FOREST GROVE OREGON

A place where families and businesses thrive.

CITY RECORDER USE ONLY:
AGENDA ITEM #: _____
MEETING DATE: _____
FINAL ACTION: _____

CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM — JOINT WORK SESSION:

TO: *City Council*

FROM: *Jesse VanderZanden, City Manager*

PROJECT TEAM: *Tom Gamble. Parks and Recreation Director*
Jon Holan, Community Development Director
Paul Downey, Administrative Services Director

DATE: *September 12, 2016*

SUBJECT: *Joint Work Session: Council, Planning Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission – Parks and Recreation Master Plan and Recreation Center Studies*

Staff and Cindy Mendoza from MIG Planning and Design will present the Draft Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan. The entire plan, Executive Summary and Appendices are included for review.

This session is intended to provide both elected and appointed officials an overview of the draft results and proposed recommendations of a year-long study that included numerous methods to collect data and information. The final document will provide the framework for the future of the Parks and Recreation Department including Aquatics.

This study will update the previous Master Plan which was adopted by City Council in 2002.

Included in the draft plan is:

- Community Values and Vision.
- System and Site Recommendations.
- Capital Funding Recommendations.
- Operations Funding Recommendations.
- 10 Year Implementation Plan.
- Estimated Capital Costs.

This work session is designed to collect input from those in attendance. Input collected may be incorporated into the final plan which is anticipated to be on the City Council agenda at the October 24th, 2016 meeting.

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FOREST GROVE OREGON

Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan Update + Community Center Feasibility Study

Joint Council, Planning Commission and PRC Meeting

September 12, 2016

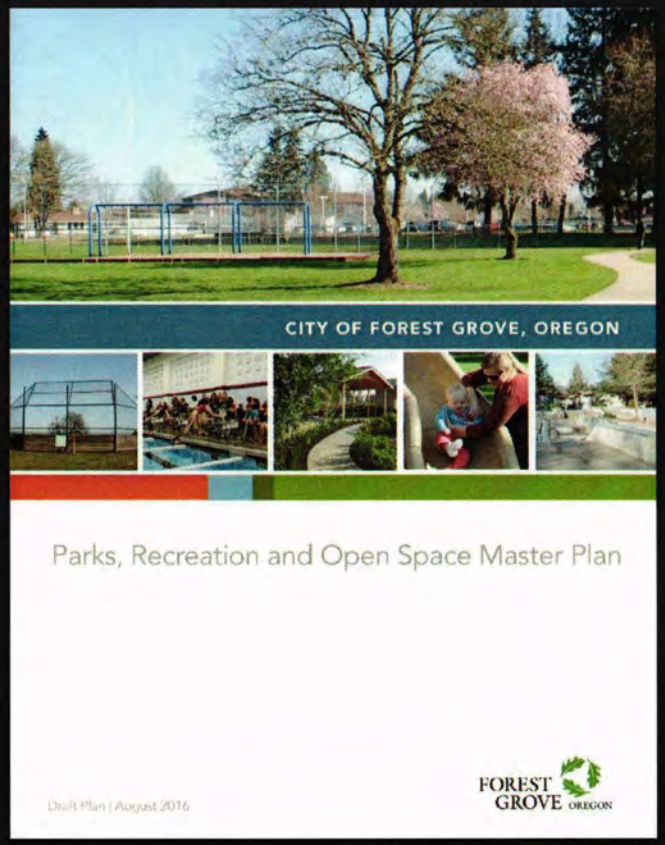
Draft Plan Review

- Receive presentation of Draft Master Plan
- Discuss and address questions
- Identify any major changes needed, particularly in priority projects

- Next Steps: Comments and revisions will be incorporated into Final Plan for adoption

Purpose of Master Plan

- Update directions from 2002 Master Plan
- Identify community vision and needs for parks, recreation facilities, trails, and programs
- Recommend park projects and identify priorities
- Identify a funding and implementation strategy for next 10 years



4-Phased Planning Project

Spring 2015

Phase 1: Where are we now?

- Inventory
- Planning Context
- SDC Review
- Existing Conditions

Phase 2: Where do we want to be?

- Community Outreach
- Access Analysis
- Needs Assessment
- Community Center Market Analysis

Phase 3: How do we get there?

- Community Survey and Workshops
- Recommendations
- Project Costs
- Project Priorities

Fall 2016

Phase 4: Where/how do we start?

- Funding
- Draft Plan
- Review
- Final Plan

Community Involvement

Many people were involved in identifying a community vision, needs and priorities:

Activity	#
Stakeholder Interviews	4
Online Questionnaire	488
Sports & Recreation Focus Group	15
Hispanic-Latino Focus Group	12
Community Workshops	20
Telephone Survey	220
Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)	20
Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)	5
TOTAL	**784**

Values, Vision, Mission & Goals

MASTER PLAN VALUES

Access for all
Stewardship
Community livability
One community

COMMUNITY'S VISION

A system of parks, recreation facilities, trails and programs that serves the entire community, reflects the character of Forest Grove and protects our natural resources.

Outreach Findings

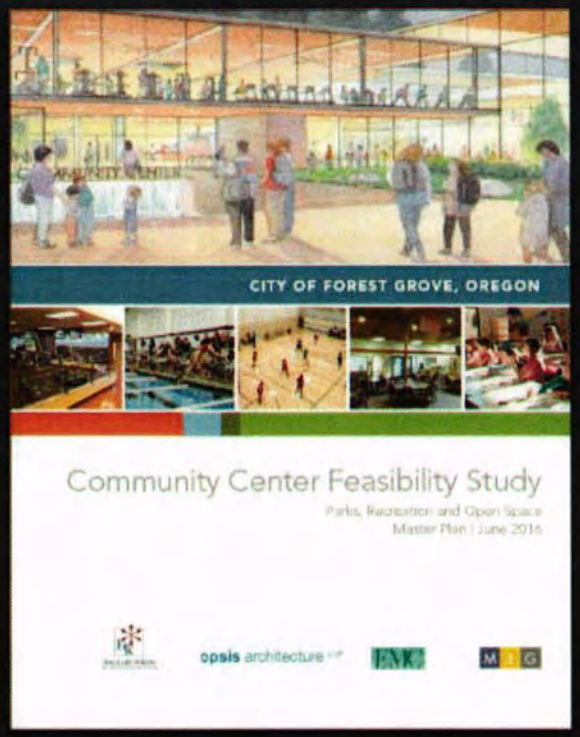
- Strong support for parks and recreation
- Desire for more recreation options (facilities and services)
- Willingness to support small tax increase:
  - Park upkeep and repairs
  - Programs and events
  - Low-cost park improvements and development
- Desire that other funding and partnerships will support project implementation (e.g. private funding, grants, etc.)

Parks and Recreation Needs

- Improvements to existing parks
- Park development
- New parks in growing and underserved areas (north and east FG)
- Greater variety of facilities
- Trails (multi-use and nature)
- More programs and events
- Better information about recreation opportunities
- A recreation center

Community Center Feasibility Study

- A large multi-purpose recreation and community center is desired
- Market (within city limits) is too small to support a large facility
- An equity partner and facility operator would be needed
- No obvious source of capital funding for project of this size
- Support for several options that could move forward in future



System-wide Strategies

STRATEGIES

Parks and Facilities
Enhance existing parks and facilities and develop new ones

Open Space, Greenways and Trails
Protect natural resources and provide trails

Recreation Programs and Services
Activate parks with recreation programs and events

Maintenance and Stewardship
Maintain and replace assets sustainably and preserve historic and cultural resources

Collaborative Management and Partnerships
Work collaboratively with others to maximize the benefits of the park and recreation system

Park Design Options

Expanded Play Opportunities

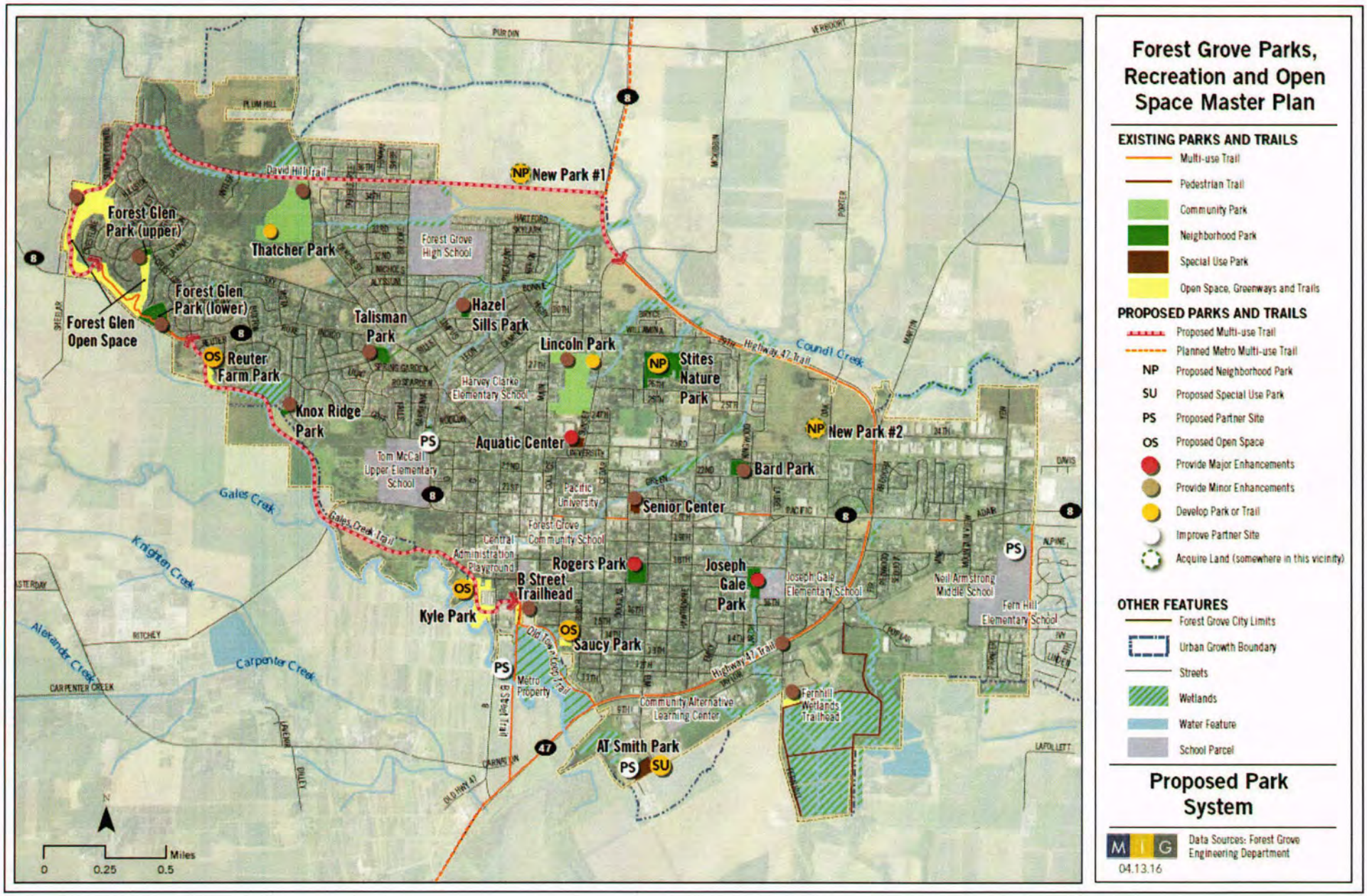
Social Gathering & Event Space

Connections to Nature, Scenery and History

Recreation Variety

Projects at Partner Sites

Park Activities, Events and Programs


Forest Grove Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan
EXISTING PARKS AND TRAILS
Multi-use Trail
Pedestrian Trail
Community Park
Neighborhood Park
Special Use Park
Open Space, Greenways and Trails
PROPOSED PARKS AND TRAILS
Proposed Multi-use Trail
Planned Metro Multi-use Trail
NP Proposed Neighborhood Park
SU Proposed Special Use Park
PS Proposed Partner Site
OS Proposed Open Space
Provide Major Enhancements
Provide Minor Enhancements
Develop Park or Trail
Improve Partner Site
Acquire Land (somewhere in this vicinity)
OTHER FEATURES
Forest Grove City Limits
Urban Growth Boundary
Streets
Wetlands
Water Feature
School Parcel
Proposed Park System
Data Sources: Forest Grove Engineering Department
04.13.16
New Park #1
Forest Glen Park (upper)
Thatcher Park
Forest Glen Park (lower)
Forest Glen Open Space
Reuter Farm Park
Talisman Park
Hazel Sills Park
Lincoln Park
Stites Nature Park
Knox Ridge Park
Aquatic Center
New Park #2
Bard Park
Senior Center
Rogers Park
Joseph Gale Park
Kyle Park
B Street Trailhead
Saucy Park
AT Smith Park
Fernhill Wetlands Trailhead
Forest Grove High School
Harvey Clarke Elementary School
Tom McCall Upper Elementary School
Pacific University
Forest Grove Community School
Central Administration Playground
Joseph Gale Elementary School
Neil Armstrong Middle School
Fern Hill Elementary School
Community Alternative Learning Center
Metro Property
David Hill Trail
Gales Creek Trail
Highway 47 Trail
Old Town Loop Trail
Gales Creek
Knighton Creek
Alexander Creek
Carpenter Creek
Council Creek
Miles
0
0.25
0.5

Parks and Facility Recommendations

- Existing park enhancements (major/minor)
- Park development (community park parcels and undeveloped sites)
- Two new neighborhood parks and a downtown plaza
- Loop trail completion
- Partnerships to meet targeted needs
- Program/events initiatives
- Equity partner/funding for recreation center

Program Recommendations

- Hire recreation coordinator
- Consolidate information on activities in community (website or app)
- Provide scholarship fund
- Convene/facilitate indoor and outdoor programs and events
  - YMCA in schools
  - Program funds for partners

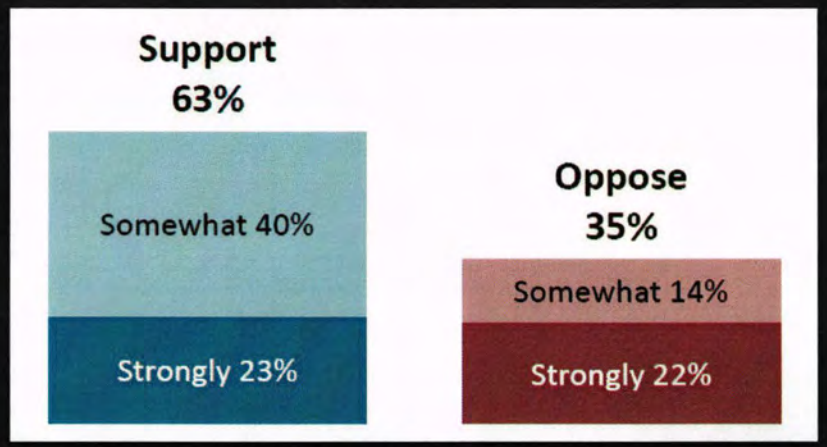
Potential Capital and Operations Costs

- All projects: $66.1* million
- Annual maintenance: $2.1 million
- Annual operations: $450,000 - $775,000
- Potential cost in 10 years: $90+ million

*$38 M of this is for a community recreation and aquatic center and surrounding park site

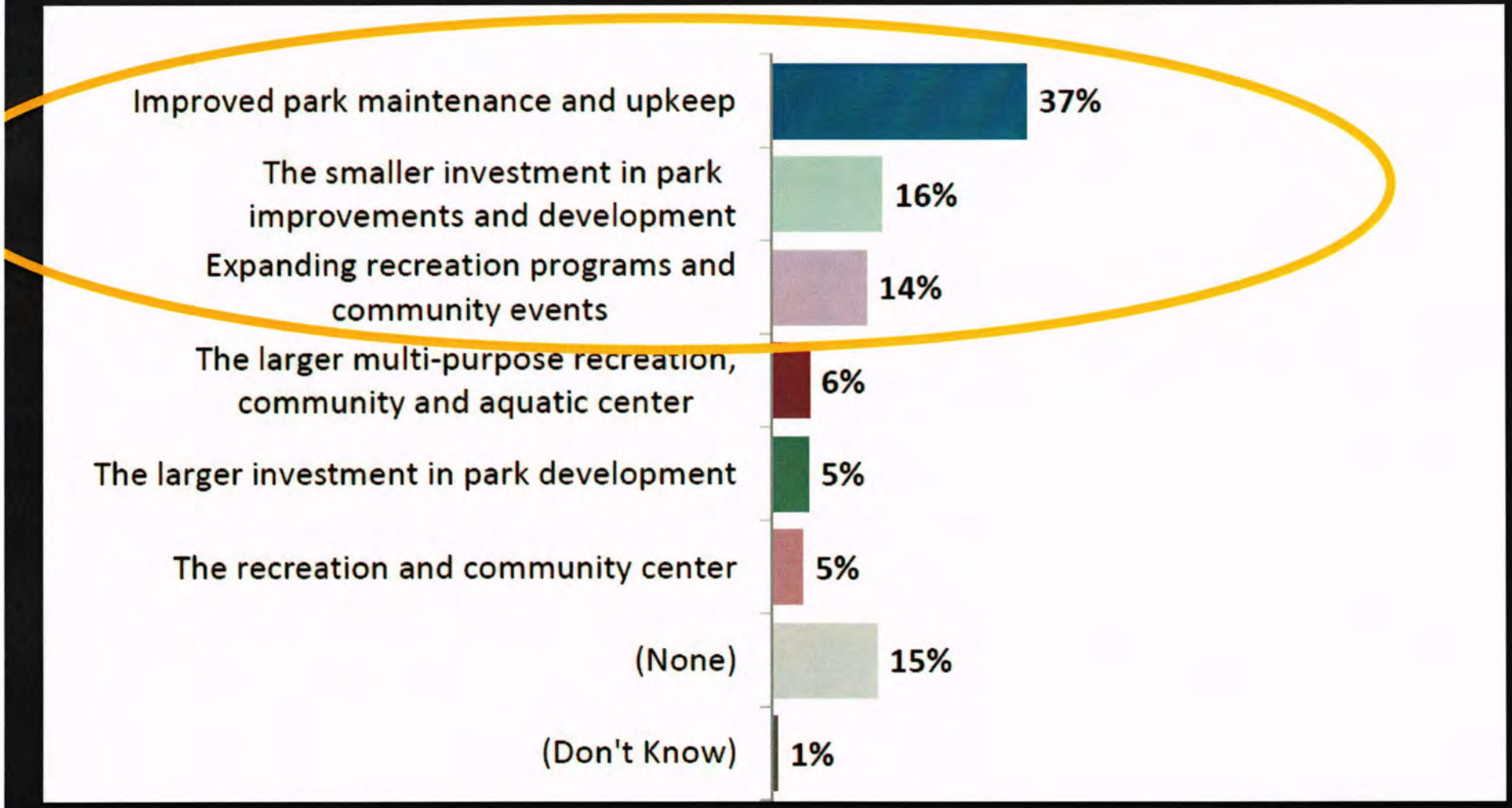
Telephone Survey (Statistically Representative)

- Types of projects funded
- Willingness to support tax increase
- Right level of funding



- $25-$50 tax increase* may be supported *for average homeowner
  - Support for park upkeep
  - Support for recreation programs

Funding Priorities



10-Year Plan

10-Year Implementation Plan

- A plan for investing City funds in capital park projects
  - Based on community priorities
  - Based on community-supported funding levels
- Two categories:
  - Primary Projects: most important for completion within the 10-year planning horizon
  - Desired Projects: second-tier community priorities to complete if funding and/or partner support is available

10-Year Plan: Primary Projects ($17.4 M)

- Existing Parks:
  - Lincoln Park, Thatcher Park, Joseph Gale Park, Rogers Park
  - Forest Grove Aquatic Center
  - Forest Grove Senior Center
  - Fernhill Wetlands Trailhead
  - Highway 47 Trail
  - Facility re-investment & deferred maintenance
- Proposed Parks:
  - Saucy Park
  - Stites Nature Park
  - New Neighborhood Park # 1 (David Hill)
  - North Segment of Loop Trail (David Hill)

10-Year Plan: Desired Projects ($7.4 M)

- Existing Parks:
  - Thatcher Park
  - Bard Park
  - Talisman Park
- Proposed Parks:
  - New Neighborhood Park # 2 (Oak Street)
  - A.T. Smith Park (City) and Amphitheater (FHFG)
  - Neil Armstrong MS Sports Fields
  - Tom McCall Upper Elementary Soccer Field
  - South Segment of Loop Trail (Gales Creek)

Potential Sources of Capital Funds

Source	Potential Funds in 10 Years	
	Low Estimate	High Estimate
System Development Charges (SDCs)	$7,700,000	$15,600,000
Grants and State Funds	$325,000	$1,000,000
Park Acquisition and Development Fund (Fund Balance)	$1,500,000	$1,500,000
Bike and Pedestrian Pathways Fund	$130,000	$130,000
General Funds	$250,000	$500,000
Facilities Major Maintenance Fund	$100,000	$500,000
General Obligation Bond	0	$5,000,000
Total	**$10,005,000**	**$24,230,000**

Capital Funding Options

- Increase the SDC rate
- Increase the Facilities Major Maintenance Fund
- Leverage partnerships, donations and easements to reduce costs
- Revisit a voter-approved bond measure
- Apply other funding sources

Operations Funding Options

- Renew the local option levy (maintenance)
- Apply additional General Fund dollars towards operations
- Expand and focus the Community Enhancement Fund on program initiatives
- Consider a recreation/event operational levy
- Provide fee-based programs and reinvest revenues

Discussion

Comments/Questions

- What do you like about the plan?
- Are revisions needed to the 10-Year Plan?
- Are funding assumptions and recommendations reasonable?
- Are any other changes needed?

Next Steps: Adoption Process

- Parks & Recreation Commission
- Planning Commission
- City Council

- Plan is intended to be adopted as a component of the City's Comprehensive Plan

FOREST GROVE OREGON

Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan Update + Community Center Feasibility Study

MIG

EMC RESEARCH

BALLARD*KING & ASSOCIATES LTD

opsis architecture LLP

With DHC Planning and Nova Enterprises

CITY OF FOREST GROVE, OREGON

Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan

Executive Summary

Revised Draft | August 2016

FOREST GROVE OREGON

MIG

www.migcom.com

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The ballfield at Thatcher Park is one of many Forest Grove park amenities that support community livability.

Described as one of "the coolest suburbs" in America's 35 biggest metro areas,[1] Forest Grove combines small town charm with university-caliber opportunities, good restaurants, prospering businesses, and family homes. It has an attractive park system that was built through the efforts of a tight-knit community, with City parks and recreation services supported through partner collaborations, voter-approved funding, volunteer projects, and donations.

This support has been critical since 2002, when the previous *Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master*

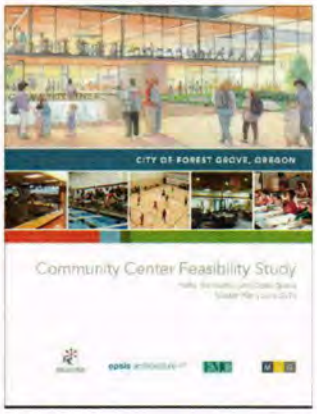
WHY PLAN?

Forest Grove residents want more parks and a greater variety of recreation opportunities. This Master Plan provides guidance to build and maintain the desired park system, while considering the community's willingness to support parks through partnerships, donations, volunteerism and voter-approved funding measures.

[1] https://www.thrillist.com/travel/nation/best-suburbs-in-america-the-best-suburb-in-35-american-cities?ref=facebook-869

Plan was adopted. Many of the City's beloved parks and trails were developed or improved because of the City's ongoing collaboration with residents and partners to fund priority park projects.

While that support has never wavered, much has changed in the last 14 years. A new roadmap is needed to guide investment in the park system. The 2016 *Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan* (Master Plan) re-evaluates community priorities to provide decision-making guidance for the acquisition, development, renovation, maintenance and activation of parks and recreation facilities. It presents a 10-year plan for park and recreation investments.



The Master Plan incorporates findings from the Community Center Feasibility Study.

COMMUNITY VALUES AND VISION

Community leaders, residents, park users, recreation interest groups, recreation providers and key City staff were integral to the planning process. A variety of outreach activities were conducted to make sure different viewpoints were represented in the Master Plan. This broad-based community feedback helped update the core values, vision, mission and goals that are the underpinnings of plan recommendations. It also guided decisions about the right level of park investment to make and about which projects to advance to support community priorities.

MASTER PLAN INVOLVEMENT

Activity	#
Stakeholder Interviews	4
Online Questionnaire	488
Sports & Recreation Focus Group	15
Hispanic-Latino Focus Group	12
Community Workshops	20
Telephone Survey	220
Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)	20
Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)	5
TOTAL	784

The following community values, which emerged from community comments, drive this plan: **access for all, one community, stewardship** and **community livability.**

With a population 23,360, Forest Grove has a higher percentage of children/youth and Hispanic/Latino residents, as well as a lower median income, than other cities in Oregon. Affordable recreation options are important as the City provides inclusive recreation opportunities. A forecasted growth of 5,600 residents in the next 10 years will significantly increase needs for parks, recreation facilities and programs.

COMMUNITY'S VISION

A system of parks, recreation facilities, trails and programs that serves the entire community, reflects the character of Forest Grove and protects our natural resources.

Residents of all ages, cultures, incomes and a variety of interests appreciate Forest Grove's parks, programs and community events.

SYSTEM AND SITE RECOMMENDATIONS

The *Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan* identifies broad strategies to enhance park and recreation opportunities city-wide. It presents action items in the following areas:

- **Parks and facilities:** Enhance existing parks and facilities and develop new ones to provide engaging community recreation and social spaces that meet the needs of Forest Grove residents now and as the population grows.
- **Open space, greenways and trails:** Protect natural resources and provide trails to connect people to parks, open space and community destinations.
- **Recreation programs and services:** Activate parks and facilitate and coordinate recreation programs and events for Forest Grove residents.
- **Maintenance and stewardship:** Maintain and replace assets in a sustainable manner. Preserve Forest Grove's historical and cultural heritage, including the tree canopy and natural resources.
- **Collaborative management and partnerships:** Work collaboratively with others to maximize the benefits of the park and recreation system. Involve volunteers, partners, businesses and other agencies to deliver recreation opportunities through shared resources, partnerships and joint use agreements.

The Master Plan also presents design options for each site. The site diagrams (such as the one at the right) take into account community feedback, partnership and programming opportunities to provide direction for updating parks when individual facilities are replaced or new parks are developed.

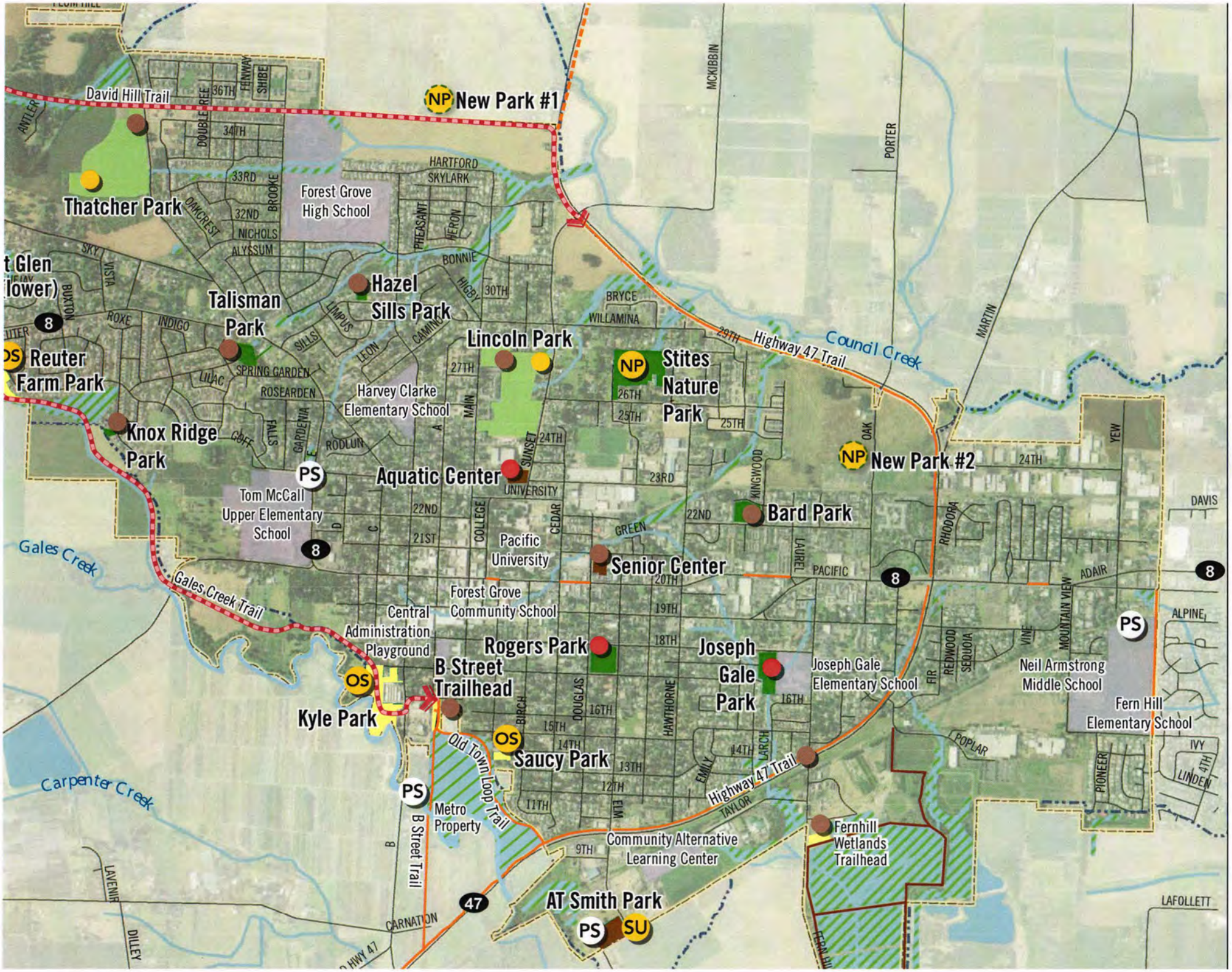
Based on these recommendations, the Master Plan indicates which sites need major or minor enhancements,[2] as well as where new parks are needed. It also suggests ways in which the City could pool resources with partners to increase recreation options. Park projects are proposed across the City to improve recreation opportunities for all (see map on next page). These include recommendations to enhance or provide the following:

- **Community parks:** These larger parks provide a variety of active and passive recreational opportunities for all residents. These parks typically support large group gatherings and protect natural resources.
- **Neighborhood parks:** These small parks provide recreation and play space within biking or walking distance of nearby neighbors.
- **Special use parks:** These parks and recreation facilities provide a unique recreation opportunity for the entire City. Examples include downtown plazas, historic properties, and sports complexes.
- **Open space, greenways and trails:** These natural areas, trailheads and trail corridors support resource protection, outdoor recreation and/or trail use.
- **Partner sites:** The City may support recreation by pooling resources or funding projects at sites owned by partner organizations such as Metro, the Forest Grove School District or Clean Water Services.
- **Additional projects and programs:** In addition to the projects shown on the Park System Map, a downtown plaza and community recreation center are recommended in the long-term, although suitable sites have not yet been identified. The Master Plan also recommends initiating pilot recreation programs, hiring a recreation coordinator, offering more community events and improving park maintenance.

The City would need more than $90 million implement all of these projects and programs. This includes approximately $12.3 million to enhance existing parks; nearly $38 million to acquire and develop a new community parks and recreation center; and $15.7 million to develop other new parks as recommended. It also includes $2.1 million annually to maintain all sites once developed, and up to $775,000 annually to provide recreation programs and events. This is more than the community wants to invest in its park and recreation system at this time.

Park renovations and development may support new recreation options for Forest Grove residents.

[2] Major enhancements address approximately ½ of the park, while minor enhancements address approximately ¼ of the site.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Carpenter Creek
Metro Property
B Street Trail
Highway 47 Trail
Council Creek
Community Alternative Learning Center
Fernhill Wetlands Trailhead
AT Smith Park

10-YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The Master Plan introduces a 10-year implementation plan for City leaders and residents to consider when making decisions about park and program funding. The 10-year plan incorporates priority projects as identified by the Citizen Advisory Committee and residents through a statistically-representative Parks and Recreation Telephone Survey. These priorities include:

- **Protect existing investments:** Ensuring that parks are well-maintained and in good condition is the top funding priority. A majority of survey respondents supported a new tax measure to fund repairing existing amenities and facilities, taking care of urban trees, and improving the upkeep of existing assets.
- **Prioritize low-cost options to enhance recreation opportunities:** Improving park maintenance and upkeep consistently ranked as the community's top funding priority. Making a smaller investment in park improvements and development ranked second.
- **Enhance existing recreation programs and community events:** Residents also indicated a willingness to support investments in more programs and events, such as more afterschool programs and activities for youth, more program and events for adults and families, plus scholarships and better information about existing programs.
- **Consider different funding options to develop more parks and trails:** Both survey results and earlier outreach results suggested that residents want a variety of park projects, as long as the City does not have to raise taxes to implement them. More than 57% of survey respondents indicated it was important for the City to develop its vacant park sites. However, there wasn't support for increasing taxes substantially to fund these projects.

COMMUNITY FUNDING SUPPORT

Findings in the Telephone Survey suggest that residents may be willing to support a $150,000 - $300,000 annual tax increase ($25 - $50 per year for the average homeowner) to take care of existing parks, provide more programs and events, and/or invest in minor park enhancements.

Depending on funding decisions made by Council—and the willingness of voters to renew existing levies or support future tax measures—the City may have between $10 million and $24 million to invest in capital park projects. Table 1 provides a list of top funding priorities within this range of available funds. Projects are divided into two categories:

- **Primary Projects:** These projects are the most important to implement in 10 years to take care of high-use parks and improve recreation opportunities in underserved areas. They include approximately $17 million in projects, focusing on existing park projects and renovation ($9.7 million) and proposed parks and access improvements in underserved areas ($7.2 million).
- **Desired Projects:** If funding is available, these second-tier projects would help address recreation facility needs and refresh aging parks and facilities. Together these cost approximately $7.4 million.

Given the estimated cost of the community's top priority projects, residents will not be satisfied with the level of service that can be provided at current funding levels. A higher level of funding will be needed to implement Primary Projects and park services (maintenance, programs and staffing).

CAPITAL FUNDING STRATEGIES

Increased and continued City funds, voter-supported funding measures and partner contributions may be considered as funding options to support park acquisition, development and renovations:

- **Increase the SDC rate:** To provide parks at the current level of service as the community grows, the City should consider increasing revenues from System Development Charges (SDCs) to meet the needs of new residential development.
- **Increase the Facilities Major Maintenance Fund:** As the Aquatics Center and Senior Center continue to age, additional funds will be needed for major repairs to keep these buildings operational. Additional dollars from the Facility Major Maintenance Fund could support these facilities.
- **Leverage partnerships, donations and easements to reduce costs:** City leaders should continue working together to explore opportunities to advance community or partner-supported projects. Crowdfunding, fundraising, land swaps and donations, joint facility development, trail easements (rather than land acquisition at market costs) have been important project resources in the past and would support a higher level of service if increased in the future.
- **Revisit a voter-approved bond measure:** The Telephone Survey suggested that there is community support for a small tax measure. If the City pursues a bond to finance other City projects such as a new police station, it may consider a funding a package that includes funds for key park projects. In time, if community demand increases for park improvements and development, the City may find it valuable to re-test community support for a larger tax measure.
- **Apply other funding sources:** The City should evaluate all other potential funding sources. For example, the Public Arts Donation Fund may be able to support the sculpture garden at Lincoln Park. Naming rights could be sold for major new facilities such as an event pavilion (recommended at Lincoln Park) or amphitheater (at A.T.Smith Park). Other funding sources and grants could augment what City funds alone can provide.

OPERATIONS FUNDING STRATEGIES

In addition to the capital dollars, greater operations funding will be needed to maintain new parks and facilities, increase the maintenance level of service at high-use parks, and coordinate programs and events. The following options could be considered to expand operational dollars:

- **Apply additional General Fund dollars towards operations:** The City should explore options to increase General Fund support for park operations. By ensuring that major facility repairs and renovations are funded through a renewed Facilities Major Maintenance Fund, that frees up additional General Fund dollars for tasks such as the day-to-day park maintenance or the development/consolidation of recreation information in a website.

	Acres	Park Type	Acquire Land	Develop Park or Trail	Provide Minor Enhancements	Provide Major Enhancements	Add Facility through Partnership	RECOMMENDATIONS
ECTS: the most important projects to take care of high-use existing parks and improve recreation opportunities in underserved areas.								
	25.8	CP		•	•			Improve north end of park as a play, event and social gathering space. Create a plaza with water feature betweee play area and sculpture garden/natural area. Repurpose BMX track to provide a destination playground including sand and water play features and climbing areas. Upgrade restroom and replace central picnic shelter with reservable event pavilion to support large group gatherings, sports tournaments, comments events and festivals and social occasions such as outdoor weddings in the adjacent garden. Develop area with a new entry (parking, signage, access paths) from Sunset Drive. Create a natural area and sculpture garden with a boardwalk, trail and other interpretive elements added near the wetlands.
	9.5	CP	•	•				Add a natural play area, terraced community gardens, reservable picnic shelter and additional parking. Provide soft-surfaced trails, self directed interpretive elements, and seating/viewpoints through the woods. Acquire dog park site to permanently incorporate this area into the park.
	3.8	NP				•		Repurpose the T-ball field to support social and educational gatherings, providing a picnic shelter, community table and updated restroom. Add play elements near this social space, such as climbing wall, outdoor ping pong and bocce. Add natural elements to the existing play area, and improve connections to the school.
	3.7	NP				•		Enhance park to embrace play and social gatherings for all ages, incorporating Anna and Abby's Yard (memorial play area), an open central plaza with seatwalls, water spray ground, nature play area, teen play area, a reservable picnic shelter, barbecue, a restroom and addiitonal small sport courts.
ATIC CENTER	3.0	SU				•		Maintain and repair the aquatic center to continue providing revenue-generating aquatics programs. Continue to monitor facility condition over the long term.
OR CENTER	1.3	SU			•			Explore options and minor enhancements to provide additional programming at this facility.
S TRAILHEAD	0.9	OSGT			•			Maintain trailhead, restroom and shelter. Repair facilities as needed.
	9.1	TC			•			Resurface trail and add or replace benches where needed.
ıENT & DEFERRED MAINTENANCE					•			Establish a fund to repair and replace worn, broken or damaged amenities and facilities in parks where needed. This allows the City to address unexpected repairs or issues immediately.
Existing Primary Projects Subtotal	*57.0*							
	0.5	OSGT		•				Develop as an access point to the Old Town Loop Trail. Provide picnic tables, seating options, interpretive features a natural play area, and natural plantings.
(	10.9	NP		•				Develop as the City's first "naturehood" park, protecting natural elements and serving surrounding neighbors. Provide a parking area and information/interpretive kiosk at the main entrance, adding a picnic shelter and restroom ajacent to the nature play area. Include walking paths, a soft-surfaced loop trails, meadow, wetland plants, viewpoints, interpretive signage, boardwalk, views to the water and nature learning opportunities throughout the site.
)D PARK # 1 (David Hill North)	6.0	NP	•	•				Develop as neighborhood park with playground, sports courts (basketball, futsal) , small picnic shelter, and practice soccer field.
	5.1	OSGT	•	•				Acquire land or easement and develop this sement of the multi-use regional trail, connecting the B Street Trailhea to Kyle Park, Knox Ridge Park, Reuter Farm Park, and Forest Glen Park. [Length: 3.1 miles (16,368 feet)]
Proposed Primary Projects Subtotal	*22.5*							

	Acres	Park Type	Acquire Land	Develop Park or Trail	Provide Minor Enhancements	Provide Major Enhancements	Add Facility through Partnership	RECOMMENDATIONS
CTS: second-tier projects that would help address recreation facility needs and refresh aging parks and facilities.								
isting Park Enhancements)	16.0	CP			•			Create an entry plaza to provide access from the proposed multi-use regional trail along David Hill Road. Connect existing features to Phase 2 park development.
	2.8	NP			•			Add a permanent restroom, a community table, more seating, additional picnic tables, and nature play and teen play features such as a climbing wall and small court sports.
	2.3	NP			•			Enhance play area with more open-ended, free play features. Provide a covered picnic shelter and gathering in the north and an opportunity to add park games and a community table to the south near the gazebo.
Existing Desired Projects Subtotal	*21.1*							
)D PARK # 2 (Oak Street)	2.5	NP	•	•				Develop as mixed use park with plaza/seating area, play elements, low impact sports courts (e.g., bocce, shuffleboard, pickleball), picnic area, and raised community garden.
y)	3.2	SU		•				Develop this site to include community garden beds, a tree covered parking area, an event pavilion and an open area to host classes and programs. (See partnership opportunities related to park land owned by the Friends of Historic Grove.)
IEATER (FHFG)	2.2	PS					•	Develop amphitheater in conjunction with other improvements made by FHFG.
IS SPORTS FIELDS	7.5	PS					•	Improve four ballfield complex, adding two multi-purpose rectangular sports fields as overlays in the outfields. Provide access paths, a permanent restroom and support amenities.
ELEMENTARY SOCCER FIELD	2.1	PS					•	Consider options to add one multi-use rectangular field.
	7.5	OSGT	•	•				Acquire land or easement and develop this sement of the multi-use regional trail, connecting Forest Glen Park to Thatcher Park, Forest Grove HS, a proposed new neighborhood park and the Highway 47 Trail. [Length: 2.1 miles (11,088 feet)]
Proposed Desired Projects Subtotal	*25.0*							
Preferred Projects Subtotal	*46.2*							
OR PRIMARY AND DESIRED PROJECTS								

ıity Park; NP = Neighborhood Park; SU = Special Use; OSGT = Open Space, Greenway and Trail, PS = Partner Site

- **Renew the local option levy:** The City has relied on a local option to levy to support park maintenance and other City services. This fund is up for renewal and will need voter approval. Maintenance costs will increase as facilities age and new park amenities and facilities are brought online, so renewal or potentially increasing these maintenance funds will be important.
- **Expand and focus the Community Enhancement Fund on program initiatives:** In 1990, the City established the Community Enhancement Fund based on a per-ton fee charged on solid waste disposed at the Forest Grove Transfer Station. Non-profit groups and City-sponsored committees can apply to use these funds for recreational improvements and increased programming that benefit youth, seniors, low income persons and/or underserved populations. As part of the pilot effort to increase recreation programming and events, recreation providers and non-profits should be encouraged to apply for funds to increase recreation services and events. The long-term goal is to transition these pilot programs into fee-based recreation programs that continue to be held in parks without a future subsidy.
- **Consider a recreation/event operational levy:** As demand and support for recreation grows, the City may consider asking voters to approve a small tax measure (e.g., $25 - $50 annually for the average homeowner) to fund a recreation staff position and increased community events and programs.
- **Provide fee-based programs and reinvest revenues:** The City should consider initiating the pilot investment in recreation programs and events, charging fees to recover facility use costs for programs. Any revenues generated can be reinvested into additional programs.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

In the past, the community has rallied to create a park and recreation system that enhances their quality of life. Community support will continue to be important as residents, City leaders, staff, businesses, non-profits and key partners all work together to implement the 10-year plan for parks, recreation, trails and open space. This collaboration will allow Forest Grove to achieve its vision for the future.

A partnership between the City and Pacific University supports many park facilities such as this stadium at Lincoln Park.

CITY OF FOREST GROVE, OREGON

Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan

Draft Plan | August 2016

FOREST GROVE OREGON

PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

Draft Plan | August 2016

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Acknowledgements

Many residents, community leaders, staff, and elected officials contributed to this plan to ensure it reflects the vision and needs of our city. The City of Forest Grove greatly appreciates your insights and support of our community's park and recreation system.

