa

Insert EXHIBIT “O”

Sacajawea

P

GG

Q

RAL

R

Cowlitz

Blank

NEEDS ANALYSIS FOR NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

ADDRESSING OPEN SPACE DEFICIENCIES

As indicated in the analysis of neighborhood parks, there is a current deficiency of 105 acres and a projected deficiency of 194 acres if no further acquisition of park land is accomplished. The existing Park Dedication Ordinance requiring developments of 25 acres or more to contribute park land to the city is insufficient. The city experiences small developments with coterminous borders leaving areas built out without parks. Efforts need to be made to begin responding to the open space deficiency issue.

An immediate impact can be made by requiring land owners requesting annexation to include park land, at the current standards, in their development plans. The areas most susceptible to further development include Mt. Solo, Barlow Point, and west and north of the current city limits. Secondly, city staff should pursue revising the Park Dedication Ordinance to include smaller single and multi-family developments. These changes will help to insure that new developments address the open space needs and not add to the current land deficiency.

The other option the city needs to consider is the purchase of undeveloped land in areas where future development can be anticipated. This is particularly important when the opportunity exists to protect natural areas and environmentally sensitive sites. The staff should complete a land analysis to give direction on capital purchases and possible partnerships with the property owners on future sale of their land.

In addition to the acquisition of tracts of land, there is a need for linear trails available to the community. Partnerships with the Consolidated Diking Improvement District need to continue similar to what has taken place between 30th and 38th avenues. Efforts should also be made to link these to the trails that exist in Kelso. Where the tops to the dikes are in private ownership, agreements should be pursued allowing for trail access. Future trails could include the dike along the Cowlitz River, the continuation of the trail west from 38th Avenue, and the dike along Industrial Way to Mt. Solo Road and tying in with the trail through the Village of Mt. Solo development. Should railways ever become vacated, access to the previous rail beds would also provide excellent trails. Trail development should also be coordinated with the Longview Bicycle Plan and the Cowlitz Regional Trail Plan.

Figure 15

Areas Served by Neighborhood Parks (without barriers)

INSERT HERE

NEIGHBORHOOD PASSIVE AND PRESERVATION AREA - CLASS III

Size	May range from less than an acre to over a hundred acres depending on the area intended to serve.
Characteristics	Could consist of wooded areas with hiking and nature trails; preservation and wetlands areas; diverse or unique natural resources such as lakes, streams, marshes, flora, fauna, and topography; gardens; open grass areas for informal uses; picnic facilities with shelters; and viewing areas with benches.
General Use	All ages, but often more heavily by adults.
Service area	½ to 2 miles.
Needs Analysis	Every effort should be made to protect natural area from the effects of development.

EXISTING PASSIVE AND PRESERVATION AREAS

Lake Sacajawea Park (Census Tract 4) A 120 acre site (60 acres of lake) in an arboretum setting with tree identification tags, a 3 ½ mile perimeter trail around a lake, azalea and rhododendron gardens, perennial garden, Japanese garden, fishing docks, picnic sites and shelters, and restrooms.

Library Grounds (Census Tract 4). A 4.1 acre manicured site housing the public library and parking lot with mature landscaping, and a rose garden.

R.A. Long Park (Census Tract 4). A 4 acre manicured site with mature landscaping, sitting and picnic areas, historic plaques and a statue of the city's founder, R.A. Long.

Wake Robin Nature Preserve. This 80 acre site is leased by the Longview School District and shared by the city under a use agreement. It is located 2 miles outside of the city limits on Coal Creek Road. The site borders both sides of the creek with trails and nature study opportunities. A picnic shelter, port-a-potty and parking lot are the only developments.

Gerhart Gardens This 14 acre site is located at 40 Tennant Way, Longview. Amenities include BBQ grills, a boat launch, basketball courts, horseshoe pits, playground, picnic tables, restrooms, volleyball courts. The site is ADA accessible.

