



City of Forest Grove
Park and Recreation Department

Park, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan

Prepared by:



Eugene and Portland, Oregon

May 2002

PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

CITY OF FOREST GROVE, OREGON

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PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

Forest Grove is a strong community that works and plans together. Bordered on three sides by farmland and forest, Forest Grove has maintained its rural, small-town flavor as development spreads from the east.

To ensure that the livability of Forest Grove is preserved and the recreation needs of its residents are addressed, the Parks and Recreation Department has undertaken the City's first Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan. The Master Plan describes a vision for parks and recreation opportunities for the next ten years, and outlines a five-year plan toward achieving the vision.

PLANNING PROCESS

The master planning process involved four basic phases:

- Inventory of Existing Resources
- Identification of Community Needs
- Development of Draft Recommendations
- Implementation Strategies

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Citizens were asked to participate throughout the process, contributing their perspective on the needs of Forest Grove, and making suggestions for changes. Forest Grove residents were invited to participate in the master planning process through newspaper ads, fliers, personal letters, and phone calls.

In total, approximately 400 citizens participated in one or more of the following activities:

- A town hall meeting;
- Citizen advisory committee meetings;
- Technical advisory committee meetings;
- Neighborhood workshops;
- A recreation provider focus group;
- A telephone survey;
- Design workshops for Lincoln Park and Forest Glen Park; and
- A community-wide workshop.

The community participation provided important insight on the park and recreation needs of Forest Grove, the opportunities for partnerships, and priorities for changes.

EXISTING RESOURCES

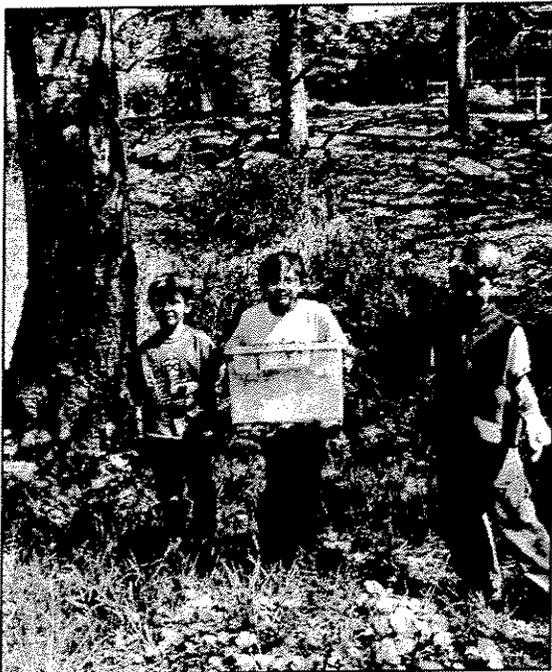
The recreation resources available to Forest Grove residents are rich in their quality and diversity. Altogether, Forest Grove residents have approximately 357 acres of parkland and open space available to them within the city limits and the Urban Growth Boundary. By park type, the current levels of service are as follows:

- Neighborhood parks and school-parks
1.50 acres per 1000 population
- Community parks and school-parks
3.72 acres per 1000 population
- Special use parks
1.01 acres per 1000 population

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- Open space and greenways
13.27 acres per 1000 population

Recreation programs and services in Forest Grove are provided by a number of public and private organizations. The City of Forest Grove offers programs through its aquatic center. Other providers include the Forest Grove School District, Boys & Girls Club, Skyhawks, Babe Ruth, Forest Grove Little League, Adventures Without Limits, Pacific University, and the Senior Center.



COMMUNITY NEEDS

Based on results of the telephone survey and public meetings, children and youth should be the highest priority when planning recreation programs and facilities in Forest Grove. Collaborating with schools and other recreation providers to increase recreation opportunities is highly supported.

Children's play areas, trails for walking and bicycling, and picnic facilities should be among the highest priority improvements. It is also important that parks are attractive, and facilities are suitable for tournament play, to contribute to tourism and bolster the local economy.

While citizens said emphasis should be placed on improving existing parks, it is also important to acquire land while it is available and to preserve open spaces.

MASTER PLAN FRAMEWORK

The values, goals, and strategies articulated by community members during the public involvement process provide the framework for this master plan. (Figure A). There are five elements of the framework.

- *Core values* or qualities that guide community members in their actions;
- A *vision* for Forest Grove's parks, recreation and open space system that reflects the values;
- *Goals* that define the purpose of this master plan;
- *Strategies* that describe how the City will achieve its vision; and
- *Performance measures* to evaluate success in achieving the vision.

CORE VALUES

The core values that are reflected in the goals and strategies are:

- *Access for All* - providing facilities and programs for people of all ages, ethnicities and abilities;

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- *Spirit of Cooperation* - pooling resources to increase opportunities for all those in the community;
- *Community Livability* – each organization, agency and institution taking responsibility for contributing to Forest Grove’s livability;
- *One Community* – recognizing that the action of one organization, agency, or institution often has effects that touch the entire community.

VISION

The vision that emerged was one of a system of parks, open spaces, and recreation facilities and programs that serves the entire community. It is a system that is formed by a network of facility and program providers. The City of Forest Grove Parks and Recreation Department functions as the support structure for the network, providing major facilities, aquatic programs, information, coordination and referral.

GOALS

The goals, and specific actions to achieve those goals were identified:

- *Serve all ages and abilities* – Children, youth, teens, adults and seniors of all abilities should be provided opportunities to recreate.
- *Contribute to a strong local economy* - Make parks attractive destinations for visitors and encourage tourism.
- *Preserve the character of Forest Grove* - Preserve open spaces and green spaces and protect rural surroundings by acquiring land while it is available. Provide parks that are safe and free of vandalism. Design

neighborhood parks to reflect the character of the neighborhood and needs of the neighbors.

- *Provide safe and convenient access to parks for everyone* – It is important to provide safe access to parks, ADA access throughout the parks, and parks that are distributed so that every resident lives within a reasonable walking distance of a park.
- *Create and expand partnerships* - provide additional recreation facilities and programs with the existing and new partners.
- *Provide diversity in facilities and programs* – Opportunities for relaxing, exercising, exploring, and learning are all important.
- *Build physical connection* - Develop walkways and multi-purpose trails that are accessible to people with and without disabilities for pedestrians and bicyclists to connect neighborhoods, schools, parks, recreation facilities, and greenways.
- *Promote a sense of community* – Develop a facility for community activities and sponsor community-wide activities.

STRATEGIES

The strategies provide the foundation on which the plan is constructed.

- *Facilities* – Provide new neighborhood and community parks, additional open space and trails, and new recreation facilities to meet the needs of Forest Grove residents as the population grows. Provide parks that are accessible to people with and without disabilities within safe walking distance of every resident. Connect

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

neighborhoods, schools, parks, and greenways with a network of multi-purpose trails that are accessible to people with and without disabilities.

- *Recreation Programs and Services* – Facilitate increased awareness and coordination of recreation programs provided in Forest Grove. Seek opportunities to provide additional programs in partnership with other providers, particularly for children and youth. Sponsor community-wide activities that promote interaction among people of different generations, cultures, and abilities.
- *Management* – Continue working with other recreation program and facility providers to increase opportunities to Forest Grove residents through shared resources, partnerships, and joint use agreements.

- *Maintenance* – Expand community involvement in maintaining and upgrading parks. Develop design standards for structures, furnishings, and memorials to guide improvements.

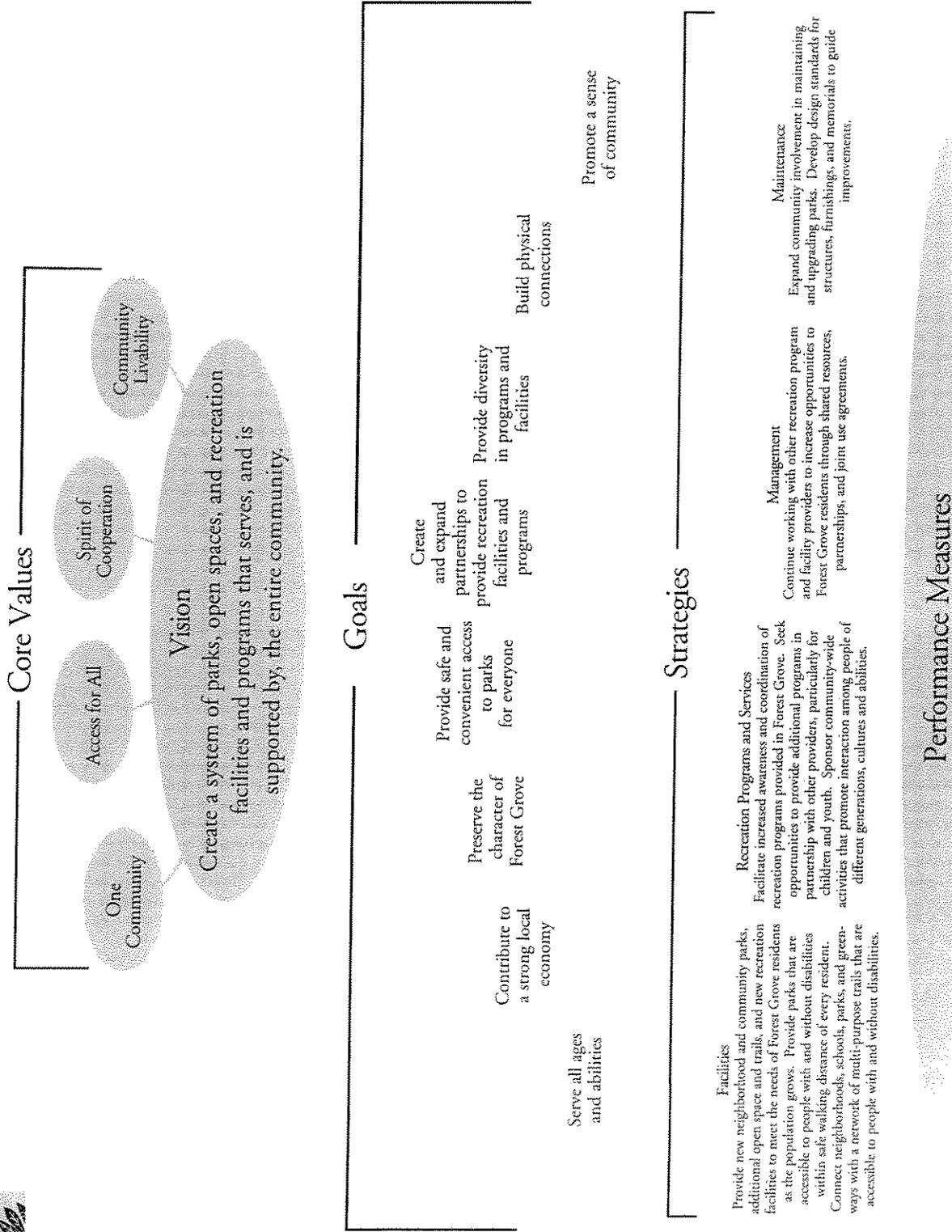
PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Benchmarks are suggested for each set of recommendations.





Forest Grove Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan Framework



Promote a sense of community

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

RECOMMENDATIONS

Specific recommendations address facilities, programs and services, management, and maintenance.

PARKS, RECREATION FACILITIES, OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS

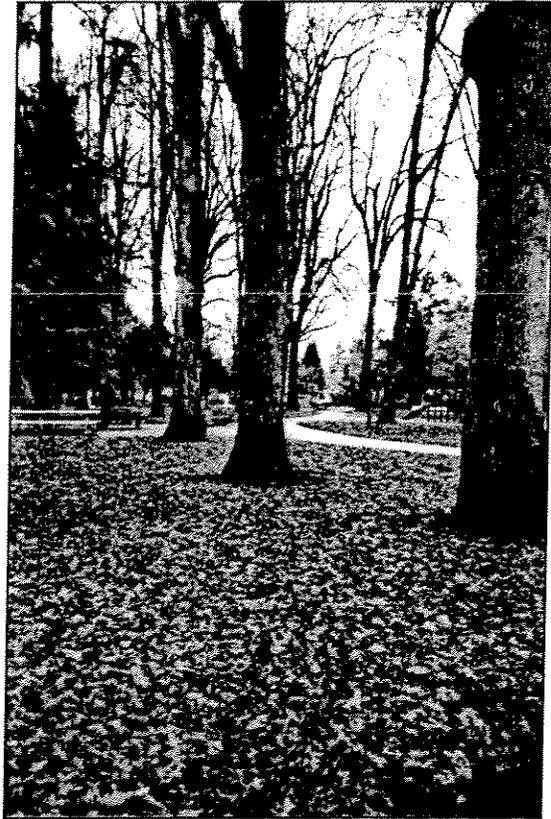
It is recommended that Forest Grove adopt standards that reflect its existing level of service.

The standard for neighborhood parks and school-parks should be set at 1.50 acres per 1000 population, with a one-third mile service area radius. Seven additional neighborhood parks will be needed by 2010.

The standard for community parks and school-parks should be set at 4.0 acres per 1000 population, with a one-mile service area radius. An additional community park should be developed to meet future population needs and ensure geographical accessibility to all residents.

Given the increasing awareness of the importance of open space and wildlife habitat, and the rise in trail-related recreation, it is recommended that a standard of 13 acres per 1000 population for open space/greenway also be adopted.

Existing parks should be renovated and expanded to increase recreational opportunities, usability, safety, and comfort. Imaginative children's play equipment that is age-appropriate, meets current safety standards, and is accessible to people with and without disabilities should be provided in all parks.



RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Due to limited resources, the City of Forest Grove needs to continue to be creative in looking for opportunities to partner with other providers.

Recommendations include:

- Focus resources on providing programs for children and youth, the highest priorities for Forest Grove residents.
- Work with Pacific University to develop exercise and wellness programs for the community.
- Create a position or office to coordinate program registration and

facility scheduling with the Forest Grove School District.

- Increase funding for program staff through the development of fee-based programs.

MANAGEMENT

One of Forest Grove's primary strengths is the spirit of mutual support and cooperation that exists among the City of Forest Grove, the Forest Grove School District, Pacific University, Metro Regional Services, Friends of Fernhill Wetlands, and other planning partners. By continuing to work together, greater recreational opportunities can be provided to Forest Grove's entire population including residents, students, and employees.

The City should continue to work with Metro to acquire land along stream corridors to protect natural resources and to develop multi-purpose trails.

It should develop joint-use agreements with Forest Grove School District for the acquisition, development, maintenance, and use of facilities. The City should also expand its partnership with Pacific University for development of sports facilities.

MAINTENANCE

It should be recognized that the development of new facilities in existing parks, and the acquisition and development of additional parkland, will place a significant burden on maintenance staff.

In the face of limited General Funds for increasing staff, the City should develop a plan to meet the additional demands on

maintenance staff as a result of new acquisitions and development. Potential opportunities include:

- Increased utilization of volunteer labor;
- Partnerships with Forest Grove School District and Pacific University;
- Funding from sports groups and other user groups; and
- Sponsorship from civic organizations.

IMPLEMENTATION

A Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is proposed for the next five years. The plan is based on recommendations contained in Chapter 6, Action Plan, and on anticipated revenues outlined in Chapter 7. Based on the CIP, the following projects can be accomplished during the next five years:

- Develop neighborhood park facilities at Rueter Farm and Knox Ridge sites;
- Improve and expand recreation facilities at Joseph Gale Park, Talisman Park, and Hazel Sills Park;
- Implement the master plan for Lincoln Park;
- Acquire additional land for community park expansion;
- Participate in re-development of Pacific University's Cannery Field for soccer; and
- Acquire land and develop over four miles of multi-purpose paved trails connecting parks and open spaces.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It is anticipated that between 2006 and 2010, the additional projects can be completed:

- Develop neighborhood park facilities on city-owned property in south and east Forest Grove;
- Begin development of a new community park in northwest Forest Grove; and
- Continue to acquire land and develop multi-purpose paved trails connecting parks and open spaces.

Capital facilities included in the Master Plan total \$19.035M, of which growth-required needs constitute \$9.621M, and non-growth needs total \$9.414M. Achievement of this Plan will require use of a variety of financing methods and multiple funding sources. Approximately 21.5% (\$4.1M) is expected to come from System Development Charges, which may only be used for growth-required needs. 26.3% (\$5M) of total project needs are expected to be funded from voter-approved General Obligation Bonds, and grants and donations are expected to total about \$250,000 (1.3%). The remaining \$9.685M (52.9%) is expected to be funded from other sources.

SUMMARY

This master plan provides a guide for building a stronger system of parks, recreation facilities and services, trails, and open spaces over the next ten years. Because recreation preferences and other conditions change rapidly, the master plan should be updated in five years. Community participation should be encouraged as the plan is implemented and updated.

CIP projects should be reviewed and adjusted annually to reflect changes in resources, needs, and priorities. Estimated project budgets should be updated for inflation using the SDC rate adjustment index contained in the SDC Ordinance adopted by the Forest Grove City Council.

PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

To ensure that the livability of Forest Grove is preserved and the recreation needs of its residents are addressed, the Parks and Recreation Department has undertaken the City's first Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan. The Master Plan describes a vision for parks and recreation opportunities for the next ten years, and outlines a five-year plan toward achieving the vision.

Named after its attractive forests, the city offers many nearby recreation opportunities in natural settings. In addition to the parks and open spaces within the city, Henry Hagg Lake, located five miles southwest of Forest Grove, offers boating, swimming, hiking and bicycling. The Tualatin River, Gales Creek, and Council Creek wind their ways around the city. The beaches of the Oregon Coast are 45 miles away.

PLANNING AREA

Forest Grove is located 24 miles west of Portland and 6 miles from Hillsboro (Figure 1-A). With a population of 17,708, Forest Grove is still one of Washington County's small communities.

Forest Grove is surrounded by plant nurseries, fields of vegetables, fruit and nut orchards, grass and other seed producing crops. Over a dozen wineries are located within a 20-minute drive.