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CHAPTER 1:
Introduction

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

Parks in Forest Grove support community livability and provide recreation for surrounding residents

Forest Grove is surrounded by rolling hills, evergreen forests and vineyards that enhance the small town charm of the City's historic streets, university, parks, businesses, restaurants and family homes. Its park system was built through the efforts of a tight-knit community, with City parks and recreation services augmented through partner collaborations, volunteer projects, and donations. Like many cities, Forest Grove struggled through the recent recession to fund parks maintenance, repairs and development. However, it found ways to take care of its assets and provide clean, green and attractive parks and recreation facilities that support the City's identity and community livability. Those factors were among the reasons why Thrillest named Forest Grove one of "the coolest suburbs" in America's 35 biggest metro areas.[1]

[1] https://www.thrillist.com/travel/nation/best-suburbs-in-america-the-best-suburb-in-35-american-cities?ref=facebook-869

Forest Grove is one of the fastest growing cities in the region and in the State of Oregon.[2] With an expansion of the Urban Growth Boundary and planned new development, the population and number of residential units in Forest Grove will increase over the next ten years, mixing newer development with older neighborhoods and increasing the community's cultural diversity. The challenge through this period is to retain the strong sense of community and quality of life that characterizes Forest Grove, while meeting growing community needs and protecting historic and natural resources. Parks and recreation, like other City services, will need to address this challenge.

In Spring 2015, the City of Forest Grove began updating the *Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan* (Master Plan) to identify community priorities for enhancing, sustaining and providing recreation opportunities for residents over the next ten years. The Master Plan provides guidance for decisions regarding the acquisition, development, renovation, maintenance and activation of parks and recreation facilities. It provides direction for updating park policies, standards and guidelines to efficiently and wisely invest resources into community-supported projects for the park and recreation system. Recommendations and implementation strategies are based on a community outreach process that ties this plan to residents' vision of the future, with parks and recreation services continuing to play an important role in creating a livable community.

1.1 THE PLANNING PROCESS

The Master Plan was developed through a four-phased planning effort (Figure 1.1). The planning process included a *Community Center Feasibility Study* (Feasibility Study) to explore options for developing and operating an indoor community recreation facility to enhance recreation programming for Forest Grove residents. Feasibility Study findings were integrated through the master planning process to consider a community center in the context of other potential community priorities and recreation needs. This integrated approach was designed to help Forest Grove leaders make informed decisions about funding priorities for recreation services.

FIGURE 1.1: PLANNING PROCESS

[2] PSU 2015 Annual Population Report, Portland State University, https://www.pdx.edu/prc/population-reports-estimates.

The Master Plan updates the City's 2002 *Parks and Open Space Master Plan* as well as the 2007 *Community Trails Master Plan.* It follows the adoption of the City's 2014 *Comprehensive Plan,* which provided guidance on forecasted growth and land uses in Forest Grove in the future. It was developed simultaneously with the City's new *Forest Management Plan*, as well as the *Old Town Loop Trail Master Plan* and implementation. The Master Plan also provides data for updating the City's Parks System Development Charge (SDC) methodology following this planning process.

RELATED PLANS

- Comprehensive Plan (2014)
- Community Forest Management Plan (2016)
- Old Town Loop Trail Master Plan (2016)
- Community Trails Master Plan (2007)

1.2 MASTER PLAN ORGANIZATION

The *Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan* contains six chapters and seven appendices. The chapters introduce the plan, describe the planning context, identify community needs, describe the community's vision and goals for parks and recreation services, present system wide and site-specific recommendations and guidelines for parks and recreation facilities, and propose investment options and a 10-year implementation plan for meeting community needs.

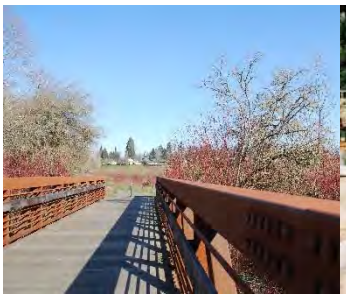
The appendices provide critical background information for the planning process, such as the park and facility inventory, forest management plan, integration with Comprehensive Plan and Statewide planning goals, park design and development guidelines, capital and operations costs, a list of potential funding and partnership sources and a prioritization scorecard to assess priority projects in the future.

The Master Plan is based on the findings of additional documents completed during the planning process. Noted in the side bar to the right, these documents are available from the Forest Grove Parks and Recreation Department.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are available under separate cover:

- Existing Resources Summary Memo
- Needs Assessment Summary Memo
- Community Recreation Questionnaire Summary
- Telephone Survey Report
- Community Center Feasibility Study
- SDC Methodology



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CHAPTER 2:
Planning Context

CHAPTER 2: PLANNING CONTEXT

The view of the B Street Trail and Metro Wetlands from the Saucy Park Property

The City of Forest Grove is a historic and scenic community located in western Washington County, Oregon, at the base of the northern Coast Range mountains. Located only 25 miles west of Portland, residents enjoy the City's sense of community and small town atmosphere, yet have access to a range of urban-based services and opportunities.

Within Forest Grove, the City provides a variety of parks and open spaces to serve City residents. This chapter introduces the planning area, community demographics, and park and recreation system to provide a foundation for the needs assessment (Chapter 3) and recommendations (Chapters 4 and 5) that follow. It highlights key findings from the Existing Resource Summary, which is available under a separate cover.

2.1 PLANNING AREA

Forest Grove is the westernmost community within the Portland Metropolitan urban growth boundary (UGB) and has a land area of nearly six square miles.[2] Adjacent to Forest Grove is the City of Cornelius to the east and unincorporated forest and farmland to the north, south and west. Current land use and future development affect the character of the community.

- **Unique sense of place:** Tucked between mountains and farmland, and less than 10 miles from both Hagg Lake and the Tualatin River, Forest Grove gains much of its small town character from its surrounding landscapes and development pattern. The City's neighborhoods include three historic districts, characterized by small, walkable, blocks and mostly gridded streets, with a mix of historic buildings (mid-19th to early 20th Century) and newer construction. Once a collection of large-lot farm sites, Forest Grove grew up around the Pacific University campus (originally Tualatin Academy, est. 1849), and the adjacent historic town center.[3]
- **Impact of nearby communities:** The adjacent city of Cornelius has a population of approximately 12,200, with about half of its land area served by the Forest Grove School District.[4] The City of Hillsboro is the nearest large city to the east, with a population of approximately 97,000. Hillsboro's proximity and recent growth due to major employers, such as Intel (17,500 employees) and other tech and service companies,[5] have impacts on Forest Grove. These impacts include a demand for housing and the need for new or expanded roads to accommodate commuting to Hillsboro-based jobs.[6]
- **Planning for future growth:** The majority of new growth is planned to occur in northwest Forest Grove within the existing Urban Growth Boundary (UGB). City estimates indicate the potential to add between 2,100 to 2,600 new housing units city-wide, as well as new schools and businesses. Most of the residential development (approximately 2050 new housing units) is forecasted to occur in west Forest Grove.[7] New growth and future development will increase the demand for parks, trails, recreation facilities and programs.

2.2 DEMOGRAPHICS

The population in Forest Grove continues to grow, creating a diverse family-oriented community that is both younger and lower in income than in the State and nation as a whole.

---

2 Urban Growth Boundary map, Metro, August 2014. http://www.oregonmetro.gov/sites/default/files/UGB_080814.pdf.

3 Forest Grove Chamber of Commerce website: http://visitforestgrove.com/

4 Forest Grove Comprehensive Plan (2014)

5 City of Hillsboro website: https://www.hillsboro-oregon.gov/index.aspx?page=298

6 Forest Grove Comprehensive Plan (2014)

7 City of Forest Grove, West Side Capacity Analysis

- **Continued population growth:** According to City population estimates, 23,365 people reside in Forest Grove today (2016). If a 2.3% population growth rate is applied over the next ten years, (the high growth rate in the City's Economic Opportunity Analysis[8]), the City will have a forecasted population of 28,970 residents in 2026. Previously, the City's average annual population growth rate was about 1.9% between 2000 and 2010, and 1.7% between 2010 and 2015.
- **Family housing and homeownership:** Residential land uses account for approximately 42% of Forest Grove's total land area.[9] The total approximate number of housing units in Forest Grove is 7,760 (2014).[10] About one third (32.6%) of those units are multi-family dwellings, compared with a rate of less than one-fourth (23.2%) in Oregon as a whole.[11] Rates of homeownership in Forest Grove (56.6%) are lower than the Oregon average (62%).[12]
- **Mixed housing densities create greater demand in certain locations:** The majority of new residential development in Forest Grove's northwest corner is anticipated to include lower density single family homes. Development in the City's Town Center (as per Metro's 2040 Growth Concept for the Portland Metropolitan Area) and east Forest Grove, on the other hand, is anticipated to be medium or high density development. According to the Westside Refinement Plan and the 2014 Forest Grove Comprehensive Plan, the City plans to double the residential density in the Town Center area and add some mixed density housing in locations outside the Town Center such as East Forest Grove as well. Areas of higher density development (9+ dwellings per acre) are typically characterized by less green space/yards around units and more people, which increases park needs in those areas.
- **Growing school enrollment:** Population growth in Forest Grove and Cornelius affects enrollment in the Forest Grove School District, leading to a greater demand on existing schools. Based on Portland State University's future population projections, the number of students is anticipated to increase by several thousand in the next 20 years, bringing total district enrollment to 7,888 by 2035.[13]
- **Larger Hispanic/Latino community:** Forest Grove has a higher percentage of Hispanic or Latino residents than the state and nation as a whole (Table 2.1). The neighboring cities of

DEMOGRAPHICS

Current Population (2016): 23,365

Future Population (2026): 28,970

Pacific University enrollment (estimated): 2.500

Percentage of residents who are Hispanic/Latino: 22%

Percentage of residents under the age of 15: 20%

---

8 2014 Forest Grove Comprehensive Plan http://www.forestgrove-or.gov/images/stories/government/pdf/Comp_Plan_Publication_Draft.pdf

9 Forest Grove Comprehensive Plan (2014)

10 ibid

11 U.S. Census

12 ibid

13 Forest Grove Comprehensive Plan (2014)

Cornelius and Hillsboro also have a higher percentage of Hispanic or Latino residents. Nearly 50% of Cornelius' residents identify themselves as Hispanic or Latino.[14]

TABLE 2.1: HISPANIC/LATINO POPULATIONS: FOREST GROVE, STATE AND NATION (2013)

	Forest Grove	Oregon	United States
Hispanic/ Latino	22.1%	11.9%	16.6%

** Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey*

- **Higher percentage of younger residents:** Forest Grove's population is generally younger than that of Oregon and the nation as a whole (Table 2.2). The City has a higher percentage of people who are under 15 years of age, and between 15 and 24 years, as compared to state and national averages, and a lower percentage of people who are between the ages of 25-64.

TABLE 2.2: AGE GROUPS IN FOREST GROVE, STATE, AND NATIONAL POPULATIONS (2013)

	Forest Grove	Oregon	United States
Median Age	34.6	38.7	37.3
Below 15	20.3%	18.4%	19.6%
15-24	17.2%	13.2%	14.1%
25-64	48.5%	53.9%	52.9%
Above 65	13.9%	14.5%	13.4%

** Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey*

- **Lower average incomes:** The median incomes in Forest Grove are lower than state and national median incomes (Table 2.3). Income can impact recreation choices and the ability to pay for recreation programming and other fee-based services as well as transportation to parks and facilities.

TABLE 2.3: MEDIAN INCOME IN FOREST GROVE, STATE AND NATIONAL POPULATIONS (2013)

	Forest Grove	Oregon	United States
Household	$47,363	$50,229	$53,046
Per Capita	$21,568	$26,809	$28,155

** Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey (2009-2013)*

[14] U.S. Census

- **More commutes by walking, carpooling and public transportation:** Forest Grove commuters walk or carpool to work more than state levels, yet there are fewer who commute by bike (Table 2.4).[15] Trails and connections for pedestrian, cyclists and transit users can be an important part of the park system. The availability of multi-purpose trails can influence how people get to parks and facilities provide safe and affordable transportation options and help maintain healthy lifestyles. Towards this end, the City is currently planning for more and improved trails and bike infrastructure.

TABLE 2.4: ACTIVE AND ALTERNATIVE COMMUTING CHARACTERISTICS IN FOREST GROVE AND OREGON (2013)

Commute Mode	Forest Grove	Oregon
Bike	1.1%	2.3%
Walk	5.5%	4.1%
Public Transportation	4.5%	4.2%
Carpool	13.2%	10.3%

** Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey*

2.3 PARK LAND

The City of Forest Grove owns nearly 160 acres of park land. This acreage includes five currently undeveloped sites and undeveloped acreage at the City's most popular community parks. Existing parks provide important recreation opportunities throughout the community. They also have capacity and natural opportunities for enhancement, as described in the findings below. For more details, see Appendix A for a complete park and facility inventory by classification.

[15] U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (2013)

Lincoln Park

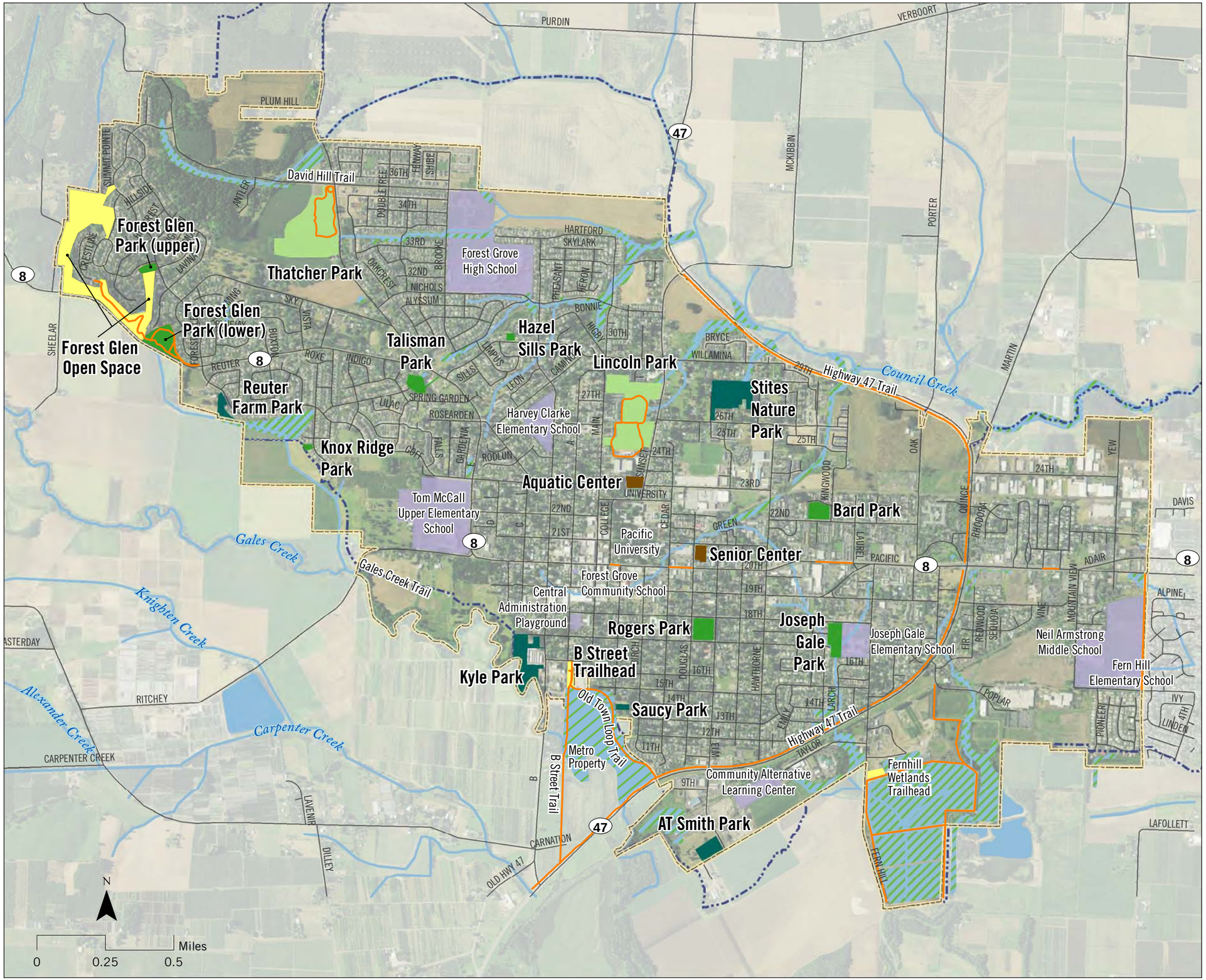
- **Parks for the entire community:** Map 1 illustrates the location of Forest Grove parks by classification. As noted in the City's park inventory (Appendix A), Forest Grove provides 158 acres of parks, special use facilities, trails and undeveloped parklands.
- **Popular community parks:** Forest Grove's two community parks are located in the center (Lincoln Park) and in the northwest corner (Thatcher Park) of the City. Both parks are approximately 25 acres in size and contain a variety of athletic and recreation facilities. These large parks provide places for the Forest Grove community to gather, relax, play, exercise and celebrate. Lincoln Park benefits from an investment by Pacific University, which schedules and uses the Lincoln Park stadium and sports fields for university sports programs.
- **Abundance of neighborhood parks:** The majority of parks in Forest Grove's inventory are neighborhood parks. These are small sites, ranging in size from 0.5 acres to 3.7 acres. Some are single residential lots that were developed as park land. Overall, they provide safe local and well maintained spaces for play and relaxation.

QUICK PARK FACTS

The City of Forest Grove provides the following types of park land (Appendix A):

Park Type	Acres	#
Community Parks	51	2
Neighborhood Parks	20	7
Special Use Sites	4	2
Open Space, Greenways and Trails	59	7
Undeveloped Parkland	24	5

Forest Grove Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan



Bike and Pedestrian Trail

Forest Grove City Limits

Community Park

Neighborhood Park

Special Use Park

Undeveloped Park

Open Space, Greenways and Trails

Urban Growth Boundary

Streets

Wetlands

Water Feature

School Parcel

Map 1: Existing Parks and Facilities

MIG

June 2016

Data Sources: Forest Grove Engineering Department

- **Undeveloped park property:** This City has undeveloped park acreage at both community parks and five other sites. Each site presents unique opportunities to expand the park system when funding is available. Except for the Stites Property, four of the five undeveloped properties are located on the southern edge of the City's boundary. A.T. Smith Park is home to the historic Alvin T. Smith house, managed by the Friends of Historic Forest Grove. It is the second oldest building in the City and was added to the National Register of Historic Places.
- **Park identity and placemaking:** The City's park landscapes are unique. Several sites incorporate natural features, including varied topography, creeks, wetlands, vegetation and tree cover. Other parks and undeveloped park properties also provide scenic views and/or have ties to the community's heritage and history. Sites such as these have tremendous potential to build on these unique landscapes to create more distinctive parks and recreation experiences.
- **Other parks and recreation areas available:** Forest Grove residents are fortunate to have local access to open spaces and recreational facilities managed and operated by other entities including the Forest Grove School District, Pacific University, Clean Water Services, and Metro Parks and Nature. Beyond Forest Grove, nearby city governments (Hillsboro, Tualatin Hills) and other providers (Metro, Washington County Parks) also additional recreation resources within 10 miles of town.

A.T. Smith Park

2.4 RECREATION FACILITIES AND TRAILS

City parks support recreational amenities and facilities that contribute to the park experience, support user comfort and encourage recreation. These range from park benches to indoor aquatic facilities.

- **Traditional outdoor recreation opportunities:** The City provides a variety of outdoor recreational facilities throughout its park system. Most of these are traditional recreation facilities, such as sports fields, sports courts, playgrounds, and picnic shelters. Some sites have unique features, such as a skateboard park and a BMX track.
- **Two public indoor City facilities:** The Forest Grove Aquatic Center and Senior center are important community resources. The Aquatic Center provides two indoor pools, a spa and sauna, spray park and water slide. The Forest Grove Senior Center, managed by a non-profit operator, includes rooms for senior programs and social activities. Both facilities are aging.
- **No public community center:** Currently the City does not provide a public community recreation center. While Pacific University owns and operates the Stoller Center, this recreation center/fieldhouse is primarily for student and faculty use. However, this facility is open to residents who purchase a Boxer Club Membership.
- **Single-use sports facilities:** City parks and schools provide a variety of traditional athletic facilities. While the City and School District provides outdoor sports fields and courts, the School District and Pacific University add indoor gymnasiums, a fieldhouse and fitness center available for some community use. Many of the sports fields are single-purpose baseball of softball fields.
- **Investment in play areas:** Play is essential to human well-being, health, learning and happiness. The City provides a traditional playground and open turf play area in every neighborhood and community park.
- **Regional trails and bike paths:** The existing trail system includes the one-mile B Street Trail, running through the scenic Gales Creek floodplain. The City of Forest Grove is working with partners to plan and

QUICK FACILITIES FACTS

The City of Forest Grove provides 68 facilities in 158 acres of public parkland:

Facility Type	#
Athletic Facilities	
• Baseball Fields	4
• Softball Fields	2
• Soccer Fields	3
• Basketball Courts	6
• Tennis Courts	3
Recreation Facilities	
• Horseshoes	5
• Playgrounds	9
• Skateboard Parks	1
• BMX Tracks	1
• Trails/Paths	13
• Offleash Areas	1
Park Amenities	
• Restrooms	5
• Barbecue/Grills	7
• Picnic Shelters	8

implement a bike and pedestrian trails system that improves and enhances local and regional connectivity and promotes active transportation and bike tourism. Locally, this system includes the Emerald Necklace, a planned 13-mile multi-use pathway around the City. The Old Town Loop trail, which will be completed in 2016, will connect the B Street Trail and Highway 47 Trail to create off-street connections along the south western edge of the central city. Regionally, Metro is in the process of planning the Council Creek Regional Trail will connect the MAX line in central Hillsboro 15 miles through Washington County, including Forest Grove, to the start of the Banks-Vernonia Trail in Banks, Oregon. The Banks-Vernonia Trail is also part of the Tualatin Valley Scenic Bikeway, which runs 50 miles from Rood Bridge Park in Hillsboro through rural Washington County, and includes trails through the Fernhill Wetlands and downtown Forest Grove.[16]

- **Nature and loop trails:** There are several nature trails that provide short connections or loops within parks. Popular nature trails exist in Thatcher, Lincoln and Forest Glen parks, and Fernhill Wetlands.
- **Recreation facilities on partner sites:** The City has developed and now maintains several facilities at partner sites. These include a trailhead at Fernhill Wetlands in partnership with Clean Water Services and the B Street Trail in the Metro Wetlands. Friends of Forest Grove Community Garden Organization also manage a community garden located on the utility substation property. The City's dog park at Thatcher Park is on land owned by the City Fire Department. The City recognizes that these recreation facilities are important community resources.

2.5 RECREATION PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

The City of Forest Grove primarily focuses on providing parks and facilities. It plays a more limited role in supporting recreation and events. Currently, the City provides aquatics programs and facilitates senior programs, sports and community events by providing parks and facilities where activities are provided by others.

- **Aquatic Center programming:** The Forest Grove Aquatic Center offers scheduled fitness and swim classes, public open swim and water play opportunities for all age groups, from toddlers to seniors. It also supports the needs of competitive swim and water polo teams from Forest Grove High School, Pacific University and the Forest Grove Swim Club (non-profit).

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[16] Ride Oregon website: http://rideoregonride.com/road-routes/tualatin-valley-scenic-bikeway/

- **Popular public events:** Community events are held in City parks, on the university campus and in local schools and churches.[17] Popular events range from local food, wine and beer festivals, multi-cultural traditions and celebrations, vintage car shows, sidewalk chalk art contests and holiday activities and events. The City helps coordinate public events and generally works with event sponsors or promoters to run and manage the activities.
- **The role of Main Street:** Main Street is a popular setting for several public events and programs throughout the year. From May to October, Main Street is closed to traffic every Wednesday evening for a farmers' market, hosted by Adelante Mujeres, a local non-profit dedicated to providing education and empowerment opportunities for Latina women and their families.[18] These events and related street closures are not currently under the Parks Department's purview.

- **Youth athletics provided by vendors and partners:** The City's vendor relationship with Skyhawks Sports Program and partnerships with local organizations and schools provide athletics camps and activities for local area youth. Represented sports include swimming, water polo, soccer, softball, baseball, little league and football.
- **Other recreation providers:** There are numerous, public, private and non-profit groups that offer recreational, cultural or educational opportunities in the City. Adventures Without Limits, a non-profit based in Forest Grove, facilitates outdoor activities for all ages and ability levels, including paddling, rock climbing, caving, snowshoeing, hiking, backpacking and cross-country skiing.[19] The School District partners with the Boys & Girls Club of Portland Metropolitan Area to offer youth summer camps and activities. Adelante Mujeres provides adult education classes and programs as well as childcare and youth leadership programs and organizes a local farmers market.

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17 Forest Grove Chamber of Commerce website: http://visitforestgrove.com/

18 Adelante Mujeres website: http://www.adelantemujeres.org/market-overview/

19 Adventures Without Borders Website: http://www.awloutdoors.com/

CHAPTER 3:
Park and Recreation Needs

CHAPTER 3: PARK AND RECREATION NEEDS

Rogers Park is one of the City's most popular neighborhood parks, according to community feedback

Since the early stages of the planning process (Spring 2015), public involvement occurred during each step and provided community members with a chance to shape Forest Grove's parks and recreation system. This planning process relied on a range of events and activities to hear from the public and identify the types of ideas and improvements that will be needed to build a stronger system of public parks, recreation opportunities and open spaces. This chapter provides a summary of community needs as expressed by interested and involved members of the public and through a thorough analysis of existing and future challenges and opportunities. The chapter begins with a summary of outreach activities and key themes. The Existing Resources Summary (June 2015) and the Needs Assessment Summary Memo (November 2015) provide additional detail and are available under separate cover.

3.1 LISTENING TO THE COMMUNITY

As part of the effort to identify community needs, the planning process included six different outreach efforts that allowed the planning team to listen to ideas and needs from the community, providing valuable information from community leaders, residents, park users, recreation interest groups, recreation providers and key City staff. More than 560 people participated in the planning process (Table 3.1).

TABLE 3.1: COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION BY ACTIVITY

Activity	#
Stakeholder Interviews	4
Online Questionnaire	488
Sports & Recreation Focus Group	15
Hispanic-Latino Focus Group	12
Community Workshops	20
Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)	20
Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)	5
TOTAL	564

- **Stakeholder interviews:** MIG and City staff met on April 29, 2015, with representatives from four organizations that were identified as possible partners in community center or recreation program development. These include: Forest Grove School District, Pacific University, YMCA of Columbia-Willamette and Clean Water Services. Each were involved a one-hour interview to discuss the opportunities, benefits, potential locations, and opportunities to collaborate in facility development, operations or programming.

- **Online questionnaire:** MIG developed and administered an online Community Recreation Questionnaire, publicized by the City via a link on the Forest Grove website from July 30, 2015 to September 18, 2015. The purpose was to identify resident perspectives on recreation opportunities and types of improvements and services needed in the future. A total of 488 individuals responded, including 330 fully completed and 158 partially completed questionnaires.

- **Sports & recreation providers focus group:** MIG facilitated a focus group with recreation providers on August 20, 2015. The purpose was to identify the perspectives of different organized sports groups regarding the planning process, especially as it related to the specific needs for athletics and recreation programs. Fifteen participants attended, representing sports such as baseball, basketball, football, lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis and wrestling.

- **Hispanic-Latino focus group:** On January 28, 2016, the planning team held a focus group meeting with members of the Hispanic/Latino community conducted in Spanish. Participants completed comment cards that corresponded to the presentation questions. Questions focused on topics such as park usage, recreation program participation, the particular needs of the Hispanic/Latino community and participants' ideas for the community center.

- **Community workshops:** On June 8, 2016, the planning team held two community workshops to discuss preliminary recommendations for the Plan Update. Participants weighed-in on preliminary capital project recommendations and discussed potential project priorities for the Plan. Using the same sources of information, the City held the first workshop for Spanish language speakers, followed by an English language workshop. Participants used a worksheet handout to prioritize the types of ideas and draft recommendations from the presentation. Following the presentation, participants asked general questions about the recommendations and larger project.

- **Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)**: The City and MIG convened a project-specific committee of approximately 20 stakeholders representing select local organizations, agencies and interests. MIG facilitated meetings on April 15 and September 30, 2015 to introduce CAC members to the planning process, discuss existing conditions and resources, and identify priority needs for the future. In addition to guiding the development of the Plan Update, CAC members communicate information about the project to the community.

- **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC):** MIG met with five City Staff members met eight times through the planning process to discuss document deliverables and project direction. TAC members included the City Manager, Parks and Recreation Director, Administrative Services Director, Community Development Director and Parks Supervisor.

Key Themes

Across all events and activities that occurred throughout the plan process, there were several key themes with implications for park and recreation needs. There is much more information related to these themes and others provided in individual summaries produced during development of the plan and provided under separate cover.

- **Expanding City offerings with nearby resources:** Community members enjoy surrounding state forest land, trails, water bodies and wetlands. According to the questionnaire, many residents visit nearby county and state lands at least one to two times per month. Other comments identified Forest Grove's setting and access to nearby resources as a source of tourism and community pride.

- **Making the most of existing parks:** In general, the majority of community members prioritized the development of more trails and undeveloped park sites. Children's play areas and programs at schools were also high priority improvements, as they were according to the 2002 survey. This aligns with respondents' primary park uses, emphasis on trails and prioritization of programming for children and youth. Maintenance and care of existing assets was a reoccurring message carried throughout the public outreach events.

- **Improving scheduling and coordination of facilities and programs:** When asked about perceptions of program availability, many felt that the City should improve. According to the questionnaire, 32% of respondents selected either not very good or totally inadequate, and 7% acknowledged they do not know what is offered. Focus group participants noted a lack of coordination in scheduling programs and facility use.

- **Improving information and communication:** Several focus group participants noted the general lack of public knowledge regarding recreational programming in Forest Grove. In another focus group, participants knew about recreation programs in Hillsboro, but did not know about any in Forest Grove.

- **Leveraging volunteers and partnerships:** Participants felt that the City should increase reliance on volunteerism and partnerships in providing park and recreation services. Partners such as Pacific University, the YMCA and even the Tuality Hospital should all have a stake in the system. Others noted the lack of volunteers needed to provide a quality recreation opportunity, including a need for volunteer coaches, referees and organizers.

- **Including different voices and cultures:** Many community members identified the vibrant Latino culture in Forest Grove, with a variety of services and Latino-oriented organizations. Others noted the need to include young and old, new and long-time residents that are all part of the community.

3.2 PARK LAND AND OPEN SPACE

Park land and open space needs address the quantity, quality and management of City park and open space property. Based on the Needs Assessment Summary Memo, this section outlines findings from conversations with the community, a GIS-based access analysis and a review of existing standards and trends.

Park Land and Open Space

- **Park land standards:** Since adoption of the previous plan in 2002, the City has continued to work towards meeting its adopted goals for providing park land. However, past standards were based on a goal of providing 18.5 acres per 1,000 residents, which was not achieved even when counting lands provided by schools and other providers, such as Metro. Table 3.2 presents new standards based on a City goal of providing 6.2 acres per 1,000 residents. This is greater than the City's current level of service (of 5.8 acres per 1,000), but more realistic and achievable given potential resources.

- **City-based park standards:** Much has changed since the City adopted its previous standards for park land in 2002. Based on guidance from the project's Technical Advisory Committee and Citizen Advisory Committee, the proposed service level standards in this Master Plan do not include lands owned, managed and maintained by other providers. This method clarifies the City's role in providing parks and open space to meet the needs of City residents, even though visitors, employees and surrounding residents may use City parks and facilities.

- **Needs for new park land:** The City will need an additional 45 acres of developed park land to address community needs in the next 10 years, based on projected population growth. Fortunately, the City has already acquired park properties in several key places that—when developed— would help meet this need. Table 3.2 notes which types of parks are needed.

- **Neighborhood park needs on the Westside**: The City expects to add an estimated 2,050 new housing units in northwest Forest Grove. This area will need access to neighborhood parks, particularly where not served by a private park (managed by a homeowners' association).

TABLE 3.2: PARK LAND STANDARDS AND NEEDS

PARK TYPE	Existing Standard (acres/1,000 residents)	Existing Park Acres	Existing LOS	Proposed Guideline	Current Need (in Acres) 2015	Net Future Need (Additional Land in Acres) 2026
					23,365	28,970
City-Owned Parkland						
COMMUNITY PARKS	4.0	51.3	2.2	2.2	--	12.4
NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS	1.5	19.7	0.8	1.0	3.7	9.3
SPECIAL USE PARKS	-	4.3	0.2	0.3	2.7	4.4
OPEN SPACE, GREENWAYS AND TRAILS	13.0	59.2	2.5	2.7	3.9	19.0
City-Owned Sites Subtotal	*18.5*	*134.5*	*5.8*	*6.2*	*10.3*	*45.1*
Other Parkland or Recreation Space						
SCHOOLS	-	156.9	6.7		--	--
OTHER NATURAL AREAS	-	120.4	5.2		--	--
Other Sites Subtotal	*0.0*	*277.3*	*11.9*			
Totals for All Parkland	**18.5**	**411.8**	**17.6**	**6.2**	**10.3**	**45.1**

Notes:

1. LOS = level of service
2. Not comparable to 2001 park land needs, which were based on resident and employee populations.
3. For more details on existing park acreage, see Appendix A.

- **Thatcher Park access and residential development**: Much of the area around Thatcher Park is planned as lower density residential development. Currently, minimal development has occurred west of the park and few access roads have been built, which affects the distance people currently travel to reach the park. When residential development occurs and the street network is built, pedestrian and bike access must be provided on the west side of the park to ensure access.

- **Community park needs in East Forest Grove:** While Lincoln Park and Thatcher Park serve residents in central and western Forest Grove within a mile of their homes, the City does not have a community park on the east side. Medium and high-density residential development is projected for the Town Center and east side, which makes the availability of community recreation facilities critical in these areas. This section of the City is home to many lower income residents who may lack transportation options to reach community parks that are farther away.

- **Development of vacant park properties to support recreation:** The City owns five undeveloped properties--each with unique natural, historical or cultural characteristics. Based on questionnaire results, the majority of respondents prioritized improving undeveloped parks, and fewer expressed a need to acquire new park land. None of the City's undeveloped park sites is large enough to support a community park, and the unique site qualities make them different from traditional neighborhood parks. Strategically providing a mix of neighborhood-scale and community-scale recreational facilities at some undeveloped sites and special use sites, where feasible, could help address recreation needs for underserved areas and attract residents with diverse recreation opportunities.

- **Tree canopy and urban forest resources:** Trees are an integral part of the park system, essential to the character of Forest Grove and to environmental and economic wellbeing. There is a need to consider urban forest health, including maintenance requirements, to ensure these resources are sustained for the future. The *Community Forest Management Plan* (Appendix B) describes tree management needs.

3.3 OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES AND TRAILS

A variety of recreation facilities and amenities are needed in City parks. Using results from the Needs Assessment Summary Memo, this section summarizes needs for Forest Grove's outdoor recreation facilities and trails and are based on an analysis of recreation trends and facility standards.

- **Diverse facility development:** Many parks have untapped potential to provide a more memorable and fun experience. There is a general need for a broader range of recreation activities and amenities in Forest Grove parks, a finding reinforced by an assessment of park sites and from community feedback. Forest Grove has a tremendous opportunity to activate more park sites through a system-wide design approach that considers users' perceptions, needs and experiences and moves beyond exclusively numeric standards. The approach to designing and developing new parks should strive to improve this experience by adding new or unique features overtime and as resources permit.

- **New facility guidelines:** Based on guidance from the CAC and TAC, new guidelines are proposed to guide the provision of recreation facilities. As shown in Table 3.3, eight facility guidelines are introduced to calculate facility needs. Unlike standards, guidelines provide some flexibility in how recreation needs are being met which can help the City explore different approaches to reach its goals.

- **Park and facility accessibility:** Many existing parks have accessible trails and paths. However, there is a need and opportunity to establish more universally accessible features across the system, such as accessible and inclusive play areas. Universal design broadens the scope of accessibility to create environments that are usable by all, regardless of ability.

- **Joint use of school facilities:** As shown in Table 3.3, schools play a critical role in meeting the City's facility guidelines and in providing other recreation opportunities. Given these combined standards, the City has an interest in maintaining a joint use agreement or memorandum of understanding with the School District to ensure these facilities remain publicly accessible. In order to continue counting school facilities in meeting city-adopted facility guidelines, the City should track relevant school inventory data to measure its success in meeting standards.

TABLE 3.3: RECREATION FACILITY GUIDELINES AND NEEDS

FACILITY	Existing Standard	Existing Facilities		Total # of Facilities or Miles of Trails	Existing LOS		Proposed Guidelines		Need	
		City	School						Current Need (2015)	Net Future Need (2026)
									23,365	28,970
DIAMOND BALLFIELDS	1/3,500	6	15	21	1/	1,113	1/	1,550	0	-2
RECTANGULAR FIELDS	1/1,700	3	12	15	1/	1,558	1/	1,550	0	4
ACTIVE SPORTS COURTS (E.G., BASKETBALL, TENNIS, PICKLEBALL, FUTSAL, VOLLEYBALL)	1/2,750	9	9	18	1/	1,298	1/	1,400	0	3
LOW IMPACT SPORTS COURTS (E.G., BOCCE, SHUFFLEBOARD, BADMINTON, HORSESHOES)	ns	4	0	4	1/	5,841	1/	3,200	3	5
SKATE PARKS	1/20,000	1	-	1	1/	23,365	1/	20,000	0	0
BIKE PARK	1/20,000	1	-	1	1/	23,365	1/	20,000	0	0
PICNIC SHELTER	ns	7	-	7	1/	3,338	1/	2,500	2	5
HARD-SURFACE TRAIL (MILES)	1/6,000	6.3	nd	6.3	1/	3,691	1/	3,000	1.5	3.3
SOFT SURFACE TRAIL (MILES)	1/8,000	nd	nd	nd		nd		ns	--	--

Notes:

1. LOS = level of service
2. nd = no data; ns = no existing standard
3. Cannery Field facilities are not included in this analysis.
4. For more details on existing facilities, see Appendix A.

- **New rectangular sports field needs:** Many areas of the community have access to rectangular fields within one mile of residents, given the location of existing fields at City parks and schools. Where neither city-owned nor school fields are available in parts of east central Forest Grove, Cannery Fields helps meet residents' needs. Recreation trends suggest that the demand for rectangular sports fields is anticipated to grow as sports such as youth and adult soccer and lacrosse continue to grow, while football remains strong. A new guideline for rectangular sports fields will ensure that the City continues to provide its current level of service as it continues to grow. Based on this standard, Forest Grove will need four additional rectangular fields over the next ten years.

- **Improved scheduling and maintenance of existing diamond ballfields:** Forest Grove provides more baseball and softball fields than required by its current standards. City ballfields are accessible to central and western Forest Grove. Needs in east Forest Grove are met by the School District. Overall, most residential areas are within one mile of a diamond ballfield. Current gaps around Forest Grove High School and Thatcher Park will be addressed when the road network is developed in those areas. Even if the guidelines are increased to equal the guideline proposed for rectangular fields, no new fields will be needed in the next ten years. Increasing coordination of scheduling for field use and focusing on field maintenance will be critical to meeting current needs.

- **Multi-purpose sport courts:** Regional and national recreation trends show a decline in common court sports such as tennis but an increase in new or emerging sports such as pickleball. Designing some new courts, such as tennis courts, as multi-purpose courts with removable nets allows these same facilities to meet broader sports court needs.

- **Improved connectivity through added trail development:** Since adoption of the *Community Trails Master Plan* in 2007, recreation trends and local community feedback indicate that there is a continued and growing need for hard and soft-surfaced trails and pathways to improve connectivity and provide recreation opportunities. Along with total trail miles, trail needs should also be evaluated by the quality and number of connections they create. The City has a standard for the provision of hard and soft-surfaced trails. However, the City has not tracked trail mileage to determine how well it is meeting this standard. As the City continues to develop and support partners in developing trails, there is a need to inventory trail connectivity as well as monitor progress towards completion of the *Trails Master Plan* goals. At the same time, trail-related activities are needed in parks and open spaces, including loop trails, nature trails and off-road paths.

3.4 RECREATION PROGRAMMING AND EVENTS

Forest Grove's parks and recreation system offers opportunities for learning, exploring, playing, building skills and fitness and as a way to build and strengthen the community. City residents, user groups, businesses and other public and private partners provide the foundation for many existing and potential programs and events. This section describes the types of improvements needed to strengthen existing events and programs, based on findings of the Needs Assessment Summary Memo and ongoing conversations with the community.

- **Expanded recreation programming:** As noted in public outreach comments, there is a desire for more and a wider variety of recreation opportunities in Forest Grove currently. This includes more programs for youth, where the most options exist currently, plus more programs for underserved groups such as adults and low income residents. Along with this existing demand, these needs will continue to grow as the community grows and develops.

- **Collaboration to meet recreation programming needs:** The City has played a limited role in providing recreation programming. It is strongly involved in supporting community events and providing aquatics programs, and it provides facilities used for sports and senior services as well as drop-in outdoor activities. Beyond aquatics, it does not have recreation staff or processes in place to provide instructor-led classes, camps, programs and events. However, the City plays an important role as a convener of recreation groups and as a clearinghouse for information. As it undertakes efforts to expand recreation programming, the City will need to continue to define its role based on its strengths and the strengths of other providers.

- **Additional space for indoor programming and childcare:** The City has limited indoor space to support recreation programming for all ages, as well as childcare and youth development programs. A multi-purpose community and recreation center with space for fitness and active recreation, community gatherings and other types of recreation programming is desired. Both indoor and outdoor space would be needed at the site to maximize program opportunities. However, the cost of such a facility (and subsequent need for revenue generation) may price out some of the residents most in need of services. The School District may be better positioned to address child care and indoor recreation needs for school-age children, using existing school facilities. The Forest Grove Senior and Community Center should continue to be operated to meet senior needs. Adult programming space would still be needed.

- **More outdoor programs and events:** While the public conversation often emphasizes the need for indoor programs, residents frequently expressed the need for outdoor community events and programs as well. This need will continue to grow as Forest Grove develops and expands. New park and facility development will provide new opportunities to work with other providers to facilitate programming. As Forest Grove acquires and opens more natural

areas, greenways and trails, for example, an opportunity exists to provide trails programs, nature interpretation and environmental education. These positive activities create opportunities for learning and leisure, plus they help define the character and safety of public space by keeping more "eyes" on the parks.

- **Culturally responsive programming:** Forest Grove is a diverse community and there is a need to include programming opportunities for people of diverse backgrounds, notably Hispanic/Latino cultures. Local non-profit Adelante Mujeres is one of the most well-known local organizations that can help the City explore ways to enhance existing programs and encourage new opportunities such as Spanish language programs, cultural art and cooking programs and more events that celebrate diversity.

3.5 COMMUNITY CENTER FEASIBILITY

The Community Center Feasibility Study (Feasibility Study) explored options for developing and operating an indoor community recreation facility as a way to enhance indoor recreation programming for all Forest Grove residents. As part of the larger planning process, the Feasibility Study considered the service market, potential partnerships, costs and different service level alternatives for indoor recreation and programming space. It provided data to weigh against other community priorities and recreation needs to help City staff and residents make informed decisions about funding priorities for enhanced recreation services. Findings include:

- **City role in recreation programming:** There is a community need for more indoor and outdoor programs and events for all ages. Yet, the City has a limited role in providing indoor recreation programs. It provides aquatics programs and facilities to support indoor senior programming, outdoor events and outdoor sports. Otherwise, the City is not in the recreation services business and currently does not have the staffing or funding to provide these services.

- **Community recreation center needs:** There is a need for indoor space to serve as a centralized community hub for active and social programs. This facility is envisioned as a large multi-purpose recreation and community center in a park to support indoor and outdoor programs and events specifically for city residents.

- **Market limitations:** The existing market within city limits is likely too small to support a large multi-purpose facility. A regional partnership to support a large facility would likely be limited by the funding constraints of surrounding communities.

- **Implications for aging existing facilities:** Community recreation center development will have implications for the existing Senior Center and Aquatic Center. These facilities will become costlier to maintain and operate as they age. Depending on the timing of new facility development and the partners involved, the Aquatic Center and Senior Center could be transferred or repurposed if their uses are included in a new facility.

