

2011 Development Plan	Parks Legacy Plan	Seattle 2035 Comprehensive Plan – Parks and Open Space Element
<p>Goal 1: Provide recreation and learning opportunities by providing and maintaining an adequate balance of parks, open spaces, recreational facilities, and programs tailored to their need to promote respite, socialization, and education.</p>	<p>Planning and Development <i>Plan for, develop, and maintain a parks and recreation system that responds to emergent needs and secures our assets for future generations.</i></p>	<p>Goal 1: Provide a variety of outdoor and indoor spaces throughout the city for all people to play, learn, contemplate, and build community.</p>
<p>1.1 Provide for the number and distribution of park and recreation facilities based upon community demands and consideration of distribution guidelines as presented later in this document.</p>	<p>Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure Parks’ ability to proactively plan Seattle’s park and recreation system. • Respond to community-based initiatives by providing ongoing funding for park and recreation planning and development. 	<p>P 1.1 Continue to expand the City’s park holdings and open space opportunities, with special emphasis on serving urban centers and urban villages that are home to marginalized populations and areas that have been traditionally underserved.</p>
<p>1.2 Consider the following in siting park and recreation facilities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Support for the facility in a particular area or at a particular location, as based upon demonstrated (or anticipated) demand and distribution guidelines. Potential impacts of the facility on the local area. Specific site conditions relating to cost of development and operations. Make multi-use and integration of new facilities with other municipal facilities such as libraries, school district, family support services, neighborhood service centers, senior centers, and the like. 	<p>Acquisition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve and reclaim Parks’ property for public use and benefit, and ensure continued access to parkland for a growing population. • Continue to expand Parks’ land holdings. 	<p>P 1.2 Provide a variety of parks and open space to serve the city’s growing population consistent with the priorities and level-of-service standards identified in the City’s Park Development Plan.</p>
<p>1.3 Provide and maintain sufficient geographic distribution of facility and park amenities that support programming such as art, music, and environmental education.</p>	<p>Asset Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the safety, long-term viability of parks facilities and the efficient management of maintenance activities by developing and investing in an asset management system. • Take advantage of community interest and be responsive to people’s awareness of maintenance needs for our facilities. 	<p>P 1.3 Provide urban trails, green streets, and boulevards in public rights-of-way as recreation and transportation options and as ways to connect open spaces and parks to each other, to urban centers and villages, and to the regional open space system.</p>
<p>1.4 Seek to improve barrier free access to and within park recreation facilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).</p>	<p>Major Maintenance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the safety and long-term viability of parks facilities by reducing the backlog of major maintenance needs. • Look for innovative ways to approach major maintenance activities so that environmental sustainability is maximized. 	<p>P 1.4 Make rights-of-way available on a temporary basis to provide space for community events, such as street fairs, farmers’ markets, or neighborhood celebrations.</p>
<p>1.5 Seek alternate funding sources such as grants, impact fees, and revenue generation.</p>		<p>P 1.5 Provide areas to preserve important natural or ecological features in public ownership, and allow people access to these spaces</p>
<p>1.6 Improve sports fields to ensure playability. Such improvements have been identified in the Joint Athletic Field Development Program.</p>		<p>P 1.6 Provide public access to shorelines by using street ends, regulation, or acquisition.</p>
<p>1.7 Improve selected street ends for shoreline access.</p>	<p>Seattle Conservation Corps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide access to work crews that can perform a variety of maintenance activities for Parks and other City departments and reduce homelessness by providing comprehensive paid work experience, education, and case management services to homeless adults. 	<p>P 1.7 Encourage or require private developers to incorporate on-site publicly accessible open space.</p>

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		<p>P 1.8 Consider the use of open space impact fees and other financing mechanism to help fund open space system improvements that will serve the expected growth.</p>
		<p>P 1.9 Use cooperative agreements with Seattle Public Schools and other public agencies to provide access to open spaces they control.</p>
		<p>P 1.10 Create healthy places for children and adults to play, as well as areas for more passive strolling, viewing, and picnicking.</p>
		<p>P 1.11 Make investments in park facilities and programs to reduce health disparities by providing access to open space and recreational activities for all Seattle, especially marginalized populations, seniors and children.</p>
		<p>P 1.12 Design open spaces that protect the natural environment and provide light, air, and visual relief within the built environment.</p>
		<p>P 1.13 Make the most of the limited available land by developing parks and open spaces so that they can accommodate a variety of active and passive recreational uses.</p>
		<p>P 1.14 Provide for access by transit, bicycle, and foot when siting and designing new park facilities or improving existing ones.</p>
		<p>P 1.15 Engage with community members to design and develop parks and facilities based on the specific needs and cultures of the communities that the park is intended to serve.</p>
		<p>P 1.16 Increase access to public land by assessing, managing, and cleaning up contaminated sites.</p>
		<p>P 1.17 Create innovative opportunities to use existing public land, especially in the right-of-way, for open space and recreation, including street plazas, pavement to parks, parklets, lidding of reservoirs and community gardens.</p>