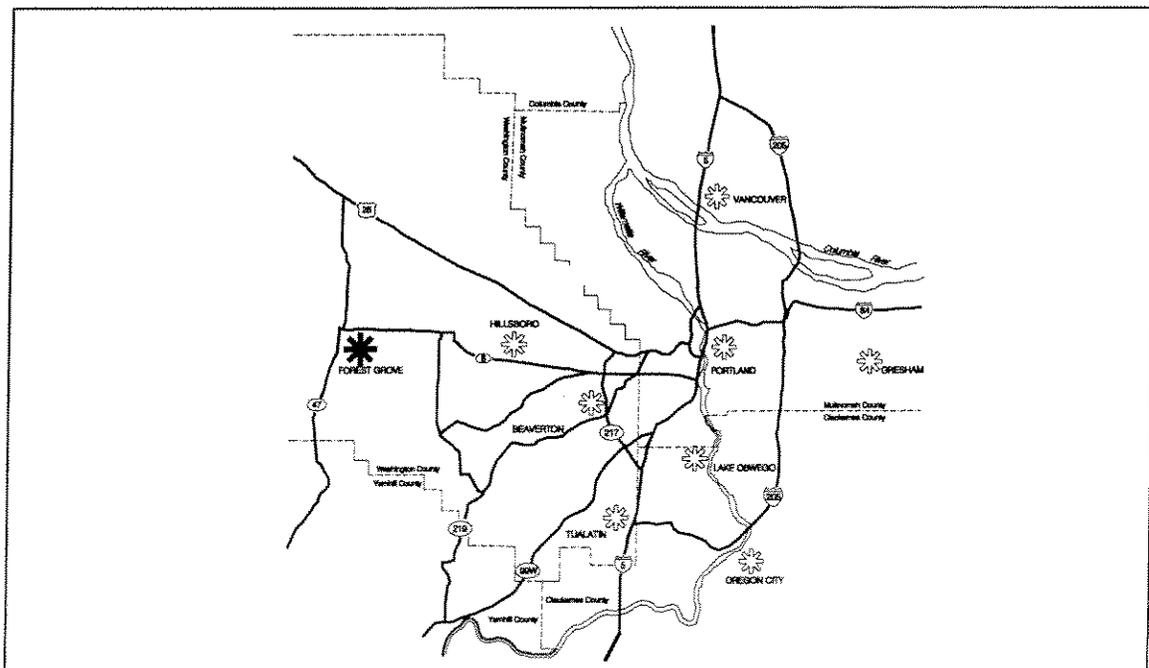


Figure 1-A Forest Grove Vicinity

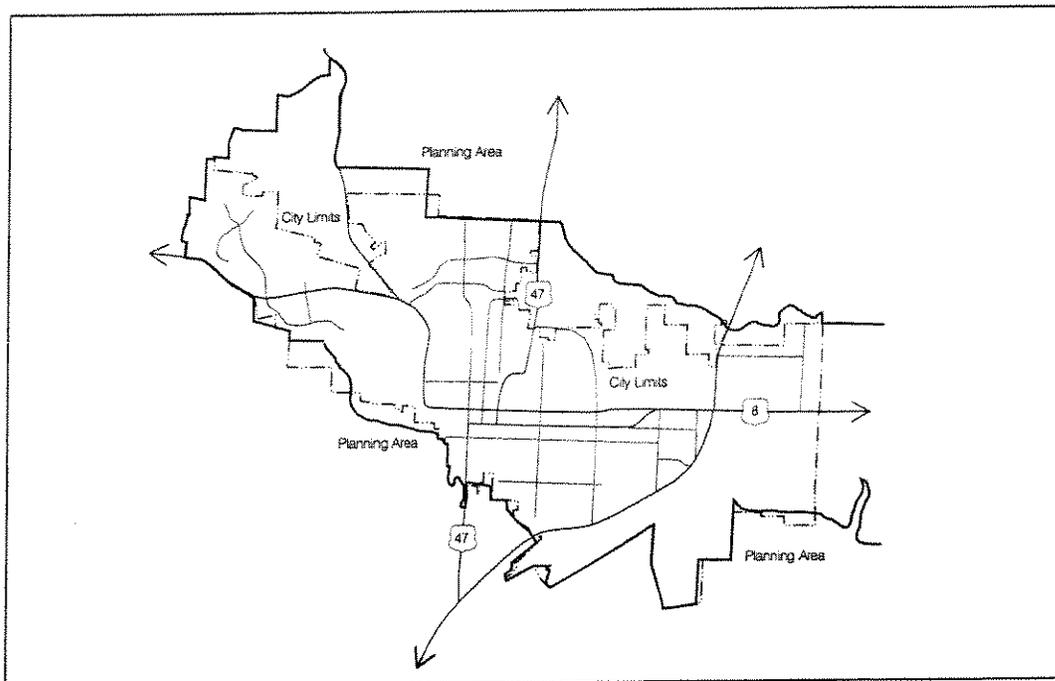


Figure 1-B Planning Area

The planning area includes approximately 4.7 square miles within the city limits of Forest Grove, and an additional 1.3 square miles within the Urban Growth Boundary (*Figure 1-B*).

PLANNING PROCESS

The planning process involved four basic phases:

- Inventory of Existing Conditions
- Identification of Community Needs
- Development of Draft Recommendations
- Development of the Master Plan

OTHER PLANNING EFFORTS

In the course of the project, recent and concurrent planning efforts were reviewed and incorporated. A complete list of references is included in the *Bibliography*. The plans having the most significance to the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan include:

Forest Grove Transportation System Plan, 1999 – A report which recommends design standards and routes for roads, bike lanes and sidewalks.

Metro's Open Spaces Land Acquisition Report to Citizens, 1999 – A report describing Metro's land acquisitions, proposed regional trail and greenway projects.

DOCUMENT ORGANIZATION

The first four chapters of the document describe the conditions in Forest Grove today and lay the groundwork for the plan.

- *Chapter 1 – Introduction:* a description of the plan's purpose, the planning process and the organization of the City of Forest Park Recreation and Open Space Plan.
- *Chapter 2 – Community Profile:* a description of the physical and cultural characteristics of Forest Grove.
- *Chapter 3 – Community Needs Assessment:* the findings of the community involvement process
- *Chapter 4 – Resource Assessment:* a description of the existing parks and open space system, recreation programs and services, and financial resources. This chapter also compares the facility standards of cities of similar size with existing service levels in Forest Grove.

The final three chapters describe a plan for the future.

- *Chapter 5 – Vision:* a planning framework outlines a vision for parks and recreation in Forest Grove, and goals and strategies for achieving that vision.
- *Chapter 6 – Action Plan:* a ten-year action plan for parks and recreation in Forest Grove. This chapter includes the parks, trails and open space plan as well as conceptual master plans for Lincoln Park and Forest Glen Park.
- *Chapter 7 – Funding Plan:* a five-year capital improvement plan, and maintenance funding plan.

The Appendix contains detailed background information.

- *Appendix A – Park Assessment:* a narrative description of each park operated and maintained by the City of Forest Grove, along with specific recommendations for each park.
- *Appendix B – Park Definitions:* a description of each park type including size standards, facilities usually provided, siting criteria, and maintenance modes.
- *Appendix C – Park and Recreation Facility Inventory:* a detailed inventory of parks, open spaces, and recreation facilities within the Forest Grove planning area.
- *Appendix D – Survey of Comparable Cities:* a compilation of survey responses from eight Oregon cities including information on staffing, recreation programs, park and recreation facilities, and funding sources.
- *Appendix E – CIP Cost Assumptions:* spreadsheets showing elements included in the CIP and the estimated costs.

HISTORY

Forest Grove was settled by Euro-American pioneers in 1840. Only nine years later, Pacific University was founded, becoming one of the oldest educational institutions on the West Coast. The City was incorporated in 1872.

City Council is the policy making body of the City. They appoint a City Manager to perform the administrative duties of the City. The Mayor presides over the City Council meetings and represents the City at meetings and special events. Seven advisory boards, including a Planning Commission and a Parks and Recreation Commission, are appointed by the City Council and assist in developing policy and programs for the City (Figure 2-A). An annual Town Meeting allows citizens to have input in local government.

CITY GOVERNMENT

Forest Grove has a Council/City Manager form of government. The six-member

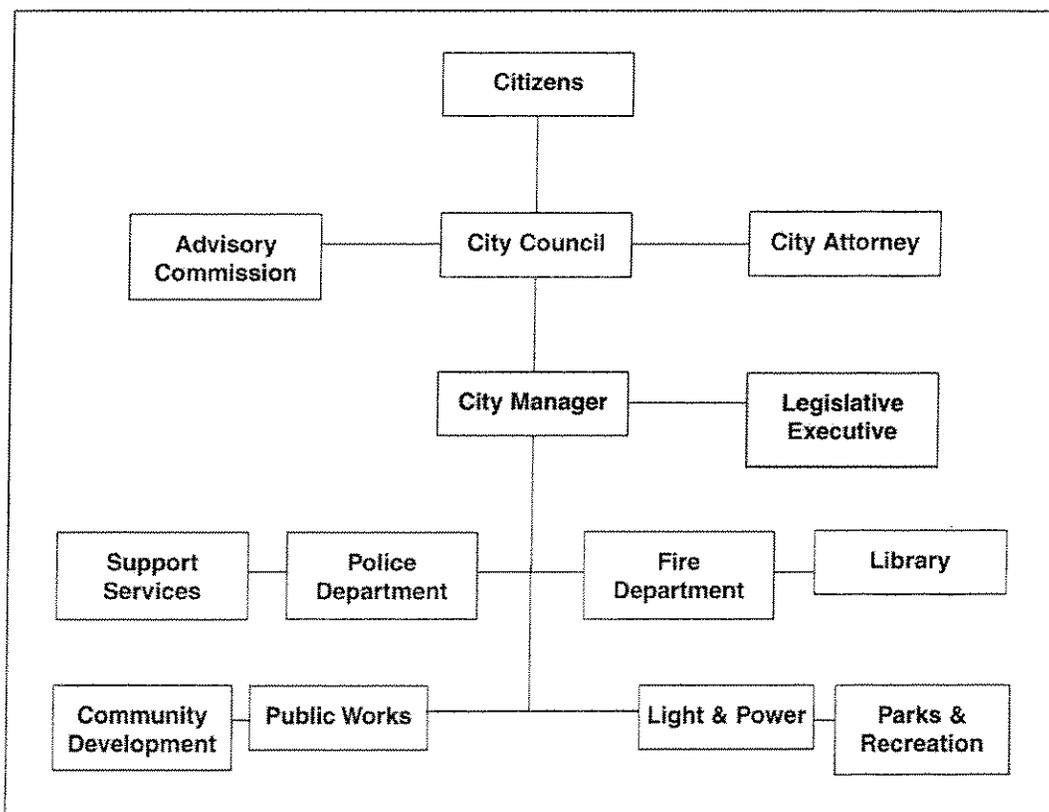


Figure 2-A City of Forest Grove Organizational Chart

COMMUNITY PROFILE

CHARACTER

Agriculture has historically been a major industry in Forest Grove and is a primary element of the city's heritage. The leading agricultural products in the area of Forest Grove are small fruits and berries, specialty produce, dairy products and plant nurseries.

Pacific University has also been significant in the city's history, and plays a major role in the character of Forest Grove today. In addition to theatrical and musical performances, Pacific University hosts several events geared to the broader community. They include the Concours d'Elegance, a display of antique and special interest cars, the Founder's Day Corn Roast, and the All Northwest Barbershop Ballad Contest. The University currently has an enrollment of 1850 students. Enrollment is growing at about 4.0 percent, more quickly than the population of the city.

Forest Grove has three live production theaters and an active art association. Its 21 churches are a significant presence in the community. The weekly newspaper, *Forest Grove News-Times*, makes local coverage its top priority.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Today, Forest Grove has a population of 17,708 (2000 Census). The City has grown 31% since the 1990 census.

It is growing at a moderate rate of 2.4 to 2.9 percent per year. Growth is projected to continue at a similar rate. A population of 22,800 is expected by 2010.

The diversity of Forest Grove has changed over the past ten years.

In 1990, the census reported that 8 percent of Forest Grove residents were under 5 years old, 23 percent were 5 to 19 years, 40 percent were 20 to 44 years, 14 percent were 45 to 65 years, and 15 percent were 65 or more years old. Significantly, 71 percent of Forest Grove's residents were 44 years or younger. The median age of all residents was 30 years.

In 1990, the median household income of Forest Grove residents was 89 percent of average for the state of Oregon. Forest Grove had a high proportion of residents with higher levels of education with 34 percent of residents reporting some college education.

According to the 2000 census, the percentage of residents living in Forest Grove who are of Hispanic origin is 17.3 percent, an increase of 134% over 1990. People younger than 18 years of age make up 27.4 percent of the population.

Despite the relatively young population, Forest Grove has the highest percentage of elderly residents living in assisted living facilities of anywhere in the United States according to the Washington County Department on Aging.

MAJOR EMPLOYERS

The top ten employers in Forest Grove are in the fields of high technology, education, wood products, government, and food processing.

- Merix, Inc., a manufacturer of printed circuit boards, is the city's largest

employer. It currently employs 1200 people.

- Pacific University is second with 450 employees.
- Forest Grove School District employs 437, some of whom work in neighboring Cornelius.
- Stimson Lumber Company employs 360.
- Westak of Oregon, Inc. and Matsushita Electronic Materials each employ about 160 in the manufacture of printed circuit boards.
- The City of Forest Grove provides local government and municipal services with 145 employees.
- Woodfold-Marco Manufacturing, Inc. employs 130 people to produce wood accordion doors.
- Gray & Company employs 125 people to process maraschino cherries.

LAND SUPPLY

A total of 3387.3 acres lies within the Forest Grove portion of the current Urban Growth Boundary (UGB). Of this, 2500.1 acres is within the Forest Grove City limits. Figure 2-B shows the land supply allocation within the Comprehensive Plan land use categories.

HOUSING

The number of housing units in Forest Grove slightly more than doubled between 1970 and 1990, keeping pace with the city's population increase. The median value of an owner-occupied home in 2000 is \$160,000. Almost 50 percent of the city's housing units are owner-occupied.

	UGB & City Limits	UGB	City Limits
Residential	1946.5 acres	685.6 acres	1261.0 acres
Commercial	275.1	6.2	268.9
Industrial	545.4	143.9	401.6
Public & Institutional	527.8	34.5	493.3
Parks & Open Space	92.4	17.1	75.3
GRAND TOTAL	3387.3 acres	887.2 acres	2500.1 acres

Figure 2-B Land Supply Allocation

COMMUNITY PROFILE

COMMUNITY VISION

The citizens of Forest Grove are engaged in developing a community vision. In its draft form, the vision includes the following goals:

- Maintain a small-town atmosphere
- Support diverse and vital neighborhoods
- Make quality education available to all
- Encourage a prospering city
- Preserve space to breathe
- Protect human resources
- Work and plan together
- Maintain cultural diversity
- Provide urban opportunities in a rural setting
- Provide something for everyone in the performing and visual arts
- Provide well-planned essential services

SUMMARY

Forest Grove today is a strong community. This planning process has seen active participation by the School District, Pacific University, business leaders, and citizens. As evidenced in this process, Forest Grove is a community that works and plans together.

Bordered on three sides by farmland and forest, Forest Grove has maintained its rural, small-town flavor as development spreads from the east. To preserve this flavor will require the careful planning and unified effort described in the community vision. The recommendations contained in this plan build on the community vision and outline ways in which the community can work together to preserve its livability.



COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Chapter Three



A community involvement program was designed to provide an understanding of the need for parks, open space, and recreation facilities and services in Forest Grove. The elements of this program included:

- A town hall meeting;
- Citizen advisory committee meetings;
- Technical advisory committee meetings;
- Neighborhood workshops;
- A recreation provider focus group;
- A telephone survey;
- Design workshops for Lincoln Park and Forest Glen Park; and
- A community-wide workshop.

Forest Grove residents were invited to participate in the master planning process through newspaper ads, fliers, and

personal letters and phone calls. In total, approximately 400 citizens participated.

TOWN HALL MEETING

To kick off the project, information explaining the master planning process and opportunities to get involved was displayed at Forest Grove's annual town hall meeting.

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A citizen advisory committee was formed to guide the planning process. The advisory committee included all members of the Recreation Commission, and a representative of the Planning Commission. The committee met at the beginning of the master planning process to identify goals, and participated in public

workshops and focus groups throughout the process.

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Representatives of the finance department, planning department, parks maintenance division, and the city manager's office met with consultants and the parks and recreation director throughout the process.

NEIGHBORHOOD WORKSHOPS

The Forest Grove Parks and Recreation Department sponsored a series of five neighborhood workshops in connection with the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan. The purpose of the workshop series was to involve the community in planning improvements for existing and future parks. Each workshop focused on specific parks. Participants were asked about the issues and opportunities for each park. In addition, participants were encouraged to talk about their goals for parks and recreation in Forest Grove, needed programs and facilities, and opportunities for partnerships with other recreation providers. Comment sheets were available for written suggestions.

PROVIDER FOCUS GROUP

The Forest Grove Parks and Recreation Department invited recreation providers in Forest Grove to attend a focus group to discuss:

- Recreation program and facility needs in Forest Grove;
- Coordination and communication among recreation providers; and

- Partnership opportunities for providing recreation programs and facilities.

Participants included representatives of sports leagues, the Forest Grove School District, Pacific University, Fernhill Wetlands, and business owners.

DESIGN WORKSHOPS

The Forest Grove Parks and Recreation Department sponsored two design workshops to involve the public in developing master plans for future improvements to Lincoln Park and Forest Glen Park. Following a walking tour of each site, workshop participants were asked to discuss their goals for the park, the issues and opportunities the park offers, and the highest priority improvements. Comment sheets were available for written suggestions. The conceptual master plans for these parks are included in Chapter Six.

TELEPHONE SURVEY

Davis & Hibbits, Inc. conducted a ten-minute telephone survey of 300 randomly selected residents in the City of Forest Grove. All survey respondents were screened to be age 18 and older and residing in the city limits of Forest Grove. Participants were asked about their current use of parks and recreation facilities and their goals for the future.