COMMUNITY PARK - CLASS IV

Size	16+ acres (desirable size - 25+ acres).
Characteristics	Playground equipment, athletic fields, tennis courts, multi-use courts, swimming pool, picnic areas, community center, restrooms, parking lot and trails.
General Use	Active recreational use by all ages.
Service area	1 to 2 mile radius as defined by physical boundaries.
Needs Analysis	Standard: 3 acres/1,000 population Current Supply: 3 community parks totaling 107 acres Standard required: (based on a population of 35,710) 3 acres/1,000 population = 107 acres Current Deficiency: 6 acres Future Need: (based on a population projection for 2016 of 40,830) 3 acres/1,000 population = 145 acres Future Deficiency: 44 acres

EXISTING COMMUNITY PARKS

Roy Morse Park (Census Tract 7.0 1). A 60 acre site with playground equipment, softball fields - two lighted, baseball fields, soccer fields, open play areas, concession buildings, picnic facilities, horseshoe courts, maintenance garage, parking lots, restrooms and nursery. This park site serves as a neighborhood park as well. (See Exhibit "H".)

John Null Park (Census Tract 6.02). A 12 acre site with playground equipment, baseball fields, lighted tennis courts, picnic tables, open play area, parking lot and restrooms. This park site serves as a neighborhood park as well. (See Exhibit "I".)

7th Avenue Park (Census Tract 2). A 29 acre site with playground equipment, softball fields, soccer fields, picnic shelter, concession building, restrooms and parking lots. This park site serves as a neighborhood park as well. (See Exhibit "J".)

REGIONAL PARK/FACILITY - CLASS V

Size	Dependent upon the focus of the park and the requirements of that activity(s).
Characteristics	Natural wooded areas for hiking, day camps, nature study, etc. A lake or river shoreline for swimming, fishing and boat launch facilities. Sports complexes, multi-purpose community center, aquatics park, golf course, arboretum, camping facilities, amphitheater, playground equipment, picnic areas with shelters and parking.
General Use	All ages.
Service Area	½ hour driving time to reach the facility.
Needs Analysis	The community should determine what facilities are deficient and what they are willing to support through taxes, user fees, grants and donations.

EXISTING REGIONAL PARKS/FACILITIES

Gerhart Gardens Park (Census Tract 3). A 14 acre site with 1,800 feet of sandy beach shoreline along the Cowlitz River with a separate boat launch, playground equipment, open play areas, picnic areas, sand volleyball, horseshoe pits, restrooms and parking.

Lake Sacajawea Park (Census Tract 4). A 120 acre site in an arboretum setting with tree identification tags, a 3 ½ mile lighted, perimeter trail around a lake, azalea and rhododendron gardens, perennial garden, Japanese garden, fishing docks, picnic sites and shelters, playground equipment, small community building and restrooms.

Cowlitz River (Census Tract 2). This site is a 2.25 acre undeveloped property fronting the Cowlitz River. The adopted master plan includes developing the site as a trail head with river overlook areas and picnic tables. There will also be habitat enhancement plantings to provide for peaceful open space.

Mint Valley Golf Course, Racquet Complex and Fitness Center (Census Tract 7.01). A 147 acre site providing an 18 hole regulation golf course, six (6) hole par 3 course, driving range, pro shop, restaurant, cart storage building and maintenance buildings; racquet complex with 4 tennis courts, 4 racquetball/walleyball courts and a fitness center; and parking.

SPECIAL USE FACILITIES - CLASS VI

Special use facilities may be developed separately or as a part of a larger park development. They usually contain unique features set up to serve a special group or function.

EXISTING SPECIAL USE FACILITIES

Catlin Center (Census Tract 10). A 1.25 acre site with a spray park and a small community building owned by the City of Kelso. The building is administered by the City of Longview.

Elks Memorial Building (Census Tract 4). This building is located in Lake Sacajawea Park and includes two activity rooms. A teen drop-in center, the Boulevard, operates out of the facility.

McClelland Arts Center (Census Tract 2). This building is located in Victoria Freeman Park and includes a large programming space, small meeting room, galley kitchen, office and parking. Recreation programs, art exhibits, special events and other rentals take place at the facility.

