

City of Cornelius

Parks Master Plan



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Executive Summary

Introduction

Imagine Cornelius in 10 years, a walkable community with many options for healthy activity and facilities that serve as exceptional public gathering places and foster a sense of stewardship and pride. Consider multiple, large community parks with all-weather sport fields, dynamic playgrounds and community performance areas, along with a network of safe, well-maintained neighborhood parks. Consider expanded and accessible natural areas with paths and environmental interpretive stations for outdoor education. Consider a pedestrian and bicycle friendly trail network that connects public facilities, such as the library, schools and parks, and that is built with safe routes, clear signage and access to regionally significant trails.

As a strategic road map for the future, this Parks Master Plan envisions a city park system that will provide high-quality recreational opportunities for residents and visitors during the next decade and beyond. In addition to upgrading existing parks, the plan calls for acquiring additional parkland and developing a system of interconnected, shared-use paths and trails to serve a growing population. The plan offers a guide to honor the City's past investments through specific park upgrades, while leveraging its resources to expand the park system by:

- **Expanding universal access** to existing facilities with ADA-compliant renovations
- **Acquiring parkland** to improve the geographic distribution of parks throughout the city and meet the needs of a growing population
- Exploring partnership **opportunities to provide recreation programs** that engage residents
- Building upon the department's mission to **provide safe, creative, and enjoyable parks** for the entire population of Cornelius.

In support of these four major areas, the 2009 Parks Master Plan includes:

- Goals and objectives for the next 5 - 10 years
- Analysis of the existing inventory including current conditions, management issues and recommendations
- Summary of public outreach and community feedback
- Assessment of community and recreational needs
- Capital Facilities Plan with projects ranked in order of priority
- Review of funding options and recommended strategies

Major Challenges

- **Funding Issues.** Expectations for parks and recreation services remain high in the minds of residents, and deservedly so, but revenues are generally inadequate to meet public demand. The department must secure alternative funding and foster partnerships to refurbish existing parks and facilities, acquire additional park and natural area lands and serve an ever growing and diverse community.
- **Community Parks.** During the planning process, residents voiced a desire for more community park space to provide more sport fields, picnicking facilities and active recreation. Harleman Park, the city's only community park, is well-loved and well-used, but at a little over 10 acres in size, it cannot accommodate the current needs of residents.
- **Increased population.** Population growth in Cornelius has outpaced that of the surrounding region, and this trend is expected to continue. Cornelius experienced nearly 60% growth between 1990 and 2000, and the city expects to grow by an additional 50% by 2020.
- **Population diversity.** Cornelius differs from the county and state with regard to the composition of its population. The city has a larger percentage of youth and teens, a larger percentage of persons with disabilities, a larger percentage of Latinos and a lower percentage of seniors. These characteristics may affect the type of recreation offerings provided by the city.
- **Obesity-related health issues.** While statistics are not specific for Cornelius, increases in the rate of obesity are spurring a growing health epidemic - affecting recreation programming and the need to provide opportunities for an active lifestyle. In the US, 66% of adults over 20 years of age are obese or overweight; for children between the ages of 6 and 11, 19% are overweight. In a 2007 report by the Oregon Department of Human Services, 60% of adults were obese or overweight, and 25% of 8th graders were overweight or at risk for becoming overweight.

While these challenges exist, they also provide context to a set of new opportunities for enhancing the parks and recreation system.

Major Recommendations

The key recommendations applied to the overall park system include the following:

- Establish a combined service standard for neighborhood and community parks of 1.6 acres per 1,000 people to elevate the importance of developed, useable parkland. Establish an overall parks and natural areas service standard of 5.5 acres per 1,000.
- Acquire additional parkland to meet future demand, including two proposed community parks and three neighborhood parks, along with natural area expansions and new trailheads to serve the Council Creek Trail.
- Reinvest in existing park sites to address universal access concerns.

- Actively pursue cooperative agreements with the Forest Grove and Hillsboro School Districts for upgrades to expand sport field capacity and recreation uses within the city.
- Explore collaborations and partnerships with other public or non-profit agencies for the provision of recreation programs and access to recreation lands.
- Engage and support residents in community-based enhancement projects, such as clean-ups, beautification and plantings.
- Review and consider long-term, stable funding sources, to include analysis of support for new sources of revenue by the voting public. Update the Parks system development charge methodology and rate structure as a means to finance new park acquisition and development.

Parks, trails, greenspaces, natural areas – these are an essential element of long-term community sustainability and a legacy for Cornelius’ future. The fast pace of development and population growth reinforce the need to take seriously the city’s role as an environmental steward, with a fundamental responsibility to protect, maintain and enhance its natural resources not just for the enjoyment they bring today, but for the benefit and well-being of future generations.

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Chapter 1. Introduction

Nestled between Hillsboro, Oregon’s fifth largest city, and Forest Grove, the home of Pacific University, Cornelius maintains a small town charm and looks to build from its roots as “Oregon’s Family Town.” The city maintains a modest parks system of neighborhood and community parks, along with immediate access to the Tualatin River and Council Creek. These natural area corridors will become backbone of a future trail network connecting Cornelius to Hillsboro, the Banks-Vernonia Trail and ultimately the Oregon Coast.



Figure 1. Families gather at Harleman Park for National Night Out

With a growing population and one of the highest, relative populations of Latinos, Cornelius consistently strives to promote community pride and inclusion through festivals and activities. The city hosts several community events each year, including the Day of the Child festival in May and a National Night Out celebration in August, which bring together a diverse group of residents to enjoy food, fun and family activities in Harleman Park, the city’s only community park. While the city is small in size, its residents are proud of their city for what has been accomplished on the nascent park system with modest resources, but they are also interested in certain facility and program improvements. This plan documents those desires and provides a framework for addressing capital development and funding in the near-term.

Setting

Incorporated in 1893, Cornelius still holds to its history as an agricultural town. The city is bordered by prime agricultural lands and is the home to many plant nursery operations and agriculture supply vendors.

During the development of the city’s comprehensive plan, a vision statement was adopted to provide the theme and backbone – framework, for the future planning of the city, and reads as follows:

“Cornelius is a well-planned city with a safe, healthy and aesthetically pleasing environment. A strong sense of community has been developed through effective partnerships with community organizations, maintaining historic connections with the area’s rural past, and embracing the positive aspects of modern technology. The City is economically vital with quality education and recreational opportunities.”

Building on the themes of community, place and environment, the city focused its attention toward the growth of a park system. It adopted its first Parks Master Plan in 1979, later

updated in 1997, and prepared a mission statement for its Parks and Recreation Department, which is to “provide safe, creative, and enjoyable parks for the entire population of Cornelius.” Through these statements of purpose, a future vision for the parks system begins to emerge.

Cornelius is a **walkable community with an expanded trails network** connecting parks and natural areas with neighborhoods and downtown. This includes a comprehensive system of on-road bicycle routes as well as off-road trails, so people have transportation options and to access to passive recreation opportunities for wellness and exploration.

Cornelius is **responsive to its changing demographics**. The city will establish recreation services and acquire additional parkland to meet the needs of its growing and increasingly diverse community. Partnering with other agencies, Cornelius will pursue opportunities and innovative solutions for new facilities and inclusive access to programs and services.

Safe, attractive, well-kept parks and natural areas will be a key contributor to the city’s health and economic prosperity. Effective community outreach and education will build awareness of the benefits of parks, trails and recreation, along with the need to preserve and provide public access to natural areas for future generations.

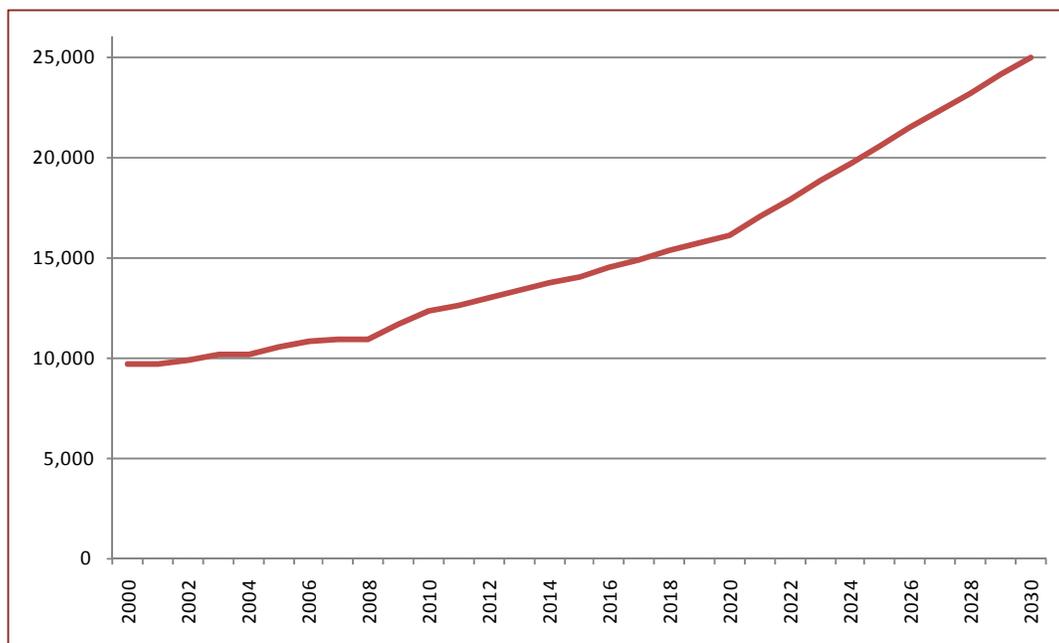
Demographics - The changing face of the community

The city of Cornelius has experienced tremendous growth in the last 20 years from a population of 6,148 in 1990 to 10,955 in 2008, which represents an 89% increase. In the more recent period between 2000-2008, the city’s population grew approximately 14% overall, but it has slowed in 2009 with the recent economic slowdown. The rate of growth experienced by Cornelius is comparable to that of Washington County in general, as illustrated in the table below.

Table 1. Population Change: Cornelius & Washington County (1990-2008)

Jurisdiction	1990	2000	2008
Cornelius	6,148	9,652	10,955
	<i>Percent Change ('90-'00)</i>		57.0%
	<i>Percent Change ('00-'08)</i>		13.5%
Washington County	311,554	445,342	519,925
	<i>Percent Change ('90-'00)</i>		42.9%
	<i>Percent Change ('00-'08)</i>		16.7%

Upon review of population forecast models prepared by Metro for the “20 & 50 Year Regional Population and Employment Range Forecasts” (March 2009 draft) and by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department for the “2008-2012 Oregon Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan,” continued growth is expected for Cornelius with an estimated 2030 population of approximately 25,000.

Table 2. Cornelius Population Forecast (2000-2030)

One aspect to overall population change is the distribution of age groups. The child and youth/teen age groups within Cornelius, which include populations less than 5 years of age and those less than 18 years of age respectively, indicate larger populations of youth and teens as compared to the county and state averages. Additionally, the senior population (65 and over) is smaller than the county and state averages. These age group distributions show that the city is younger and has more children, which in turn places special demands on existing facilities and exacerbates the latent demand for additional park facilities.

Household characteristics, such as size, income and poverty levels, also provide insight into the community. As compared to the county and state figures from the 2000 Census, Cornelius households have a larger than average household size, lower than average income and a higher percentage of persons with disabilities (ages 5 and over). Table 3 below shows these figures in detail.

The most dramatic impact regarding the growth of the city's population has been the rapid expansion of the Latino community. According to the 2000 Census, Cornelius had over 3,600 Latino residents (37% of the population), and based on the population forecast analysis completed as part of the Oregon SCORP, that percentage is expected to increase to just over 58% by 2020. As such, the SCORP noted Cornelius as a "high priority" city for Hispanic populations and also identified it as "high priority" based on an increase in population diversity for Hispanic ethnicity. However, growth in the Latino community is not the city's only driver; the SCORP also noted that Cornelius is a "high priority" city for African American populations.

Table 3. Household & Age Group Comparisons

Demographics	Oregon	Washington County	Cornelius
<i>Population Characteristics</i>			
Population	3,790,060	529,216	9,652
Hispanic / Latino	20.0%	28.3%	37.4%
Language Other than English	12.1%	18.6%	38.6%
Persons w/ Disabilities	593,301	60,418	2,119
Persons w/ Disabilities (%)	15.6%	11.4%	21.9%
<i>Household Characteristics</i>			
Median Income	\$48,735	\$61,721	\$45,959
Persons per Household	2.51	2.61	3.31
Home Ownership Rate	64.3%	60.6%	72.3%
<i>Age Groups</i>			
Population < 5 years of age	6.4%	7.5%	10.0%
Population < 18 years of age	22.9%	26.1%	32.5%
Population > 65 years of age	13.3%	9.3%	6.1%

Both the total population change (past and projected) and the household and ethnic composition present a unique set of opportunities and challenges for the city with regard to the provision of park and recreation services. Potential impacts on the city's park system and considerations based on these population dynamics are discussed in the Needs Assessment chapter.

Another consideration regarding the provision of park space is that of accommodating individuals employed within the city. While these individuals might be non-residents, they contribute to the economic health of the city and often seek refuge in outdoor spaces for work breaks and lunch. Local employees will likely seek picnic or social areas, trail facilities or sport court facilities. Based on data from the 2000 Census, approximately 32% of the local workforce commutes into the city, while only 6% of resident workforce is employed within Cornelius.

Table 4. Residency and Place of Employment Characteristics

Residency / Employment	Number	Percentage
Live In / Work In	401	6%
Live In / Work Out	4,178	62%
Live Out / Work In	2,139	32%
TOTAL	6,718	

Source: 2000 Census SF 3 Data and 2002 Metro Regional Databook

Community & Social Networks

A variety of community and social networks exists within Cornelius that offer residents way to be involved and help stabilize and promote the city. The range of programs, services and organizations can create a foundation of volunteers and community stewards who are actively engaged in the community.

The primary school system provides the backbone for many of the city's social and cultural activities, with youth engaged in language studies, dance, athletics and other programs. Served by the Forest Grove and the Hillsboro school districts, Cornelius has 4 elementary, 1 middle and a future high school within its immediate area. Additionally, the Emmaus Christian School offers private kindergarten through 8th grade curriculum, along with before- and after-school care.

The city also hosts a wide array of civic, volunteer and faith-based organizations. Boy scout and girl scout troops offer structured activities and opportunities for leadership for local youth. Similarly, the Cornelius Boosters and Chamber of Commerce provide leadership for local entrepreneurs in an effort to support and strengthen the business community serving residents and area employees. Cornelius is also home to 8 churches, many of which encourage and organize community-building and improvement projects. Additionally, city government seeks to engage residents through a variety of boards and commissions, along with supporting volunteer activities at the public library.

Residents also have access social, family or empowerment services, such as the Oregon Child Development Coalition, Centro Cultural and housing assistance programs. Additionally, there is access to other nearby social and health services in Hillsboro and Forest Grove.

These groups, and the volunteers they foster, will continue to provide critical support to the community fabric and also may be available and willing to assist the city in expanding, maintaining, promoting or enhancing its park and recreation offerings in the future.

Review of Other Community Plans

To supplement local outreach, six community plans were reviewed for past policy direction and goals as they pertain to the provision and planning for parks, natural areas and recreation in Cornelius. The development of each involved public input and final adoption by the responsible legislative body.

1999 Parks & Open Space System Development Charge Methodology

The 1999 SDC Methodology was an update to one completed in 1995. The 1999 update reviewed city expenditures and revenues toward the park system, along with planned and proposed capital improvements. A revised maximum total SDC per dwelling unit was calculated and presented to City Council via resolution.

1997 Cornelius Parks Master Plan

Adopted in late 1997, the previous Cornelius Parks Master Plan evaluated the physical condition of the city's parks and developed individual facilities plans for each. The plan

also identified parkland classifications, service standards and potential funding options. The summary of proposed and prioritized improvements totaled nearly \$900,000 ('97 dollars).

2005 Cornelius Comprehensive Plan

Most recently updated in 2005, the Cornelius Comprehensive Plan provides a framework for land use policies regarding the growth and development of the city. The plan establishes 3 general planning goals, with 8 specific policies, related to the provision of recreation opportunities, trails and natural resource protection.

2003 Cornelius Natural Resource Protection Plan

The intent of this plan was to analyze the land use consequences of protecting significant natural resources, which include wetlands, riparian areas and wildlife habitat. The land use classifications of adjacent and nearby parcels were reviewed for each of the city's identified resource areas. Compatible and conflicting uses were described in consideration of the resource's functional values. With regard to parks and recreational uses, impacts of passive and active recreation opportunities were assessed, with the general recognition that low impact recreation may be permissible depending upon siting, design and mitigation.

2005 Cornelius Transportation System Plan

This plan was an update to the 1995 TSP and provides specific information regarding transportation needs to guide future transportation investment in Cornelius. Specific to parks and recreation, the 2005 TSP identified five goals for bicycles and pedestrian facilities, in an effort to develop complementary infrastructure and provide a more diverse range of transportation choices for city residents. TSP goals are focused toward filling infrastructure gaps, addressing access, safety and crossing needs and developing and integrating local networks into the broader regional system plan. The TSP also mapped specific priority improvements for bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

2005 Washington County Comprehensive Framework Plan For The Urban Area: Recreation Policies

Washington County's most recent comprehensive plan includes two policies related to recreation facilities, services and open space. In general, the County recognizes park districts and cities as the appropriate long-term providers of park, recreation and open space services and may only consider a role as an interim provider for these services under certain conditions. Specific to Cornelius, these conditions may provide opportunities to partner with the County in relation to the city's plans for annexation and/or limitations to finance projects.

2006 Washington County Transportation System Plan: Bicycle & Pedestrian Elements

The bicycle and pedestrian elements of the Washington County Transportation Plan consists of policies, strategies and system maps that define and support the development of planned bicycle and pedestrian networks. Specifically, 15 strategies each for pedestrian and bicycle facilities are listed, which support intergovernmental coordination for

development of facilities, recognize the importance of safety and connectivity and require the inclusion of prioritized projects in the capital improvement program.

Contents of the Plan

The remainder of the Cornelius Parks Master Plan is organized as follows:

- **Chapter 2:** Definitions & Inventory, describes the existing park and recreation system in Cornelius and other nearby recreation opportunities.
- **Chapter 3:** Public Outreach, highlights the methods used to engage the Cornelius community in the development of the Plan.
- **Chapter 4:** Needs Assessment, discusses survey results and other recreation trend data and provides context to the identification of potential system improvements.
- **Chapter 5:** Policies & Objectives, provides a policy framework for the Cornelius parks system grouped by major facility type or activity.
- **Chapter 6:** Capital Facilities Plan, details a 10-year program for addressing park site renovation and park system expansion projects.
- **Chapter 7:** Implementation Strategies, describes a range of strategies and alternatives to consider in the implementation of the Plan.
- **Appendices:** Providing technical or supporting information to the planning effort and includes a summary of the community survey, stakeholder notes, funding options and design considerations for future private or homeowner association parks.

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Chapter 2. Definitions & Inventory

This chapter is segmented into two sections, and describes the city's existing inventory of public parks and natural areas. The first section defines the various facility classifications in use in Cornelius, and the second section is an inventory and assessment of existing facilities and includes a discussion of other recreation opportunities within or near Cornelius.

Definitions

There are five basic park, recreation and greenspace facility types in Cornelius:

- Neighborhood Parks
- Community Parks
- Natural Areas & Greenspaces
- Trails & Pathways
- Special Facilities

Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks are defined as small park areas designed for unstructured play and limited active and passive recreation. They are generally no more than 3 acres in size, depending on a variety of factors including neighborhood need, physical location and opportunity, and should meet a minimum size of 1.0 acre in size when possible. Alpine, Dogwood, Tarrybrooke and Water Parks are examples of neighborhood parks within Cornelius.

These parks are intended to serve residential areas within short walking distance (up to ¼-mile radius) of the park and should be geographically distributed throughout the community. Access is mostly pedestrian, and park sites should be located so that persons living within the service area will not have to cross a major arterial street to get to the site.

Recognizing that park development may proceed in phases, Table 5 identifies the minimum park amenities required for neighborhood parks, along with other park elements that may be installed based on specific site uses, community input or the site master plan. Generally, developed neighborhood parks typically include amenities such as pedestrian paths, picnic tables, benches, play equipment, play fields, sport courts or multi-purpose paved areas, landscaping and irrigation.

Table 5. Amenities for Developed Neighborhood Parks

Minimum Amenities Provided	Other Acceptable Amenities
Playground (preferred size: 5,000 - 6,000 sq. ft.; serving ages 2 - 12)	Community gardens
Picnic tables and benches	Natural areas and interpretive elements
Pathways, paved or other ADA-compliant hard surface	Sport fields for practice (i.e., soccer, baseball, softball)
Open lawn area	Sports courts (i.e., basketball, volleyball, tennis)
Restroom (minimum 1 stall)	Community garden
Signage: park name, rules, wayfinding	Picnic shelter
Other site furnishings (i.e., trash receptacles, bike racks, etc.)	Other active recreation elements (i.e., BMX, skateboard park or spots, horseshoe pits, etc.)
	Dedicated on-street or off-street parking
	Irrigation & Landscaping

The proposed development standard is a minimum of 75% of the park site developed to include the above amenities, with a goal of having each neighborhood park developed to 100% of its capacity. While no service standard previously existed for neighborhood parks, this Plan proposes a combined acreage standard for developed neighborhood and community parks of 1.6 acres per 1,000 residents.

Community Parks

Community parks are larger sites developed for organized play, contain a wider array of facilities and, as a result, appeal to a more diverse group of users. They are generally 10 to 20 acres in size and serve residents within a 1-mile radius of the site. Access may be by vehicle, bicycle or on foot. Harlemon Park is the only community park in the City's current inventory.

In general, community park facilities are designed for organized or intensive recreational activities and sports, although passive components such as pathways, picnic areas and natural areas are highly encouraged and complementary to active use facilities.

Developed community parks typically include amenities such as soccer and baseball fields, picnic shelters and tables, bike and pedestrian pathways, restrooms, irrigation and parking. Community parks may also incorporate community facilities, such as community centers, senior centers or aquatic facilities. Table 6 identifies the minimum park amenities required for community parks, along with other typical or acceptable elements that may be developed.

Table 6. Amenities for Developed Community Parks

Minimum Amenities Provided	Other Acceptable Amenities
Playground (preferred size: 10,000 - 12,000 sq. ft.; serving ages 2 - 12)	Community gardens
Picnic shelters (minimum 1 large and 1 small per park)	Natural areas and interpretive elements
Picnic tables and benches	Shared-use bicycle/pedestrian trails
Sports courts (i.e., basketball, volleyball, tennis)	Water play feature or Sprayground
Athletic fields for practice and/or games (i.e., soccer, baseball, softball, football, lacrosse)	Sports complex
Open lawn area	Concessionaire's facility
Pathways, paved or other ADA-compliant hard surface	Lighting
Restrooms (minimum 4 stalls)	Stage or community performance area
Off-Street or Dedicated Parking	Other active recreation elements (i.e., BMX, skateboard park or spots, horseshoe pits, etc.)
Irrigation & Landscaping	Dog Park or off-leash dog area
Signage: park name, rules, wayfinding	Maintenance or storage facilities
Other site furnishings (i.e., trash receptacles, bike racks, etc.)	

The proposed development standard is a minimum of 80% of the park site developed to include the above amenities, with a goal of having each community park developed to 100% of its capacity. While no service standard previously existed for community parks, this Plan proposes a combined acreage standard for developed neighborhood and community parks of 1.6 acres per 1,000 residents.

Natural Areas & Greenspaces

Natural areas are those which are preserved to maintain the natural character of the site with minimally development. These areas provide amenities for passive recreation, such as trails, benches and environmental interpretive panels. Public access via rustic trails within these areas is important to provide passive recreational opportunities, as appropriate with resource protection and environmental regulations.

Greenspaces are passive-use open spaces without developed amenities or structured functions. No acreage recommendations for either type are proposed, since acreages vary by the unique ecological or geographical character of each site.

Trails & Pathways

Pathways are paved routes within developed parks. Trails are paved or rustic routes within a publicly-acquired natural area/corridor, road or railroad right-of-way or utility corridor.

Trails and pathways should be sufficiently wide enough to accommodate the intended type of trail user(s), preserve the features through which the trail is traversing and buffer adjacent land use activities. Surfaces will vary with intended use and environmental considerations. Parking, consistent signage and interpretive markers or panels should be provided as appropriate.

Special Facilities

Special facilities include single-purpose recreational areas such as golf courses, display gardens and arboreta, along with community centers, pools, and public plazas in or near the downtown core. Additionally, publicly-accessible sport fields and play areas of public schools are classified as special facilities; while they often serve as proxies to public parks, school sites have restricted daytime access and offer limited recreational use during non-school hours. No standards are proposed concerning special facilities, since facility size is a function of the specific use.

Facilities Inventory

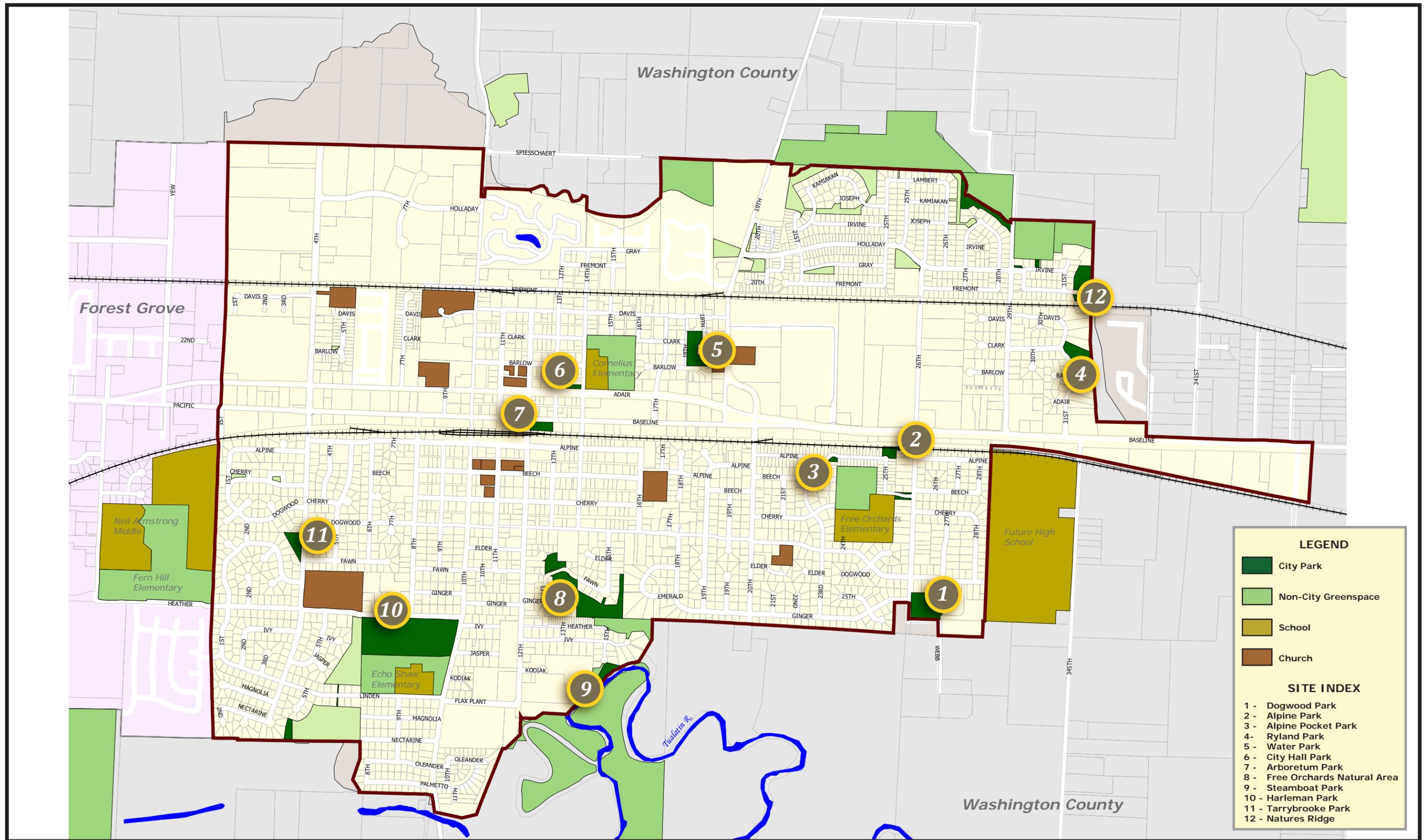
Residents of Cornelius benefit from a variety of public parks and natural areas, along with adjacency to Council Creek and the Tualatin River. Cornelius provides 25.3 acres of public parkland and natural areas distributed among 12 city-owned sites. Additionally, a number of other public and private open spaces exist throughout Cornelius and add to the city's recreation resources. The following table summarizes the available land inventory in Cornelius.