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

The Citizen Advisory Committee, Recreation Commission, Planning Commission, City Council, and the community at large were invited to a

COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Chapter Three

workshop in the fall of 2000. The purpose of the workshop was to present findings of the master planning process, discuss preliminary recommendations, and review the draft concept plans for Lincoln Park and Forest Glen Park.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT FINDINGS

Findings of the public involvement process include current use, goals for the future, and priorities for change.

Current Use of Recreation Resources

Forest Grove residents appreciate their parks. According to the telephone survey, 50% of them visit parks and recreation facilities once a month or more. They most often visit the following parks and recreation centers:

- Rogers Park (33%)
- Lincoln Park (23%)
- Aquatic Center (13%)
- Joseph Gale Park (8%)

The activities that most residents engage in are:

- Walking/hiking (71%)
- Using children's play areas (63%)
- Hanging out (62%)
- Swimming (58%)
- Bicycling (55%)
- Picnicking (52%)

Younger respondents were more likely to participate in active recreation:

- Basketball
- Soccer
- Running

- Volleyball
- Tennis

Goals for Parks and Recreation

Through the public involvement process, a series of goals and specific actions for parks and recreation in Forest Grove were articulated.

Provide safe and convenient access to parks for everyone

- Provide parks within reasonable walking distance of every resident
- Provide ADA access throughout all parks
- Provide safe access to all parks

Serve all ages and abilities

- Offer positive activities for teens
- Develop organized youth activities
- Provide opportunities for seniors
- Facilitate opportunities for childcare programs

Provide diversity in facilities and programs

- Create opportunities for adventure and using imagination
- Provide places for relaxing and recharging
- Provide places to exercise
- Facilitate lifelong learning through educational opportunities

COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Chapter Three

Build physical connections

- Develop connections for pedestrians and bicyclists to parks, recreation facilities, and greenways

Promote a sense of community

- Sponsor community-wide activities
- Develop facilities to accommodate the entire community
- Provide a focus for community activities – a “meeting place”
- Provide opportunities for socialization

Create and expand partnerships to provide recreation facilities and programs.

Partners include:

- Adventures without Limits
- Audubon Society
- Babe Ruth
- Chamber of Commerce
- Forest Grove Little League
- Forest Grove School District
- Forest Grove Senior Center
- Friends of Fernhill Wetlands
- Metro
- Pacific University
- Private businesses
- Skyhawks
- U.S. Department of Forestry

Preserve the character of Forest Grove

- Acquire land while it is available
- Preserve open spaces and green spaces
- Protect rural surroundings
- Provide parks that are safe and free of vandalism
- Design neighborhood parks to reflect their neighborhoods

- Enhance community livability

Contribute to a strong local economy

- Make parks attractive destinations for visitors
- Encourage tourism
- Contribute to increased property values

Priorities for Change

Telephone survey respondents said *children and youth* should be the highest priority when planning recreation programs.

Improvements to recreation facilities that were high or medium priority for 85% or more residents include:

- Children's play areas
- Hard-surface paths and trails for walking and bicycling
- Picnic facilities

Over 50% thought the following goals should be high priorities for Forest Grove Parks and Recreation:

- Improve existing parks
- Expand collaboration with schools
- Expand programs through partnerships
- Provide an information and referral service

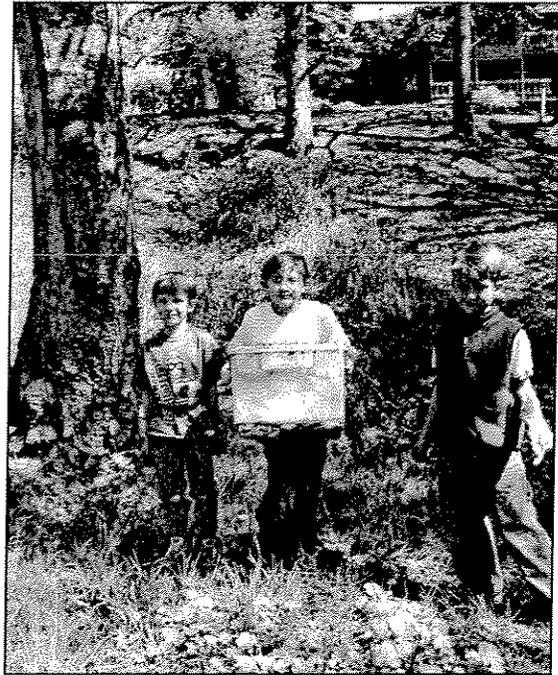
Respondents who visit parks at least once a week were more likely to say *acquiring land for future parks* is a high priority than respondents who visit less than once a week.

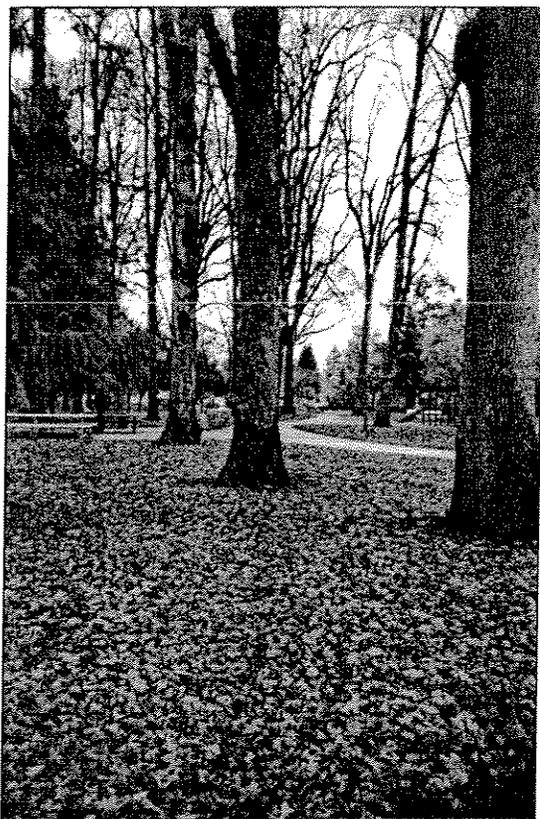
COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Chapter Three

SUMMARY

Children and youth should be the highest priority when planning recreation programs and facilities. Children's play areas, trails for walking and bicycling, and picnic facilities are among the highest priority improvements. While emphasis should be on improving existing parks, it is also important to acquire land while it is available and to preserve open spaces. Collaborating with schools and other recreation providers to increase recreation opportunities is highly supported. Parks should be attractive, and facilities should be suitable for tournament play to contribute to tourism and bolster the local economy.





To plan for future needs, it is important to understand the current system of parks, open spaces, and recreation facilities and programs. An evaluation of the existing system included:

- Parks and Recreation Facilities
- Recreation Programs and Services; and
- Maintenance and Management

PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

The recreation resources available to Forest Grove residents are rich in their quality and diversity. Altogether, Forest Grove residents have approximately 357

acres of parkland and open space available to them within the city limits and the urban growth boundary. The City of Forest Grove currently provides 55 acres of parkland and another 167 acres of open space. Metro Greenspaces purchases along Gales Creek and the Tualatin River contribute to the City's green buffer and offer the potential for development of recreational trails. The City of Forest Grove and Unified Sewerage Agency jointly own Fernhill Wetlands, a natural resource area of regional interest. Forest Grove School District provides over 66 acres of open space and recreation facilities to residents when they are not in use for school functions. In addition, St. Anthony's Church allows the public to use its softball field. Pacific University's practice field is available for public use at no charge; its Athletic Center and tennis courts are open to the community through memberships.

Figure 4-A illustrates the existing recreation resources in Forest Grove.

A complete description of each park, and recommendations for improvement, are included in *Appendix A*

FOREST GROVE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Park and Recreation Department owns and manages the aquatics center, one community park, four neighborhood parks, one special use park, and five undeveloped sites. An additional neighborhood park is owned jointly by the City of Forest Grove and the Forest Grove School District, and managed by the Parks and Recreation Department. The City also owns, but does not operate, the Forest Grove Senior Center. The City

of Forest Grove contributed to the purchase of Fernhill Wetlands, a natural resource area that is managed by Unified Sewerage Agency (USA) for water storage and wildlife habitat provided by Forest Grove.

Definitions for each park type, and a list of facilities usually associated with each, are included in *Appendix B*. A complete inventory of facilities contained in each park in Forest Grove is included as *Appendix C*.

COMMUNITY PARKS

Community parks are large parks that provide active and passive recreational opportunities for all city residents. They are large enough to accommodate large group activities. The City of Forest Grove owns one community park:

- Lincoln Park

NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS

Natural resource areas enhance the livability and character of a community by preserving natural amenities and open space:

- Fernhill Wetlands

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS/PLAY LOTS

Neighborhood parks are intended to meet the day-to-day recreational needs of the surrounding neighborhood. Forest Grove owns four neighborhood parks:

- Bard Park
- Hazel Sills Park
- Rogers Park
- Talisman Park

A fifth is jointly owned by the School District and City, and managed by the Park and Recreation Department:

- Joseph Gale Park

SPECIAL USE PARKS

Special use parks are generally oriented toward a single-purpose use. Forest Grove Parks and Recreation has one special use park, oriented toward low-intensity recreation:

- Forest Glen Park

RECREATION CENTERS

The City of Forest Grove owns two recreation centers. Each has the purpose of providing specialized recreation:

- Forest Grove Aquatic Center
- Forest Grove Senior Center

UNDEVELOPED PARKLAND

In addition to its developed parks, the City of Forest Grove has acquired properties for open space and future park development:

- Knox Ridge Site
- Loomis Site
- Rueter Farm Site
- Stites Site

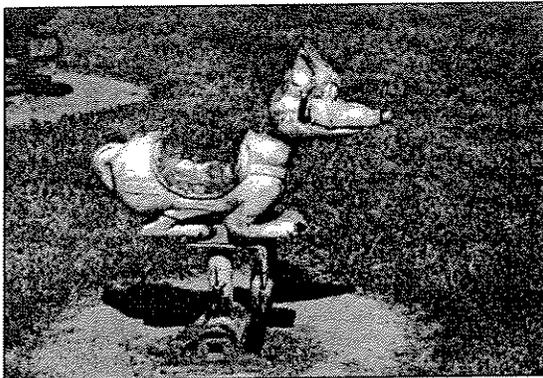
Chapter Four

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

Forest Grove City parks are beautifully maintained. Each staff person is assigned primary responsibility for certain parks.

CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS

Play equipment varies from the near antique to relatively new. As funds permit, the department is replacing old play equipment with new equipment that meets current safety standards. In some cases, temporary modifications have been made until pieces can be replaced. All play areas are surfaced with wood chips.



PARK SHELTERS AND SITE FURNISHINGS

Park shelters and site furnishings vary in style and materials. Benches and picnic tables are manufactured from wood, aluminum, and plastic coated metal. Trash receptacles are primarily wood or plastic-coated metal. With the exception of Talisman Park, all Forest Grove parks have carved wooden entry signs that were built and erected as a 1975 Eagle

Scout project. The signs have held up well. All parks have site lighting.

SIGNAGE

Street signs provide direction to most developed parks. Talisman Park is an exception.

DRAINAGE

Forest Grove has a high water table, and drainage is a problem at most of its sites.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Continue updating play equipment to meet current safety standards.
- Provide ADA accessible portable toilets where it has not been possible to retrofit the permanent restrooms.
- Replace existing permanent restrooms with new, attractive, ADA accessible restrooms.
- Adopt a standard style for park site furnishings, including memorial benches.
- Adopt a standard style for park structures.
- Repaint remaining park entry signs.
- Continue replacing old wooden bleachers with aluminum bleachers having handrails.
- Upgrade park sidewalks and trails to meet ADA accessibility standards.

FOREST GROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Creating the future...TOGETHER"

Forest Grove School District makes its facilities available for non-school uses when the facilities are not being used for school activities. Use permits are available for both indoor and outdoor facilities. Fees are charged to cover additional staff and utility costs. Priority is

given to non-profit youth and adult programs. A *Facility Permit Handbook* clearly outlines requirements and responsibilities of the user.

NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL-PARKS

Neighborhood school-parks fill the same function as neighborhood parks. The recreation resources of elementary schools are available to the public approximately two-thirds of the time:

- Joseph Gale Elementary
- Harvey Clarke Elementary
- Central Administration

COMMUNITY SCHOOL-PARKS

Community school-parks fill the same function as community parks. The recreation resources of middle schools are available to the public approximately two-thirds of the time. Those of the high school are available about one-half the time. Community School-Parks include:

- Forest Grove High School
- Tom McCall Upper Elementary
- Neil Armstrong Middle School

OTHER RECREATION RESOURCES

In addition to park and school facilities, other public and private facilities add to the recreation opportunity in Forest Grove.

GREENWAYS AND OPEN SPACES

Greenways and natural areas are being acquired through Metro's Greenspaces program. These areas contribute enormously to the open space in and around Forest Grove, and have the potential to significantly increase the

passive recreation resources available to Forest Grove residents through the development of trails and interpretive areas:

- Gales Creek Natural Area
- Hagg Lake Greenway
- Upper Tualatin Greenway

PRIVATE FACILITIES

Two private institutions allow residents of Forest Grove to use facilities when they are available. They include:

- St. Anthony's Church makes its softball field available to the public on a first-come-first-served basis at all times.
- Pacific University has a variety of recreation and cultural facilities that contribute to recreation opportunities add to the quality of life in Forest Grove.
 - *Sports Fields*
 - *Athletic Facilities*
 - *Public Gardens*
 - *Performing Arts Facilities*

COMPARABLE CITIES SURVEY

To examine parks and recreation in Forest Grove in a broader context, park acreage and recreation facilities provided in Forest Grove were compared to the standards of Oregon cities that are comparable in size. The following cities were contacted:

- Ashland
- McMinnville
- Oregon City
- Roseburg
- Troutdale

Chapter Four

- Tualatin
- West Linn
- Woodburn

They were queried about park and recreation facility standards, staffing and budget levels, and recreation programs. A summary of responses to the Comparable Cities Survey is contained in *Appendix D*. The average standards adopted by the eight cities are shown on *Figure 4-B*.

NRPA GUIDELINES

The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) historically recommended numerical standards for park types and for recreation facilities. Although numerical park standards are no longer published, NRPA standards still provide a point of comparison (see *Figure 4-B*).

CURRENT LEVEL OF SERVICE - PARKLAND

In addition to Forest Grove residents, employees of Forest Grove businesses and institutions utilize park and recreation facilities before and after work, and at lunchtime. Based on the number of hours per year employees can reasonably be expected to use City recreation facilities, a resident equivalent of 16.2% was established. According to Metro estimates (2000), there are currently 7,583 employees who work in Forest Grove. They are equivalent to 1,228 residents in their use of park and recreation facilities. (*Figure 4-B*)

Compared to local standards and historic national guidelines, Forest Grove has a low level of service for parks developed

for active recreation (*Figure 4-B*).

Today, each 1000 Forest Grove residents have access to almost 20 acres of parks and open space within the Urban Growth Boundary. By park type, the ratios are as follows:

- Neighborhood parks and school-parks
1.45 acres per 1000
- Community parks and school-parks
3.61 acres per 1000
- Special use parks
.98 acres per 1000
- Open space and greenways
12.87 acres per 1000

RECOMMENDATIONS - PARKLAND

It is recommended that Forest Grove adopt standards that reflect its existing level of service for:

- neighborhood parks and school-parks
- community parks and school-parks
- open space and greenways

The standard for neighborhood parks and school-parks should be set at 1.50 acres per 1000 population, with a one-third mile service area radius. The proposed service areas for existing neighborhood parks and school-parks are shown on *Figure 4-C*.

The standard for community parks and school-parks should be set 4.0 acres per 1000 population, with a one-mile service area radius. The proposed service areas for existing community parks and school-parks are shown on *Figure 4-D*.

Given the increasing awareness of the importance of open space and wildlife habitat, and the rise in trail-related recreation, it is recommended that a

standard of 13 acres per 1000 population for open space/greenway also be adopted.

CURRENT LEVEL OF SERVICE – RECREATION FACILITIES

Forest Grove currently has no standards for recreational facilities. The facilities currently offered fall below local standards in the following categories (see *Figure 4-E*).

- Youth softball/baseball fields
- Baseball fields
- Soccer fields
- Basketball courts
- Tennis courts
- Children's play equipment
- Community center

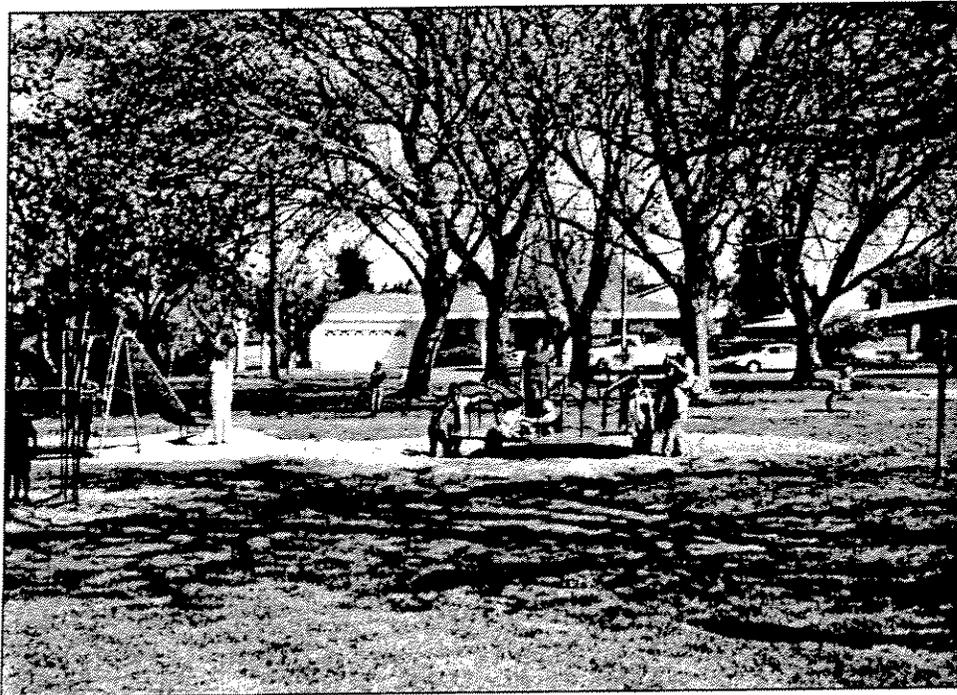
There are no local or national standards

for trails for walking, hiking and bicycling.