Senior Citizen Center (Census Tract 1). This building is located in downtown Longview and includes a large meeting room, lounge, two small meeting rooms, a kitchen, offices and limited parking.

Recreation and Parks Administration Buildings (Census Tract 6.02). These buildings are located in Cloney Park and house the administrative and programming staff offices and the maintenance equipment garage. In addition, some recreation programs are held at this site.

Square Dance Hall (Census Tract 3). This building is located on Industrial Way and is used solely for dance programs. It includes a large dance room, a small meeting room, a kitchen and sufficient parking. The square dance club is responsible for all upkeep to the building.

Woman's Club Building (Census Tract 4). This building is located on 21st Avenue in a residential area and is used for general recreation programs and rentals. It has two meeting rooms, fireplace, kitchen, stage and parking lot.

Community Gardens (Census Tract 6.01). A 3 acre site used for irrigated community gardens. Interest in the gardens has been waning although, as of 2008, there is an interest group working to increase usage.

TRAILS

Size	Variable
Characteristics	Paved or graveled
General Use	Active recreational use by all ages.
Service area	Regional, if trailhead facilities exist; Neighborhood service area otherwise.
Needs Analysis	Standard: 1 mile /1,000 population Current Supply: 2 developed trails totaling 5.6 miles Standard required: (based on a population of 35,710) 1 mile /1,000 population = 35.7 miles Current Deficiency: 30.1 miles Future Need: (based on a population projection for 2016 of 40,830) 1 mile/1,000 population = 40.8 miles Future Deficiency: 35.2 miles

EXISTING OFF-ROAD TRAILS

Lake Sacajawea Trail (Census Tract 4) This 3.6 mile gravel trail circles Lake Sacajawea the park and consists of pedestrian bridges, benches, and lighting.

Pacific Way Trail (Census Tract 7.01) This 2 mile trail follows the dike along ditch #6 on the south side of Pacific Way. The trail is gravel from 30th Avenue to 48th Avenue. The gate at Mint Valley Golf Course acts as a barrier.

Insert inventory



Figure 16

Longview Urban Area Parks, Recreation Facilities & School District Sites

SECTION V

DEMAND ANALYSIS

Introduction

Identifying the demand for park and recreation facilities and programs is an important element in the planning process. It is also one of the most difficult tasks to assess because so many different variables influence recreation user participation and demand. The process that identifies needs includes the following:

1. Citizen survey conducted specifically to determine opinions regarding operations, development, and capital needs.
2. Citizen and user group input provided at public meetings of the Parks and Recreation Board, Arts Commission, and the Golf Advisory Committee.
3. Sections of the City of Longview 2006 citywide comprehensive plan that relates to parks and recreation.
4. Observations and analysis by the Parks and Recreation Department staff regarding demands, changing demographics, deficiencies, opportunities, and emerging issues.
5. Review of related plans from other city departments and outside organizations, and previously adopted plans such as the 2000 Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan.
6. An inventory of accomplishments and assessments of how specific land acquisitions and park projects have answered previously identified needs and identified growth since the 2000 plan.
7. Assessment of need for facilities restoration and renewal based on the capital asset inventory replacement plan.

Accomplishments Since the 2000 Comprehensive Plan

To assess current needs and determine reasonable expectations and strategies for meeting those needs, it is helpful to reflect on accomplishments that have addressed needs identified by the 2000 plan. The accomplishments listed below represent significant progress in meeting those needs. However, as the

population increases, demographic changes occur, new issues emerge, economic downswings occur, and historic needs remain; ongoing evaluation is required.