Table 7. Existing Inventory: City-owned Parks & Natural Areas

Park Name	Classification	Acreage
Harleman Park	Community Park	10.4
	<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>10.4</i>
Alpine Park	Neighborhood Park	0.65
Dogwood Park	Neighborhood Park	2.17
Ryland Park	Neighborhood Park	0.78
Tarrybrooke Park	Neighborhood Park	1
Water Park	Neighborhood Park	2.23
	<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>6.83</i>
Arboretum Park	Special Facility	0.75
City Hall Park	Special Facility	0.22
Steamboat Park	Special Facility	0.75
	<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>1.72</i>
Alpine Pocket Park	Greenspace	0.22
Free Orchards Park	Natural Area	5.22
Nature's Ridge	Natural Area	0.9
	<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>6.34</i>
	Total Acreage	25.29

This section provides inventory information and site-specific recommendations for public parks managed by the city of Cornelius. Inventory data was gathered from field assessments completed in the summer of 2009. The management issues and recommendations are the result of site assessments, previous inventory efforts, staff and project team considerations and public comments. A summary of other area recreation facilities and service providers is provided at the end of the chapter.

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Map 1. Existing Facilities Map

Cornelius Parks Master Plan
Cornelius, Oregon



Table 8. Existing Inventory: Facilities Matrix

PARKS AND FACILITIES	CLASSIFICATION	ADDRESS	PARCEL R#	FEATURES																															
				Acreage	Percent Developed	Sidewalk	Parking Lot (Spaces)	Accessible Parking (Spaces)	Bus Stop / Shelter	Pathways (L.F.)	Playground	Playground Area (~sq.ft.)	Open Lawn / Play Area	Picnic Shelters	Picnic Tables	Accessible Tables	Park Benches	Accessible Benches	Softball/Baseball	Soccer/Football	Basketball Court	Tennis Court	Horseshoe Pits	BMX Terrain	Stage / Amphitheater	Restrooms	Drinking Fountains	Natural Area/Wetlands	Water Access/Views	Shoreline (LF)	Trash Receptacles	Rule and Regulation Signs	Park Entrance Sign		
Harleman Park	Community Park	795 S. Heather St.	R412039	10.4	85%	-	46	2	-	1,730	Y	5,925	Y	Y	15	-	4	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	Y	-	-	-	Y	Y	Y			
Alpine Park	Neighborhood Park	2500 S. Alpine St.	R2079353	0.65	90%	Y	-	-	-	425	Y	3,200	Y	Y	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	-	-	-	Y	-	Y				
Dogwood Park	Neighborhood Park	700 S. 26th Ave.	R1169791	2.17	65%	Y	-	-	-	120	Y	4,600	Y	Y	3	-	4	-	-	Y	-	-	Y	-	Y	Y	-	-	-	Y	-	Y			
Ryland Park	Neighborhood Park	285 N. 31st Ave.	R1013030, R1013049, R1013067	0.78	15%	Y	-	-	-	-	Y	1,600	Y	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	-	-	-	Y	-	Y					
Tarrybrooke Park	Neighborhood Park	545 S. 4th Ave.	R411361	1	80%	Y	-	-	-	-	Y	1,750	Y	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	Y	-	-	-	Y	-	-	-	Y	Y	Y				
Water Park	Neighborhood Park	1800 N. Barlow St.	R2143999, R755267	2.23	50%	-	8	1	-	-	Y	4,000	Y	-	5	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	Y	-	-	-	Y	-	Y				
Arboretum Park	Special Facility	1251 Baseline St	R406028	0.75	90%	Y	-	-	Y	560	-	-	Y	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	-	-	-	Y	-	Y					
City Hall Park	Special Facility	107 N. 14th Ave.	R754543	0.22	5%	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Steamboat Park	Special Facility	1356 S. 15th Ave.	R2069750	0.75	35%	Y	4	0	-	460	-	-	Y	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	Y	440	-	Y	Y					
Alpine Pocket Park	Greenspace		R2079354	0.22	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Free Orchards Park	Natural Area	1493 S. Fawn St.	R409258, R2082176, R2159505, R2159506, R2159507	5.22	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	Y	-	-	Y	-					
Natures Ridge	Natural Area	Holladay Drive Road End	R2125765, R2125767	0.9	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				

Park Amenities Not Listed, Not Available

- BBQ Grills
- Volleyball
- Off-leash Dog Area
- Community Garden Patches
- Disc Golf Course (Holes)
- Interpretive/Education Signage
- RV or Trailer Parking (Spaces)
- Skatepark

Site inventories completed Summer 2009

Harleman Park

Community Park :: 9.42 acres

Harleman Park is located at the intersection of S. 10th Avenue and Heather Street, adjacent to Echo Shaw Elementary School. This park is currently the only community park in Cornelius, and is the largest park in the system, making it an important and heavily used facility. Harleman Park offers a variety of recreational opportunities, attracting large numbers of people.

Inventory

- Paved parking lot
- Restrooms
- 2 – Group shelters, reservable
- Asphalt pathways
- Concrete sidewalks
- Playground
- Picnic tables
- Benches
- Trash receptacles
- Drinking Fountains
- Tennis courts
- 1 – Baseball diamond
- Concessions/storage area
- Batting cages
- 2 – Softball diamonds
- Bleachers
- Soccer/football field
- Adult Basketball Courts
- Pre-teen basketball court
- Open lawn



Figure 2. Harleman Park playground



Figure 3. Playground, with large shelter and ballfield in background



- Planting beds
- Horseshoe pits
- Performing arts stage
- Electrical pedestal hook-ups for vendors
- Automatic irrigation system

Management Issues and Recommendations

- Upgrade and standardize site furnishings: trash receptacles, picnic tables, benches, drinking fountains, bike racks, etc.
- Add lighting to the existing stage , and replace existing concrete steps leading up to the stage with new steps and/or an ADA accessible ramp.
- Repair and/or replace cracked and uneven pavement along accessible routes.
- Replace non-accessible and non- ADA compliant drinking fountains with compliant ones. Maintain drinking fountains, ensuring that they function in spring, summer, and fall.
- Add locking devices to the power hookups adjacent to the soccer field. Replace above grade pedestal hook-ups with at grade boxes to lessen visual impact when not in use, and also allow for more ease of maintenance (mowing).
- Monitor park vandalism and replace or clean any damaged furnishings, signs, or building facades as soon as any vandalism occurs.
- Maintain planting beds, and replace dead plants.
- Buffer above ground utilities such as transformers and pedestal style controller cabinets from view when possible.
- Extend a public sidewalk at the north end of the park along Heather Street, connecting to existing sidewalk on the Northwest end of the park to S. 10th Ave.. Re-build curb ramps at the intersection of Heather Street and 10th Avenue to be ADA compliant.
- Provide crosswalk striping at key access points into the park.
- Ensure that all required park signs are visible and installed according to code (height).
- Install lights along main pathway through park for safety.



Figure 5. Damaged, non-ADA compliant drinking fountain

- Maintain basketball courts ensuring that the nets and goals are in good condition, and the painted stripes are visible.
- Resurface the pre-teen basketball court and replace red tape on the pole indicating player's height limit, per the rules and regulations sign.
- Repair and maintain existing tennis courts. Repair net posts and replace net. Resurface and re-stripe courts and ensure positive drainage to eliminate standing water on court. Repair chain link fabric and make sure gates operate smoothly. Replace and repair lighting as needed and provide timer control.
- Relocate or reorient horse shoe pits so that they are aligned North-South instead of East-West and provide some separation from the adjacent tennis courts. Remove fence posts and rails without chain link fabric running parallel to the pits. Repair chain link fabric located behind horseshoe pits. Maintain the correct level of sand inside the horse shoe pits. Provide accessible route to horseshoe pits and upgrade at least one pit to be ADA-accessible.



Figure 6. Basketball court



Figure 7. Horseshoe pits

- Safety inspection of the play equipment and surfacing should be performed by a certified playground safety inspector. Maintain safety surface material to the extent and frequency needed to adhere to NPSI safety requirements and ADA Accessibility requirements. Provide improved drainage in the play area to maintain integrity of safety surface.
- Provide shade trees around playground.
- Remove benches located within the playground safety surface area, and relocate them along the perimeter of the playground. Place the benches on concrete pads with paved pathway connections.
- Repair or replace fences along baseball field baselines and dugouts, maintain bleachers, and replace existing wooden seating with aluminum seating when wood wears out.
- Remove weeds and grass from skinned Baseball/Softball infields as needed. Maintain safe paved access to and around the ball fields, ensuring that they are free from tripping hazards and drain properly. (* A specific hazard noted during a field visit is a portion of metal fence post protruding out of the concrete where an old fence post had been removed but not completely flush or below walkway grade).

- Evaluate need for a fence along the Northwest end of the park to alleviate errant soccer balls from landing in the road or adjacent homeowner's properties.. Remove temporary fence, and install permanent fence if needed.
- Repair any leaks or damage to picnic shelters, and find source of water puddles on concrete surface. Add grills or designated area for grilling next to shelters.
- Increase the number of regional tournaments and other group events to maximize revenues.
- Update the Harleman Park Master Plan to guide future development and acquisitions.
- Add a climbing structure.
- Add ADA-compliant detectable warning surfaces where accessible routes cross traffic areas.



Figure 8. Large group shelter with visible puddles

Alpine Park

Neighborhood Park :: 0.25 acres

Alpine Park is a neighborhood park located at the intersection of S. 25th Avenue and Alpine Street. There is another entrance to the park just north of Alpine Street on S. 26th Avenue. This park is a small neighborhood park, tucked in between several houses, with a wall running along the north side of the park, separating it from the railroad tracks. No major upgrades will be recommended at this time.



Figure 9. Alpine Park entry

Inventory

- Concrete walkways
- Playground
- Picnic Shelter
- Picnic tables
- Benches
- Open lawn
- Trash receptacle
- Automatic irrigation system



Figure 10. Alpine Park playground

Management Issues and Recommendations

- Upgrade and standardize site furnishings: trash receptacles, picnic tables, benches, drinking fountains, bike racks, etc...
- Monitor park vandalism and replace or clean any damaged furnishings, signs, or wall facades when vandalism occurs.
- Safety inspection of the play equipment and surfacing should be performed by a certified playground safety inspector.. Maintain safety surface material to the extent and frequency needed to adhere to NPSI safety requirements and ADA Accessibility requirements. Provide improved drainage in the play area to maintain integrity of safety surface.
- Provide shade trees around playground.

- Remove benches located within the playground safety surface area, and replace them with ADA-compliant benches along the perimeter of the playground. Place the benches on concrete pads with paved pathway connections.
- Add ADA-compliant detectable warning surfaces where accessible routes cross traffic areas.
- Install an entry sign at the east entrance to the park, and install a rules and regulations sign at both entrances.
- The east park entrance through the chain link fence consists of a very narrow opening. The opening should be reconfigured to accommodate a 36” wide opening minimum.

Dogwood Park

Neighborhood Park :: 1.90 acres

Dogwood Park is located at the intersection of S. 26th Avenue and Ginger Street, in the southeast end of town. One unique aspect of the park is that it has a dirt BMX track located along the southern side of the park.

Inventory

- Restroom
- Drinking fountains
- Trash receptacle
- Concrete walkway
- Playground
- Picnic Shelter
- Picnic tables
- Benches
- Multi-use sport court
- Open lawn
- Dirt BMX track
- Automatic irrigation system

Management Issues and Recommendations

- Upgrade and standardize site furnishings: trash receptacles, picnic tables, benches, drinking fountains, bike racks, etc.
- Monitor park vandalism and replace or clean any damaged furnishings, signs, or building facades as soon as any vandalism occurs.
- Maintain drinking fountains, ensuring that they function in spring, summer, and fall.



Figure 11. Dogwood Park entry



Figure 12. Basketball court & playground

- Maintain planting beds, and replace dead plants.
- Ensure that all required park signs are visible and installed according to code (height). Rules and Regulations sign is not visible from the sidewalk along 26th Avenue, relocate sign so it is visible to pedestrians entering the park.
- Maintain basketball courts ensuring that the nets and goals are in good condition, and the painted stripes are visible.
- Safety inspection of the play equipment and surfacing should be performed by a certified playground safety inspector. Maintain safety surface material to the extent and frequency needed to adhere to NPSI safety requirements and ADA Accessibility requirements. Provide improved drainage in the play area to maintain integrity of safety surface.
- Provide shade trees throughout park.
- Remove merry-go-round and replace with another piece of play equipment.
- The playground has minimal play equipment suitable for tots, if there is space in the play area, add more play equipment for young children.
- Install an ADA ramp into the play area.
- Remove benches located within the playground safety surface area, and replace them with ADA-compliant benches along the perimeter of the playground. Place the benches on concrete pads with paved pathway connections.
- Install a perimeter loop walking path.



Figure 13. Playground



Figure 14. Playground access requires ramp for ADA compliance

Ryland Park

Neighborhood Park :: 0.25 acres

Ryland Park is located at the intersection of S. 31st Avenue and Clark Street. This park is located on a steep slope, adjacent to a natural area/wetland that provides habitat for wildlife. Park visitors report seeing small animals and various species of birds in the wetland and occasionally in the park.

Inventory

- Playground
- Picnic tables
- Benches
- Trash receptacle
- Drinking Fountain
- Open lawn
- Automatic irrigation system



Figure 15. Ryland Park entry sign

Management Issues and Recommendations

- Upgrade and standardize site furnishings: trash receptacles, picnic tables, benches, drinking fountains, bike racks, etc.
- Maintain drinking fountains, ensuring that they function in spring, summer, and fall.
- Monitor park vandalism and replace or clean any damaged furnishings, signs, or building facades as soon as any vandalism occurs.
- Ensure that all required park signs are visible and installed according to code (height). The rules and regulations sign is not visible from the sidewalk entering the park and should be relocated.
- Install an ADA ramp into the play area.



Figure 16. ADA-accessible drinking fountain along sidewalk

- Safety inspection of the play equipment and surfacing should be performed by a certified playground safety inspector. Maintain safety surface material to the extent and frequency needed to adhere to NPSI safety requirements and ADA accessibility requirements. Provide improved drainage in the play area to maintain integrity of safety surface.
- Add ADA-compliant detectable warning surfaces where accessible routes cross traffic areas.
- Provide shade trees and landscape plantings throughout the entire park.
- Provide street trees.
- Provide pathway connections between various park uses.
- Provide gazebo or shelter.
- Provide planting beds/shrubs.



Figure 17. Pathway connections to playground recommended

Tarrybrooke Park

Neighborhood Park :: 1 acre

Tarrybrooke Park is on a small lot located on S. 4th Avenue, in the southwest part of town. This park has a large storm drain line that frequently overflows, running along the west side of the property. Tarrybrooke Park is one of the oldest parks in Cornelius, centrally located in a neighborhood. Many of the families that visit this park have younger children, because the play equipment is primarily for toddlers.

Inventory

- Concrete Sidewalk
- Tot-Lot
- Picnic tables
- Benches
- Basketball court
- Drinking fountain
- Trash receptacle
- Automatic irrigation system

Management Issues and Recommendations

- Upgrade and standardize site furnishings: trash receptacles, picnic tables, benches, drinking fountains, bike racks, etc.
- Monitor park vandalism and replace or clean any damaged furnishings, signs, or building facades as soon as any vandalism occurs.
- Maintain planting beds, and replace dead plants.
- Ensure that all required park signs are visible and installed according to code



Figure 18. Tarrybrooke Park entrance



Figure 19. Basketball court; maintain striping



Figure 20. Provided paved connections between park amenities

(height). The rules and regulations sign is not visible from the sidewalk entering the park and should be relocated.

- Maintain basketball courts ensuring that the nets and goals are in good condition, and the painted stripes are visible.
- Safety inspection of the play equipment and surfacing should be performed by a certified playground safety inspector. Maintain safety surface material to the extent and frequency needed to adhere to NPSI safety requirements and ADA accessibility requirements. Provide improved drainage in the play area to maintain integrity of safety surface.
- The play equipment is generally geared towards younger kids, but there are only belt swings. Change some of the belt swings to half bucket swings for the tots.
- Install an ADA ramp into the play area.
- Plant street trees in the planting strip along S. 4th Avenue.
- Provide pathway connections between various park elements.
- Add ADA-compliant detectable warning surfaces where accessible routes cross traffic areas.
- Provide future small shelter for students waiting for a school bus or to shade a bench.



Figure 21. Maintain safety surfacing & improve play area drainage

Water Park

Neighborhood Park :: 2.17 acres

Water Park is located on the corner of N. 18th Avenue and Barlow Street. The park is adjacent to the city reservoir, with an eight foot tall chain link fence separation. This park is also one of the oldest parks in the city, and it is the largest neighborhood park in Cornelius.

Inventory

- Gravel parking lot
- Restrooms
- Concrete sidewalk
- Playground
- Picnic tables
- Benches
- Drinking fountain
- Trash receptacle
- Open lawn
- Automatic irrigation system

Management Issues and Recommendations

- Upgrade and standardize site furnishings: trash receptacles, picnic tables, benches, drinking fountains, bike racks, etc.
- Maintain drinking fountains, ensuring that they function in spring, summer, and fall.
- Monitor park vandalism and replace or clean any damaged furnishings, signs, or building facades as soon as any vandalism occurs.



Figure 22. Water Park western entrance along 18th Avenue



Figure 23. Provide pathway to playground & install shade trees

- Maintain planting beds, and replace dead plants.
- Safety inspection of the play equipment and surfacing should be performed by a certified playground safety inspector. Maintain safety surface material to the extent and frequency needed to adhere to NPSI safety requirements and ADA accessibility requirements. Provide improved drainage in the play area to maintain integrity of safety surface.
- Install an ADA ramp into the play area.
- Remove merry-go-round and replace with another piece of play equipment.
- Provide shade trees around playground.
- The oak tree on the southwest corner of the park appears to have insect damage and should be inspected by a certified arborist. Arborist to verify that the tree is not a safety hazard.
- Install a rules and regulation sign and the main entrance to the park.
- Verify that the water reservoir is safe, and plant a vegetative buffer to screen views of the reservoir from the park users.
- Provide ADA accessible pathway connections between various park uses.
- Provide a youth T-ball and soccer field.
- Provide covered picnic area.



Figure 24. Replace merry-go-round

Alpine Pocket Park

Greenspace :: 0.22 acres

Alpine Pocket Park is an open space park located on the corner of S. 23rd Avenue and Alpine Street. This park is a very small open space park with a lawn area and a few trees. There are no recommendations for Alpine Pocket Park at this time.

Inventory

- Open lawn
- Trees



Figure 25. Alpine Pocket Park frontage

Free Orchards Park

Natural Area :: 5.22 acres

Free Orchards Park is an open space park located generally east of S. 13th Avenue, south of Fawn and north of Heather. This site has been improved with wetland restoration along the creek bed and also contains open lawn area and several trees.

Inventory

- Open lawn
- Trees
- Wetland restoration area



Figure 26. Free Orchards Park entrance & wetland restoration area

Management Issues and Recommendations

- Install environmental interpretive signage
- Develop a pedestrian bridge across the creek to the south and connect to Heather Street. This connection could become a component a longer Free Orchards Interpretive Trail that extends northward to Arboretum Park.
- Consider the acquisition of a small lot adjacent to the site to develop as a pocket park or diminutive neighborhood park.

Natures Ridge

Natural Area :: 0.9 acres

Natures Ridge is a vegetated ravine along the eastern edge of Holladay Drive. There are no recommendations for Natures Ridge at this time.

Inventory

- Partially wooded ravine with understory vegetation



Figure 27. View to the northeast into Natures Ridge, from Holladay Drive

Arboretum Park

Special Facility :: 0.75 acres

Arboretum Park is located in downtown Cornelius, between Baseline Road and the railroad tracks. The Metro open space program helped purchase this piece of land to be used as a landscaped focal point within the downtown area. It serves as part of Cornelius' downtown improvement plan.

Inventory

- Concrete walkways
- Picnic table
- Bus Shelter
- Planting beds
- Drinking fountain
- Automatic irrigation system



Figure 28. Arboretum Park entrance

Management Issues and Recommendations

- Upgrade and standardize site furnishings: trash receptacles, picnic tables, benches, drinking fountains, bike racks, etc...
- Maintain drinking fountains, ensuring that they function in spring, summer, and fall.
- Monitor park vandalism and replace or clean any damaged furnishings, signs, or building facades as soon as any vandalism occurs.
- Ensure that all required park signs are visible and installed according to code (height). The rules and regulations sign is not visible from the sidewalk entering the park and should be relocated.
- Maintain planting beds, and replace dead plants. Memorial plaque is not visible in the corner of the park, and should be relocated or raised above ground to be visible.
- Street trees planted along Baseline Road are too large, and require trimming maintenance to protect the power lines above. Replace street trees with appropriate species or put power lines underground.

City Hall Park

Special Facility :: 0.22 acres

City Hall Park is located in downtown Cornelius along Adair Street and between Council Chambers and 14th Avenue. The property is undeveloped, but is well-maintained with irrigated lawn and benefited from the recent redevelopment of Adair Street.

Inventory

- Concrete sidewalks
- Irrigation

Management Issues and Recommendations

- Prepare and implement a master plan for park



Figure 29. City Hall Park at 14th Avenue

Steamboat Park

Special Facility :: 0.75 acres

Steamboat Park is located next to the cul-de-sac at the end of S. 15th Avenue at the south edge of the city, next to the Tualatin River. This historic park got its name because of its location, near the last stretch of navigable river. In the past, this location was a port for steamboats, where they would pick up agricultural supplies to transport downstream. The river is no longer accessible to steamboats but is used as a recreational amenity for residents of Cornelius.



Figure 30. Soft-surfaced pathways at Steamboat Park

Inventory

- Paved parking lot (permeable pavers)
- Picnic tables
- Benches
- Crushed rock pathways
- Concrete sidewalk

Management Issues and Recommendations

- Upgrade and standardize site furnishings: trash receptacles, picnic tables, benches, drinking fountains, bike racks, etc.
- Monitor park vandalism and replace or clean any damaged furnishings, signs, or building facades as soon as any vandalism occurs.
- Maintain crushed rock pathways by weed removal and periodic top dressing and compaction.
- Provide ADA accessible floating canoe launch/dock.
- Provide ADA accessible access to various park features.
- Provide portable toilet and screening.



Figure 31. Water access potential

Other Recreation Resources

In addition to the city-owned previously described, Cornelius residents also have access to a variety of public and private recreation facilities including lands owned by Metro, privately held homeowners association lands, school sites and others.

Privately-Held Parks & Natural Areas

Over the past ten years, Cornelius experienced significant growth in new residential development. Several platted subdivisions in the northeastern corner of the city included the provision for parks and natural areas. Table 9 highlights the range of privately held parks and natural areas. The small neighborhood parks at Council Creek and Hobbs Farms subdivisions are open for public use and serve this area's need for neighborhood parks, even though they are privately managed and maintained. The Council Creek subdivision parks include lawn area, play equipment and benches. The Hobbs Farm park is more fully developed with a basketball court, half wall, perimeter pathway and irrigated lawn area, but it lacks play equipment in the existing, defined play area.

Table 9. Privately-Held Parks & Natural Areas by Type

Site Name	Classification	Acreage
Emanuel Cemetery	Cemetery	4.33
Cornelius Lutheran Cemetery	Cemetery	1.05
	<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>5.39</i>
Amber Meadows Open Space	Greenspace	0.07
Hobbs Farm Open Space	Greenspace	0.03
Nature's Ridge Open Space	Greenspace	0.04
Sheelar Park Open Space	Greenspace	0.20
Cherry Street Islands	Greenspace	0.25
Council Creek Open Space	Natural Area	3.61
Council Creek Open Space	Stormwater Facility	0.55
Hobbs Farm Open Space	Stormwater / Greenspace	0.92
	<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>5.67</i>
Council Creek Park: Kamiakan Drive	Neighborhood Park	0.89
Council Creek Park: Gray St	Neighborhood Park	0.48
Hobbs Farm Park	Neighborhood Park	0.90
	<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>2.27</i>
	Total Acreage	13.33

Non-City, Public Parks & Natural Areas

Within the greater Cornelius area, a number of parks and natural areas exist and are owned and managed by other public agencies. While these sites are not owned and operated by the city, they represent additional recreational opportunities for residents, even if these lands are held as natural areas or greenspaces without formal or authorized

public access. As Table 10 below shows, Metro is the largest non-city, public landowner within the region, and it continues to seek willing sellers to expand its holdings along Council Creek in an effort to facilitate the future development of the Council Creek Trail.

Table 10. Other Public Natural Areas by Owner

Site Name	Site Owner	Acreage
Council Creek Greenspace	Metro	26.19
Tualatin River Oxbow ("The Island")	Metro	35.50
Steamboat Park	Metro	0.22
Free Orchards Natural Area	Washington County	2.27
<i>Total Acreage</i>		<i>64.18</i>

School Facilities

Cornelius is served by two school districts: Forest Grove and Hillsboro. As such, additional effort is required to coordinate for the use of school facilities for recreation and programming. Table 11 identifies the school facilities within Cornelius.

Table 11. Greenspace Acreage of Existing School Facilities

School Name	School District	Acreage (total)	Acreage (greenspace)
Echo Shaw Elementary	Forest Grove School District	9.67	5.2
Cornelius Elementary	Forest Grove School District	8.52	5.3
Neil Armstrong Middle School	Forest Grove School District	38.61	19.25
Free Orchards Elementary	Hillsboro School District	11.26	3.75
Future High School	Hillsboro School District	41.09	TBD
Emmaus Christian School (<i>Private</i>)	Emmaus Society	6.38	0
<i>Total Acreage Available for Public Recreation</i>			<i>33.5</i>

As mentioned above, these school sites can serve as proxies to neighborhood parks for those residents without close access to a more traditional park; however, student safety concerns and use restriction policies during school hours limit the viability of these sites in fulfilling residents' needs for local park access and amenities.

Bike Routes, Pathways & Trails

The city's 2005 Transportation System Plan and the Metro Regional Trail System Map identify a range of planned trail facilities in and adjacent to Cornelius, in addition to proposed bike and pedestrian improvements to enhance safety and connectivity. Table 12 shows the characteristics of existing trails and pathways within Cornelius.