- **Partnerships for construction and operations:** Equity partner(s) are needed to build and operate a new community recreation center. Partner interests will influence the type of facility developed, its location, the services provided as well as the costs for those services. The School District, YMCA and Pacific University currently appear to be the strongest potential partners. Discussions regarding partner support should continue as the City identifies the resources it could contribute to facility development and operations, which will affect partnership needs.

- **Facility and program affordability:** There is a concern that a fee-based or membership-based recreation facility would make recreation options inaccessible to lower income residents and some community groups. User fees are common in these types of facilities and programs. If the City wants to subsidize facility use or programs for targeted groups, a new funding source will be needed.

- **Voter support needed for funding:** There are several city projects (such as a new police station) that may need funding in the next several years. These other projects limit the City's bonding capacity for a community recreation center. Voter support will be needed to pass a bond or tax measure to support a small or large community recreation center. Capital and funding operations funding will be needed for this project.

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CHAPTER 4:
Systemwide Directions

CHAPTER 4: SYSTEM-WIDE DIRECTIONS

A sign inside the picnic shelter at Thatcher Park notes the community partners who supported park development

This chapter presents the system-wide framework for parks and recreation that builds on Forest Grove's existing parks and recreation assets, meets community needs, and contributes to the community's character and quality of life. The feedback provided by residents, stakeholders, recreation providers and City leaders during the public involvement and planning process provided overarching direction for this Master Plan. This feedback was integral to updating the core values, vision, mission and goals that are the underpinnings of all plan recommendations. It also frames system-wide strategic directions to enhance and manage City parks.

4.1 MASTER PLANNING FRAMEWORK

The core values, vision, mission, goals articulated by community members during the public involvement process provide clear direction for Master Plan recommendations. Figure 4.1 summarizes the elements of this planning framework.

Core Values

The community's core values reflect the guiding principles for our park and recreation system. Forest Grove's core values include the following:

- **One community**: Residents, businesses and City leaders are united in efforts to provide and enhance parks and recreation opportunities. Community-driven initiatives, collaboration, and shared resources create synergies that benefit the lives of all residents.
- **Access for all**: The City is inclusive in its efforts to provide culturally-responsive parks, facilities and programs throughout Forest Grove, as well as excellent customer service for residents of all ages, ethnicities, abilities and incomes.
- **Stewardship:** City staff and residents take care of our parks. The desire to protect, preserve and sustain our community's assets for future generations drives efforts to acquire, maintain, fund and efficiently manage parks as community resources.
- **Community livability**: Through parks and recreation, the City promotes health, wellness, social cohesiveness, and community identity to enhance the quality of life in Forest Grove.

PLAN FRAMEWORK

Based on community feedback, the planning framework identifies the principles that guide both system-wide and site-specific recommendations for park enhancement.

Vision and Mission

The vision that emerged was one of an integrated system of places, activities, and people that reinvigorates the City and promotes its small town, historical identity and suburban community livability through:

A system of parks, recreation facilities, trails and programs that serves the entire community, reflects the character of Forest Grove and protects our natural resources

The mission reflects the need for the entire community to rally to support parks and unique recreation opportunities through the combined investment of City and community resources, time and energy:

To collaboratively provide and support a variety of recreation experiences

FIGURE 4.1: PLANNING FRAMEWORK

CORE VALUES

- One Community
- Access for All
- Stewardship
- Community Livability

VISION

A system of parks, recreation facilities, trails and programs that serves the entire community, reflects the character of Forest Grove and protects our natural resources

MISSION

To collaboratively provide and support a variety of recreation experiences

GOALS

- Serve all ages and abilities
- Contribute to a strong local economy
- Preserve the character of Forest Grove
- Provide safe and convenient access
- Create and expand partnerships
- Support diverse recreation opportunities
- Enhance connectivity
- Promote a sense of community

STRATEGIES

- **Parks and Facilities**
  Enhance existing parks and facilities and develop new ones
- **Open Space, Greenways and Trails**
  Protect natural resources and provide trails
- **Recreation Programs and Services**
  Activate parks with recreation programs and events
- **Maintenance and Stewardship**
  Maintain and replace assets sustainably and preserve historic and cultural resources
- **Collaborative Management and Partnerships**
  Work collaboratively with others to maximize the benefits of the park and recreation system

Goals

The City Parks and Recreation Department strives to achieve the following goals for parks, recreation and open space:

- **Serve all ages and abilities:** Provide recreation opportunities for children, youth, adults and seniors of all abilities and varied interests.
- **Contribute to a strong local economy**: Design and develop parks to foster community events, encourage tourism and be attractive destinations for residents and visitors.
- **Preserve the character of Forest Grove**: Provide parks and recreation facilities that reflect, protect or preserve Forest Grove's heritage, community character, history, landscape, urban canopy, stream corridors and open space.
- **Provide safe and convenient access**: Develop parks and facilities to meet all ADA requirements and distribute parks so that all residents live within reasonable walking distance of recreation opportunities.
- **Create and expand partnerships**: Leverage resources through strategic and deliberate partnerships to provide community-supported parks, programs, events and services.
- **Support diverse recreation opportunities**: Provide indoor and outdoor experiences, incorporating those that are delivered and nature-based, traditional and trendy, leisure and active, and those that facilitate exploration and learning.
- **Enhance connectivity**: Develop walkways and multi-purpose trails that are accessible to people with and without disabilities, pedestrians and bicyclists to connect neighborhoods, schools, parks, recreations facilities and greenways.
- **Promote a sense of community**: Promote projects and developments that reflect the City's character and cultural diversity while connecting newer and older sections of Forest Grove.

4.2 STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

Forest Grove's goals, vision and mission provide direction to focus park and recreation services in the following five ways:

A. ***Parks and Facilities:*** Enhance existing parks and facilities and develop new ones to provide engaging community recreation and social spaces that meet the needs of Forest Grove residents now and as the population grows.
B. ***Open Space Greenways and Trails:*** Protect natural resources and provide trails to connect people to parks, open space and community destinations.
C. ***Recreation Programs and Services:*** Activate parks and facilitate and coordinate *recreation programs and events for Forest Grove residents.*
D. ***Maintenance and Stewardship:*** Maintain and replace assets in a sustainable manner. Preserve Forest Grove's historical and cultural heritage, including the tree canopy and natural resources.
E. ***Collaborative Management and Partnerships:*** Work collaboratively with others to maximize the benefits of the park and recreation system. Involve volunteers, partners,

businesses and other agencies to deliver recreation opportunities through shared resources, partnerships and joint use agreements.

These strategic directions provide guidance for the system-wide recommendations noted below, as well as the site-specific recommendations noted in Chapter 5 and Appendix D. These directions are also directly related to the city-wide Comprehensive Plan goals and Statewide Planning Goals. Appendix C summarizes the relationship between these goals and policies.

A: Parks and Facilities

Enhance existing parks and facilities and develop new ones to provide engaging community recreation and social spaces that meet the needs of Forest Grove residents now and as the population grows.

A1 Adopt and apply updated park land standards. Acquire land, design and develop new parks to serve City residents as per the standards proposed in this plan. Strive to provide a total of 6.2 acres per 1,000 residents. This increases the amount of park land available to residents, but reflects a reduction of land requirements from past standards. This allows the City to play a greater emphasis on park development.

a. Community parks (2.2 acres per 1,000 residents)
b. Neighborhood parks (1.0 acres per 1,000 residents)
c. Special use parks (0.3 acres per 1,000 residents)
d. Open space, greenways and trails (2.7 acres per 1,000 residents)

A2 Adopt and apply updated facility guidelines. Provide a variety of recreation facilities as per the guidelines proposed in this plan. Diversify the types of sports courts provided in the community and continue to modify facility development to respond to traditional and trending recreation needs. This will provide a greater variety of experiences in City parks.

a. Rectangular fields (1 per 1,550 residents)
b. Active sports courts (e.g., basketball, tennis, pickleball, futsal, volleyball) (1 per 1,400 residents)
c. Low impact sports courts (e.g., bocce, shuffleboard, badminton, horseshoes) (1 per 3,200 residents)
d. Skate parks (1 per 20,000 residents)
e. Bike park (1 per 20,000 residents)
f. Picnic shelter (1 per 2,500 residents)
g. Hard-surface trail (1 mile per 3,000 residents)
h. Soft surface trail (no guideline; see A3)

A3 Provide soft-surfaced trails based on park design goals and concepts. Provide nature trails, mountain-bike trails and jogging/pedestrian trails, balancing trail development with the protection of natural areas where these trails are developed. Begin tracking the miles of soft-surfaced trails provided. This will help diversify trail activities and allow the City to better measure future trail needs.

A4 Focus on placemaking to create parks as memorable and engaging places. Emphasize park design, site character, identity, and sense of place through the use of art, colors, plantings, natural elements and topography. Incorporate natural, cultural and historical elements and interpretive/educational features.

A5 Evaluate and improve park accessibility. Complete an ADA assessment and/or transition plan to identify required upgrades in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

A6 Coordinate new park design and development with surrounding land uses. Design and develop parks that take into account nearby neighbors and land uses. Provide attractive entries and pedestrian/bicycle access points to improve park access for surrounding neighbors. Consider the types and placement of park amenities and facilities in conjunction with nearby uses, and consider any synergies in development (such as a new park near a new school, planned regional trail, new residential development, etc.)

A7 Maintain community access to school recreation facilities. Periodically update the City-School joint use agreement. Discuss plans for school development in northwest Forest Grove to identify potential collaborative opportunities or impacts to Thatcher Park Phase 2 development or the development of a new neighborhood park. Consider site-specific partnership opportunities for sports field and facility development, particularly to meet recreation needs in east Forest Grove.

A8 Re-evaluate community recreation center feasibility. Revisit the financial and operational feasibility of a community recreation center in 6-10 years or sooner if new funding options emerge. Initiate pilot programs at existing facilities to build interest in indoor programming (see Recreation Programs and Services). Building on the *Community Center Feasibility Study* findings, continue to explore the interest and availability of potential equity partners and re-evaluate the community's willingness to support a tax measure to fund facility development and operations.

A9 Update the City's SDC methodology. Revise and adopt a new methodology and rate for Systems Development Charges (SDCs) to fund new park and facility development needed to meet the demands of new residential development.

B. Open Space, Greenways and Trails

Protect natural resources and provide trails to connect people to parks, open space and community destinations.

B1 Incorporate natural areas in parks. Preserve, restore or incorporate diverse and healthy habitats and natural resources in parks. Identify maintenance and management strategies to sustain these resources. Where appropriate without damaging natural resources, provide access to natural areas, and enhance scenic views and viewpoints.

B2 Improve community walkability and bikeability. Acquire and develop the remaining sections of the planned loop trail to enhance park access and improve recreation and non-motorized transportation. Develop attractive trail entries and trailheads at connecting parks, with signage marking trail distance to community destinations. Consider tax incentives to property owners who provide trail easements and allow public access. Connect the loop trail to the regional trail system.

B3 Implement urban forestry strategies. Follow recommendations in Forest Grove's 2016 *Community Forest Management Plan* (Appendix B) to take care of park trees, expand the existing urban tree canopy and contribute shaded areas for walking, biking and other park activities.

B4 Improve ecological systems. Incorporate natural areas, native plants, bioswales and green infrastructure into parks for stormwater retention, soil erosion and sediment control, and water and air quality protection. Integrate permeable surfacing for parking lots and trails. Use lawn substitutes which require less fertilizers, water consumption and mowing than traditional lawns unless required for recreation.

B5 Apply best practices in resource conservation. Integrate water conservation elements in irrigation systems, drinking fountains, water play features, and restrooms. Apply best practices in the renovation and development of recreation buildings.

C. Recreation Programs and Services

Activate parks and facilitate and coordinate recreation programs and events for Forest Grove residents.

C1 Provide reservable recreation equipment. Invest in sports and play equipment that can be checked out for community use.

C2 Consolidate information on available recreation opportunities. Increase community awareness of recreation programs, events and activities provided in Forest Grove. Work with other recreation providers in Forest Grove to create a website or program guide where residents can obtain consolidated information and registration information for programs in Forest Grove. Provide online registration for programs and volunteer opportunities if feasible.

C3 Initiate a YMCA recreation program. Work with the School District and YMCA to re-establish a program providing recreation activities and after- or out-of-school care using existing City parks and/or school facilities. Ensure that facility use fees are built into program fees to support increased maintenance.

C4 Fund a recreation scholarship/volunteer credit program. Create a scholarship fund and application process to connect residents in need to existing programs. Establish awards to cover class or program fees and/or transportation costs for participants who cannot afford the current "pay to play" market costs. Develop criteria for award selection and distribution to ensure that funds support underserved groups. Allow applicant where approved to trade volunteer hours for credits to participate in City programs and activities.

C5 Increase programs and events in parks. Using indoor facilities provided by the City and other partners, focus recreation options in the following program areas: health and fitness; nature interpretation and exploration; social gatherings, events and play; and special community interest activities and cultural programs. Consider the following:

a. Recruit non-profits, partners or individual recreation providers to offer free or fee-based activities in parks. Establish a user agreement with guidelines on park or facility costs and use.

b. Establish a competitive recreation grant fund and process to fund programs and community events provided by other partner providers and non-profits or individuals in City parks and facilities. Similar to the City's existing Community Enhancement Fund, develop criteria for award selection and distribution identifying target programs (e.g., community, neighborhood and family activities, teen and adult programs, multi-cultural and Latino activities, events or programs) and target audiences (youth, teens, seniors, low income persons and/or underserved populations).

C6 Facilitate events to increase community cohesion and inclusion. Sponsor or facilitate community-wide activities and events that promote interaction among people of different generations, cultures and abilities. Coordinate community partners to provide and facilitate opportunities for recreation programs and sites.

C7 Facilitate programs to encourage recreation participation. Initiate pilot programs designed to attract people to parks, foster participation in events and programs, and encourage volunteerism. Consider a variety of activities, such as the following: create a rewards program (e.g., Park Points) that awards prizes for participation. People who sign up for swim lessons, catch a movie in the park, join a sports league and participate in a volunteer work party can accumulate points to earn a one-day pool pass. Design a self-directed scavenger hunt where participants can take selfies and respond to clues in every park in town, with a token prize when every park has been visited. Create a Million Step Challenge that invites participants to walk city trails and log miles, with a community potluck and awards ceremony to honor people who crossed the million step mark.

C8 Hire a recreation coordinator. Recruit part-time staff support to develop policies and materials and initiate pilot programs to increase recreation participation, oversee scholarship and/or grant programs, collaborate with other recreation partners, recruit providers, consolidate information and similar tasks.

D. Maintenance and Stewardship

Maintain and replace assets in a sustainable manner.
Preserve Forest Grove's historical and cultural heritage, including the tree canopy and natural resources.

D1 Increase maintenance level of service. Improve routine and preventative maintenance services in parks to ensure park safety, make parks more attractive, and provide a higher quality user experience. Address the park maintenance backlog, and provide greater attention to high-traffic, high-use parks and facilities, such as Lincoln and Thatcher Parks, the Aquatic Center, and neighborhood parks such as Rodgers Park.

D2 Continue City landscaping maintenance and tree pruning. Continue applying the maintenance expertise of parks staff to take care of City trees and landscaping around City buildings using as funded through other department budgets.

D3 Track dollars spent on park maintenance. Begin to track maintenance expenditures for parks to better identify and forecast maintenance costs in the future. Note where funds from other budgets have been used to subsidize the parks maintenance budget, and update maintenance costs assumptions used to calculate maintenance and operations needs in the Master Plan.

D4 Protect cultural, historical and natural resources in parks. Work with the Friends of Historic Forest Grove, Pacific University and other partners to identify, sustain and protect heritage park assets. Provide logistical support but avoid investments or subsidies to acquire, renovate, operate or manage other community resources.

E. Collaborative Management and Partnerships

Work collaboratively with others to maximize the benefits of the park and recreation system. Involve volunteers, partners, businesses and other agencies to deliver recreation opportunities through shared resources, partnerships and joint use agreements.

E1 Develop a tiered-fee schedule with different cost levels. Differentiate fees for community groups in fee schedule for programs and park and facility reservations (for meetings, activities or programs) to cover increased maintenance costs associated with facility use. Continue charging different rates for Forest Grove residents and non-residents. Introduce tiered rates for agencies/partners providing recreation opportunities for community benefits (as part of City-sponsored programs and not) and individuals or groups reserving the facility for private use or individualized benefit.

E2 Update facility use agreements. Revisit agreements with the Forest Grove School District and Pacific University for facility use. Determine if facility use fees and policies are equitable in light of updates to the facility fee schedule, and discuss potential programming arrangements to maximize recreation options for the community.

E3 Partner in site and facility development. Explore opportunities to continue to partner with organizations such as Metro, the School District, Clean Water Services, and Friends of Historic Forest Grove to meet site-specific park and facility needs as recommended in this Plan. Continue seeking an equity partner for a future community recreation center.

E4 Expand volunteer programs. Continue the City's Adopt-a-Park program, and expand and coordinate volunteer recruitment in conjunction with new pilot recreation programs and park activities. Develop coaching and other volunteer training programs, as well as a recognition process for volunteers.

E5 Foster community funding support. Create a donation catalogue or webpage to communicate to residents, businesses and partners the opportunities to support Forest Grove parks through sponsorships, land/facility/equipment donation, scholarship or grant program contributions, advertising, etc. Create a "Friends of the Forest Grove Parks" group to advocate for, promote, fund and support City parks.

E6 Create a recreation consortium. Host and organize a forum of community recreation providers to identify ways to pool resources to meet community recreation needs.

E7 **Publicize success.** Communicate progress made in achieving community recreation priorities, including programs and park development. Demonstrating successes will help increase voter support for future funding measures.

CHAPTER 5:
Site Recommendations

CHAPTER 5: SITE RECOMMENDATIONS

Community goals and strategic directions to enhance the park and recreation system provide an opportunity to re-imagine Forest Grove's parks, trails and open spaces. Each park can be enhanced to increase recreation activities, social benefits, and the ecological function of sites, plus create attractive and special places that excite residents for the next decade and beyond. The Master Plan strives to capture the community ideals reflected in the community's core values, vision and plan goals—by identifying site recommendations to improve and build parks, facilities and trails to expand recreation experiences. It does this by looking broadly across the entire park system to identify ways to bring recreation activity and improvements to all areas of Forest Grove. At the other end of the spectrum, it also looks in a more detailed way at the design of many City parks to note where design changes, partnerships and programs can achieve community priorities and needs for parks and recreation. This chapter highlights the both the big picture and the important details to identify projects needed to create the community's future park system.

5.1 PROPOSED PARK SYSTEM

Map 2 (Proposed Park System) illustrates all recommended projects for parks and trails throughout Forest Grove. Across the system, the following site enhancements are recommended:

- **Improve existing parks across the community:** There are opportunities to improve or enhance most City parks over the next 10 years. These include major enhancements at

Rogers Park, Joseph Gale Park and the Forest Grove Aquatic Center. They include minor enhancements at 12 sites, including the Senior Center, six neighborhood parks, three trail corridors and two community parks. Improvements are dispersed across the City so that all residents can take advantage of the added recreation opportunities.

- **Complete development of popular community parks:** The City's two existing community parks, Lincoln Park and Thatcher Park, both include undeveloped acreage. Completing the development of these two sites is a community priority, since these parks are among the most popular and well-used of any in the park system.
- **Develop undeveloped park properties to provide different types of recreation experiences:** The City has five properties that are recommended for different types of development. Stites Nature Park should be developed to meet the recreation needs of nearby neighbors while protecting natural resources. Reuter Farm Park, Kyle Park and Saucy Park should be lightly developed to connect to trail corridors and provide access to natural areas and nature-based recreation experiences. The development of A.T. Smith Park should reflect the historical heritage of this site, providing interpretive, event and gardening uses.
- **Acquire and develop two new parks in unserved areas:** Both north and northeast Forest Grove will need new local parks when these areas develop. The area north of David Hill Road is planned for residential development and will need a traditional neighborhood park. The area around Oak Street, near the existing community garden, is planned to include business and light industrial uses. This area is also surrounded by nearby neighbors and senior centers. For this reason, the area needs a park that will function as a mixed-use recreation and social gathering space.

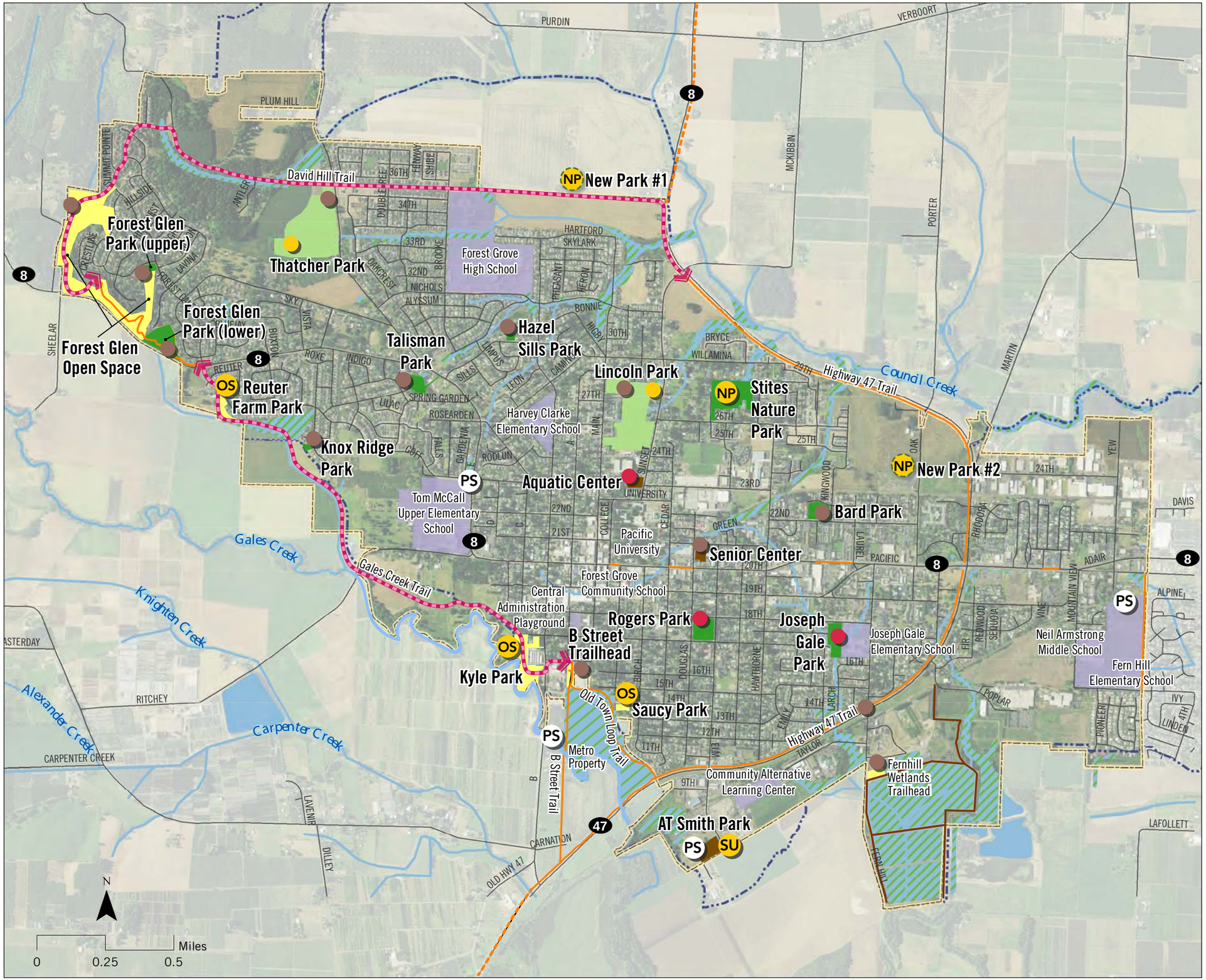
RECOMMENDED PROJECTS

Key recommendations include the following:

- Improve existing parks
- Finish community park development
- Develop undeveloped park properties
- Provide two new neighborhood parks and a downtown plaza
- Collaborate with partners on specific sports and special facilities
- Finish the loop trail
- Consider long-term needs for a recreation

- **Add a plaza to support downtown revitalization and recreation:** As noted in Telephone Survey results, residents believe that downtown revitalization, restaurant and business development will enhance Forest Grove's quality of life. In conjunction with other downtown projects, the City should explore options to build and program a downtown plaza as a community gathering and recreation space. A feasibility study will be needed to identify a location as well as the recreation uses suitable for this plaza. The park should support special events and recreation opportunities to serve nearby neighbors as the residential density in the town center area increases. (This project is not shown on the map.)
- **Pursue partner projects to maximize recreation investments:** To make the most efficient use of existing public sites, the City should pool resources to add recreation features at four sites dispersed across the City: A.T. Smith Park, Metro Property, Tom McCall Upper Elementary School, and Neil Armstrong Middle School. The sports field development and social space at Neil Armstrong Middle School is especially important for this underserved area in east Forest Grove. It will also help support competitive sport uses.

Forest Grove Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan



EXISTING PARKS AND TRAILS

- Multi-use Trail
- Pedestrian Trail
- Community Park
- Neighborhood Park
- Special Use Park
- Open Space, Greenways and Trails

PROPOSED PARKS AND TRAILS

- Proposed Multi-use Trail
- Planned Metro Multi-use Trail
- NP Proposed Neighborhood Park
- SU Proposed Special Use Park
- PS Proposed Partner Site
- OS Proposed Open Space
- Provide Major Enhancements
- Provide Minor Enhancements
- Develop Park or Trail
- Improve Partner Site
- Acquire Land (somewhere in this vicinity)

OTHER FEATURES

- Forest Grove City Limits
- Urban Growth Boundary
- Streets
- Wetlands
- Water Feature
- School Parcel

Map 2: Proposed Park System

MIG

Data Sources: Forest Grove Engineering Department

04.13.16

- **Continue to fill missing links to create a loop trail around the City:** Two links of the proposed regional trail are recommended for development in west Forest Grove. The first link (Gales Creek Trail) will connect the B Street Trail to Reuter Street. The second link (David Hill Trail) would connect the Forest Glen Open Space to the northeastern trail along Hwy. 47.
- **Continue to evaluate options and partnership opportunities to develop a new community recreation center:** If the right opportunity arises and funding is identified, the City should acquire and develop a community park site to support indoor and outdoor programming associated with a new community recreation facility. (Since a location has not been identified, this project is not shown on the map.)

Site Recommendations

All recommended capital projects for the entire park system are described in Table 5.1. Projects are categorized by park classification (community park, neighborhood parks, special use parks, etc.) The table note sites where the following improvements are recommended:

- **Acquire land:** The City will need to acquire land to provide parks and trails in unserved areas, where no City lands are currently owned. Acquisition may occur through purchase, donation, easement or other means. Few sites require land acquisition because the City already owns several undeveloped park properties. In the case of Thatcher Park, the City should strive to acquire land where the existing dog park was developed to retain this facility as part of the existing park.
- **Develop park or trail:** Park and facility construction and landscaping is recommended at several currently undeveloped sites (including sites not yet acquired).
- **Provide minor enhancements:** A minor enhancement is needed at sites where the number of recommended improvements and the size of the improved area is relatively small (e.g., park enhancements or additions may affect approximately ¼ of the site). Minor enhancements are assumed to include projects such as adding site furnishings, paving, trails, landscape and signage, improving accessibility or other minor improvements.
- **Provide major enhancements:** A major enhancement is needed at sites where the number of enhancements and the size of the impacted area is relatively high (e.g., park enhancements or additions may affect approximately ½ of the site). Major enhancements are assumed to include providing extensive renovations based on the condition of existing facilities, adding several facilities such as play equipment, athletic fields/courts, athletic field lighting, shade shelters and buildings per facility standards, or providing major upgrades per a new master plan to change the overall character of the park.
- **Improve partner sites:** The City may support park development by funding and managing projects at sites owned by partner organizations such as nonprofits or other public and private entities such as Metro and the Forest Grove School District. The partners may collaborate with the City of Forest Grove on these specific projects.

For each site, the last column in Table 5.1 provides a detailed project description on specific improvements. To understand future site maintenance needs, the table also identifies the percentage of the park currently developed versus the percentage of the site that will need to be maintained after development is completed.

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TABLE 5.1: RECOMMENDED CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR EXISTING AND PROPOSED SITES

	Acres	% of Park Currently Developed	Park Type	CRITERIA: Acquire Land	Develop Park or Trail	Provide Minor Enhancements	Provide Major Enhancements	Improve Partner Site	% of Park Maintained After Project	Project Description
EXISTING PARKS										
Community Parks										
LINCOLN PARK	22.8	100%	CP			•			100%	Improve north end of park as a play, event and social gathering space. Repurpose the BMX track to provide a destination playground including sand and water play features and climbing areas. Create a plaza with water feature betweeen play area and sculpture garden and natural area. Upgrade restroom and replace existing picnic shelter with reservable event pavilion to support large group gatherings, sports tournaments, comments events and festivals and social occasions such as outdoor weddings in the adjacent garden.
LINCOLN PARK (Addition)	3.0	0%	CP		•				100%	Develop area with a new entry (parking, signage, access paths) from Sunset Drive. Create a natural area and sculpture garden with a boardwalk, trail and other interpretive elements added near the wetlands.
THATCHER PARK	16.0	100%	CP			•			100%	Create an entry plaza to provide access from the proposed multi-use regional trail along David Hill Road. Connect existing features to Phase 2 park development.
THATCHER PARK (Phase 2)	8.5	0%	CP		•				100%	Add a natural play area, terraced community gardens, reservable picnic shelter and additional parking. Provide soft-surfaced trails, self directed interpretive elements, and seating/viewpoints through the woods.
THATCHER PARK (Dog Park)	1.0	100%	CP	•					100%	Acquire dog park site to permanently incorporate this area into the park.
Community Parks Subtotal	*51.3*									
Neighborhood Parks										
BARD PARK	2.8	100%	NP			•			100%	Add a permanent restroom, a community table, more seating, additional picnic tables, and nature play and teen play features such as a climbing wall and small court sports.
HAZEL SILLS PARK	0.5	100%	NP			•			100%	Enhance the existing play area with natural and open-ended/ free play. Provide additional amenities such as seating, picnic tables, a paved loop path and a free library. Use plantings to screen the park from adjacent neighbors.
JOSEPH GALE PARK	3.8	100%	NP				•		100%	Repurpose the T-ball field to support social and educational gatherings, providing a picnic shelter, community table and updated restroom. Add play elements near this social space, such as climbing wall, outdoor ping pong and bocce. Add natural elements to the existing play area, and improve connections to the school.
KNOX RIDGE PARK	0.4	100%	NP						100%	Enhance the play area with more natural, open-ended free play. Add picnic tables and seating to enjoy the views from this park. Consider a free library.
ROGERS PARK	3.7	100%	NP				•		100%	Enhance park to embrace play and social gatherings for all ages, incorporating Anna and Abby's Yard (memorial play area), an open central plaza with seatwalls, water spray ground, nature play area, teen play area, a reservable picnic shelter, barbecue, a restroom and addiitonal small sport courts.
TAILSMAN PARK	2.3	100%	NP			•			100%	Enhance play area with more open-ended, free play features. Provide a covered picnic shelter and gathering in the north and an opportunity to add park games and a community table to the south near the gazebo.
FOREST GLEN PARK (Upper)	0.9	100%	NP			•			100%	Enhance the play area; add picnic tables and seating; and stabilize the eroding bank. Develop a trail connecting to the lower park.
FOREST GLEN PARK (Lower)	5.3	50%	NP			•			75%	Add picnic tables, seating/viewing options, a set of stairs for staircase workouts, custom slides and play features, and natural plantings. Develop a trail connecting to the upper park.
Neighborhood Parks Subtotal	*19.7*									
Special Use Parks										
FOREST GROVE AQUATIC CENTER	3.0	100%	SU				•		100%	Maintain and repair the aquatic center to continue providing revenue-generating aquatics programs. Continue to monitor facility condition over the long term.
FOREST GROVE SENIOR CENTER	1.3	100%	SU			•			100%	Explore options and minor enhancements to provide additional programming at this facility.
Special Use Parks Subtotal	*4.3*									
Open Space, Greenways and Trails										
B STREET TRAILHEAD (City)	0.9	100%	OSGT			•			100%	Provide interpretive signage and improve connections to planned regional trail upon development.
B STREET TRAIL (Trail Corridor)*	1.4	100%	TC						100%	Maintain multi-purpose trail. (See partnership opportunties.)
FERN HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TRAIL*	1	100%	TC						100%	Maintain trail.
FERNHILL WETLANDS TRAILHEAD	0.9	100%	OSGT			•			100%	Maintain trailhead, restroom and shelter. Repair facilities as needed.
FOREST GLEN OPEN SPACE AND TRAIL	45.1	15%	OSGT			•			25%	Add signage at trail entry points. Develop trail connecting upper and lower park areas. Connect trail to regional trail loop.
HIGHWAY 47 TRAIL *	9.1	100%	TC			•			100%	Resurface trail and add or replace benches where needed.
OLD TOWN LOOP TRAIL *	1.3	100%	TC						100%	Maintain trail.
Open Space, Greenways and Trails Subtotal	*59.7*									

	Acres	% of Park Currently Developed	Park Type	CRITERIA: Acquire Land	Develop Park or Trail	Provide Minor Enhancements	Provide Major Enhancements	Improve Partner Site	% of Park Maintained After Project	Project Description
PROPOSED PARKS, OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS										
Proposed Parks										
A.T. SMITH PARK (City)	3.2	0%	SU		•				100%	Develop this site to include community garden beds, a tree covered parking area, an event pavilion and an open area to host classes and programs. (See partnership opportunities related to park land owned by the Friends of Historic Grove.)
KYLE PARK	7.5	0%	OSGT		•				50%	Develop as an open space greenway that provides various bicycling opportunities such as bike trails, a bike skills area, and a bike track. Develop a trailhead with parking and restroom to connect site to the regional loop trail. Prune and plant with native and riparian vegetation.
REUTER FARM PARK	2.1	0%	OSGT		•				100%	Develop site for passive uses only, providing interpretive signage, picnic tables, and benches to take advantage of the expansive views from the park.
SAUCY PARK	0.5	0%	OSGT		•				100%	Develop as an access point to the Old Town Loop Trail. Provide picnic tables, seating options, interpretive features, a natural play area, and natural plantings.
STITES NATURE PARK	10.9	0%	NP		•				80%	Develop as the City's first "naturehood" park, protecting natural elements and serving surrounding neighbors. Provide a parking area and information/interpretive kiosk at the main entrance, adding a picnic shelter and restroom ajacent to the nature play area. Include walking paths, a soft-surfaced loop trails, meadow, wetland plants, viewpoints, interpretive signage, boardwalk, views to the water and nature learning opportunities throughout the site.
NEW DOWNTOWN PLAZA	0.5	0%	SU	•	•				100%	Develop a downtown master plan or plaza master plan to identify the location, design and program elements for a downtown plaza, in conjunction with other downtown uses. Develop this site as a focal point with hardscape and seating to support social gatherings, events and programs. Consider additional recreation uses to address parks needs associated with increased residential living in the town
NEW NEIGHBORHOOD PARK # 1 (David Hill North)	6.0	0%	NP	•	•				100%	Develop as neighborhood park with playground, sports courts (basketball, futsal) , small picnic shelter, and practice soccer field.
NEW NEIGHBORHOOD PARK # 2 (Oak Street)	2.5	0%	NP	•	•				100%	Develop as mixed use park with plaza/seating area, play elements, low impact sports courts (e.g., bocce, shuffleboard, pickleball), picnic area, and raised community garden.
NEW COMMUNITY PARK (Community Recreation Center)	10.0	0%	NP	•	•				100%	Acquire site of at least 10 acres in an accessible location to construct a multi-purpose community recreation center with indoor and outdoor programming and event space. The indoor facility may include community, active recreation and aquatic facilties. The outdoor space may include large group gathering space, a multi-use rectangular sport field and other community attractions. The location and site characteristics will affect the types of facilties provided.
Proposed Parkland Subtotal	*43.2*	*0%*								
Improvements to Partner Sites										
A.T. SMITH AMPHITHEATER (FHFG)	2.2	0%	PS					•	100%	Develop amphitheater in conjunction with other improvements made by FHFG.
METRO WETLANDS VIEWPOINT	1.0	0%	PS					•	100%	Add viewpoint, interpretive signage and nature play elements
NEIL ARMSTRONG MS SPORTS FIELDS	7.5	N/A	PS					•	100%	Improve four ballfield complex, adding two multi-purpose rectangular sports fields as overlays in the outfields. Provide access paths, a permanent restroom and support amenities.
TOM McCALL UPPER ELEMENTARY SOCCER FIELD	2.1	N/A	PS					•	100%	Consider options to add one multi-use rectangular field.
Undeveloped Partner Sites Subtotal	*56.0*	*0%*								
Proposed Trail Corridors (City/Partner)										
GALES CREEK TRAIL **	7.5	0%	OSGT	•	•				100%	Acquire land or easement and develop this sement of the multi-use regional trail, connecting Forest Glen Park to Thatcher Park, Forest Grove HS, a proposed new neighborhood park and the Highway 47 Trail. [Length: 2.1 miles (11,088 feet)]
DAVID HILL TRAIL **	5.1	0%	OSGT	•	•				100%	Acquire land or easement and develop this sement of the multi-use regional trail, connecting the B Street Trailhead to Kyle Park, Knox Ridge Park, Reuter Farm Park, and Forest Glen Park. [Length: 3.1 miles (16,368 feet)]
Trails Subtotal	*12.6*	*0%*								
Totals for Park Facilities	**246.9**	**0%**								

Revised 4/18/16

CP- Community Park; NP- Neighborhood Park; SU- Special Use; OSGT- Open Space, Greenway and Trail, PS- Partner Site

Note: Some sites are divided into different rows to account for different land owners or status of development.

*City maintains trail corridor, but does not own land.

**Trail acreage is calculated based on an average assumption of a 20-foot corridor.

5.2 PROPOSED PARK ENHANCEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

The City of Forest Grove evaluated the design of existing City parks and undeveloped park properties to identify ways to enhance outdoor recreation at each site. Appendix D illustrates site-specific design options for each park. These site diagrams take into account the existing site conditions, needs and outreach feedback, partnership and programming opportunities, and systemwide recommendations. The site diagrams, illustrated with photos of design and programming examples, present design options for adding outdoor recreation amenities and facilities. For developed parks, these diagrams are intended to be used as a menu of park improvements with projects that can be funded over time or when facilities are replaced at the end of their lifecycles. For undeveloped sites or sites requiring more extensive renovations, additional site master planning will be needed to before construction, relying on these diagrams as guidelines for park development to ensure consistency with goals stated in this plan.

These design options stem from the desires and goals of Forest Grove residents, who expressed a desire for parks and recreation facilities that embrace new recreation trends, accommodate changing community demographics and reflect current and future priorities for the City. While several different types of projects are noted in parks, six specific types of park enhancements are noted most frequently.

PARK DESIGN OPTIONS

Park site diagrams illustrate options for adding outdoor amenities, facilities and landscaping to improve recreation and park enjoyment. Six options are most prevalent:

- Expanded play
- Added social gathering and event space
- Added variety in recreation experiences
- Increased connections to nature, scenery and history
- Collaborative projects with partners
- Opportunities to activate parks through programs and play

See Appendix D for specific site design options.

Expanded Play Opportunities

Forest Grove residents appreciate the playgrounds located in City parks, but would like to have more variation in play experiences. Instead of offering traditional playground equipment only, park design options note places where nature play and sand and water elements can be added. Destination play areas with water spray or thematic elements are appropriate for high use sites. Since all ages need opportunities to play, design elements also suggest adding play places attractive to adults and teens. These include play areas with challenging features such as climbing walls and hill slides and park games such as outdoor fitness equipment, ping pong tables, chess and non-athletic small game courts.

Social Gathering & Event Space

Community interaction is important in Forest Grove, and parks are valued as social spaces. Residents would like City parks to incorporate facilities that support family, neighborhood and community-scale gatherings, as well as social opportunities for small and large groups. These amenities and facilities may range in size from small seating areas for conversation to large event pavilions suitable for outdoor recreation programs and special events, as well as group rentals. Other design elements that foster community interaction include picnic shelters, community tables, amphitheaters, park plazas and free libraries.

Recreation Variety

Outreach findings identified a desire to have more things to do at parks, which can be supported by adding a greater variety of recreation facilities. Design options include adding more diverse sports courts (e.g., pickleball, futsal, bocce, shuffleboard); bike skills course or pump tracks; park games and other elements such as disc golf, and fitness options (hill climb stairs, outdoor exercise equipment).

Connections to Nature, Scenery and History

Several existing Forest Grove parks and all five of the currently undeveloped City-owned sites have amazing views and unique natural assets. Sites such as A.T. Smith and Reuter Farm Park are steeped in local history. Residents want these natural and historical elements incorporated into park design, so that the site's character reflects the community's heritage, agricultural history and natural assets. Design options include incorporating healthy or restored natural habitats and agricultural spaces or lightly developing natural areas to make them accessible for play, relaxation an d interaction with nature. Specific recommendations include adding the City's first "naturehood" park at Stites Park, adding a natural area/sculpture garden at Lincoln Park, and creating a heritage site at A.T. Smith Park. Other parks can be developed or improved to include nature trails / bike trails / multi-use trails, vistas (seating areas), creek viewpoints, nature play areas, interpretive signage, and new community gardens (terraced and historic).

Projects at Partner Sites

Residents appreciate City efforts to maximize the benefits associated with park investments. With that in mind, it's more cost effective to work collaboratively with other partners to jointly provide recreation opportunities. Recommendations include facility development at four sites owned by partner organizations, including two school sites, Metro wetlands, and a portion of A.T. Smith Park owned by Friends of Historic Forest Grove. These include adding to the regional loop trail, adding or improving sports fields, adding a viewpoint along Gales Creek and providing an amphitheater to support outdoor programs.

Park Activation

Forest Grove parks can be transformed into welcoming community hubs activated by engaging recreation programs and events. Recommendations for several sites include adding design elements to support small recurring events (e.g., small concerts, theater performances, movies

in the park), pop-up play opportunities (e.g., mobile playground van, loose parts to build with, hopscotch), and different types of recreation programs that can be held outdoors (e.g., special events, fitness classes, sports, social clubs, trail activities, nature and historical interpretation programs, gardening and environmental education programs).

CHAPTER 6:
Implementation

CHAPTER 6: IMPLEMENTATION

This chapter defines implementation strategies to advance Master Plan recommendations. It begins by identifying the total capital and operations costs for all projects recommended in the Master Plan. Since the City does not have the resources to implement all recommended projects, the chapter discusses community funding priorities and applies these priorities to defining a shorter capital improvement plan to strive to complete over the next ten years. Decisions on funding and the willingness of residents to invest in parks and recreation will determine which projects move forward in the next ten years. This information is intended to help City staff make decisions on future investments in parks and recreation and to schedule projects in annual budgeting and work plans.

6.1 POTENTIAL PROJECT COSTS

The total cost of developing and operating the system is critical to plan implementation and the build-out of the system. This plan supports Forest Grove's effort to define the total cost of projects by defining the four categories of costs associated with the development of its parks, recreation, and open space and trails system:

- **Capital**: the acquisition and construction of new park sites and recreation facilities and renovation or improvements to the existing parks and recreation facilities;
- **Maintenance:** routine and preventative maintenance to keep the system open, clean, and safe; and
- **Reinvestment**: the repair, replacement and renewal of amenities, facilities and landscaping as they age, deteriorate and reach the end of their useful life or are no longer serving public needs.
- **Programming**: the coordination and provision of recreation information and services, including classes, activities and events in parks and recreation facilities.

Capital Projects

Table 6.1 presents planning-level capital cost estimate needed to develop, update and enhance the park system as per recommendations noted in Chapter 4 and 5. These cost estimates are organized by park classifications: community parks, neighborhood parks, special use parks and open space, greenways and trails. As with recommendations, they include proposed development conducted at partner sites. A detailed version of the capital projects, cost estimates and costing assumptions for existing and proposed parks can be found in Appendix E.