School facilities are included in the level of service based on public availability. A factor that is *not* calculated is the condition of school recreational facilities. School sports fields may be maintained differently than sports fields in parks that are maintained by the City of Forest Grove, particularly during the months when school is not in session.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Develop standards for each recreation facility type that reflect local standards and community needs (see *Figure 4-E*).
- Establish clearly defined joint-use agreements with Forest Grove School District that address acquisition, development, maintenance, liability, use, and programming of facilities.



Forest Grove Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan
Figure 4-B: Parkland Standards and Anticipated Need

Facility	Average of Local Standards (Note 1)	Historic NRPA Guidelines	Existing Facilities			Total Acres	Existing Level of Service (acres per 1000 population)	Recommended Standards (acres per 1000 population)	Need	
			City of Forest Grove Parks & Rec Dept	Other Public Land	School Parks (Note 2)				Current Population & Employees (Note 5)	Projected 2010 Population & Employees (Note 5)
Neighborhood Parks, Mini-Parks/ Playlots & Neighborhood School/Parks (Note 2)	2 ac/1000	1-2 ac/1000	13.50		12.15	25.65	1.45	1.50	0.91	9.71
Community Parks & Community School/Parks (Note 2)	3 ac/1000	5-8 ac/1000	22.50		45.84	68.34	3.61	4.00	7.40	31.61
Regional Parks	7 ac/1000	5-10 ac/1000	0.00		-	0.00	0.00	ns	-	-
Special Use Parks	ns (Note 4)	ns	18.60		-	18.60	0.98	ns	-	-
Recreation Centers			1.00		-	1.00	0.05	ns	-	-
Open Space / Greenways / Natural Resource Areas (Note 3)	10 ac/1000	protect resource	167.75	66.70	9.25	243.70	12.87	13.00	2.47	81.13
Total	21 ac/1000	15-20 ac/1000	223.35	66.70	67.24	357.29	18.96			

Note 1 The average of local standards is based on a survey of cities of comparable size in Oregon. See Appendix D.

Note 2 The acres for school parks reflect only the net maintained play area, multiplied by the percentage of time it is available to the general public. See Appendix C. Neighborhood School-Parks include Harvey Clark Elementary, Joseph Gale Elementary, and Central Administration Building. Community School-Parks include Neil Armstrong Middle School, Tom McCall Upper Elementary, and Forest Grove High School

Note 3 Open Space/Greenways includes undeveloped parkland, Fernhill Wetlands, Taylor's Marsh, portions of publicly owned Gales Creek Greenway that are within the UGB, and privately owned St. Anthony's Field and Cannery Field. See Appendix C.

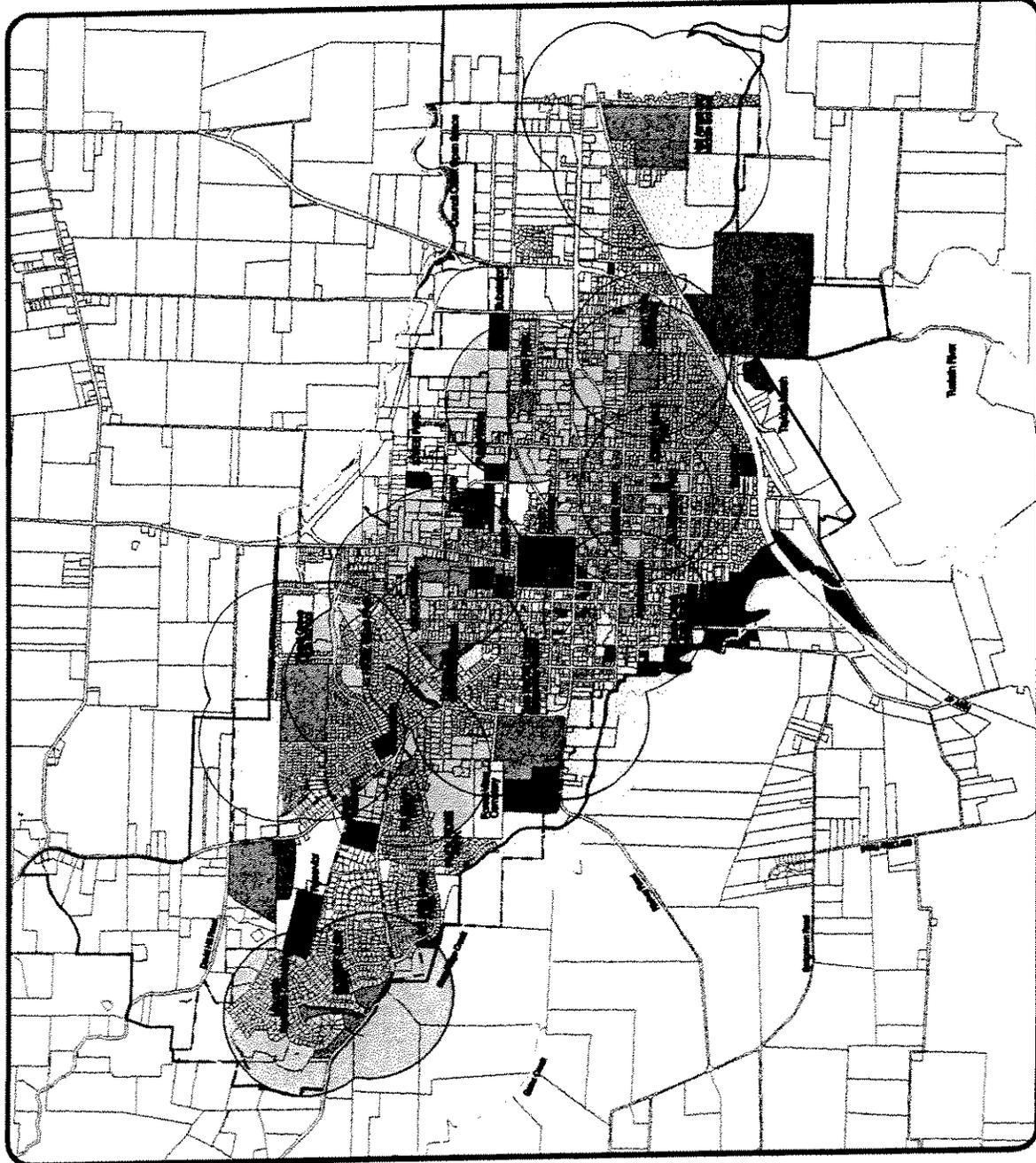
Note 4 "ns" indicates no standard exists

Note 5 Each employee working in Forest Grove is assumed to be equivalent to 16.2% of one resident in terms of park and recreation facility use.

**FOREST GROVE
PARK, RECREATION
AND OPEN SPACE
MASTER PLAN**

Legend:

- City Limits
- Urban Growth Boundary
- Forest Grove Parks
- Metro Open Space
- Public Open Space
- Other Public Lands
- Public University Property
- Forest Grove School District
- Privately Owned Open Space Available for Public Use
- Existing Neighborhood Park Service Area
- Existing Schools/Neighborhood Park Service Area



**Figure 4-C
Neighborhood Park
Service Area**

February 2001

Forest Grove Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan

Figure 4-E: Recreation Facility Standards and Anticipated Need

Facility	Existing Standards	Local Standards	Historic NRPA Guidelines	Existing Facilities			Total	Existing Level of Service Provided by Parks & Schools (Adjusted for Availability)	Recommended Standards	Need	
				Parks	Schools (adjusted for public availability)	Metro & Other Public Agencies				Current	Projected 2010
Youth Softball / Baseball Fields	ns	1/2,750	ns (Note 1)	2	1.98	-	3.98	1/ 4,449	1	3	
Baseball Fields (Note 2)	ns	1/2,500	1/5000	1	2.98	-	3.98	1/ 4,758	1	3	
Softball Fields	ns	1/3,000	1/5000	3	3.00	-	6	1/ 3,156	0	1	
Soccer Fields	ns	1/1,200	1/10,000	1	7.78	-	8.78	1/ 2,157	2	6	
Football Fields	ns	1/20,000	1/20,000	-	1.82	-	1.82	1/ 9,730	-	-	
Running Tracks	ns	1/20,000	1/20,000	-	1.82	-	1.82	1/ 9,730	0	0	
Basketball Courts	ns	1/1,250	1/5000	6	1.32	-	7.32	1/ 2,587	2	5	
Basketball Hoops	ns	ns	ns	-	5.28	-	5.28	1/ 3,586	-	-	
Tennis Courts	ns	1/1,600	1/2000	2	3.50	-	5.5	1/ 3,443	0	2	
Tennis Practice Wall	ns	ns	ns	3	2.64	-	5.64	1/ 3,140	-	-	
Multi-Purpose Paved Area	ns	ns	1/10,000	-	2.64	-	2.64	1/ 6,708	-	-	
Skate Facility	ns	ns	ns	1	-	-	1	1/ 17,708	0	0	
Bike Jump	ns	ns	ns	-	-	-	0	1/ -	1	1	
Volleyball	ns	ns	1/5,000	1	-	-	1	1/ 18,936	0	0	
Horsehoes	ns	ns	ns	3	-	-	3	1/ 5,903	0	1	
Open Turf Area	ns	ns	ns	5	3.14	-	8.14	1/ 2,175	-	-	
Children's Play Equipment	ns	1/1,200	ns	9	2.98	-	11.98	1/ 1,478	3	8	
Paved Recreation Path/Trail (miles)	ns	ns	ns	0.65	-	-	0.65	1/ 29,132	2.51	3.51	
Soft Surface Recreation Path/Trail (miles)	ns	ns	ns	1	-	-	1	1/ 18,936	1.37	2.12	
Picnic Area	ns	ns	ns	8	-	-	8	1/ 2,214	-	-	
Group Picnic Areas (Reservable)	ns	ns	ns	1	-	-	1	1/ 18,936	3	4	
Swimming Facilities	ns	1/22,500	1/20,000	1	-	-	1	1/ 18,936	0	0	
Botanical Gardens or Arboretum	ns	ns	ns	-	-	-	0	1/ -	-	-	
Community Center	ns	1/16,000	1/15,000	-	-	-	0	1/ -	-	-	

Note 1 "ns" indicates no standard exists

Note 2. Facilities shown in italics are those that are used by employees who live outside of Forest Grove.

RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Recreation programs and services are provided by a network of private and public organizations and institutions.

FOREST GROVE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Forest Grove Parks and Recreation Department offers aquatic programs through the Aquatics Center, and provides registration assistance for Skyhawks sports program.

FOREST GROVE AQUATIC CENTER

The Forest Grove Aquatic Center offers the following classes and activities:

- Swim Club – competitive swimming for ages 6 to 18;
- Pool membership; and
- Swimming lessons for all ages, 6 months through seniors.

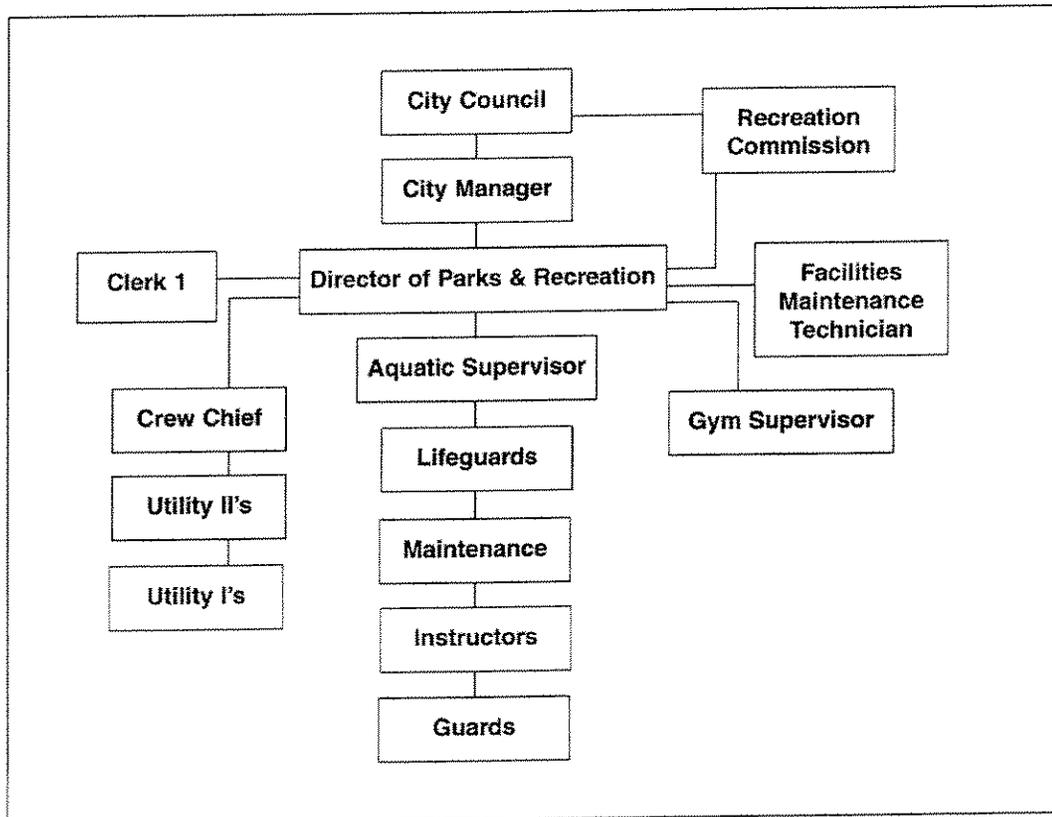


Figure 4-F Parks and Recreation Department Organizational Chart

PRIVATE RECREATION PROVIDERS

Private recreation providers in Forest Grove offer a variety of activities for the community.

ADVENTURES WITHOUT LIMITS

A non-profit organization offers high quality outdoor experiences for people of all ages and abilities.

PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

An outdoor Summer Concert Series is held on the East Lawn of Marsh Hall each year.

The annual Performing Arts Series is held at the Taylor-Meade Performing Arts Center.

The School of Physical Therapy is a potential partner for health and wellness classes for the community.

SKYHAWKS

This organization offers soccer, baseball, softball, basketball, flag football, and tennis for boys and girls ages 4 through 14.

SENIOR CENTER

Programs and activities for residents age 55 and above are offered at the Forest Grove Senior Center by a private non-profit organization.

FOREST GROVE LITTLE LEAGUE

Children and youth from ages 6 to 14 have the opportunity to play t-ball, baseball and softball through the Forest Grove Little League organization.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Focus resources on providing programs for children and youth, the highest priorities for Forest Grove residents.
- Re-institute summer youth programs using school district facilities.
- Work with Pacific University to develop exercise and wellness programs for the community.
- Create a position or office to coordinate program registration and facility scheduling with the Forest Grove School District.
- Increase funding for program staff through the development of fee-based programs.

MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

The City of Forest Grove Parks and Recreation Department and Aquatics Center have a total of 7.5 full-time equivalent (FTE) employees. The Director oversees the operation of Parks and Recreation Department including the Aquatic Center. In addition to the Director, five full-time positions are allocated to parks maintenance. One full-time position and one half-time position are assigned to aquatics programs (see *Figure 4-F*). Permanent staff are supplemented by seasonal and part-time employees.

Forest Grove City parks are, on the whole, beautifully maintained. Each staff person is assigned primary responsibility for certain parks.

The professional staff includes people with education and training in:

- Arboriculture
- Horticulture.

The crew chief has earned National Playground Safety Institute certification as a playground safety inspector (CPSI).

In addition to their responsibility for parks, grounds maintenance staff also care for:

- City street rights-of-way; and
- Grounds of city buildings.

They perform utility line clearance and tree trimming for the City Light & Power Department.

Staff has contributed to securing grants for park improvements, such as the demonstration planting of street trees in Talisman Park.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Develop a plan to keep abreast of maintenance needs as additional land is acquired and additional parks are developed.
- Institute an Adopt-a-Park program to utilize volunteer resources in park maintenance.
- Pursue a partnership with the Forest Grove School District for maintenance of school district outdoor recreational facilities.

CURRENT FUNDING

Financial reserves are expected to be depleted to dangerously low levels within three to four years (Five-Year Financial Plan, FY 2000-05). Based on the City's five-year financial plan, no additional staff positions are anticipated in the next five years. Projected staff increases in the Parks and Recreation Department are dependent upon the department's ability to increase revenue to fund a large percentage of the costs.

Capital outlay for the Parks and Recreation Department for years 2000-2005 is projected at the current level. The assumption is that funding for future park projects will come from SDCs, grants, and other sources.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations for funding are included in Chapter 7.

The values, goals, and strategies articulated by community members during the public involvement process provide the framework for this master plan. There are five elements of the framework as shown in *Figure 5-A*:

- *Core values* or qualities that guide community members in their actions;
- *A vision* for Forest Grove's parks, recreation and open space system that reflects the values;
- *Goals* that define the purpose of this master plan;
- *Strategies* that describe how the City will achieve its vision; and
- *Performance measures* to evaluate success in achieving the vision.

CORE VALUES

The core values that are reflected in the goals and strategies are:

- *Access for All* - providing facilities and programs for people of all ages, ethnicities and abilities;
- *Spirit of Cooperation* - pooling resources to increase opportunities for all those in the community;
- *Community Livability* – each organization, agency and institution taking responsibility for contributing to Forest Grove's livability;
- *One Community* – recognizing that the action of one organization, agency or institution often has effects that touch the entire community.

VISION

The vision that emerged was one of a system of parks, open spaces, and recreation facilities and programs that serves the entire community. It is a system that is formed by a network of facility and program providers. The City of Forest Grove Parks and Recreation Department functions as the support structure for the network, providing major facilities, aquatic programs, information, coordination and referral.