Table 12. Existing Bike Routes, Pathways & Trails

Trail Segment	Classification	Surface	ADA (Y/N)	Length (ft)	Length (mi)
Adair / Baseline Bike Lanes	Bike Route	Asphalt	NA	24,800	4.7
Holladay Drive	Bike Route	Asphalt	NA	1,470	0.3
N. 26th Avenue	Bike Route	Asphalt	NA	430	0.1
N. 29th Avenue	Bike Route	Asphalt	NA	860	0.2
				<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>5.2</i>
Council Creek HOA Trail	Trail	Asphalt	Y	1,590	0.3
				<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>0.3</i>
Harleman Park	Pathway	Asphalt	Y	1,740	0.3
Arboretum Park	Pathway	Concrete	Y	530	0.1
				<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>0.4</i>
				TOTAL Mileage	6.0

Bike lanes along Adair Street have been re-stripped as part of the recent reconstruction of the road; however, the bike lanes along Baseline should be re-stripped in specific areas to improve consistency between these two major routes. Additionally, a ½-mile of bike lanes exist within the Hobbs Farms subdivisions in the northeastern corner of the city. Only two city parks, Harleman and Arboretum, have paved, internal walking paths. With the input provided through the community survey and in review of existing plans, the Needs Assessment chapter outlines several recommendations to extend and create connections between these existing segments to develop a stronger network of bike routes, trails and pathways.

Recreation Program & Activity Providers

Boys & Girls Club

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Portland Metropolitan Area operates after-school and summer programs at several Forest Grove schools, including Tom McCall Upper Elementary, Cornelius Elementary, Echo Shaw Elementary and Fern Hill Elementary. Their mission is to enable all young people to reach their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens. (www.bgcportland.org/programs-and-services/clubs-map/school-sites)

Centro Cultural

Centro Cultural of Washington County was founded in 1972 and provides education and empowerment programs such as English as a Second Language, Spanish literacy, computer technology, cultural values, leadership training and information and referral. Within their art and culture programming, they provide opportunities for the Latino community to express and experience their artistic and cultural heritage, while promoting

an appreciation of cultural diversity and developing broader community participation. (www.centrocultural.org)

Hillsboro Parks & Recreation

The Hillsboro Parks & Recreation Department offers range of recreation facilities including the Gordon Faber Recreation Complex/Hillsboro Stadium, Shute Park Aquatic & Recreation Center (SHARC), the Glenn & Viola Walters Cultural Arts Center and a senior center. Additionally, the Department provides programming for all ages including recreational, educational, youth development and cultural classes, adult sports leagues, and elementary and middle school after-school programs. (www.ci.hillsboro.or.us/Parksrec/Admin/Aboutus.aspx)

Forest Grove Parks & Recreation

The Forest Grove Parks & Recreation Department operates an aquatic center which offers two indoor pools, a spa and a sauna, along with a diving board, large slide, small slide and spray park. Aquatic classes and lessons are offered, along with low-impact fitness programs. The center is available to rent for special events like private parties and team and business activities. (www.forestgrove-or.gov/city-services/parks-and-recreation.html)

Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve

Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve is a 725-acre wildlife preserve located on the southern edge of Hillsboro and approximately 4 miles southeast of Cornelius. The Jackson Bottom Wetlands Education Center opened in 2003 and offers quiet open waters, rolling meadows and upland ash and fir woods that are home to ducks and geese, deer, otters, beavers, herons and eagles. With over 25,000 visitors annually, the Center provides a variety of hands-on exhibits, a nature store, classroom and meeting space, volunteer and staff work areas and a viewing deck overlooking the preserve. Trails are open from dawn to dusk. (www.jacksonbottom.org)

Fernhill Wetlands

Located near the confluence of Gales Creek with the Tualatin River, the ponds and wetlands at the 113-acre Fernhill Wetlands site draw tens of thousands of birds each year and is home to other wildlife such as beavers, otters and mink. The site offers short trails and wildlife viewing stands where visitors can witness a range of species from snowy egrets and hooded mergansers to peregrine falcons and nesting bald eagles.

Native Son Equestrian Center

Located at southeast corner of S. 10th Avenue and Flax Plant Road, this private equestrian facility provides therapeutic riding for persons with disabilities, riding programs for high school rodeo clubs and recreational riding for the general public.

Forest Hills Golf Course

This 18-hole course is located 2.5 miles south of Cornelius and was built in 1927. “The Hills” stretches out over one hundred acres of rolling terrain and tree-lined fairways, provides a pro shop with lessons and offers a 1,500 square foot banquet room suitable for up to 144 people for company outings, meetings or tournament dinners or lunches. (www.golfforesthills.com)

Killarney West Golf Course

Located 1 mile east of Cornelius and opened in 1979, the par 36, 9-hole “Killarney West” course features 2,544 yards of golf.

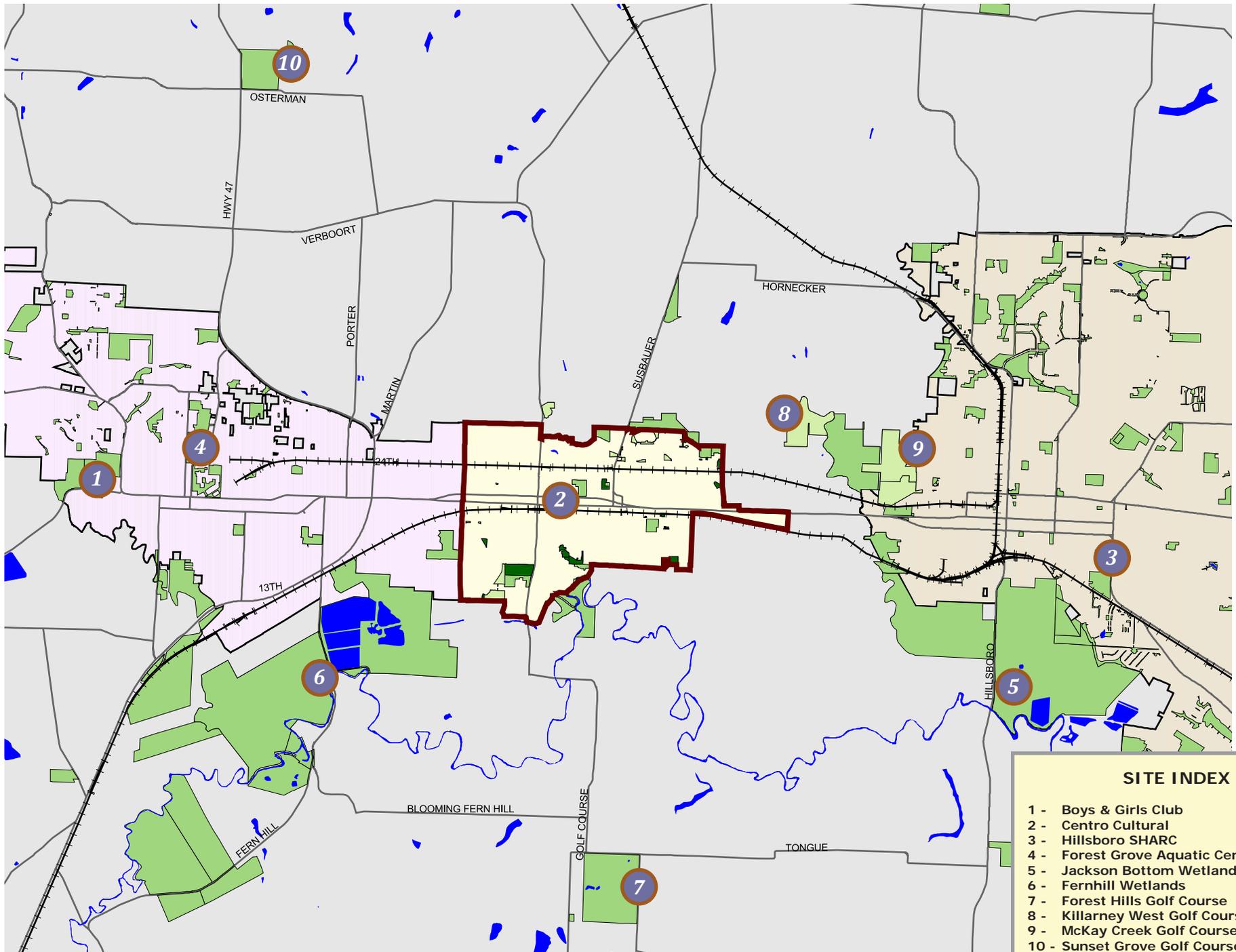
McKay Creek Golf Course

McKay Creek is a 9-hole golf course (par 36) and driving range located in Hillsboro, approximately 2 miles east of Cornelius. The course crosses McKay Creek twice and is easily walked. The 22 station driving range is partially heated for winter practice and lighted until 9p.m. every night. (www.mckaycreekgolf.com)

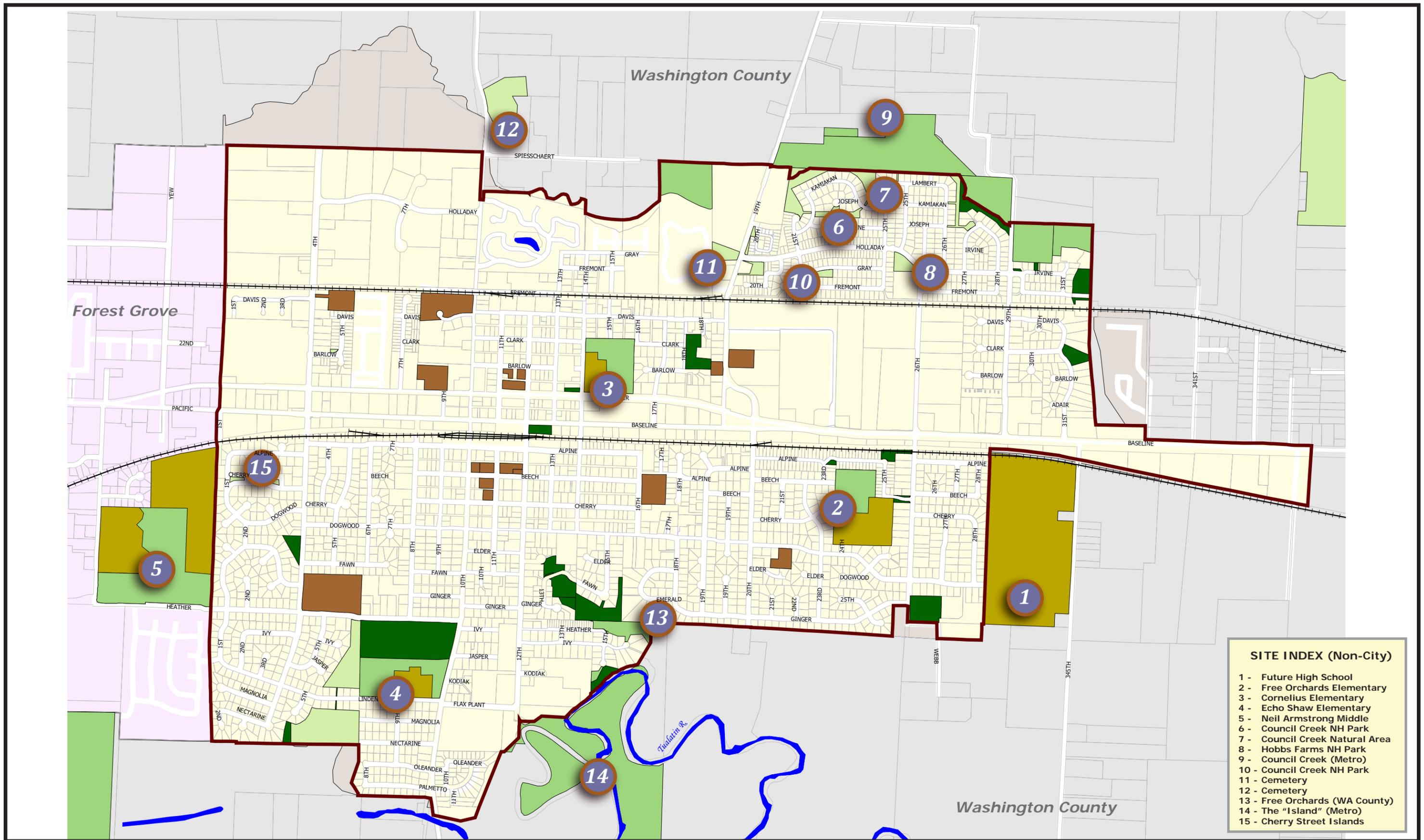
Sunset Grove Golf Course

Sunset Grove Golf Course is a par 36, 9-hole regulation course north of Forest Grove and approximately 3.5 miles northwest of Cornelius. Opened in 1965, “Sunset Grove” features over 3,000 yards of golf.

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Map 2. Proximate Recreation Facilities Map



Map 3. Privately-Held & Non-City Public Greenspaces

Chapter 3. Public Outreach

Community outreach and involvement played a vital role in establishing a clear framework for park, trail and recreation planning reflecting the current priorities of the community, while looking forward to the next 10 years. Most residents care deeply about the future of Cornelius' parks and open space system and appreciated the opportunity to offer feedback in the development of this Plan. Public outreach was local and grassroots-oriented, with varied and extensive methods to involve the community, including:

- a public opinion survey available from April through July 2009
- over a dozen stakeholder discussions with a wide range of local organizations, businesses and service groups
- two joint work sessions with City Council, the Planning Commission and the Parks Advisory Board

The public provided information and expressed opinions about their needs and priorities for parks, trails and recreation facilities and programs in Cornelius. The response from citizens of all ages and interests areas was enthusiastic, and this feedback played an important role in preparing and organizing policy statements and prioritizing the capital facilities plan contained within this Plan.

Community Survey

In collaboration with staff, the project team designed a short community survey to assess the interests, attitudes and concerns of city residents. The survey instrument was designed for flexibility of use and formatted for a single sheet. In addition to the print format, it was available online via the city's web site and through an internet link unique for this project (www.corneliussurvey.com). Also, the survey was available in Spanish and English.

The distribution of the survey was extensive. The survey was first published for the Children's Day / Día de los Niños festival held at Harleman Park on Saturday, April 25th. Subsequently, hard copies of the survey, in both languages, were provided to area schools, churches and businesses. Additionally, the city published the survey in its monthly newsletter, Cornelius Gazette, in June, which is mailed with utility bills to all city utility customers. The Cornelius library provided copies, as did City Hall. Finally, canvassers were stationed at Grande Foods to invite shoppers to complete the survey during early July. The following table illustrates the extent of survey circulation.

Table 13. Community Survey Distribution by Venue and Language

Venue	English	Spanish	Total
Echo Shaw Elementary School	400	400	<i>800</i>
Cornelius Elementary	150	250	<i>400</i>
Fern Hill Elementary	170	170	<i>340</i>
Neil Armstrong Middle School	850	850	<i>1,700</i>
Tom McCall Upper Elementary	980	980	<i>1,960</i>
Free Orchards Elementary	340	160	<i>500</i>
Cornelius Gazette	3,000		<i>3,000</i>
St Alexander Catholic Church	50	300	<i>350</i>
Cornelius United Methodist Church	70	30	<i>100</i>
Sheldon Manufacturing	140	140	<i>280</i>
Fred Meyer	50	50	<i>100</i>
Centro Cultural		100	<i>100</i>
TOTAL*	6,200	3,430	9,630
*Note:: No information about distribution is available from the following:			
Cornelius Baptist Church, Real Life Christian Church, Emanuel Lutheran			
Church, Cornelius Library, Grande Foods, Cornelius Gazette (Spanish)			

On July 20th, survey collection ceased and responses were tallied. A total of 545 survey were completed, with 207 (38%) completed on-line and 141 (26%) completed in Spanish. A detailed discussion of survey results appear in the Needs Assessment chapter of this plan (starting on page 51). The survey instrument and a summary of the response data are provided in Appendix A.

Public Meetings

Two joint work sessions with City Council, the Planning Commission and the Parks Advisory Board were held during the planning process. Both meetings were open to the public and announced in the Cornelius Gazette and on the city's web site. Summary responses from each of the meetings are provided in Appendix B. Each meeting lasted approximately two hours and was organized as follows:

Joint Work Session Meeting #1 (June 8, 2009)

This session included an overview of the planning process and a detailed description of the public outreach approach. The remainder of the work session entailed a group discussion about the visions for the future of parks, trails and recreation services offered in Cornelius, along with identifying potential partnership or facility opportunities and facility needs and challenges.

Joint Work Session Meeting #2 (September 14, 2009)

At this session, the community survey results were presented and discussed in terms of providing the basis of this Plan's needs assessment. Additionally, a brief overview of park deficiencies and inventory considerations was offered. The project team offered a draft plan for review and discussed the major themes of the needs assessment and the resultant draft capital facilities plan. Councilors and commissioners were asked to comment on the findings to date and provide additional input on the proposed capital improvements program, draft policies and future acquisition targets.

Stakeholder Discussions

To more broadly assess the opportunities for partnership and coordination, along with the challenges of project implementation, a series of internal and external stakeholder interviews was conducted. The following individuals and local organizations provided insight to the plan:

- Cornelius Boosters
- Metro
- Hillsboro School District
- Hillsboro Parks and Recreation Department
- Forest Grove Little League
- Jackson Bottom Wildlife Center
- St Alexander Catholic Church
- Cornelius United Methodist Church
- Cornelius Chamber of Commerce
- Clean Water Services
- Forest Grove School District
- Forest Grove Parks and Recreation Department
- Boy Scouts
- Cornelius Baptist Church
- Real Life Christian Church

Comments were often specific to the particular program area or perspective of the stakeholder. Overall, comments were favorable toward the city, its staff and its quality of service and maintenance offered. Stakeholders recognized the limited financial capacity of the city and were often quick to offer suggestions for partnerships or other means to accomplish specific projects. Suggested improvements ranged from specific recreation offerings, such as events in the parks or additional gathering spaces, to broad regional connections for trail facilities and affiliations with volunteer-based or civic organizations to expand the city's capacity for providing services. Specific recommendations are also reflected in the Needs Assessment chapter.

Other Outreach

A project page for the Parks Plan was developed and posted on the city's website for residents to learn about the planning process and timelines, access the online survey, notice of public meetings and summary documents and review a draft version of the plan. The page was updated periodically to keep residents informed of progress and alerted to opportunities for involvement during the process.

Additionally, the city newsletter, the *Cornelius Gazette*, and the City Manager's weekly city update, *Hot Off the Griddle*, offered another communication venue about the planning project. These included circulation of the community survey, an update of survey responses and commentary about plan recommendations.

Chapter 4. Needs Assessment

Developing the park system priorities based on an understanding of the community's needs and facilities represents the culmination of the planning process. Assessing the latent and potential demand for services requires the consideration of the location, size and number of facilities by type and use, along with community interests. Through this review, a ten year capital facility plan has been developed to identify and prioritize critical upgrades, improvements and expansions consistent with the needs expressed by residents. The following assessment relies heavily on public input from the survey and site inventories, along with stakeholder discussions and public meetings.

Overview of Survey Results, SCORP & National Data

The assessment of specific recreation needs for Cornelius is based on a range of data, including the community survey conducted as part of this Plan, the Oregon State SCORP and national trend information. The following summarizes these data and provides context for programming and facility recommendations and priorities.

Community Survey

The analysis of the Cornelius community survey was completed by Davis Hibbitts Midghall, and the complete summary report and written comments are located in Appendix A. It should be noted that this survey is not a statistically valid sampling of the Cornelius population, since no random panels were involved, and the results can not directly be extrapolated to the interests and attitudes of the broader community. However, the survey has a distribution across age and gender that is relatively proportional to the overall population of Cornelius, and therefore is closely representative of the community. Table 14 compares the demographic profile between the community survey and the 2000 Census.

Table 14. Demographic Profile: Community Survey to US Census

Demographic Group	Survey (%)	2000 US Census (%)
Gender		
Male	48%	52%
Female	52%	48%
Age		
Under 18	20%	32%
18-34	22%	29%
35-54	34%	26%
55+	24%	12%
Hispanic/Latino		
Hispanic or Latino		36%
Survey Language: English	74%	
Survey Language: Spanish	26%	

Overall, respondents support parks and recreation in Cornelius and believe these services help make a better community. While their satisfaction with parks and recreation facilities in the city is average (34%), the level of importance they place on these facilities (63%) notably exceeds their satisfaction levels. Specifically, parks and recreation facilities are especially important to households with children under age 18, larger households and to residents under the age of 55.

Regarding the frequency of use of existing facilities, respondents averaged 37 times per year, and 50% reported they visited parks in Cornelius more than 10 times a year. However, one-fifth (21%) of residents answered that they have not visited a city park in the past year. Residents visiting parks most often included:

- Household size of 5 or above: mean 56 times a year
- Ages 18-34: mean 49
- Those who completed the survey in Spanish: mean 45
- Those living in Quadrant 3 (near Harleman Park): mean 44

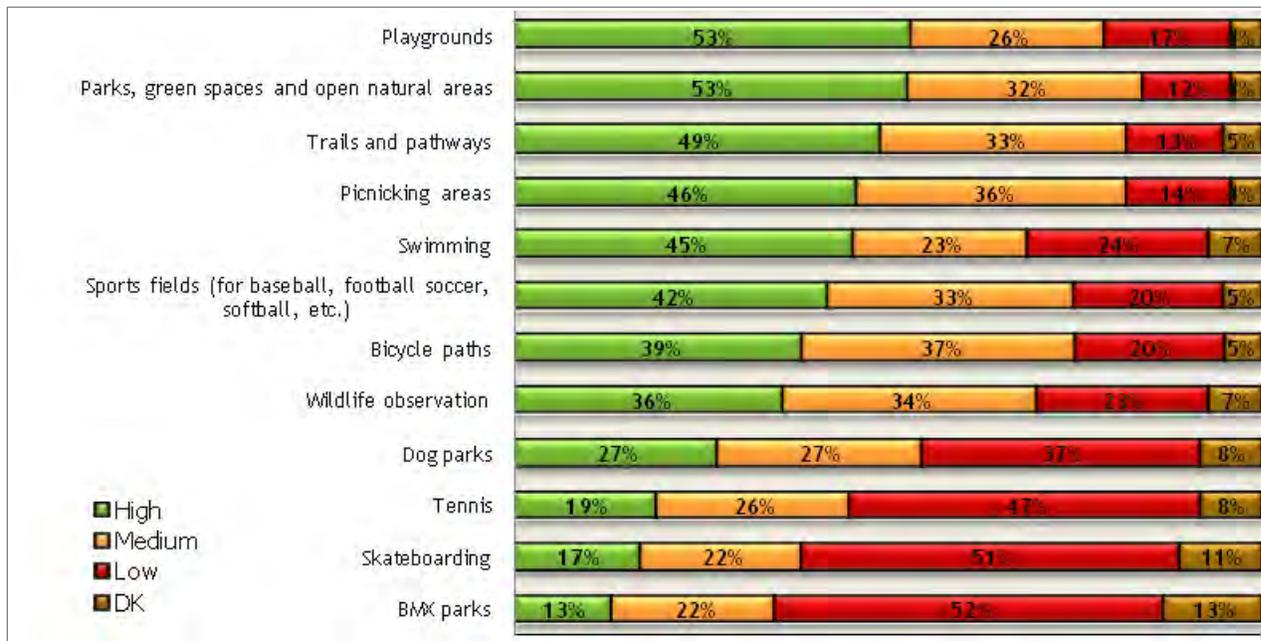
Residents also offered an insight toward their preferred type of facilities. Respondents also prioritized more traditional and multi-use parks and recreation services over specialized activities and facilities. When forced to choose, a larger community park is highly preferred by residents over trail systems and smaller neighborhood parks, which is consistent with priority toward multi-use spaces. Additionally, specific facilities were ranked in priority, and a review of respondent subsets reveals household interests.

- Playgrounds were rated especially high by residents under the age of 18 (58%), ages 18-34 (67%) and 35-54 (55%) and those who completed the survey in Spanish (65%)
- Trails and pathways were a high priority for almost a majority across all subgroups except for residents under age 18 (39%) and those 65 and older (34%)

- Picnicking areas and swimming were a much higher priority to those ages 18-34 (60%) and residents who completed the survey in Spanish (60%)
- Sports fields were also rated especially high by those who completed the survey in Spanish (59%), as well as those under the age of 34, including residents under 18 years of age (50%)

Table 15 lists the range of recreation facilities queried and the relative priority of each. Playgrounds, parks and natural areas and trails were ranked the highest, with specialty facilities trailing.

Table 15. Prioritizing Parks and Recreation Facilities and Activities



Oregon SCORP

The 2008-2012 Oregon Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan included a listing of outdoor activities by participant and frequency, as shown below in Table 16. The SCORP is Oregon's five-year policy plan for outdoor recreation and provides guidance for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) program and for other Oregon Parks and Recreation (OPRD)-administered grant programs.

Table 16. Oregon SCORP: Top 10 Outdoor Activities by Participant

Activity	Parent		Child	
	Rate (% participat.)	Intensity (mean days)	Rate (% participat.)	Intensity (mean days)
Walking (on streets, sidewalks, etc.)	74%	63	80%	43
Picnicking and family gatherings	69%	8	77%	8
Ocean or freshwater beach activities	67%	7	73%	6
Viewing natural features (scenery, wildlife, etc.)	60%	26	58%	22
Day hiking on trails	57%	9	65%	7
Camping (tents, cabins, or RVs)	57%	6	62%	6
Relaxing, hanging out, etc.	56%	25	64%	25
Visiting a nature center or nature trail	53%	3	57%	2
Visiting historic sites	53%	3	57%	2
General play at neighborhood park / playground	52%	13	80%	25

Other National Recreation Data

Additionally, three recent recreation studies were reviewed to compare to the local, community data and gain an understanding of participation trends occurring at the national level. These studies included:

- National Sporting Goods Association sports participation, 2008
- “2008 Outdoor Recreation Participation Report”: The Outdoor Foundation
- “Outdoor Recreation Participation in 2003”: The Recreation Roundtable

These sources also supported hiking and walking as the most popular form of outdoor recreation. Additionally, bicycling, swimming, fishing and camping consistently appeared in the list of top ten activities.

System Growth: Parkland Acquisitions

Acquisition Gap Analysis

To better understand where acquisition efforts should be directed, a gap analysis of the park system was conducted to examine and assess the current distribution of parks throughout the city. The analysis reviewed the locations and types of existing facilities, land use

classifications, transportation barriers and other factors as a means to identify preliminary acquisition target areas. In reviewing parkland distribution and assessing opportunities to fill identified gaps, residentially zoned lands were isolated, since neighborhood and community parks primarily serve these areas. Additionally, the following service areas were used based: 1 mile for community parks and ¼-mile for neighborhood parks.

Map 4 on page 67 illustrates the application of the distribution standards from existing neighborhood and community parks and shows that many of the city's residents have good access to parks. However, parkland distribution and access is weakest in the northwest section of Cornelius. A community park coverage gap affects the residential areas in the northeast quadrant of the city.

The analysis identified deficiencies in the park system, and a total of 10 potential acquisition areas are identified on Map 4. The greatest documented need is for new community parks to provide a land base for the current and growing sport field needs and for additional group or family recreation areas. Secondly, new neighborhood parks are needed to improve overall distribution and promote recreation within walking distance of residential areas. Also, acquisitions are proposed to facilitate the development of trailheads for the future Council Creek Trail at NW Cornelius Schefflin Road and Susbauer Road, along with a wetland restoration and banking site in the southwest corner of the city to strengthen the hydrologic and habitat connections between Fernhill Wetlands and the Tualatin River.

While the targeted acquisition areas do not identify a specific parcel(s) for consideration, the area encompasses a broader region in which an acquisition would be ideally suited. These acquisition targets represent a long-term, 20-year vision for improving parkland distribution throughout the Cornelius area.

Community Parks

While small, neighborhood parks are greatest in number, Harleman Community Park provides the most area for active recreation, and this single park site comprises 40% of the overall parkland inventory and 60% of the land base for active use parks (neighborhood and community). Harleman Park is the most familiar park within the Cornelius system, and residents commented on their desire to have additional community park space, and the Plan recommends the acquisition of another site in the northeast quadrant of the city.