TABLE 6.1: ESTIMATED CAPITAL COST BY PARK TYPE AND TASK

Park Type	Acquire Land	Develop Park or Trail	Provide Minor Enhancements	Provide Major Enhancements	Partnership Improvements	Total
Existing Parks						
Community Park	$200,000	$4,600,000	$3,880,000	$0	$0	$8,680,000
Neighborhood Park	$0	$0	$720,000	$1,114,500	$0	$1,834,500
Special Use Site	$0	$0	$162,500	$750,000	$0	$912,500
Open Space, Greenway & Trail	$0	$0	$883,250	$0	$0	$883,250
Subtotal	*$200,000*	*$4,600,000*	*$5,645,750*	*$1,864,500*	*$0*	*$12,310,250*
Proposed Parks						
Community Park	$2,000,000	$4,000,000	$0	$0	$32,000,000	$38,000,000
Neighborhood Park	$1,700,000	$5,166,000	$0	$0	N/A	$6,866,000
Special Use Site	$100,000	$1,850,000	$0	$0	N/A	$1,950,000
Open Space, Greenway & Trail	$1,260,000	$3,798,000	$0	$0	N/A	$5,058,000
Partner Sites	$0	$0	$0	$0	$1,875,000	$1,875,000
Subtotal	*$5,060,000*	*$14,814,000*	*$0*	*$0*	*$33,875,000*	*$53,749,000*
TOTAL	*$5,260,000*	*$19,414,000*	*$5,645,750*	*$1,864,500*	*$33,875,000*	*$66,059,250*

Notes: All costs are based on 2016 dollars, not accounting for inflation. All cost assumptions are defined in Appendix E. Minor enhancements are anticipated to affect approximately 1/4 of the site; major enhancements affect approximately 1/2 of the site.

As shown in Table 6.1, approximately $66.1 million would be needed to implement all improvements recommended in the Master Plan. Approximately 20% ($12.3 million) is needed to enhance existing parks, with the majority of those funds ($8.6 million) for Lincoln and Thatcher Park alone. Nearly 58% of total costs ($38 million) would be needed to acquire and develop a park with a new community recreation center, and another 24% ($15.7 million) would fund the development of new parks. While all these improvements are desired, the cost is more than the City can afford.

Maintenance and Reinvestment

Table 6.2 provides an overview of the reinvestment costs and maintenance costs. Unlike capital costs, these represent annual investments to take care of the park system. Maintenance costs are based on an average cost per acre to maintain City parks and trails. Consistent with recommendations, high-use sites such as community parks and special use parks require additional maintenance funds to improve routine and preventative maintenance. Appendix E notes maintenance costs as well as which sites are targeted for increased maintenance services.

Park reinvestment costs per acre reflect an annual allocation for the capital replacement of outdated or worn facilities as scheduled based on their age and use. While these funds are not needed immediately for new facilities and parks, monies set aside annually will ensure that the City has funds on hand to repair or replace facilities when needed. The costs are based on a 20-year replacement schedule to update 1/4 of the park, including landscaping and amenities. At partner sites, these are based on total capital costs rather than a cost per acre.

As shown in Table 6.2, approximately $2.1 million would be needed annually to take care of all existing and proposed parks, trail corridors and partner sites if the park system is built out as recommended. Another $1 million should be set aside for capital reinvestment. In the past, the City has not set aside funds to cover major capital repairs and replaced facilities. It has considered system reinvestment in the same context as new capital projects, identifying capital dollars when needed though the capital improvement planning and budgeting process. A reinvestment fund could help proactively plan for facility improvements in the future. Given current challenges to fund parks maintenance, however, the City is unlikely to be able to set these type of funds aside for future use.

TABLE 6.2: ESTIMATED MAINTENANCE AND REINVESTMENT COSTS

Park Type	Annual Post Development Maintenance Cost	Annual Future Reinvestment Cost	Total
Existing Parks	$1,408,360	$416,894	$1,825,254
Proposed Parks	$434,940	$578,675	$1,013,615
Improvements to Partner Sites	$152,080	$23,438	$175,518
Proposed Trail Corridors	$126,000	$31,500	$157,500
Subtotal	*$2,121,380*	*$1,050,506*	*$3,171,886*

Notes: All costs are based on 2016 dollars, not accounting for inflation. For partner sites, site-specific costs for development and reinvestment are identified in Table B-1.

Basic maintenance costs are based on an average cost per acre to maintain all City parks and trails, based on figures in the City's Proposed Budget, FY 2016-17. For the Aquatic Center, the cost takes into account net maintenance and operations expenditures.

Park reinvestment costs per acre reflect an annual allocation for the capital replacement of outdated or worn facilities as scheduled based on their age and use. These costs are based on a 20-year replacement schedule to update 1/4 of the park, including landscaping and amenities. At partner site, these are based on total capital costs rather than a cost per acre.

Recreation Programs

The *Community Center Feasibility Study* identified different program service levels and associated costs for providing recreation programs, events and activities. Table 6.3 presents refined programming costs updated here to reflect Master Plan program recommendations presented in Chapter 4.

TABLE 6.3: ESTIMATED RECREATION PROGRAM AND SERVICE COSTS

Program Level	Estimated Annual Costs
Level 1: Coordinated Information, Website and Scholarships, ½ FTE Recreation Coordinator	$50,000 - $75,000
Level 2: YMCA/School Programs, Allowance for Increased Programs and Events in Parks, ½ FTE Recreation Coordinator	$100,000 - $200,000
Level 3/4: Full Community Recreation Center Operations and Programming	$300,000 - $500,000*
Subtotal	*$450,000 - $775,000*

Notes: All costs are based on 2016 dollars, not accounting for inflation.

**Assumes a 70-75% cost recovery rate and/or substantial partner investment in community center operations.*

As noted in the Table 6.3, Level 1 costs are a small annual investment to increase awareness of existing recreation opportunities. The estimated operational outlay is minor to coordinate with other recreation providers in creating a consolidated website of recreation information and providing scholarships for underserved groups to be able to participate in existing programs.

Level 2 costs reflect a moderate annual investment to increase recreation program options. The amount of this allowance could vary depending the numbers and types of new programs and events provided and the amount of subsidy the City is willing to provide to initiate pilot programs. An allowance to recruit program providers as well as initiate a YMCA/School District partnership could be facilitated cost effectively, assuming the program provider absorbs the cost of providing programs and pays the City for facility use.

Levels 3 and 4 cost represent a significant investment in the operations of a new community recreation center: Community recreation center operations would require a sizable subsidy. As noted in the *Community Center Feasibility Study* the City is unlikely to take on facility development or operations without an equity partner to assume management risks and costs.

6.2 COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PRIORITIES

As noted in the last section, the community's desire for more indoor recreation programming space, improvements to existing parks, new park development and improved maintenance and programming is costly. The amount of capital and operations dollars needed for this type of investment would require community funding support through increased taxes, user fees, system development charges and other funding mechanisms. To determine the community's willingness to support this level of funding, the City of Forest Grove led two efforts to understand residents' funding priorities.

Implementation Survey Findings

From February 3rd to 16th 2016, the City of Forest Grove conducted a live telephone survey of registered voters to get their input on funding priorities and their willingness to support tax measures to fund park projects. A total of 220 interviews were conducted. The overall margin of error is around +/-6.6% at the 95% confidence interval for this survey. The survey involving participants in identifying funding priorities in several different categories. It also measured voter support for six funding packages, described briefly in Table 6.4.

TABLE 6.4: TELEPHONE SURVEY TESTED FUNDING PACKAGES

Tax Package	Estimated Revenue Generated	Annual Cost for Average Homeowner*
Maintenance and Upkeep	$150,000 annually	$50 per homeowner
Programs and Events	$150,000 annually	$50 per homeowner
Park Improvements/Development	$10M	$133 per homeowner
Park Improvements/Development	$20M	$265 per homeowner
Recreation Center (Small)	$20M	$265 per homeowner
Recreation Center (Larger)	$35M	$463 per homeowner

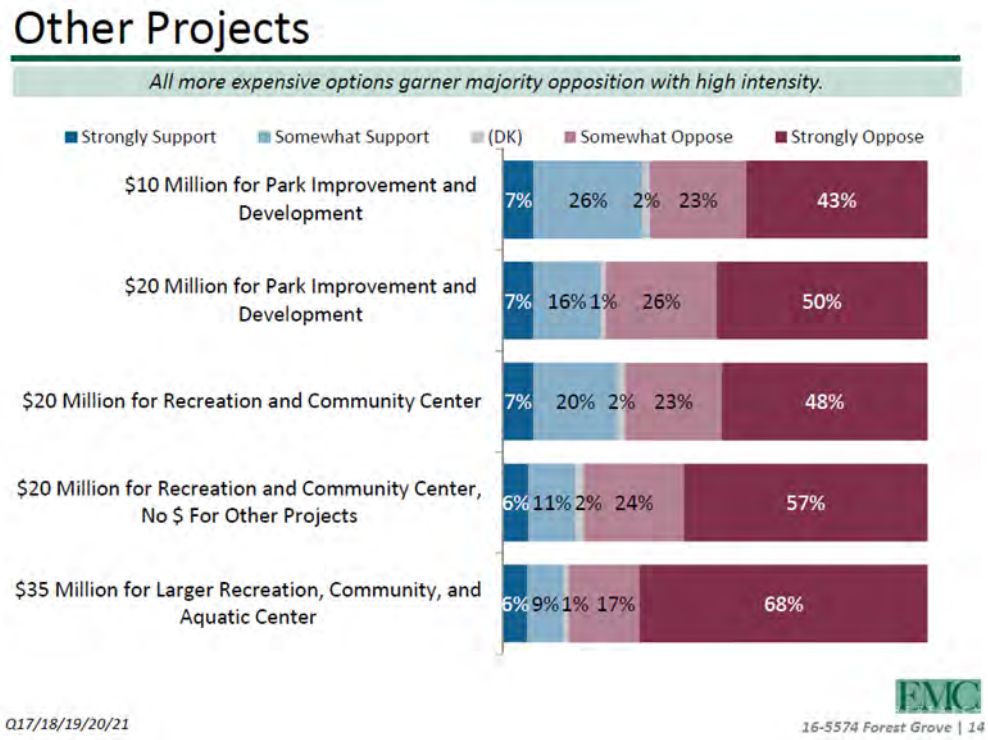
** Owner of a $237,000 home.*

KEY FINDINGS

As noted in the survey, community priorities include protecting existing investments and enhancing recreation opportunities on a small scale. Key findings are noted below

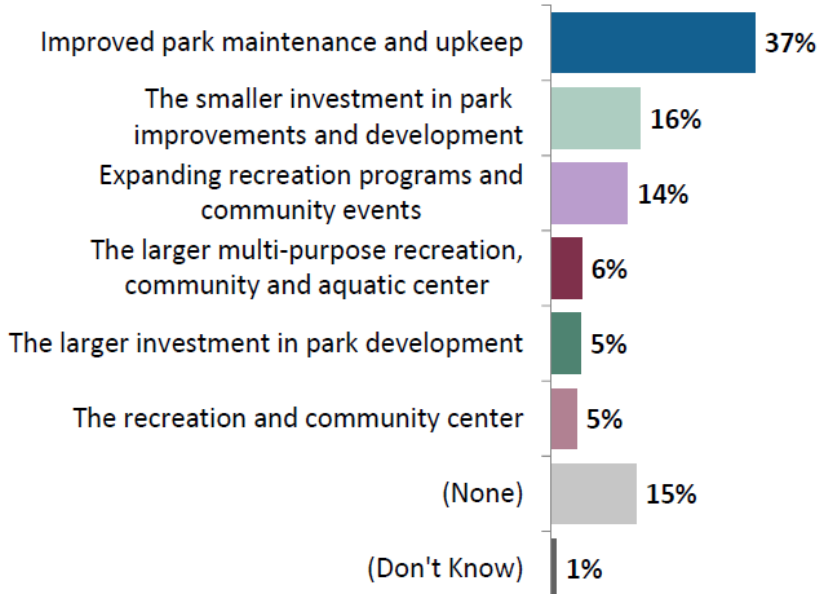
- **Protect existing investments:** Residents want the City to take good care of existing parks and facilities. Survey results suggested that 63% support a $150,000 annual tax increase ($25 per year for the average homeowner) to improve park maintenance and upkeep.
- **Enhance existing recreation programs and community events:** A majority of survey respondents (57%) support a $150,000 annual tax increase ($25 per year for the average homeowner) to provide more programs and events.
- **Consider limited voter support for larger projects:** Slightly less than half of voters supported a tax increase of $50 per year for raising $300,000 annually for the City to support both maintenance and programs. However, there is little current public support for larger tax measures that would increase taxes from $133-$465 per year for the average homeowner, raising $10-$35 million annually for city park projects (Figure 6.1).

FIGURE 6.1: MEASURED FUNDING SUPPORT FOR LARGER PARK TAX PACKAGES



- **Prioritize existing parks and low-cost options to enhance recreation opportunities:** Improving park maintenance and upkeep consistent ranked as the community's top funding priority. Beyond that, residents supported nearly equally enhancing programs and investing in smaller park projects. Each of these types of low-cost park investments have tax support according to the priorities noted in Figure 6.2.

FIGURE 6.2: PRIORITY PARKS AND RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS FOR CITY INVESTMENT



- **Consider different funding options to develop more parks and trails:** Both survey results and earlier outreach results suggested that residents want a variety of park projects, as long as the City does not have to raise taxes to implement them. In the Needs Assessment questionnaire, 87% of respondents indicate it was a high or medium priority for the City to develop its undeveloped park sites; 85% indicated it was important to develop more trails; 68% wanted a new community center. in the Telephone Survey, more than 57% of voters also indicated it was important for the City to develop its vacant park sites. Between 52% and 63% of respondents indicated it was important to improve maintenance, provide minor renovations, develop vacant park sites, and provide more programs and events.

6.3 10-YEAR PLAN AND FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

There are clear community priorities for investing in the park and recreation system over the next ten years. What is less clear is the amount of funding available to implement priority projects—particularly in light of apparent limits on the taxing measures voters may be willing to support. Appendix F identifies existing and potential new resources to help fund park and recreation enhancements. These include existing and potential funding sources, as well as the involvement of potential partners, volunteers and donors.

Capital Funding Options

To have a better understanding of potential funds for parks projects, Table 6.5 identifies current and potential funding sources, along with an estimated low and high range of revenues that could be generated by each fund for parks and recreation facility improvements over the next ten years.

TABLE 6.5: POTENTIAL MAJOR SOURCES AND GENERAL ESTIMATES OF CAPITAL FUNDS

Source	Use/Restrictions	Potential Funds in 10 Years	
		Low Estimate	High Estimate
System Development Charges (SDCs)	May be used for capacity enhancement projects to support new development.[1]	$7,700,000	$15,600,000
Grants and State Funds	Special purpose funds to support a designated project, such as trail and greenway improvements or park development. [2]	$325,000	$1,000,000
Park Acquisition and Development Fund (Fund Balance)	Existing fund for growth-related parks and capital expansion projects supported by SDCs and past State/Metro grants. Restrictions on fund use is dependent on the source.[2]	$1,500,000	$1,500,000
Bike and Pedestrian Pathways Fund	One percent (1%) of the State Gas Tax revenues received by the City is allocated for bike and pedestrian pathway improvements. Use is restricted to capital projects that build or improve facilities for pedestrian and bicycle modes transportation. [3]	$130,000	$130,000
General Funds	City financial resources typically used for parks maintenance. These funds have been applied to renovation and reinvestment projects to keep facilities operable. [4]	$250,000	$500,000
Facilities Major Maintenance Fund	Fund established in FY 2010-11 to support major City facility maintenance projects to extend the life of current buildings.[5]	$100,000	$500,000
General Obligation Bond	Voter approved property tax for capital projects. [6]	0	$5,000,000
TOTAL		*$10,005,000*	*$24,230,000*

Notes: All costs are based on 2016 dollars, not accounting for inflation. All cost assumptions and details on the funding sources are defined in Appendix F.

1 *SDCs are currently set at a rate of $3,000 per residential unit, which would generate approximately $7.7 million. To continue to provide parks at the existing level of service. SDC's may be increased to $6,065 per unit, which would increase capital project funds to the higher amount noted.*

2 *Grant funding varies considerably each year. The low amount is based on the known grant funding shown in the City's 5-year CIP. The high amount is similar to the $1,050,000 in State Park/Metro Grants and dollars from the State General Fund the City received in the last five years.*

3 *The Park Acquisition and Development Fund in the past included SDCs, grants and state funds. While these are split for future funding estimates, this fund still carries a revenue balance to be applied to future projects.*

4 *The Pathways Fund generates approximately $13,000 per year. There is no fund balance to carry forward from FY 2016/17.*

5 *The General Fund primarily supports maintenance and other City services. In past years, General Funds have been tapped to support necessary renovations, since the City does not have other funds set aside for facility repairs. While it is not recommended to divert maintenance dollars to emergency repair projects, the low estimate shown reflects funding assumptions built into the 5-Year CIP for aquatics renovations.*

6 *The Facilities Major Maintenance Fund expires in 2018 and may be renewed pending voter approval. The current 5-year CIP notes that these funds will continue to applied support necessary renovations.*

7 *Currently, there is little voter support for a park bond measure. If the City pursues a bond measure for other City facilities, it could combined small park projects into the funding package, which accounts for the high estimate in this table.*

As shown in Table 6.5, the City is likely to have between $10 million and $25 million to fund capital park projects. That is significantly less than the $66.1 million estimated to be able to implement all improvements recommended in the Master Plan. For this reason, a more realistic 10-year funding plan is proposed.

10-Year Plan

Table 6.6 provides a list of top funding priorities that is more consistent with available funds and community priorities. Projects are divided into two categories:

- **Primary Projects:** These projects are most important to complete within the 10-year planning horizon. These include approximately $17 million in projects, focusing on:
    - *Existing park projects and renovation:* Approximately $9.7 million accounts for needed repairs and maintenance, projects already in process, community park completion, and priority reinvestment in two high-use neighborhood parks.
    - *Proposed parks and access improvements in underserved areas***:** Another $7.2 million support two new parks in unserved areas, as well as trail development and trailhead improvements to improve access to parks.
- **Desired Projects:** The projects in this category reflect community priorities and goals for the Master Plan. The availability of funding and level of partner support most likely will determine if these projects are able to be implemented in the next 10 years.

If the City applies existing sources of funding alone (the lower funding rate in Table 6.5), it will be approximatley $7 million short of funding all primary projects. An increased SDC rate is critical to funding many of the primary projects, which includes approximately $13 million in capacity enhancement projects that could be funded through SDCs. Maximizing all possible sources of funding (the high estimate in Table 6.5) will be needed to fund the $24 million of primary and desired projects combined.

Even at the higher investment range, the City will not have sufficient funds to developed all of its undeveloped park acreage. Neither Kyle Park nor Reuter Farm Park are on the primary or desired project lists.

TABLE 6.6: Primary and Desired Capital Projects and Potential Funding Sources (DRAFT)

			RECOMMENDATIONS					CAPITAL COSTS	CAPITAL FUNDING OPTIONS							
	Acres	Park Type	Acquire Land	Develop Park or Trail	Provide Minor Enhancements	Provide Major Enhancements	Add Facility through Partnership	Estimated Capital Cost	System Development Charges*	Grants and State Funds	Park Acquistion & Development Fund	Bike & Pedestrain Pathways Fund	General Funds	Facility Major Maintenenace	General Obligation Bond	Partnerships, Donations, Easements
PRIMARY PROJECTS																
Existing Parks																
LINCOLN PARK	22.8	CP			•			$ 2,280,000	•		•				•	•
LINCOLN PARK (Addition)	3.0	CP		•				$ 1,200,000	•		•				•	
THATCHER PARK (Phase 2)	8.5	CP		•				$ 3,400,000	•						•	•
THATCHER PARK (Dog Park)	1.0	CP	•					$ 200,000	•		•				•	•
JOSEPH GALE PARK	3.8	NP				•		$ 564,000	•						•	•
ROGERS PARK	3.7	NP				•		$ 550,500	•	•	•			•	•	•
FOREST GROVE AQUATIC CENTER	3.0	SU				•		$ 750,000					•	•	•	
FOREST GROVE SENIOR CENTER	1.3	SU			•			$ 162,500					•	•	•	
FERNHILL WETLANDS TRAILHEAD	0.9	OSGT			•			$ 45,000							•	•
HIGHWAY 47 TRAIL	9.1	TC			•			$ 455,000		•		•			•	
FACILITY RE-INVESTMENT & DEFERRED MAINTENANCE					•			$ 500,000							•	
Existing Primary Projects Subtotal	*57.0*							*$ 10,107,000*								
Proposed Parks																
SAUCY PARK	0.5	OSGT		•				$ 100,000	•		•				•	
STITES NATURE PARK	10.9	NP		•				$ 2,616,000	•		•				•	
NEW NEIGHBORHOOD PARK # 1 (David Hill North)	6.0	NP	•	•				$ 3,000,000	•		•				•	•
DAVID HILL TRAIL *	5.1	OSGT	•	•				$ 1,530,000	•		•	•			•	•
Proposed Primary Projects Subtotal	*22.5*							*$ 7,246,000*								
Primary Projetcs Subtotal	*79.5*							*$ 17,353,000*								
DESIRED PROJECTS																
Existing Parks																
THATCHER PARK (Existing Park Enhancements)	16.0	CP			•			$ -							•	
BARD PARK	2.8	NP			•			$ 213,000	•		•				•	
TAILSMAN PARK	2.3	NP			•			$ 172,500	•		•				•	
Existing Desired Projects Subtotal	*21.1*							*$ 385,500*								
Proposed Parks																
NEW NEIGHBORHOOD PARK # 2 (Oak Street)	2.5	NP	•	•				$ 1,250,000	•		•				•	
A.T. SMITH PARK (City)	3.2	SU		•				$ 1,600,000	•		•				•	•
A.T. SMITH AMPHITHEATER (FHFG)	2.2	PS					•	$ 350,000	•		•				•	•
NEIL ARMSTRONG MS SPORTS FIELDS	7.5	PS					•	$ 1,250,000	•		•				•	•
TOM McCALL UPPER ELEMENTARY SOCCER FIELD	2.1	PS					•	$ 200,000	•		•				•	•
GALES CREEK TRAIL *	7.5	OSGT	•	•				$ 2,250,000	•		•	•			•	•
Proposed Desired Projects Subtotal	*25.0*							*$ 6,970,631*								
Preferred Projects Subtotal	*46.2*							*$ 7,356,131*								
Totals for Primary and Preferred Projects	**125.7**							**$ 24,709,131**								

Notes: CP = Community Park; NP = Neighborhood Park; SU = Special Use; OSGT = Open Space, Greenway and Trail, PS = Partner Site

*SDC funds can be applied to any capacity enhancing capital project that meets the demands of new development. Depending on the adopted SDC rate, new development at these sites (or others) may be funded by SDCs.

CAPITAL FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

To implement priority projects associated with a 10-year plan, the following is recommended:

- **Strive to fund all primary projects and many of the desired projects in the 10-year plan:** Focus available funds for capital projects on community prioirities in the range of $20-$22 million. Consider other projects, including those not in the 10-year plan, if funding becomes available.
- **Increase the SDC rate:** If the City wants to maintain its current level of service for park land as the community grows, it will need to increase SDC revenues to meet the needs of new residential development. Adopt a revised SDC methodlogy consistent with this Master Plan, and review options to increase the SDC rate.
- **Renew the Facilities Major Maintenance Fund:** As the Aquatics Center and Senior Center continue to age, additional funds will be needed for major repairs to keep these buildings operational. More funds than have been available previously will be needed for these two projects. Seek voter approval to renewing or increase the Facility Major Maintenance Fund to keep these two facilities open and able to support community programs.
- **Leverage partnerships, donations and easements to reduce costs:** The City should continue to explore opportunities to advance community or partner-supported projects. Crowdfunding, fundraising, land swaps and donations, joint facility development, trail easements (rather than land acquisition at market costs) have been an important project resources in the past. The City's funding strategy should include communication, coordination and collaboration to encourage this type of funding.
- **Revisit a voter-approved bond measure:** The Telephone Survey showed limited community support for a current tax measure. If the City pursues a bond to finance to finance other City projects (such as a new police station), it shoud explore adding on funds to support key park projects. If the community's demand for more park improvements and development continues to increase, the City should re-test community support for a larger tax measure.
- **Apply other funding sources:** The City should evaluate all other potential funding sources—including those not listed on the table. For example, the Public Arts Donation Fund may support the sculpture garden at Lincoln Park. Naming rights could be sold for major new facilities, such as an event pavilion (recommended at Lincoln Park) or amphitheater (at A.T.Smith Park).

OPERATIONS FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

In addition to the capital dollars, the City will need to increase the amount of operations funds to maintain new parks and facilities brought online, increase the maintenance level of service at high-use parks, and coordinate programs and events. In addition to existing General Fund dollars applied to operations, the following should be considered to expand operations dollars:

- **Apply additional General Fund dollars could be applied to operations:** The City should explore options to increase General Fund support for park operations. By ensuring that major facility repairs and renovations are funded through a renewed Facilities Major Maintenance Fund, that frees up additional General Fund dollars for tasks such as the day-to-day park maintenance or the development/consolidation of recreation information in a website.

- **Expand the Facilities Major Maintenance Fund to include new minor park facilities:** While this fund originally was dedicated to support major building repairs only, the City should consider broadening this funding measure when it is renewed to include additional maintenance dollars for minor repairs. Parks staff will need added maintenance funds for new park amenities and facilities that are brought online—such as the Thatcher and Lincoln Park additions. Telephone survey results suggest there is community support for this type of tax measure.
- **Expand and focus the Community Enhancement Fund on program initiatives:** In 1990, the Community Enhancement Fund was established by the City based on a per-ton fee charged on solid waste disposed at the Forest Grove Transfer Station. Non-profit groups and City-sponsored committees can apply to use these funds for improvements to, or an increase in, recreational areas and programs that benefit youth, seniors, low income persons and/or underserved populations. As part of the pilot effort to increase recreation programming and events, the City should recruit groups to apply for funds to increase recreation programs and events. Besides increased activity parks, the goal is to transition these pilot programs into fee-based recreation programs that continue to be held in parks without a future subsidy.
- **Consider a recreation/event operational levy:** As demand and support for recreation grows, test options for a small tax measure (e.g., $25 annually for the average homeowner) to fund community events and programs.

Prioritization Criteria

Implementing the *Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan* will require ongoing decision-making over the next ten years, particularly as the City completes its 5-year Capital Improvement Plan and updates its annual budget and work plan. Besides the funding sources noted here, the amount of support from residents, businesses and partners will help determine which projects to advance. To be able to re-assess priority projects as circumstances change, this Master Plan includes a Prioritization Scorecard (Appendix G) that emerged from the community priorities and Master Plan goals. The scorecard introduces prioritization criteria that the City of Forest Grove can use to rate different projects and programs.

Each project can be reviewed in using the Appendix G criteria. Scored priorities should

PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA

The Prioritization Scorecard in Appendix G has a set of ten criteria. These criteria consider if a project or program:

- Augments maintenance and lifespan of amenities and facilities
- Increases unique recreation opportunity
- Provides varied programming options Addresses all ages and abilities of users
- Improves park access or connectivity
- Promotes sense of community
- Preserves community heritage and natural resources
- Increases sustainable and cost-efficient operations
- Promotes local economy
- Increases partnerships

then be evaluated further against on factors such as available funding, political will and staff capacity. The same criteria can be used to refine the 5- and 10-year Capital Improvement Plans based on Council and community approval for different funding elements.

APPENDIX A:
Park and Facility Inventory

APPENDIX A: PARK AND FACILITY INVENTORY

Appendix A provides an overview park classifications used in the analysis (Tables A.1 and A.2). It presents the City's 2016 park inventory (Table A.3), as well as other natural and recreation resources in Forest Grove (Table A.4).

TABLE A.1: CITY PARK DEFINITIONS

Type of Park	Definition	Size and Service Area	Examples
Community Park	Larger parks that provide active and passive recreational opportunities for all city residents. Accommodates large group activities.	• 20 to 50 acres • ¾ to 1 mile	• Lincoln Park • Thatcher Park
Neighborhood Park	Small parks located within biking and walking distance of users.	• 1/2 to 7 acres • ¼ to ½ mile	• Hazel Sills Park • Joseph Gale Park • Rogers Park • Talisman Park
Special Use Park	Parks, recreation facilities, or sites designed around a singular purpose, such as recreation centers, plazas, historic properties, sports complexes, etc.	• Dependent on use • Variable	• Forest Grove Aquatic Center • Forest Grove Senior Center
Open Space, Greenways and Trails	Natural areas, waterways or linear corridors established for resource protection, recreation and/or trail use.	• Dependent on use • Variable	• B Street Trailhead • B Street Trail • Old Towne Loop Trail
Undeveloped Parkland	Land acquired for future parks. The site's use and function will be determined when it is developed.	• Variable • Not assigned	• A.T. Smith Park • Kyle Park • Rueter Farm Park • Saucy Park • Stites Park

TABLE A.2: OTHER RECREATION RESOURCES

Type of Recreation Resource Area	Definition	Size and Service Area	Examples
Natural Resource Areas	Natural areas provided by others for resource protection, recreation and/or trail use.	• N/A	• Fernhill Wetlands • Metro Wetlands
Schools	Outdoor recreation space at school sites that is accessible to the public for use.	• N/A	• Joseph Gale Elementary School • Neil Armstrong Middle School • Forest Grove High School
Special Use Sites	Other sites in Forest Grove that support community recreation activities. These may or may not be publicly accessible.	• N/A	• Cannery Field • Stoller Center

TABLE A.3: FOREST GROVE PARKS & FACILITY INVENTORY BY CLASSIFICATION (Acreage Owned or Maintained by City)

		ATHLETIC FACILITIES					OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES						PARK AMENITIES			
CITY PARKS	Acres	Baseball Field	Softball Field	Soccer Field	Basketball Court	Tennis Court	Horseshoes	Playground	Skateboard Park	BMX Track	Trail/Path	Off Leash Area	Restrooms	Barbecue/Grills	Picnic Shelter	Notes
Community Parks																
LINCOLN PARK	25.8	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	Stadium, sand volleyball court. 3 acres of Lincoln Park is undeveloped
THATCHER PARK	25.5	1	1	1				1			1	1	1	1	1	8.5 acres of Thatcher Park is undeveloped; 1 acre (the dog park) is on land owned by the Fire District.
Community Parks Subtotal	*51.3*	*2*	*2*	*3*	*1*	*1*	*1*	*2*	*1*	*1*	*2*	*1*	*2*	*2*	*2*	
Neighborhood Parks																
BARD PARK	2.8				2			1			1			1	1	Ball wall
HAZEL SILLS PARK	0.5							1						1	1	
JOSEPH GALE PARK	3.8	1					3	1					1	1		
KNOX RIDGE PARK	0.4							1							1	
ROGERS PARK	3.7				1	2	1	1			1		1	1	1	Gazebo
TAILSMAN PARK	2.3							1			1			1	1	
FOREST GLEN PARK (UPPER)	0.9							1								
FOREST GLEN PARK (LOWER)	5.3	1			2						1					Ball wall
Neighborhood Parks / Play Lots Subtotal	*19.7*	*2*	*0*	*0*	*5*	*2*	*4*	*7*	*0*	*0*	*4*	*0*	*2*	*5*	*5*	
Special Use Parks																
FOREST GROVE AQUATIC CENTER	3.0															Lap pool, warm water pool, hot tub, sauna and outside spray park
FOREST GROVE SENIOR CENTER	1.3															Two conference/class rooms, dining hall, kitchen, outdoor picnic area
Special Use Parks Subtotal	*4.3*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	
Open Space, Greenways and Trails																
B STREET TRAILHEAD	0.9										1					Seating area, viewpoint. Total length of trail is 0.17 miles or 880 feet.
B STREET TRAIL *	0.9										1					Bridge. Total length of trail is 0.57 miles or 3,020 feet.
FERN HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TRAIL*	1.0										1					Total length of trail is 0.4 miles or 2250 feet.
FERNHILL WETLANDS TRAILHEAD	0.9										1		1		1	Parking, interpretive signage
FOREST GLEN TRAIL AND OPEN SPACE	45.1										1					Total length of trail is 0.59 miles or 3,120 feet.
HIGHWAY 47 TRAIL*	9.1										1					Benches. Total length of trail is 3.8 miles or 19,900 feet.
OLD TOWN LOOP TRAIL*	1.3										1					Total length of trail is 0.53 miles or 2,800 feet.
Open Space, Greenways and Trails Subtotal	*59.2*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*7*	*0*	*1*	*0*	*1*	
Totals for Existing Parks	**134.4**	**4**	**2**	**3**	**6**	**3**	**5**	**9**	**1**	**1**	**13**	**1**	**5**	**7**	**8**	
Undeveloped Parkland																
A.T. SMITH PARK	3.2															Adjacent 2.2 acres are owned by Friends of Historic Forest Grove
KYLE PARK	7.5															
REUTER FARM PARK	2.1															
SAUCY PARK	0.5															
STITES NATURE PARK	10.9															
Undeveloped Parkland Subtotal	*24.2*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	
Totals for All Parks	**158.7**	**4**	**2**	**3**	**6**	**3**	**5**	**9**	**1**	**1**	**13**	**1**	**5**	**7**	**8**	

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TABLE A.4: FOREST GROVE NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS AND SCHOOL SITES INVENTORY

		ATHLETIC FACILITIES					OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES						PARK AMENITIES			
RECREATION RESOURCES	Acres	Baseball Field	Softball Field	Soccer Field	Basketball Court	Tennis Court	Horseshoes	Playground	Skateboard Park	BMX Track	Trail / Path	Off Leash Area	Restrooms	Cooking Facilities	Picnic Shelter	Notes
Natural Resource Areas																
FERNHILL WETLANDS	80.7										1		1		1	CWS has plans to build a future intepretive center
METRO PROPERTY	39.7										2					Acreage includes the B Street Trail and Old Town Loop Trail, which are maintained by the City
Natural Resource Areas Subtotal	*120.4*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*1*	*0*	*1*	*0*	*1*	
School Sites																
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION PLAYGROUND	1.4															
FERN HILL ELEMENTARY / NEIL ARMSTRONG MIDDLE SCHOOLS	42.9		4	4	1			1			1					track
FOREST GROVE COMMUNITY SCHOOL	0.2							1								
FOREST GROVE HIGH SCHOOL	56.9	2	2	2		6										track, football field
HARVEY CLARKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	9.8		1	1	1			1								
JOSEPH GALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	7.9	1	1		1			1								
TOM MCCALL UPPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	37.9		4	4				3			1					track
School Sites Subtotal	*156.9*	*3*	*12*	*11*	*3*	*6*	*0*	*7*	*0*	*0*	*2*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	
Special Use Sites																
CANNERY FIELD (PACIFIC UNIVERSITY)	N/A			3												Rectangular fields used for multiple sports (e.g., soccer, rugby, lacrosse)
STOLLER CENTER (PACIFIC UNIVERSITY)	N/A															University athletic center with fitness/weight room, gymnasium, fieldhouse (with space for two basketball courts, two tennis courts and four volleyball courts), racquetball courts (3), wrestling room, sauna, team rooms, offices (95,000 sf)
School Sites Subtotal	*0.0*	*0*	*0*	*3*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	
Totals for Park Facilities	**277.3**	**3**	**12**	**14**	**3**	**6**	**0**	**7**	**0**	**0**	**3**	**0**	**1**	**0**	**1**	

Revised 7/06/16

APPENDIX B:
Community Forest Management Plan

FOREST GROVE OREGON

2016-2021

URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

APRIL 2016

City Of Forest Grove Community Forestry Commission

TREE CITY USA®

Dates covered by plan:

2016 – 2021

Prepared by:

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Plan adopted:

April 25, 2016

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Acceptance by Forest Grove Parks and Recreation Commission
by unanimous vote on February 16, 2016

Acknowledgements:

Urban Forest Management Toolkit

Executive summary

This document provides an overall framework for managing Forest Grove's urban and natural forest resources (this plan does not include the Forest Grove City watershed). It is based on the condition of the forest in 2014 and an analysis of trends that have shaped Forest Grove's urban forest to date and will continue to influence it in the future. The major portions of this document are described below.

Tree resource assessment

This section discusses current condition, issues and trends that are likely to impact Forest Grove's tree resources over at least the next 25 to 50 years. Topics include:

- Canopy cover
- Street trees
- Facility trees
- Parking lot trees
- Park trees
- Register/Heritage trees
- Open space trees
- Hazard trees

Community values

This section presents the summary of stakeholder attitudes and perceptions about the urban forest and its management.

Strategic plan

Topics include:

- Issues, trends, and needs
- Goals
- Objectives
- Actions

Implementation plan

Topics include:

- Potential funding sources
- Proposed implementation strategy
- Monitoring plan

Appendix

This section presents several of the inventories and technical guides. Topics include:

- 2011 street tree inventory
- 2014 vegetation assessment and recommendations for City parks
- Tree planting standards
- City list of recommended street trees for planting
- Register of Historic and Significant (Heritage) trees list
- Tree related ordinances (Forest Grove Development Code Article 5 and Municipal Code Chapter 9)
- Chronological public involvement record
- Public survey questions and responses
- Other management plans

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Mission & Vision

Mission statement

The mission of the Forest Grove CFC is to work with the community and government to increase awareness about the importance and values of urban trees. To this end the City Council authorized the CFC to:

1. Maintain the Forest Grove Significant Tree Register (Tree Register) by:
    a. Recommending to the City Council the designation of properties with significant trees that meet the criteria for designation.
    b. Recommending removal of trees from the Register
2. Ensure that significant trees are protected and pruned appropriately
3. Review activities proposed by the City and other agencies that may seriously affect Register trees and advise on such matters
4. Perform other activities relating to community trees, including but not limited to:
    a. Providing public education on the history and importance of the Register trees;
    b. Providing advice to the City Council and other City boards on protection of trees in the community
    c. Providing technical information on community tree issues
    d. Making recommendations to the City Council for community forestry related programs
    e. Periodically reviewing and making recommendations for updating the Significant Tree Register
    f. Recommending to the City Council the acceptance of grant funds and donations towards the protection and planting of trees in the community

Vision statement

The Forest Grove Community Forestry Commission (CFC) believes that a healthy and expanding community forest is essential to our community's quality of life and to our environmental and economic wellbeing.

Vision for the Forest Grove Urban Forest in 2020

The health of this urban forest, a mosaic of the planted landscape and the remnant native forest, is a reflection of the city's health, well-being and livability. These trees and other plants are a vital part of the city character, giving it a special sense of place. Forest Grove continues to be recognized as a Tree City USA for the 25th consecutive year in 2015.

The urban forest canopy is cohesive, not fragmented, because development includes trees as part of the total vision for sustainable development. The air and water are cleaner because the trees and other plants remove pollution from the air and reduce runoff. Fish and wildlife have healthy habitats. Open spaces and urban stream corridors define a sense of space in our

communities while providing a quiet respite from hectic urban life. Tree-lined streets offer shade and protect us from inclement weather. Shoppers frequent shaded business districts where trees help save energy, reduce noise and soften the hard edges of structures and paved areas.

Coordinated management of the urban forest occurs because city agencies, businesses, civic organizations and residents have formed partnerships to make a place for trees in the city. Residents recognize trees as a vital, functioning part of the city's infrastructure and ecosystem and provide adequate, stable funding to maintain and enhance the urban forest.

We have achieved a healthy, sustained urban forest, carefully managed and cared for, which contributes to the economic and environmental well-being of the city.

Why we need a plan

Trees provide a variety of important benefits in the urban environment. These benefits include removing carbon from the atmosphere, reducing energy use, improving air quality, moderating storm water flows, protecting water quality, improving economic sustainability, supporting physical and mental health of residents, and providing habitat for wildlife.

The community's trees need to be managed in order to maintain this stream of benefits which are critical to the community's economic well-being and overall quality of life. Unlike most other urban infrastructure, the value of the urban forest generally increases over time. Benefits provided by the urban forest may take years to develop to desired levels, but tree resources can be adversely impacted over short time periods by a lack of timely management or poor management choices. An urban forest management plan helps a community protect the investment it has made in its community forest and provides a blueprint for enhancing and improving that asset to maximize the benefits provided while minimizing costs required to maintain the resource.

Whether for good or ill, the community's trees are being managed in some fashion whether a plan is in place or not. Without a vision and plan for the management of the urban forest as a whole, however, it is unlikely to thrive and provide the benefits that the community desires.

Many benefits provided by trees are listed below:

Benefits provided by trees

- Removing carbon from the atmosphere;
- Producing oxygen;
- Reducing energy use;
- Improving air quality;
- Moderating storm water flows;
- Protecting water quality;
- Improving economic sustainability;
- Increasing property values;
- Supporting physical and mental health of residents; and
- Providing habitat for wildlife

The City's street tree inventory completed in 2011 provided a glimpse into the benefits to the community as a result of our urban forest. For example street trees in Forest Grove remove nearly 8 million pounds of air pollutants per year.

Scope of the plan

This intent of this plan is to provide a strategic framework for managing the urban forest within Forest Grove. Other site specific plans may be developed that address the management of the urban forest in areas such as college campuses, office parks, historical sites, botanical gardens, recreation areas, or other large properties that contain significant amounts of tree canopy. These site specific plans would fit within the strategic framework of the urban forest management plan.

The following types of trees are included in this urban forest management plan:

- Street trees
- Facility trees
- Parking lot trees
- Park trees
- Register/Heritage trees
- Open space trees
- Hazard trees

Planning horizon

Efforts should be made to update the management plan every 5 years, or sooner if the need exists and resources are available.

Relationship to other planning documents

Cities and counties, as well as other public districts, typically have multiple layers of planning documents. This plan will incorporate elements from the following documents (this list will be expanded as necessary):

- Parks and recreation master plan
- Urban renewal plans
- Community sustainability element of the comprehensive plan
- Design and landscaping guidelines and development standards (Public Works Specifications)
- Ordinances, including the local tree ordinance
    - Forest Grove Development Code Article 5
        - Tree Protection
    - Forest Grove Development Code Article 8
        - Landscaping, Screening and Buffering (Parking Lot Trees)
    - Municipal Code Chapter 5
        - Trees and Plants
    - Municipal Code Chapter 9
        - Boards and Commissions (Community Forestry Commission)
        - Street Trees

The Urban Forest

Historical context

Native Vegetation

At the time of European settlement, heavy forests covered most of the region. Stands of Douglas-fir, western hemlock, and western redcedar dominated the landscape. Deciduous bigleaf maple and red alder were intermixed. Wetlands and flood plains along the river supported Oregon ash, willows, and black cottonwood. Oregon white oak and Pacific madrone grew in drier uplands. Understory upland vegetation included vine maple, western hazel, oceanspray, snowberry, thimbleberry, Oregon grape, salal, red huckleberry, ferns and forbs. Wetland species included elderberry, Douglas spirea, dogwood, sedges and rushes.

Sequoias at 19th Avenue and Elm Street

Much of this forest was cleared for farming beginning in the mid 1800's. The earliest european settlers came to the Tualatin Valley of Oregon as farmers and missionaries in the 1840s. The Native Americans in the region were of various bands of the Tualatin Branch of the Kalapuya Indian Group. Several Native American villages were located along the banks of Gales Creek just south of present day Forest Grove (From Forest Grove Comprehensive Plan (1980) p. IV-1.).

In 1859 the name "Forest Grove" was officially recognized for the area around what is now Pacific University. The name probably referred to the grove of oak trees on and around the University grounds. Several of these trees exist today. According to historical accounts many of the large sequoia trees in Washington County were planted from seed by John R. Porter circa 1870. This includes the sequoia trees located on the Pacific University campus and elsewhere in Forest Grove.