Park and Facility Accomplishments

- Archie Anderson Park
 - New, lighted basketball courts developed
 - Cloney Park
 - Skate park developed
 - BMX track renovated
 - Mark Hoehne Park
 - Picnic shelter constructed
 - Lake Sacajawea Park
 - Playground equipment donated for Nichols side of lake
 - Japanese Garden developed
 - Bridge to Japanese Island donated
 - 1st phase of irrigation system completed
 - Solar system walk completed
 - Nichols side of brick plaza nearly completed
 - Sacajawea sculpture and information panels donated for the lake park
 - Sunken gardens restored
 - Roy Morse Park
 - Replacement playground equipment installed
 - Traffic control gate installed
 - Rotary Park
 - Picnic shelter constructed
 - 7th Ave Park
 - Replacement playground equipment installed
 - New soccer concession and storage building constructed
 - Mint Valley Golf Course
 - Cart Paths paved
 - Victoria Freeman Park
 - Basketball courts renovated
 - 32nd Avenue Site
 - Planning grant awarded for park design
 - Master Plan completed, but not adopted
-

- Bronze Sculptures
 - Outdoor bronze sculptures were donated and placed at the library grounds, in front of the Columbia Theater, and downtown at the corner of Commerce Ave. and Broadway Ave.
- Altrusa Park
 - Design plan completed
- McClelland Center
 - New energy efficient lighting system installed
- Recreation Administration Building
 - Interior renovations adding additional office and meeting space
- Woman's Club Building
 - Restrooms renovated to add handicap accessibility
 - New heating system converting operations from oil to natural gas

Recreation Program and Service Accomplishments

- Recognized by the National Recreation & Park Association as a Step Up to Health community by demonstrating best practices and community mobilization efforts in healthy lifestyles and livable communities (one of only 37 in the nation).
 - Recognition by the KaBoom national nonprofit organization as a Playful City USA for demonstrating a commitment for taking action for play (one of only 31 in the nation). This recognition made the city eligible for a \$25,000 grant, which we received.
 - Receive \$35,000 in cash donations and \$40,000 worth of in-kind contributions for recreation programs from businesses and nonprofit organizations annually.
 - Recreation program evaluations show a 97% satisfaction rate.
 - Annually recruited and train 500 volunteers who donate over 6,600 hours at recreation programs.
 - Awarded numerous grants for enhancing recreation programs from Drug Free Communities, Foundation of Southwest Washington, Schools Out Washington, Golf Course Builders Association of America Stix for Kids, Cowlitz on the Move Health Coalition, Weyerhaeuser Foundation, Kirkpatrick Family Care, Red Canoe, and National Alliance for Youth Sports CAST for Kids.
 - Addition of adult softball programs that annually serve 161 teams with 2,254 players through league play and host approximately 10 tournaments.
 - Established collaboration with Cowlitz on the Move healthy lifestyle coalition to promote and offer physical activity and nutrition while providing healthy lifestyle opportunities.
-

- Received state after school license / certification as child a care provider for after school programs.
- Became involved in the Youth Leadership Academy for a program to increase teen leadership skills and teamwork.
- Received award recognition and certificates of achievement from Washington Recreation & Park Association, National Recreation and Park Association, National Alliance of Youth Sports, and Association of Washington Cities for outstanding recreation programs.

Assumptions

As staff addresses demands for the next 6-years, there are assumptions that need to be stated. They will act as a basis for some of the decisions that will be made affecting this plan. Some of these reflect changes from the 2000 plan.

- School facilities within the city do contribute to meeting identified park needs. School playgrounds, play equipment, gymnasiums, auditoriums, sport fields, and open space are used by residents when school is not in session. While there is limited access that restricts use, partial credit needs to be acknowledged in meeting planning targets for facility use. School facilities are not counted toward meeting city park and trail acquisition requirements.
 - County and city of Kelso facilities, and other adjacent cities to a lesser extent, do contribute to meeting city needs. County facilities located in proximity to the city, like Willow Grove and Riverside Parks and Kelso facilities such as the Catlin Spray Park and river trails provide facilities used by Longview residents.
 - Demographics are changing and affect needs. Resident population has grown from 34,660 in 2000 to 35,710 in 2007. The increase of 1,050 people is approximately 3% over the 2000 count. The city is planning for 48,422 people in 2025. Needs identified reflect this growth, and changing demographics include: 1) upward median age, 2) reduced persons per household, 3) significant percentage increase in 65+ populations.
 - Facility planning needs and demand can partially be addressed by use of appropriate technology. Efficiencies are gained by the restoration and modernization of selected existing facilities in concert with new facilities planning designed to increase capacity. The limited and thoughtful use of sport turf, lighting and all weather structures can significantly increase the
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capacity and use for selected facilities. With land values significantly escalating, technology can provide a cost efficient method for expanded capacity with reduced land acquisition costs.