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<p>Goal 2: Steward Seattle’s parks and open spaces for long-term sustainability by conserving, restoring and maintaining substantial open space, natural areas, shorelines, and wildlife, and by demonstrating a strong conservation ethic.</p>	<p><i>Create opportunities for people to explore and enrich themselves by providing a diverse array of recreation opportunities.</i></p>	<p>Goal 2: Continue to provide opportunities for all people across Seattle to participate in a variety of recreational activities.</p>
<p>2.1 Reclaim, restore, and enhance green spaces, creeks, wetlands, and forests to improve and increase the city’s inventory of such natural areas.</p>	<p>Community Centers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure community centers are the focal points in our neighborhoods and serve as places where people can connect, foster relationships, build community, and enhance their health and well-being by offering programs, activities, and events to Seattle’s changing population. • Ensure community centers are physically and emotionally safe and welcoming places for individual enrichment and community growth. 	<p>P 2.1 Consider the use of open space impact fees to help fund recreational facility system improvements that will serve the expected growth.</p>
<p>2.2 Coordinate planning for park resources with the State Resource and Conservation Office, State resource agencies, King County, and other municipal park agencies in the region.</p>	<p>Lifelong Recreation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create recreation and social engagement opportunities so older adults remain healthy and actively involved and engaged as part of our community. 	<p>P 2.2 Develop a long-term strategic plan that accounts for citywide and neighborhood demographics, as well as the demand for various active and passive recreation activities.</p>
<p>2.3 Consider the following in the design of all facilities including the retrofit of existing facilities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Function. Sustainability, including energy and water conservation as well as minimizing the use of non-renewable or hazardous building materials. Durability, standardization, accessibility for ease of maintenance, and reasonable life expectancy. Security (as coordinated with the local area residents, the Seattle Police Department and Department staff, including reference to the Police Department’s Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design). Barrier-free access. 	<p>Athletics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all people have access to athletic opportunities. • Ensure our athletic fields serve as places where people can pursue both historic and emerging sports, participate in a community of recreation enthusiasts, and enhance their health and well-being. • Offer sports programs, activities, and events to Seattle’s changing population where other providers are not meeting the need or demand. 	<p>P 2.3 Establish partnerships with public and private organizations to supplement programming that supports residents’ needs and interests.</p>
<p>2.4 Increase awareness of the park and recreation heritage and the Olmsted philosophy that guided the early development of Seattle’s park system and that can provide a framework for open space acquisitions, park development, and creation of new or improved boulevards and trails to serve as park connectors. Work closely with the Friends of Seattle’s Olmsted Parks organization.</p>	<p>Aquatics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure fun and safe water experiences by providing a diverse range of healthy, accessible aquatic programs that continue our legacy of water safety. • Ensure our aquatics facilities are physically and emotionally safe and welcoming places for individual enrichment and community growth. 	<p>P 2.4 Develop activities at community centers based on the specific needs of each community they serve and make them neighborhood focal points where people can enhance their individual health and well-being and strengthen a sense of community.</p>
<p>2.5 Work with appropriate natural resource agencies on the restoration and enhancement of intertidal and nearshore habitat for the pacific salmon.</p>	<p>Specialized Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide welcoming, accessible, and affordable recreation and social programs and activities to enrich the lives of people with disabilities and their families and welcome them as part of the community. 	<p>P 2.5 Promote the use of open spaces and park facilities in the city for events that celebrate our history and the many cultures of our community.</p>
<p>2.6 Strive for consistency in park amenities and signage throughout the system as a means both of establishing identity and of reducing maintenance costs, while recognizing special needs associated with historic and natural resource areas.</p>	<p>Teens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capture young people in their hope stage of development by engaging teens with opportunities that help them to build their identity, connect with their passion, and acquire skills that lead to a healthy and productive adulthood. • Give teens and young adults job and life skills. • Connect teens and young adults to nature by providing outdoor and environmental opportunities. 	<p>P 2.6 Provide recreation and social programs that allow older adults to remain healthy and actively involved in their community.</p>