One community park is suggested for the northeast quadrant to serve residents north of Adair Street; potential connections are envisioned to the PWRR and the Council Creek Trail via Natures Ridge. A second community park is recommended for the southeast quadrant and is an area of near-term opportunity. A facility in this location could provide a land base sufficient for a small sport complex (i.e., 4-6 all-weather soccer fields) and can offer trail connections to the Tualatin River and the planned HSD high school.

East of tennis court at Harleman might be a good place to develop a handicap/wheelchair playground area
- Survey Respondent

Picnicking with friends and family near playgrounds with trees and paths to explore with young children
- Survey Respondent

Neighborhood Parks

With 5 neighborhood and 3 special facility parks, small park spaces comprise the bulk of the Cornelius park system in terms of quantity. With an affordably-priced housing stock, Cornelius continues to attract couples and young families, and access to neighborhood-based recreation opportunities are vitally important to these new residents. Survey results also confirm that household with children, larger households and Hispanic households especially favor additional park space and opportunities large family gatherings and picnic space. This Plan proposes numerous upgrades to existing neighborhood parks and identifies the acquisition of three new neighborhood parks to meet these needs.

More general play areas for all to enjoy. Doesn't have to be big, expensive, labor intensive programs like arts and crafts etc. Just want more park areas for all to enjoy.
- Survey Respondent

Two neighborhood park acquisitions are recommended for the northwest quadrant of the city to fill existing gaps in coverage to serve these residential areas. Also, a small pocket park or neighborhood is recommended in the area of, and preferably adjacent to, the Free Orchards Park natural area. Such a property could offer a limited range of neighborhood park amenities (i.e., playground, benches and table), as well as provide a more formal park space in association with the natural area.

Additionally, it should be noted that city residents benefit from access to three small neighborhood parks in the northeast quadrant of the city, which are owned and maintained by private homeowner associations. These parks offer modest recreation opportunities and appear well-used by local residents. However, the playground equipment should be upgraded and ADA access should be encouraged. To address similar needs in the future, Appendix D suggests a range of design considerations for private parks that could also be incorporated into future development code revisions.

Natural Areas & Greenspaces

Situated between the Tualatin River and Council Creek, Cornelius is poised to maximize its locational benefits through additional natural area protections and planned trail connections. At the present, the city controls only a few parcels along either waterway, but the city has benefited from the past voter approved greenspaces bond and Metro acquisitions total over 60 acres.

One such Metro property requiring special mention is the Natures Ridge natural area, located along NW Hobbs Road. This property with direct access to Council Creek and road frontage on Hobbs Road and Irvine Street offers a unique opportunity for a trailhead facility, along with interpretive and restoration elements. Additionally, an existing house, circa 1980, could be used as an educational facility, maintenance facility or other creative use, but such effort will require additional review for operating and maintenance concerns, visibility and security and overall benefits to the city's mission.



Figure 32. View looking east into Metro's Nature Ridge property

The city should continue to work with Metro to identify and secure natural area properties from willing sellers along both waterways.

A second Metro property of special significance is the oxbow property located along the Tualatin River, known as the “Island.” This site was also acquired with Metro greenspaces funds, but, unlike the Natures Ridge property which supports the future development of the Council Creek Trail, it does not have specified use or management objective directed by Metro. Given its location across from Steamboat Park, it could serve as extension of the park and offer limited, boardwalked trails, wildlife viewing stations and other outdoor education elements. In partnership with Metro, Clean Water Services and Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve, the site could also act as an environmental monitoring site for the upper Tualatin River watershed.

Another way to expand the city’s natural area holdings is to consider the acquisition of lowland/wetland lands in the southwest quadrant of the city. Specifically, the purchase of lands between Fernhill Wetlands and the Tualatin River can provide an opportunity for wetland mitigation banking; the sale of mitigation credits could be a means to inject additional revenues into the parks system for other upgrades and enhancements. The Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve has successfully used wetland mitigation to supplement its operating reserves and expand programming, while creating habitat and environmental education opportunities.



Figure 33. Interpretive panels can provide on-site environmental education

Level of Service Assessment

In addition to and in support of the gap analysis, a level of service (LOS) review was conducted as a means to understand the distribution of parkland acreage by classification and for a broader measure of how well the city is serving its residents with access to parks and natural areas.

Table 17. Current and Projected Levels of Service by Park Classification

Facility Type	Current Inventory		Current LOS (per 1000)	Projected Inventory (2020)		Projected 2020 LOS (per 1000)
Neighborhood Park (Developed)	10.94	acres	1.00	17.56	acres	1.09
Neighborhood Park (Undeveloped)	7.59	acres	0.69	0	acres	
Community Park / Special Facility (Developed)	9.79	acres	0.88	12.12	acres	0.74
Community Park / Special Facility (Undeveloped)	2.33	acres	0.21	51.50	acres	3.14
Greenspace / Natural Area	6.34	acres	0.57	36.28	acres	2.21
Pathways / Trails	6.00	miles	0.54	10.25	miles	0.63

* **Note:** 2008 population is 10,955 (11,151 resident-equivalents). The projected 2020 population is 16,150 (16,386 resident-equivalents).

Using the proposed service standards discussed in this Plan along with planned parkland acquisitions, Table 17 illustrates the current and projected levels of service for parkland and natural areas for the city. Today, the current combined neighborhood and community park service standard of 1.6 acres per 1,000 is met, but a 5.5 acre deficit is projected as the city's population grows. The proposed capital projects noted in the next chapter ameliorate the projected acreage needs and maintain service levels to meet the proposed standard.

Park Development, Enhancement & Renovations

Group & Picnicking Facilities

As noted in the review of the community survey, Cornelius residents desire additional spaces for family gatherings and picnicking. These can range from the installation of additional picnic tables throughout the system, the development of picnic shelters or simply benches in plaza spaces to accommodate lunch breaks for local employees. The recent installation of new shelters at Dogwood and Alpine have added capacity to meet this demand; however, additional facilities should be considered, especially at Water, Ryland and Harlemon Parks. The style, placement and orientation of picnic facilities and shelters should consider potentially unintended consequences of more intensive use at small parks, maintenance demands, such as trash pickup and graffiti removal, and impacts to adjacent neighbors resulting from limited or lacking buffering (e.g., distance or vegetative).

Sport Fields & Courts

Harleman Park provides the only dedicated sport field space within the city's park system, but informal pick-up games can also occur at Water Park and Dogwood Park – both of which have unprogrammed, flat lawn areas. Additionally, youth leagues use the fields at local schools for practice and game play, and these fields help alleviate some demand for field space, but their use is limited to late afternoons and weekends.

While community survey results did not indicate a significant need for fields, regional demand for sport fields, especially soccer, can be reasonably inferred through other means. For example, the city of Hillsboro indicated that leagues travel up to 45 minutes to access their fields for games and tournaments. Additionally, the composition of Cornelius' demographics, along with statewide and national sport participation statistics, support the expansion of the city's sport field inventory.

During the site assessment for Harleman Park, a review of the current field layouts was conducted to ascertain the potential for re-orientation of the fields to increase capacity and/or address specific operational issues with the layout of the soccer

Place for local kids to play OFF the streets. ex. more basketball courts and open space for a variety of activities - kicking around balls, etc.
- Survey Respondent



Figure 34. Impromptu, street-side basketball hoop

field. Due to existing structures and the location of other recreation amenities, re-orienting the fields is not a likely or near-term option due to the need to relocate and replace other support or recreation elements.

In addition to field sport needs, a current deficiency and limited distribution of sport courts exist. Again, school sites provide limited access to basketball courts. Numerous “street” hoops were noted during the inventory process and reinforced the demand for sport courts.

ADA Enhancements

A major component of developing this Plan was the assessment and documentation of ADA deficiencies throughout city-owned park facilities. A thorough discussion of ADA concerns and recommendations is provided in the accessory ADA Transition Plan. The following summarizes key findings from that technical report.

Each city-owned park site was inventoried based on a survey modeled after the *Americans with Disabilities Act Checklist for Readily Achievable Barrier Removal*. The park-specific surveys assessed the overall compliance with current ADA guidelines, identified any barriers to universal access and documented possible solutions for correcting noted deficiencies.

Throughout city parks, conformance to ADA accessibility guidelines varies greatly. For example, Arboretum Park is almost completely ADA compliant with the exception of a few minor modifications, such as replacing a table and adding detectable warning surfaces where pedestrian routes cross a traffic way. By contrast, Ryland Park is almost completely non-accessible due to severe slopes, lack of accessible routes between park features and non-compliant features within the park such as benches, picnic tables and play equipment.

The degree of ADA compliance appears related to the age of the park or its most recent renovation. Some older parks, such as Harleman and Water Park, have outdated non-compliant furnishings (i.e., drinking fountains), whereas newer parks, such as Arboretum and Tarrybrooke, have compliant ones. The most common issues of non-compliance throughout the city’s parks are as follows:

- Non ADA compliant benches and adjacent wheelchair parking spaces.
- Non-ADA compliant picnic tables located on a stable, paved surface.
- Lack of ADA ramps into playground areas.
- Lack of accessible routes leading to accessible features within the parks.



Figure 35. Example of ADA-compliant ramp into play area



Figure 36. Example of ADA-compliant picnic bench and accessible route

- Lack of compliant play equipment. Although the existing playground equipment was not inspected and audited by a trained and certified playground inspector, cursory observations indicated that the equipment lacks the requisite minimum number of accessible features and transfer stations.

Systematic and timely upgrades to city parks to enhance accessibility are of significant relevance to Cornelius. As was noted earlier, the city is home to a larger than average population of persons with disabilities, and correcting known deficiencies within the parks system will likely remain a priority for the near future.

Design Continuity & Standards

Upon review of the city’s existing developed parks and the privately held homeowner association (HOA) parks, it was noted that a general lack of design continuity exists throughout the city. For example, neighborhood park playgrounds and equipment vary considerably from park to park. The installed play equipment reflects the age of the particular park and in many cases does not meet current ADA or safety compliance standards for accessibility, safety fall zones or fall zone cushioning.

The adoption and implementation of updated design standards will benefit the city in several ways. By providing continuity in furnishings and construction materials, there will be continuity in the methods used to maintain, repair and replace them as they become worn or are vandalized. Parks will be more efficiently maintained, more aesthetically appealing and more safe.

Separately, specific attention should be placed on the existing privately-held, publicly-accessible parks and trails, along with consideration paid to minimum design criteria or standards as new facilities are permitted and constructed. Each of the three existing neighborhood parks shows different levels of park development, inconsistent playground areas and play equipment and differing methods and levels of site maintenance. For example, a dedicated play area exists at Hobbs Farms Park, but the play equipment has either been removed or never installed. The play equipment at the two Council Creek HOA parks are older wooden structures that are undersized, outdated and in need of repair and maintenance (including graffiti removal). Other potential safety issues were also identified.

While these parks are neither owned nor operated by the city, public perceptions about their appearance and level of development might become an issue in the future. One near-term approach to address privately developed park sites is to develop



Figure 37. Missing play equipment at Hobbs Farms Park



Figure 38. Undersized play equipment at Council Creek HOA Park

adopted city design standards to be placed on the developer at the time of development review, with minimally-acceptable maintenance requirements placed either on the tract title or in a written agreement with the city. Additionally, these steps are more crucial in the event the developer is building the park in lieu of paying system development charges; such agreements and design criteria will help ensure that the goals of the city's parks system are met. Appendix D outlines some common design considerations, which could form the basis of a future amendment to city code.

Recreation Facilities & Programming

Trails

The extent of the city's trail network is currently limited to bike lines along the Adair / Baseline couplet, bike lanes along several short sections of street in the northeast quadrant and the Council Creek HOA pathway. Survey respondents commented that there is little information about trails within the city, and this Plan suggests the development of more detailed trail signage standards, route and wayfinding signage and an informational brochure identifying existing and planned trail facilities.

Bike Routes & Shared-Use Walking / Biking Trails

An initial improvement to the city's bike route system is the re-striping and signage of Baseline, to be consistent with the recent redevelopment of Adair. Also, the city should consider striping and/or painted identifying markers in roadways for the non-arterial bike routes shown on the Map 5 on page 69.

Several shared-use trail corridors are planned within Cornelius, and once developed, they will significantly increase total trail mileage and establish a backbone for a robust network of connected trails through the community.

A trail feasibility study, funded by a Metro grant, will be initiated in 2011 or 2012 for the Council Creek Trail corridor. This pending study will assess alignment options and take into consideration environmental constraints and linkages with the PWRR. Upon trail development funding, this corridor will become part of Metro's regional trail network, connect Hillsboro with the Banks-Vernonia Trail and become a draw for trail enthusiasts across the region.

The pending construction of a Wal-Mart will also establish a pedestrian trail along the western city boundary and connect Baseline to Fern Hill Elementary School. Additionally, the trail corridor will include two pedestrian access easements along its eastern edge to connect with S. 1st Avenue.



Figure 39. Striped bike lanes enhance safety for riders



Figure 40. Trail width should accommodate concurrent, shared uses

The proposed trails plan component of this Plan identifies several other connections to create a strong network of bike routes and shared-use trails. Specifically, Map 6 illustrates connections to Forest Grove’s planned emerald loop (the outgrowth of that city’s trail planning efforts from 2007), trail connections north of the Wal-Mart site to tie into the Council Creek corridor to offer recreational opportunities within the city’s industrial areas for local employees and trail connections along the southern edge of the city along the Tualatin River. An interpretive trail is also proposed to connect Arboretum Park along a tree-lined S. 12th Avenue, through Free Orchards Park, with Steamboat Park and the Tualatin River. Such a trail could evoke the remnant tributary to the Tualatin River, tell part of Cornelius’ history and extend a vegetated “finger” into the center of town as a means to bring together Council Creek and the river.

Park Pathways

Internal pathways currently exist in Arboretum Park and Harlemon Park. With walking, hiking and cycling as top outdoor recreational activities, the city should strive to install paved, loop walking pathways in each of its neighborhood park that are at least 0.75 acres in size. Dogwood, Water and Ryland Parks are good candidates for this type of improvement. Additionally, this Plan proposes that internal pathways are a standard element of neighborhood and community park development going forward.

Community Center & Recreation Programs

A community center, to include aquatics and recreation programming, was frequently listed as an item of need in the community survey. Residents wrote their comments to support the establishment of a Cornelius-specific center, as well as in support of more formal arrangements or cooperative agreements with either Forest Grove or Hillsboro. Most notably, respondents expressed their interest in lower or subsidized fees for the Hillsboro SHARC and Forest Grove aquatic facilities, and comments centered around the payment of “non-residents” fees at those facilities.

Former guidelines from the National Recreation and Parks Association suggested a service standard of 1 community center per 15,000-25,000 people, and while that standard is no longer in use, it suggests a certain population density to support such a facility. While public support is high for a community center, a cautious approach should be taken. New or retrofitted facilities not only add to maintenance and operating costs, but they must be conceived with consideration given to the flexibility of programming, intended uses and services, along with cost recovery goals. Furthermore, voters are generally more supportive of paying for expanded services when the shared use of facilities can be demonstrated; it is more difficult to secure voter support for single-purpose facilities.

I'd love to see Hillsboro Parks and Rec or something similar have a location in town and offer series of programs
- Survey Respondent

Swim lessons, sports, arts and crafts, a program more like Hillsboro or Beaverton. Classes for all ages and interests
- Survey Respondent

Festival at Harlemon Park in the Summer that would include some rides
- Survey Respondent

Given the level of interest in facility space for recreation programming, this Plan recommends an additional review of alternatives for providing the community center “services” while addressing the initial financial considerations, understanding and modeling user demand and analyzing options for cost recovery. Additionally, it is recommended that the city approach recreation services incrementally through interagency agreements with other public or non-profit partners to build resident trust in the programming and to gain deeper insights into specific recreation needs. Alternative approaches are addressed in more detail in the Implementation chapter.

Other Specific Recreation Facilities

Survey respondents also voiced interest in a range of other, specific (single-use) facilities, such as dog parks, skatepark elements and others. National recreation trends support the expansion of the Cornelius system to accommodate these interests; however, these uses must be considered in relation to other demands on the city’s parks system and for the dedicated space often required to support them.

With regard to dog park (or off-leash areas), it is recommended that the city provide a minimum, 2-acre site for this use within the next ten years. Ideally, the dog park would be a component to a larger community park, where infrastructure (parking, restrooms, garbage collection) exists and supports multiple activities. Additionally, the development of a dog park will require specific code revisions, the development of rules and policies and community support for self-policing for waste pick up and behavioral issues. Communities throughout the Northwest have relied on grassroots or non-profit organizations for the on-going operations and maintenance of such facilities.

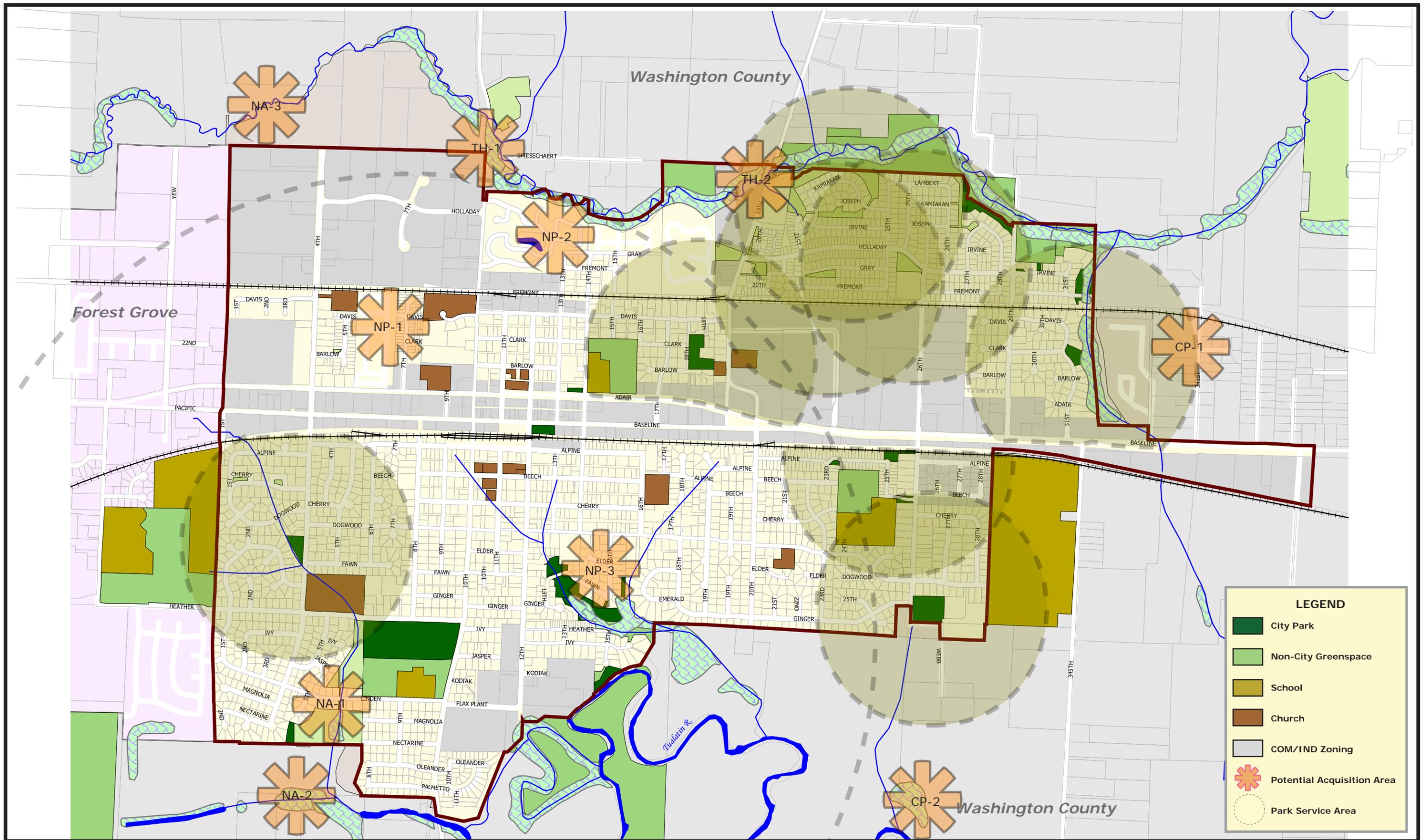


Figure 41. Dedicated off-leash areas can help reduce user conflicts at other locations and offer an opportunity grassroots or non-profit management



Figure 42. Small skate spots can provide beginners a chance to hone their skills

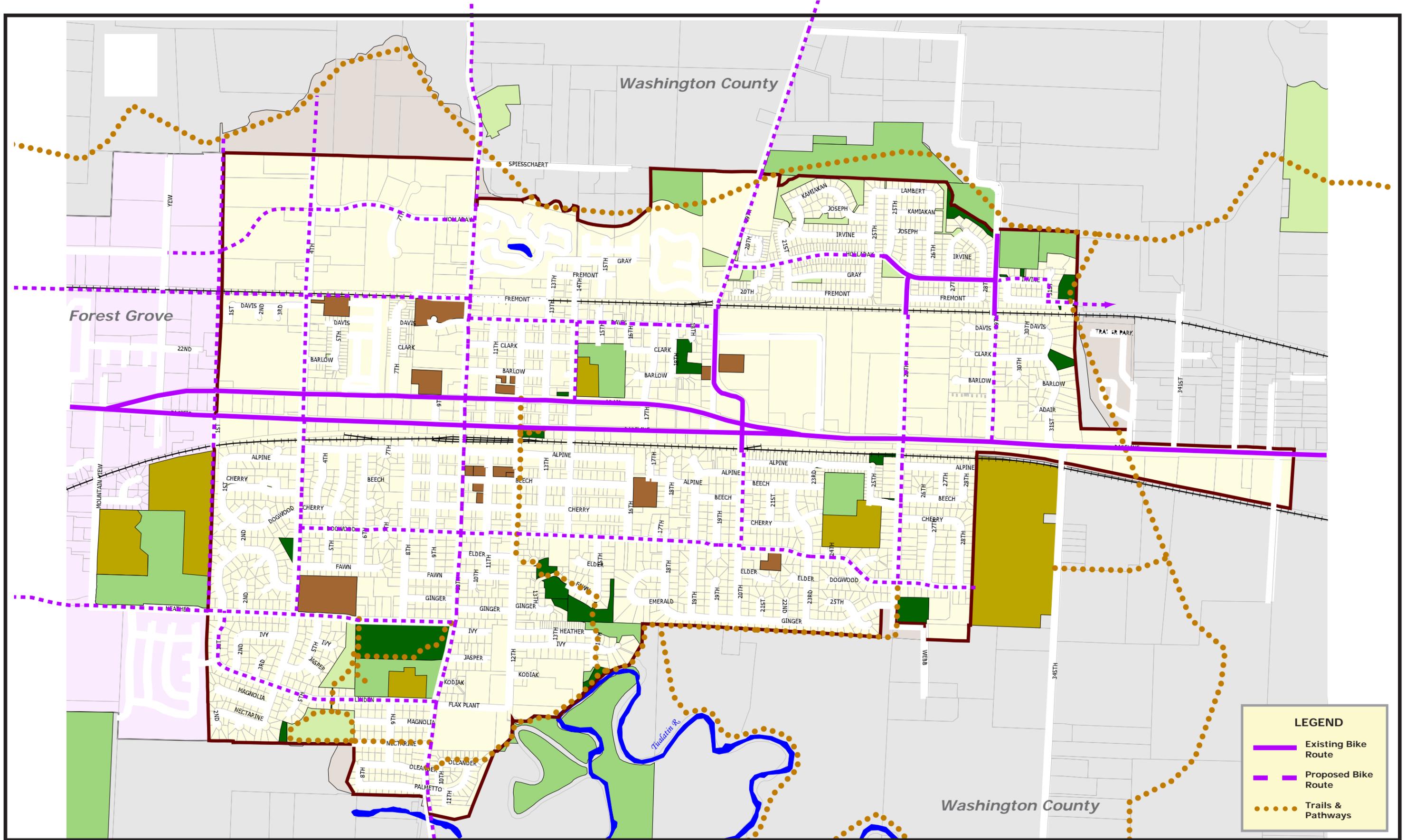
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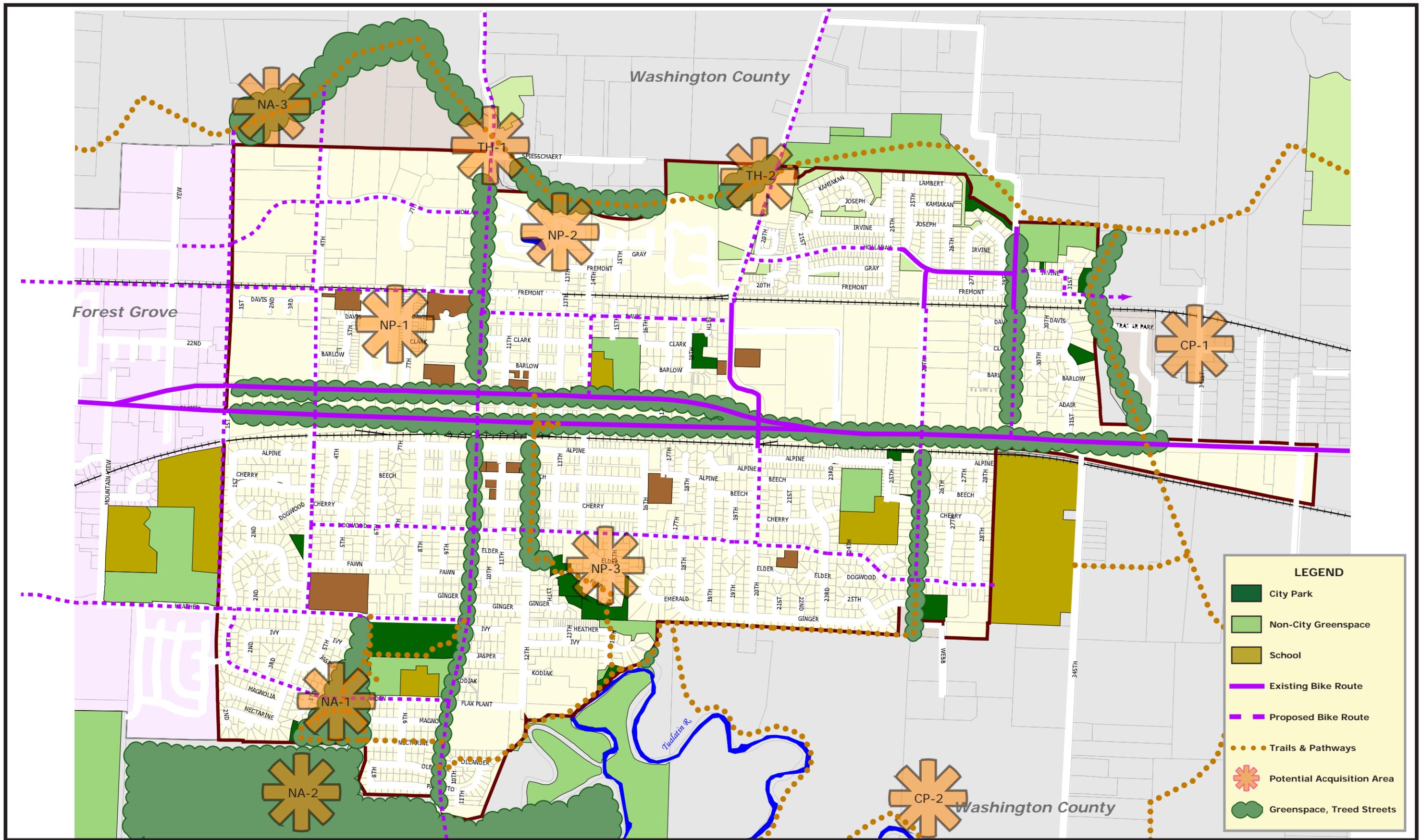
LEGEND

- City Park
- Non-City Greenspace
- School
- Church
- COM/IND Zoning
- Potential Acquisition Area
- Park Service Area

Map 4. Proposed Acquisitions & Services Areas Map



Map 5. Bike Routes, Pathways & Trails Map



Map 6. Composite Parks Master Map

Chapter 5. Policies & Objectives

Goals and objectives supply the policy framework for the Parks Master Plan. The following goals have been derived by analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of the park system as it exists in 2009 and identifying opportunities for strategic progress during the next 5 to 10 years. The aspirations of city residents expressed during the planning process have directly influenced the composition of the plan goals.