GOALS

The goals, and specific actions to achieve those goals were identified:

- *Serve all ages and abilities* – Children, youth, teens, adults and seniors of all abilities should be provided opportunities to recreate.
- *Contribute to a strong local economy* - Make parks attractive destinations for visitors and encourage tourism.
- *Preserve the character of Forest Grove* - Preserve open spaces and green spaces and protect rural surroundings by acquiring land while it is available. Provide parks that are safe and free of vandalism. Design neighborhood parks to reflect the character of the neighborhood and needs of the neighbors.
- *Provide safe and convenient access to parks for everyone* – It is important to provide safe access to parks, ADA access throughout the parks, and parks that are distributed so that every resident lives within a reasonable walking distance of a park.

- *Create and expand partnerships - provide additional recreation facilities and programs with the following partners:*
 - *Adventures without Limits*
 - *Audubon Society*
 - *Babe Ruth*
 - *Chamber of Commerce*
 - *Forest Grove Little League*
 - *Forest Grove School District*
 - *Forest Grove Senior Center*
 - *Friends of Fernhill Wetlands*
 - *Metro*
 - *Pacific University*
 - *Private businesses*
 - *Skyhawks*
 - *U.S. Department of Forestry*
- *Provide diversity in facilities and programs – Opportunities for relaxing, exercising, exploring, and learning are all important.*
- *Build physical connection - Develop walkways and multi-purpose trails that are accessible to people with and without disabilities for pedestrians and bicyclists to connect neighborhoods, schools, parks, recreation facilities, and greenways.*
- *Promote a sense of community – Develop a facility for community activities and sponsor community-wide activities.*
 - *Develop facilities to accommodate the entire community*
 - *Provide a focus for community activities – a “meeting place”*
 - *Provide opportunities for socialization*

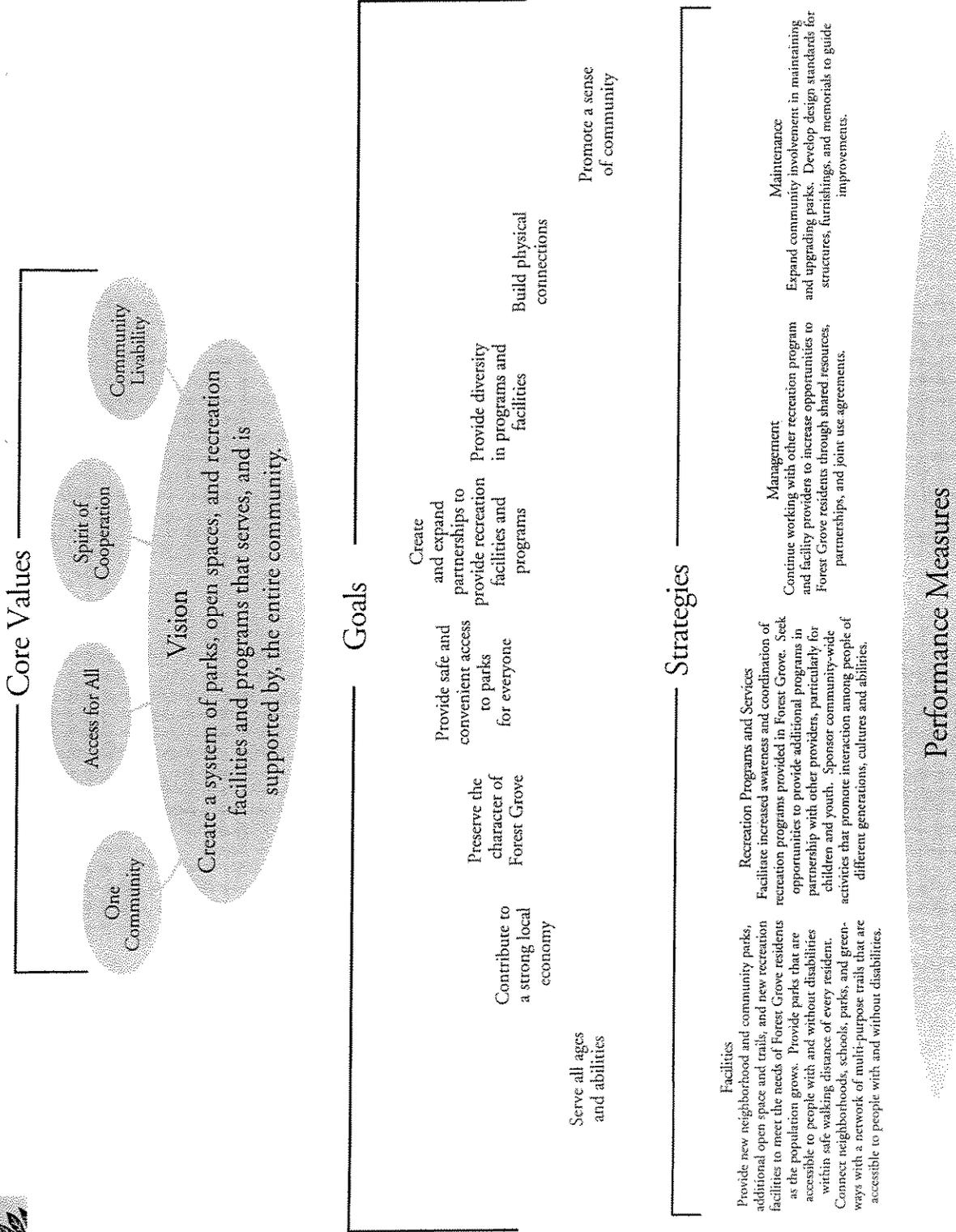
STRATEGIES

Strategies are the means to achieving Forest Grove’s goals and the vision for parks, recreation and open space. The strategies are the foundation on which the Action Plan is constructed.

- *Facilities – Provide new neighborhood and community parks, additional open space and trails, and new recreation facilities to meet the needs of Forest Grove residents as the population grows. Provide parks that are accessible to people with and without disabilities within safe walking distance of every resident. Connect neighborhoods, schools, parks, and greenways with a network of multi-purpose trails that are accessible to people with and without disabilities.*
- *Recreation Programs and Services – Facilitate increased awareness and coordination of recreation programs provided in Forest Grove. Seek opportunities to provide additional programs in partnership with other providers, particularly for children and youth. Sponsor community-wide activities that promote interaction among people of different generations, cultures and abilities.*
- *Management – Continue working with other recreation program and facility providers to increase opportunities to Forest Grove residents through shared resources, partnerships, and joint use agreements.*
- *Maintenance – Expand community involvement in maintaining and upgrading parks. Develop design standards for structures, furnishings, and memorials to guide improvements.*



Forest Grove Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan Framework



This portion of the Master Plan presents recommendations for implementing the vision for a future parks, recreation and open space system. Recommendations address the following areas:

- Facilities;
- Recreation Programs and Services.
- Management; and
- Maintenance.

For each of these areas the following information is provided:

- An issue statement;
- Primary benefits associated with providing the facility or service;
- A description of each recommendation; and
- Suggested benchmarks by which to measure progress.

FACILITIES

ISSUE STATEMENT

Forest Grove is committed to maintaining its quality of life as urbanization encroaches. Parks, recreation facilities, trails, and open space are essential to that quality of life. They foster healthy, active lifestyles, strengthen a sense of community, protect the environment, contribute to a healthy economy, and help mitigate the effects of growth.

New neighborhood and community parks, additional open space and trails, and new recreation facilities will be necessary to meet Forest Grove residents' needs as the population grows.

BENEFITS

Parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces provide many important benefits to a community. The benefits include:

- Foster child and youth development;
- Provide parks and open space as relief from urban development;
- Meet the recreation needs of residents of all ages through accessible facilities and opportunities;
- Provide access to the natural environment; and
- Build a sense of community.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan (*Figure 6-A*) illustrates Forest Grove's existing and recommended parks, open space, and trails.

The proposed parks are indicated as follows:

- Neighborhood Parks **N**
- Community Parks **C**
- Special Use Park **S**

Trails proposed by this plan, as well as trails and bike lanes proposed in the Forest Grove Transportation System Plan, are shown with colored dots.

GENERAL

- Renovate and expand existing parks to improve park condition, increase recreational opportunities, meet current safety requirements, and provide access for people with disabilities.
- Provide additional site amenities at existing parks to increase usability, safety, and comfort, including:

- accessible restrooms (portable if necessary);
- drinking water;
- group picnic shelters;
- shaded picnic tables; and
- benches near children's play areas.
- Provide imaginative children's play equipment that is age-appropriate and meets current safety standards and is accessible to people with and without disabilities.
- Provide additional recreation facilities in new and existing parks to meet recommended standards (see *Figure 4-E*).
- Develop an off-leash area for dogs. Consider financing through user fees.
- Develop standards for structures and site furnishings, including memorial benches
- Develop a plan for updating children's play equipment to current safety standards
- Develop a new neighborhood park in north Forest Grove on Stites site (N-5);
- Develop a play lot in west Forest Grove on Knox Ridge Site (N-6);
- Develop a new neighborhood park in south Forest Grove on city-owned property (N-7); and
- Develop a play lot on city-owned property in east Forest Grove (N-8).

In addition to general recommendations discussed earlier for site amenities, children's play equipment, recreation and facilities in all parks, the following improvements to existing parks are recommended:

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS AND SCHOOL PARKS

- Improve access to basic recreation opportunities for all Forest Grove residents by acquiring and developing 9.7 additional acres of neighborhood parks in areas that do not have a neighborhood or community park within one-third mile of residences:
 - Acquire land and develop a new neighborhood park in northwest Forest Grove (N-1);
 - Develop a new neighborhood park in west Forest Grove on Rueter Farm property (N-4);
- Hazel Sills Park
 - Provide perceptual barrier (sidewalk or plantings) between park and street.
- Bard Park
 - Provide a covered picnic area.
 - Replace the asphalt walk with concrete.
- Joseph Gale Park
 - Upgrade walkways to provide accessibility to people with and without disabilities.
- Talisman Park
 - Increase the recreational value by adding horseshoe pits, and a neighborhood information kiosk.
 - Explore options for increasing the recreational value of the wetland area.
 - Complete perimeter walkway and plantings with input of park users and neighbors.

Chapter Six

- *Expand the urban arboretum.*
- *Improve access from Gales Creek Road.*
- **Rogers Park**
 - *Relocate sand play area nearer to other play facilities.*
 - *Build retaining wall to eliminate steep grass slope near tennis court.*
 - *Build permanent restrooms*
- **COMMUNITY PARKS AND SCHOOL/PARKS**
 - *Develop a new community park in northwest Forest Grove (C-2).*
 - Participate in redevelopment of sports fields at:
 - *Neil Armstrong Middle School/Park; and*
 - *Tom McCall Upper Elementary School/Park,*
 - Participate in development of new sports fields at:
 - *Forest Grove High School/Park.*
 - Implement the conceptual master plan for Lincoln Park (see *Figure 6-B*).



Chapter Six

Lincoln Park

A conceptual master plan was developed for Lincoln Park (see Figure 6-B). The plan is based on results of the design workshop described in Chapter 3 and proposes the following new facilities:

- expanded skate park
- bike jump
- pre-fabricated climbing rock
- group picnic shelters (2)
- covered individual picnic tables
- children's play areas (2)
- restrooms
- basketball court
- wall ball court
- benches
- maintenance shed
- storage facility for sports leagues

Adjacent properties should be acquired as they become available for further expansion of Lincoln Park.

SPECIAL USE PARKS

- Implement the conceptual master plan for Forest Glen Park (see Figure 6-C).

Forest Glen Park

A conceptual master plan was developed for Forest Glen Park. The plan is based on results of the design workshop described in Chapter 3, tempered by site limitations and constraints on access and parking. In addition to creek stabilization, the following new facilities are proposed:

- soft surface interpretive trails
- paved trails that are accessible to people with and without disabilities
- expanded children's play area

- picnic tables and benches
- on-site parking for ten cars

EXISTING UNDEVELOPED PARKS

- Develop a master plan for Knox Ridge Park with neighborhood involvement.
- Develop a master plan for Rueter Park with neighborhood involvement.
- Develop a master plan for the Stites site with community involvement.

TRAILS AND CONNECTORS

- Continue to work with Metro to acquire land along stream corridors to protect natural resources and to develop multi-purpose trails.
- Provide public access to natural areas and trail-related recreation by developing trails through greenways and in natural areas.
- Develop a multi-purpose trail system that connects parks, schools, Fernhill Wetlands, Metro greenspaces, and other publicly owned lands.

OPEN SPACE/GREENWAYS

- Acquire an additional 81 acres of open space/greenway to preserve a green zone in and around Forest Grove.

BENCHMARKS

- Percent of residents who live within a 1/3 mile radius of a neighborhood or community park;
- Number of total acres of park land per 1000 population;
- Number of recreation facilities of each type per 1000 population; and
- Number of miles of multi-purpose trail.

RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

ISSUE STATEMENT

Since funding cuts forced the elimination of most City recreation programs, the opportunities to participate in recreation programs have been limited to those offered by the Aquatic Center, the Forest Grove School District, and private providers. The absence of a central coordinating function often results in competition for facilities. Many residents are unaware of the programs available to them.

The need for additional recreation programs was voiced at each one of the neighborhood workshops. The telephone survey results indicated that a large majority of respondents believe providing recreation programs is very important for each of the reasons offered:

- Support well being of seniors and persons with disabilities
- Build a stronger sense of community
- Promote youth development
- Provide opportunities for lifelong learning
- Improve health and wellness
- Promote stewardship and volunteerism

Survey respondents further stated that children and youth should be the highest priority when developing recreation programs.

BENEFITS

Good recreation programs provide accessible, diverse activities - both programmed and unprogrammed - for people of all ages and abilities. Benefits accrue to both the individual and the entire community:

- Provides positive activities for youth;
- Builds a sense of community;
- Enhances appreciation for the environment;
- Contributes to strong families; and
- Encourages tolerance and respect for people with different abilities and backgrounds.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Develop a recreation referral service for recreation program opportunities in Forest Grove.
- Create a position/office that is jointly funded and responsible for scheduling, coordination, and fee collection.
- Utilize the City web site for publicizing recreation opportunities, including links to other recreation programs and facilities in Forest Grove.
- Develop enterprise recreation programs to generate revenue.
- Continue seeking opportunities to provide programs to residents of Forest Grove including:
 - *after-school activities for youth*
 - *summer recreation programs*
 - *non-sports recreation programs*
 - *“active” activities for seniors*

- *organized activities for adults*
- *environmental programs*

BENCHMARKS

- Number of children and youth served in recreation programs.
- Number of program hours offered for children and youth.
- Number of parks and recreation information calls answered.
- Number of parks and recreation web site visits.
- Dollars raised through recreation programs.
- Percent of participants who report that recreation programs have increased their sense of community, increased their appreciation of the environment, and strengthened families.

MANAGEMENT

ISSUE STATEMENT

The Parks and Recreation Department, School District, Pacific University, and private recreation providers have a history of sharing resources to provide recreation opportunities to Forest Grove residents. This spirit of cooperation can facilitate the changes necessary to meet today's needs and the needs of future residents.

BENEFITS

- Contributes to efficient use of resources (staff, land, and dollars); and
- Increases community ownership and participation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Programs

- Partner with Pacific University to develop recreation and wellness programs for the community.
- Develop partnerships with non-profit organizations such as Fernhill Wetlands and Audubon Society to provide interpretive learning programs.
- Form partnerships with the senior center to provide senior-taught classes for children.
- Sponsor drop-in gym programs in cooperation with the school district or Pacific University.

Facilities

- Pursue an agreement with Pacific University to jointly improve (with lighting and synthetic turf) and share the use of Cannery Field for soccer.
- Develop an agreement with Pacific University for joint use of outdoor performance space.
- Develop park facilities (such as picnic areas, restrooms) at Fernhill Wetlands in cooperation with the Friends of Fernhill Wetlands.
- Develop partnerships with private business to underwrite parks and recreation facilities.
- Develop an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Metro to develop trails and interpretive facilities on properties acquired through the Greenspaces program.
- Pursue joint use agreements with the Forest Grove School District and other partners to share the cost of facility development and maintenance.

- Develop indoor recreation centers in cooperation with the school district.
- Continue efforts to keep the public informed and involved in the development and stewardship of their park system.
- Develop a plan for updating children's play equipment to current safety standards.
- Develop an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan
- Develop a plan to respond to increased maintenance needs as facility acreage increases.

BENCHMARKS

- Number of facilities developed, improved, or operated through joint use agreements;
- Number of programs created through partnerships;
- Number of partnerships developed with businesses and civic organizations.

MAINTENANCE

ISSUE STATEMENT

As the parks, recreation and open space system expands, maintenance responsibility increase. As new park facilities are developed, funding for maintenance must also be increased.

BENEFITS

- Contributes to efficient use of resources (staff, land, and dollars);
- Builds support for park facilities; and
- Enhances public safety.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Develop a plan for meeting increased maintenance needs as facility acreage grows.
- Expand utilization of volunteer labor, and develop an Adopt-A-Park program.
- Continue using Washington County work-in-lieu-of-jail labor where appropriate.

BENCHMARKS

- Number of hours of volunteer participation in park development and stewardship; and
- Number of maintenance staff/park land acre.

To successfully implement the Master Plan recommendations, an adequate budget for capital improvements, and a plan for meeting increased demands on maintenance staff are needed. This chapter:

- outlines a plan for financing capital improvements;
- proposes a five-year capital improvement plan based on anticipated revenue; and
- estimates additional maintenance requirements that result from implementation of the capital improvement plan.

FINANCING STRATEGIES

Capital facilities included in the Master Plan total \$19.085M, of which growth-required needs constitute \$9.646M, and non-growth needs total \$9.439M. Achievement of this Plan will require use of a variety of financing methods and multiple funding sources. Following are descriptions of some potential revenue sources and their expected contributions to achievement of the Plan.

SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT CHARGES

System Development Charges (SDC's) are fees paid by new development to cover a portion of the costs of capital facilities needed to serve new development. The City collects parks and recreation SDC's for all new residential development and places these revenues in accounts, based on the sub-area of the City (i.e., southeast, northeast, etc.) where they are collected. The City's current policy requires that at least 50% of the funds collected in a sub-area must

be used for parks located within the sub-area, and allows up to 50% of the funds to be used for community parks, which may be located outside the sub-area. No parks SDC is currently collected for non-residential development.