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<p>2.7 Undertake boulevards and trail improvements with consideration for natural and historic resources associated with such facilities and provide special landscaping, signage, or other design elements that reflect the importance of boulevards and trails as a major link in the city’s comprehensive open space system</p>	<p>Community Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that programs are accessible, welcoming and equitably utilized by communities of color and immigrant and refugee populations. 	<p>P 2.7 Provide athletic fields that can serve as places where people of diverse ages, backgrounds, and interests can engage in a variety of sports.</p>
		<p>P 2.8 Offer fun and safe water experiences through a diverse range of healthy and accessible aquatic programs at outdoor and indoor venues throughout the city.</p>
		<p>P 2.9 Provide welcoming, accessible, and affordable recreation and social programs for people with disabilities and their families.</p>
		<p>P 2.10 Engage teens with activities that help them to build their identities and to acquire skills that will lead to healthy and productive lives.</p>
		<p>P 2.11 Develop programs that foster awareness and appreciation of nature from the neighborhood scale to the regional scale and provide activities for residents to help protect or restore the environment.</p>
		<p>P 2.12 Provide programs that are culturally responsive, accessible, welcoming, and affordable to communities of color and to immigrant and refugee communities.</p>
		<p>P 2.13 Provide welcoming, accessible, and affordable recreation and social programs for LGBTQ youth and adults.</p>
	<p>Partnerships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop partnerships that include race and social justice as fundamental to their operations and business practices. • Pursue partnerships with other organizations that have compatible values and goals, and which result in mutual benefits. 	<p>P 2.14 Develop partnerships with organizations that consider race and social justice to be fundamental to their operations and business practices.</p>

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<p>Goal 3: <i>Acquire property for parks and open space to fill the identified gaps in usable open space and to manage future growth and change consistent with the City's growth management goals and policies as outlined in the City's Comprehensive Plan.</i></p>	<p>Maintenance <i>Provide the community with clean, safe, and welcoming parks and recreation facilities.</i></p>	<p>Goal 3: <i>Manage the City's park and recreation facilities to provide safe and welcoming places.</i></p>
<p>3.1 Plan for preservation and acquisition of other open space on a geographic basis. The quantity of open space will be based upon the following considerations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Distribution guidelines presented later in this document. Usable open space as identified in the Parks 2010 Open Space Gap Analysis report. The open space functions of boulevard trails, green streets, and public shoreline access in meeting open space needs shall be recognized. A distribution guideline for shorelines is presented later in this document. Unique characteristics of properties, user patterns (local, citywide and regional) and densities in the analysis of open space needs shall be considered. Available opportunities, long-term budget impacts, and priorities as established in the City's Comprehensive Plan shall be considered in each potential acquisition. 	<p>Park Cleaning, Maintenance and Landscaping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide cleaner, safer, welcoming parks by providing restroom facilities that meet the highest standard possible. Provide cleaner, safer, welcoming parks that are an asset to the neighborhood by picking up litter and removing waste in a timely way. Provide cleaner, safer, welcoming parks that are an asset to the community and have long term viability by regular maintenance of both the built assets and the landscape features. Maintain landscapes that will enliven communities, inspire neighbors, and attract visitors through colorful displays and native gardens. 	<p>P 3.1 Implement capital improvements that are driven by a long-term programmatic strategic plan.</p>
<p>3.2 Recognize changing demographics and that any new or redeveloped facilities should be built in a fashion that can be flexible to meet a variety of changing needs.</p>		<p>P 3.2 Maintain the long-term viability of park and recreation facilities by regularly addressing major maintenance needs.</p>
<p>3.3 The following methods may be used to preserve open space:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> acquisition for park purposes through public funds and grants, donations, and community self-help; acquisition of life estates, where appropriate, to protect current owners; acquisition of voluntary conservation easements or similar mechanisms for preserving the open space qualities; dedication or leasing from other public agencies, including the Seattle School District; and If no other options are available, condemnation or removal of existing development will be pursued to preserve or re-create open space in highly developed areas lacking open space, although elimination of existing housing stock is generally to be avoided. 		<p>P 3.3 Look for innovative ways to approach construction and major maintenance activities to limit water and energy use and to maximize environmental sustainability.</p>
<p>3.4 In general, priority for the expansion of the open space network shall be given to areas of the City subject to population growth, including urban villages targeted for the largest share of residential growth and those areas not adequately served at present according to the population-based goals for open space</p>	<p>Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approach maintenance activities, to the maximum extent practicable, in a way that is environmental sustainable. Improve environmental health by reducing utility consumption. Increase access to public land by assessing, managing, and cleaning up contaminated sites. 	<p>P 3.4 Enhance wildlife habitat by restoring forests and expanding the tree canopy on City-owned land.</p>
	<p>Urban Forestry, Natural Area Restoration and Wildlife</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the environment and wildlife habitat by restoring forests and expanding the tree canopy. Protect habitat and other wildlife areas for use, education, and interpretation by 	<p>P 3.5 Protect habitat and wildlife areas through education, interpretation, and wildlife-management programs.</p>