These goals also are directed in part by Oregon’s Statewide Planning Goals, of which Goal 5 directs local governments to adopt “programs that will protect natural resources and conserve scenic, historic, and open space resources for present and future generations” and Goal 8 directs the city to “satisfy the recreational needs of the citizens and visitors.” Specifically, 10 statewide planning guidelines from these two goals relate to the development of this Plan, and include:

- Recreation land use to meet recreational needs and development standards, roles and responsibilities should be developed by all agencies in coordination with each other and with the private interests.
- The need for open space in the planning area should be determined, and standards developed for the amount, distribution, and type of open space.
- Criteria should be developed and utilized to determine what uses are consistent with open space values and to evaluate the effect of converting open space lands to inconsistent uses. The maintenance and development of open space in urban areas should be encouraged.
- The State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan could be used as a guide when planning, acquiring and developing recreation resources, areas and facilities.

The Parks Master Plan goals are further influenced by the most recent Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) assessment, which specifically recommends the following actions.

- Greater priority for developing group day-use facilities, recreational trails, outdoor sports fields, close-to-home camping and alternative camping opportunities
- Develop and implement a strategic regional marketing model designed to deliver outdoor recreation information
- Develop and implement a regional youth framework to encourage under-represented youth participation in outdoor recreation activities through partnerships and investments in school-based recreation clubs.

Lastly, the following goals are also influenced by the City’s adopted Comprehensive Plan, which addresses natural and cultural resources, public facilities and transportation, among others.

Community Outreach & Engagement

Goal 1: Encourage meaningful public involvement in park and recreation planning and engage residents through department communications.

- 1.1 Involve residents and stakeholders in system planning, park site facility design and recreation program development to solicit community input, facilitate project understanding and engender public support.
- 1.2 Conduct periodic joint sessions between the Parks Advisory Board and Planning Commission to improve coordination and discuss policy matters of mutual interest.
- 1.3 Use a variety of methods and media to increase resident awareness about Parks and Recreation activities through community events, interpretive tours, presentations to neighborhood, homeowner and civic groups and other venues.
- 1.4 Expand and update the city's web site to enhance citizen communication, expand access to information and improve public outreach and marketing.
- 1.5 Prepare a comprehensive park and trail facilities map for online and print distribution to highlight existing and proposed routes and promoting Cornelius as a family-friendly community.
- 1.6 Expand community-based volunteer and stewardship opportunities, such as planting and restoration activities.
- 1.7 Host events and festivals to promote wellness, civic pride and the benefits of recreation.

Parks

Goal 2: Acquire and develop a high-quality, diversified system of parks, recreation facilities and natural areas that is attractive, functional, accessible and safe.

- 2.1 All city residents should live within one-quarter mile of a developed neighborhood park and one mile of a developed community park.
- 2.2 Provide a combined service standard of 1.6 acres per 1,000 resident-equivalents of developed neighborhood and community parks.
- 2.3 Provide an overall parks and natural areas service standard of 5.5 acres per 1,000 resident-equivalents.
- 2.4 Develop and implement minimum design and development standards for future homeowner association parks that address community facility needs, equipment types, accessibility and installation procedures.
- 2.5 Actively plan and coordinate with Washington County and Metro for the acquisition of parks and natural areas within or in close proximity to the urban growth boundary.

- 2.6 Construct agreements with the Forest Grove School District and Hillsboro School District for the use and programming of facilities and fields during non-school hours.
- 2.7 Prepare a “no net loss” of public parks policy, such that the City will consider parkland losses only when converted parkland is replaced in equal to or better size and/or quality.

Natural Areas & Greenspaces

Goal 3: Protect and manage the City’s environmentally-sensitive lands, remnant open spaces and natural and cultural resources to highlight their uniqueness and local history.

- 3.1 Coordinate with other public agencies and private landowners for the protection of valuable natural resources and sensitive lands through the purchase of development rights, easements or title and make these lands available for passive recreation as appropriate.
- 3.2 Plan for and manage the use of natural areas and greenspaces in coordination with the City Natural Resource Protection Plan.
- 3.3 Partner with Washington County, Metro, Clean Water Services and others for the development of management plans and restoration strategies for the Council Creek greenway corridor and the Tualatin River greenway and lowlands.
- 3.4 Manage vegetation in natural areas to support or maintain native plant species, habitat function and other ecological values; remove and control non-native or invasive plants as appropriate.
- 3.5 Promote the installation and management of street trees as an extension of urban habitat and providing green infrastructure benefits.
- 3.6 Promote tree-friendly land use practices and development by preparing policies to preserve mature, significant trees and planning for appropriate replanting.
- 3.7 Coordinate with Clean Water Services on revised site development design standards for storm water facilities to facilitate ecological and hydrological connectivity and improve the potential for habitat values.

Trails & Pathways

Goal 4: Develop a network of shared-use trails, pathways and corridors that connect public facilities to neighborhoods and the downtown core.

- 4.1 Integrate the siting of proposed trail segments into the development review process.
- 4.2 Work with local agencies and private landholders to secure trail easements and access to greenspace for trail connections.

- 4.3 Coordinate with Washington County, Metro and the cities of Hillsboro and Forest Grove for the joint planning, development and maintenance of the Council Creek Trail and other local and regional connecting trail opportunities.
- 4.4 Address pedestrian safety and access across existing railroad tracks.
- 4.5 Coordinate with the Portland & Western Railroad and ODOT Rail for a potential rail-with-trail opportunity.

Recreation, Wellness & Programming

Goal 5: Establish a varied and inclusive suite of recreation programs that accommodate a spectrum of ages, interests and abilities.

- 5.1 Leverage City resources by forming and maintaining partnerships with other public, non-profit and private recreation providers to deliver recreation services and secure access to existing facilities (e.g. schools) for field sports and other community recreation.
- 5.2 Explore options with Hillsboro Parks & Recreation for the operation and staffing of community recreation programs at Free Orchards Elementary School, consistent with their offerings at other Hillsboro School District facilities. Explore options with Forest Grove Parks & Recreation for the operation and staffing of community recreation programs at Echo Shaw and Cornelius Elementary Schools.
- 5.3 Research funding alternatives and explore the feasibility of developing a community center.
- 5.4 Promote and expand special events and programming within parks to enhance community identity, community activity and environmental education.
- 5.5 Explore partnership opportunities with regional healthcare providers and services, such as Kaiser, Tuality and Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center, to promote wellness activities, healthy lifestyles and communications about local facilities and the benefits of parks and recreation.

Management & Operations

Goal 6: Provide a parks, recreation and open space system that is efficient to administer and operate, while providing a high level of user comfort, safety, aesthetic quality and protection of capital investment.

- 6.1 Provide sufficient financial and staff resources to maintain the overall parks system to high standards.
- 6.2 Maintain all parks and facilities in a manner that keeps them in safe and attractive condition; repair or remove broken components on the same day they are identified.

- 6.3 Design and maintain parks, trails and facilities to offer universal accessibility for residents of all physical capabilities, skill levels and age.
- 6.4 Incorporate sustainable development and low impact design practices into the design, planning and rehabilitation of new and existing facilities. Prepare sustainability best management practices for grounds maintenance and operations.
- 6.5 Periodically evaluate user satisfaction and numerical use of parks, facilities and programs; share this information with staff, Park Advisory Board and City Council as part of the decision making process to revise offerings or renovate facilities.
- 6.6 Standardize the use of graphics and signage to establish a consistent identity at all parks, trailheads and other facilities.
- 6.7 Standardize park furniture (trash cans, tables, benches, fencing, water fountains) to reduce inventory costs and improve appearance of parks.
- 6.8 Encourage volunteer park maintenance projects from a variety of service clubs, scouting organizations, churches and businesses. Encourage the use of Adopt-A-Park, community park watch and other similar programs that will increase safety, security and public awareness.
- 6.9 Explore opportunities to develop seasonal or revolving maintenance internships in partnership with local educational program, such as Portland Community College's Landscape Technology Program or Forest Grove High School's environmental or plant science Certificate of Advanced Mastery focus areas.
- 6.10 Periodically revise park system development charges in coordination with the city's Finance, Development & Operations and legal departments.
- 6.11 Pursue alternative funding options for the acquisition and development of parks and facilities, such as through private donation, sponsorships, partnerships, state and federal grant sources, among others.
- 6.12 Promote professional development opportunities to strengthen the core skills and engender greater commitment from staff, Board members and key volunteers, to include trainings, materials and affiliation with the National Recreation & Park Association (NRPA) and the Oregon Recreation & Park Association (ORPA).

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Chapter 6. Capital Facilities Plan

The following Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) lists all park and facility projects considered for the next ten years. The majority of these projects entail the development or redevelopment of existing neighborhood and community parks, along with repair and renovation projects to address specific site deficiencies. Based on survey results and other feedback, Cornelius residents have indicated an interest in park facility upgrades and expansion as short-term priorities, and the proposed CFP is reflective of that desire. The following table summarizes the aggregate capital estimates by park types for the next ten years.

Table 18. Capital Facilities Plan Expenditures Summary

Park Type	Acquisition	Development	Renovation	Sum
Community Park	\$ 5,024,644	\$ 368,993	\$ 56,792	\$ 5,450,429
Neighborhood Park	\$ 1,801,175	\$ 279,629	\$ 160,177	\$ 2,240,981
Natural Area	\$ 1,008,404	\$ 921,302	\$ 18,310	\$ 1,948,015
Special Facility	\$ -	\$ 310,234	\$ 37,078	\$ 347,312
Trail	\$ 961,774	\$ 3,469,756	\$ 16,538	\$ 4,448,067
TOTAL	\$ 8,795,996	\$ 5,349,913	\$ 288,894	\$ 14,434,804

Also, the CFP adds a significant land acquisition program to ensure that sufficient lands are available for recreation as the Cornelius area grows in population. Acquisition target areas have been identified and ranked in priority. Emphasis has been placed on securing a larger community park acquisition to serve the greatest population and then on filling gaps in neighborhood parkland distribution within the city limits and for securing trail rights-of-way (fee simple ownership or easement) for trail development and trail support facilities, such as parking and restrooms.

Discussion of a community center and space for recreation programs was identified in the Needs chapter. The CFP does not specifically recommend either the acquisition of a new property or redevelopment of an existing facility to accommodate these programming needs, since this Plan recommends a more detailed review and study to assess and explore partnership opportunities for a flexible and cost-effective arrangement for the provision of these services.

The following CFP project list provides brief project descriptions and priority ranking to assist staff in preparing future capital budget requests.

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Cornelius Parks Master Plan
10-Year Capital Facilities Plan
2009-2018

Park Type	Park Site	Project Description	Activity	Funding	Priority	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
Community	Harleman Park	Install permanent fence along north end of soccer field	D	GF	1 - High	\$ 2,400										
		Install Public Sidewalk along Heather Street (approx. 1,100 l.f. x 5'-0" wide)	D	GF, G	1 - High		\$ 31,763									
		Install/replace at least 2 ADA compliant benches and wheelchair space	R	GF, G	1 - High			\$ 2,205								
		Install/replace at least 1 ADA compliant picnic table with concrete pad	R	GF, G	1 - High			\$ 1,929								
		Install at least 6 ADA compliant picnic tables under large shelter	R	GF, G	1 - High		\$ 6,300									
		Install at least 4 ADA compliant picnic tables under large shelter	R	GF, G	1 - High				\$ 4,631							
		Add Detectable Warnings where routes cross traffic (3 locations)	R	GF, G	1 - High									\$ 3,377		
		Install ADA accessible routes to accessible features (2,250 l.f. of Asphalt Path)	R	GF, G	1 - High		\$ 8,269									
		Park Site Master Plan Update	D	SDC, GF	2- Medium			\$ 27,563								
		Install ADA compliant space to 1 players dugout area	R	GF, G	2- Medium							\$ 351				
		Install ADA ramp access to baseball field from spectators area	R	GF, G	2- Medium							\$ 957				
		Provide ADA access to stage (ramp)	R	GF, G	2- Medium							\$ 1,914				
		Install Climbing Play Structure	D	SDC, GF, G	2- Medium					\$ 30,388						
		Provide cover over existing stage	D	SDC, GF, G, D	3 - Low					\$ 12,155						
		Install Field Lighting (Baseball)	D	SDC, GF	3 - Low								\$ 120,609			
		Upgrade and standardize remaining site furnishings	R	GF	3 - Low										\$ 12,664	\$ 14,195
		Install Press Box at athletic fields	D	GF, G, D	3 - Low											\$ 18,616
Community	Future Community Park (CP-1)	Property Acquisition, northeast area, 8-15 acres	A	SDC, G, D	1 - High			\$ 1,378,125								
		Park Site Master Plan Design	D	SDC, GF	2- Medium					\$ 42,543						
Community	Future Community Park (CP-2)	Property Acquisition, southeast area, 30-50 acres	A	SDC, G, D	2- Medium					\$ 3,646,519						
		Park Site Master Plan Design	D	SDC, GF	3 - Low						\$ 82,958					
Neighborhood	Alpine Park	Install Entry & Rule Signage at east entrance	D	GF	1 - High	\$ 800										
		Install ADA ramp into Playground	R	GF, G	1 - High	\$ 1,000										
		Install at least 1 ADA compliant bench and wheelchair space	R	GF, G	1 - High				\$ 1,158							
		Install/replace at least 1 ADA compliant picnic table with concrete pad	R	GF, G	1 - High				\$ 2,026							
		Add Detectable Warnings where routes cross traffic	R	GF, G	1 - High	\$ 800										
		Install ADA accessible routes to accessible features (50 l.f. of Asphalt Path)	R	GF, G	1 - High	\$ 875										
		Plant Shade Trees near Play Area	D	D, GF	2- Medium				\$ 1,158							
		Replace/Upgrade Play Equipment	R	GF	3 - Low								\$ 21,107			
		Upgrade/Standardize Site Furnishings	R	GF	3 - Low								\$ 5,558			
Neighborhood	Dogwood Park	Install Play Equipment for tots	R	SDC, GF	1 - High			\$ 22,050								
		Remove merry-go-round	R	GF	1 - High	\$ 300										
		Install 2 ADA compliant benches and wheelchair spaces	R	GF, G	1 - High				\$ 2,315							
		Install/replace at least 1 ADA compliant picnic table with concrete pad	R	GF, G	1 - High				\$ 2,026							
		Add Detectable Warnings where routes cross traffic	R	GF, G	1 - High					\$ 1,945						
		Install ADA accessible loop asphalt pathway (Approx 700 lf)	D	SDC, GF, G	2- Medium							\$ 16,416				
Neighborhood	Ryland Park	Upgrade and standardize remaining site furnishings	R	GF	3 - Low									\$ 10,785		
		Install ADA Ramp into Playground	R	GF, G	1 - High			\$ 1,103								
		Install at least 1 ADA compliant bench and wheelchair space	R	GF, G	1 - High			\$ 1,103								
		Install/replace at least 2 ADA compliant picnic tables with concrete pads	R	GF, G	1 - High			\$ 3,859								
		Add Detectable Warnings where routes cross traffic	R	GF, G	1 - High			\$ 1,764								
		Prepare Site Master Plan	D	SDC, GF	1 - High		\$ 15,750									
		Install ADA accessible route throughout park	R	SDC, GF, G	2- Medium			\$ 7,718								
		Plant Shade Trees near Play Area	D	D, GF	2- Medium			\$ 1,378								
		Plant Street Trees	D	D, GF	2- Medium			\$ 2,481								
		Install Fencing along eastern property edge (320 lf)	D	GF	3 - Low			\$ 4,234								
		Install Covered Picnic Shelter	D	SDC, GF, G	3 - Low					\$ 30,388						
Install Restroom	D	SDC, GF, G	3 - Low			\$ 66,150										

Park Type	Park Site	Project Description	Activity	Funding	Priority	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
		Install Viewing Platform or Boardwalk	D	SDC, GF, G	3 - Low					\$ 36,465					
		Install Interpretive Signage	D	SDC, GF, G, D	3 - Low					\$ 7,293					
		Upgrade and standardize remaining site furnishings	R	GF	3 - Low										\$ 7,679
Neighborhood	Tarrybrooke Park	Install ADA accessible loop pathway (175 lf of concrete walk)	R	SDC, GF	1 - High						\$ 6,126				
		Upgrade Swing Set w/ Half-Bucket Swing for Tots	R	GF	1 - High	\$ 250									
		Install at least 1 ADA compliant bench and wheelchair space	R	GF, G	1 - High						\$ 1,276				
		Install/replace at least 1 ADA compliant picnic table with concrete pad	R	GF, G	1 - High						\$ 2,233				
		Add Detectable Warnings where routes cross traffic	R	GF, G	1 - High						\$ 1,021				
		Install ADA Ramp into Playground	R	GF, G	1 - High						\$ 1,276				
		Plant Street Trees	R	GF, D	2- Medium							\$ 4,020			
		Upgrade and standardize remaining site furnishings	R	GF	3 - Low									\$ 5,836	
Neighborhood	Water Park	Re-Position Water Tower Security Fencing (100 lf)	R	GF	1 - High		\$ 1,260								
		Install ADA accessible route throughout park (350 lf asphalt path)	R	GF	1 - High							\$ 8,208			
		Install ADA Ramp into Playground	R	GF, G	1 - High							\$ 1,340			
		Install at least 1 ADA compliant bench and wheelchair space	R	GF, G	1 - High							\$ 1,340			
		Install/replace at least 2 ADA compliant picnic tables with concrete pads	R	GF, G	1 - High							\$ 4,690			
		Add Detectable Warnings where routes cross traffic	R	GF, G	1 - High							\$ 3,216			
		Park Site Master Plan Update	D	SDC, GF	1 - High				\$ 17,364						
		Provide perimeter walkway (380 lf public sidewalk)	D	SDC, GF, G	2- Medium							\$ 14,004			
		Pave Parking Lot	D	GF	2- Medium							\$ 26,802			
		Replace, Expand & Upgrade Play Equipment	R	SDC, GF, G	2- Medium							\$ 13,401			
		Plant Shade Trees near Play Area	D	D, GF	2- Medium							\$ 2,010			
		Install ADA compliant Drinking Fountain and accessible route	R	SDC, GF, G	2- Medium							\$ 670			
		Install Covered Picnic Shelter	D	SDC, GF, G, D	3 - Low									\$ 36,936	
		Upgrade and standardize remaining site furnishings	R	GF	3 - Low										\$ 8,843
Neighborhood	Future Neighborhood Park (NP-3)	Property Acquisition, south-central area, 0.25-0.5 acres	A	SDC, GF, G, D	2- Medium						\$ 446,699				
Neighborhood	Future Neighborhood Park (NP-1)	Property Acquisition, northwest area, 1-1.5 acres	A	SDC, GF, G, D	2- Medium				\$ 578,813						
Neighborhood	Future Neighborhood Park (NP-2)	Property Acquisition, north-central area, 1-1.5 acres	A	SDC, GF, G, D	3 - Low										\$ 775,664
Natural Area/OS	Natures Ridge	Develop Pathway connecting to Council Creek	D	SDC, GF, G, D	3 - Low										\$ 186,159
		Install Pedestrian Bridge across ravine to east	D	SDC, GF, G	3 - Low										\$ 116,350
		Ongoing Site Restoration, Plantings & Landscaping	R	GF, G, D	3 - Low										\$ 7,757
		Install Interpretive Signage	D	GF, G, D	3 - Low										\$ 23,270
Natural Area/OS	Free Orchards Park	Install Interpretive Signage	D	GF, G, D	2- Medium				\$ 11,576						
		Ongoing Site Restoration, Plantings & Landscaping	R	GF, G, D	3 - Low								\$ 10,553		
Natural Area/OS	Future Natural Area / Greenspace (NA-1)	Property Acquisition, Lake Cornelius, north & south of Linden St	A	SDC, G, D	2- Medium			\$ 606,375							
		Perimeter Pathway / Boardwalk	D	SDC, G	3 - Low								\$ 562,840		
		Interpretive Signage	D	SDC, GF, G	3 - Low								\$ 21,107		
Natural Area/OS	Future Natural Area / Greenspace (NA-2)	Property Acquisition, south of Lake Cornelius, mitigation banking, 20 acres	A	SDC, GF, G, D	3 - Low							\$ 402,029			
Special Facility	Arboretum Park	Install 2 ADA compliant benches and wheelchair spaces	R	GF, G	1 - High				\$ 2,315						
		Install/replace at least 1 ADA compliant picnic table with concrete pad	R	GF, G	1 - High				\$ 2,026						
		Add Detectable Warnings where routes cross traffic	R	GF, G	1 - High				\$ 1,852						
		Install Fencing	D	GF	2- Medium								\$ 4,221		
		Install Pathway Lighting (15 dome fixtures w/ conduit)	D	SDC, GF	3 - Low									\$ 32,504	
		Upgrade and standardize remaining site furnishings	R	GF	3 - Low									\$ 1,773	
Special Facility	City Hall Park	Add Detectable Warnings where routes cross traffic	R	GF, G	1 - High	\$ 800									
		Install 1 ADA Compliant Picnic Tables	R	GF, G	2- Medium								\$ 2,462		

Park Type	Park Site	Project Description	Activity	Funding	Priority	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
		Prepare a site master plan	D	SDC, GF	2- Medium								\$ 9,850		
		Install 2 ADA compliant benches and wheelchair spaces	D	GF, G, D	2- Medium								\$ 2,814		
		Install entry and park rules sign	R	GF	2- Medium								\$ 1,126		
		Install landscape plantings	D	GF, D	3 - Low								\$ 9,850		
<i>Special Facility</i>	Steamboat Park	Upgrade parking to include 1 ADA van-accessible space (striping/sign)	R	GF, G	1 - High	\$ 600									
		Install ADA accessible trail/route throughout park	R	GF, G	2- Medium					\$ 12,155					
		Install at least 1 ADA compliant bench and wheelchair space	R	GF, G	2- Medium					\$ 1,216					
		Ongoing Site Restoration, Plantings & Landscaping	R	GF, G, D	2- Medium						\$ 7,658				
		Install Interpretive Signage	D	SDC, GF, G, D	2- Medium						\$ 12,763				
		Develop Non-Motorized (hand-craft) Boat Launch	D	SDC, GF, G, D	3 - Low									\$ 22,162	
		Upgrade and standardize remaining site furnishings	R	GF	3 - Low								\$ 3,096		
<i>Special Facility</i>	Cornelius Elementary School	Regrade & seed for 2 mid-sized soccer fields (80x50 yd) via IGA	D	SDC, GF	2- Medium				\$ 55,566						
		Field irrigation and controllers	D	SDC, GF	2- Medium				\$ 62,512						
<i>Special Facility</i>	Free Orchards Elementary School	Install Perimeter Pathway and pedestrian connections via IGA (850 l.f.)	D	SDC, GF	2- Medium						\$ 18,985				
<i>Special Facility</i>	Echo Shaw Elementary School	Regrade & seed western field space for multi-use youth fields via IGA	D	SDC, GF	2- Medium					\$ 79,008					
<i>Trail</i>	Trail System Planning	Signage Standards, Route & Wayfinding Signage, Informational Brochure	D	SDC, GF, G	1 - High		\$ 63,000								
<i>Trail</i>	Baseline Bike Route	Re-Stripe, Signage	R	GF, G	2- Medium			\$ 16,538							
<i>Trail</i>	Council Creek Trail (TH-1 & TH-2)	Trailhead Acquisition (Susbauer: TH-2) for limited parking, restroom	A	SDC, GF, G, D	2- Medium								\$ 112,568		
		Trailhead Acquisition (Cornelius Schefflin Rd: TH-1) for limited parking, restroom	A	SDC, GF, G, D	2- Medium								\$ 211,065		
<i>Trail</i>	Tualatin River Greenway Trail	Property / Easement Acquisition	A	SDC, GF, G, D	1 - High						\$ 638,141				
		Trail Development, Steamboat Park to 345th Ave, incl. planning & permitting	D	SDC, GF, G	2- Medium									\$ 3,324,275	
<i>Trail</i>	Free Orchards Interpretive Trail	Interpretive Signage	D	SDC, GF, G, D	2- Medium				\$ 17,364						
		Street tree planting along 12th Avenue (Elder to Baseline)	D	GF, G, D	2- Medium				\$ 13,023						
		Pedestrian Bridge northward from Heather/15th Ave	D	SDC, G, D	2- Medium				\$ 52,093						
Subtotal						\$ 7,825	\$ 126,341	\$ 2,144,572	\$ 827,818	\$ 3,900,073	\$ 1,222,359	\$ 618,756	\$ 994,257	\$ 3,434,271	\$ 1,158,532
Cumulative 10-Yr Total						\$ 14,434,804									

Funding Key:	Activity Key:
GF = General Fund	A = Acquisition
SDC = Park System Development Charge	D = Development
G = Grant	R = Renovation / Restoration
D = Donation / Dedication	

Chapter 7. Implementation Strategies

Implementation in Context

A number of strategies exist to improve service delivery for the Cornelius Parks and Recreation Department; however, clear decisions must be made in an environment of competing interests and limited resources. A strong community will is necessary to bring many of the projects listed in this Plan to life. The following considerations are presented to offer near-term direction on implementation and as a means to continue dialogue between the city and its stakeholders.

Table 20 highlights the budgeted fund allocations for the Parks and Recreation Department over the past four budget cycles. While General Fund support for the department has increase nearly 50% in that timeframe, the General Fund component of the department's budget represents approximately 2.8% of the city's total General Fund budget. That percentage increases to approximately 4.6% when considering the department's total budget (operating and capital) relative to the city's total budgeted expenditures from all sources.

Table 20. Parks Department Revenue by Year (Historic, Rounded)

Source	Fiscal Year			
	'05/'06	'06/'07	'07/'08	'08/'09
General Fund	\$ 81,000	\$ 107,000	\$ 107,000	\$ 120,000
SDC Revenue		\$ 84,000	\$ 81,000	\$ 69,000
SDC Capital, plus Interest		\$ 509,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 320,000
Metro Grant				\$ 320,000
TOTAL	\$ 81,000	\$ 700,000	\$ 688,000	\$ 829,000

Note: Nominal revenues are also collected from rental fees

Given that the operating and capital budgets for the department are limited, the implementation measures identified below look primarily to non-General Fund options. Additionally, a review of likely funding options is attached as Appendix C and includes local financing, federal and state grant and conservation programs, acquisition methods and others.

Volunteer & Community-Based Action

The public process for this Plan has demonstrated that many residents want to be involved in improving the city's park system and want to have their energies guided through coordination with the Department. Staff should conduct additional outreach to neighborhoods to identify small projects that neighborhoods can undertake to improve their local parks. Neighborhood sponsored park clean-ups, beautification and planting projects, and park patrols should be considered to engage citizens and create a stronger sense of community and ownership. The parks program can benefit from on-going coordination and

involvement from local Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops, SOLV clean-up days, area service and civic groups and others. The city should also prepare a revolving list of potential small works or volunteer-appropriate projects to post on its website, while also reaching out to local high schools and Pacific University to encourage student projects.

Inter-Agency Coordination & Collaboration

Specific projects and goals identified in this Plan demand a high degree of coordination and collaboration with other city divisions and outside agencies. Internal coordination with the Development & Operations Department can increase the potential of discrete actions toward the implementation of the proposed trail network, which relies heavily on street right-of-way enhancements and a review of development applications with consideration toward planned trail corridors and the potential for easement or set-aside requests. However, to more fully extend the extent of the park system and recreation programs, additional partnerships and collaborations should be sought.