SECTION VI

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Website Survey

The information technology department of the city helped to construct a survey that was placed on the city's website in March of 2006. Newspaper articles, radio announcements, fliers, posters and various other methods were used to notify residents of the opportunity to complete the survey. There were 473 responses received. Since staff wanted to receive opinions from non-residents who are users of Longview park and recreation services, there was no attempt made to restrict responses to just Longview residents. To determine residency, two questions were asked regarding whether the respondents lived in Longview city limits and how long they had lived in the city. 257 stated they lived within city limits and 71 failed to answer the question. 297 responded that they live in one of the specific city neighborhoods. Therefore, it can be assumed that there were between 297 and 328 Longview city residents who responded to the survey.

After analyzing the responses, there are major themes that are worth noting.

1. Park users are generally very satisfied with the quality and condition of Longview city parks (82%)
 2. When asked what they would most like the city to do to improve and expand city park facilities, respondents answered that developing multipurpose bike/walking trails was their first priority (91%). Upgrading existing neighborhood parks was second (89%), and acquiring properties for developing new parks/open space along with developing a community center with multiple recreation amenities tied for third (82%).
 3. When asked the importance of functions performed by the parks and recreation department, the majority felt that operating and maintaining parks and facilities (97%), providing trails for biking and walking (96%), and providing programs for residents of all ages (95%) were most important. Close behind were preserving the environment and providing open space, and providing places for outdoor sports (94%).
 4. When asked to pick activities from a list of options that household members would participate in more often if more facilities/programs were available, responses were, running/walking
-

(39%), attending live theater/concert performances (29%), and adult fitness/aerobics classes and soccer tied at (28%).

5. By far, the park visited most by respondents is Lake Sacajawea Park (91%). Seventh Ave was second with 39% and then the Library Grounds at 25%.
6. Most answered the question regarding the frequency of park use by household members to be 21 or more visits per year (66%), with the second highest response being from 11 to 20 visits per year (15%).
7. The most popular park amenities are trails/paths (76%), picnic areas and playground equipment(59%), open lawn areas (57%), and athletic fields (52%). Respondents were allowed to choose as many answers from the list that applied.
8. When asked about support for a community center, 90% of the respondents said they were willing to pay at least \$25 annually toward the construction of such a facility. 60% were willing to support the project up to \$50 annually, and 35% up to \$75 annually.
9. The Longview Recreation Guide and the Daily Newspaper are the two greatest sources of information for learning about Longview Parks and Recreation.
10. Over 67% of respondents have participated in recreation program offered by the city in the last 12 months and of those respondents, 90% felt the quality of the programs was good to excellent.

The full survey can be found at Appendix A.

Community Forum

A public forum was held in November 2006 to give residents the opportunity to identify issues and needs related to parks and recreation facilities and to respond to the first draft of the Longview Comprehensive Plan.

Public Meetings

The city of Longview has voluntary advisory groups that guide the parks and recreation department in specific areas of recreation. Each of these groups meets monthly or quarterly, and welcomes the public's input. Public notices of the meetings are posted on the city's website and in the newspaper. The advisory groups are the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, the Mint Valley Golf Course Advisory Committee, and the Visual Arts Commission. Other advisory organizations include the Longview Senior Center Board, the Historic Preservation Commission, and the Longview/Kelso Slow Pitch Softball Committee.