The current SDC rate is \$1,295 per residential dwelling unit. Full funding of growth-required costs would require an increase in the SDC rate to approximately \$4,900 per dwelling unit, which would be the highest parks SDC rate in Oregon. When compared with the parks SDC rates for single-family dwelling units charged in nearby cities and park districts (North Plains - \$1,975, Hillsboro - \$1,748, Tualatin Hills PRD - \$1,950), an increase in the rate to approximately \$2,000 per dwelling unit is reasonable.

A parks SDC for non-residential development is also recommended. Based on potential use of facilities, the estimated SDC rate per employee created by new development is \$88. At \$2,000 per dwelling unit and \$88 per employee, a total of \$1.9M in SDC revenues can be expected between 2001 and 2006 (five year period). Total SDC's collected through 2011 will be approximately 4.1M, sufficient to fund about 42.5% of the \$9.646M in growth-related needs, or 21.5% of the \$19.085M in improvements identified in the Master Plan. The remaining \$14.985M required for projects must come from other sources.

GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS (G.O. BONDS)

G.O. Bonds are debt instruments sold by the City to fund new capital facilities or make improvements to existing facilities.

These bonds are repaid with property tax revenue generated by a special levy that is outside the property tax limits imposed by Measure #5 (1990) and Measure #50 (1997). Voters must approve G.O. Bonds and this approval must occur in a general election in an even numbered year, or in another election in which at least 50% of registered voters participate.

The City is using revenues from a 1999 \$5.0M G.O. bond measure to fund improvements to the aquatics center, expand the library, and acquire land for future parks and recreation uses. Under current State statutes, the City's general obligation bonded debt issues are subject to a legal limitation based on three percent (3%) of total estimated market value of real and personal property. The City has total outstanding debt from G.O. bonds of approximately \$5.6M, well below the legal debt limit of \$29.8M. This means the City currently has roughly \$24.2M in available debt capacity. The City has an "A2" rating with Moody's Investors Service on general obligation bond issues.

The City's relatively small amount of outstanding general obligation debt, significant debt capacity, and excellent bond rating make voter-approved general obligation bonds a good option as a potential source of funding a portion of the \$14.985M in parks and recreation capital improvements for which SDC funding will not be available. The City has estimated that approximately \$5M in improvements may be funded with G.O. bonds during the next ten years. At this level, these revenues will fund approximately 26.2% of the \$19.085M in projects identified in the Master Plan.

SPECIAL ASSESSMENT/LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS

Residents may choose to form a local improvement district (LID) to pay for capital improvements or maintenance of facilities through special assessments on their property. This method requires the approval of at least 60% of the owners of land within the proposed district, and must represent at least 60% of the land abutting the proposed improvement. The use of LID's may be appropriate for new or upgraded mini-parks or neighborhood parks that serve specific service areas within the City, but cannot be expected to provide a significant level of funding.

GENERAL FUND REVENUES

General fund revenues consist chiefly of property taxes derived from the permanent tax rate, and are subject to the \$10 combined limit on local government taxing agencies imposed by Measure #5 (1990), and the 3% annual increase in property valuation imposed by Measure #50 (1997). General fund revenues are severely limited, and an inconsistent and unlikely source for funding large-scale parks and recreation capital improvements, and should be considered as a funding source only for operations and maintenance.

LOCAL OPTION LEVIES FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

A local option levy for capital improvements provides for a separate property tax levy outside the City's permanent rate limit, but subject to the \$10 combined rate limit imposed under Measure #5. This levy may be used to fund a capital project or group of projects

over a specified period of time, up to 10 years. Revenues from these levies may be used to secure bonds for projects, or to complete one or more projects on a "pay as you go" basis. Local option levies require voter approval and are subject to the double majority requirement of Measure #50 and are not considered to be a good alternative to the use of G.O. bonds for large projects or groups of projects.

FEDERAL/STATE/OTHER GRANTS

Federal, state, and other government agencies and foundations sometimes make funds available to serve specific purposes related to parks and recreation; such as land and water conservation, open space preservation, bicycle path construction, or blighted area improvements. The State of Oregon has a Local Government Grant Program which provides grants of up to \$250,000, with matching funds required from the local government. In addition to requirements for a local match, grants often have other conditions and limitations, such as providing for project planning but not for construction. The availability of grants is limited, but may be useful for specific project needs such as trails, bicycle paths, or open space. This method has been identified by the City as a potential source for approximately \$250,000 in identified parks needs.

SPONSORSHIPS/PARTNERSHIPS/DONATIONS

Public, private, and/or not-for-profit organizations may be willing to fund outright or join together with the City to provide additional parks and recreation

facilities and/or services. For example, the City may receive assistance from local civic organizations in construction of picnic shelters, and/or may partner with Metro for acquisition/development of greenspaces, trails, bicycle paths, etc. This method for funding is generally limited to specific projects or portions of projects and may be subject to the same types of requirements and conditions identified for grants, above.

LOCAL OPTION LEVIES FOR OPERATIONS

Local option levies for operations provide for a separate property tax levy outside the City's permanent rate limit, subject to the \$10 combined rate limit imposed under Measure #5. These levies may be useful to fund operations and maintenance activities over a specified period of time, up to 5 years. They require voter approval and are subject to the double majority requirement of Measure #50.

USER FEES AND RENTS

User fees and rents are direct charges to individuals and groups who use specific programs, facilities, and services. These fees and rents usually help pay only a portion of the operations and maintenance costs of providing programs and services, and are rarely used to fund capital projects. User fees and rents should be periodically reviewed and adjusted to reflect economic and market conditions.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

A Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is proposed for the next five years (Figure 7-C). The plan is based on the highest priority recommendations contained in Chapter 6, Action Plan, and on anticipated revenues outlined above. Acquisition cost is assumed to be \$200,000 per acre in 2001 dollars; development cost is assumed to be \$150,000 per acre. Cost assumptions for each project are shown in Appendix E. The projects include:

- Develop neighborhood park facilities at Rueter Farm and Knox Ridge sites;
- Improve and expand recreation facilities at Joseph Gale Park, Talisman Park, and Hazel Sills Park;
- Implement the master plan for Lincoln Park;
- Acquire additional land for community park expansion;
- Participate in development of new sports fields at Forest Grove High School;
- Participate in re-development of Pacific University's Cannery Field for soccer; and
- Acquire land and develop over four miles of multi-purpose paved trails connecting parks and open spaces.

It is anticipated that between 2006 and 2010, the additional projects can be completed:

- Develop neighborhood park facilities on city-owned property in south and east Forest Grove;

- Begin development of a new community park in northwest Forest Grove; and
- Continue to acquire land and develop multi-purpose paved trails connecting parks and open spaces.

Forest Grove Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan

Figure 7-A: Facility Funding Plan

Map Key	Project Description	Total Estimated Cost	Costs Related to Future Growth	2001 - 2002	2002 - 2003	2003 - 2004	2004 - 2005	2005 - 2006	2006 - 2010	Unfunded
NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS AND SCHOOL/PARKS										
N-7	Develop a neighborhood park on city-owned property (south)	\$ 350,000	\$ 35,000						\$350,000	\$ -
N-8	Develop a neighborhood play lot on city-owned property (east)	\$ 75,000	\$ -						\$75,000	\$ -
N-1	Acquire land and develop a neighborhood park (northwest)	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000							\$ 1,500,000
N-5	Develop a neighborhood park with neighborhood involvement on Stites site (north)	\$ 420,000	\$ 378,000							\$ 420,000
N-4	Develop a neighborhood park with neighborhood involvement on Ruetter Farm site (west)	\$ 215,000	\$ 43,000		\$ 43,000	\$ 172,000				\$ -
N-6	Develop a playlot with neighborhood involvement on Knox Ridge site	\$ 45,000	\$ 22,500	\$ 45,000						\$ -
	Make improvements at Joseph Gale Park (replace restrooms, add benches, replace walkways to meet ADA accessibility standards)	\$ 250,000	\$ -				\$ 250,000			\$ -
	Expand children's play equipment at Joseph Gale Park	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ 50,000						\$ -
	Renovate sports field at Joseph Gale Elementary School/ Neighborhood School-Park	\$ 60,000	\$ -							\$ 60,000
	Complete development of Talisman Park (expand urban arboretum, complete pathway, add picnic shelter, horseshoe pits & kiosk, improve access from Gales Creek Road, expand children's play equipment)	\$ 150,000	\$ 75,000					\$ 50,000	\$50,000	\$ 50,000
	Develop children's play area, add benches at Hazel Sills Park	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ 20,000						\$ -
	Expand children's play area, add benches at School District Administration Building/Playlot	\$ 70,000	\$ -							\$ 70,000
	Make improvements at Bard Park (expand children's play area, provide benches, resurface walkway, build covered picnic area)	\$ 170,000	\$ -				\$ 170,000			\$ -
	Complete renovation of Rogers Park (build retaining wall, relocate sand play, expand play equipment, provide benches)	\$ 200,000	\$ -				\$ 200,000			\$ -
	SUBTOTAL	\$ 3,575,000	\$ 2,053,500	\$ 115,000	\$ 43,000	\$ 172,000	\$ 620,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 475,000	\$ 2,100,000
COMMUNITY PARKS AND SCHOOL/PARKS										
	Implement the master plan for Lincoln Park	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 360,000	\$ 335,000	\$ 345,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 180,000	\$140,000	\$ -
	Develop children's play area at Lincoln Park	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000						\$ -
	Acquire and develop add'l land adjacent to Lincoln Park	\$ 2,100,000	\$ 2,100,000				\$ 700,000	\$ 900,000	\$145,000	\$ 355,000
C-2	Contribute to acquisition and develop a community park (northwest)	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 200,000					\$1,000,000	\$ 800,000
	Acquire additional land for community park development	\$ 2,100,000	\$ 1,470,000					\$ 800,000		\$ 1,300,000
	Participate in redevelopment of sports fields at Neil Armstrong Middle School/Community Park	\$ 60,000	\$ -							\$ 60,000
	Participate in redevelopment of sports field at Tom McCall Upper Elementary School/Community Park	\$ 60,000	\$ -							\$ 60,000
	Participate in development of new sports field at Forest Grove High School	\$ 400,000	\$ 400,000							\$ 400,000
	SUBTOTAL	\$ 7,995,000	\$ 5,805,000	\$ 610,000	\$ 345,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 800,000	\$ 1,880,000	\$ 1,285,000	\$ 2,975,000

Forest Grove Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan

Figure 7-A: Facility Funding Plan

Map Key	Project Description	Total Estimated Cost	Costs Related to Future Growth	2001 -	2002 -	2003 -	2004 -	2005 -	2006 - 2010	Unfunded
				2002	2003	2004	2005	2006		
SPECIAL USE PARK										
S-3	Implement the master plan for Forest Glen Park (excl soft-surface trails)	\$ 600,000	\$ -				\$ 50,000			\$ 550,000
S-3	Expand children's play area at Forest Glen Park	\$ 10,000	\$ -				\$ 10,000			\$ -
	Participate in redevelopment of Pacific University's Cannery Field for soccer	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000				\$ 200,000			\$ -
	SUBTOTAL	\$ 810,000	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 260,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 550,000
NATURAL RESOURCE AREA										
	Develop park facilities at Fernhill Wetlands in cooperation with Friends organization and with community involvement	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 245,000							\$ 1,000,000
	SUBTOTAL	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 245,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000
SPECIAL PROJECTS										
	Complete a written ADA transition plan for all parks	\$ 45,000	\$ -							\$ 45,000
	Develop a management plan for Thatcher Park (Loomis Property)	\$ 30,000	\$ -				\$ 30,000			\$ -
	Develop water play area at Aquatic Center	\$ 150,000	\$ -	\$ 150,000						\$ -
	SUBTOTAL	\$ 225,000	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45,000
TRAILS / GREENWAYS / LINEAR PARKS										
	Acquire land and develop multi-purpose trail from Neil Armstrong Middle School to Fernhill Wetlands	\$ 1,005,000	\$ 246,225				\$ 150,000	\$ 275,000	\$ 140,000	\$ 440,000
	Develop multi-purpose trail from Fernhill Wetland to Hwy 47 trail	\$ 245,000	\$ 60,025	\$ 60,000			\$ 90,000			\$ 95,000
	Participate in development of nature trails (soft-surface and boardwalk) at Fernhill Wetland	\$ 60,000	\$ 14,700				\$ 60,000			\$ -
	Develop multi-purpose trail through Gales Creek Greenway (Metro Open Space) from existing Hwy 47 trail to Richey Rd	\$ 560,000	\$ 137,200				\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000		\$ 260,000
	Acquire land along Knox Ridge Creek and develop a multi-purpose trail from Richey Road to Willamina Avenue	\$ 1,030,000	\$ 252,350				\$ 100,000			\$ 930,000
	Assist in developing multi-purpose trail along Knox Ridge Creek, connecting Knox Ridge site and Rueter Farm site	\$ 210,000	\$ 51,450					\$ 50,000		\$ 160,000
	Acquire land along Council Creek and develop multi-purpose trail	\$ 960,000	\$ 235,200				\$ 450,000	\$ 165,000		\$ 345,000
	Construct soft-surface trails in Forest Glen Park (per master plan)	\$ 30,000	\$ 7,350				\$ 30,000			\$ -
	Construct soft-surface trails through Thatcher Park (Loomis Property) after completion of management plan	\$ 30,000	\$ 7,350					\$ 30,000		\$ -
	Acquire land and construct a multi-purpose trail connecting Thatcher Park and Forest Glen Park	\$ 1,360,000	\$ 330,750		\$ 180,000	\$ 210,000	\$ 350,000		\$ 200,000	\$ 410,000
	SUBTOTAL	\$ 5,480,000	\$ 1,342,600	\$ -	\$ 60,000	\$ 180,000	\$ 1,240,000	\$ 1,020,000	\$ 340,000	\$ 2,840,000
FACILITY TOTALS		\$ 19,085,000	\$ 9,646,100	\$ 875,000	\$ 448,000	\$ 452,000	\$ 2,950,000	\$ 2,950,000	\$ 2,100,000	\$ 9,310,000

IMPLICATIONS FOR MAINTENANCE

Implementation of the Master Plan recommendations will result in increased demands on the maintenance staff. This section analyzes the impact the CIP will have on maintenance staff.

In addition to maintaining parks and undeveloped park land, the maintenance staff provide non-park maintenance including

- grounds of City facilities
- street plantings
- City-owned lots
- tree trimming for powerline and street clearance

These non-park responsibilities account for approximately 19% of the park maintenance resources.

According to the City of Forest Grove 2000-01 budget, the per-acre cost for parks maintenance and development, excluding non-park costs, is currently \$1765.

An informal survey of facility maintenance costs in cities of comparable size in Oregon was conducted to determine local standards (see *Appendix D*). The overall average cost per acre of all cities surveyed is \$1792, slightly higher than that of the City of Forest Grove.

The maintenance cost per acre by park type of the cities responding to the survey is shown in *Figure 7-B*.

Figure 7-B Maintenance Cost Per Acre by Park Type in Cities of Similar Size

City	Neighborhood Parks	Community Parks	Open Space / Greenways	Soft-Surface Trails	Paved Trails	Overall Average
Forest Grove						\$1,765
McMinnville	\$2,800	\$3,100	\$1,000			\$2,350
Roseburg	\$1,500	\$1,575	\$1,600	\$1,200	\$1,800	\$1,629
Tualatin	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$250			\$ 813
West Linn	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$50		\$1,500	\$2,110
Woodburn	\$6,000	\$5,000	\$1,000		\$200	\$3,840
Average	\$2,860	\$2,735	\$780	\$1,200	\$1,650	\$1,792

FUNDING PLAN

The local average maintenance cost for each park type was used to estimate the increased maintenance costs for each year of the five-year CIP:

- \$780 per acre for open space and undeveloped park sites;
 - \$2860 per acre for neighborhood parks;
 - \$2735 per acre for community parks;
 - \$1200 per mile for soft-surface trails;
 - \$1650 per mile for paved trails.
- Increased utilization of volunteer labor;
 - Partnerships with Forest Grove School District and Pacific University;
 - Funding from sports groups and other user groups; and
 - Sponsorship from civic organizations.

Figure 7-C shows the estimated additional maintenance costs for land acquisitions and development in each year of the CIP.

The total maintenance cost each year of the CIP was divided by the average cost per maintenance FTE (full-time equivalent staff) of \$49,800. (Based on the 2000-01 budget, the average cost per maintenance staff person is \$49,800 including benefits and payroll taxes.)

This calculation indicates the need for an additional .43 FTE in 2001-2002, and 2.51 additional FTE by 2006.

It should be recognized that the development of new facilities in existing parks and the development of new park land will also place a significant additional burden on maintenance staff.