Environmental context

Rainfall

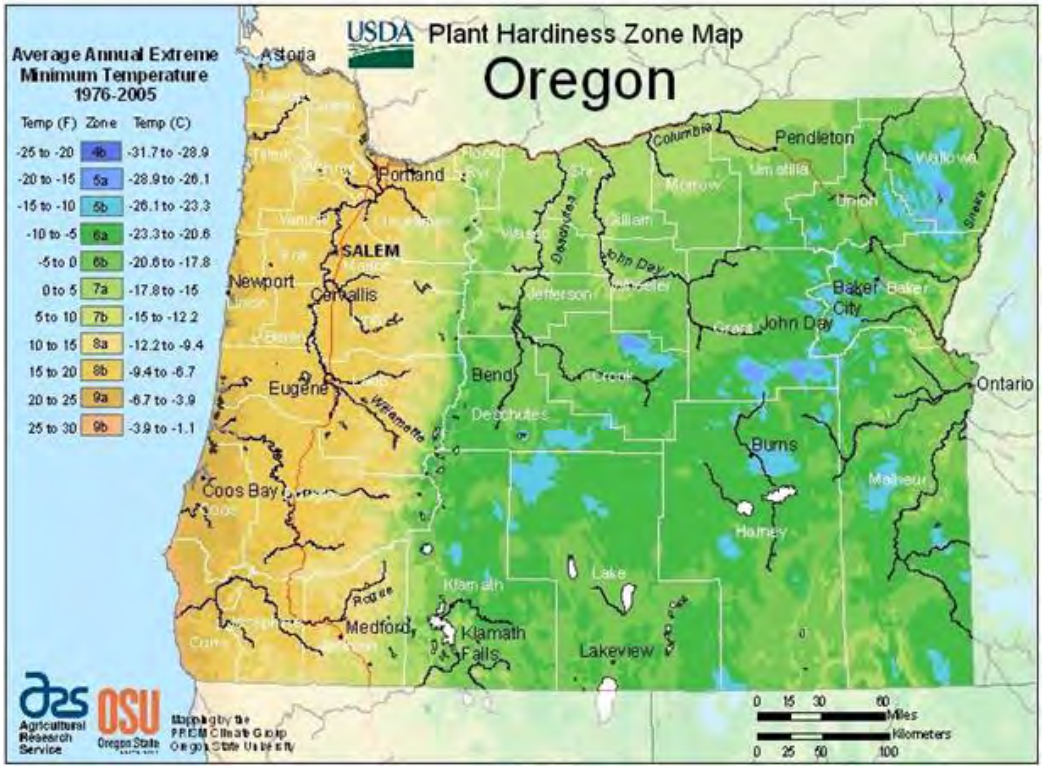
Average annual precipitation is 45.12 inches (*Source: Western Regional Climate Center*). Northwest Oregon, including Forest Grove, is susceptible to strong winter storms that are carried along the Jet Stream over the Pacific Ocean. Heavy rain events are not uncommon during the fall, winter and spring months. Such events pose potential risk to the urban forest especially mature Oregon white oak trees.

Temperature

Average Max: 63.6/Average Low: 41.6, Average Range 32.1 to 82.6 (*Source: Western Regional Climate Center*). Northwest Oregon, east of the Coast Range and west of the Cascades, typically experiences moderate temperatures during spring, fall and winter. Summers are characterized by warm to hot days and cool evenings. The summer months are typically dry which can cause considerable stress on certain trees especially non-native varieties.

Climate Zone

USDA Tree hardiness zone 8. USDA developed tree hardiness zones to guide plant selection with an eye toward those which are most likely to survive at a given location. The zones are based on the average annual minimum winter temperature. As the map below indicates, Washington County is located within tree hardiness zone 8.



The Arbor Day Foundation provides information on tree species suitable for the various tree hardiness zones. Popular trees suitable for zone 8 identified by the Arbor Day Foundation include:

- Eastern white pine
- Sugar maple
- Red maple
- Yoshino cherry
- Saucer magnolia
- Dogwood
- Northern red oak
- Black walnut

Soil conditions

Soils in this area are dominated by clays, silts, and loams partially as a result of historic flood events (Lake Missoula 15-20,000 years ago). Soil types found throughout the City have potential shrink-swell and low shear strength problems. Soil is an important factor contributing the growth of tree especially within urban or suburban environments. Research shows that soil compaction is a significant contributor to overall tree health.

Tree resource assessment

Canopy cover

Background

Tree canopy cover refers to the proportion of land area covered by tree crowns, as viewed from the air. Canopy cover is tied to many of the benefits provided by the urban forest.

Existing condition

The tree canopy cover in Forest Grove is estimated to be approximately 23.2 %. (*Source: Portland State University, Regional Urban Forestry Assessment and Evaluation for the Portland-Vancouver Metro Area, Revised June 2010*). This figure is estimated to have increased 2-5% in the past 20 years as former farmland has been developed into new housing areas and trees have been planted.

The organization American Forests recommends tree canopy coverage for urban and suburban areas. American Forests recommends 40% as the goal for urban areas overall and 50% for suburban residential areas in the Pacific Northwest. The City of Vancouver, Washington has set a canopy goal of 28% and the City of Tigard, Oregon has a goal of 32% canopy coverage by 2027.

The Community Forestry Commission recommends the following canopy coverage goals:

Goals/desired condition

- 30% canopy cover by 2025
- 40% canopy cover by 2035

Achieving these goals requires concentrated effort and a clear strategy. This plan provides a framework for setting our community on a path for realizing a viable and sustainable urban forest worthy of a city named Forest Grove.

Street trees

Background

Trees along streets are one of the most visible portions of the urban forest. Due to their location, street trees provide specific benefits not provided by other trees. Benefits include traffic calming and extending the life of roadway pavement. Streets shaded by trees contribute to "sense of place," which can also contribute to increased community pride and property values.

Street trees are often located in very constrained locations. Pavement and utility lines may limit growing space. Other management issues that may be important for street trees include:

- Trees are commonly subject to damage by vehicles and street construction activities.
- Conflicts with utilities, hardscape (especially sidewalks, curbs, and gutters) and other built infrastructure are common.
- Branch, trunk, and root failures commonly have a high potential to cause property damage and/or injury.
- Tree canopies typically need to be maintained for street and sidewalk clearance, visibility issues for motorists, and to minimize risk of branch failures.
- Falling leaves, seeds, and fruits may create hazards on sidewalks and contribute to storm drain clogging.
- Street trees may generate high numbers of service requests and complaints.

Because of these issues, species selection is often a primary consideration. The species used may be specified in a master planting plan or on an approved species list. The palette of potential street tree species may be limited, which can sometimes lead to low species diversity. Low species diversity can pose a risk to the urban forest if one or more common species develop serious problems.

Existing condition

The City of Forest Grove Community Development Department manages the street tree planting program within newly developed areas. Historically, street tree planting was left to home builders. Many trees, however, did not fare well due to improper tree selection and planting in less-than-desirable locations. To address this problem, the City now selects trees with input from homeowners and manages tree planting to ensure proper placement. The street tree planting program is funded through an assessment at time of building permit issuance. The Street Tree Fund contained in the City budget is the collection of these assessments.

A street tree inventory was completed for Forest Grove in 2011 (see appendix). Findings include:

- Over 150 different tree species were found in Forest Grove
- The three most abundant trees are Japanese maple, Japanese flowering cherry, and Norway maple
- Deciduous trees are the dominant tree type, comprising 69% of all street trees
- Greater than half (59%) of the trees are less than 12 inches in diameter
- Street trees comprise approximately 350 acres (10% of the total land area in the City)
- The total replacement value for the street trees is estimate to be $148 million
- White oak, Douglas-fir, and Sequoia had a higher proportion of observations in the poor to fair condition class than the average for the average of all species surveyed.

Opportunities include

- Identification of unoccupied areas as potential future planting sites
- Include an assessment element of whether the inventoried tree is in an appropriate location (based on potential tree size, crown characteristics, overhead utility location, etc.) in future inventories
- Expand the sample size
- Intensive tree survey along heavy traffic corridors (19th Avenue, Pacific Avenue, B Street, Thatcher Road) to develop long-range management plan to replace aging trees in poor condition
- Identification of street trees causing problems for pedestrians or motorists

Goals/desired condition

- Mixed age/size classes and species composition
- Retain tree species representing character of Forest Grove (White oak, Douglas-fir, bigleaf maple, sequoia
- Resistant to insect, disease, environmental damage
- Minimal impact to adjacent utilities (including storm sewer)
- Safe environment for pedestrians, motorists, and home owners
- Efficient to maintain
- Non-invasive species suitable for Forest Grove's climate

Facility trees

Background

Many urban trees fall into the "facility tree" category. These are privately owned and maintained trees around buildings and other built facilities that are not adjacent to streets. Most trees in sites such as office parks or campuses are facility trees. Shade provided by trees near buildings can greatly reduce summer cooling costs. Facility trees also modify the visual impact of structures.

Most facility trees grow where soil volume is restricted by hardscape. They commonly occur in landscape beds near structures. These landscape beds can vary widely in size. Facility trees may also occur in small planters or cutouts in sidewalks or plazas.

Some potential management issues:

- Soil near buildings may be unfavorable due to severe compaction and alkaline residues from to concrete, stucco, etc.
- Planting beds may have inadequate drainage or irrigation.
- Competition from other landscape plants may be excessive.
- Reflected heat or excessive shading from structures may affect tree growth and health.
- Pruning may be needed to maintain clearance from buildings and over walkways.
- Potential for root damage to foundations and walkways needs to be considered.
- Underground utility maintenance may damage tree roots.

Existing condition

Notable facility trees include the Oregon white oaks, and Douglas-firs on the Pacific University campus. The university has a draft vegetation management plan for the campus (55 acres) and has recently expanded non-irrigated areas near white oaks to improve tree health.

Goals/desired condition:

- Mixed age classes and species composition
- Resistant to insect, disease, environmental damage
- Minimal impact to adjacent buildings and utilities
- Safe environment for pedestrians, motorists, and home owners
- Efficient to maintain

Parking lot trees

Background

Parking lots can occupy large patches of the urban landscape. Trees in parking plots can help mitigate some of their undesirable characteristics:

- Tree shade helps cool pavement. This helps reduce the urban heat island effect that is associated with paved areas.
- Tree shade cools parked cars. Hydrocarbon vapors emitted by hot cars contribute to photochemical smog formation.
- Trees intercept and channel rainfall, reducing runoff and water pollution associated with runoff from paved surfaces.
- Trees screen and soften the visual blight that parking lots pose

Forest Grove High School Nichols Lane Frontage

Parking lots are typically poor areas for growing trees. Trees are often grown in small cutouts with compacted soils, poor irrigation, and inadequate drainage. Trees may be subject to heat damage from hot pavement and vehicle engines. Trees are also damaged by vehicles and shopping carts. Trees are pruned to provide vehicle clearance and avoid blocking parking lot lighting. Retailers sometimes have trees pruned inappropriately to enhance visibility of signs or buildings from the street. Trees in parking lots can also have undesirable effects such as dripping sap on cars or causing additional maintenance/cleaning of the parking surface.

Existing condition

The Forest Grove development code for parking lots requires:

- At least 8% of the interior parking lot area shall be landscaped (DC 10.8.415(E)(3)).
- One tree shall be required for every 1,600 square feet of interior parking lot area. Trees shall have a minimum 2-inch caliper and 6-foot branch height at time of planting (DC 10.8.415(E)(4)).
- Interior parking area landscaping and trees must be dispersed throughout the parking area. Some trees may be grouped, but the groups must be dispersed. Required trees may be planted within 5 feet of the edges of the parking area (DC 10.8.415(E)(5)).

Forest Grove has a variety of parking lots developed over time, some have trees planted in them, and some do not. The recent remodel of Forest Grove High School included the planting of trees within the reconfigured parking lot and along Nichols Lane. The photograph above shows some of the newly planted trees.

Opportunity

Inventory parking lots to identify potential areas for planting, as well as existing plantings that may be incompatible with goals/desired conditions.

Goals/desired condition:

- Mixed age classes and species composition
- Resistant to insect, disease, environmental damage
- Minimal potential impact to vehicles
- Safe environment for pedestrians and motorists
- Efficient to maintain

Example of Well-Maintained Parking Lot Trees

Example of Improper Pruning of Parking Lot Tree

Park trees

Background

Park trees include trees in public parks maintained by the City. Compared with street or facility trees, park trees may have fewer space constraints for both canopies and roots. This can allow the use of a wider range of species and larger trees overall. Tree care, however, may not receive high priority where turf or sports fields are primary uses. Other considerations:

Thatcher Woods

Rogers Park

- Trees in or near lawns need to tolerate high amounts of irrigation. Turf can also compete strongly with young trees.
- Soil compaction due to foot and equipment traffic on wet soils may impair root growth and drainage.
- Surface roots in turf may conflict with mowing equipment and may pose tripping hazards.
- Trees can be subject to damage from mowing equipment and park users. This can make it difficult to establish new trees.
- Hazard management may be a primary concern, especially in areas that are heavily used.
- Newly–developed parks often start with even–aged stands of trees. Phased tree replacement and interplanting may be needed to avoid a future replacement of the entire stand.
- Parks may include heritage trees or other old or unique trees with special maintenance needs.

Existing condition and opportunities

Forest Grove currently has over 20 park sites covering approximately 100 acres. Recent findings from the 2014 City park vegetation assessment include:

- The parks contain a wide variety of planted and native trees
- Significant tree maintenance is occurring
- Opportunities exist to plant additional trees, both to fill in unoccupied space, and to provide for future replacement of existing trees
- Some hazard abatement (dead branches) needs to occur
- May need a regular assessment schedule for overhead hazards?
- Opportunities exist to remove and replant a few smaller trees that appear to be too close to existing structures and utility wires
- Some past plantings need to be thinned to fewer trees on the site because of over crowding

Goals/desired condition:

- Safe environment for park visitors
- Mixed age classes and species composition
- Retain tree species representing character of Forest Grove (Oregon white oak, Douglas-fir, bigleaf maple, sequoia)
- Resistant to insect, disease, environmental damage
- Minimal impact to adjacent utilities
- Efficient to maintain (watering, mowing, etc.)
- Non-invasive species
- Greater coordination between the Community Forestry Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission regarding management of trees within the City's parks and open spaces.

Register trees

Background

Register/heritage trees are trees that are awarded special status due to their

1. Tree size, shape, or location;
2. Botanical significance;
3. Exceptional beauty;
4. Functional or aesthetical relationship to a natural resource.

Register Tree (Goff Oak)

In Forest Grove these trees are a reminder of the city's namesake and offer historic, aesthetic, environmental, and monetary value to the community. Because these are special trees by definition, they may have special needs relative to tree care activities and inspections.

Existing condition

The register tree program in Forest Grove was initiated in the mid-1990s. Approximately 100 trees were identified. Protection ordinances were developed for the register trees. Yearly notices of pertinent tree care information or additional services are sent to homeowners with register trees on their property. The City of Forest Grove requires a permit for activities that will impact heritage trees.

Current summary of Forest Grove's register trees:

Tree Type	Number
Oregon white oak	138
Douglas-fir	15
Giant Sequoia	19
Big leaf maple	2
Ponderosa pine	1
Umbrella tree	1
European beech	1
Western red cedar	2
Deodora cedar	2
Camperdown elm	1

Goals/desired condition

- Safe environment for home owners
- Retain tree species representing character of Forest Grove (White oak, Douglas-fir, Big leaf maple, sequoia)
- Minimal impact to adjacent utilities
- Provide for periodic health inspections
- Have adequate ordinances for protection
- Have adequate process for identification of new candidate register trees

Opportunities

- Increase public awareness of program
- Identification of potential Register tree candidates

Open space trees

Background

Open space trees are often remnants of the native forest found along creeks or on hills. In some areas, some or all of these trees may be exotic species. Management goals and needs will depend on what types of species are present, their condition, and their location.

Tree management in open spaces is usually less intensive than in other parts of the urban forest. In some areas, open space trees may be largely unmanaged. However, these stands can and will change over time. Active management may be needed to:

- Help maintain native stands that have low levels of natural regeneration
- Suppress exotic species that may crowd out native trees in riparian areas
- Replace flammable exotic species with lower risk trees such as native oaks

Existing condition

Open space areas in Forest Grove total approximately 350 acres. Examples of open space trees include:

- Area along Gales Creek near the B Street Trail

Goals/desired condition

- Maintain native species composition
- Maintain conditions reducing threat from wildland fires

Opportunities

- Additional tree plantings along Gales Creek and the B Street Trail.

Hazard trees

Background

Forest Grove is susceptible to strong wind weather events during the winter months. Many older iconic trees in the City are vulnerable to damage. An example of this occurred in March of 2012 when one the large Oregon white oak trees located in downtown Forest Grove succumbed to the wind. (See photo at right.) Fortunately, the tree fell in the early morning hours and did not cause injury to persons or significant property damage.

Tree Hazard

Many communities have developed programs to mitigate safety risks to persons and property. Some communities perform hazard tree risk assessments based on criteria developed by the International Society of Arboriculture. Such an assessment takes into account factors including history of tree failure, topography, soil conditions, tree foliage, vigor and possible defects, crown size, wind exposure, and conditions of roots. Based on these factors likelihood of failure is categorized. Categories include improbable, possible, probable and imminent. Potential impact and consequences are also assessed.

Existing condition

Hazard trees exist throughout Forest Grove, primarily in the older sections of town, and include the Old Town and Forest Gale Heights neighborhoods.

Goals/desired condition

- Safe environment for residents.

Opportunities

- Develop a hazard tree mitigation program and assessment methodology
- Perform hazard tree assessments

Management of the tree resource

Background

Almost all processes needed to sustain the urban forest – establishment, growth, decline, death, and degradation of trees – require some level of active management. Urban forest managers typically:

- Plan and implement tree plantings
- Maintain existing trees
- Manage hazards associated with declining trees
- Remove trees that have reached the end of their useful life span
- Recycle or dispose of green waste and wood from pruning and removals

Urban forest managers must also deal with problems related to the urban environment. These may include:

- Utility line clearance
- Damage to sidewalks and other hardscape due to tree roots
- Complaints from pedestrians and motorists about trees causing safety (visibility) issues
- Construction damage to tree roots
- Exotic species invading natural areas
- Fire hazards at the urban-wildland interface

Existing condition

Tree maintenance falls to three departments: Public works, Parks and Recreation, and Light and Power. Tree planting is the responsibility of the department undertaking the project. The Community Development Department manages the street tree planting program, issues permits for pruning or removal of protected trees including street trees, Register trees and trees on development sites.

Roles and Responsibilities *(Forest Grove City departments):*

- *Parks and Recreation Department:*
  Maintain trees in City parks and on City-owned property, provide tree inspections at request of other departments, and support Community Forestry Commission
- *Community Development Department:*
  Manage street tree planting program; review development proposals potentially affecting trees, issue tree pruning and removal permits, enforce tree planting regulations, support Community Forestry Commission.
- *Public Works Department:*
  Address tree/sidewalk conflicts, annual fall leaf pick-up, maintenance along rights-of-way to address tree/ public way signage conflicts
- *Light and Power Department:*
  Prune trees potentially affecting overhead utilities.

- No lead department/person for coordination of tree related activities between departments .

Forest Grove tree pruning standards prescribe a maximum 20% of tree canopy or 10% of critical root zone system impact. Tree topping prohibited.

Goals/desired condition

- Have adequate ordinances, plans and policies in place to manage tree resource (tree planting standards, pruning standards, protection standards during construction, tree removal permits, street tree species planting list, invasive tree species list)
- Safe environment for pedestrians, motorists, and homeowners
- Recycle (urban forest salvage) or dispose of green waste and wood from pruning and removals
- Adequate training for city and private crews doing tree maintenance work
- Adequate budgets for maintaining city trees
- Adequate coordination between city departments involved with tree related work

Opportunities

- Update tree planting standards
- Update/develop pruning standards
- Develop protection standards for underground utility, sidewalk, or other work that affects tree roots
- Determine if there is adequate coordination between departments for tree maintenance activities
- Identify areas available for additional planting of trees
- Determine adequacy of budgets for current and future maintenance/removal of trees in declining health (especially large trees)
- Surveys to locate trees causing visibility issues for motorists and pedestrians

Community desires, values & concerns

Background

The desires, attitudes, and perceptions of stakeholders and decision–makers can have a large impact on this plan. These potential issues were developed from the results of a 2015 urban forestry survey of Forest Grove residents.

Forest Grove resident concerns/issues include:

- Where to find information on proper tree care
- Cost of planting trees
- Cost of maintaining trees (includes cost of disposing of green material)
- Safety concerns for overhead trees hazards when visiting parks
- Safety concerns when living near large trees

Goals/desired condition

- Adequate information on proper tree care
- Safe environment when recreating or living (includes motorists) near trees
- Cost efficient system for recycling or dispose of green waste and wood from pruning and removals
- Adequate information about tree related ordinances

Strategic Plan

The strategic plan summarizes the issues, trends, goals, objectives, and actions under appropriate topic headings, e.g. Tree Resources, Management, and Community.

Issues and needs categories

- ***Tree needs***
  Needs related to the tree resource itself and processes that maintain the urban forest.
  - ***Street trees***
  - ***Facility trees***
  - ***Parking lot trees***
  - ***Register/heritage tree program***
  - ***Park and open space trees***
  - ***Hazard trees***
- ***Management needs***
  Needs of the urban forest program and the people involved with the short– and long–term care and maintenance of the urban forest.
- ***Community needs***
  Needs related to how the public perceives and interacts with the urban forest and the urban forest management program.

Goals

The goals in this plan are the general outcomes that are sought. Goals may address some or all of the needs identified. They can also address other concerns or desires of the stakeholders.

Objectives

Objectives provide more specificity by breaking goals into the components that make up each goal. Like goals, objectives are desired outcomes, but are more specific and limited in scope.

Actions

An action is something that is done to achieve an outcome - e.g. plant trees, conduct workshops, or enforce regulations.

Tree needs

Issue 1: *Wrong tree in the wrong location rather than right tree in the right location*

Goal

Have minimal conflict between trees and utility lines, buildings, etc.

Objective

Reduce conflicts and improve tree health

Actions

- Expand future street tree surveys to include assessment of whether a tree is in an appropriate location (locates potential sites for correction).
- Review street tree planting list for possible conflicts.
- Increase public awareness about street tree program through expanded information placed on City website (requirement for tree removal permit and recommended list of street trees).
- Review list of recommendations in 2014 parks vegetation survey for specific remedial actions (tree replacement, removal).

Issue 2: *Lack of diversity in Oregon white oak size and age class (Not enough young oaks)*

Goal

Increase the abundance and survival of young white oaks as an element of the urban forest in Forest Grove.

Objective

Continuation of the Oregon white oak as an iconic tree in Forest Grove.

Actions

- Utilize 2014 parks vegetation survey to locate planting sites (open non-irrigated sites).
- Increase public awareness about the health risk to white oaks from watering in the summer.

Issue 3: *Insufficient tree canopy within the city limits*

Goal

Strive to achieve an Increase in tree canopy from 23% to 30% by 2025 and 40% by 2035

Objective

Increase public and private community benefits of trees by increasing tree canopy.

Actions

- Seek funding opportunities to increase tree planting throughout the community
- Establish partnerships between the Community Forestry Commission and other agencies and organizations interested in planting trees in Forest Grove.

Street trees

Issue 1: *Reduce possible impact of disease affecting street trees*

Goal

Increasing street tree diversity and reduce the potential impact of tree diseases

Objective

Effective management of street trees

Actions

- The Community Forestry Commission in conjunction with appropriate City staff should develop street tree management plans for new subdivisions of the City. The management plans should address recommended tree species to plant in the neighborhood.
- Educate property owners about City policies regarding adjacent property owner responsibility for maintaining street trees.
- Prepare an estimate of cost to taxpayers if the City were to undertake complete responsibility for maintaining street trees. The estimate should address staffing levels and required expenditures. The analysis should address equity in terms of not all streets have street trees.
- Utilize grants to assess, plan, and implement tree removal and planting projects as needed.
- Develop risk/age/condition based mapping (GIS) of potential neighborhood needs.

Facility trees

Issue 1: *Educate property owners about proper care of facility trees*

Goal

Promote planting of facility trees and proper facility tree care including pruning

Objective

Improve condition of facility trees throughout the community.

Actions

- Educate property owners about proper tree care and pruning techniques
- Educate property owners about the economic benefits trees provide

Parking lot trees

Issue 1: *Many existing parking lots lack trees*

Goal

Increase tree canopy coverage in existing parking lots

Objective

Bring existing parking lots into compliance with current Development Code standards

Actions

- Educate property owners about the benefits of adding trees to parking lots including increasing pavement life cycle.
- Work with property owners to select appropriate parking lot trees to reduce ongoing maintenance costs
- Work with property owners regarding proper tree pruning techniques.

Register/Heritage Tree Program

Issue 1: *Lack of protection for tree groves*

Goal

Develop tree grove protection program

Objective

Improve the Register/Heritage tree program

Actions

- Improve standards and incentives for tree grove protection
- Preserve existing tree groves
- Create new tree groves

Issue 2: *Lack of recruitment of new register trees into the program*

Goal

Improve community outreach for Register Tree Program

Objective

Encourage property owners to nominate trees to include on the Register/Heritage Tree list

Actions

- Educate community about Register Tree Program and benefits of seeking Register Tree designation

- Implement a "Register Tree of the Year" recognition program

Park and open space trees

Issue 1: *Unfulfilled opportunities for new trees plantings in parks and open spaces*

Goal

Increase tree canopy within open space areas, and insuring "right tree in the right place".

Objective

Promote trees as an important component of the City's open space programs.

Action

- The Community Forestry Commission should work with the Parks and Recreation Commission to ensure tree canopy is considered as an integral part of community open space programs.
- Utilize the park vegetation inventory to locate potential opportunities.

Issue 2: *Lack of park specific tree management plans*

Goal

Have plans as needed.

Objective

Develop plans as needed.

Action

- Develop a tree management plan for Thatcher Park.

Management needs

Issue 1: *Survival of planted or maintained trees*

Goal

Have greater than 90 percent survival of planted/maintained trees.

Objective

Encourage proper tree planting and care practices to increase survival rate

Actions

- Update the tree planting standards used by City contractors.
- Develop pruning standards/practices

- Develop inspection schedule for maintenance of downtown street trees (checking metal grates, etc. near street tree boles.)
- Develop/review ordinances/standards for underground utility or other work affecting tree roots.

Issue 2: *Coordination between City departments when working near trees*

Goal

Minimize duplication of efforts and ensure proper techniques to reduce harmful impacts to trees resulting from construction activities.

Objective

Ensure survival of trees near construction areas.

Actions

- Identify lead person or department for coordination on tree related issues.
- Consolidate tree planting and management efforts among City departments
- Designate a lead City staff person to coordinate urban forest management efforts.

Issue 3: *Affordability of City managed trees (maintenance cost)*

Goal

Have an urban forest that is sustainable with a minimal level of investment.

Objective

Reduce costs associated with tree care.

Action

- Review program for activities that have a low cost/benefit ratio.

Issue 4: *Funding*

Goal

Secure ongoing and dedicated funding for the urban forest management program.

Objective

Identify and utilize potential funding sources for urban forestry related programs.

Actions

- Identify possible funding mechanisms to support the urban forest management program
- Seek grant opportunities to implement urban forestry initiatives

- Seek dedicated funding through the City budget process for tree planting efforts by documenting tree related benefits to street preservation, surface water management, and environmental sustainability.

Community needs

Issue 1: *Availability of information related to proper tree care, or tree ordinances*

Goal

Have tree related information readily available through a variety of media.

Objective

Improve the availability of tree related information.

Actions

- Post Forest Grove tree removal permit/ordinance on City website
- Post tree planting and pruning information on City website. (or link to OSU Extension website)
- Post recommended street tree planting list.
- Continue CFC sponsored pruning and planting workshops
- Evaluate need for a City urban forester or arborist

Issue 2: *Affordability of tree maintenance as trees grow larger and older*

Goal

Having an affordable means of managing mature landscaping.

Objective

Mitigate property owner costs associated with retaining large, mature trees

Actions

- Evaluate possibility of expanding street tree leaf pick up to also include leaves/trimmings from other trees (especially in light of possible elimination of backyard burning).
- Increase awareness of urban tree salvagers that may offset cost of total tree removal.
- Establish grant or assistance program for low income home owners for tree maintenance activities.

Issue 3: *Effectiveness of the fall leaf pick-up program*

Goal

Assist property owners with removal of fall leaves.

Objective
Encourage the proper removal of fall leaves. Determine effectiveness of current fall leaf pick-up program.

Action

- Encourage volunteer opportunities to assist property owners with removal of fall leaves, especially elderly property owners.
- Determine effectiveness of current fall leaf pick-up program, and develop alternative strategies if necessary.

Issue 4: *Safety of public while recreating, driving, or living near areas with trees*

Goal
Enhance safety to persons and property by identifying and mitigating potential tree hazards.

Objective
Identify potential tree hazards

Actions

- Develop and maintain criteria for what constitutes a tree hazard using the Tree Risk Assessment methodology available from the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture.
- Prior to acquisition of land for parks or public places conduct a tree hazard assessment
- Develop and implement a formal emergency response system for tree hazards on City streets, City parks, and greenspaces.
- Utilize 2014 parks vegetation assessment to locate areas needing overhead hazards removed (dead or comprised branches over trails or in heavily used areas).
- Develop schedule to assess and remove hazards.
- Survey to identify potential safety issues to pedestrians, motorists, or cyclists from trees (low hanging branches blocking visibility of signs or crosswalks etc..)
- Develop a hazard tree identification and abatement program

Implementation plan

Funding is a critical component of successful implementation. The following section identifies current and potential sources of funding for sustaining the urban forest.

Urban Forest Funding Sources

Grants

Grants have been used by the Community Forestry Commission to fund inspections of trees on the Register of Significant Trees, street tree infill planting, publication of a tree of the month calendar and publication of a tour of trees brochure. Potential grant funding opportunities include:

- Forest Grove Community Enhancement Program
- Oregon Community Trees
- Alliance for Community Trees
- American Forests

Street Tree Fund

The City's Development Code requires all subdivisions and partitions to install street trees. To prevent trees from being damaged, street trees are not installed until construction is completed. As a result, each development is assessed for the cost of acquisition, installation and one year of maintenance for the street trees required for a project. The Street Tree Fund is the collection of these assessments.

Surface Water Management Fund

The Surface Water Management Fund provides resources for the City's annual fall leaf pick up program. Approximately 1,400 cubic yards of debris is removed from the street to minimize flooding.

Parks and Recreation Fund

A portion of the Parks and Recreation Fund is used to provide landscaping around City facilities and some non-park areas. In addition, this fund is used for street plantings and trimming trees for street clearance.

Light and Power Fund

The Light and Power Department funds two journeyman tree trimmers with responsibility for tree care near overhead power lines.

Proposed Implementation Strategy

- Develop standards and procedures for tree code enforcement
- Develop standards and procedures for tree protection related to public improvement projects and subdivision development
- Develop and maintain as part of the City's GIS and permit systems a publicly accessible inventory of protected trees
- Develop a hazard tree identification and abatement program
- Improve coordination among City departments related to the urban forestry program
- Identify and secure long term funding sources for urban forestry projects.
- Take advantage of the Community Forestry Commission area of the City's website as a way to distribute educational information about tree selection, care and permit requirements.
- Improve public outreach related to the benefits of the Register Tree program
- Develop site specific park/open space plans as needed.
- Assess effectiveness of current leaf/limb removal program.
- Develop an inventory (condition & opportunity) and mapping (GIS) of potential areas for street tree improvement projects.

Monitoring plan

Monitoring is key to the success of any planning effort. Monitoring ensures desired outcomes are met or to make changes if something isn't working well.

Data will be collected as resources allow. Such resources include volunteer efforts, availability of grant resources, and how often data provided by outside organizations is updated. Whenever possible, field inventories should be conducted during the summer months

Register of Historic and Significant Trees

Inventory trees listed on the Register of Historic and Significant Trees as resources permit. The purpose of the inventory is to confirm the trees presence and identify general condition.

Street tree

Inventory street trees to determine overall health and viability of individual species. This data will be used to help guide selection of tree species used for street tree planting projects.

Park trees

Monitor the ongoing condition of trees located in the City's parks

Tree canopy

Assess tree canopy every two to five years. To minimize costs, tree canopy assessment should be based on data provided by regional, state or federal agencies.

Available tools

The City is in the process of developing an enterprise GIS system that could be used to advance the City's efforts to manage the urban forest. Integrating urban forest data with the GIS database will promote data sharing across departments and the general public. Data collection efforts should be done in a way that facilitates use of GIS.

A variety of free software tools, developed by the USDA Forest Service is available, at no charge, to anyone interested in analyzing forest resources. This tool, called I-Tree allows for assessment of tree canopy coverage using Landsat imagery. I-Tree allows for linking urban forest management activities with environmental quality and community livability. I-Tree provides a way to analyze data to demonstrate the value of the urban forest and set priorities for more efficient decision making.

Appendices

Appendix A: Forest Grove park 2014 vegetation assessment
Appendix B: Technical guides and standards
Appendix C: Chronological record of public involvement
Appendix D: Public survey questions and summary of results
Appendix E: Summary of other related planning documents
Appendix F: Ordinances
Appendix G: Additional related resources

Appendix A:
2014 Forest Grove parks vegetation assessment and recommendations

Park and Trail Property Addresses

B Street Trail	1910 16th Ave
Bard Park	2921 22nd Avenue, 22nd & Kingwood
East Entrance	Yew St between Adair and Baseline
Forest Glen Park – lower	101 Gales Creek Road,south end of Lavina
Forest Glen Park – upper	3250 Forest Gale Drive, corner of Circle Crest
Forest Glen Trail	101 Gales Creek Rd to Ridge Point Dr. Parallels Gales Creek Rd over an existing sewer easement
Hazel Sills Park	1627 Willamina Avenue
Joseph Gale Park	3014 18th Avenue, 18th and Maple
Knox Ridge Park	2422 Strasburg Drive, corner of Strasburg Drive and Kalex Lane
Lincoln Park	2725 Main Street, Between Main and Sunset Drive North of Aquatic Center
North Entrance	Beale Rd.
Reuter Farm Green Space	480 Willamina
Rogers Park	2421 17th Avenue, 18th and Elm
Stites Park (future)	2324 26th Ave
Talisman Park	1210 Willamina Avenue
Thatcher Park	750 David Hill Road

B Street Trail

Size	.73 miles (16th av to highway 47)
Location	1910 16th Ave
Facilities (general overview)	Trailhead, paved bike and walking trail, tables, benches, pedestrian bridge over Gales Creek
Irrigated?	Yes, at trailhead
General vegetation overview	Mowed grass and planted young trees at trailhead. Planted trees along some of the trail. Natural vegetation along Gales creek portion of the trail (big leaf maple, ash, white oak, red osier dogwood, cottonwood)
Overstory trees	Young planted ash, red oak, cedar, locust at trailhead. A few planted cottonwood, Douglas-fir, willow along the trail

Understory trees	Douglas-fir, ash.
Understory shrubs	Snowberry, ribes, willow, beaked hazel
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	A variety of shrubs and trees were planted by Metro (about 2011) in the Gales Creek floodplain area east of the north portion of the trail. Species planted include: cottonwood, willow, dogwood, etc. Trees and grass/shrubs (ash, red oak, locust, cedar, grass, shrubs?) planted at the time of establishment of the trailhead (2010.)
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	• A few of the planted cedar along the fence at the trailhead are probably too close to the fence, and if so, it would be cheaper to replace them now instead of waiting until they are larger • There may be opportunities to plant additional cottonwood, willows, ash, Oregon white oak, Douglas-fir directly adjacent to the portion of the trail south of the Gales Creek bridge (will depend on how wide the right-of-way is)

Bard Park

Size	2.75 acres
Location	2921 22nd Avenue, 22nd & Kingwood
Facilities (general overview)	Includes picnic shelter, tables play equipment, basketball court, paved trail
Irrigated?	Yes
General vegetation overview	Mowed and watered park grass with scattered mid-age planted trees
Overstory trees	Mid-age maples, Scotch pine, lodgepole/shore pine, sycamore, sequoia, and walnut
Understory trees	N/A
Understory shrubs	Mowed grass
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	No recent plantings
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	• Continue lower crown pruning/lifting for access of mowing equipment • Monitoring for removal needs of dead branches in crown

East Entrance

Size

Location	Yew St between Adair and Baseline
Facilities (general overview)	No recreational structures in park. Entry sign for City of Forest Grove (other entities listed on sign?? Didn't write this down). Doesn't appear to get much use, just drive by viewing, no parking except along road
Irrigated?	Yes
General vegetation overview	Watered and mowed area indicating entry point into Forest Grove, several different species of planted trees
Overstory trees	Generally younger-mid age planted trees including, small clump of birch, several Oregon white oak (planted in an area that doesn't appear to be watered- good job!), sequoia, cedar, spruce, lodgepole pine, Douglas-fir, small ornamental Nyuzen Japan (sister city) town tree along east edge of site- very poor condition- much of the cambium rotted away Several areas along the north edge are too crowded and very close to the utility lines. Douglas-fir along north edge competing with a young white oak; the fir should be removed
Understory trees	N/A
Understory shrubs	Watered/mowed grass, clumps of fescue in bark mulched area, dogwood, vine maple, Japanese maple
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	Plantings at establishment of area. Some general maintenance and pruning of lower branches has occurred
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	• Check birch for top die back (birch bore?) • Evaluate dense band of trees along south edge for thinning to reduce density • Opportunity to remove several fir that are competing with the white oak • Several trees (lodgepole pine, Douglas-fir) under the utility lines should be removed or pruned

Forest Glen Park – lower

Size	11 acres
Location	Gales Creek Road, south end of Lavina
Facilities (general overview)	Open space park with a paved and gravel trail around perimeter. Basketball court, tables, benches, and baseball field. Very little parking other than adjacent side streets.
Irrigated?	No
General vegetation overview	Mowed (infrequent) grass with a few remnant walnut trees and large white oaks along park edge.
Overstory trees	A few walnut and white oak.
Understory trees	N/A
Understory shrubs	Mowed grass
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	None
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	• Evaluate dead/rotten tree branches overhanging the paved trail along west edge of park

Forest Glen Park – upper

Size	
Location	3250 Forest Gale Drive, corner of Circle Crest
Facilities (general overview)	Small neighborhood park with play structure.
Irrigated?	Yes
General vegetation overview	Mowed and watered grass with a few planted trees.
Overstory trees	Mid-age big leaf maple, white oak, Douglas-fir, Ohio buckeye, flowering pears, ginko, young white oak.
Understory trees	N/A
Understory shrubs	Mowed grass
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	Trees in the slump appear to have been planted
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	• Monitor slump along edge of park for movement • Monitor overstory trees along edge of park for overhead

hazard (dead/weak branches)
- Don't water the young white oak along west edge of the park

Forest Glen Trail

Size

Location	101 Gales Creek Rd to Ridge Point Dr. Parallels Gales Creek Rd over an existing sewer easement
Facilities (general overview)	Paved trail through a Steep wooded area along Gales creek road, which connects Ridge Point Drive and Lower Forest Glen Park. Also includes a low use gravel trail along a small drainage connecting Upper and Lower Forest Glen Park.
Irrigated?	No
General vegetation overview	Mixed species native trees
Overstory trees	Mature overstory of Douglas-fir, Oregon white oak, big leaf maple, Oregon ash. A few alder in the drainage bottom. Several dead trees and dead branches adjacent to, and hanging over the paved trail.
Understory trees	Bigleaf maple, cherry
Understory shrubs	Snowberry, service berry, beaked hazel, ocean spray, poison oak, black berry, ivy, Oregon grape.
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	The area along the lower portion of the drainage was planted (ponderosa pine, madrone, white oak, thimble berry, others.) in 2014 by SOLVE and Clean Water Services.
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	• Evaluate overstory along trail for hazard trees • Remove dead branches hanging over the trail, including several partially decayed large oak branches directly over the trail (eastern portion of the trail on the knob along the edge of Lower Forest Glen park • Continue spraying poison oak directly adjacent to trail • Blackberry spraying? • Ivy removal? • Opportunity for wood placement in drainage bottom to stop down-cutting • Opportunity to plant several white oak near the small grove of mature white oak along the eastern portion of the trail

Hazel Sills Park

Size	.5 acres
Location	1627 Willamina Avenue
Facilities (general overview)	Small neighborhood park. Play equipment.
Irrigated?	Yes
General vegetation overview	Mowed grass with a few recently planted trees
Overstory trees	Young ponderosa pine, maple, cedar
Understory trees	N/A
Understory shrubs	Mowed grass
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	Removal of existing overstory Douglas-fir, and planting of new trees
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	• Pruning and shaping of young trees to facilitate mowing.

Joseph Gale Park

Size	3.6 acres
Location	3014 - 18th Avenue, 18th and Maple
Facilities (general overview)	Developed park adjacent to Joseph Gale school. Includes play structures, ball fields, horseshoe pits, picnic tables, bathroom.
Irrigated?	Yes
General vegetation overview	Mowed grass with medium sized scattered trees
Overstory trees	Silver maples, sweetgum, spruce, Norway maple, lodgepole, sequoia, flowering plum, birch
Understory trees	N/A
Understory shrubs	Mowed grass
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	• Crown cleaning of dead branches (especially in the silver maples)

- Continued pruning of lower branches to facilitate mowing

Knox Ridge Park

Size	0.4 acres
Location	2422 Strasburg Drive, corner of Strasburg Drive and Kalex Lane
Facilities (general overview)	Small neighborhood park with play structures and picnic table
Irrigated?	Yes
General vegetation overview	Watered and mowed grass with a few young, planted trees
Overstory trees	Planted white cedar, maples, and flowering pears
Understory trees	N/A
Understory shrubs	Mowed grass
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	Tree planting
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	• Pruning of lower branches • Evaluate cedar along edge of park for proximity to fence… looks too close to me. Evaluate for removal and re-planting of something else.

Lincoln Park

Size	18.9 acres (owned by city)
Location	2725 Main Street, Between Main and Sunset Drive North of Aquatic Center
Facilities (general overview)	Large City park with football/soccer/track field, toilet, skate board park, picnic tables and shelter structure. Paved walking trail around perimeter. Several parking lots.
Irrigated?	Yes
General vegetation overview	Scattered mid-age and mature trees with mowed and watered grass
Overstory trees	Cedar, lodgepole, scotch pine, red oak, ash, flowering pear, sycamore, basswood
Understory trees	N/A

Understory shrubs	Mowed grass
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	Tree planting
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	• Continued pruning of lower branches to facilitate mowing and walking on path • Continued evaluation of overhead hazard (dead branches) • Possible opportunities for plantings as the open lot (recently acquired) to the north and east gets developed

North Entrance

Size	Less than 1 acre
Location	Beale Rd.
Facilities (general overview)	Entrance sign for north entrance to Forest Grove. Several ponds, sidewalk, viewing structure, and table/bench.
Irrigated?	
General vegetation overview	Wetland vegetation surrounding the ponds
Overstory trees	Young planted willow, big leaf maple, white pine, Douglas-fir, ponderosa pine, lodgepole pine
Understory trees	N/A
Understory shrubs	Willow, dogwood
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	Tree/shrub planting
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	• Thin vegetation near the viewing area (trail/sidewalk and shelter) to improve views of the pond • Needs a sign indicating the name of the park

Reuter Farm Green Space

Size	
Location	480 Willamina
Facilities (general overview)	Several picnic tables on the back side of the hill overlooking a pond
Irrigated?	No

General vegetation overview	Mature grove of Oregon white oak with a mowed grass understory
Overstory trees	Approximately twenty large mature white oak with an open, mowed (not watered) grass understory.
Understory trees	N/A
Understory shrubs	Mowed grass
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	Removal of several overstory oaks. Trimming of lower branches that appear to have been decayed.
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	• Continue monitoring overstory oaks for overhead hazards (dead/decaying branches) • Possible opportunity to plant several white oaks along the edge of the park

Rogers Park

Size	3.6 acres
Location	2421 - 17th Avenue, 18th and Elm
Facilities (general overview)	Heavily developed park. Includes play structures, tennis courts, picnic shelter and tables, portable toilets.
Irrigated?	Available but not used
General vegetation overview	Dominated by a grove of mature Oregon white oaks with a mowed grass understory
Overstory trees	Dominated by mature white oaks with a few Douglas-fir. Mature sweetgum trees along Elm Street. A few scattered yew, cedar, redwood, holly, Japanese maple.
Understory trees	Planted flowering plums, red oak, white oak, tulip tree
Understory shrubs	Mowed grass
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	Arbor Day tree plantings
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	• Opportunities to plant a few white oaks • Monitor overhead hazards in oaks • Install interpretative sign about white oaks and why the City is not watering the park?

