

Clark County Parks and Open Space Comprehensive Management Plan



Purpose

- Prepare the Planning Commission for the August 20th hearing

Background

- The Clark County Parks Division was created last year under the Department of Public Works
- The state Growth Management Act requires local parks plans as a component of county master plans (RCW 36.70A(8)) and is required before the county staff can apply for state parks grant funding
- The Clark County Parks Advisory Board was created last year

Vision and Mission

Vision statement: Clark County Parks & Recreation strengthens the quality of life for the entire community.

Mission statement: Provide an interconnected system of parks, trails, recreation facilities and natural areas that support diverse recreation, environmental stewardship and economic development.

Goals and policies: Based on extensive public outreach and found in chapter three of the plan

Key findings of public outreach

- The public believes county parks is doing a good job
- The parks system is a major contributor to positive economic, environmental, and health outcomes
- More trails and trail connections received the top votes in all of the public outreach
- Public expressed need for more facilities, and more access and connections to facilities
- Enhancing communications and outreach

Outreach results

- More partnerships and collaboration
 - empower volunteers
 - forge stronger & new partnerships to leverage community resources
- Connect the gaps
 - parks
 - trails
 - recreational amenities
- Increase access
 - parks
 - parking
 - trail access
 - outdoor recreation opportunities for children
 - trail amenities such as parking, benches, and restrooms

Key master plan elements

- Inventory of parks, sports facilities, and trails-only county facilities
- Needs assessment for parks, recreation, open space and trails
- Results of public outreach effort: Public Demand Chapter of the plan
- Implementation recommendations, including funding strategies
- Parks Capital Facilities Plan- 6 & 20 year list of all county parks, trails, and planning projects

Plan implementation

- Cost of six-year CFP: \$38 million
- Park Impact Fee revenue: \$12,120,847
- Estimated shortfall: \$26 million
- Metropolitan Parks District: consider locking in levy rate of 0.25/\$1,000
- Existing parks division: additional staffing needed

Timeline and Next Steps