In the face of limited General Funds to fund additional staff positions, the City should develop a plan to meet the additional demands on maintenance staff as a result of new acquisitions and development. Potential opportunities include:

Forest Grove Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan

Figure 7-C: Maintenance Implications

Map Key	Project Description	2001 - 2002	2002 - 2003	2003 - 2004	2004 - 2005	2005 - 2006	2006 - 2010
NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS AND SCHOOL/PARKS							
N-7	Maintain neighborhood park in south Forest Grove						\$10,010
N-8	Maintain a neighborhood park in east Forest Grove						\$858
N-4	Maintain a neighborhood park on Rueter Farm site (west)		\$6,149	\$6,149	\$6,149	\$6,149	\$6,149
N-6	Maintain a playlot on Knox Ridge site	\$429	\$429	\$429	\$429	\$429	\$429
	SUBTOTAL	\$ 429	\$ 6,578	\$ 6,578	\$ 6,578	\$ 6,578	\$ 17,446
COMMUNITY PARKS AND SCHOOL/PARKS							
	Maintain the additional developed acreage at Lincoln Park	\$ 5,470	\$ 10,940	\$ 10,940	\$ 10,940	\$ 10,940	\$ 10,940
	Maintain add'l land acquired adjacent to Lincoln Park				\$ 5,460	\$ 13,685	\$ 13,685
C-2	Maintain open space acquired for future community park (northwest)	\$ 15,600	\$ 15,600	\$ 15,600	\$ 15,600	\$ 15,600	\$ 15,600
	Maintain additional land acquired for future community park development					\$ 5,460	\$ 5,460
	SUBTOTAL	\$ 21,070	\$ 26,540	\$ 26,540	\$ 32,000	\$ 45,685	\$ 45,685
TRAILS / GREENWAYS / LINEAR PARKS							
	Maintain open space and multi-purpose trail from Neil Armstrong Middle School to Fernhill Wetlands				\$ 10,764	\$ 12,249	\$ 12,249
	Maintain open space and multi-purpose trail from Fernhill Wetland to Hwy 47 trail		\$ 1,155	\$ 1,155	\$ 1,155	\$ 1,155	\$ 1,155
	Participate in development of nature trails (soft-surface and boardwalk) at Fernhill Wetland				\$ 825	\$ 825	\$ 825
	Develop multi-purpose trail through Gales Creek Greenway (Metro Open Space) from existing Hwy 47 trail to Richey Rd				\$ 2,640	\$ 2,640	\$ 2,640
	Maintain open space and multi-purpose trail along Knox Ridge Creek from Richey Road to Willamina Avenue				\$ 11,700	\$ 13,020	\$ 13,020
	Maintain open space and multi-purpose trail along Knox Ridge Creek between Knox Ridge site and Rueter Farm site					\$ 990	\$ 990
	Maintain open space and multi-purpose trail along Council Creek				\$ 11,700	\$ 12,690	\$ 12,690
	Maintain soft-surface trails in Forest Glen Park (per master plan)				\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ 600
	Maintain soft-surface trails in Thatcher Park (Loomis Property)					\$ 600	\$ 600
	Maintain open space and multi-purpose trail connecting Thatcher Park and Forest Glen Park				\$ 15,600	\$ 17,250	\$ 17,250
	SUBTOTAL	\$ -	\$ 1,155	\$ 1,155	\$ 54,984	\$ 62,019	\$ 62,019
	Estimated Additional Maintenance Costs	\$ 21,499	\$ 34,273	\$ 34,273	\$ 93,562	\$ 114,282	\$ 125,150
	Estimated Additional FTE Staff Required	0.43	0.69	0.69	1.88	2.29	2.51

SUMMARY

Capital facilities included in the Master Plan total \$19.085M, of which growth-required needs constitute \$9.646M, and non-growth needs total \$9.439M. Achievement of this Plan will require use of a variety of financing methods and multiple funding sources. Approximately 21.5% (\$4.1M) is expected to come from System Development Charges, which may only be used for growth-required needs. 26.2% (\$5M) of total project needs are expected to be funded from voter-approved General Obligation Bonds, and grants and donations are expected to total about \$250,000 (1.3%). The remaining \$9.735M (51.0%) is unfunded.

CIP projects should be reviewed and adjusted annually to reflect changes in resources, needs, and priorities. Estimated project budgets should be updated for inflation using the SDC rate adjustment index contained in the SDC Ordinance adopted by the Forest Grove City Council.

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Lincoln Park

Lincoln Park is the only community park in Forest Grove. Once a dump site for road base, it is now the most intensely developed and one of the most heavily used parks in the city. A recent acquisition increased the size of the park to 22.50 acres. Given the central location of this park, acquiring additional land for further park expansion should be a high priority.

Lincoln Park currently has a tournament-quality baseball field. Pacific University maintains the infield in playable condition and has exclusive use of the field during their spring baseball season. The City of Forest Grove maintains the outfield. During the summer, the field is reserved for Babe Ruth baseball and other league play. A new scoreboard was recently installed through the combined efforts and resources of Pacific University, City of Forest Grove, and Pepsi. The City of Forest Grove installed field lighting.

Two softball fields are used by reservation or on a first-come-first-served basis for soccer and softball except during the spring when they are used by Pacific University women's softball team. On-site parking has been inadequate to accommodate soccer games in the summer when as many as six games are played in an evening. A new parking lot under construction by neighboring Pacific University is expected to be available for use by the community during the summer.

Although all of the sports fields in Lincoln Park have underground drain systems, drainage is still a problem due to the high water table.

The skate facility in Lincoln Park was one of the first in this area when it was installed in 1997. The facility was constructed through a cooperative effort involving the City of Forest Grove, volunteer labor, and donated materials. The Armory, a local skateboard shop, has been instrumental in maintaining the facility and monitoring its use. Skateboarders and the Armory have recently proposed ideas for expanding the skate facility. Other recreation facilities include a sand volleyball court, three horseshoe pits, and a new basketball court. Children's play equipment and an exercise circuit are in need of repair or replacement.

Permanent restrooms are provided in Lincoln Park and have been remodeled to be ADA accessible. However, the concrete block structures are unattractive and tend to be vandalized on a fairly regular basis. A storage shed is used by Pacific University to store the equipment it uses to maintain the baseball and softball fields; the shed is in poor condition. The only group picnic shelter in the park is reserved every weekend during the summer.

In addition to its mature trees, new trees are being planted in Lincoln Park as mitigation for trees that are removed during construction of city infrastructure. The irrigation system is good, but sprinkler heads are 25 years old and will soon need to be replaced.

Recommendations

- Acquire adjacent properties as they become available.

- Expand skate facility.
- Construct a bike jump.
- Replace equipment storage shed.
- Replace existing restrooms.
- Build additional restrooms.
- Provide individual shaded picnic tables.
- Renovate/repair exercise circuit.
- Replace children's play equipment to meet current safety standards.
- Provide age-appropriate play area for toddlers.
- Build an additional group picnic shelter.
- Plant additional shade trees.

NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS

Fernhill Wetlands

Fernhill Wetlands was purchased through a partnership of the City of Forest Grove and Unified Sewerage Agency. It is located near the confluence of Gales Creek and the Tualatin River, a mile southeast of downtown Forest Grove. Formerly the site of three large effluent holding ponds, the wetlands now totals 600 acres and is managed by USA for water storage and wildlife habitat.

Community volunteers and students from Pacific University have constructed informational kiosks at the site, along with signs identifying specific features at the preserve. Two raised viewing shelters have been constructed to overlook some of the wetlands richest locations.

Future plans include creating interpretive signage and collaborating in the development of the Fernhill Wetlands

Research and Education Field Station, a joint project of City of Forest Grove, Forest Grove School District, Pacific University, USA, the Fernhill Council, and the Friends of Fernhill Wetlands. The Field Station will provide opportunities for recreation, education and research for students and community members.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS/PLAY LOTS

Bard Park

Bard Park is a neighborhood park with children's play equipment including slides, swings, and a composite play structure. A six-foot wide asphalt trail edges the park. It is used by many of the neighbors for daily walks despite its pitted and cracked condition. The park has an accessible picnic table and barbecue grill. It also has a basketball court that is used by nearby employees before work and at noon.

Recommendations

- Replace the asphalt path with a concrete walk.
- Update the children's play equipment to meet current safety standards.
- Provide a picnic shelter.
- Provide shaded individual picnic tables.

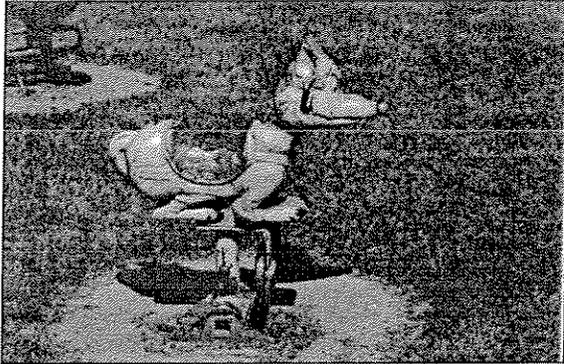
Hazel Sills Park

Hazel Sills Park is a one-half acre play lot located in a stand of mature Douglas fir. The park is the home of spring toys that are generations old and have great sentimental value for many residents. There are picnic tables, a merry-go-round, and slide.

Appendix A

Recommendations

- Continue to update children's play equipment to meet current safety standards.



Rogers Park

Rogers Park is the oldest park in Forest Grove. It is located in a grove of mature Oregon oaks. A management plan was recently developed for Rogers Park in an effort to extend the life of the oaks. As a result of the plan, irrigation in the park has been discontinued to provide the oak trees with the dry conditions they require during their growing season. A new park shelter and barbecue have recently been constructed. Concrete walkways provide access throughout the park. An ADA accessible and vandal-resistant restroom is planned for the near future.

Rogers Park has play equipment dispersed throughout the park including swings, slides, jungle gym, merry-go-round, and teeter totters. The park also has a basketball court and two tennis courts. Although the tennis courts have lights, funding has been discontinued for their operation and maintenance.

Recommendations

- Provide screen for portable restroom.

- Relocate sand play area closer to play structure.
- Build retaining wall near tennis court.
- Update the children's play equipment to meet current safety standards.

Joseph Gale Park

This park is adjacent to Joseph Gale Elementary. The Forest Grove School District and the City of Forest Grove are joint owners. Ten teams currently use the field for baseball and soccer league games. At the height of the season, several hundred people are in the park each afternoon. The lack of on-site parking, coupled with the heavy use of this neighborhood park, have resulted in problems with vehicles being illegally and unsafely parked on the street.

Neighborhood entries are located on three sides of the park, and asphalt paths provide circulation through the park. A concrete walk marks the border between school and park. The baseball field is equipped with new bleachers and "dugouts". Permanent restrooms are of concrete block construction; it has not been possible to remodel the men's restroom for ADA Accessibility. The restrooms are unattractive and are frequently vandalized.

Recommendations

- Provide portable ADA accessible restrooms.
- Upgrade pathways and sidewalks to meet ADA accessibility standards.
- Enlist the help of baseball and soccer leagues, and cooperate with the Police Department to solve safety issues related to on-street parking.

- Upgrade children's play equipment to meet current safety standards.

Talisman Park

Neighbors have been major partners in developing Talisman Park, one of the newer neighborhood parks. The park is furnished with a gazebo; children's play equipment, security lights, and a custom-made sign that was financed by the neighbors. A softball field is restricted to informal play due to the lack of on-site parking and the proximity of the field to neighboring residences. A concrete walkway has been built halfway around the perimeter of the park. Neighbors support completion of the pathway, along with perimeter plantings that were included in the park's master plan. Some, however, object to the use of concrete to complete the pathway due to fears of increased noise.

Except for the area that was originally planned as a basketball court, the site is fully irrigated. Talisman Park is home to a small arboretum. Trees have been planted and labeled to demonstrate which species are appropriate for street tree plantings.

Neighbors would like for site drainage to be improved so that more of the park is usable throughout the year. However, a portion of the site is included in the City's wetland inventory.

Talisman Park is the only developed park for which no street signage is provided.

Recommendations

- Build a picnic shelter, horseshoe pits, and neighborhood kiosk.

- Explore options for increasing the recreation value of wet areas on site while adhering to regulations regarding wetland protection.
- Construct a pathway through the utility easement at Talisman Park to provide access from Gales Creek Road for people with and without disabilities.
- Place directional signs on major streets in the vicinity to make the park more easily accessible.
- Complete the perimeter pathway and plantings as shown on the park's master plan. Work with park users and neighbors to select a paving material that is (1) accessible to people with and without disabilities, and (2) that discourages skateboarding and other uses that will generate noise.
- Expand play equipment to include age-appropriate activities for toddlers and for older children age 9 to 11 years.

SPECIAL USE PARKS

Forest Glen Park

Forest Glen Park is almost 19 acres of steeply sloping hillside. It is accessible from Gales Creek Road, the end of the cul-de-sac at Lavina Drive, and at the corner of Circle Crest Drive and Forest Gale Drive. Development at this time is minimal and the site is partly irrigated.

A children's play area and picnic table are located at the north entrance. A bowl area off Gales Creek Road is used for informal softball and T-ball games. Basketball courts and wall ball courts have been constructed at one edge of the bowl. A gravel trail through a sewer easement follows an intermittent stream that carries runoff from the surrounding development; the stream banks are eroding significantly in several areas. The trail connects the bowl area on Gales Creek Road to the children's play area on the north. A third arm of the park extends along Gales Creek Road. This arm is quite steep, heavily vegetated, and unexplored.

Recommendations

- Develop a more inviting entrance.
- Resolve parking and access issues.
- Reinforce stream banks to prevent further erosion.
- Provide drinking water and portable restrooms
- Upgrade and expand trails throughout the park.
- Establish family picnic areas.
- Provide play equipment for younger children.

- Explore feasibility of an amphitheater for small outdoor performances.

As part of the master planning process, a conceptual master plan was developed for Forest Glen Park. The plan is included as *Appendix B*.

RECREATION CENTERS

Forest Grove Aquatic Center

In addition to its use by the general public, the Forest Grove Aquatic Center is used by Pacific University and the Forest Grove School District for classes and swim meets. With the approval of a recent bond measure, remodeling and expansion has just begun. The renovation will include a new indoor pool, new locker rooms, and a new entrance and parking area.

Forest Grove Senior Center

The Forest Grove Senior Center building is owned and maintained by the City of Forest Grove. Activities and services for seniors are provided by a private non-profit organization.

UNDEVELOPED PARKLAND

In addition to its developed parks, the City of Forest Grove has acquired properties for open space and future park development.

Stites Site

This property was donated to the City. It is within the Urban Growth Boundary but not within the current City Limits. The site drains to Council Creek and includes some wetland area and a remnant holly

orchard. At this time, the site is landlocked; access to the property is via a narrow easement. For the site to fill active recreation needs, additional acreage and increased access will be required.

Recommendations

- Develop a master plan with neighborhood involvement.

Knox Ridge Site

This site is one 18,000 square foot residential lot overlooking a wetland area that is adjacent to Knox Ridge Creek.

Recommendations

- Develop a play lot with neighborhood involvement.
- Develop multi-purpose trail connection between Knox Ridge Site and Reuter Farm Site.

Rueter Farm Site

The Rueter Farm Homeowner Association recently donated this 2.14-acre site to the City. The site has a wetland, a pond, and 24 native oak trees.

Recommendations

- Develop a master plan with neighborhood involvement.

Loomis Site

This 10-acre forested site was purchased through the Metro Greenspaces program, and subsequently sold to the City of Forest Grove. It is located on Thatcher Road. The site is located between two large parcels of vacant land. One is owned by the Forest Grove School District, and the other is privately owned.

Recommendations

- Develop a management plan and trails plan for the site.

NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL-PARKS

Joseph Gale Elementary

Joseph Gale Elementary is located adjacent to Joseph Gale Park. Its two baseball diamonds, soccer field, gymnasium, and covered children's play area are available for public use. As one of the recently approved bond measure projects, the covered play area will be expanded by 1200 square feet within the next year.

Harvey Clarke Elementary

Harvey Clarke Elementary currently has a youth baseball diamond, soccer field, gymnasium, and an covered outdoor children's play area. The covered play area will be expanded by 2800 square feet as one of the recently approved bond measure projects.

Central Administration

Administrative offices for the school district are located in a former elementary school. The children's play area and about 2 ¼ acres are available for public use at all times.

COMMUNITY SCHOOL-PARKS

Forest Grove High School

Forest Grove High School has two softball diamonds, two baseball diamonds, two soccer fields, a football field and track, three tennis courts, a large open turf area, and two gymnasiums.

The recreation facilities are available for public use about one-half of the time. An additional 14 acres will be developed as sports fields during the next year.

Tom McCall Upper Elementary

Tom McCall Upper Elementary School has a softball diamond, a baseball diamond, three soccer fields, a football field and track, two outdoor basketball courts, four half-courts, tennis practice walls, an open turf area, children's play equipment, and a gymnasium. The facilities are available to the public approximately two-thirds of the time. A second school with an additional 6.5 acres of sports fields will be constructed adjacent to the existing school as a result of the bond measure.

Neil Armstrong Middle School

Neil Armstrong has one softball diamond, two baseball diamonds, three soccer fields, one football field and track, outdoor basketball hoops, and a gymnasium. The facilities are available to the public about two-thirds of the time.

GREENWAYS AND OPEN SPACES

Gales Creek Natural Area

Metro's primary goal for the Gales Creek target area, located in and around Forest Grove, is to acquire property and conservation easements along the creek and the Tualatin River with a focus on the confluence in order to increase wildlife habitat near the Tualatin River and adjacent to Fernhill Wetlands. The minimum acreage goal for Gales Creek is 775 acres. The total Metro acreage in the area of Forest Grove currently equals

approximately 600 acres. Much of the land continues to be farmed under lease agreements with local farmers, but is subject to expanded riparian buffers and the possibility of additional restoration and enhancement in the future.

Hagg Lake Greenway

A greenway corridor has been proposed by Metro to extend from the confluence of Gales Creek and the Tualatin River to Hagg Lake.

Upper Tualatin Greenway

A greenway corridor has been proposed by Metro to follow the Tualatin River from Hillsboro to Hagg Lake Greenway.

ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH

St. Anthony's Church makes its softball field available to the public on a first-come-first-served basis at all times.

PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

Pacific University has a variety of recreation and cultural facilities that add to the quality of life in Forest Grove.

Sports Fields

Cannery Field is used by Pacific University as the practice field for its soccer team. At other times, it is used for league and non-league play (about 50 percent of the time).