Stites Park (This area was not visited. Access uncertain.)

Size	9.9 acres
Location	2324 26th Ave
Facilities (general overview)	
Irrigated?	
General vegetation overview	
Overstory trees	
Understory trees	
Understory shrubs	
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	

Talisman Park

Size	2.5 acres
Location	1210 Willamina Avenue
Facilities (general overview)	Play structure, picnic table and shelter. Paved path around the park and connecting to Gales Creek Road.
Irrigated?	Yes
General vegetation overview	Former wetland that has been filled in and planted with a variety of trees
Overstory trees	One large, open grown white oak is a focal point for this park. A variety of other tree species (oaks, maples, etc.) have been planted along the perimeter of the park. Each of the trees has a numbered post at the base that corresponds to a list of the species.
Understory trees	N/A
Understory shrubs	Mowed and watered grass.
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	Tree planting. Tree pruning workshop site

Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	• Continue pruning of lower tree branches to facilitate mowing • Evaluate for overhead hazards • Update and re-post the numbered key to the tree species in this park

Thatcher Park

Size	15.4 acres
Location	750 David Hill Road
Facilities (general overview)	Baseball/soccer fields, paved walking path, un-paved path through the forested portion of park, picnic table and shelter, toilet, dog park.
Irrigated?	Partial (ball fields)
General vegetation overview	The park includes two different areas. One is a 5-10 acres heavily forested area with a walking trail. The second area is the heavily developed park with mowed lawn, planted young trees, and developed facilities.
Overstory trees	Overstory of mature Douglas-fir (80-90 percent), with scattered big leaf maple, white oak, and cherry. The overstory appears to be fairly even aged (age??). Approximately 25-50 percent of the Douglas-fir are infected with heart rot (species??... The understory trees include big leaf maple, cherry, and holly. Shrub species include snowberry, blackberry, holly, elderberry, ivy, beaked hazel, willow, serviceberry.
Understory trees	Mowed and watered grass with planted oak), ash, Douglas-fir.
Understory shrubs	
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	Removal of hazard trees. Holly removal. Blackberry spraying. Removal of brush in riparian area along east side.
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	• Continued evaluation of Douglas-fir heart rot and potential overhead hazards • Removal of existing dead branches hanging over the forested portion of the trail • Blackberry and ivy removal? • Opportunities to convert portions (mostly along the forest edge) to white oak through planting

Appendix B:
Technical guides and standards

1. Field Guide for Hazard-Tree Identification and Mitigation on Developed Sites in Oregon and Washington Forests. 2014 USDA Forest Service. Forest Health Protection. Pacific Northwest Region. Portland, OR. R6-NR-TP-021-2013

2. Dunster, J. 2009. Tree Risk Assessment in Urban Areas and The Urban/Rural Interface. Course Manual. Silverton, OT. Pacific Northwest Chapter, International Society of Arboriculture

3. Urban Tree Risk Management (A community guide to program design and implementation). USDA Forest Service. State and Private Forestry. Northeastern Area. NA-TP-03-03.

4. Urban Forestry Best Management Practices for Public Works Managers. Urban Forest Management. APWA press.

Appendix C:
Chronological record of public involvement

January 2014	Initiate project
January 2014	Draft outline following Urban Forest Planning Toolkit
Early 2014	Gather background data and produce first rough draft
Spring 2014	Inventory parks and open areas, list opportunities
Summer 2014	Outreach to public at farmers market
Fall 2014	Second and third draft
Fall 2014	Outreach to city commissions (parks, sustainability, CCI)
December 2014	Develop survey questions
January 2015	Refine survey questions with CCI commission
March 2015	Send out survey in March utility bills and post on-line
March 2015	Outreach to newspaper to produce article about plan and survey
April 2015	Review survey and use to modify draft plan
May 2015	Meet with city departments (parks, planning, public works) about tree management
June-July 2015	Revised draft of plan
July-August 2015	Outreach to public at farmers market
September 2015	Next draft of plan
2016	Review plan with public during Parks/Recreation master plan update public meeting
April 2016	Review with city and council
2016	Final draft
2016	Final plan recommendations to city council

Appendix D:
Public survey questions and summary of results

CFC Urban Forest Management Planning Survey

The Forest Grove Community Forestry Commission (CFC) is working on a plan to guide and manage trees within the City. Trees provide a variety of important benefits in the urban environment. Without a vision and plan for the management of the urban forest as a whole, however, it is unlikely to thrive and provide the benefits that the community desires. We will look at **what we have now** for tree resources, determine **what we want** in the future, and make recommendations for **how we get there**. More details of the scope of the project can be found online at Community Forestry Commission.

Trees included in an urban forest management plan may include the following:

- Street trees (those directly adjacent to streets)
- Heritage/special trees (those with special status)
- Facility trees (those near public buildings)
- Parking lot trees
- Park trees
- Open space trees (those in natural areas)

The Commission invites you to help develop the plan by answering the following questions. This survey is also available online.

Questions 1-3 pertains to tree care in parks, trails, or open space areas. Please rank on a scale of 1 to 5 with (1) being "Very Satisfied" and (5) being "Very Dissatisfied".	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neither	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
	1	2	3	4	5
1. How satisfied are you with the quantity and quality of trees in parks, along trails, or in open space areas?					
2. How satisfied are you with the care of trees in parks, along trails, and/or in open space areas?					
3. How satisfied are you with pedestrian safety near large trees?					

Questions 4 –13 ask how much you agree with a given statement regarding street trees, parking lot trees, register trees, and/or facility trees. Please rank on a scale of 1 to 5 with (1) being "Strongly Agree" and (5) being "Strongly Disagree".	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
	1	2	3	4	5
4. I am satisfied with the quantity and quality of street trees, parking lot trees, registry trees, or facility trees.					
5. I am satisfied with the care of street trees, parking lot trees, registry trees, or facility street trees.					
6. Trees positively contribute to the value of a home.					
7. More trees would be good for the City.					
8. I believe it would benefit the City if more resources were directed towards maintenance and protection of existing trees.					
9. The City should require the protection of old, healthy trees on sites that are being developed.					
10. The City should require the planting of new trees on sites that are being developed.					
11. The condition of the urban forest has improved over the last 10 years.					
12. The large oak trees in town are an important cultural element in Forest Grove.					
13. I am satisfied with the pruning of street trees for utility lines.					

Page **1** of **2**

Questions 14 – 18 ask about your awareness of City policy and programs relating to urban trees. Please rank on a scale of 1 to 3 with (1) being fully aware and (3) being unaware.	Fully Aware	Somewhat Aware	Unaware
	1	2	3
14. I have adequate information about how to maintain trees on my property.			
15. Property owners are responsible for care and maintenance of street trees.			
16. Property owners need to have a free City permit before pruning or removing street trees.			
17. A replacement street tree may need to be planted if one is removed.			
18. Forest Grove has a tree registry/significant tree program.			

The following questions encourage further comments about Forest Grove's Urban Forest.

19. What could be done to improve the quantity or quality of trees in Forest Grove?

20. What are other issues related to trees?

21. What is the best method(s) to get you additional information about trees (website link, newsletter, email, other)?

Please return this survey with your utility bill payment or in person to Forest Grove City Hall, Community Development Department, at 1924 Council Street or by mail at PO Box 326, Forest Grove, OR, 97116. You may also email to driordan@forestgrove-or.gov. THANK YOU!

Please consider becoming a member of the Community Forestry Commission. Applications available online at www.forestgrove-or.gov/b&c or at City Hall.

Did you know that . . .

- The top three most abundant trees are Japanese maple (*Acer palmatum*), Japanese flowering cherry (*Prunus serrulata*), and Norway maple (*Acer platenoides*).
- The total replacement value for Forest Grove's street trees is estimated at $148,273,010.
- Street trees remove nearly 8 million pounds of air pollutants per year, a service worth more than $72 thousand.
- Forest Grove residents save close to $69,000 per year in avoided energy costs from the shading and wind calming effects of street trees.
- Street trees provide more than $1.2 million in property resale value per year.

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Survey Results

	RESPONSE %				
	1	2	3	4	5
	Very Statisfied	Satisfied	Neither	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
Q1	26.29%	52.99%	11.16%	7.97%	1.59%
Q2	26.10%	53.41%	13.65%	4.42%	2.41%
Q3	28.23%	49.60%	13.71%	6.05%	2.42%
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Q4	19.28%	48.19%	16.47%	14.46%	1.61%
Q5	21.58%	45.23%	18.26%	12.86%	2.07%
Q6	64.68%	24.60%	5.56%	2.78%	2.38%
Q7	50.40%	21.77%	16.13%	6.45%	5.24%
Q8	33.60%	38.40%	17.60%	6.40%	4.00%
Q9	56.75%	25.40%	9.92%	2.78%	5.16%
Q10	54.98%	26.69%	5.98%	5.58%	6.77%
Q11	9.29%	28.76%	49.12%	10.62%	2.21%
Q12	56.52%	28.85%	8.70%	3.56%	2.37%
Q13	25.59%	42.91%	17.32%	9.06%	5.12%
	Fully Aware	Somewhat Aware	Unaware		
Q14	31.20%	42.80%	26.00%		
Q15	38.31%	31.45%	30.24%		
Q16	31.30%	23.98%	44.72%		
Q17	34.55%	26.02%	39.43%		
Q18	22.95%	22.95%	54.10%		

Appendix E:
Summary of other related planning documents

Forest Grove:

- Parks and recreation master plan
- Urban renewal plans
- Community sustainability element of the comprehensive plan
- Design and landscaping guidelines and development standards (Public Works Specifications)

Other:

- Regional Urban Forestry Assessment and Evaluation for the Portland-Vancouver Metro Area. Portland State University. June 2009.
- Regional Conservation Strategy for the Greater Portland-Vancouver Region. The Intertwine Alliance 2012.
- Greenspaces Policy Advisory Committee. Vision, Outcomes, objectives and means. Metro. 2005.
- Protecting and Developing the Urban Tree Canopy. The United States Conference of Mayors. 2006.
- The Road to a Thoughtful Street tree Master Plan. University of Minnesota. 2008.
- Urban Forest Management Planning Toolkit. USDA Forest service.

Appendix F:
Ordinances

Forest Grove Development Code

(www.forestgrove-or.gov/city-hall/planning-division/community-development-planning-zoning-information.html)

- Forest Grove Development Code Article 5
  - Tree Protection
- Forest Grove Development Code Article 8
  - Landscaping, Screening and Buffering (Parking Lot Trees)

Forest Grove City Code

(www.forestgrove-or.gov/city-hall/city-manager/community-development-planning-city-code.html)

- Municipal Code Chapter 5
  - Trees and Plants
- Municipal Code Chapter 9
  - Boards and Commissions (Community Forestry Commission)

Appendix G:
Additional related resources

Additional related resources available on the Community Forestry Commission portion of the City of Forest Grove's website (forestgrove-or.gov/city-hall/citizen-boards-commissions/citizen-bac-community-forestry-commission.html).

- 2011 Forest Grove street tree inventory and assessment
- Suggested street tree list
- Register of significant trees
- Tree trimming information
- Tree pruning or removal permit (for street trees or historic/significant trees only)

APPENDIX C:
Plan Integration

APPENDIX C: PLAN INTEGRATION

Strategic directions and objectives of the Master Plan must comply with the adopted goals of other City and State planning efforts. This appendix includes a summary that shows how the Master Plan integrates with relevant goals of the City's Comprehensive Plan and Statewide Planning Goals.

I. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN GOALS

Forest Grove's Comprehensive Plan (2014) contains many plan elements that guide the planning of the city. Table C.1 lists the most relevant goals related to parks, recreation, open space and trails, and indicates Master Plan directions that help with implementation, as depicted by a "●". Across all elements, there are multiple Master Plan directions that support each of the Comprehensive Plan goals. As presented in Chapter 4, the Master Plan calls for the following strategic directions (abbreviated in Table C.1):

A. **Parks and Facilities:** Enhance existing parks and facilities and develop new ones to provide engaging community recreation and social spaces that meet the needs of Forest Grove residents now and as the population grows.

B. **Open Space Greenways and Trails:** Protect natural resources and provide trails to connect people to parks, open space and community destinations.

C. **Recreation Programs and Services:** Activate parks and facilitate and coordinate recreation programs and events for Forest Grove residents.

D. **Maintenance and Stewardship:** Maintain and replace assets in a sustainable manner. Preserve Forest Grove's historical and cultural heritage, including the tree canopy and natural resources.

E. **Collaborative Management and Partnerships:** Work collaboratively with others to maximize the benefits of the park and recreation system. Involve volunteers, partners, businesses and other agencies to deliver recreation opportunities through shared resources, partnerships and joint use agreements.

TABLE C.1: INTEGRATION WITH RELEVANT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN GOALS

	Master Plan Strategic Directions				
Relevant Comprehensive Plan Goals	Parks and Facilities	Open Space Greenways and Trails	Recreation Programs and Services	Maintenance and Stewardship	Collaborative Management and Partnerships
Citizen Involvement					
1.1. Ensure the ongoing relevance of the City's Visions Statement for all citizens of Forest Grove.	●				●
2.1. Promote the participation of an engaged public and accessible, responsive government.	●				●
3.1. Promote the interests and needs of Forest Grove in local, state and national affairs.	●				●
5.1. Encourage and facilitate citizen involvement and inter-agency coordination in the development, implementation and updating of the Comprehensive Plan	●				●
Community Sustainability					
1. Support the function and identity of neighborhoods by encouraging communication, strengthening community bonds, local participation and interaction, and enhancing sense of place through design	●	●		●	●
2. Encourage involvement of underrepresented groups in civic affairs.	●				●
6. Foster excellence in the design of public and private development projects to minimize environmental impacts, maximize financial efficiency, optimize social equity and benefits, and improve public health.	●	●	●	●	●
7. Promote interconnected land uses that encourage diverse, accessible, and proximate land uses that promote active living and access to vital services including employment, education, and healthy food.	●	●	●		●
8. Create complete neighborhoods, through land use regulations, with housing, recreational opportunities, retail, services and employment nearby.	●	●	●	●	●
10. Promote the preservation and reuse of historic resources, including buildings, structures, sites, neighborhood districts and cultural landscapes to assist in the retention of local, regional and national history and heritage, reinforcement of community character, and conservation of material resources.	●			●	●
14. Promote opportunities for community gardens within neighborhoods.	●		●	●	●

Relevant Comprehensive Plan Goals	Master Plan Strategic Directions				
	Parks and Facilities	Open Space Greenways and Trails	Recreation Programs and Services	Maintenance and Stewardship	Collaborative Management and Partnerships
16. Increase the amount of urban forest tree canopy while planting species adapted to this area.	●	●		●	●
18. Increase the amount of park land and natural areas serving the community.	●	●		●	●
19. Support the restoration of natural areas such as Fern Hill Wetlands and Thatcher Woods.	●	●		●	●
23. Promote a balanced transportation system increasing opportunities for bicycling and walking throughout the community.	●	●	●	●	●
24. Anticipate the possibility of local in-migration due to the relocation of individuals and families impacted by a changing climate.	●	●	●	●	●
Land Use					
8. Land designated for single family attached and multi-family developments shall be distributed throughout the city taking into consideration availability of public services, topography and environmental constraints. Preferred locations for medium and higher density residential development include areas within walking distance of schools, parks, commercial areas, or existing/planned transit service.	●	●			
Housing					
1. Ensure an adequate supply of developable land to support needed housing types and a complete community.	●	●	●	●	●
6. Promote neighborhoods complete with residences, open space, schools, parks, and shopping opportunities within close proximity to each other. Avoid stand-alone residential developments lacking support activities.	●	●	●	●	●
Economic Development					
6. Enhance the local economy through Tourism	●			●	●
7. Promote the Forest Grove Town Center as the Focal Point of the Community	●		●		●
Health Services					
3. Promote good health and reduced healthcare costs through land development and transportation policies by	●	●	●	●	●

Relevant Comprehensive Plan Goals	Master Plan Strategic Directions				
	Parks and Facilities	Open Space Greenways and Trails	Recreation Programs and Services	Maintenance and Stewardship	Collaborative Management and Partnerships
encouraging active transportation (walking and bicycling) and recreational opportunities					
Parks					
1. Serve all ages and abilities	●	●	●	●	●
2. Provide safe and convenient access to parks for everyone	●	●	●	●	●
3. Create and expand partnerships for recreation facilities and programs			●	●	●
4. Promote a sense of community and preserve the character of Forest Grove	●	●	●	●	●
5. Contribute to a strong local economy by using park amenities to attract new residents, businesses and tourists	●	●	●	●	●
6. Provide diversity in facilities and programs	●	●	●	●	●
Urbanization					
3. Implement policies to create complete neighborhoods in areas undergoing urbanization.	●	●	●	●	●
Transportation					
1. Develop and maintain a balanced transportation system that provides travel choices and reduces the number of trips by single occupant vehicles.	●	●		●	●
3. Develop and maintain a transportation system that is safe.		●		●	●
4. Design and construct transportation facilities in a manner that enhances the livability of Forest Grove.		●		●	●

II. STATEWIDE PLANNING GOALS

As with all Oregon cities, the Statewide Planning Goals provide guidance and direction for planning in Forest Grove, including development of its Comprehensive Plan. There are 19 Statewide Goals, of which there are nine that relate to the Master Plan goals. Table C.2 lists the most relevant goals related to parks, recreation, open space and trails, and indicates Master Plan goals that help with implementation, as depicted by a "●".

TABLE C.2: INTEGRATION WITH RELEVANT STATEWIDE PLANNING GOALS

Relevant Statewide Planning Goals	Master Plan Strategic Directions				
	Parks and Facilities	Open Space Greenways and Trails	Recreation Programs and Services	Maintenance and Stewardship	Collaborative Management and Partnerships
1. Citizen Involvement: To develop a citizen involvement program that insures the opportunity for citizens to be involved in all phases of the planning process.	●				●
2. Land Use Planning: To establish a land use planning process and policy framework as a basis for all decision and actions related to use of land and to assure an adequate factual base for such decisions and actions.	●			●	●
3. Agricultural Lands: To preserve and maintain agricultural lands.	●			●	●
5. Natural Resources, Scenic and Historic Areas, and Open Spaces: To protect natural resources and conserve scenic and historic areas and open spaces.	●	●	●	●	●
6. Air, Water and Land Resources Quality: To maintain and improve the quality of the air, water and land resources of the state.	●	●		●	●
8. Recreational Needs: To satisfy the recreational needs of the citizens of the state and visitors and, where appropriate, to provide for the siting of necessary recreational facilities including destination resorts.	●	●	●	●	●
11. Public Facilities and Services: To plan and develop a timely, orderly and efficient arrangement of public facilities and services to serve as a framework for urban and rural development.	●	●	●	●	●
12. Transportation: To provide and encourage a safe, convenient and economic transportation system.		●		●	●
14. Urbanization: To provide for an orderly and efficient transition from rural to urban land use, to accommodate urban population and urban employment inside urban growth boundaries, to ensure efficient use of land, and to provide for livable communities.	●	●	●	●	●

APPENDIX D:

Park Enhancement and Development Opportunities

APPENDIX D: PARK ENHANCEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The City of Forest Grove evaluated the design of existing City parks and undeveloped park properties to identify ways to enhance outdoor recreation at each site. Design options were summarized in a series of site diagrams that took into account the existing site conditions, needs and outreach feedback, partnership and programming opportunities, as well as systemwide recommendations. The site diagrams, illustrated with photos of design and programming examples, present design options for adding outdoor recreation amenities and facilities. For developed parks, these diagrams are intended to be used as a menu of park improvements with projects that can be funded over time or when facilities are replaced at the end of their lifecycles. For undeveloped sites or sites requiring more extensive renovations, additional site master planning will be needed to before construction, relying on these diagrams as guidelines for park development to ensure consistency with goals stated in this plan.

Note: Site diagrams were not created for special use parks with recreation buildings, such as the Forest Grove Aquatic Center and Senior Center, which lack space to add outdoor elements. See Chapter 4 for recommendations for these facilities.

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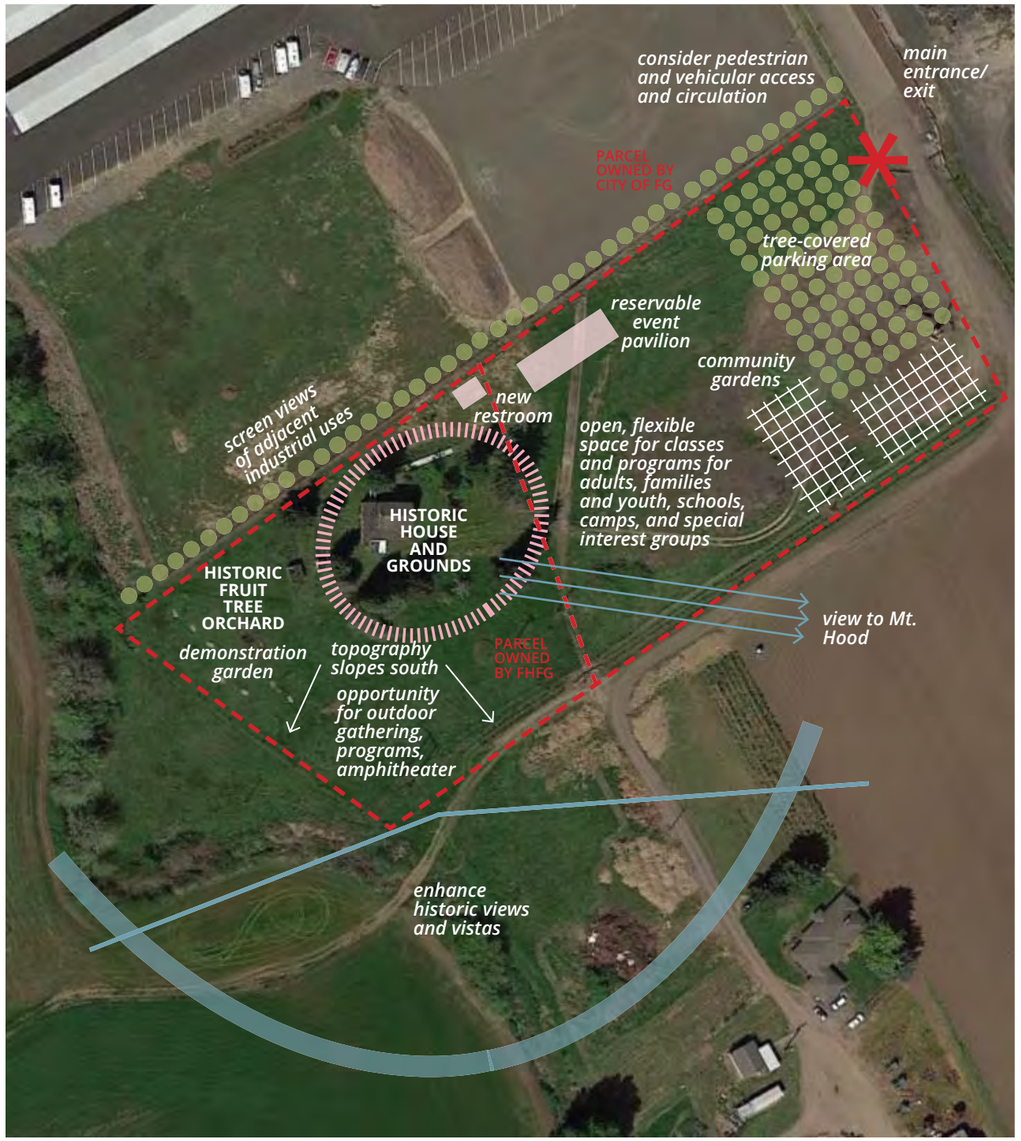
A.T. SMITH PARK

SITE ANALYSIS



ENTRANCE/ EXIT | PROPERTY BOUNDARIES | STRUCTURE/ FEATURE | HISTORIC RESOURCE OPPORTUNITY | TREES/ PLANTINGS | COMMUNITY GARDENS

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SIZE
5.4 acres
(3.2 owned by the City of Forest Grove)
(2.2 owned by the Friends of Historic Forest Grove (FHFG))

SITE DESCRIPTION
The A.T. Smith House and its surrounding landscape are located at the southern end of Forest Grove in the Carnation neighborhood. Bordered by industrial businesses to the north and agricultural land to the east, west, and south, this property contains a two-story, Greek Revival-style house that was built in 1854. The A.T. Smith House is the second oldest building in Forest Grove and in 1974 it was added to the National Register of Historic Places. The house and the 2.2 acres that surround it are owned by the Friends of Historic Grove, while the adjacent 3.2 acres of land is owned by the City of Forest Grove.

NEEDS AND OUTREACH FEEDBACK

SITE-SPECIFIC IDEAS
- Restroom facilities
- Parking
- Picnic areas

COMMUNITY-WIDE IDEAS
- Access improvements for parking, pedestrian and bicycles
- Coordination with School District and University on park use for educational opportunities
- Reservable community gathering spaces for cultural/social/special activities and events
- Greater variety of programs and facilities to serve all ages
- Increased recreation programming (summer camps, after-school, community events, concerts, and movies in the park)
- Revenue generating opportunities through facility rentals and programming

PROPOSED PARK DESIGN APPROACH

The A.T. Smith Historic Park has the potential to be an historic oasis that connects visitors to this site's past. With a variety of possible attractions such as an historic home, heritage orchards, community gardens, outdoor gathering spaces, a natural play area, an open-air shelter, and supporting outbuildings and furnishings, this park could provide local and visiting guests with a place to learn, play, grow, work, and celebrate.

NEW FACILITIES + FEATURES
- House Museum/Education Center
- Community Gathering Space
- Large Event Pavilion
- Fruit Tree Orchard
- Community Gardens
- Heritage Demonstration Gardens
- Amphitheater

PROGRAMS
- Museum and Park Tours
- Special Events
- Facility Rentals
- Environmental Education
- Historic Education and Interpretation
- Historical Re-enactments
- Pioneer Days
- Native American History Program
- Craft Programs and Demonstrations
- Outdoor Skills Program

DESIGN + PROGRAMMING EXAMPLES

POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

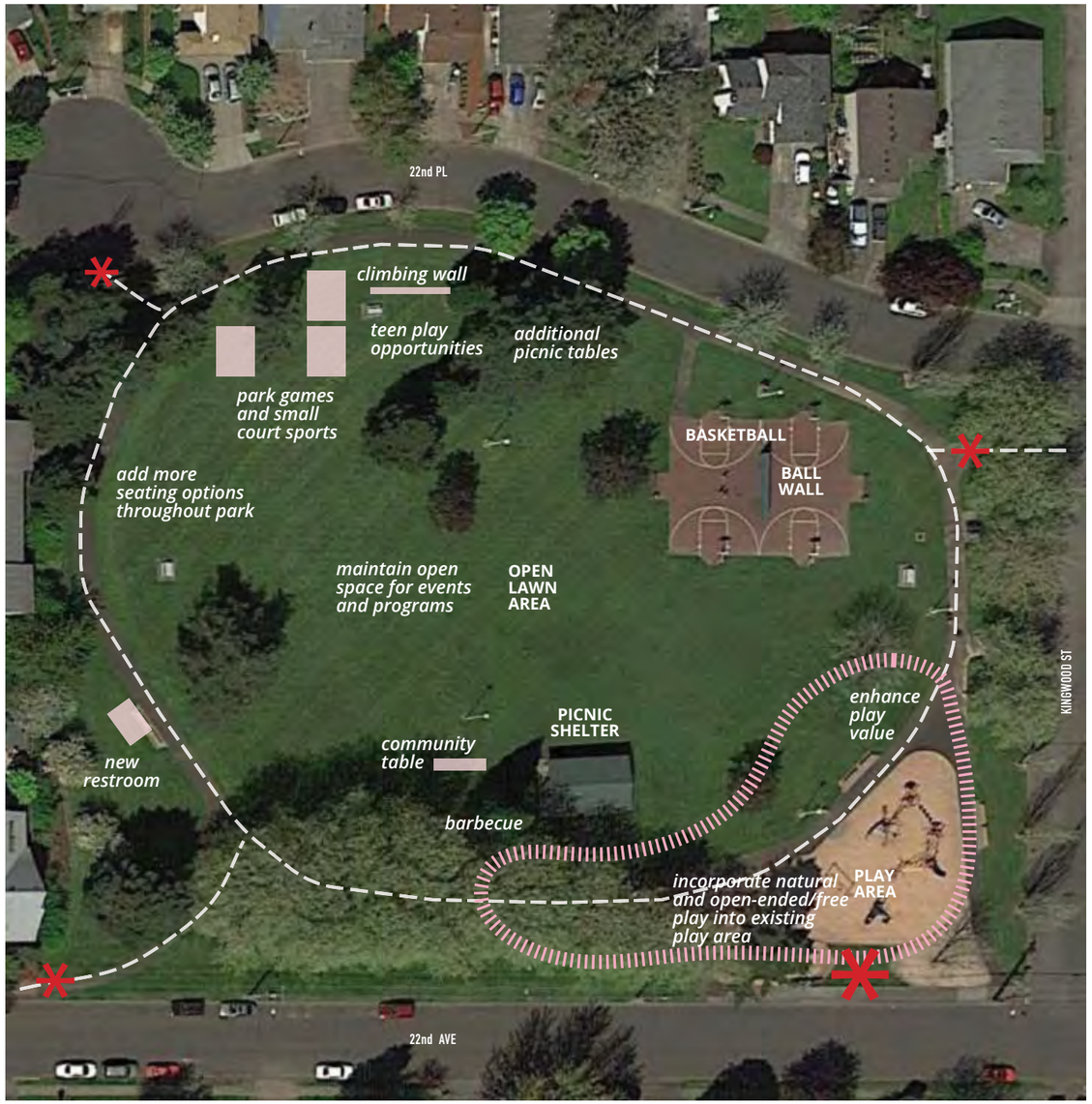
- The Friends of Historic Forest Grove in partnership with the City of Forest Grove
- Pacif c University
- Forest Grove School District
- Theater in the Grove
- Forest Grove Community Garden Org.
- Restore Oregon
- University of Oregon Historic Preservation Field School
- Dairy Creek Food Web
- State Historic Preservation Office
- Meyer Memorial Trust
- Keith Kinsman Foundation
- Local Wineries
- Volunteers

REVENUE GENERATING OPPORTUNITIES

- Facility Rentals
- Weddings and Other Outdoor Event Rentals
- Museum and Park Tours
- Camp Programs
- Education Programs
- Community Gardens
- Farm Market

BARD PARK

SITE ANALYSIS



EXISTING CONDITIONS

SIZE
2.8 acres

SITE DESCRIPTION
Bard Park is small neighborhood park located on the west side of Kingwood Street between 22nd Avenue and 22nd Place, a cul-de-sec that dead-ends at the park's northwest corner. Surrounded by a mix of single- and multi-family residences, this park's main entry is near the play area but it can be accessed from all four of its sides. There is one, short stretch of sidewalk adjacent to the play area on 22nd Avenue and on-street parking is allowed on all three streets surrounding the park.

Bard Park is characterized by a central open green lawn and clusters of existing trees. There are also two full size basketball courts, a basketball wall, a paved loop trail, a large play area, benches, barbecues, picnic tables, and a picnic shelter at the southern end.

NEEDS AND OUTREACH FEEDBACK

SITE-SPECIFIC IDEAS
- Play structures for younger children
- Play elements that are simple and safe

COMMUNITY-WIDE IDEAS
- Water play
- Reservable community gathering spaces for cultural/social/special activities and events
- Non-reservable community gathering spaces for families and informal activities (game tables, group seating, etc)
- Greater variety of programs and facilities to serve all ages
- Increased recreation programming (summer camps, after-school, health and f tness, community events, concerts, and movies in the park)
- Revenue generating opportunities through facility rentals and programming

PROPOSED PARK DESIGN APPROACH

Bard Park functions as a backyard to the multi-family housing that borders its west side and as a central gathering space for the single-family homes that surround its other sides. The park can be busy on weekends, the basketball courts and the basketball wall are very popular, and the play area gets a lot of use. The picnic shelter supports a Summer Meal Program sponsored by the School District.

The design approach builds on the park's success to make it even more comfortable, playful, and versatile than it already is. By adding a permanent restroom, natural play elements, natural planting areas, and small court games, as well as programming the space to accommodate a variety of everyday activities and special events, Bard Park could be an even more vibrant and diverse park for its local community.

NEW FACILITIES + FEATURES
- Permanent Restroom
- Community Table (for gathering, meeting, resting, talking, playing, eating)
- Picnic Tables/Barbecues
- Park Games/Small Court Sports (bocce, ping pong, badminton, horseshoes, volleyball)
- Natural Play Features
- Teen Play Features (climbing wall, small court sports, picnic shelter, parkour equipment, "hang out" spaces

PROGRAMS
- Summer Meal Program
- Summer Camps
- Health and Wellness Classes (park yoga, walking clubs, boot camp, stretching classes)
- Pop-Up Play (outdoor games, mobile playground van, loose parts to build with, hopscotch/sidewalk chalk games)
- Small Recurring Events (small concerts, dances, movies in the park, performance art)
- Everyday Events (outdoor reading room, game tables, horseshoes, bocce, ping pong)

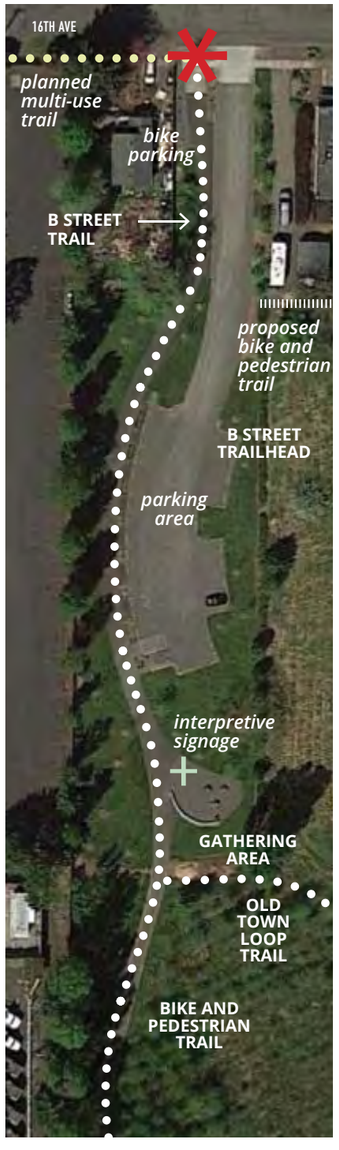
DESIGN + PROGRAMMING EXAMPLES

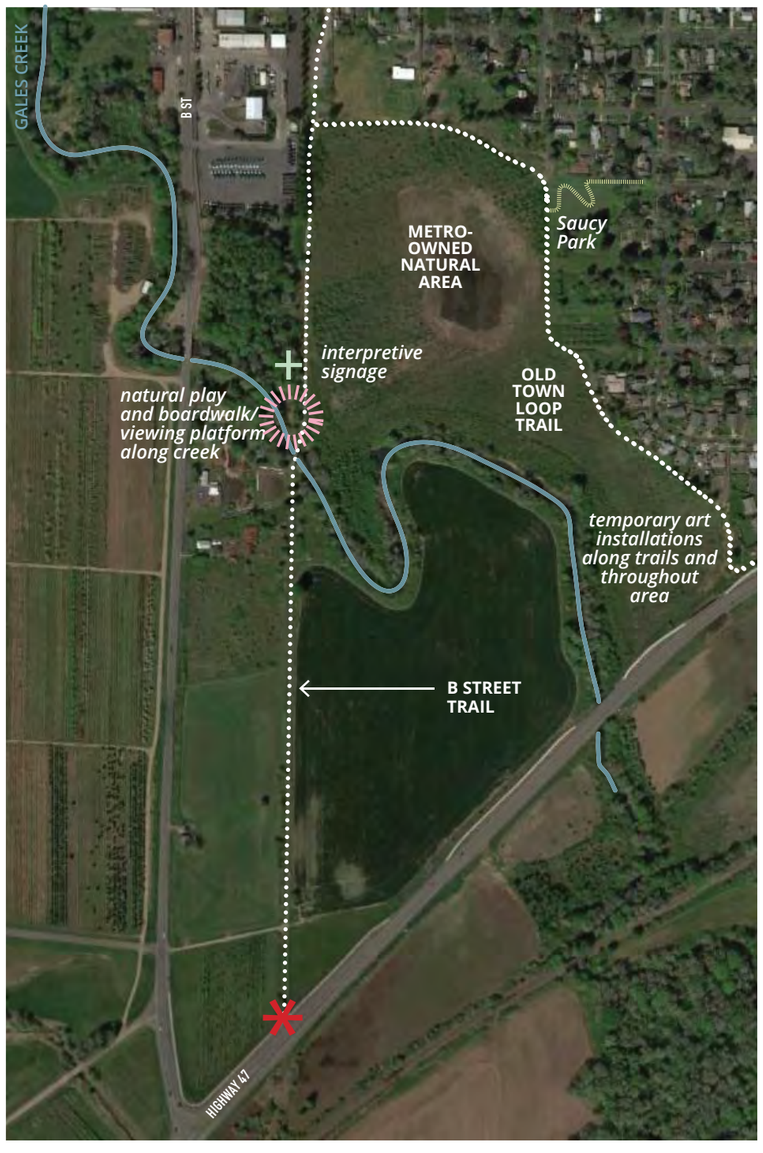
POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

- Forest Grove School District
- Local Summer Camp Organizations
- Health and Wellness Organizations
- Adopt-A-Park Program
- Local Neighborhood Groups
- Volunteers

B STREET TRAIL + TRAILHEAD

SITE ANALYSIS





ENTRANCE/ EXIT · (E) MULTI-USE TRAIL · (PR) MULTI-USE TRAIL · NATURAL PLAY OPPORTUNITY · INTERPRETIVE SIGN · CREEK

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SIZE
2.5 acres

SITE DESCRIPTION
The B Street Trail—which runs for approximately 3/4 of a mile between 16th Avenue and Route 47—is a 10-foot wide, asphalt path that crosses Gales Creek via a bridge and abuts a Metro-owned natural area. The trail is part of the city's Emerald Necklace, a series of trails that will eventually connect the west side of Forest Grove.

The B Street Trailhead is located off of 16th Avenue between Main Street and A Street and is comprised of a gravel entry road, a bicycle parking area, a sign that indicates the start of the trail, a 25-car gravel parking lot with one paved accessible stall, and a circular concrete seatwall surrounding a gravel area that contains three picnic tables.

NEEDS AND OUTREACH FEEDBACK

SITE-SPECIFIC IDEAS
- Landscaping improvements
- Restroom facilities
- Safety improvements
- Access improvements for parking, pedestrians, and bicycles

COMMUNITY-WIDE IDEAS
- More multi-use trails that connect community destinations and nature

PROPOSED PARK DESIGN APPROACH

The B Street Trail is a well-traveled, well-loved pathway that provides an important recreational connection between the south end of downtown and the regional multi-use trail. While the trail is popular, there are some opportunities to enhance what currently exists on this site.

Interpretive signs that highlight the surrounding natural areas would be a nice addition to the Trailhead plaza. In addition to providing information, these panels would help visitors develop a better understanding of the features and stories of Forest Grove's natural environment. Interpretive signs would also augment the access point to Gales Creek, which is directly north of the bridge.

There is also an opportunity for a boardwalk and viewing platform that overlooks the water's edge, as well as some natural play features under the trees and along the banks of the creek. These amenities would encourage visitors to experience the wooded, creekside area in a way that complements the environment and fosters an appreciation for Forest Grove's natural habitat.

NEW FACILITIES + FEATURES
- Interpretive Signage at Trailhead Plaza
- Interpretive Signage at Gales Creek
- Boardwalk and Overlook along Gales Creek
- Natural Play Features at Gales Creek
- Connection to Multi-Use Trail
- Temporary Art Installations

PROGRAMS
- Environmental Education and Interpretation
- Outdoor Skills Program
- Summer Biking Adventure Camp
- Rotating Art Installation Program

DESIGN + PROGRAMMING EXAMPLES

PHOTO CREDIT: MACKENZIE

PHOTO CREDIT: MACKENZIE

PHOTO CREDIT: MACKENZIE

PHOTO CREDIT: MACKENZIE

POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

- Metro
- Clean Water Services
- Forest Grove School District
- Local Summer Camp Organizations
- Environmental Education Groups
- Art Organizations
- Adopt-A-Park Program

FOREST GLEN PARK, TRAIL, + OPEN SPACE

SITE ANALYSIS

ENTRANCE/ EXIT · (E) MULTI-USE TRAIL · (PR) MULTI-USE TRAIL · (E) PAVED PATH · PROGRAMMING OPPORTUNITY · TREES/ PLANTINGS

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SIZE
51.3 acres

SITE DESCRIPTION
Forest Glen Park is a large park comprised of three main areas: an upper park, a lower park, and a large section of open space and trail.

The Upper Park is located on the residential corner of Circle Crest Way and Forest Gale Drive. It contains an open lawn area, a small tot lot, and a split rail fence that overlooks a drainage ravine. The Lower Park is located along Gales Creek Road and is a circular bowl surrounded by steep sloping sides. Local neighbors use the intermittent trail that links the upper park to the lower one, but the informal path is not suitable for all ages and abilities.

The park contains an open, grassy space with two basketball courts, a ball wall, a ballf eld backstop, a small wetland area in the center, a barbecue, and a paved path loop around the entire site that connects to the open space and adjacent neighborhoods, and provides expansive views to the surrounding agricultural f elds. In the winter, this lower park acts as the primary sledding hill for the entire community. The Open Space portion is a large swath of forested land that runs along the southern and western edge of the City limits and connects the park to the adjacent residential areas and other future trails.

NEEDS AND OUTREACH FEEDBACK

SITE-SPECIFIC IDEAS
- Park provides ballf eld access in underserved area
- Park lacks rectangular sports f elds

COMMUNITY-WIDE IDEAS
- Improvements for parking, pedestrians, and bicycles
- Non-reservable community gathering spaces
- More multi-use trails
- Enhanced play areas and play structures

PROPOSED PARK DESIGN APPROACH

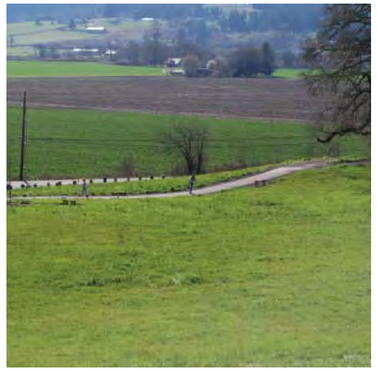
UPPER PARK
The location of the upper park provides the surrounding neighborhood with a tranquil spot to gather and play. By adding in a wider variety of play features—including natural play elements—and picnic tables and seating for relaxing, this park could be more dynamic and engaging.

LOWER PARK
Because of its unique topography and siting, there is a range of possible features that could work the lower bowl, including an amphitheater/stage for outdoor community events and an active site for rectangular-f eld sports and outdoor games. However, the small central wetland, the lack of good parking opportunities, and the desire to maintain the park's openness for winter sledding makes these designs less feasible. For these reasons, this approach includes maintaining the basketball courts, ball wall, and barbecue and adding picnic tables, seating/viewing options, a set of stairs for staircase workouts, a series of slides that capitalize on the site's terrain natural plantings, and some custom play features that embrace and take advantage of the site's topography.