Intergovernmental agreements with the Hillsboro and Forest Grove School Districts can formalize use and access to school fields and play areas; IGAs can also structure future arrangement for field upgrades for youth sports and for the development of other community amenities, such as perimeter walking trails.

Additionally, the city should engage local health care service providers, such as Tuality, St Vincents and Providence, along with the Kaiser Foundation for support and funding to promote active and healthy lifestyles. For example, Kaiser recently sponsored a series of organized trail walks through Metro as a means to expand public education about local trail opportunities and encourage residents to stay fit. Kaiser has also funded trail brochures and maps for local jurisdictions.

With regard to the potential for expanding city services into recreation programming, coordination with the YMCA, Boys & Girls Club, the school districts and Forest Grove and Hillsboro parks and recreation programs initially should be geared toward understanding the range and type of recreation programs offered regionally and to maximize the use of community facilities, such as fields and indoor centers. Through this dialogue, the city could explore a potential niche in the recreation market and fill unmet needs.

Recreation programming is generally not a revenue-enhancing activity for cities; it is the facilities themselves (and the user fees generated) that lead revenues and present offsets or subsidies across a recreation program. For Cornelius, a facility with significant draw to generate revenue to sustain the programs operating under its roof will need to be both unique to Cornelius and designed for flexibility of use, but it also would need to be regionally unique, such as a specialty aquatics center or multi-purpose fitness facility. If the primary goal for the city is to ensure residents have reasonable access to programs and also in lieu of building a recreation center and establishing a suite of recreation from scratch, three primary models exist for the city to consider in how it might provide recreation programming:

- **General Fund Subsidy to Adjacent Communities:** A common comment from the community survey was that residents did not like paying the non-resident fees associated with use of facilities in Forest Grove and Hillsboro. One short-term, and albeit narrowly defined, option is for the city to subsidize the cost difference between the resident and

non-resident rates for Forest Grove and Hillsboro to the benefit of its residents. This can take the form of a coupon to residents in the amount of that difference or in the form of arranged payments directly to each city for actual costs. While this addresses the concern about the different rate structures, it merely shifts the burden to the adjacent cities for providing activities and facilities to a larger audience.

- **Facility & Operating Arrangement with Another Public Agency:** Hillsboro Parks & Recreation has a long-standing arrangement with the Hillsboro School District for the use of their facilities as community recreation centers. The gymnasiums are programmed for sports and other activities, and the Parks & Recreation Department provides the staffing resources for the programs. Cornelius could take advantage of Hillsboro Parks & Recreation’s relationship with HSD for the provision of recreation programs at Free Orchards Elementary School. Under this scenario, Cornelius would arrange for HPR to staff and promote its recreation offerings at Free Orchards School as its own community recreation center. This would open the school for recreation programming and limit Cornelius’ exposure of operating recreation, since it would be outsourced to HPR.
- **Lease & Revenue Arrangement with Non-Profit Agency:** Under this option, the city would acquire (buy, build or lease) a suitable building to house a range of recreation programs and then seek the partnership of a non-profit, such as the YMCA, for the operation of recreation programming. This model is similar to that of Sherwood’s, where they received voter approval for a bond to finance the construction of a facility in which the YMCA operated its programs.

As was noted previously, an incremental approach to recreation programming is a prudent choice for the city – at least until the population increases to support those programs or until a more detailed assessment of a comprehensive recreation program (that addresses activities and facilities) is compiled and includes discussion of subsidy levels, cost recovery goals and programming types and offerings.

System Development Charges

SDCs are imposed on new development to meet the growth needs of the community for parks. Park SDCs can only be used for parkland acquisition, planning, and/or development. They cannot be used for operations and maintenance of parks and facilities. A complete review of the city’s SDC methodology and the development of a revised rate structure and fee is a component of this planning effort. The revised methodology and rates will be forwarded to City Council for review and approval independent from the adoption of this Plan, since the SDC rates are, in essence, an implementation action of the plan. The revised methodology will also consider the establishment of a non-residential component.

Grants

Several state and federal grant programs are available on a competitive basis, including those available through Oregon State Parks & Recreation, Oregon Department of Transportation, U.S. Departments of Transportation, Fish & Wildlife, and Agriculture, among others. Pursuing grants is not a panacea for park system funding, since grants are both competitive and often require a significant percentage of local funds to match the request submitted to

the granting agency, which depending on the grant program can be as much as 50% of the total project budget. Cornelius should continue to leverage its local resources to the greatest extent by pursuing grants independently, and in cooperation with other city departments or other agencies as appropriate to best position itself for competitive review.

Local Funding

Although a variety of approaches exist to support individual projects or programs, the broader assessment of community needs suggests that additional, dedicated funding will be required to finance growth in the parks system. A short-term bond or levy could be structured to maximize voter support to include parkland acquisitions and development, trail development, ADA-compliance and general park element upgrades and sidewalk enhancements to improve safe routes to school. This will require additional review for the development of a specific funding package, assessment of potential revenue, political willingness and potential voter support.

Follow-Up Planning Studies

Community Center Siting and Feasibility Study: Initiate a study to explore the viability of building or leasing a new Cornelius community center.

Metro Coordination: Initiate process with Metro Parks & Greenspaces Program to plan the use and operation of Metro owned land that abuts the City boundary or is located within the City.

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Appendix A. Community Survey Results

The following report provides an overview of the community survey conducted as part of this Plan.

Davis, Hibbitts & Midghall inc | *Optimal Research and Consultation*

August 17, 2009

To: City of Cornelius
From: Davis, Hibbitts & Midghall, Inc (DHM)
Re: City of Cornelius Parks and Recreation Community Survey

I. INTRODUCTION & METHODOLOGY

This report highlights findings from a community survey of City of Cornelius residents that was part of a public outreach effort to assess priorities and preferences for parks and recreation in the City.

Research Methodology. Between May 19 and July 20, 2009, the Cornelius Parks and Recreation Community Survey was available for residents to complete online and by hard copy. Both the online and hard copy surveys were available in English and Spanish. DHM worked closely with the City of Cornelius and Alta Planning (formally Conservation Technix) to develop the survey questions. A total of 545 residents participated in the survey, 404 of whom completed the survey in English, and 141 in Spanish.¹ All Spanish-language open-ends were translated into English by a professional translator.²

A URL to the online survey was created and a link to the survey was posted on the City of Cornelius website. The survey was hosted on a secure DHM server and available to residents 24 hours a day and at their convenience. Hard copies of the survey were available to residents at various government buildings throughout the City, and additional surveys were distributed to major employers, churches, and at community events. Interviewers were also stationed at Grande Foods to invite shoppers to complete the survey, and Sheldon Manufacturing attached copies of the survey to employee paychecks.

In gathering responses, DHM employed quality control measures including pre-testing and monitoring the online survey to identify potential browser issues.

Computer abstracts for the survey accompany and are referenced throughout this report. The annotated questionnaire is appended to this report for exact wording of questions.

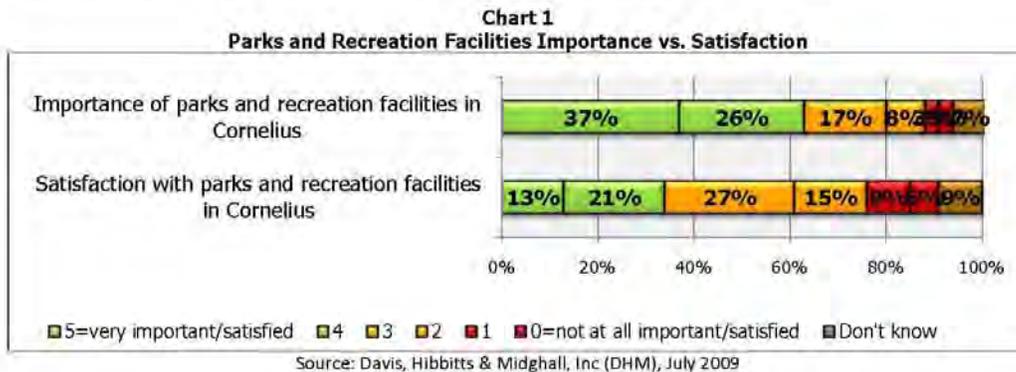
Statement of Limitations. Online and hard copy surveys are effective ways to include members of a community to provide feedback in a confidential and private manner, at their convenience, and to collect unfiltered responses to open-ended questions. Online and hard copy surveys, unless random panels are involved, are not normally a statistically valid sampling of the population. It should be noted that this survey has a distribution across age and gender that is relatively proportional to the overall population of Cornelius, therefore, closely representative of the community.

¹ The sample size may vary for each question due to skip logic and responses to questions being optional.

² For open-ended responses, refer to the verbatim file.

II. SUMMARY & OBSERVATIONS

- Parks and recreation facilities are important to Cornelius’ residents, and while their satisfaction with parks and recreation facilities in the City is average, the level of importance they place on these facilities notably exceeds their satisfaction levels. See the graph below.



- Parks and recreation facilities are especially important to households with children under age 18, larger households, and to residents under the age of 55.
- Additional questions and follow-up with residents (ideally through group discussions) is needed to determine how best to improve satisfaction, as this survey primarily assessed priorities and preferences. However, residents’ preferences and use identified from this study help point to playgrounds, parks, and trails.
- Residents prioritized more traditional and multi-use parks and recreation services over specialized activities and facilities, with parks, green spaces, open natural areas, playgrounds, trails and pathways, picnicking areas, swimming, and sports fields given the highest priority. Recreation services and facilities including tennis, skateboarding, and BMX parks are lower on the list.
- When forced to choose, a larger community park is highly preferred by residents over trail systems and smaller neighborhood parks, which is consistent with priority toward multi-use spaces.

III. KEY FINDINGS

A. IMPORTANCE, SATISFACTION, & USE

i. Importance & Satisfaction of Parks and Recreation

When asked to rate their satisfaction with parks and recreation facilities in Cornelius on a scale of 0 (not at all satisfied) to 5 (very satisfied), residents gave a mean rating of 2.9 which is slightly above average. Close to one-third of residents rated their satisfaction at a “4” or above (Q1).

Satisfaction was highest among those residents living in Quadrant 3 (mean: 3.1) compared to those living in Quadrant 1 (mean: 2.5), Quadrant 2 (mean: 2.6), or Quadrant 4 (mean: 2.8). Residents under age 18 (mean: 3.2) and those ages 55-64 (mean: 3.1) were also more satisfied than those between ages 35 and 54 (mean: 2.9) and 65 and older (mean: 2.6).

Residents rated the importance of parks and recreation facilities to their households at a mean of 3.8 using a scale of 0 (not at all important) to 5 (very important) (Q2). In addition, one-quarter (26%) rated the importance of parks and recreation facilities at “4.”

Parks and recreation facilities were especially important to those households with children under age 18, larger households, residents under the age of 55, and those living in Quadrants 1 and 2. Residents who completed the survey in Spanish rated the importance of parks and recreation to their households slightly higher than those who completed the survey in English.

**Table 1
Parks and Recreation Facilities Importance vs. Satisfaction by Demographic Sub-Group**

Demographic Group	Importance	Satisfaction
Female	3.9	2.9
Male	3.8	3.1
Under 18	3.9	3.2
18-34	4.4	2.8
35-54	3.9	2.9
55-64	3.4	3.1
65+	2.8	2.6
Quadrant 1	4.1	2.5
Quadrant 2	4.1	2.6
Quadrant 3	3.8	3.1
Quadrant 4	3.7	2.8
English Language	3.8	2.9
Spanish Language	4.1	3.0
Children under 18 in home	4.2	2.9
Children in public schools	4.1	3.0
1-2 person household	3.2	2.8
3-4 person household	4.1	3.0
5+ person household	4.1	3.0

Source: Davis, Hibbitts & Midghall, Inc (DHM), July 2009

ii. Use of Parks and Recreation

Residents were asked how many times a year their household visits parks in Cornelius (Q6). The mean response was 37 times, and 50% of residents reported they visited parks in Cornelius more than 10 times a year. Twenty-one percent (21%) of residents answered “none.”

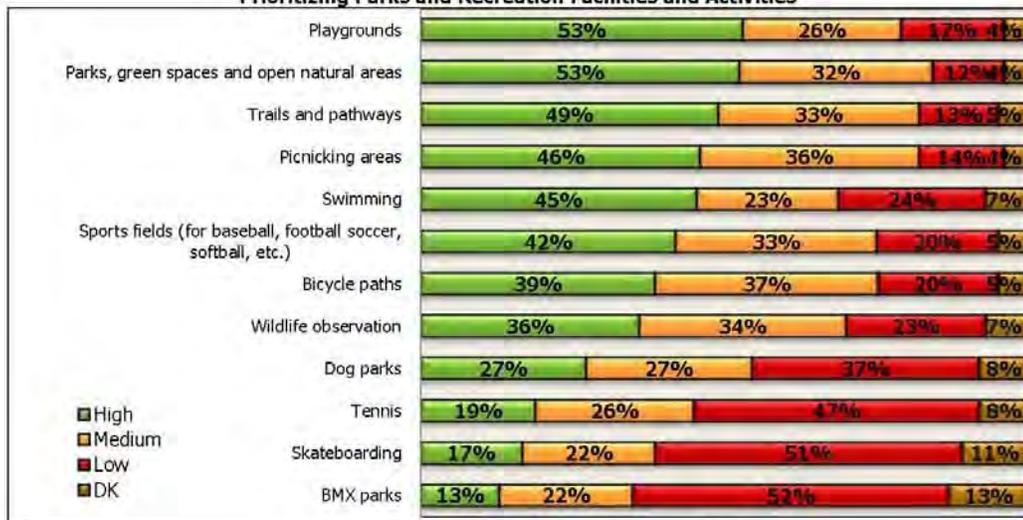
Residents visiting parks most often included:

- Ages 18-34: mean 49 times a year
- Those living in Quadrant 3: mean 44
- Those who completed the survey in Spanish: mean 45
- Household size of 5 or above: mean 56

B. PRIORITIZING PARKS & RECREATION FACILITIES & ACTIVITIES

Residents were given a list of parks and recreation activities and facilities and asked to prioritize each (Q3). In general, residents who completed the survey in Spanish rated each activity or facility higher than those who completed it in English.

Chart 2
Prioritizing Parks and Recreation Facilities and Activities



Source: Davis, Hibbits & Midghall, Inc (DHM), July 2009

First Tier: High priority rating of 50% or greater

In the first tier, a majority of residents rated each activity or facility as a high priority. Parks, green spaces, and open natural areas and playgrounds were at the top of priorities for parks and recreation activities and facilities, rated as “high” by 53% of residents. Playgrounds were rated especially high by residents under the age of 18 (58%), ages 18-34 (67%) and 35-54 (55%), and those who completed the survey in Spanish (65%).

Second Tier: High priority rating between 43% and 49%

At the top of the second tier, 49% of residents found trails and pathways to be a high priority, followed by picnicking areas (46%), swimming (45%), and sports fields for activities such as baseball, football, soccer, and softball (42%).

Trails and pathways were a high priority for almost a majority across all subgroups except for residents under age 18 (39%) and those 65 and older (34%). Picnicking areas and swimming were a much higher priority to those ages 18-34 (60%) and residents who completed the survey in Spanish (60%).

Sports fields were also rated especially high by those who completed the survey in Spanish (59%), as well as those under the age of 34, including residents under 18 years of age (50%).

Third Tier: High priority rating between 36% and 39%

In the third-tier, approximately one-third of residents rated each activity or facility as a high priority. Thirty-nine percent (39%) of residents said bicycle paths were a high priority followed by wildlife observation (36%).

Wildlife observation was particularly important to those ages 65 and over (34%) as it was the second highest rated priority for that age group, after parks, green spaces, and open natural areas (44%).

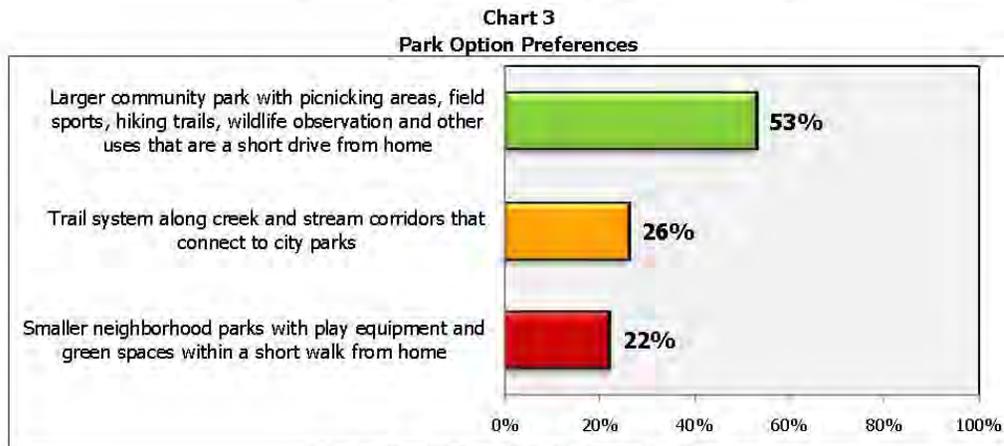
Fourth Tier: High rating between 12% and 27%

Twenty-seven percent (27%) of residents thought dog parks were a high priority, followed by tennis (19%), skateboarding (17%), and BMX parks (13%).

While residents 34 years of age and younger and those who completed the survey in Spanish were more likely to rate each activity and facility in the fourth tier higher than their counter parts, a plurality of all subgroups rated each activity or facility in this fourth tier as a "medium" or "low" priority.

C. PARK PREFERENCES

Residents were asked to choose their most preferred park option for Cornelius (Q5).



One-half (53%) of residents preferred the option of a larger community park with picnicking areas, field sports, hiking trails, wildlife observation, and other uses that are a short drive from their home. This park option was especially preferred by residents under age 18 (65%) and 18-34 (61%), those with children under 18 at home (62%) or in public schools (63%), households with 3 or more people (56%), and those who completed the survey in Spanish (66%).

Slightly over one-quarter (26%) of residents said they preferred a trail system along creek and stream corridors that connect to city parks. Residents ages 35 and above (72%) preferred this option more than those 34 years of age and younger (27%). Residents living in smaller households with one and two people (40%) preferred this option above all others.

Twenty-seven percent (27%) of residents preferred smaller neighborhood parks with play equipment within a short walk from their homes. There were no significant differences by subgroups.

APPENDIX A
Survey Demographic and Language Information

Table 1
Demographic Information

Demographic Group	Survey Percentage	2000 US Census Percentage
Gender		
Male	48%	52%
Female	52%	48%
Age		
Under 18	20%	32%
18-34	22%	29%
35-54	34%	26%
55+	24%	12%
Hispanic/Latino		
Hispanic or Latino	see below	36%

Table 2
Survey Language

Survey Language	Percentage
English	74%
Spanish	26%

APPENDIX B
City of Cornelius Parks and Recreation Community Survey Annotated Questionnaire
Online Survey n=508*; residents and those employed in Cornelius
Davis, Hibbitts, & Midghall, Inc (DHM)

**Sample size may vary due to skip logic and responses to questions being optional.*

Public Outreach Methodology:

Between May 19 and July 20, 2009, the Cornelius Parks and Recreation Community Survey were available for residents to complete online and by hard copy. Both the online and hard copy surveys were available in English and Spanish.

Online Survey: A URL to the online survey was created and a link to the survey was posted on the City of Cornelius website. The survey was hosted on a secure DHM server and available to residents 24 hours a day and at their convenience.

Hard Copy Survey: Hard copies of the survey were available to residents at various government buildings throughout the City, and additional surveys were distributed to major employers, churches, and at community events. Interviewers were also stationed at Grande Foods to invite shoppers to complete the survey, and Sheldon Manufacturing attached copies of the survey to employee paychecks.

Please circle the number that best fits your answer.

1. How satisfied are you with parks and recreation facilities in Cornelius? (5=very satisfied to 0=not at all satisfied)

<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>DK</u>	
6%-----	9%-----	15%-----	27%-----	21%-----	13%-----	9%	mean 2.9

2. How important are parks and recreation facilities for you and your household? (5=very important to 0=not at all important)

<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>DK</u>	
3%-----	3%-----	8%-----	17%-----	26%-----	37%-----	7%	mean 3.8

3. How big of a priority are these parks and recreation activities and facilities for you and your household?

<u>ROTATE</u>	<u>High Priority</u>	<u>Med Priority</u>	<u>Low Priority</u>	<u>DK</u>
Parks, green spaces and open natural areas	53%	32%	12%	4%
Playgrounds	53%	26%	17%	4%
Trails and pathways	49%	33%	13%	5%
Picnicking areas	46%	36%	14%	4%
Swimming	45%	23%	24%	7%
Sports fields (for baseball, football, soccer, softball, etc.)	42%	33%	20%	5%
Bicycle paths	39%	37%	20%	5%
Wildlife observation	36%	34%	23%	7%
Dog parks	27%	27%	37%	8%
Tennis	20%	26%	46%	8%
Skateboarding	17%	22%	51%	11%
BMX parks	13%	22%	52%	13%

4. Which recreation activities, programs, or facilities would you most like to see offered in Cornelius for you and your household? Please try and be specific. (See verbatim file)

Representative comments:

- "Walking paths around parks."*
- "More youth biking activities, park activities, partnership with Forest Grove regarding swimming activities."*
- "Swim center, classes offered for youth like Hillsboro parks and recreation."*
- "Parks are fine, maybe the opportunity for farmer's markets like they have in Hillsboro."*
- "Community center with gang outreach program. Recreation that will prevent or control gang activity."*
- "Bike paths, hiking pathways and trails. Somewhere to get is outside walking without having to go so far."*
- "Boys and girls club. Any type of center that will keep children off the streets and emphasize a good life and choice of actions."*
- "Parks and recreation programs/classes for kids and families, meeting facility, safe bicycle routes for families."*
- "More Park benches and tables for Picnicking and relaxation."*
- "We go to Hillsboro SHARK to use their programs, ie swimming, crafts, playtime for small children. We have nothing like that offered in Cornelius as far as I know. Also what playgrounds do we have, we go to Hillsboro for that as well a VERY high priority along with a dog park (again in Hillsboro). So our top needs are play areas for kids and dogs as well as activity centers for an option."*
- "We have lived here for two years and I didn't know Cornelius even offered Parks & Rec. facilities, etc. Do you advertise like they do in Hillsboro?"*

5. Of the following three options, which ONE do you most prefer for Cornelius?

Larger community park with picnicking areas, field sports, hiking trails, wildlife observation and other uses that is a short drive from your home-----53%

Trail system along creek and stream corridors that connect to city parks-----26%

Smaller neighborhood park with play equipment and green spaces within
a short walk from your home-----22%

6. How many times a year does your household visit parks in Cornelius?

Mean-----37.1

7. Do you live in Cornelius?

Yes-----84%

No-----16%

8. Do you work in Cornelius?

Yes-----29%

No-----71%

9. Do you have children under age 18 at home?

Yes-----56%

No-----44%

10. Do you have any children in public schools?

Yes-----47%

No-----53%

11. What is your gender?

Female-----52%

Male-----48%

12. In what age group are you?

Survey 2000 Census

<18-----20%-----32%

18-34-----22%-----29%

35-54-----34%-----26%

55-64-----17%-----6%

65+-----7%-----6%

13. What is your household size?

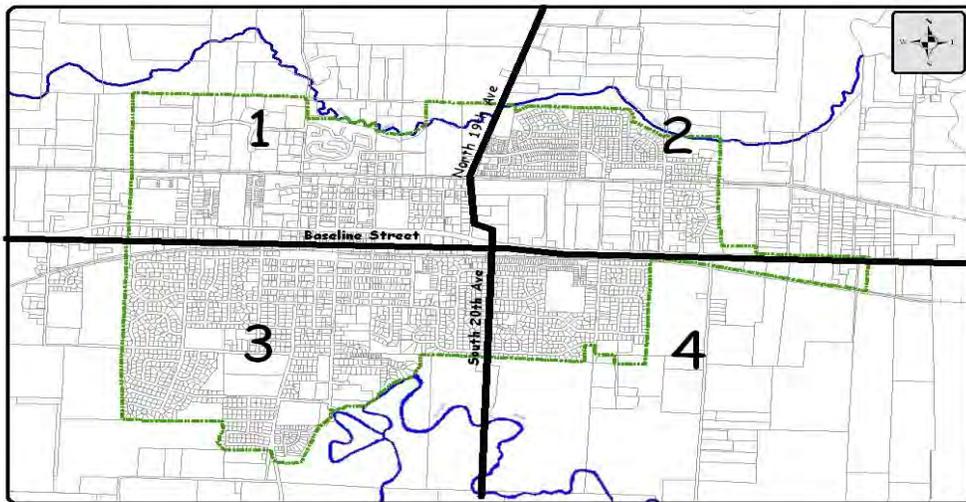
1-2-----31%

3-4-----43%

5+-----26%

14. In what quadrant do you live?
- | | |
|------------|-----|
| 1----- | 18% |
| 2----- | 23% |
| 3----- | 39% |
| 4----- | 19% |
| Other----- | 1% |

City of Cornelius, 4/09 Park Survey (Encuesto de los parques)



"Which area of Cornelius do you live? Please mark and X."
 ¿Qué área de Cornelius vive usted? Por favor marque con un "X".

Which recreation activities, programs, or facilities would you most like to see offered in Cornelius for you and your household?

Walking paths around parks

Sports programs for kids

Wildlife observation

Community center, an active/structured recreation program

A lot of softball, playground facilities/equipment

Picnic areas, community center, swimming pool, exercise equipment

More youth biking activities, park activities, partnership with Forest Grove regarding swimming activities

Families need tranquil, pleasant congregation areas. Children need safe, secure recreation areas to expand youthful exuberance! If we do not spend the money and community effort on these dozen priorities then it adds up to a mediocre Cornelius community. Homogeneous effort equals maximum cooperation.

A swimming facility so we don't have to pay out of town fees at Hillsboro and Forest Grove

Dog friendly walking trails with areas to observe wildlife with mildly challenging pathways connecting larger parks

Swimming, park on North side of west of 10th, trails on north side

Swim center, classes offered for youth like Hillsboro parks and recreation

Recreation center, swim center with classes--swim classes, exercise classes, like those offered at Hawthorne farms or Hillsboro parks and recreation

Not sure

Swimming, yoga, some sort of better play structures

Swimming

Swimming

Don't need anymore

The parks are not safe. I cannot even let my teenagers go to them with me. I would like paths for biking and walking.

Swimming, indoor play areas

Swimming and a water park. Also, a dog park.

Music, art, sports programs, playgrounds, water features. Sports and arts and crafts activities currently through Hillsboro and we have to pay "non-resident" prices.

Swimming

Tennis center or indoor recreation center

Recreation center

Swimming, sports, play area for kids, Recreation Park/Center

Closer swimming facilities

Non FGLL recreation sports (basketball, baseball, soccer, community pool)

We were told tennis courts would be resurfaced last year. When is that going to happen? Dennis and Marcia Gray 503-359-4439

Smaller parks near Alder area where kids, dogs, noise, etc don't want to attend--good for quiet walks and sitting on park benches and just be able to tune into nature!

Parks are fine, maybe the opportunity for farmer's markets like they have in Hillsboro.

Swimming pool

Dog park, parks and recreation classes for Cornelius residents, example art, swimming, pet classes.

None--stop waisting our money

Swimming, Spanish classes for kids

Playground areas and sports fields

Park benches

Swimming

More like what is offered through Hillsboro parks and recreation. Classes for the kids and adults. Arts and crafts, sports, fun stuff

Swimming

Not necessarily a large park. We like quiet spaces.