SECTION VII

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (CIP)

In order to forecast requirements for land acquisition, facility and building development, and asset protection, the Parks and Recreation Department has to consider capital needs over a multi-year period. This list is proposed by the Parks and Recreation Board, Mint Valley Golf Course Advisory Committee, and staff to be reviewed on a biannual basis in order to present projects for funding within the city's budget process. Projects suggested for CIP consideration must satisfy various criteria, which include the goals and standards, needs and demands, recommendations by citizens, urgency, level of service, growth trends, finances, maximization of facilities, protection of assets, safety, and potential for reduced maintenance. The following criteria are weighted differently and are not in a prioritized order.

Urgency to acquire land occurs when land availability declines. An urgency for facility development may exist where there is a lack of recreation facilities.

Levels of service responds to the needs and demands of residents in an area based on what recreation facilities are available.

Growth trends drive the need criteria based on future population projections.

Finance is the economic evaluation of projects and their worth relative to other criteria.

Maximizing facilities provides the basis for decisions regarding renovation, restoration and development. Utilizing public resources to their highest and best use is appropriate stewardship.

Protection of assets recognizes the importance of previous commitments of funding and land resources to provide recreational services.

Safety concerns and reduced maintenance share a common thread. As existing elements within the park system age, higher levels of service are required or the incidents of failure and potential risks increase as the system becomes less safe.

City departments submit their capital projects on a biennial basis to then be considered for funding based on the following criteria:

1. Preservation of public health and safety
 2. Improvements required as a result of court action or federal or state regulation, or to prevent court action.
 3. Reduction of current maintenance expenditures and avoidance of costly future rehabilitation
 4. Preservation of existing facilities
 5. Importance for gaining or retaining industry and jobs
 6. Positive impacts (social, political, etc.) on city residents
 7. Grant/loan secured or leveraging of private funds
 8. Grant/loan available
 9. Protection of vital links in providing services to residents
 10. Demonstration that project can proceed to construction promptly
-

Table 3

INSERT

Eight-Year Capital Improvement Program for Parks and Facilities
5 Pages

Funding Options For the Capital Projects

Following is a list of possible funding sources for projects listed in the above capital improvement plan. Although there are other methods of funding specific projects, the possibilities listed below represent the most common sources of funding.

The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) administers a variety of grant and funding-assistance programs. Originally known as the Interagency for Outdoor Recreation (IAC), the RCO was created in 1964 as part of the Marine Recreation Land Act (Initiative 215). The RCO administers several grant programs (generally on a matching basis) for recreation and habitat conservation purposes. Depending on the program, eligible project applicants can include municipal subdivisions of the state (cities, towns, and counties, or port, utility, park and recreation, and school districts), Native American tribes, state agencies, and in some cases, federal agencies and nonprofit organizations. Grants are awarded by the RCO staff based on a public, competitive process which weighs the merits of proposed projects against established program criteria.

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 un-reclaimed marine fuel taxes), off-road vehicle funds, and more recently, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition funds. More information on various grant programs appears below:

Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA)

The ALEA program provides grants that may be used for the acquisition, restoration or improvement of aquatic lands for public purposes and for providing and improving public access to aquatic lands and associated waters. Funds for this program are derived from the leasing of state-owned aquatic lands and from the sale of aquatic land resources such as sand, gravel and shellfish. Local governments, tribes and state agencies may apply for funding, provided they are legally authorized to acquire and develop public open space, habitat, or recreational lands. Applicants must provide a minimum 50% local match.

Youth Athletic Facilities Program

The Youth Athletic Facilities Program provides grants to develop, equip, maintain and improve youth and community athletic facilities. Washington voters approved this program as part of Referendum 48, which provided funding for the Seattle Seahawks stadium. Three types of projects qualify for funding: 1) acquisition and development of new facilities; 2) improvements to current facilities; and 3) maintenance of existing facilities. The funding is split equally between the three categories. Grant recipients must provide at least 50% matching funds in cash or in-kind contributions. Local governments (cities, counties, ports, etc.) can apply for funding along with tribes, state agencies, private marinas open to the public and non-profit organizations.