NEW FACILITIES + FEATURES
- Natural Play Features
- Seatwalls/Benches
- Picnic Tables
- Play Features
- Staircase for Stair-Climbing Workouts
- Slides along Steep Terrain
- Natural Plantings

PROGRAMS
- Health and Wellness Classes
- Pop-Up Play
- Small Recurring Events
- Outdoor Skills
- Environmental Education and Interpretation

DESIGN + PROGRAMMING EXAMPLES



POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

- Health and Wellness Organizations
- Biking/Hiking Organizations
- Environmental Education Groups
- Adopt-A-Park Program
- Local Neighborhood Groups
- Volunteers

HAZEL SILLS PARK

SITE ANALYSIS

ENTRANCE/ EXIT · FENCE · (PR) PAVED PATH · PLAY AREA OPPORTUNITY · TREES/ PLANTINGS

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SIZE
0.5 acres

SITE DESCRIPTION
Hazel Sills Park is a very small neighborhood park located along the heavily-trafficked Willamina Avenue. It can also be accessed via a pathway on the north side that connects Bonnie Lane to Primrose Lane. It is surrounded by residences on three sides is located within a 1/4 mile radius of Forest Grove High School.

The park is characterized by open green lawn space, a cluster of existing trees, and a small area with playground equipment.

NEEDS AND OUTREACH FEEDBACK

COMMUNITY-WIDE IDEAS
- Access improvements for pedestrians and bicycles
- Water play
- Non-reservable community gathering spaces for families and informal activities (game tables, group seating, etc)
- Enhanced play areas and play structures, especially for younger children
- Increased recreation programming (health and f tness, community events, concerts, and movies in the park)

PROPOSED PARK DESIGN APPROACH

The proposed design approach for Hazel Sills Park includes enhancing the park's curb appeal, screening it from its adjacent residential neighbors, expanding its play value, adding a sidewalk and split rail fence on the park's south side, and incorporating amenities such as seating options, picnic tables, open lawn space, a loop path, a free library, and open-ended play opportunities.

NEW FACILITIES + FEATURES
- Sidewalk along Willamina Avenue
- Fence/Entry Points along Willamina Avenue
- Seatwalls/Benches
- Picnic Tables
- Paved Path
- Natural Play Features
- Sand and Water Play
- Loose Parts (materials that can be moved, carried, combined, redesigned, lined up, taken apart and put back together in multiple ways)
- Free Library (glass-fronted boxes full of free books and a sign saying "take a book, leave a book")
- Natural Plantings/Screening

PROGRAMS
- Health and Wellness Classes (park yoga, walking clubs, boot camp, stretching classes)
- Pop-Up Play (outdoor games, loose parts to build with, hopscotch)
- Small Recurring Events (small concerts, dances, movies in the park, play or performance art)
- Everyday Events (outdoor reading room)

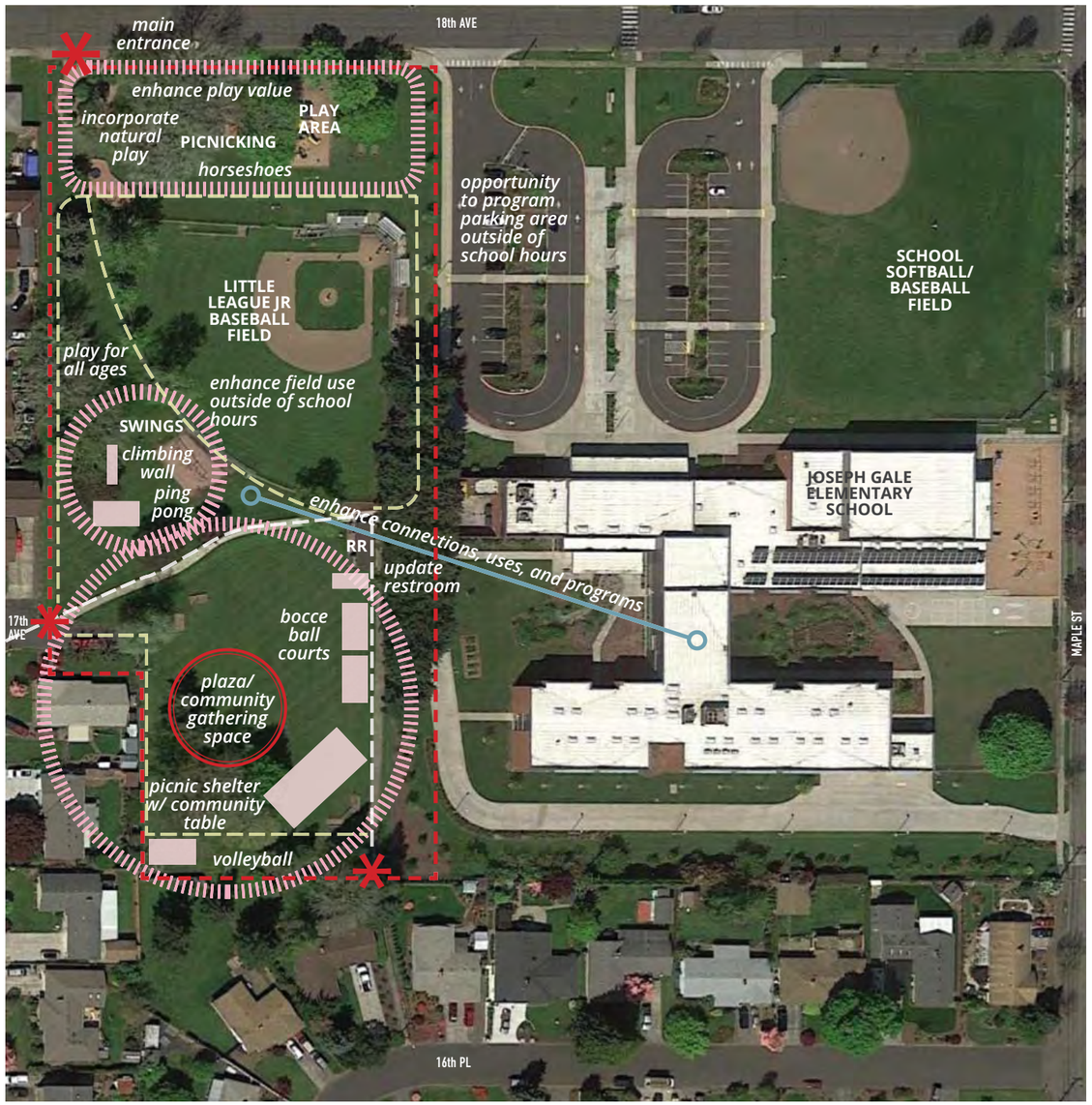
DESIGN + PROGRAMMING EXAMPLES

POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

- Local Neighborhood Groups
- Volunteers

JOSEPH GALE PARK

SITE ANALYSIS



EXISTING CONDITIONS

SIZE
3.8 acres

SITE DESCRIPTION
Joseph Gale Park is small neighborhood park adjacent to the Joseph Gale Elementary School and located between Kingwood Street and Maple Street and between 18th Avenue and 16th Place. The park is surrounded by residences on two sides and can be accessed from the north edge, from the dead end street to the west, from a small path between two houses to the south, and from the school grounds.

The park is characterized by open green lawn areas and clusters of existing trees and contains a small area with playground equipment, a swing set, restrooms, picnic tables, and a barbecue. There is also a Junior Baseball Field and two T-Ball stops that are used very frequently between April and mid-June.

NEEDS AND OUTREACH FEEDBACK

SITE-SPECIFIC IDEAS
- The site provides access to recreation facilities in east Forest Grove where few parks exist

COMMUNITY-WIDE IDEAS
- Enhanced play area
- More small group/family activity areas for conversations and gathering (game tables, outdoor ping pong, grouped seating areas)
- Improved sports f elds and support facilities
- Improved maintenance of sports f elds
- Improved coordination/scheduling with School District for sports f elds use
- Improved coordination with School District for park use related to education and recreation
- Increased/more diverse recreation programming (summer camps, after school programs, health and f tness programs, community events, concerts, and movies in the park)
- More revenue generating opportunities

PROPOSED PARK DESIGN APPROACH

Joseph Gale Park has the potential to be a vibrant, vital social space for both the school community and the surrounding residential neighborhood. A combination of ballf elds; large open areas for gathering, games, and outdoor learning; and small, intimate areas for play and relaxation, would facilitate a wide variety of everyday activities, as well as special events.

NEW FACILITIES + FEATURES
- Plaza/Community Gathering Space
- Picnic Shelter/Outdoor Classroom (for gathering, meeting, resting, talking, playing, eating, teaching, learning)
- Picnic Tables
- Park Games/Courts (horseshoes, bocce, volleyball, ping pong)
- Natural Play Area (integrated into existing play area)
- Climbing Wall
- Paved Path

PROGRAMS
- Health and Wellness Classes (park yoga, walking clubs, boot camp, stretching classes)
- Summer Camps
- Pop-Up Play (outdoor games, mobile playground van, loose parts to build with, hopscotch)
- Small Recurring Events (small concerts, dances, movies in the park, play or performance art)
- Everyday Events (outdoor reading room, game tables, giant chess board, bocce, ping pong)

DESIGN + PROGRAMMING EXAMPLES

POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

- There is an opportunity for the School District to team with the YMCA and the City to provide after school and recreation programming in the vacant second f oor of the school building
- The School District could also partner with the local Little League organization to program the ballf elds after school hours and on weekends
- Local Neighborhood Groups
- Volunteers

REVENUE GENERATING OPPORTUNITIES

- Picnic Shelter Rentals
- School Rentals for Educational Opportunities
- Recreation Program Fees
- Sports Field Use Fees
- Farmer's Market
- Food Carts

KNOX RIDGE PARK

SITE ANALYSIS

ENTRANCE/ EXIT — (E) PAVED PATH — PLAY AREA OPPORTUNITY — PICNICKING OPPORTUNITY

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SIZE
0.4 acres

SITE DESCRIPTION
Knox Ridge Park is a small neighborhood park on in west Forest Grove. The park is surrounded by single-family residences and has an expansive view to agricultural land to the west. The park's main access point is from the sidewalk at Strasburg Drive, where on-street parking is available for those arriving in vehicles.

The park is characterized by a lawn area, perimeter plantings, a paved path, and a tot lot and swing set. Benches and one picnic table are provided at the west end of the park with views to the Coast Range.

NEEDS AND OUTREACH FEEDBACK

COMMUNITY-WIDE IDEAS
- Water play
- Non-reservable community gathering spaces for families and informal activities
- Enhanced play areas and play structures, especially for younger children
- Increased recreation programming (after-school, health and f tness, community events, movies in the park)

PROPOSED PARK DESIGN APPROACH

Knox Ridge Park provides the surrounding neighborhood with a place for young children to play and for people to sit and take in the pastoral views. Even though this pocket park is small, it can still offer residents a unique experience. The design approach for this site includes a diverse plant palette, natural play features, loose parts, a free library, and comfortable places to relax and watch the sunset.

NEW FACILITIES + FEATURES
- Seatwalls/Benches
- Picnic Tables
- Shade Canopy
- Natural Play Area w/ sand and water play and loose parts (materials that can be moved, carried, combined, redesigned, lined up, taken apart and put back together in multiple ways)
- Free Library (glass-fronted boxes full of free books and a sign saying "take a book, leave a book")
- Natural Plantings

PROGRAMS
- Health and Wellness Classes (park yoga, walking clubs, boot camp, stretching classes)
- Pop-Up Play (outdoor games, mobile playground van, loose parts to build with, hopscotch)
- Small Recurring Events (small concerts, dances, movies in the park, play or performance art)
- Everyday Events (outdoor reading room)

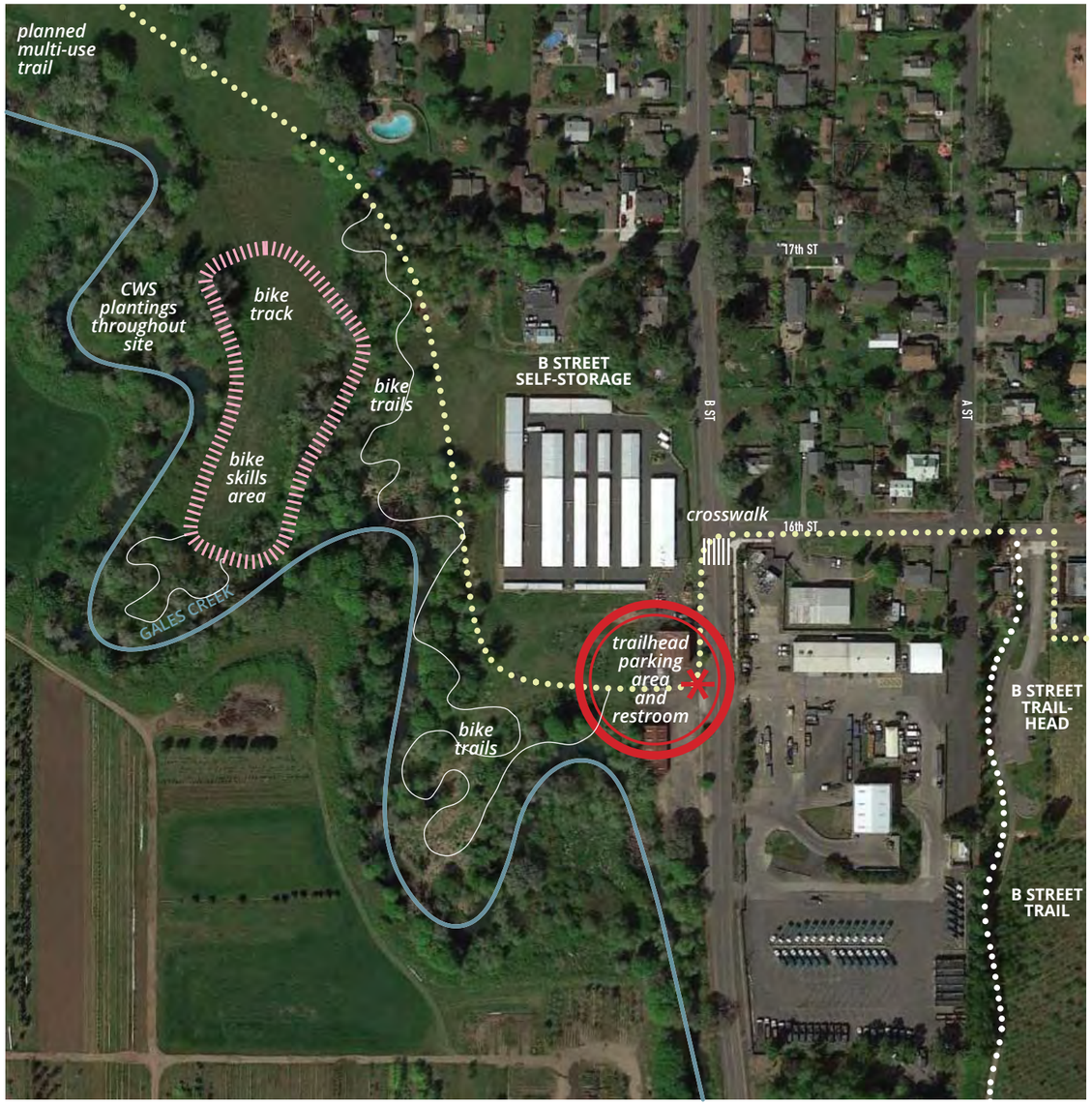
DESIGN + PROGRAMMING EXAMPLES

POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

- Local Neighborhood Groups
- Adopt-A-Park Program
- Volunteers

KYLE PARK

SITE ANALYSIS



EXISTING CONDITIONS

SIZE
7.5 acres

SITE DESCRIPTION
The Kyle Recreation Area is an undeveloped park site located along Gales Creek, just west of B Street and the B Street Self-Storage facility. In addition to the adjacent storage buildings, there are also two Forest Grove Light & Power buildings that are used by the City at the site's street frontage. The site is located only 800 feet away from the B Street Trailhead, which is just east along 16th Street.

The site, which is currently accessed via the gravel parking lots at the Light & Power buildings, is characterized by open lawn areas, and riparian vegetation abutting the creek, and deciduous tree canopies that are scattered across the property.

NEEDS AND OUTREACH FEEDBACK

COMMUNITY-WIDE IDEAS
- Improvements for parking, pedestrians, and bicycles
- More multi-use trails that connect community destinations and nature
- Greater variety of programs and facilities to serve all ages
- Increased recreation programming (summer camps, after-school, health and f tness, community events)
- Revenue generating opportunities through facility rentals and programming

PROPOSED PARK DESIGN APPROACH

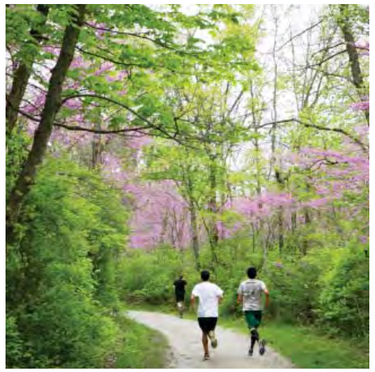
The vision for this site is to develop it as an open space greenway that provides a range of bicycling opportunities for people of all ages and abilities. The recommended regional loop trail will connect this area to the B Street Trail and other walkable/bikable trails, making it a desirable a stop along the way. Equipped with bike trails, a bike skills area, and a bike track, this park could be built using volunteer labor, donated materials, local construction companies, and the city's construction oversight.

Because of its location along the creek, this park could also have a strong natural resource component and could provide Clean Water Services with another large planting area for native and riparian vegetation and habitat.

NEW FACILITIES + FEATURES
- Trailhead
- Parking Area
- Bike Trails
- Bike Skills Park
- Bike Track (relocated from Lincoln Park)
- Native Planting and Habitat Areas

PROGRAMS
- Environmental Education and Interpretation
- Outdoor Skills Program
- Bike Skills Camps
- Summer Biking Adventure Camp

DESIGN + PROGRAMMING EXAMPLES

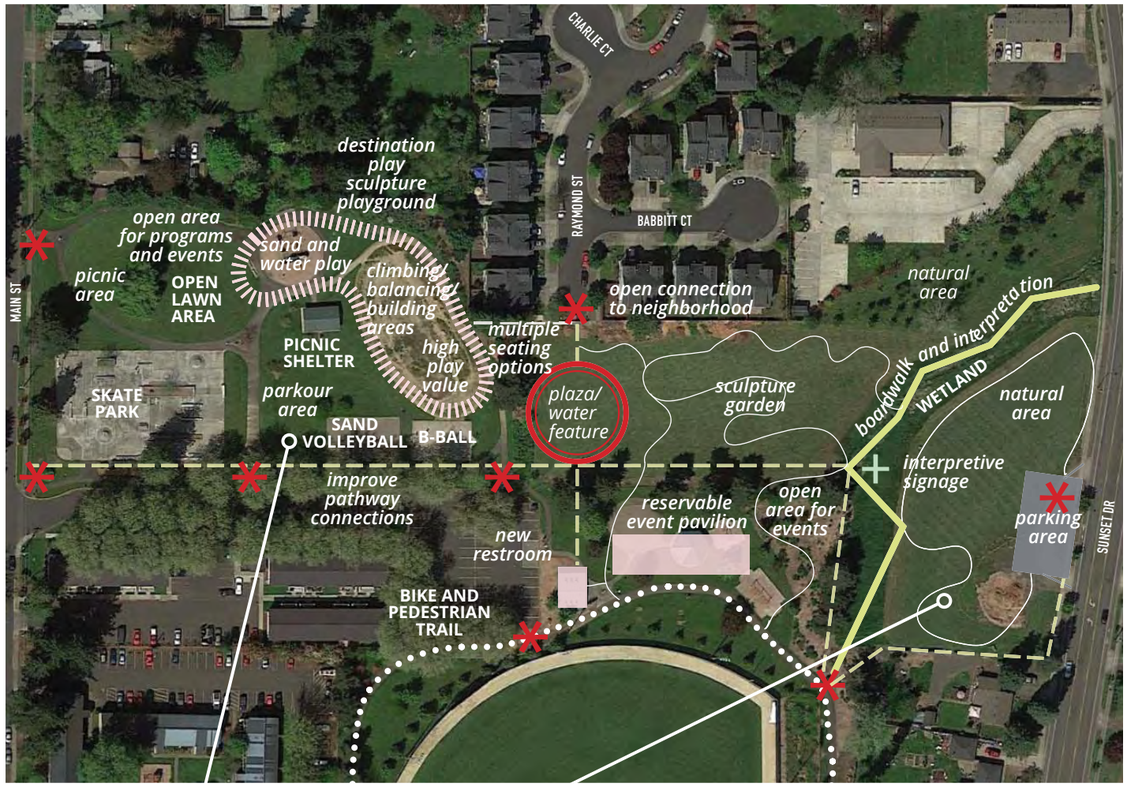


POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

- Biking/Hiking Organizations
- Clean Water Services
- Forest Grove School District
- Local Summer Camp Organizations
- Environmental Education Groups
- Volunteers

LINCOLN PARK

SITE ANALYSIS



ENTRANCE/ EXIT
(E) MULTI-USE TRAIL
(PR) PAVED PATH
PLAY AREA OPPORTUNITY
COMMUNITY GATHERING OPPORTUNITY
(PR) SOFT SURFACE TRAIL
STRUCTURE/ FEATURE
PARKING
(PR) BOARDWALK

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SIZE
25.8 acres (entire park)
8.75 acres (northern portion)

SITE DESCRIPTION
Lincoln Park is a large community park located in the center of Forest Grove, just north of the Aquatics Center and Pacif c University. The park can be accessed from Main Street, Sunset Drive, Pacif c University, and Raymond Street to the north.

The northwest part of the park contains a skate park, a BMX park, a small playground, a picnic shelter, an open lawn area with a large weeping willow tree, a basketball court, a sand volleyball court, and a paved loop trail that connects the various elements to each other and the rest of the park. The south central portion of this area contains a restroom, a small shelter, two swing sets, and a walking/biking path. The north central/ east portions are undeveloped and contain open, sweeping f elds of tall grass, and a 3.2 acre wetland area.

NEEDS AND OUTREACH FEEDBACK

SITE-SPECIFIC IDEAS
- The site provides access to recreation facilities in central and east Forest Grove
- Improved lighting, safety, and access

COMMUNITY-WIDE IDEAS
- Improvements for parking, pedestrians, and bicycles
- Additional sports f elds
- Water play
- Reservable community gathering spaces for cultural/social/special activities and events
- Non-reservable community gathering spaces for families and informal activities
- Enhanced play areas and play structures, especially for younger children
- Greater variety of programs and facilities to serve all ages
- Increased recreation programming
- Revenue generating opportunities

PROPOSED PARK DESIGN APPROACH

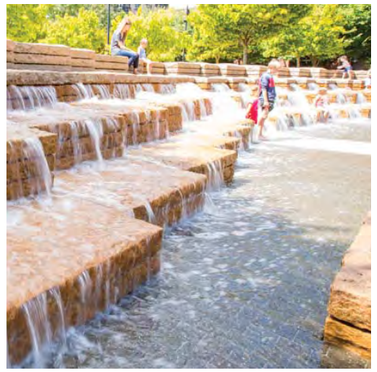
The northern end of Lincoln Park has the opportunity to function as the outdoor living room for all of Forest Grove. With a wide variety of engaging outdoor amenities, this park could become the public gathering space for everyday activities and special events.

This approach recommends moving the BMX Park to the Kyle Recreation Area and adding a destination sculptural play area in its place. It also recommends adding a new parkour practice area geared towards teens and adults, a hardscape plaza/gathering space that doubles as a playful water feature on warm days, an outdoor sculpture park that showcases new and exciting works in a public space, and an open connection to the adjacent neighborhood to the north. The natural area is enhanced with a boardwalk over the wetland, interpretive panels, and soft surface paths through the meadow area. This approach also recommends adding a small parking lot, upgrading the existing bathroom, and replacing the central small shelter with a rentable open-air pavilion for large events and weddings.

NEW FACILITIES + FEATURES
- Plaza/Community Gathering Space/Water Feature
- Reservable Event Pavilion w/ Community Table
- Public Art Sculpture Park
- Destination Sculpture Playground
- Water Play
- Parkour Area/Park Games/Courts
- Wetland Boardwalk and Interpretive Signage
- Seatwalls/Benches/Picnic Tables
- Paved Walkways/Soft Surface Trails
- Small Parking Area

PROGRAMS
- Arts and Culture Events and Programs
- Environmental Education
- Health and Wellness Classes
- Pop-Up Play
- Small Recurring/Everyday Events
- Summer Camps/Art Camps/Sports Camps
- Social Groups and Gathering Events
- Pacif c University Athletics
- Recreational Sports

DESIGN + PROGRAMMING EXAMPLES

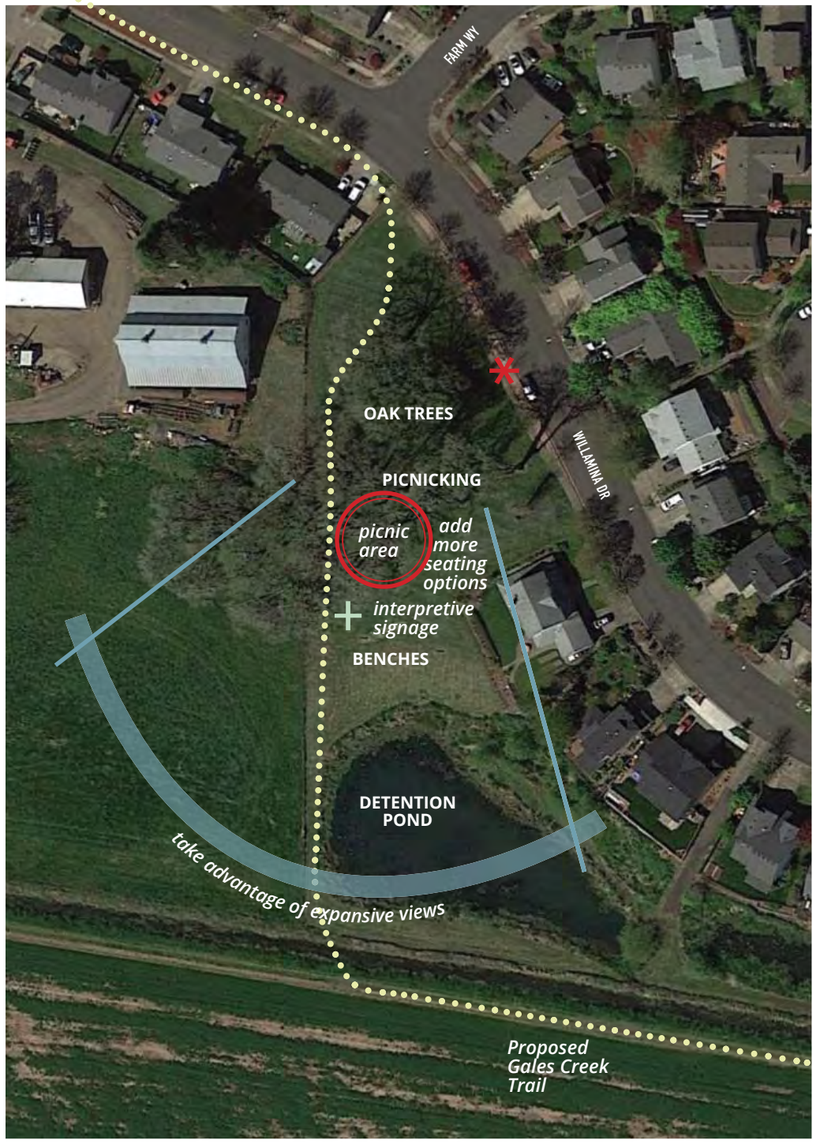


POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

- Pacif c University
- Sports Leagues
- Chamber of Commerce
- Local Businesses
- Local Summer Camp Organizations
- Volunteers

REUTER FARM PARK

SITE ANALYSIS



ENTRANCE/ EXIT · (PR) MULTI-USE TRAIL · PICNICKING OPPORTUNITY · INTERPRETIVE SIGN

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SIZE
2.1 acres

SITE DESCRIPTION
Reuter Farms Park is located toward the west edge of the city limits by the intersection of Willamina Drive and Farm Way. It is surrounded by residential development to the north and east and agricultural land to the south and the west.

The park is characterized by a sloping hill and a stand of oak trees that provides lots of shade and gives the park a unique character. There is also an adjacent barn that makes the site feel rural and pastoral. There is one picnic table and three benches that overlook the detention pond and farming properties on the south side of the park's hill.

NEEDS AND OUTREACH FEEDBACK

SITE-SPECIFIC IDEAS
- This park could be developed to address unmet needs in nearby underserved areas

COMMUNITY-WIDE IDEAS
- Non-reservable community gathering spaces for families
- More multi-use trails that connect community destinations and nature

PROPOSED PARK DESIGN APPROACH

Part of Reuter Farm Park's charm is in the simplicity of its amenities: a hill, a group of oak trees, and a place to sit and take in the view. In order to maintain this uncomplicated character, the recommended design approach is to preserve the health of the existing oak trees by developing an oak tree replacement plan for when certain trees need to be removed and adding more picnic tables and benches for the neighborhood and trail users.

NEW FACILITIES + FEATURES
- Picnic Tables
- Benches
- Interpretive Signage
- Connection to Multi-Use Trail

PROGRAMS
- Neighborhood Gatherings
- Small Recurring Events
- Cultural Landscape Interpretation

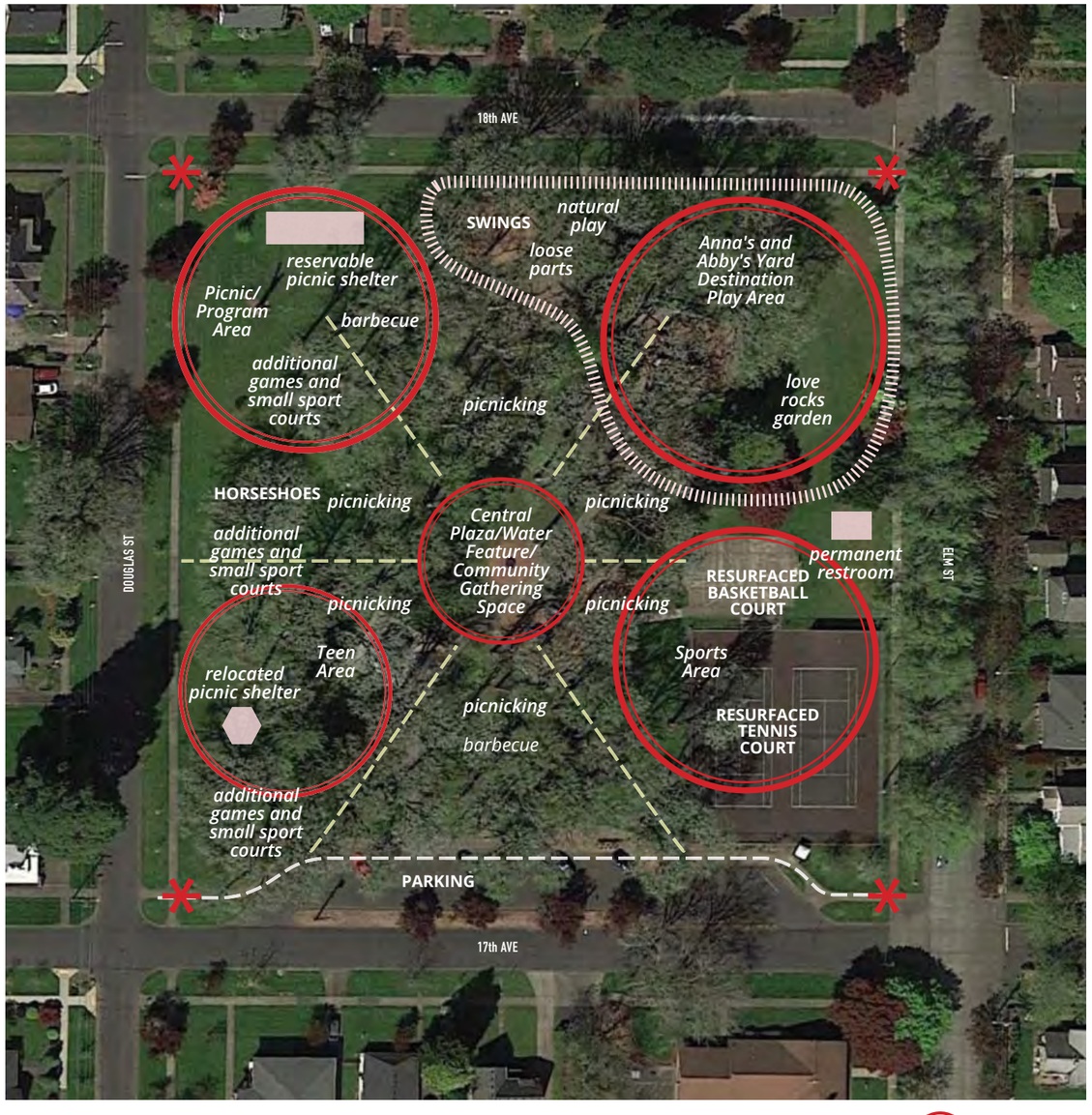
DESIGN + PROGRAMMING EXAMPLES

POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

- Tree Preservation Organizations
- Local Neighborhood Groups
- Adopt-A-Park Program
- Volunteers

ROGERS PARK

SITE ANALYSIS



ENTRANCE/ EXIT | STRUCTURE/ FEATURE | (E) PAVED PATH | (PR) PAVED PATH | PLAY AREA OPPORTUNITY | PARK ZONES

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SIZE
3.7 acres

SITE DESCRIPTION
Rogers Park is neighborhood park located in Downtown Forest Grove between 17th and 18th Avenues and by Elm and Douglas Streets. The park is surrounded by single-family residences and several churches, and sidewalks are provided along all four frontage streets. The park's main access point is along 17th Avenue, where a small parking lot with angle-in parking is provided.

This park is characterized by a mature tree canopy and has two tennis courts, a basketball court, a portable restroom, lawn areas, two small play structures, horseshoe pits, paved pathways, a small shelter, picnic tables, and barbecues. Many people consider Rogers Park their favorite park in the system, and on hot, sunny days it is f lled with people playing sports and games, picnicking, listening to music, and enjoying the cooler temperatures under the park's Oregon White Oak trees.

NEEDS AND OUTREACH FEEDBACK

SITE-SPECIFIC IDEAS
- Improved restroom facilities
- Social gathering spaces for adults
- Resurfaced tennis/basketball courts

COMMUNITY-WIDE IDEAS
- Water play
- Reservable community gathering spaces for cultural/social/special activities and events
- Non-reservable community gathering spaces for families and informal activities (game tables, group seating, etc)
- Enhanced play areas and play structures, especially for younger children
- Greater variety of programs and facilities to serve all ages
- Increased recreation programming (summer camps, after-school, health and f tness, community events, concerts, and movies in the park)
- Revenue generating opportunities through facility rentals and programming

PROPOSED PARK DESIGN APPROACH

An exciting new addition is already planned for the northeast quadrant of Rogers Park. Anna and Abby's Yard will be a memorial play area built to honor two sisters—Anna Dieter and Abby Robinson—who loved to run, skip, laugh, climb, swing, jump, explore, and dream in the parks and yards of Forest Grove. The play area will include a custom-designed play structure, hills and mounds, large boulders, f owers, and places for children and adults to get lost in their imagination.

In addition to Anna and Abby's Yard, there are several opportunities that could make this park even more dynamic and engaging and help it meet a wider range of community needs. By adding a central hardscape plaza with seatwalls and spray jets for intermittent water play, a permanent restroom, a reservable picnic shelter, waterwise plantings, natural play features, additional games and small sport courts, and seating options, this park could become a destination for the entire community.

NEW FACILITIES + FEATURES
- Anna and Abby's Yard Play Area
- Natural Play Features
- Central Plaza w/ Water Spray Ground
- Permanent Restroom
- Reservable Picnic Shelter
- Additional Picnic Tables and Seating Options
- Additional Games and Small Sport Courts
- Waterwise Plantings

PROGRAMS
- Health and Wellness Classes (park yoga, walking clubs, boot camp)
- Summer Camps
- Pop-Up Play (outdoor games, mobile playground van, loose parts, musical instruments)
- Small Recurring Events (small concerts, dances, play or performance art)
- Everyday Events

DESIGN + PROGRAMMING EXAMPLES

POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

- Anna and Abby's Yard Foundation
- Local Businesses
- Health and Wellness Organizations
- Local Summer Camp Organizations
- Local Neighborhood Groups
- Adopt-A-Park Program
- Volunteers

SAUCY PARK

SITE ANALYSIS

ENTRANCE/ EXIT · (E) MULTI-USE TRAIL · (PR) PAVED PATH · PLAY AREA OPPORTUNITY · PICNIC OPPORTUNITY · INTERPRETIVE SIGN

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SIZE
0.5 acres

SITE DESCRIPTION
Saucy Park is a very small, undeveloped site at the intersection of 14th Avenue and Birch Street in the historic district of Painter's Woods. Situated between a residential lot and the Metro-owned natural area, this park is a sloped piece of property that connects the neighborhood to both existing and proposed bike and pedestrian trails, including the planned Emerald Necklace.

The park is characterized by open lawn and extensive, west-facing views, as well as the borrowed shade from the adjacent residence's tree canopy.

NEEDS AND OUTREACH FEEDBACK

COMMUNITY-WIDE IDEAS
- Improvements for parking, pedestrians, and bicycles
- More multi-use trails that connect community destinations and nature

PROPOSED PARK DESIGN APPROACH

Saucy Park will provide an important connection along the bike and pedestrian trails that will run throughout the city. It could also be the place where neighbors gather to enjoy a picnic, take in the view, and watch the sunset. It could also be the place where kids come to climb on logs, run through a meadow, and learn about the natural resources below. By adding in picnic tables, seating options, interpretive features, a natural play area, natural plantings, and rotating art installations that bring awareness to the natural surroundings, Saucy Park could become a well-used and well-loved site.

NEW FACILITIES + FEATURES
- Picnic Tables
- Seating Options
- Natural Play Features
- Natural Plantings
- Interpretive Signage and Features
- Temporary Art Installations

PROGRAMS
- Environmental Education
- Rotating Art Installation Program
- Neighborhood Summer Camp
- Health and Wellness Classes
- Small Recurring Events
- Stargazing/Full Moon Walks

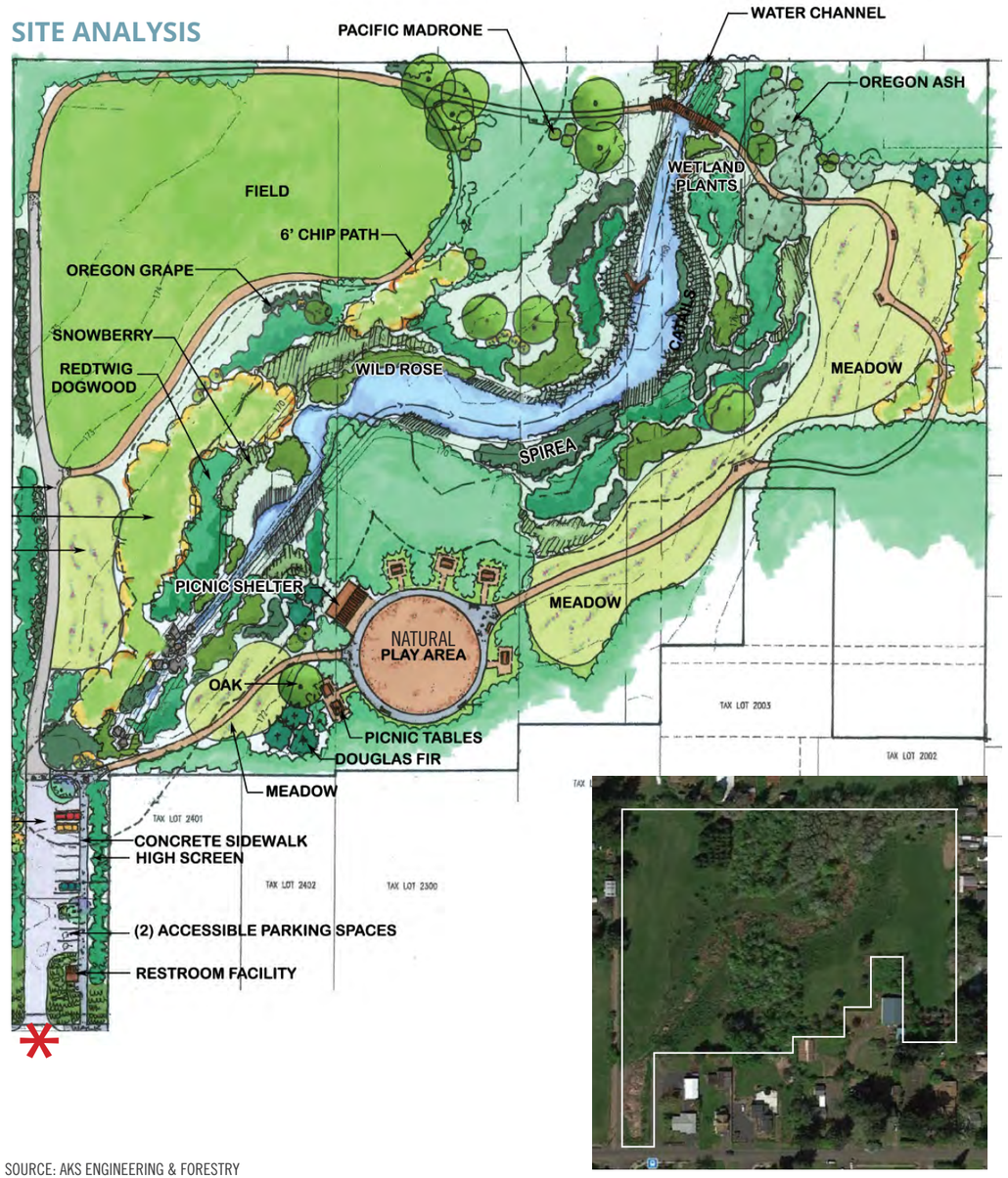
DESIGN + PROGRAMMING EXAMPLES

POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

- Environmental Education Organizations
- Art Organizations
- Forest Grove School District
- Volunteers

STITES NATURE PARK

SITE ANALYSIS



SOURCE: AKS ENGINEERING & FORESTRY

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SIZE
10.9 acres

SITE DESCRIPTION
Stites Nature Park is currently a large, undeveloped piece of land set behind the residential properties that border 26th Avenue, Firwood Lane, and Willamina Avenue. The site is characterized by an intermittent water channel, open lawn areas, and stands of deciduous trees. At this time, the only way to access the site from public property is at its southwest corner along 26th Avenue.

NEEDS AND OUTREACH FEEDBACK

SITE-SPECIFIC IDEAS
- This park could be developed to address unmet needs in nearby underserved areas
- Group covered shelter
- Space for overnight for outdoor science education camp
- Interpretive f ora/fauna signage

COMMUNITY-WIDE IDEAS
- Improvements for parking, pedestrians, and bicycles
- Better coordination with School District on park use for educational opportunities
- Reservable community gathering spaces for cultural/social/special activities and events
- More multi-use trails that connect community destinations and nature
- Enhanced play areas and play structures, especially for younger children
- Greater variety of programs and facilities to serve all ages
- Revenue generating opportunities through facility rentals and programming

PROPOSED PARK DESIGN APPROACH

The City has developed a master plan for the Stites site, which takes advantage of the sites natural feature and bolsters it with some essential park amenities.

The new plan (shown to the left) includes a 12-stall parking area at the park's main entrance with a permanent restroom and an informational kiosk. The larger park is divided into two main sections, one on the east side of the water channel and one on the west side. The east side is more developed and consists of walking paths, a reservable picnic shelter, picnic areas, a natural play area, open swaths of meadow, plants from an ash forest wetland plant community, viewpoints and overlooks, and interpretive signage. The west side of the park contains walking paths, f elds of open grass, plants from an oak woodland plant community, riparian habitat, rock outcroppings, and views to the water. The two sides of the park are connected by a raised boardwalk and bridge that cross the water and provide places to sit and learn about the natural resources on the site.