Parks without graffiti

Swimming

Basketball/football. YMCA/recreation leagues for youth and adults

Community center with kitchen to hold at least 200

Biking or walking trails preferably in a natural area setting

Community center with gang outreach program. Recreation that will prevent or control gang activity

I would like them to invote famous people for a free concert for people to enjoy. Also, like art things like artists who come and show kids about drawing, etc.

Swimming center

Everything that has to do with trails and nature

Have a swimming pool, have a Latin music and hip-hop dancers

I like the basketball courts

Football for all (girls and boys) and ages also. A stage for acting and singing for all people. And last, but not least 3 times or more a year have a drawing contest for a prize.

A merry-go-round, more swings, and more basketball hoops

Swimming facility, wildlife observation with trails, skateboard park, and more playgrounds. Walking trails are very important!

Hiking

Swimming, boxing, recreation center, gymnastics, hip-hop dance classes, or dance classes.

I would like to see lots of playgrounds and swimming facilities

A soccer field and a good place to play basketball

I would like to see playgrounds and maybe a swimming area

Paintball

Swimming, bicycle paths, dog parks

I would like them to invite famous people to give free concerts

Have a swimming pool. Live Latin music.

I would like a day when in parks they have fairs, everybody will enjoy it.

Swimming center

Basketball courts like the pros

I would like the parks to have more fairs

Nothing

Soccer, sports the most

I like to play basketball

Bike paths, hiking pathways and trails. Somewhere to get is outside walking without having to go so far.

Swimming pools would be nice. Also more sports fields and playground equipment.

Bike and walking paths. Dog park

Elementary age summer soccer

Summer soccer for elementary school age

Not have to pay extra to use pool--Cornelius is caught in the middle--bicycle paths and skateboarding

Swimming--we are out of city for Forest Grove and Hillsboro

Library bigger

Trail system available to all with handicap access

Boys and girls club. Any type of center that will keep children off the streets and emphasize a good life and choice of actions

RV spots at a park

Aquatic center

Basketball court in Waterpark

Walking paths, bicycle paths, and dog parks

Playgrounds and picnicking areas

Police, fire, and roads only

Sidewalks on streets in towns and neighborhoods

Volleyball net

Walking paths, skateboard park

I don't live in Cornelius

Swimming

Soccer fields

I would like a soccer field and basketball courts

Swimming

Skate park

BMX parks

Would like to have a free swimming pool for girls

More drinking fountains

More basketball courts

The thing that I want to see is more swimming parks, trail pathways to walk to and relax in a quiet place

Softball, Horseshoes

Those that supply the most healthy needs with the lowest upkeep and best dollar investment, most family-oriented and soccer and softball

The parks are fine, Create a program in the schools to plant a garden--herb, flower, succulent--something interesting--using parks personnel.

Swimming pool

Activities for little kids

Swim lessons, sports, arts and crafts, a program more like Hillsboro or Beaverton. Classes for all ages and interests

Parks and recreation programs/classes for kids and families, meeting facility, safe bicycle routes for families.

The youth need more outlets so there would be less gang activity. Skatepark, YMCA, etc.

Needs to improve with cleaner parks

Movies and concerts, more expansive dog parks

Reading centers

More educational opportunities

Senior programs

More reading programs for little kids

Baseball, playgrounds

Swim

Community Survey: Written Comments

Baseball
Baseball and more sports for children ages 4 and up
Sports, baseball, basketball
More skate parks
Birdwatching
Parks, green spaces
It would be really nice to have some mountain bike trails
Bicycle paths and playgrounds--more of these
Bicycle paths
Sports programs, swimming
Cleaner places
Learning opportunities
Libraries
More Basketball Courts
More Park benches and tables for Picnicking and relaxation
To have more natural Parks
More activities and sports
More swimming areas
Have more trails for walking
keep recreation areas cleaner
Attract more business for employment and more swimming areas
More playgrounds for children
More walking trails
No opinion
More playgrounds for small children
More Sports Programs
Increasing the recreation areas
Cleaner Parks and more swimming areas
More playgrounds for children
More areas for Basketball
Nearby places where you can spend time together and have fun. like playgrounds and Parks
More Parks
Keep the Parks cleaner

- More activities
- More trails for bicycles
- More swimming pools
- More Librarys
- Keep the Parks more beautiful
- More Parks
- Keep the Parks and walk areas cleaner
- New swimming Pools
- More options for community activities
- Better places to walk
- More Sports Programs
- New Parks
- More areas for walking and more playgrounds for soccer and basketball
- Would like more parks and playgrounds
- Aquatic Center
- Would like children pools and fountains
- Would like lakes, parks and playgrounds
- would like areas for soccer and bicycles
- would like to have a playground and fountains
- Swimming pools
- Whatever is necessary
- No comments
- walking paths
- walking pathways
- It would be great to have something like Hillsboro does, Tuality Parks and recreation.
- Some classes for kids
- Family oriented events
- family activities
- would like to see more playgrounds
- Miniature golf, nature parks
- softball, soccer, bocce ball
- Playgrounds, sportfields, swimming, trails and pathways, wildlife observation.
- Walking paths, basketball, picnicing

I would love to see Cornelius have a swimming pool and an inside sport facility.
 Sand boxes with water feature; Horizontal climbing wall, new climbing structures.
 Trails and pathways, wildlife observation, bicycle paths.
 Anything that promotes a safe place to be and play as a family. Too much graffiti for us to visit right now
 Dog friendly parks with good walking paths
 Sports, picnic tables, playgrounds for families
 Safe playgrounds
 Paths, trails and bike paths, wildlife enhancement
 Pottery classes
 Trails and pathways to observe wildlife
 Walking paths
 A reasonable pool facility, city center
 Swimming
 Hiking, walking, bird, plant fieldtrips
 Swimming pool
 Swimming pool
 East of tennis court at Harleman might be a good place to develop a handicap/wheelchair playground area.
 Exercise for seniors and swimming
 Bike and walking paths to be safe
 Soccer programs
 More options and services
 Pathways, trails and bike paths that are not adjacent to street traffic. Swimming is a high priority for us also.
 Community Center with swimming pool More sports fields Sports league for kids
 Parks need bathrooms, tennis lessons for kids/adults, non-competitive baseball for kids/adults
 Place for local kids to play OFF the streets. ex. more basketball courts and open space for a variety of activities - kicking around balls, etc. Trails for Casual Walks/Running/Bicycles would be a bonus, so would more Pavilion/Picnic Shelters.
 An aquatic center.
 Swimming and neighborhood parks
 Swimming pools
 Bicycle paths and walking trails and sports fields. These are things any age group could enjoy.
 N/A

Community center that offers classes and activities such as Hillsboro Park & Rec. when enrolling in classes for Hillsboro Park & Rec we always have to pay non-resident fees as a Cornelius resident.

Bike/walking paths

Sports fields

Bike paths, Hiking paths, Swings, Lawn for Frisbee

a swimming pool or YMCA type of club. Having to pay out of district for both Forest Grove and Hillsboro is very discouraging, especially cause the city we live in doesn't provide any park & rec activities for children living within their city limits.

Indoor/outdoor pool with exercise program, preferably with some set times for adult only use. Off-leash dog parks or easing restrictions for dogs off their leash who respond to voice commands. Water features (sprinklers/kiddie pool type thing) which could be used by dogs would be nice in the summer months.

Would like a spray/water park that's an attractive area in the city, visible from some main street area, but set back from the road enough for children to play safely. Wilsonville and Sherwood have some good examples. Hillsboro's civic center one is okay, but a grassy location is best. We really need a safe place for kids to congregate - I'd love to see Hillsboro Parks and Rec or something similar have a location in town and offer series of programs.

parks and rec program where residents can sign up for classes (swimming, tennis, personal enrichment, etc...) Would value a track and field set-up for those who want to walk, watch sporting events, etc...

nature walking/hiking

need some place for children to be safe and play. skate parks would be great then they are not in parking lots...

Swimming center, paved bike paths

Safe biking trails/routes Parks (larger) with water features

I believe that right now in this recession that all parks and other activities be put on hold.

Basketball other than on the streets; swimming.

Festival at Harleman Park in the Summer that would include some rides.

Not for me but for all of the residents that have children. Parks with facilities to play as a small child to young adults. Places where kids can be and be off the streets.

Bike/Hiking trails.

We use the "Water Park" that is near our home just about every other day. We take our dog there to play and we use it because it is so big and open. There also happens to be a paved private city road next to it that is awesome for kids to ride bikes, skate, etc w/o being far from the actual park. I like these things about the park. The water tower is really super dingy and needs to be power washed or painted again. Also there was a fence around the back of the park, but people have broken it down for access. It should be fixed and maybe a gate put in. Right now it's just a big rip people walk through.

I would like to have a parks and rec center. Currently I spend a ridiculous amount of money paying Hillsboro parks and rec for their activities for being an out of city resident. I would love to put that money back into my own community, and have options that are closer to my home. I want the option to have a community pool that is close to home that also offers swimming lessons for children, walking trails, bike paths, wildlife observation, sports fields, community park(s) with picnic areas, and hiking trails.

Swimming, activity programs (like those in Hillsboro), playgrounds

Harleman Park needs more picnic tables. Currently, it is not practical for anyone to have a weekend picnic w/o reserving a shelter. Perhaps those tables not reserved (reservations should specify the number needed) could be moved out of the shelters - and/or a shelter might sometimes host 2 or 3 groups, not just one. Looks like we need an additional park like Harleman.

Swim center

Bike paths

A Cornelius Swimming Pool.

Swimming, bike paths, playgrounds. That are SAFE for moms & kids, that are either patrolled or with security measures- ie, cameras, etc.

i would like to have a swimming area because my children love to swim.

Picnicing with friends and family near playgrounds with trees and paths to explore with young children.

It would be great to make use of the Rivers through town with swimming and fishing areas.

i WOULD LIKE AN AQUATIC CENTER.

3-wall outdoor handball/racquetball courts. As far as I can tell, the closest one is in Kent WA. Very fun for all skill levels and minimal equipment required.

A swimming pool in our town would be highest on our priority list, followed by a rec center that had exercise equipment and classes.

We go to Hillsboro SHARK to use their programs, ie swimming, crafts, playtime for small children. We have nothing like that offered in Cornelius as far as I know. Also what playgrounds do we have, we go to Hillsboro for that as well a VERY high priority along with a dog park (again in Hillsboro). So our top needs are play areas for kids and dogs as well as activity centers for an option.

really a dog park would be great - but also, since we walk fairly regularly, walking paths. we just discovered Fawn Ct and 15th (or so) where developement started but never finished but that bridge-like road was wonderful.

Running and biking trails around the area. Places to host picnics and family events. A water park would be a great addition for families and their children in the warmer months. A few ponds at some of the parks in the area.

More general play areas for all to enjoy. Doesn't have to be big, expensive, labor intensive programs like arts and crafts etc. Just want more park areas for all to enjoy. Trails etc are great too.

Horseshoes, tennis, walking paths, trees

Bicycle paths, picnic areas, indoor swimming pool

Water features, benches, recreation center with a pool and gym

- A place for children to play to keep them off the streets and out of trouble!!
- NATURAL PICNICKING AREAS
 - Trails, BMX and Skate Park,
 - A soccer field complex would be used a lot and could bring in funding for parks upkeep. (Tualatin R) A system of bike and pedestrian trails connecting natural areas and homes and jobs and recreation. A community recreation center for after school & work programs for youth and seniors. A pocket parks with basketball courts, tetherball, shuffle board, etc. in every neighborhood. A large picnicking and wildlife watching area on the Tualatin River
 - It would be helpful to have a community center. I envision a gymnasium, meeting rooms, wallyball courts, raquetball, weight room and showers,
 - swimming pool or water based recreation
 - Shade trees around play structures.
 - My favorite park in the area is Rood Bridge Park in Hillsboro, a park like that would be nice.
 - We have lived here for two years and I didn't know Cornelius even offered Parks & Rec. facilities, etc. Do you advertise like they do in Hillsboro?
 - Swimming pool !
 - swimming pool
 - Swimming facilities
 - Swimming rec centre, parks for the kids, trails and paths, picnicking areas
 - community BBQ in neighborhoods know your neighbor like a picnic; a community involvement of parades, community summer camps put on by the community.
 - don't know
 - A swimming center, and places to run, walk, or hike.
 - Bike paths
 - My household is just me and my dog. I feel safest in a large park with lots of shade and sunshine. I don't feel safe in an emty park now that I'm 65. If it can't have a swimming pool, I'd like a water feature where children can play on hot summer days and people can just wade. A place where churches and other groups can reserve a space for events. There would be a cleanup fee for these reservations.
 - Swimming pool
 - Swim lessons or discounts at neighboring communities for use of their lessons and activities. Playgrounds that will interest a range of ages. The playgrounds we go to are either perfect for my toddler or for my elementary school child, but not both. A playground with a fountain for summer use would be wonderful since we do not have a pool in town.
 - Trails
 - Just having the parks to go to and enjoy the trails and picnic facilities is great
 - Trails, pathways, any natural hiking area
 - Trails and playgrounds

Swimming
 Walking
 Swimming facility
 More city events for families
 Have three grandchildren living 5 blocks from me. Could use safe bicycle paths, trails, wildlife observation
 Playgrounds, trails and pathways, parks, greenspaces, and open natural areas. This is what I want to see
 Bubble day--all ages, simple dog training, basic training, sports games, toilets, water fountains
 A covered skatepark--so many skateboarders would skate at a covered skate park because of rain six months
 a year
 Swimming, sportsfields, bicycle paths
 Baseball, swimming, tennis
 Recreation for youth and adults. Keeps kids off the streets
 Sports fields for the youth
 Bigger parks and soccer fields
 Skate parks
 Walking and biking trails, pathways
 Biking and walking trails
 Swimming pool like the one in Hillsboro and Forest Grove
 Dog park
 Swimming, biking, walking
 Picnicking, skateboarding park for our kids, and equipment to play on that is safe and clean for every
 gender, nationality, and age
 Good BMX dirt jumps
 Swimming pool for all ages
 Softball, Horseshoes
 wildlife observation; craft making
 Aquatic Center (Swimming, Diving). Walking Trails Biking Trails Tennis
 More baseball fields and more bike riding paths more for the kids to play and be safe without bikes riding in
 the park areas. And also would like to see picnicking areas.
 I'd like to see Cornelius work out a discount with either the FG Aquatic Center or the Hillsboro one so that
 we could have discounted access to the aquatic exercise programs.
 Swimming Pool, parks
 Spaces and paths for walking and running
 I see more fields to play soccer, playgrounds and more for my children!!!!!! Thanks for concern!

Public pool

More areas to walk and play, a park for my children to play, football and soccer fields, and basketball courts.

I would like to see a water fountain for children to swim in the summer and also to have open spaces in the park.

Pools, "aquatic center"

Parks and places to play is enough.

Parks along rivers/ streams and more games.

To be able to ride my bike to the park to play soccer.

pool

Appendix B. Stakeholder Notes



**Cornelius Parks Master Plan
Stakeholder Interview Summary
Hillsboro Parks & Recreation :: July 1, 2009**

Attending: Kevin Smith

Location: Hillsboro Parks & Recreation Admin Offices

Time: 10:45 – 11:30a

Kevin indicated that Hillsboro and Cornelius do not coordinate or communicate much on projects or programs, but each is at the table for the Council Creek Trail and wants that project to be successful. Since Hillsboro and Cornelius do not abut, there are limited opportunities for direct connections between the two. Washington County does not see parks and trails as their priority. If trails (joint or otherwise) are proposed within the unincorporated area, then additional concerns of maintenance, M/O financing and corridor ownership arise.

Hillsboro is considering the potential for building a new (its own, stand alone) community center as an additional service for residents. Now, the city coordinates with HSD for use of school facilities for their community recreation program. The city and the school district have a very strong relationship and also jointly finance capital projects as appropriate.

HPR has been approached by Banks for technical assistance regarding maintenance and other services, so the Parks & Recreation Department is considering entering into IGAs (intergovernmental agreements) for the provision of certain services, as they make sense for the department. Basically, if they have the staffing resources and there is no impact to providing their own services, they would consider such an arrangement. Regarding recreation programming in Cornelius, Kevin mentioned that he would be willing to discuss the potential of programming at Fern Hill Elementary on behalf of Cornelius via an IGA. Sue Boucher (503-681-6122) should be contacted for a follow up discussion. The concept posed to Kevin was one of HPR offering community recreation at the school (as they do in other HSD facilities) for Cornelius residents, but as a fee service to the city as a means to reduce start-up, training, staffing and operational costs associated with a Cornelius-run program in partnership with HSD.

Regarding sport/athletic facilities, HPR and HSD have a strong partnership. HPR programs, schedules and coordinate sport field usage at the HSD facilities. The installation of all weather turf fields has significantly improved playability and play time, while offering lower annual maintenance costs. The capital costs for installation and replacement are high, but the department has been successful with grants and they have accessed urban renewal funds for the stadium. The city of Hillsboro is financially conservative, and as such has limited their use of bond funding (last bond was for the aquatic facility near Shute in 1980). They will likely use bonds more in the future as SDC revenues are projected to decline with changing market conditions and with limits on the potential for new development. The SDC program was well-timed and has been a very success program for them. They currently assess both residential and commercial/industrial SDCs for parks.

Review the Hillsboro Vision 2020 document for more information regarding city vision and planning goals.



**Cornelius Parks Master Plan
Stakeholder Interview Summary
Forest Grove Parks & Recreation :: July 1, 2009**

Attending: Tom Gamble
Location: Forest Grove Aquatic Center
Time: 9:30 – 10:45a

Tom mentioned the notion of a community or recreation center for Forest Grove. He said that the item will likely be discussed in more detail in the upcoming FG Parks Master Plan, but the concept has been brewing for some time. When prompted, he mentioned that there might be a potential for a joint venture with Cornelius, but several issues need to be addressed, such as how to pay for and maintain it. Ultimately, this might require an operating levy and a capital levy.

Forest Grove is generally facilities rich given the aquatic center, parklands, the new Lincoln Park, school district sites and the university. The city has limited recreation programming and is currently limited to those programs offered through the aquatic center. Regarding the concept of a community center, Forest Grove might explore the use of the FGSD facilities as an initial step (much like the way Hillsboro approaches it). Neil Armstrong is a possible candidate. Tom McCall already has the Boys & Girls Club programming that building.

Regarding recreation programming, all FG elementary schools get brochures and flyers about the aquatics programs. Also Doug Thompson at the high school coordinates with the sport leagues for use of and scheduling for the athletic fields.

Tom indicated that Forest Grove and Cornelius do not coordinate or communicate much on projects or programs, with the recent exception of the planning for Wal-Mart.

Trail connections may be the area for greater coordination with Cornelius going forward. Forest Grove adopted a trails plan in 2007 which indicates a number of trails throughout the community but also includes a trail around FG. The city is currently planning for a connection along B Street to the regional trail at the Fern Hill Wetlands; it will be a 1 mile segment with a bridge over Gails Creek and was funded with state lottery-backed grant money. Other options for connectivity with Cornelius include the Tualatin River (river trail), Council Creek Trail in partnership with Metro, and the Heather Street extension to tie into Neil Armstrong School and the future pedestrian pathway to Wal-Mart. Contact Lee Cortez (503-992-3231) in the Engineering department for access to the city's trail layer in GIS.

Tom encouraged me to talk more with Ralph Brown, who was a former Cornelius Parks Board member, but is also chair of FGSD Board and affiliated with the FG Parks Department.



**Cornelius Parks Master Plan
Stakeholder Interview Summary
Hillsboro School District :: June 15, 2009**

Attending: Gus Balderas, Loren Rogers

Location: HSD Administration Offices

Time: 1 – 1:45p

Regarding the new high school site on eastern edge of Cornelius, the site will likely remain in its current state for another 10 years, depending on district growth and capacity at existing high schools. The property is leased for farming.

Regarding access and reservation of facilities and fields, the district uses a standardized application form. They receive approximately 6,000 applications per year for the use of their sites and have a full-time staff person responsible for collecting, managing and scheduling facilities based on applications. A tiered use and fee structure exists to guide how sites are programmed:

- School uses have first priority
- All other uses are first come – first serve with fees as follows
 - Fees waived for activities serving district youth (i.e., sports, events)
 - Reduced fees for non-profit and community groups
 - Full rate applies for adult users (i.e., adult sport groups)

All prospective users must be located within and serve residents of the district. Requests from outside the district are denied. No community use of high school fields is allowed; they are dedicated to student use only.

The district has a strong relationship with Hillsboro Parks & Recreation. HPR allocates all fields and gyms within Hillsboro. They do not have plans to program usage at Fern Hill Elementary, since it is located within the city of Cornelius. In some cases, HPR finances capital improvements, such as artificial turf, on HSD lands. The Fairfield community athletic field complex, Liberty HS, S Meadows HS and Century HS have artificial turf. Heavy demand exists for field space, especially for soccer and lacrosse.

HSD manages approximately 500 acres of grounds. Fields and facilities are available for use from after school to 10pm, and all day during the summer.



**Cornelius Parks Master Plan
Stakeholder Interview Summary
Forest Grove School District :: June 17, 2009**

Attending: Terry Thetford
Location: FGSD Facilities Offices
Time: 1 – 1:30p

School fields are available for community use during non-school, daylight hours. FGSD uses a facility rental/use application similar to that of HSD. The FGSD Facility Use Guide was modeled after the HSD program, but FGSD has not revisited its rental rates in 8 years. At this point, the FGSD facilities are fair below the competitive rates offered at other locations. This is leading to an overuse of FGSD facilities, while not being able to re-capture the direct costs for providing those facilities. Terry is interested in updating the rates in the near term, once the new superintendent begins work this summer. As with the HSD program, a tiered use and fee structure exists to guide how sites are programmed:

- School uses have first priority
- All other uses are first come – first serve with fees as follows
 - Fees waived for activities serving district youth (i.e., sports, events)
 - Reduced fees for non-profit and community groups
 - Full rate applies for adult users (i.e., adult sport groups)

At the two school within Cornelius, neither (Echo Shaw nor Cornelius) have irrigated field space; therefore, these fields have very little programmed use during the year. The district's irrigated fields are heavily used, especially on Sunday for soccer. The northern section of Neil Armstrong could be planned for future soccer fields, and that land is currently "banked" and could be for a future elementary school. Access to that area is difficult, but access will be improved somewhat as a result of the Wal-mart trail and associated easement to the neighborhood to the east.

FGSD gym spaces are also heavily used, especially in the winter months for basketball, indoor soccer practice and indoor baseball practice.

Overall, Terry feels there should be greater coordination between FGSD and FG Parks & Recreation , and Cornelius for the planning and use of fields and facilities.



**Cornelius Parks Master Plan
Stakeholder Interview Summary
Metro :: August 28, 2009**

Attending: Mary Anne Cassin
Location: via phone
Time: 9:30 – 10:00a

Regarding the Council Creek Trail, Metro has made several acquisitions as investments into the future greenway trail corridor. There has been a lot of local support from agencies, citizen groups and neighbors. Mary Anne mentioned that there is already some hiking activity taking place along the corridor. The planned feasibility study will likely occur between 2011-2012 and will focus on trail alignment alternatives, with special attention paid to the topography of the creek and riparian habitat areas. The corridor is planned for a regional trail to support shared use.

The recent Metro transit study looked at high capacity corridors for future planning, and Mary Anne noted that the PWRR segment was not listed as a high priority. This will be taken into consideration during the Council Creek Trail feasibility study.

Regarding trail development for Council Creek, the Blue Ribbon Committee identified the need for alternative funding or trail projects in general, given that the demand for trails far exceeds the regions available resources to facilitate construction. She mentioned that the Council Creek Trail would not likely be developed for at least 5-10 years after the feasibility study due to limited and competing resources. However, Metro's greenways acquisition program continues to have a presence in the Cornelius area, and the agency is continuing to talk with landowners (it is a willing seller program).



**Cornelius Parks Master Plan
Stakeholder Interview Summary
Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve :: August 13, 2009**

Attending: Ed Becker
Location: Jackson Bottom Offices
Time: 9 – 9:45a

Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve is a non-profit agency with its own board of directors, even though it is now affiliated with Hillsboro Parks & Recreation. Jackson Bottom's mission is two-fold: 1) education, and 2) wetland preservation and habitat restoration. The Preserve maintains strong relationships with area schools who use the facility as an outdoor classroom and extension of their science curriculum. They have 3 environmental educators and offer summer camps to expose local youth to the region's ecology.

The conversation focused around the lowlands near the Tualatin River, especially the Metro property known as the "island" and the intervening lands westward toward Fernhill Wetlands. Ed voiced interest in future discussions to explore the potential for partnerships on or near these sites for environmental education, trails development, restoration and interpretive material. The Preserve would consider the concept of having a possible satellite space from their facility for day trips or environmental monitoring. Additionally, Ed offered his willingness to help develop a funding strategy and project assistance as the concept of access and enhancement of these areas progresses.

Another concept discussed was that of exploring the creation of a wetland mitigation bank as a means to provide revenue to the overall parks program. The Portland metropolitan area has a significant demand for wetland banking sites. Ed mentioned that wetland credits are running approximately \$100,000 - \$150,000 per credit, and that he recently secured \$750,000 for wetland enhancement of 15 acres on site. Also, he suggested looking into North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) matching grants as a funding source, which can be made to organizations and individuals who have developed partnerships to carry out wetlands conservation.

Other potential project partners might include:

- Tualatin Riverkeepers for educational opportunities and stream bank clean-up
- Tualatin Watershed Council
- Clean Water Services
- Washington County Visitors Association –has a nature committee, Chamber orientation
- REI – has helped JBWP with funding campaigns in past, funded camping programs



**Cornelius Parks Master Plan
Stakeholder Interview Summary
Clean Water Services :: August 19, 2009**

Attending: Bruce Roll
Location: CWS Offices
Time: 3 – 3:45p

Bruce provided a copy of the 2005 Healthy Streams Plan and suggested I contact Rick Hunter (GIS/Resource Manager) if I had interest in GIS data layers for the watershed to assess the ecological needs.

With regard to CWS aiding in future restoration activities or planting projects along riparian areas within Cornelius, the biggest major challenge is one of using rate payer funds for the work. These funds may be available for the capital outlay, but management challenges will remain given the range of ownership and may affect the viability of using those restoration efforts toward regional shade credits or cooling credits.

The burden of long-term maintenance is also a challenge to address. One option is to consider an “adopt a highway” model. Another is to consider an alternative management/maintenance model to bring in third party partners to support the effort. This concept looks to outsourced labor (i.e., from Friends of Trees & SOLV) for maintenance arrangements that will ensure survivability of plantings and get them through the establishment period.

Potential partners could include the Wetlands Conservancy, CREP, E-CREP and Tualatin Riverkeepers. With regard to environmental education, look to the Fernhill Wetlands Council and how education is tied to the tertiary treatment of waste water. From CWS’s point of view, partnering on education programs and public education are good IF the projects are tied to missions and messages of the partners.

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**Cornelius Parks Master Plan
Stakeholder Interview Summary
Cornelius United Methodist Church :: June 16, 2009**

Attending: Pastor Eric Conklin

Location: Church Office

Time: 10 – 10:30a

Pastor Eric had an opportunity to talk with the church board prior to our session and offered the following comments from the board:

- The first gathering of Methodists in the Cornelius area took place along the Tualatin River near Steamboat Park. Susan McLain, former Metro Councilor, is familiar with the history. They inquired about the possibility of establishing a plaque and for establishing a memorial garden for the spreading of ashes in the area.
- There is interest in additional/expanded public gathering space, such as a covered stage or shelter, at Harleman Park. This could provide space for community gatherings or service that could be in conjunction with other parishes in the area (an ecumenical event). Since the Methodist church is small, they might be able to assist in organizing to get materials, labor, etc.
- They are interested in the possibility of service projects for youth to participate in. Pastor Eric mentioned that if more youth are involved in creating green spaces for our families to relax and play in, they will grow up to be better stewards of such spaces as adults.