Boating Infrastructure Grants (BIG) Program

The RCO manages the Boating Infrastructure Grants (BIG) program to help local communities address the needs of boaters. The program provides funding for recreational transient boating facilities, targeting the needs of recreational boats 26 feet and larger. Grant recipients are required to

provide 25% matching funds in either cash or in-kind contributions. Funding is provided by a portion of the federal Aquatic Resources Trust Fund as administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA) - Wetland Stewardship Program
Department of Natural Resources

This program provides grant monies to state and local agencies to acquire wetland sites, which shall be committed to long-term educational and research uses. Sites must be on or associated with navigable waterways. Funds for this program are derived from the leasing of state-owned aquatic lands and from the sale of aquatic land resources such as sand, gravel, and shellfish. This program began in 1992.

Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP)

The WWRP provides funding for the acquisition and development of local and state parks, water access sites, trails, critical wildlife habitat, natural areas, and urban wildlife habitat. Grants are divided into the following main categories: critical habitat, local parks, natural areas, riparian habitat (special funding source), state parks, trails, urban wildlife and water access. Local governments, state agencies and tribal governments are all eligible to apply for funding. A minimum 50% match of funds is required for local and tribal governments.

Boating Facilities Program (BFP)

The BFP was created in 1965 by a voter-approved initiative. The program provides grants for projects that acquire, develop and renovate boating facilities, including launching ramps, transient moorage and support facilities on both freshwater and saltwater. Funding is divided equally between state and local agency projects. Local governments, tribes and state agencies are all eligible under the program. Matching funds in the form of cash or in-kind contributions are required.

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

The LWCF provides grants to buy land and develop outdoor facilities, including parks, trails and wildlife lands for the public. Local governments, tribes and state agencies are eligible to apply and grant recipients must provide at least 50% matching funds in either cash or in-kind contributions. Indoor facilities, as well as maintenance and operation costs are not eligible under the program.

Park Land Dedication or Fee in Lieu of Land Dedication, Impact Mitigation through SEPA

Under the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) Chapter 58.17, cities can require subdivision developers to dedicate land for park use. Under RCW Chapter 82.02, a developer can voluntarily submit a fee instead of land dedication. Under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), if a development (e.g. an apartment complex) will have an impact on the park system that can be demonstrated, the city can require the developer to provide mitigation such as land dedication, park improvements or fees.

User Fees

User fees can be charged for a wide range of activities, including parking, and special park uses such as corporate picnics, camping, regattas, and other special events. While some user fees are implemented to reduce vandalism and control park usage, other fees could generate revenues to implement additional elements of the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan.

Community Development Block Grants

These are federal funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that Longview receives on an annual basis as an “entitlement” city. They may be used for parks and recreation facilities that benefit low-to-moderate income households. Often CDBG funds can be used as a match with other state or federal dollars for a public purpose project.

Donations

Individuals may choose to make their land available for public use by donating it to the City. Donations can be used as match for additional acquisitions through state grant programs, effectively doubling the size of most donations.

Metropolitan Park Districts

RCW 35.61 and 36.69 allow for the formulation of park and recreation districts for the purpose of providing recreational facilities and activities. Citizens of the Longview area could pursue voter-approved funding for new park facilities and/or maintenance and operation of park facilities.

Transportation Enhancement Funding (TEA-21)

The Federal Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) authorized funding for Transportation Enhancement Activities which includes historic preservation, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and scenic beautification. ISTEA requires each State DOT to set aside at least 10 percent of its STP funds for use only on Transportation Enhancements. The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century was enacted June 9, 1998 as Public Law 105-178. TEA-21 authorizes the Federal surface transportation programs for highways, highway safety, and transit for the 6-year period 1998-2003.

Capital Projects Fund

The City is authorized to use Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) funds to finance certain capital improvement projects including parks acquisition, development, and restoration.

Ernie Kuntz Memorial Fund

The City was bequeathed approximately \$632,000 in 1998. The current balance is approximately \$740,000. The stipulation governing this gift is that it be used for park purposes.

General Obligation Bonds

The City has the authority when approved by the voters to sell bonds for capital improvements and finance the repayment of those bonds with the additional taxes collected for that purpose.