NEW FACILITIES + FEATURES
- Parking Area
- Informational Kiosk
- Restroom
- Reservable Picnic Shelter
- Natural Play Area
- Walking Paths
- Native Plantings
- Open Field
- Interpretive Features

PROGRAMS
- Environmental Education
- Outdoor Skills
- Plant Identif cation
- Summer Camps

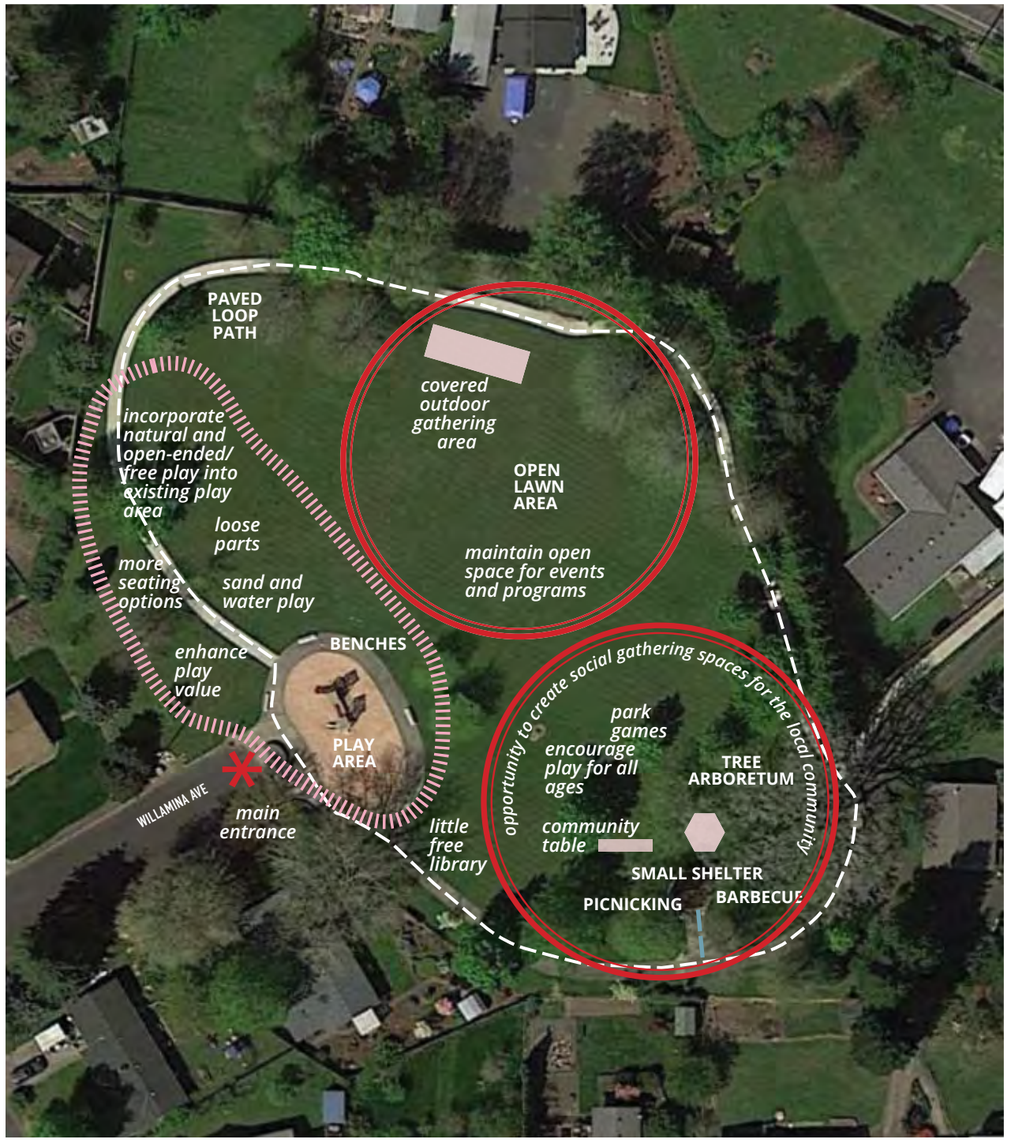
DESIGN + PROGRAMMING EXAMPLES

POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

- Forest Grove School District
- Environmental Education Organizations
- Local Summer Camp Organizations
- Local Neighborhood Organizations

TALISMAN PARK

SITE ANALYSIS



ENTRANCE/ EXIT | STRUCTURE/ FEATURE | (E) PAVED PATH | PLAY AREA OPPORTUNITY | COMMUNITY GATHERING/PICNIC ZONE

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SIZE
2.3 acres

SITE DESCRIPTION
Talisman Park is small neighborhood park located where Willamina Avenue dead-ends after crossing Magnolia Way. The park is surrounded by single-family residences and its main access point is along Willamina Avenue, where on street parking is allowed. A paved trail along Gales Creek Road also provides pedestrian access to the park.

The park is characterized by a central open green lawn, a play structure, and existing perimeter trees. The park has a small picnic shelter, barbecues, picnic tables, a loop walking path, and a stand of trees that are marked and labeled in the style of an arboretum. On many days, the park is full of parents bringing their children to climb on the play equipment and bike around the loop path.

NEEDS AND OUTREACH FEEDBACK

SITE-SPECIFIC IDEAS
- Opportunities to increase usage

COMMUNITY-WIDE IDEAS
- Improvements for parking, pedestrians, and bicycles
- Water play
- Non-reservable community gathering spaces for families and informal activities (game tables, group seating, etc)
- Enhanced play areas and play structures, especially for younger children
- Greater variety of programs and facilities to serve all ages
- Increased recreation programming

PROPOSED PARK DESIGN APPROACH

With a few additions, Talisman Park could offer even more than it already does to the surrounding neighborhood. By enhancing the play area with more open-ended, free play features, the quality of the play value in this park would increase. With updated tree identif cation information, people would become more familiar with the tree species in the surrounding neighborhood. And with a picnic shelter and large community table for people to rest, talk, play games, and eat, Talisman Park could serve a wider audience and provide more amenities for community gathering and events.

NEW FACILITIES + FEATURES
- Picnic Shelter
- Community Table
- Picnic Tables
- Seating Options
- Natural Play Area
- Sand and Water Play
- Loose Parts (materials that can be moved, combined, redesigned, taken apart and put back together in multiple ways)
- Free Library
- Updated Tree Identif cation Signage

PROGRAMS
- Plant Identif cation
- Health and Wellness Classes
- Pop-Up Play
- Small Recurring Events
- Everyday Events

DESIGN + PROGRAMMING EXAMPLES

POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

- Local Neighborhood Organizations
- Adopt-A-Park Program
- Volunteers

THATCHER PARK

SITE ANALYSIS

ENTRANCE/ EXIT | STRUCTURE/ FEATURE | (E) MULTI-USE TRAIL | (PR) MULTI-USE TRAIL | PLAY AREA OPPORTUNITY | INTERPRETIVE SIGN | COMMUNITY GARDENS

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SIZE
25.5 acres

SITE DESCRIPTION
Thatcher Park is a community park located in west Forest Grove at the corner NW David Hill Road and NW Thatcher Road. Its main access point is a driveway at NW David Hill Road, and the driveway terminates along a central parking spine with approximately f ve accessible spaces and 65 regular spaces.

The park is characterized by an off-leash dog area, baseball/softball f elds, a soccer f eld, a playground, and a small woodland with walking trails. There is also a picnic shelter, picnic tables, barbecues, and restroom facilities.

NEEDS AND OUTREACH FEEDBACK

SITE-SPECIFIC IDEAS
- The site provides access to community-scale recreation facilities in north and west forest grove
- The site should provide parking, pedestrian, and bike access as residential development occurs
- Splash pad
- Trees in dog park
- Shelter/covered picnic facilities
- Trail connections to Forest Gale Heights
- Viewpoint on David Hill
- Improved f eld maintenance and drainage
- Music/Concerts
- More parking
- Improved restroom facilities

COMMUNITY-WIDE IDEAS
- Better coordination with School District for sports f eld scheduling
- Better coordination with School District on park use for educational opportunities
- Reservable community gathering spaces for cultural/social/special activities and events
- More multi-use trails that connect community destinations and nature
- Increased recreation programming

PROPOSED PARK DESIGN APPROACH

The City has developed a master plan for Phase II of Thatcher Park's design, and this design approach recommends a similar direction for the park's additional features, which includes: an entry plaza/water feature, a small parking area with a one-way exit road, a new destination play area, natural play opportunities, a reservable picnic shelter, small sport courts (bocce, tennis, or basketball), hillside plantings for shade and interest, and soft surface trails that extend throughout the forest at the south end of the site. These additional amenities are meant to increase the recreation opportunities at the site and facilitate both everyday and special events.

NEW FACILITIES + FEATURES
- Additional Parking
- Reservable Picnic Shelter
- Seatwalls/Benches
- Picnic Tables
- Small Court Sports (bocce, basketball, volleyball, ping pong, pickleball)
- Community Gardens
- New Play Area (sand and water play)
- Natural Play Features
- Loose Parts (materials that can be moved, carried, combined, redesigned, lined up, taken apart and put back together in multiple ways)
- Soft Surface Woodland Trails
- Interpretive Signage
- Self-Guided Nature Trail Tour
- Story Circle Gathering Area

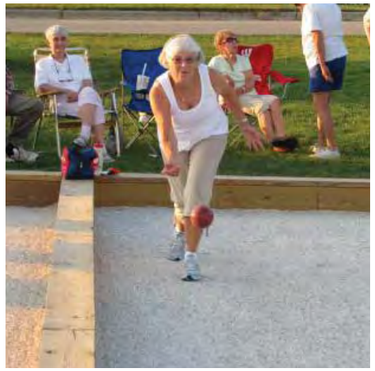
PROGRAMS
- Sports Programs
- Social Groups and Gathering Events Health and Wellness Classes
- Community Gardening
- Environmental Education
- Outdoor Skills Plant Identif cation
- Summer Camps
- Pop-Up Play
- Small Recurring Events
- Everyday Events

DESIGN + PROGRAMMING EXAMPLES

PHOTO CREDIT: MACKENZIE

PHOTO CREDIT: MACKENZIE

PHOTO CREDIT: MACKENZIE



POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

- Pacif c University
- Community Garden Organizations
- Sports Leagues
- Boy Scouts
- Local Businesses
- Local Summer Camp Organizations
- Health and Wellness Organizations
- Adopt-A-Park Program
- Volunteers

REVENUE GENERATING OPPORTUNITIES

- Picnic Shelter Rental
- Recreation Program Fees (tournament and private operator fees)
- Sports Field Use Fees

APPENDIX E:
Capital and Operations Cost Model

APPENDIX E: CAPITAL AND OPERATIONS COST MODEL

Appendix E presents estimated capital costs for all of the park development, enhancements and rehabilitation noted in Chapter 5. These projects are far more than can be completed in a 10-year planning horizon. They include all projects associated with City of Forest Grove public parks, even where park improvements or development could potentially be funded by other partners or interest groups. The totals shown here do not reflect specific costs for the City to bear over a specific timeframe, but instead identify potential cost allowances associated with opportunities to refresh and remodel public parks, open space, greenways and trails as recommended in this Master Plan.

This appendix includes two tables:

- Table E.1: Capital Projects and Cost Estimates for Existing and Proposed Parks
- Table E.2: Per Unit Cost Estimate by Park Type

I. TABLE E.1

Table E.1 presents planning-level cost estimates by park site for projects such as land acquisition, park development and site enhancements. It also notes the reinvestment costs and maintenance costs. Existing parks are organized by four classifications: community parks, neighborhood parks, special use parks and open space, greenways and trails. Proposed parks and trails are organized in three categories: proposed parks, improvements to partner sites and proposed trail corridors. The goal of this table is to identify a general level of funding needed to update and enhance the park system per recommendations noted in Chapters 4 and 5.

All costs are planning level costs estimated in 2016 dollars based on the per-acre assessment in Table E.2. The costs do not account for inflation. Over time, these costs will need to be adjusted for inflation as well as changes in land values, the market value of labor and materials, and expectations regarding the quality and level of park development desired. More specific costs should be defined prior to construction or improvements, when the scale, scope and phasing of projects are more defined.

Category Definitions

The first three columns in Table E.1 include reference information about each park site.

- **Acreage:** This column reflects park acreage as noted in the park and facility inventory for existing park sites and as proposed for planned parks and other sites.
- **Percentage of park developed:** This column reflects an approximation of the percentage of each site that is currently developed. Undeveloped areas include open space as well as vacant park areas held for future facility development.
- **Park type:** This column classifies park sites into types of parks as provided by the City of Forest Grove. Each existing and proposed site is classified as either a community park, a neighborhood park, a special use park, a partner site, trail corridor or as an open space, greenway and trail.

RECOMMENDATIONS

This category indicates the types of recommendations appropriate for individual existing and proposed parks.

- **Acquire land:** Acquisition may occur through purchase, donation, easement or other means. In residential areas, these would be community and neighborhood parks, while in residential, commercial and other areas they might include trail corridors and open space, greenways and trails.
- **Develop park or trail:** This refers to park and facility construction and landscaping at several currently undeveloped sites, including sites not yet acquired.
- **Provide minor enhancements:** This refers to sites where the number of recommended improvements and the size of the improved area is relatively small.
- **Provide major enhancements:** This refers to sites where the number of enhancements and the size of the impacted area is relatively high.
- **Add facility through partnership:** This refers to facility development funded and managed by the City at sites owned by partner organizations such as nonprofits or other public and private entities. It also includes projects that are anticipated to involve equity partners, such as the development of a new community recreation center.

CAPITAL COSTS

This category considers the costs of acquisition, development, enhancement and improvement of parks. The per-acre costs from Table E.2 are multiplied by the acreage of each park to determine site-specific costs (except for partnership improvements, as noted below).

- **Acquisition:** This column reflects the cost of acquiring land for new parks.
- **Development:** This column reflects the cost of site master planning, construction and landscaping at currently undeveloped sites.
- **Minor or major enhancements:** Opportunities to enhance sites were categorized as “major” or “minor” based on the numbers of enhancements needed and the size of the impacted area. Minor enhancements are anticipated to affect approximately one-quarter of the site; major enhancements affect approximately half of the site. Costs for these projects are shown accordingly.
- **Partnership improvement or major new facility:** This column reflects anticipated City costs for new facility development through partnership. This includes projects at sites owned

by other public or private entities, as well as the costs associated with community recreation center development, which are anticipated to be shared with an equity partner. Rather than a per-acre cost, these costs are the planning level estimate for the entire project.

- **Total capital cost:** This column represents the sum of the capital costs for each individual site.

% TO BE MAINTAINED AFTER PROJECT

This column shows the percentage of the site that will be developed or landscaped and therefore must be maintained by the City of Forest Grove or project partners after improvements are completed.

REINVESTMENT COSTS

Park reinvestment costs reflect an annual allocation for the capital replacement of outdated or worn facilities based on their age and use. These costs are based on a 20-year replacement schedule to update one-quarter of the park, including landscaping and amenities. The costs are annualized to provide an estimated allowance to set aside annually to ensure that funds are available for these types of improvements when needed. The per-acre costs are provided in Table E.2.

MAINTENANCE COSTS

This category reflects the level of maintenance needed as well as the cost of maintenance after developments are completed. For the Aquatic Center, Maintenance Costs include the estimated annual net expenses for both maintaining and operating the facility (total costs minus revenues generated).

- **Maintenance tier:** This column identifies whether maintenance for individual parks should be classified as enhanced or basic. The current level of maintenance is reflected by the basic tier and is applied to parks that are lightly used and not recommended for additional development. Enhanced maintenance should be applied to high-use parks and those sites where a number of amenities and facilities are proposed to be added. Basic maintenance costs are based on an average cost per acre to maintain all City parks and trails, based on figures in the City's Proposed Budget, FY 2016-17.
- **Post development annual maintenance cost:** This column reflects the annual cost of maintaining each park after developments are completed.

II. TABLE E.2

Table E.2 identifies average per unit cost estimate for improving or developing parks, which follow the same classifications from Table E.1: community park, neighborhood park, special use park, partner site, trail corridor or open space, greenway and trail. The estimated cost shown for each type is the per-acre cost based on the proposed City budget for fiscal year 2016-17, industry standards and local real estate values. All costs are based on 2016 dollars, not accounting for inflation. These costs are carried into the Capital Costs, Reinvestment Costs and Maintenance Costs columns of Table E.1 and multiplied by the acreage of each park to determine site-specific costs.

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TABLE E.1: Capital Projects and Cost Estimates for Existing and Proposed Parks (DRAFT)

				RECOMMENDATIONS					CAPITAL COSTS							REINVESTMENT COSTS	MAINTENANCE COSTS	
	Acres	% of Park Currently Developed	Park Type	Acquire Land	Develop Park or Trail	Provide Minor Enhancements	Provide Major Enhancements	Add Facility through Partnership	Acquisition	Development	Minor Enhancements	Major Enhancements	Partnership Improvement or Major New Facility	Total Capital Cost	% to be Maintained After Project	Annual Future Reinvestment	Maintenance Tier (Basic or Enhanced)	Annual Post Development Maintenance Cost*
EXISTING PARKS																		
Community Parks																		
LINCOLN PARK	22.8	100%	CP			●			$ -	$ -	$ 2,280,000	$ -	N/A	$ 2,280,000	100%	$ 114,000	Enhanced	$ 273,600
LINCOLN PARK (Addition)	3.0	0%	CP		●				$ -	$ 1,200,000	$ -	$ -	N/A	$ 1,200,000	100%	$ 15,000	Enhanced	$ 36,000
THATCHER PARK	16.0	100%	CP			●			$ -	$ -	$ 1,600,000	$ -	N/A	$ 1,600,000	100%	$ 80,000	Enhanced	$ 192,000
THATCHER PARK (Phase 2)	8.5	0%	CP		●				$ -	$ 3,400,000	$ -	$ -	N/A	$ 3,400,000	100%	$ 42,500	Enhanced	$ 102,000
THATCHER PARK (Dog Park)	1.0	100%	CP	●					$ 200,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	N/A	$ 200,000	100%	$ 5,000	Enhanced	$ 12,000
Community Parks Subtotal	*51.3*								*$ 200,000*	*$ 4,600,000*	*$ 3,880,000*	*$ -*	*$ -*	*$ 8,680,000*		*$ 256,500*		*$ 615,600*
Neighborhood Parks																		
BARD PARK	2.8	100%	NP			●			$ -	$ -	$ 213,000	$ -	N/A	$ 213,000	100%	$ 10,650	Basic	$ 28,400
HAZEL SILLS PARK	0.5	100%	NP			●			$ -	$ -	$ 38,250	$ -	N/A	$ 38,250	100%	$ 1,913	Basic	$ 5,100
JOSEPH GALE PARK	3.8	100%	NP				●		$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 564,000	N/A	$ 564,000	100%	$ 14,100	Enhanced	$ 45,120
KNOX RIDGE PARK	0.4	100%	NP			●			$ -	$ -	$ 30,000	$ -	N/A	$ 30,000	100%	$ 1,500	Basic	$ 4,000
ROGERS PARK	3.7	100%	NP				●		$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 550,500	N/A	$ 550,500	100%	$ 13,763	Enhanced	$ 44,040
TAILSMAN PARK	2.3	100%	NP			●			$ -	$ -	$ 172,500	$ -	N/A	$ 172,500	100%	$ 8,625	Basic	$ 23,000
FOREST GLEN PARK 1 (Upper)	0.9	100%	NP			●			$ -	$ -	$ 67,500	$ -	N/A	$ 67,500	100%	$ 3,375	Basic	$ 9,000
FOREST GLEN PARK 2 (Lower)	5.3	50%	NP			●			$ -	$ -	$ 198,750	$ -	N/A	$ 198,750	75%	$ 14,906	Basic	$ 39,750
Neighborhood Parks Subtotal	*19.7*								*$ -*	*$ -*	*$ 720,000*	*$ 1,114,500*	*$ -*	*$ 1,834,500*		*$ 68,831*		*$ 198,410*
Special Use Parks																		
FOREST GROVE AQUATIC CENTER*	3.0	100%	SU				●		$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 750,000	N/A	$ 750,000	100%	$ 18,750	Enhanced	$ 320,000
FOREST GROVE SENIOR CENTER	1.3	100%	SU			●			$ -	$ -	$ 162,500	$ -	N/A	$ 162,500	100%	$ 8,125	Enhanced	$ 15,600
Special Use Parks Subtotal	*4.3*								*$ -*	*$ -*	*$ 162,500*	*$ 750,000*	*$ -*	*$ 912,500*		*$ 26,875*		*$ 335,600*
Open Space, Greenways and Trails																		
B STREET TRAIL (Trailhead)	0.9	100%	OSGT			●			$ -	$ -	$ 45,000	$ -	N/A	$ 45,000	100%	$ 2,250	Basic	$ 9,000
B STREET TRAIL (Trail Corridor)	1.4	100%	TC						$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	N/A	$ -	100%	$ 3,500	Basic	$ 14,000
FERNHILL WETLANDS TRAILHEAD	0.9	100%	OSGT			●			$ -	$ -	$ 45,000	$ -	N/A	$ 45,000	100%	$ 2,250	Basic	$ 9,000
FERN HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TRAIL	1	100%	TC						$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	N/A	$ -	100%	$ 2,500	Basic	$ 10,000
FOREST GLEN OPEN SPACE AND TRAIL	45.1	15%	OSGT			●			$ -	$ -	$ 338,250	$ -	N/A	$ 338,250	25%	$ 28,188	Basic	$ 112,750
HIGHWAY 47 TRAIL	9.1	100%	TC			●			$ -	$ -	$ 455,000	$ -	N/A	$ 455,000	100%	$ 22,750	Basic	$ 91,000
OLD TOWN LOOP TRAIL	1.3	100%	TC						$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	N/A	$ -	100%	$ 3,250	Basic	$ 13,000
Open Space, Greenways and Trails Subtotal	*59.7*								*$ -*	*$ -*	*$ 883,250*	*$ -*	*$ -*	*$ 883,250*		*$ 64,688*		*$ 258,750*
Existing Parks Subtotal	*135.0*								*$ 200,000*	*$ 4,600,000*	*$ 5,645,750*	*$ 1,864,500*	*$ -*	*$ 12,310,250*		*$ 416,894*		*$ 1,408,360*

				RECOMMENDATIONS					CAPITAL COSTS							REINVESTMENT COSTS	MAINTENANCE COSTS	
	Acres	% of Park Currently Developed	Park Type	Acquire Land	Develop Park or Trail	Provide Minor Enhancements	Provide Major Enhancements	Add Facility through Partnership	Acquisition	Development	Minor Enhancements	Major Enhancements	Partnership Improvement or Major New Facility	Total Capital Cost	% to be Maintained After Project	Annual Future Reinvestment	Maintenance Tier (Basic or Enhanced)	Annual Post Development Maintenance Cost*
PROPOSED PARKS AND TRAILS																		
Proposed Parks																		
A.T. SMITH PARK (City)	3.2	0%	SU		•				$ -	$ 1,600,000	$ -	$ -	N/A	$ 1,600,000	100%	$ 20,000	Enhanced	$ 38,400
KYLE PARK	7.5	0%	OSGT		•				$ -	$ 750,000	$ -	$ -	N/A	$ 750,000	50%	$ 9,375	Basic	$ 37,500
RUETER FARM PARK	2.1	0%	OSGT		•				$ -	$ 428,000	$ -	$ -	N/A	$ 428,000	100%	$ 5,350	Basic	$ 21,400
SAUCY PARK	0.5	0%	OSGT		•				$ -	$ 100,000	$ -	$ -	N/A	$ 100,000	100%	$ 1,250	Basic	$ 5,000
STITES NATURE PARK	10.9	0%	NP		•				$ -	$ 2,616,000	$ -	$ -	N/A	$ 2,616,000	80%	$ 32,700	Enhanced	$ 104,640
NEW DOWNTOWN PLAZA	0.5	0%	SU	•	•				$ 100,000	$ 250,000	$ -	$ -	N/A	$ 350,000	100%	$ 3,125	Enhanced	$ 6,000
NEW NEIGHBORHOOD PARK # 1 (David Hill North)	6.0	0%	NP	•	•				$ 1,200,000	$ 1,800,000	$ -	$ -	N/A	$ 3,000,000	100%	$ 22,500	Enhanced	$ 72,000
NEW NEIGHBORHOOD PARK # 2 (Oak Street)	2.5	0%	NP	•	•				$ 500,000	$ 750,000	$ -	$ -	N/A	$ 1,250,000	100%	$ 9,375	Enhanced	$ 30,000
NEW COMMUNITY PARK (Community Recreation Center)**	10.0	0%	CP	•	•			•	$ 2,000,000	$ 4,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ 32,000,000	$ 38,000,000	100%	$ 475,000	Enhanced	$ 120,000
Proposed Parkland Subtotal	*43.2*								*$ 3,800,000*	*$ 12,294,000*	*$ -*	*$ -*	*$ 32,000,000*	*$ 48,094,000*		*$ 578,675*		*$ 434,940*
Improvements to Partner Sites																		
A.T. SMITH AMPHITHEATER (FHFG)	2.2	0%	PS					•	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 350,000	$ 350,000	100%	$ 4,375	Enhanced	$ 26,400
METRO WETLANDS VIEWPOINT	1.0	0%	PS					•	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 75,000	$ 75,000	100%	$ 937.50	Basic	$ 10,000
NEIL ARMSTRONG MS SPORTS FIELDS	7.5	N/A	PS					•	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,250,000	$ 1,250,000	100%	$ 15,625	Enhanced	$ 90,000
TOM McCALL UPPER ELEMENTARY SOCCER FIELD	2.1	N/A	PS					•	$ -		$ -	$ -	$ 200,000	$ 200,000	100%	$ 2,500	Enhanced	$ 25,680
Undeveloped Partner Sites Subtotal	*56.1*								*$ -*	*$ -*	*$ -*	*$ -*	*$ 1,875,000*	*$ 1,875,000*		*$ 23,438*		*$ 152,080*
Proposed Trail Corridors (City/Partner)																		
GALES CREEK TRAIL ***	7.5	0%	OSGT	•	•				$ 750,000	$ 1,500,000	$ -	$ -	N/A	$ 2,250,000	100%	$ 18,750	Basic	$ 75,000
DAVID HILL TRAIL ***	5.1	0%	OSGT	•	•				$ 510,000	$ 1,020,000	$ -	$ -	N/A	$ 1,530,000	100%	$ 12,750	Basic	$ 51,000
Trails Subtotal	*12.6*								*$ 1,260,000*	*$ 2,520,000*	*$ -*	*$ -*	*$ -*	*$ 3,780,000*		*$ 31,500*		*$ 126,000*
Proposed Parks and Trails Subtotal	*111.9*								*$ 5,060,000*	*$ 14,814,000*	*$ -*	*$ -*	*$ 33,875,000*	*$ 53,749,000*		*$ 633,613*		*$ 713,020*
Totals for All Parks	**246.9**								**$ 5,260,000**	**$ 19,414,000**	**$ 5,645,750**	**$ 1,864,500**	**$ 33,875,000**	**$ 66,059,250**		**$ 1,050,506**		**$ 2,121,380**

Revised 8/02/16

*For the Aquatic Center, Maintenance Costs include the estimated annual net expenses for both maintaining and operating the facility (total costs minus revenues generated).

**For the new community recreation center, partnership costs may be shared by the City and equity partners. Janitorial costs for the indoor space are not include in maintenance costs.

***Trail acreage is calculated based on an average assumption of a 20-foot corridor.

CP- Community Park; NP- Neighborhood Park; SU- Special Use; OSGT- Open Space, Greenway and Trail, PS- Partner Site

TABLE E.2: Per Unit Cost Estimate by Park Type

	Capital Costs per Acre				Other Costs per Acre		
	Acquire Land	Develop Park or Trail	Provide Minor Enhancements	Provide Major Enhancements	Maintenance (Basic)	Maintenance (Enhanced)	Reinvestment (Annual)
PARK TYPE							
COMMUNITY PARK	$200,000	$400,000	$100,000	$200,000	$10,000	$12,000	$5,000
NEIGHBORHOOD PARK	$200,000	$300,000	$75,000	$150,000	$10,000	$12,000	$3,750
SPECIAL USE SITE	$200,000	$500,000	$125,000	$250,000	$10,000	$12,000	$6,250
OPEN SPACE, GREENWAY & TRAIL	$100,000	$200,000	$50,000	$100,000	$10,000	$12,000	$2,500
TRAIL CORRIDOR	$100,000	$200,000	$50,000	$100,000	$10,000	$12,000	$2,500
PARTNER SITE	--	Site-specific	--	--	$10,000	$12,000	Site-specific
Total							

Notes:

All costs are based on 2016 dollars, not accounting for inflation.

For partner sites, site-specific costs for development and reinvestment are identified in Table D.1.

Minor enhancements are anticipated to affect approximately 1/4 of the site; major enhancements affect approximately 1/2 of the site.

Basic maintenance costs are based on an average cost per acre to maintain all city parks and trails, based on figures in the City's Proposed Budget, FY 2016-17. The budget for the Aquatic Facility is calculated separate based on both maintenance and operations costs.

APPENDIX F:

Potential Funding and Partnership Opportunities

APPENDIX F: POTENTIAL FUNDING AND PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

I. EXISTING FUNDING OVERVIEW

Forest Grove's existing funding structure consists of two primary categories: non-capital costs, including system operations and management; and capital costs to acquire land and develop sites and facilities.

NON-CAPITAL COSTS

Similar to most cities, the majority of Forest Grove's existing source of funding comes from the General Fund in the form of property taxes. Since the 2011-12 budget cycle, property tax revenues for the City have increased from $6,773,073 to $7,654,833 in Fiscal Year 2014-15. Similarly, inner-departmental budgets are also increasing. According to the 2014-15 Budget, the Parks and Recreation Department revenue has increased 24 percent since Fiscal Year 2011-12, dropping slightly in 2012-13. Still, the City's General Fund is the primary source of funding for park, recreation and aquatics operations (non-capital costs). The Aquatics Department revenue has also increased over the past four years. Though public aquatics facilities are commonly subsidized, the cost of aquatics operations will be an important consideration in determining potential options in subsequent phases of the planning process. Table F.1 provides a summary of parks, recreation and aquatics budgets over the past four years.

TABLE F.1: PARKS & RECREATION AND AQUATICS BUDGET SUMMARY (2013/14-2016/17)

	2013-14	2014-15*	2015-16	2016-17*
Parks & Recreation				
Revenue				
Services	$132,175	$164,737	$171,397	$142,428
Miscellaneous	$500	$1,200	$0	$500
TOTAL Revenue	*$132,675*	*$165,937*	*$171,397*	*$142,928*
Expenditures				
Personnel Services	$484,136	$548,128	$588,165	$583,932
Materials and Services	$173,334	$172,010	$180,399	$171,567
TOTAL Expenditures	*$657,470*	*$720,138*	*$768,564*	*$758,499*

Aquatics				
Total Revenue**	$303,000	$322,000	$348,721	$342,000
Expenditures				
Personnel Services	$434,664	$469,038	$462,365	$473,930
Materials and Services	$187,106	$190,282	$643,325	$644,756
TOTAL Expenditures	*$618,770*	*$659,320*	*$643,325*	*$644,756*

*Source: City of Forest Grove 2016-2017 budget. *Proposed Budget.*

CAPITAL COSTS

The Parks Acquisition and Development Fund is based on revenue sources for growth related parks and capital expansion projects. In addition to the General Fund, this fund is based on major trail funds and System Development Charges. Other sources include Major Maintenance Funds and various grant sources. Table F.1 summarizes the Parks Acquisition and Development Fund for capital projects. According to the table, the City has budgeted $2,827,242 for parks acquisition and development for the 2016-17 fiscal year, the largest amount in the past several years. The majority of resources comes from Park SDC fees.

- **System Development Charges (SDCs):** Forest Grove collects SDC fees to make growth-related improvements to its water and park systems. Initially adopted in 2002 and based on the Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan (2002), the City updated the parks SDC rate from $2,000 per residential unit to $3,000 per unit in 2006. At this time, the City also added a separate rate for Planned Unit Development's to $1,000 per unit. Though the 2002 methodology recommended fees for both residential and non-residential development, the City does not currently require park SDCs from non-residential development.

- **Trail Funds:** The City has two funding sources for trails and pathways: The Trail Fund and Bike/Pedestrian Pathways Fund. The City established the Trail Fund in Fiscal Year 2007-08 to account for payments from Waste Management to the City, dedicated to the development and maintenance of the trail system. Though currently inactive, the established rate of return for solid waste disposal services is 11%. The Bike/Pedestrian Pathways Fund stems from 1% of the State Gas Tax, dedicated to build or improve facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists. The fee is currently active and is dedicated to the B Street Trail.

TABLE F.2: PARKS ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT FUND SUMMARY (2013-2017)

Parks Acquisition and Development Fund	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17*
Revenue				
Intergovernmental	$0	$395,500	$250,000	$250,000
Park SDC Fees	$252,000	$360,000	$270,000	$1,060,000
Miscellaneous	$4,318	$8,000	$9,000	$6,000
Fund Balance	$863,562	$1,316,528	$1,370,116	$1,511,242

TOTAL Resources	$1,119,880	$2,080,028	$1,899,116	$2,827,242
Expenditures				
Materials and Services	$85,000	$200,000	$250,000	$110,000
Capital Outlay	$1,034,880	$1,880,028	$1,649,116	$2,717,242
TOTAL Expenditures	$1,119,880	$2,080,028	$1,899,116	$2,827,242

*Source: City of Forest Grove 2016-2017 budget. *Proposed Budget.*

According to the budget, funds are expended on projects that are based on growth of the city, as identified through the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The city-wide Capital Improvement Program (CIP) lists four primary sources of funding for capital projects (Table F.3). The Park Acquisition and Development Fund will account for the largest source of funding for capital projects over the next five years, totaling $1,151,000. The City's Five-Year CIP identifies nearly $1.6 million in capital projects over the next five years. The Parks Acquisition and Development Fund has a total of nearly $2.8 million available (Table F.2), leaving about $1.2 million for other capital projects.

TABLE F.3: PARKS & RECREATION AND AQUATICS CIP FUNDING SOURCES (2016-2021)

Funding Source	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	TOTAL
General Fund	$25,000		$235,000			$260,000
Major Maintenance Fund		$135,000				$135,000
Park Acquisition and Development Fund	$626,000	$80,000	$325,000	$120,000		$1,151,000
State Grants		$75,000				$75,000
CIP TOTAL	*$651,000*	*$290,000*	*$560,000*	*$120,000*	*$0*	*$1,621,000*

Source: City of Forest Grove Proposed Budget 2016-17

II. POTENTIAL ALTERNATIVE RESOURCES

There are a number of possible funding sources for programs, parks and facilities acquisition, development, and maintenance. Most sources are limited in scope and can only be used to fund specific types of projects, but will not fund operations. Because of these limitations, the City of Forest Grove will have to carefully consider all funding options to determine the best strategy for implementing system improvements. This appendix lists potential funding sources for operations and capital projects, including a brief summary of each source.

PARTNERS: SITE ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT

Forest Grove has a variety of partners (both existing and potential) to help expand park system assets. Partnerships can occur in a number of different forms, including designing, financing,

building, owning/transferring and/or operating. Existing public agency land owners in Forest Grove (including Metro) have the potential to acquire and/or develop new or existing sites in coordination with city needs. Park conservancies or foundations are the most common type of organization to raise private funding for public parks. However, the City can also serve as the negotiator using a memorandum of agreement as the official contract between a partner group to ensure conditions are met. Partners for site acquisition and development should be only part of the city's resource portfolio and like any source, the City should rely on partnerships for a portion of its needs.

A key factor of these agreements is to engage the public in all stages of decision making. As public resources, the perception of a private entity having a degree of control over valuable resources can lead to larger challenges. It's critical that the performance of these agreements or arrangements conform with the public interest and the goals of this Parks Plan.

Potential partners for site acquisition and development include:

- Metro
- Clean Water Services
- Pacific University
- Friends of Historic Forest Grove (A.T. Smith Park)
- Private businesses (Viasystems, Stimson Lumber, Doherty Ford, etc.)

PARTNERS: PROGRAMMING

The city also relies on public and private groups to extend programming. Partners provide a range of possibilities for program options, from sports to education-based classes. A common theme that emerged from the planning process was the importance and increasingly relevant role that health care providers play in recreation. These organizations usually follow a mission to improve the health of the local communities by sponsoring healthy living classes and programs, such as cooking classes and physical and emotional fitness courses. Programming partners help reduce overlap of competing program types and private organizations can also contribute financial resources to extend limited public funding. Other organizations, such as schools and health care providers also offer programmable space to extend city resources. For example, the City can partners with the School District and YMCA to provide after school and recreation programming in the vacant second floor of the school building on weekends.

Potential partners for programming include:

Sports and Fitness

- Health and Wellness Organizations (Virginia Garcia Health Center, Tuality Healthcare)
- Sports Leagues
- Outdoor Recreation Organizations (Northwest Trail Alliance, Adventures without Limits)
- Forest Grove School District
- YMCA

Aquatics

- Pacific University
- Forest Grove High School

Arts, History and Cultural Services

- Theater in the Grove (A.T Smith)
- Art Organizations
- University of Oregon Historic Preservation Field School
- State Historic Preservation Office
- Restore Oregon

General

- Local Wineries
- Local Summer Camp Organizations
- Local Neighborhood Groups
- Adelante Mujeres

Environmental or Outdoor Education

- Pacific University (A.T. Smith Park)
- Clean Water Services (B Street Trail and Trailhead, Kyle Park)
- Forest Grove School District
- Forest Grove Community Garden Organization
- Environmental Education Groups

GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND FOR PARKS

The 2002 Parks Plan discussed the strategy of including a General Obligation Bond as part of a larger financing strategy. Recently, nearby parks and recreation agencies (including Portland Parks, Tualatin Hills Parks & Recreation District and Metro) have had successful bond campaigns that focus on repairing, replacing and maintaining parks, recreation facilities and natural areas. Public outreach for the Parks Plan Update has indicated a strong support for parks and recreation in Forest Grove. With approximately $65.6 million in recommended capital projects (including $1.6 million in existing park improvements) identified in Chapter 6, a future parks bond would provide needed resources to complete capital projects and park upgrades throughout the system. Survey findings point to a strong interest in protecting existing investments, including the willingness to pay more for these improvements. Across all successful bond measures, a strong outreach and promotional campaign is the centerpiece to ensuring a favorable election. When deciding for a potential bond measure, the City could consider identifying a “friends-of” group or foundation to help sponsor and promote a bond campaign, bringing the case for a parks bond to the mainstream.

GRANTS OR SPONSORSHIPS

Federal, state and other government agencies and foundations sometimes make funds available to serve specific purposes related to parks and recreation. In addition to requirements for a local match, grants often have other conditions and limitations such as providing for project planning but not construction. Grant funding is highly competitive and is also limited to different grant cycles (typically yearly). Forest Grove’s CIP has $75,000 in grant funding planned for the 2017/18 fiscal year.

Potential grants or sponsorship opportunities include:

- Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (Recreational Trail Program, Land & Water Conservation Fund)
- Metro (Nature in Neighborhoods Grants, Community Enhancement Grants)

- Meyer Memorial Trust
- Keith Kinsman Foundation
- Chamber of Commerce (Lincoln Park):
- Oregon Community Foundation (OCF)

TRUSTS, ESTATES AND EXCHANGES

Private land trusts such as the Trust for Public Land and the Nature Conservancy employ various methods, including conservation easements, to work with willing owners to conserve important resource land. Land trusts assist public agencies in various ways. For example, land trusts may acquire and hold land for eventual acquisition by the public agency. Lifetime estates are an agreement between a landowner and the city that gives the owner the right to live on the site after it is sold to the city. Another option is an exchange of property between a private landowner and the city. For example, the city could exchange a less useful site it owns for a potential park site that is currently under private ownership.

VOLUNTEERS

Many cities are recognizing that volunteers can be a valuable source of labor to help with maintenance, programming, special events, and capital improvements. Volunteers can increase the quality and quantity of public services at a minimal cost, and provide an opportunity for citizens to contribute to the betterment of their community. Studies suggest that for every $1 invested in volunteers, a city can realize as much as $10 in benefits. With tight fiscal conditions, more local governments are expanding volunteer programs. Volunteer programs include individuals or groups who agree to take on specific tasks or perform certain services, such as maintenance, restoration, programming, and special event support. Volunteers may provide direct and indirect support to the park system. For example, a volunteer park clean-up crew directly saves on paid maintenance tasks. Volunteer safety patrols (community groups) may indirectly reduce facility damage and vandalism, protecting City assets.

APPENDIX G:
Prioritization Scorecard

APPENDIX G: PRIORITIZATION SCORECARD

Community priorities and Master Plan goals were used to define prioritization criteria that the City of Forest Grove can apply when making decisions about which projects and programs to implement first. These criteria are presented in a scorecard that can be used to rate different projects and programs. This scorecard should be applied in two steps:

- Step 1: Criteria applicable to the project are reviewed and tallied to create an average score across reviewers.
- Step 2: The ranked list is considered in light of the best information available on funding, political will and staff capacity. This practical screen will likely result in the reshuffling of projects based on the realities of the planned budget year, but will still retain the basis in the master plan goals noted in Chapter 4 and implement key recommendations and projects described in Chapters 5.

Details on potential and actual funding can be applied to a prioritized project list and can be reapplied as the funding situation changes in the future. This will help allocate available funding on high-priority projects.

I. STEP 1: APPLICATION OF CRITERIA

Table G.1 presents a one-page worksheet that can be used to rate different projects in terms of their priority for implementation. The projects that score highly and satisfy multiple criteria may be prioritized for the Step 2 screening.

For each project being considered (which may be a sub-set of the recommendations) the criteria below should be considered and either checked or left blank by each reviewer.

TABLE G.1: PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

	Prioritization Criteria	Check if applicable
A	**Replaces or revitalizes aging, worn, outdated or unsafe amenities and facilities:** Project removes, replaces or enhances facilities or landscaping in poor condition to ensure high quality parks and facilities compliant with current safety and ADA standards.	
B	**Increases programming options:** Improves a facility or park area to support a program, class, camp, organized sport or event.	
C	**Provides a new or unique recreation opportunity:** Project adds a new type of recreation facility to address changing recreation trends and support a greater variety of recreation opportunities in Forest Grove.	
D	**Serves all ages and abilities or underserved user groups:** Project provides recreation opportunities for different age groups and people of all abilities and skill levels and/or supports activities targeting teens, young adults, and adults.	
E	**Improves park access or connectivity:** Project serves an identified unserved area (e.g. east Forest Grove), makes it easier to walk or bike to parks and community destinations, or provides convenient and safe access to parks and park facilities through trail development, improved park entries or enhanced parking.	
F	**Preserves community heritage and/or natural resources**: Project creates engaging parks and facilities that reflect local heritage and history, and/or protects the urban forest, stream corridors, natural resources and open space.	
G	**Promotes a sense of community and social cohesiveness:** Project creates social gathering places or responds to the City's demographic character, cultural diversity and community cohesion.	
H	**Contributes to a strong local economy:** Project increases opportunities to generate revenue or supports community events and encourages tourism that indirectly supports local businesses.	
I	**Increases sustainability, cost-effective operations and maintenance efficiencies:** The project reduces operations and maintenance costs or helps achieve City sustainability goals.	
J	**Increases or maintains partnerships:** Project leverages resources through partnerships to achieve plan goals.	

II. STEP 2: PRACTICALITIES DISCUSSION

With each project scored the list of projects under consideration can be given a rough sort, with the projects meeting the highest number of criteria moving to the top. This list now represents a preliminary prioritization based on the expressed needs of the community and the results of the analysis in the Master Plan. It is important to know which of these projects hits the most of these criteria. However, there are reasons that the highest priority project may not be the most appropriate to move forward first. During this second step, a discussion of the top ranked projects should focus on the practical implications of each project. These practicalities include:

- The availability of dedicated funding or partner support and investment in the project;
- The amount of ongoing operations and maintenance funding and staff time required;
- The potential to reduce costs or be more efficient by bundling projects;
- The interest among community leaders and decision makers in the project or program; and
- Staff capacity to implement the project.

Using these topics in the discussion, not as hard and fast screens but instead as important considerations, will help to set an achievable path forward.

FLEXIBILITY OF SCORECARD

The criteria here are given equal weight and in some cases combine multiple ideas to simplify the scoring process. Over time, the City may need to modify the scorecard to accentuate topics or criteria that have achieved a higher importance. Splitting the criteria down into multiple items would often accomplish this greater focus in one area.