The church recently installed a community vegetable garden in front of their building as a way to start to rebuild interest in the church. Pastor Eric has been with the parish since last July and is only part-time, so rebuilding the church community is a priority. He mentioned his broad support for additional community activities in the parks to engage residents.

Pastor Eric completed his survey and voiced interest in promoting the survey to his worshippers. He requested hardcopy surveys to this end (Spanish: 70; English: 50). He also mentioned that he would post a notice in the bulletin and email newsletter to promote the survey.



**Cornelius Parks Master Plan
Stakeholder Interview Summary
St Alexander Catholic Church :: June 15, 2009**

Attending: Father David

Location: Church Office

Time: 3:30 – 4:00p

Father David mentioned that the church is in the process of developing a master plan for its land. The church recently acquired a few nearby homes to expand its footprint to facilitate the future expansion of the church. The open field south of the office was cleared last year and play equipment added. Perimeter fencing is planned for later this year to improve safety conditions for youth. On evening and weekend, there are often 40+ kids using the open lot while the parents are engaged in church programs. Also, he is planning for soccer and basketball events as fundraising activities for the church. Unfortunately, the long-term vision for that open area is for expanded parking for the church. Father David asked about the potential of parkland in neighborhood to offset the loss of their open lot. The church hosts a parish fair which will also serve as a fundraiser for the new church.

Father David committed to assisting the parks plan outreach program by offering a table at the end of mass as a way to encourage parishioners to complete the survey. He requested hardcopy surveys to this end (Spanish: 300; English: 50)



**Cornelius Parks Master Plan
Stakeholder Interview Summary
Real Life Christian Church :: August 14, 2009**

Attending: Pastor Dale Phipps

Location: Church Office

Time: 10 – 10:45a

The Real Life Christian Church is about 7 years old, and at its core, the church desires to partner with local groups to improve the community. Pastor Dale mentioned that his church is certainly interested in future partnership projects with the city, especially if they focus in the northern section of town. Several years ago, the church obtained an older McDonalds play structure and had the intent of developing the back lot into a park. The park concept expanded to consider a more complete development of the western lot, and after asking the city for help, the city wasn't able to assist - mentioning that it couldn't put public money into private lot.

The church has been active in the community through past outreach. Specifically, they coordinated clean-up days in the Sheelar & Council Creek neighborhoods where gang tagging was removed. Also, they participated in the Child's Dia and National Night Out events. They provide the Cornelius Elementary school with supplies. Also, the church sponsors a continuation of the Forest Grove school district's free lunch program through summer. Pastor Dale wants to expand this program to support Cornelius Elementary and is collaborating with Pastor Karl (Emanuel Lutheran Church) on this for next year.

There is very limited dialogue between local churches, and Pastor Dale would like to see more. He recognizes that this is hard, since some churches are staffed by part-time pastors and it is difficult to find time for everyone to meet/talk. He hosts a weekly meeting for local preachers, but this attracts representation mostly from Forest Grove.

Overall, he sees the city as somewhat divided on ethnic lines and that it is a good city with much potential. He would like to see more activities organized for youth and maybe focus around ways in which kids can bridge certain barriers of race, language and backgrounds to be more integrated. The city should consider a partnership with the Boys & Girls Club to help unite kids with activities and provide a positive, central hangout. One other challenge is that Cornelius is divided between two school districts, which diminishes an overall identity.

With regard to engaging the broader community, Cornelius needs a larger park or open space that has more of a regional feel to it. Harlemin is a good park, but doesn't offer much variety and it would be difficult to spend a whole day there. Many local parks are neighborhood-oriented. With a larger and more varied park, it might be easier to get residents involved – where their individual interests could be activated.

Other organizations for city outreach should include: Sabino at Centro Cultural, area churches, Boosters and the Chamber.

Appendix C. Funding Options

Local Funding Options

The city of Cornelius possesses a range of local funding tools that could be accessed for the benefit of growing, developing and maintaining its parks and recreations program. The sources listed below represent likely potential sources, but some also may be dedicated for numerous other local purposes which limit applicability and usage. Therefore, discussions with city leadership is critical to assess the political landscape to modify or expand the use of existing city revenue sources in favor of the parks program.

General Obligation Bond

These are voter-approved bonds with the authority to levy an assessment on real and personal property. The money can only be used for capital construction and improvements, but not for maintenance. This property tax is levied for a specified period of time (usually 15-20 years). Passage requires a simple majority in November and May elections, unless during a special election, in which case a double majority (a majority of registered voters must vote and a majority of those voting must approve the measure) is required.

Revenue Bonds

These bonds are sold and paid from the revenue produced from facility operations. If Cornelius were to construct a community recreation center, this funding tool could be explored in more detail.

Park Utility Fee

A park utility fee creates dedicated funds to help offset the cost of park maintenance. Most City residents pay water and sewer utility fees. Park utility fees apply the same concepts to City parks, and a fee is assessed to all businesses and households. The monthly fee would be paid upon connection to the water and sewer system. Creating a new source of maintenance funding could free up general fund dollars for other capital project uses. Park utility fees have a potential to be a significant and stable revenue stream for local jurisdictions.

System Development Charges

Cornelius currently assesses system development charges (SDCs), which are fees imposed on new development to pay for park system expansion. The Parks SDCs are charged for new residential development, and the SDC update as part of this planning effort will determine the viability of expanding the SDC methodology to include an assessment on new commercial development. The city of Cornelius has successfully used this funding tool to acquire and develop several facilities.

Fuel Tax

Oregon gas taxes are collected as a fixed amount per gallon of gasoline purchased. The State of Oregon Highway Trust Fund collects fuel taxes, and a portion is paid to cities annually on a per-capita basis. By statute, revenues can be used for any road-related purpose, which may include sidewalk repairs, ADA upgrades bike routes and other transportation-oriented park and trail enhancements.

Metro Greenspaces Bond

The Metro Greenspaces Bond passed in November 2006 providing over \$200 million for the acquisition of natural areas throughout the region. The Metro Regional Greenspace Plan identifies the Council Creek Trail as a regional connection in Cornelius. Metro has already purchased several properties along the creek and additional land acquisitions potentially could be funded by Metro.

Federal & State Grants and Conservation Programs

Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program

National Park Service

The Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, also known as the Rivers & Trails Program or RTCA, is a community resource administered by the National Park Service and federal government agencies so they can conserve rivers, preserve open space and develop trails and greenways. The RTCA program implements the natural resource conservation and outdoor recreation mission of NPS in communities across America. <http://www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/rtca/>

Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Grants

National Park Service

The Urban Park and Recreation Recovery (UPARR) program was established in November 1978 to provide matching grants and technical assistance to economically distressed urban communities for rehabilitation of critically needed recreation facilities. Only cities and urban counties meeting established criteria are eligible for assistance. Three grant categories are available: rehabilitation (30% local match requirement), innovation (30% local match requirement), and planning (50% local match requirement). This grant program has been unfunded by Congress since 2002.

Community Development Block Grants

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

These funds are awarded to cities and urban counties for housing and community development projects. Washington County administers CDBG funds locally through a grant-based program. The major objectives for the CDBG program are to meet the needs of low and moderate income populations, eliminate and prevent the creation of slums and blight and meet other urgent community development needs. The City of Cornelius has been successful in securing CDBG funds for infrastructure projects, and was recently awarded funding for the repair of sidewalks and street surfaces on 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th Streets between Adair and Baseline Streets.

National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council (NUCFAC) Grant

US Forest Service

The National Urban and Community Advisory Council has overhauled their criteria for the US Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry challenge cost share grant program for 2009. Grants will be solicited in two categories: innovation grants and best practices grants. As with the previous grant program, a 50% match is required from all successful applicants of non-federal funds, in-kind services and/or materials. <http://www.treelink.org/nucfac/>

Community Forestry Assistance Grant

Oregon Department of Forestry

Due to budget cuts, the Oregon Department of Forestry's Community Forestry Assistance (CFA) grants are no longer available. If funds become available, the program will be reinstated.

Urban and Community Forestry Small Projects and Scholarship Fund

Oregon Department of Forestry

The purpose of the Oregon Department of Forestry's Urban and Community Forestry Assistance Program's Small Projects and Scholarship Fund (UCF-SPSF) is to cover the small, yet sometimes prohibitive, administrative and material expenses directly related to community forestry projects encountered by smaller volunteer groups and cities across Oregon. Applications must be received by the end of each quarter for consideration.

North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grants Program

US Fish & Wildlife Service

The North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989 provides matching grants to organizations and individuals who have developed partnerships to carry out wetland conservation projects in the United States, Canada, and Mexico for the benefit of wetlands-associated migratory birds and other wildlife. There is a. Both are Two competitive grants programs exist (Standard and a Small Grants Program) and require that grant requests be matched by partner contributions at no less than a 1-to-1 ratio. Funds from U.S. Federal sources may contribute towards a project, but are not eligible as match. <http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NAWCA/index.shtm>

The Standard Grants Program supports projects in Canada, the United States, and Mexico that involve long-term protection, restoration, and/or enhancement of wetlands and associated uplands habitats. In Mexico, partners may also conduct projects involving technical training, environmental education and outreach, organizational infrastructure development, and sustainable-use studies.

The Small Grants Program operates only in the United States; it supports the same type of projects and adheres to the same selection criteria and administrative guidelines as the

U.S. Standard Grants Program. However, project activities are usually smaller in scope and involve fewer project dollars. Grant requests may not exceed \$75,000, and funding priority is given to grantees or partners new to the Act's Grants Program.

Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

The WRP provides landowners the opportunity to preserve, enhance, and restore wetlands and associated uplands. The program is voluntary and provides three enrollment options: permanent easements, 30-year easements, and 10-year restoration cost-share agreements. In all cases, landowners retain the underlying ownership in the property and management responsibility. Land uses may be allowed that are compatible with the program goal of protecting and restoring the wetlands and associated uplands. The NRCS manages the program and may provide technical assistance. www.nrcs.usda.gov/PROGRAMS/wrp/

Local Government Grant

Oregon Parks and Recreation

Local government agencies who are obligated by state law to provide public recreation facilities are eligible for OPR's Local Government Grants, and these are limited to public outdoor park and recreation areas and facilities. Eligible projects involve land acquisition, development and major rehabilitation projects that are consistent with the outdoor recreation goals and objectives contained in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. <http://www.oregon.gov/OPRD/GRANTS/local.shtml>

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant

Oregon Parks and Recreation

LWCF grants are available through OPR to either acquire land for public outdoor recreation or to develop basic outdoor recreation facilities. Projects must be consistent with the outdoor recreation goals and objectives stated in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and elements of local comprehensive land use plans and park master plans. A 50% match is required from all successful applicants of non-federal funds, in-kind services and/or materials. <http://www.oregon.gov/OPRD/GRANTS/lwcf.shtml>

Recreational Trails Program Grant

Oregon Parks and Recreation

Recreational Trails Grants are national grants administered by OPRD for recreational trail-related projects, such as hiking, running, bicycling, off-road motorcycling, and all-terrain vehicle riding. Yearly grants are awarded based on available federal funding. RTP funding is primarily for recreational trail projects, rather than utilitarian transportation-based projects.

Funding is divided into 30% motorized trail use, 30% non-motorized trail use and 40% diverse trail use. A 20% minimum project match is required. <http://www.oregon.gov/OPRD/GRANTS/trails.shtml>

Bicycle & Pedestrian Program Grants

Oregon Department of Transportation

The Pedestrian and Bicycle Grant Program is a competitive grant program that provides approximately \$5 million dollars every two years to Oregon cities, counties and ODOT regional and district offices for design and construction of pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Proposed facilities must be within public rights-of-way. Grants are awarded by the Oregon Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee. Project types include sidewalk infill, ADA upgrades, street crossings, intersection improvements, minor widening for bike lanes. <http://egov.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/BIKEPED/grants1.shtml>

Transportation Enhancement Program

Oregon Department of Transportation

Funds are available from ODOT for projects that strengthen the cultural, aesthetic and environmental value of the state's transportation system. Eligible enhancement activities include bicycle and pedestrian projects, historic preservation, landscaping and scenic beautification, and environmental mitigation (highway runoff and wildlife protection only). A minimum of 10.27% match is required. For fiscal years 2008-2011, the Program will have \$6.5 million per year for competitive selection, and \$2 million per year for the TE discretionary account. The application cycle is every two years. <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/LGS/enhancement.shtml>

Forest Legacy Program

Oregon State Department of Forestry

This program provides funds to acquire permanent conservation easements on private forestlands that are at risk of being converted to non-forest uses such as residential or commercial development. Congress established the program in 1990, and ODF is the lead state agency for the program in Oregon. The program is intended to preserve "working forests," where forestlands are managed for the production of forest products and where traditional forest uses are encouraged. These uses will include both commodity production and non-commodity values, such as healthy riparian areas, important scenic, aesthetic, cultural, fish, wildlife and recreation resources and other ecological values. Within the Willamette Valley, the Metro Forest Legacy Area was identified in the state's Assessment of Need. This program may be applicable to properties within the unincorporated urban area with working forest lots. <http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/privateforests/ForestLegacy.shtml>

Wetland Grant Program

Oregon Department of State Lands

The Wetland Mitigation Revolving Fund was established to accept payments to compensate for small wetland impacts from permitted activities ("payment in lieu"). The goal of the program is to use these pooled funds for larger projects that provide more effective replacement of wetland resources. The Department of State Lands accepts wetland projects to be funded through the Payment in Lieu (PIL) program. Additionally, the Wetland Program staff work closely with cities in their local wetland planning efforts by providing both technical and planning assistance. Key elements of the program include state and local wetland inventory, wetland identification, delineation, and function assessments as well as wetland mitigation, public information and education. <http://oregonstatelands.us/DSL/PERMITS/pil.shtml>

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board focuses on projects that approach natural resources management from a whole-watershed perspective. OWEB encourages projects that foster interagency cooperation, include other sources of funding, provide for local stakeholder involvement, include youth and volunteers and promote learning about watershed concepts. There are five general categories of projects eligible for OWEB funding: watershed management (restoration and acquisition), resource monitoring and assessment, watershed education and outreach, Watershed council support and technical assistance. <http://www.oregon.gov/OWEB/GRANTS/index.shtml>

Other Methods & Funding Sources

Park and Recreation District

Many cities form a parks and recreation district to fulfill park development and management needs. The Oregon Revised Statutes, Chapter 266, details the formation and operation of such a district. Upon formation, the district would be managed by an elected board and have the authority to levy taxes, incur debt and issue revenue or general obligation bonds. The total tax levy authorized for a Park and Recreation District shall not exceed one-half of one percent (0.0050) of the real market value of all taxable property within the district. <http://www.leg.state.or.us/ors/266.html>

Private Grants, Donations & Gifts

Many trusts and private foundations provide funding for park, recreation and open space projects. Grants from these sources are typically allocated through a competitive application process and vary dramatically in size based on the financial resources and funding criteria of the organization. Philanthropic giving is another source of project funding. Efforts in this area may involve cash gifts and include donations through other mechanisms such as wills or

insurance policies. Community fund raising efforts can also support park, recreation or open space facilities and projects.

Meyer Memorial Trust

The Meyer Memorial Trust seeks opportunities to make program-related investments in Oregon and Clark County, WA. General Purpose Grants support projects related to arts and humanities, education, health, social welfare, and a variety of other activities. Proposals may be submitted at any time under this program, and there is no limitation on the size or duration of these grants.

National Tree Trust: Tree Seedling Grant Program

Through the National Tree Trust's Community Tree Planting program, municipalities, schools and non-profits can apply for tree seedlings to be planted on public property with the help of volunteers.

National Tree Trust: Partnership Enhancement Monetary Grant

This program is a partnership between the National Tree Trust and qualifying 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organizations. Its purpose is to promote public awareness and a spirit of volunteerism in support of tree planting, maintenance, management, protection and cultivation projects in rural areas, and communities in urban areas throughout the United States. All grant funds must be matched equally (50%) by the applicant with non-federal funds.

American Forests: Global ReLeaf Grant

The Global ReLeaf grant program provides private dollars to support local reforestation efforts and help match other funding sources. American Forests raises a dollar for every tree planted with Global ReLeaf. The dollars fund the reforestation projects. Competitive grant requests must maximize the use of total project funds per tree planted. Grants are available to support rural seedling projects restoring damaged forest ecosystems. Further information regarding Global ReLeaf Grants including application forms and criteria can be found at: www.americanforests.org/global_releaf/grants/

Business Sponsorships/Donations

Business sponsorships for programs may be available throughout the year. In-kind contributions are often received, including food, door prizes and equipment/material.

Interagency Agreements

State law provides for interagency cooperative efforts between units of government. Joint acquisition, development and/or use of park and open space facilities may be provided between Parks, school districts, other municipalities and utility providers.

Acquisition Tools & Methods

Direct Purchase Methods

Market Value Purchase

Through a written purchase and sale agreement, the city purchases land at the present market value based on an independent appraisal. Timing, payment of real estate taxes and other contingencies are negotiable.

Partial Value Purchase (or Bargain Sale)

In a bargain sale, the landowner agrees to sell for less than the property's fair market value. A landowner's decision to proceed with a bargain sale is unique and personal; landowners with a strong sense of civic pride, long community history or concerns about capital gains are possible candidates for this approach. In addition to cash proceeds upon closing, the landowner may be entitled to a charitable income tax deduction based on the difference between the land's fair market value and its sale price.

Life Estates & Bequests

In the event a landowner wishes to remain on the property for a long period of time or until death, several variations on a sale agreement exist. In a life estate agreement, the landowner may continue to live on the land by donating a remainder interest and retaining a "reserved life estate." Specifically, the landowner donates or sells the property to the city, but reserves the right for the seller or any other named person to continue to live on and use the property. When the owner or other specified person dies or releases his/her life interest, full title and control over the property will be transferred to the city. By donating a remainder interest, the landowner may be eligible for a tax deduction when the gift is made. In a bequest, the landowner designates in a will or trust document that the property is to be transferred to the city upon death. While a life estate offers the city some degree of title control during the life of the landowner, a bequest does not. Unless the intent to bequest is disclosed to and known by the city in advance, no guarantees exist with regard to the condition of the property upon transfer or to any liabilities that may exist.

Option to Purchase Agreement

This is a binding contract between a landowner and the city that would only apply according to the conditions of the option and limits the seller's power to revoke an offer. Once in place and signed, the Option Agreement may be triggered at a future, specified date or upon the completion of designated conditions. Option Agreements can be made for any time duration and can include all of the language pertinent to closing a property sale.

Right of First Refusal

In this agreement, the landowner grants the city the first chance to purchase the property once the landowner wishes to sell. The agreement does not establish the sale price for the property, and the landowner is free to refuse to sell it for the price offered by the city. This is the weakest form of agreement between an owner and a prospective buyer.

Conservation Easements

Through a conservation easement, a landowner voluntarily agrees to sell or donate certain rights associated with his or her property – often the right to subdivide or develop – and a private organization or public agency agrees to hold the right to enforce the landowner's promise not to exercise those rights. In essence, the rights are forfeited and no longer exist. This is a legal agreement between the landowner and the city (or private organization) that permanently limits uses of the land in order to conserve a portion of the property for public use or protection. Typically, this approach is used to provide trail corridors where only a small portion of the land is needed or for the strategic protection of natural resources and habitat. The landowner still owns the property, but the use of the land is restricted. Conservation easements may result in an income tax deduction and reduced property taxes and estate taxes. The preservation and protection of habitat or resources lands may best be coordinated with the local land trust or conservancy, since that organization will likely have staff resources, a systematic planning approach and access to non-governmental funds to facilitate aggressive or large scale transactions.

Landowner Incentive Measures

Density Bonuses

Density bonuses are a planning tool used to encourage a variety of public land use objectives, usually in urban areas. They offer the incentive of being able to develop at densities beyond current regulations in one area, in return for concessions in another. Density bonuses are applied to a single parcel or development. An example is allowing developers of multi-family units to build at higher densities if they provide a certain number of low-income units or public open space. For density bonuses to work, market forces must support densities at a higher level than current regulations.

Transfer of Development Rights

The transfer of development rights (TDR) is an incentive-based planning tool that allows land owners to trade the right to develop property to its fullest extent in one area for the right to develop beyond existing regulations in another area. Local governments may establish the specific areas in which development may be limited or restricted and the areas in which development beyond regulation may be allowed. Usually, but not always, the "sending" and "receiving" property are under common ownership. Some programs allow for different ownership, which, in effect, establishes a market for development rights to be bought and sold.

IRC 1031 Exchange

If the landowner owns business or investment property, an IRC Section 1031 Exchange can facilitate the exchange of like-kind property solely for business or investment purposes. No capital gain or loss is recognized under Internal Revenue Code Section 1031 (see www.irc.gov for more details).

Other Land Protection Options

Land Trusts & Conservancies

Land trusts are private non-profit organizations that acquire and protect special open spaces and are traditionally not associated with any government agency. The Three Rivers Land Conservancy is the local land trust serving the Cornelius area; its mission is to inspire and involve people in the conservation of privately-owned natural areas in the watersheds of the Clackamas, Tualatin and lower Willamette Rivers (<http://www.trlc.org>). Other national organizations with local representation include the Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Land and the Wetlands Conservancy.

Appendix D. Design Considerations for Private or HOA Parks

Park and Trail Design Considerations for Private Facilities

The following is informational only and does not constitute specific requirements of the city on private developers. It is intended to offer direction and guidance toward the future design, development, re-development and maintenance of publicly-accessible, privately-operated park and trail facilities.

The following are consistent with the park development standards outlined in the Parks Master Plan and can provide guidance for negotiating facility development opportunities in situations when private entities propose development in-lieu of payment of SDCs or for other, alternative arrangements.

Neighborhood Park Design Considerations

Minimum Suggested Amenities

Amenity	Considerations
Playground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum of 4,000 sq.ft. play area; Equipment should be suitable for and developmentally-appropriate for toddlers and elementary school-aged children
Loop Walking Path	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum 6' wide; ADA-compliant surface to accessible elements (benches, tables, play area); Pathway slope not to exceed 5% grade or no more than 8% for more than 30 lineal feet without switchbacks or railings;
Picnic Tables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum of 2, with 1 meeting ADA-compliance as outlined by ADAAG for access, height, type, etc.
Benches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum of 2, with 1 meeting ADA-compliance as outlined by ADAAG for access, height, type, etc.
Open turf area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide at least 15% of total lawn area with irrigation, preferably adjacent to the play area
Landscaping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide at least 2 shade trees near play area New trees and shrubs should be irrigated for a minimum of 2 years until established
Bicycle Racks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum of 2, with capacity to serve 4 bikes
Trash Receptacles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> minimum of 1

Additional, Acceptable Amenities

Amenity	Considerations
Picnic Shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum of 400 sq.ft.;
Sport field	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practice level for youth soccer, T-ball, baseball and/or softball;
Sport Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ½ court basketball court
Tennis Court	
Alternative recreation court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Such as bocce ball, horseshoes, lawn bowling
Skate Spot	
Disc golf course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum 9 baskets;
Sprayground	
Natural area	
Water feature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Such as a passive water-based amenity that provides a visual focal point, i.e. fountains, ponds, or waterfalls
Restroom	
Drinking fountain	
Utilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Irrigation, Electricity, Water
Parking	

Trail Development Standards

Trails should be constructed according to City Specifications. It is recommended that trail layout and surfacing materials be approved by the City and meet the following requirements:

- Trail width should be a minimum of 8 feet wide
- Surfacing should be appropriate to the location; paved asphalt or concrete is recommended for upland areas, and wood chip, crusher waste or boardwalks are appropriate in lowland, wet or sensitive areas (City codes shall apply)
- Hard-surfaced trails should comply with ADAAG guidelines for slope and cross-slope; soft-surfaced trails should include properly placed and designed water bars or other surface water management techniques to minimize run-off and erosion.
- Entry signage should be provided at trailheads or access points, and boundary signage should be placed, as appropriate, to demarcate sensitive edges or private property boundaries.
- Trash receptacles should be provided at trailheads

Maintenance and Operations Standards

General Standards

Grounds

- Grounds are mowed and trimmed.
- Park is free of litter, debris and hazards.

Walkways & Paths

- Walkways have a uniform surface and are level with the ground and free of trip hazards.
- Walkways are free of litter and debris.
- Walkways have unobstructed accessibility, i.e. free from low and protruding limbs, guide wires, etc.
- Walkways are neatly edged.
- Walkways are clear of weeds and grass growth in cracks and expansion joints.

Signage

- Park identification signs are secure and properly installed in a noticeable location.
- Handicap parking signs (as applicable) are secure, visible and to city code.
- Signs are clean, painted and free of protrusions.

Ornamental Plants & Landscaping

- Plants are healthy.
- Plant beds are free of litter, debris, and weeds.
- Plant selection is appropriate for season and area usage.

Playgrounds

Play Equipment

- Play equipment and surrounding play areas meet ASTM and National Playground Safety Institute standards.
- Play equipment and hardware is intact.
- Play equipment is free of graffiti.
- Age appropriateness for the play equipment is noted with proper signage.
- Shade structure is secure and free from tears, if applicable.

Surfacing

- Fall surface is clean, level and free of litter and debris.
- Fall surface meets ASTM and National Playground Safety Institute standards.
- Fall surface is well drained.

- Rubber cushion surfaces are free of holes and tears.
- Rubber cushion surfaces are secure to the base material and curbing.

Borders

- Playground borders are well defined and intact.
- Playground borders meet ASTM and National Playground Safety Institute standards.

Decks

- Planks are intact, smooth, structurally sound, free of splinters and have no cracks greater than 1/4 inch.
- Nails, bolts or screws are flush with the surface.
- Planks are level with no excessive warping.

Fixtures

Benches

- Slats are smooth and structurally sound.
- Hardware is intact and structurally sound.
- Nails, bolts or screws are flush with the surface.
- Seats and backing are smooth with no protrusions and have no exposed sharp edges or pointed corners.

Tables

- Tables are clean, free of rust, mildew and graffiti.
- Table hardware is intact.
- Table frames are intact and slats are properly secured.
- Table seats and tops are smooth with no protrusions and have no exposed sharp edges or pointed corners.

Trash Receptacles

- Receptacles are clean; Area around trash receptacles is clean and free of trash and debris.
- Wood receptacles are painted and free of damage or missing parts; hardware for wood receptacles is intact.
- Concrete receptacles are intact and free of cracks or damage.

Sport Courts

Surfacing

- Surface is smooth, level and well drained with no standing water.
- Surface is free of large cracks, holes and trip hazards.
- Surface is painted and striped as per court specifications.
- Worn painted surfaces do not exceed 20% of total court surface.

- Surface is free of litter, debris, gravel and graffiti.

Goals and Backboards

- Goals and backboards are level with hardware intact and painted as appropriate.
- Nylon nets are properly hung and are not torn or tattered.
- Support poles are secure in the ground and straight.

Restrooms

- Restrooms are clean, sanitary and properly stocked with paper products.
- Lights and ventilation systems are operational.
- Toilets, water faucets, stall doors and hand air dryers are operational.
- Restrooms are free of graffiti.
- Restroom doors are properly marked according to gender.
- Restrooms have clean trash receptacles.
- Restroom doors and locks are operational.
- Restrooms are in compliance with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Additional Resources

Consultant's Guide to Park Design and Development; Park and Recreation Department, City of San Diego, CA

<http://www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/pdf/consultantguide.pdf>

Design Standards for Park and Trail Development (Specifications); Park and Recreation Department, City of Bellingham, WA

<http://www.cob.org/government/rules/guidelines/park-design-standards.aspx>

Accessible Recreation Facilities Guidelines - Access Board

<http://www.access-board.gov/news/rec-guides.htm>

Handbook for Public Playground Safety - National Product Safety Commission

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/pubs/325.pdf>