APPENDICES

- A. Survey Results**
- B. Additional Responses from Open-Ended Questions**
- C. Resolution 1892**

APPENDIX A
SURVEY RESULTS

APPENDIX B

ADDITIONAL RESPONSES FROM OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS

Some survey questions were open ended and allowed for the person completing the survey to check “other” and write in the response. The responses from open ended questions are provided here.

From the following list, please check all facilities that members of your household have used for parks and recreation programs or activities (other than City of Longview Parks and Recreation facilities). (Check all that apply.)

- Trails and connectors
- well lighted sidewalks
- off leash dog park
- tap dancing classes, dog agility, dog obedience
- parks - open areas
- golf course
- McClelland Arts Center
- Lower Columbia Head Start
- County Parks
- YOGA AT DOWNTOWN SHOP
- 7th Avenue soccer fields
- work associated picnic
- Political Party
- Fall and spring soccer
- little kickers soccer, Salmon Creek, indoor soccer begins at 1 1/2 years
- co-ed slowpitch
- Lake Sacajawea
- off leash dog park
- parks - open areas
- family time
- Columbia Theater
- Forestland
- The Boulevard
- parks and rec sponsored programs and activities?
- Catlin Center
- Camp Singing Wind
- Longview Square Dance Center
- baseball
- National Forest Service Parks
- off leash dog park
- Catlin Hall
- LV Women's Club
- ROY MORSE PARK
- private home
- Parks & Rec Building
- rec building
- Fraternal Organizations
- work associated picnic
- horse friendly parks
- Elks bldg

What amenities do family members use when visiting City of Longview parks? (Choose all that apply)

- Doggie bags
- walking pets
- BBQ
- racquetball courts
- Walking
- Dog friendly
- Soccer Fields
- viewable wildlife
- Bike Paths
- golf course
- Restroom Facilities
- islands
- viewing wildlife that visit the parks and surrounding areas
- Soccer Fields
- I live on 5 acres!
- garden areas all
- Celebrations like Go 4th
- dog park
- concerts
- would use horse trails
- Skate Park
- Japanese Garden
- Squirrels and other wildlife

Please check any of the reasons that prevent members of your household from using City of Longview Parks and Recreation programs and facilities more often. (Check all that apply)

- not very accessible for disabled
- need park lighting at night
- proposed leash laws
- Never looked into any of them
- Class cancelled
- The last class I took I felt the instructor lacked knowledge on the subject.
- children different ages so not all can go so they get upset
- more trash containers are needed EVERYWHERE!
- kids are grown up now
- lack of restrooms for parks
- I use Parks facilities as often as I want to, so none applies
- kids are grown up now
- lack of restrooms for parks
- I use Parks facilities as often as I want to, so none applies
- Connected bike trails
- lack of facility - boat launch area
- better restrooms
- need wider paths or separate bike/walking paths at the lake, also restrooms need to be maintained, cleaned etc.
- I want an outdoor water pool/water park!!!!
- wildlife habitat needs to be conserved; development does not help, and open spaces can
- destroy habitat
- Walking handicap access is poor
- Not enough time to do everything I want to do! Plus restrooms
- unleashed dogs
- Traffic on Louisiana and inappropriate use of Vandercook
- I don't live here. I work here.
- Not enough picnic shelter space for our family function, some weekends can be very busy and full.

- Restrooms Not Maintained as frequently as should be
- rest rooms very poor conditions/ need more police present
- Not enough facilities available
- no horse friendly trails
- soccer fields too busy need more
- Lack of control of persons attending the classes.
- I coach youth soccer teams. There is not enough open space to accommodate the soccer, softball, and baseball youth teams that all need practice facilities. Longview needs hiking trails in woods env.

- I work so much, no time to enjoy
- Weather
- none
- vandalism

- Unqualified teaching/staff

Please check the ways you learn about City of Longview Parks and Recreation activities.

- email from homeschoolers
- web
- schools
- When LCC has brochures available
- Family business works w/them
- Cowlitz On The Move
- youth organization flyers
- Longview soccer website
- school fliers

APPENDIX C

RESOLUTION 1892