Appendix B - Park Definitions

Forest Grove Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan

Type of Facility	Definition	Benefits	Size and Service Area	May Include	Does Not Include	Maintenance Level and Standard
Community Park and Community School-Park	Larger park that provides active and passive recreational opportunities for all city residents. Accommodates large group activities.	Provides a variety of accessible recreation opportunities for all ages and abilities Provides environmental education opportunities Serves recreation needs of families Provides opportunities for community-wide social activities	20 to 50 acres Serves two or more neighborhoods and 1-mile distance	Children's play areas Competitive sports facilities Off-street parking Permanent restrooms Public art/Fountains Single and group picnic areas Paths Lighting Natural areas Botanical gardens Community centers Amphitheaters Festival space Swimming pools Interpretive facilities	Portable restrooms	<i>Developed Areas</i> Very frequent (NRPA Mode II), to maintain the appearance and functional use of facilities and support public safety <i>Natural Areas</i> Periodic (NRPA Mode IV), to support the natural character of the area, maintain functional use of facilities, and provide fire and hazard mitigation to support public safety.
Greenway	Linear open spaces that protect significant waterways or other types of natural areas. They effectively tie park system components together to form a continuous park environment.	Provides opportunities for rest and relaxation Protects valuable natural resources and wildlife Contributes to the environmental health of the community	Sufficient size to protect resources Greenway corridors are usually a minimum of 50' wide, with 200' being optimal	Trails Small scale parking Portable restrooms Bike racks Trash enclosures Picnic areas Benches Interpretive signs Native plants	Facilities that do not directly support nature- and trail-oriented passive recreation Ornamental plants Lawns	Periodic (NRPA Mode IV), to support the natural character of the area, maintain the functional use of facilities, and provide fire and hazard mitigation to support public safety
Mini-Park / Play Lot	Used to address limited, isolated or unique recreational needs.	Provides for the day-to-day recreational needs of nearby residents Contributes to neighborhood identity	Between 2500 square feet and one acre in size Less than a 1/4 mile distance in residential setting	Children's play areas Portable restrooms, when needed On-street parking Public art Picnic areas Lawn	Recreational facilities that invite intensive or large group use, such as sports fields Off-street parking	Frequent to very frequent (NRPA Mode III), to maintain the appearance and functional use of facilities and support public safety

Reference:
Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines, NRPA, 1995
Park Maintenance Standards, NRPA, 1986

Appendix B - Park Definitions
Forest Grove Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan

Type of Facility	Definition	Benefits	Size and Service Area	May Include	Does Not Include	Maintenance Level and Standard
Special Use Park	Covers a broad range of parks and recreation facilities oriented toward single-purpose use.					<p><i>Developed Areas</i> Very frequent (NRPA Mode I), to maintain the appearance and functional use of facilities and support public safety</p> <p><i>Natural Areas</i> Periodic (NRPA Mode IV), to support the natural character of the area, maintain functional use of facilities, and provide fire and hazard mitigation to support public safety.</p>
Trail or Connector	Public access route for trail-oriented activities, which may include walking, running, biking, skating, skateboarding, or horseback riding.	<p>Provides opportunities for rest, relaxation, and trail-oriented activities</p> <p>Protects valuable natural resources and wildlife</p> <p>Connects community facilities and reduces auto-dependency</p>	Sufficient size to protect resources and accommodate activities	<p>Trails</p> <p>Walk-in trailheads</p> <p>Benches</p> <p>Interpretive signs</p> <p>Native plants</p>	<p>Facilities that do not directly support nature- and trail-oriented passive recreation</p> <p>Ornamental plants</p> <p>Lawns</p>	<p>Frequent to periodic (NRPA Mode IV), to support the natural character of the area, maintain the functional use of facilities, and provide fire and hazard mitigation to support public safety</p>

Reference:
 Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines, NRPA, 1995
 Park Maintenance Standards, NRPA, 1986

Appendix B - Park Definitions

Forest Grove Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan

Type of Facility	Definition	Benefits	Size and Service Area	May Include	Does Not Include	Maintenance Level and Standard
Natural Resource Area	Land set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual aesthetics/buffering.	Enhances the livability and character of a community by preserving natural amenities	Variable	Trails Parking Bike racks Trash enclosures Benches Park shelters Restrooms Picnic tables Viewing blinds Interpretive elements	Facilities that do not directly support nature viewing and study, and trail-oriented passive recreation.	Periodic (NRPA Mode IV), to support the natural character of the area, maintain the functional use of facilities, and provide fire and hazard mitigation to support public safety
Neighborhood Park and Neighborhood School-Park	Small park located within biking and walking distance of users. Includes pocket parks in denser urban areas, usually less than 1 acre.	Provides access to basic recreation opportunities for nearby residents of all ages Contributes to neighborhood identity	1 to 15 acres 1/4 mile distance and uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers	Children's play areas Sports facilities On-street parking Portable restrooms Public art Picnic areas Paths Lighting Lawn Community gardens	Recreational facilities intended for large groups, i.e., sports tournaments Off-street parking	Frequent to very frequent (NRPA Mode III), to maintain the appearance and functional use of facilities and support public safety
Private Park / Recreation Facility	Park or recreation facility that is privately owned yet contributes to the public park and recreation system.	Encourages greater cooperation between the private and public sector toward meeting growing park and recreation needs	Variable			
School-Park		Allows for expanding the recreational, social, and educational opportunities available to the community in an efficient and cost-effective manner				

Reference:
Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines, NRPA, 1995
Park Maintenance Standards, NRPA, 1986

Forest Grove Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan
 Appendix C - Park and Recreation Facility Inventory: Park System Resources

Facility	Total Facility Acreage	Softball Diamond	Baseball Diamond	Soccer Field	Basketball Court	Basketball Hoop	Tennis Court	Tennis Practice Wall/Wallball	Sand Volleyball	Horse-shoes	Open Turf Areas	Multi-Purpose Paved Area	Play Equipment	Paved Path/Trail (Miles)	Soft Surface Path/Trail (Miles)	Picnic Area	Group Picnic Area	Other
Mini-Parks/Playlots																		
Hazel Sills	0.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Subtotal	0.50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.00	0.00	1	0	-
Neighborhood Parks																		
Joseph Gale	3.60	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Rogers	3.60	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-
Bard	3.50	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2	0.15	-	1	-	-
Tallman	2.30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Subtotal	13.00	1	1	0	3	0	2	2	-	-	3	0	6	0.15	0.00	4	-	street tree arboretum
Community Parks																		
Lincoln Park	22.50	3	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	3	1	-	1	0.50	-	3	1	skate park
Subtotal	22.50	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	1	0.50	0.00	3	1	-
Special Use Parks																		
Forest Glen Park	18.50	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	1.00	-	-	-
Subtotal	18.50	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0.00	1.00	0	0	-
Recreation Centers																		
Aquatic Center	0.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Senior Center	0.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Open Space / Greenways / Natural Resource Areas																		
Fernhill Weiland	131.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stiles Property	4.20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rueker Farm	2.14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Knox Ridge	0.41	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unidentified Site (in negotiation)	20.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thatcher Park (Loomis Property)	10.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	167.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	223.35	4.00	2.00	1.00	6.00	0.00	2.00	3.00	1.00	3.00	5.00	0.00	9.00	0.65	1.00	8.00	2.00	0.00

Forest Grove Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan																		
Appendix C - Park and Recreation Facility Inventory: School Facilities (Outdoor)																		
Facility	Total Facility Acreage	Net Maintained Play Area	Public Availability	Play Area Adjusted for Availability	Soccer Field	Football Field	Running Track	Basketball Court	Basketball Hoop	Tennis Court	Tennis Practice Wall	Open Turf Areas	Multi-Purpose Paved Area	Play Equipment	Paved Recreation Path/Trail (Miles)	Surface Recreation Path/Trail (Miles)	Picnic Area	Group Picnic Area
Elementary Schools / Neighborhood School-Parks																		
Harvey Clarke	6.70	6.50	0.66	4.28	1	1	-	-	2	-	2	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
Joseph Gale	10.00	8.50	0.66	5.61	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	18.70	15.00																
Public Availability																		
				9.90	1.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Middle Schools / Community School-Parks																		
Neil Armstrong	38.20	25.00	0.66	16.50	3	1	1	2	2	-	2	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
Tom McCall Upper Elementary	31.60	24.00	0.66	15.84	3	1	1	2	4	-	2	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	69.80	49.00																
Public Availability																		
				32.34	3.96	1.32	1.32	1.32	3.96	0.00	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
High School / Community School-Park																		
Forest Grove High School	26.80	27.00	0.50	13.50	2	1	1	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	26.80	27.00																
Public Availability																		
				13.50	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	1.50	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Administration Building / Playlot																		
Subtotal	0.00	2.25	1.00	2.25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Public Availability																		
		2.25		2.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Private Schools & Churches																		
St. Anthony's field	0.00	2.25	1.00	2.25	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	0.00	2.25																
Public Availability																		
		14.00	0.50	7.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Private Colleges/Universities																		
Pacific Univ-Camery Field	0.00	14.00	0.00	7.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal	0.00	14.00																
Public Availability																		
		107.25		67.24	7.78	1.82	1.82	1.32	5.28	3.50	2.64	3.14	2.64	2.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	115.30	107.25		67.24	7.78	1.82	1.82	1.32	5.28	3.50	2.64	3.14	2.64	2.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Forest Grove Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan			
Appendix C - Park and Recreation Facility Inventory: School Facilities (Indoor)			
Facility	Symposium	Public Availability	Play Area Adjusted for Availability (\$)
Elementary Schools			
Harvey Clarke	5280	0.66	3484.60
Joseph Gale	4200	0.66	2772.00
<i>Subtotal</i>			6256.60
Middle Schools			
Tom McCall Upper Elementary	17000	0.66	11220.00
Neil Armstrong	17000	0.66	11220.00
<i>Subtotal</i>			22440.00
High Schools			
Forest Grove High School	22200	0.50	11600.00
<i>Subtotal</i>			11600.00
Administration Building			
		1.00	0.00
<i>Subtotal</i>			0.00
Colleges/Universities			
Pacific University			0.00
<i>Subtotal</i>			0.00
Total			40286.60

Forest Grove Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan

Appendix D: Comparable Cities Survey

City	Ashland	Grants Pass	McMinnville	Oregon City	Roseburg	Troutdale	Tualatin	West Linn	Woodburn	Local Averages	Forest Grove
City Population	19,490	20,935	24,420	23,405	20,490	14,175	21,345	22,835	16,850	20,438	17,708
Planning Area Square Miles					9.0	5.0		7.2	5.5	6.7	6.0
EXISTING PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES											
Community Center											
Number	3		2	1		2	2		1	1.8	-
Acres	2		1	1					1	1.4	-
Aquatic Center											
Number	1		1	1					1	1.0	1.0
Acres				1.33						1.3	0.5
Urban Plazas/Pocket Parks											
Number	7		7	7	5	1	5	2	2	4.1	-
Acres	3		7	7	1	0	9	1		3.4	-
Neighborhood Parks / Play Lots											
Number	8		0	4	3	6	3	4	3	3.9	5.0
Acres	147			25.36	10	16.15	45	14.7	3	43.0	13.5
Community/District Parks											
Number	1		5	2	2	6	2	3	2	2.9	1.0
Acres	93		146	33	123	66	55	31	23	71.2	22.5
Regional Parks											
Number			0	1	1			1	1	0.8	-
Acres				21.76	236			180	24.96	115.7	-
Open Space/Greenways											
Number			17	4	24	19	86	15	4	24.1	6.0
Acres	400		145	40	40	46	107	194	21	124.0	167.8
Linear Parks/Trails											
Number				9						9.0	-
Miles				3						3.0	-
Other (Special Use, etc.)											
Number			1	7	7		1	4	5	4.2	1.0
Acres			12	68	38		1	45		32.7	18.6
Total											
Acres	640		330	200	447	127	262	293	202	312.6	223.4
Acres per thousand population	32.8		13.5	8.5	21.8	9.0	12.3	12.8	12.0	15.3	12.6
Miles			6	3	5	3	4+	5	0	4	-
MAINTENANCE COST PER ACRE											
Mini-Parks/Urban Plazas	2500				2100		1000	3000	7000	3120	
Neighborhood Parks/Playlots	2,800				1,500		1,000	3,000	6,000	2,860	
Community Parks	3,100				1,575		1,000	3,000	5,000	2,735	
Open Space Greenways	1,000				1,600		250	50	1,000	780	
Soft-surfaced Trails					1,200					1,200	
Hard-Surfaced Trails					1,800					1,650	
Overall Average			\$ 2,350		\$ 1,629		\$ 813	\$ 1,500	\$ 3,840	\$ 1,792	\$ 1,765
FUNDING											
Expenditure per resident for parks & recreation			\$ 176.00		\$ 35.00		\$ 21.00	\$ 42.48	\$ 61.21	\$ 67.14	\$ 47.27
Expenditure per resident for parks			\$ 58.00		\$ 35.00		\$ 20.00	\$ 32.34	\$ 27.24	\$ 34.52	\$ 28.59
Expenditure per resident for recreation programs			\$ 118.00				\$ 1.00	\$ 10.14	\$ 33.97	\$ 40.78	\$ 18.68

Forest Grove Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan

Appendix D: Comparable Cities Survey

City	Ashland	Grants Pass	McMinnville	Oregon City	Roseburg	Troutdale	Tualatin	West Linn	Woodburn	Local Averages	Forest Grove
STAFF											
Management Planner	4.0		1.0	1.0	1.0		1.0	1.0	1.5	1.5	1.0
Full Time Recreation part Time Recreation	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0		1.0	1.0	0.0	0.3	1.5
Year-round Maintenance	25.0		164.0	25.0	7.0		5.0	10.0	25.0	49.8	5.0
Seasonal Maintenance	20.0		5.0	4.0	3.0		4.0	5.0	6.0	7.4	5.0
Other	8.0		8.0	3.0	1.0		2.0	6.0	2.0	4.9	0.5
	0.0		0.0	0.0	1.0		2.0	0.8	0.0	0.5	
STANDARDS - PARK LAND (expressed as x acres per 1000 number of people)											
Neighborhood Parks			2	1	2	1	3	1	6	2.2	ns
Community Parks			6	1.46	2.3	4.62	2.5	1.33	2	2.9	ns
Open Space/Greenways			6	7	27	3		9		10.5	ns
Regional Parks				0.96	7.38		20	3.33	2	6.7	ns
Overall Park Acreage			14	15	46	9		20	2	20.8	ns
STANDARDS - RECREATION FACILITIES (expressed as ratio of 1 facility per x number of people)											
Amphitheaters							20,000			20,000	ns
Baseball Fields			1,500	1,418	5,000			10,000		4,480	ns
Little League								2,500		2,750	ns
Older Youth/Adult								2,800		4,400	ns
Basketball Courts (outdoor)			2,000				500			1,250	ns
Community Centers/Gymnasium			25,000				20,000	2,000		15,667	ns
Football Fields			20,000							20,000	ns
Golf (18-hole)					1,750		25,000			13,375	ns
Group Picnic Areas			1,500							1,500	ns
Play Equipment			1,200							1,200	ns
Running Tracks			20,000							20,000	ns
Soccer Fields			2,000	872	1,000			900		1,193	ns
Softball Fields Adult			3,000	3,240	4,000					3,413	ns
Youth										3,000	ns
Swimming Facilities			25,000	152sf/1000			3,000			3,000	ns
Tennis Courts			2,000		900		20,000			22,500	ns
Trails						3	2,000	1,400		1,575	ns
Jogging Paths (miles per 1000)				0	1		25	1		10	ns
Bicycling Paths (miles per 1000)							25	9		9	ns
							25	25		25	ns

Forest Grove Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan

Appendix E: Cost Assumptions

Name: Hazel Sillis Park							
Type: Play Lot							
Improvements		Qty	Unit	Unit Price	Total Cost	Comments	
	Children's Play Equipment	1	allow	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	includes safety surfacing, curbs, and non-custom equipment	
	Misc. Site Furnishings	1	allow	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	benches, trash cans	
	Total Budget				\$ 70,000		
Name: Joseph Gale Park							
Type: Neighborhood Park							
Improvements		Qty	Unit	Unit Price	Total Cost	Comments	
	Children's Play Equipment	1	allow	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000	includes safety surfacing, curbs, and non-custom equipment	
	Walkway (concrete)	1000	lineal feet	\$ 24	\$ 24,000	6" wide	
	Misc. Site Furnishings	1	allow	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	benches, trash cans	
	Restroom	1	ea	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000		
	Subtotal Improvements				\$ 214,000		
	Design Fees	15%			\$ 32,100		
	Contingency	10%			\$ 3,210		
	Total Budget				\$ 249,310		

Forest Grove Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan

Appendix E: Cost Assumptions

Name: Knox Ridge Park									
Type: Play Lot									
Size: 0.15 acres									
Improvements		Qty	Unit	Unit Price	Total Cost	Comments			
Base Cost		0.15	acre	\$ 100,000	\$ 15,000				
Children's Play Equipment		1	allow	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	includes safety surfacing, curbs, and non-custom equipment			
Misc. Site Furnishings		1	allow	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500	benches, trash cans			
Subtotal Improvements					\$ 94,500				
Design Fees		15%			\$ 14,175				
Contingency		10%			\$ 1,418				
Total Budget					\$ 110,093				
Name: Lincoln Park									
Type: Community Park									
Improvements		Qty	Unit	Unit Price	Total Cost	Comments			
Base Cost		6	acres	\$ 100,000	\$ 600,000				
Children's Play Equipment		2	allow	\$ 140,000	\$ 280,000	includes safety surfacing, curbs, and non-custom equipment			
Pre-fabricated Climbing Rock		1	allow	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	includes safety surfacing, curbs, and non-custom equipment			
Misc. Site Furnishings		1	allow	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	benches, trash cans			
Structures									
Picnic Shelter (large)		2	ea	\$ 80,000	\$ 160,000				
Restroom		2	ea	\$ 100,000	\$ 200,000				
Storage Building		1	ea	\$ 55,000	\$ 55,000				
Skate Facility		1	allow	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000				
Subtotal Improvements					\$ 1,030,000				
Design Fees		15%			\$ 154,500				
Contingency		10%			\$ 15,450				
Total Budget					\$ 1,199,950				

Forest Grove Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan

Appendix E: Cost Assumptions

Name: Talisman Park									
Type: Neighborhood Park									
Improvements	Qty	Unit	Unit Price	Total Cost	Comments				
Walkway	625	lineal feet	\$ 20.00	\$ 12,500.00	perimeter				
Walkway	200	lineal feet	\$ 20.00	\$ 4,000.00	from Gales Creek Road				
Picnic Shelter (small)	1	ea	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00					
Kiosk	1	ea	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00					
Horseshoe Pits	2	allow	\$ 300.00	\$ 600.00					
Children's Play Equipment	1	allow	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 65,000.00	includes safety surfacing, curbs, and non-custom equipment				
Additional Planting & Irrigation	1	allow	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00					
Misc.	1	allow	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	benches, other site furnishings				
Subtotal Improvements				\$ 134,100.00					
Contingency	10%			\$ 13,410.00					
Total Budget				\$ 147,510.00					