Attachment A – Policy Comparison Matrix
10/31/16

	increasing capacity for professional wildlife management programs.	
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	Trails <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure a safe and well maintained system of walking trails. 	P 3.6 Preserve and reclaim park property for public use and benefit, and ensure continued access to parkland for the growing population.
		P 3.7 Leverage capital and program investments and agreements with private vendors to provide training, apprenticeships, youth employment, and living wage job opportunities for marginalized populations.

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<p>Goal 4: Maintain Parks and Recreation’s land and facilities. Emphasize good management and fiscal responsibility by making the most effective use of limited resources, evaluating programs and services, protecting the public interest, being accountable for achieving adopted objectives, and guarding against unrealistic expectations.</p>	<p><i>Recognize that regional parks and facilities are unique places for the neighborhoods in which they are located and for people who visit them from throughout the region, and need to be planned for and maintained in a unique way.</i></p>	<p>Goal 4: Plan and maintain regional parks and facilities to accommodate the people who will want to visit them, while respecting the facilities’ neighbors.</p>
<p>4.1 Refine and expand Parks ‘Asset Management Program for its facilities and land to include life cycle costing, risk analysis, levels of service, condition assessments, and related elements.</p>	<p>Specialty Gardens and Arboretum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance the guest experience and financial sustainability at Specialty Gardens and the Arboretum by enhancing partnerships and maintenance. 	<p>P 4.1 Develop plans for regional and special-use parks to take advantage of unique natural and cultural features in the city, enhance visitors’ experiences, and nurture partnerships with other public agencies and private organizations.</p>
<p>4.2 Pursue improvements to existing parks in accordance with Department planning for major maintenance (capital replacement), park master plans, and neighborhood planning</p>	<p>Downtown Parks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute to a welcoming, safe, and clean downtown. Implement effective maintenance and activation strategies that are closely aligned with the many current and future partners. Integrate the new Central Waterfront Public spaces with the existing Center City parks. 	<p>P 4.2 Design parks and program activities in Downtown in ways that create a welcoming and safe environment.</p>
<p>4.3 Coordinate planning and design for park improvements with other City departments.</p>		<p>P 4.3 Recognize that visitors to major regional attractions can impact the neighborhoods surrounding those facilities, and look for ways to limit those impacts, including through enhanced walking, biking, and transit connections.</p>
	<p>Tennis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure all people have access to tennis. <p>Golf</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure all people have access to golf. Manage our golf courses in a way that maintains their long-term viability both as a place for the game of golf to be enjoyed but also as a vital habitat and open space resource for our increasingly dense city. 	<p>P 4.4 Look for innovative ways to conduct construction and major maintenance of park facilities that will provide training, apprenticeships, youth employment, and living wage opportunities for marginalized populations.</p>

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<p>Goal 5: <i>Actively engage and build relationships with Seattle’s diverse population, the Seattle School District, the Seattle Housing Authority, other departments or agencies, and community-based organizations to bring together a range of services in response to neighborhood priorities.</i></p>		
<p>5.1 Listen to the citizens of Seattle and use a variety of outreach tools to involve them in decisions affecting the future of their parks and recreation system.</p>	<p>Customer Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks visitors and participants in our programs will be treated with respect, communicated with appropriately and welcomed with open arms. 	
<p>5.2 Implement recommendations from neighborhood planning activities and support community-generated suggestions.</p>	<p>Volunteers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers are vital to the successful operations of parks and recreation facilities and programs and will be actively pursued, cared for, and thanked. 	
<p>5.3 Use adopted policies for citizen involvement to help shape the siting and design of park improvements. Such policies include requirements for notices and meetings that allow for public participation during planning and design processes.</p>	<p>Communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks is committed to clear, concise, and honest communication. • Parks will use the most effective communication methods and technologies available. 	
	<p>Technology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve customer service, increase efficiency, and maximize our capabilities by implementing strategies that keep us current with the best technology for managing our parks and recreation system. 	