

# Board of Parks & Recreation Commissioners Superintendent's Report

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Christopher Williams, Senior Deputy Superintendent & Chief of Staff

October 24, 2024



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Parks & Recreation

Healthy People, Thriving Environment, Vibrant Community

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# Department Update

- Park District Board
- Ft. Lawton redevelopment
- Magnuson Park public safety
- Workday HR system



Ft. Lawton @ Discovery Park





# Parks & Recreational Services: Parks and Environment / Facilities



Park Rangers: Meet Junior Ranger!



Magnuson Park Off-Leash Area



EV charging station



Lakeridge Park



# Planning & Capital Development

- Georgetown Flume Off-Leash Area
- Magnolia Community Center project



Georgetown Flume Off-Leash Area site



Magnolia Community Center gym



# Upcoming Events

- Oct. 25-26 Magnuson Haunted House
- Halloween events!
- Oct. 29: NE Senior Resource Fair



**MAGNUSON  
HAUNTED  
HOUSE**

Friday, Oct. 25  
5-10 p.m.  
Saturday, Oct. 26  
5-10 p.m.

**ALL AGES**  
(Ages 10 and under must be  
accompanied by a  
responsible teen/adult.)

**\$6.00/person**

7110 62nd Ave NE, Seattle, WA  
206-684-7026

**PAY ON SITE OR PRE-  
REGISTER ONLINE!**



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www.seattle.gov/parks



**HALLOWEEN  
PUMPKIN  
PALOOZA**

AGES 6  
& UNDER  
(SIBLINGS  
WELCOME)

**FREE**

THURS., 10/31 10:30AM-12:30PM

**JOIN US IN SOME HALLOWEEN FUN!**  
Our pint-sized pumpkin-palooza will have  
games, music, treats, and fun for all!  
Costumes are optional, but encouraged!  
(Pre-registration required)



Scan the QR code to be  
taken to the registration  
page online!

(Please park strollers in tented  
outside stroller parking)

Laurelhurst Community Center  
4554 NE 41st St, Seattle, WA  
(206) 684-7529

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# Thank you!



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# Park Activation Unit

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Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners  
Monica Haugen, Center City Coordinator  
Tom Diamond, Neighborhood Parks Coordinator  
Elise Gaubatz, Program Support Coordinator  
| October 24, 2024



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# Vision

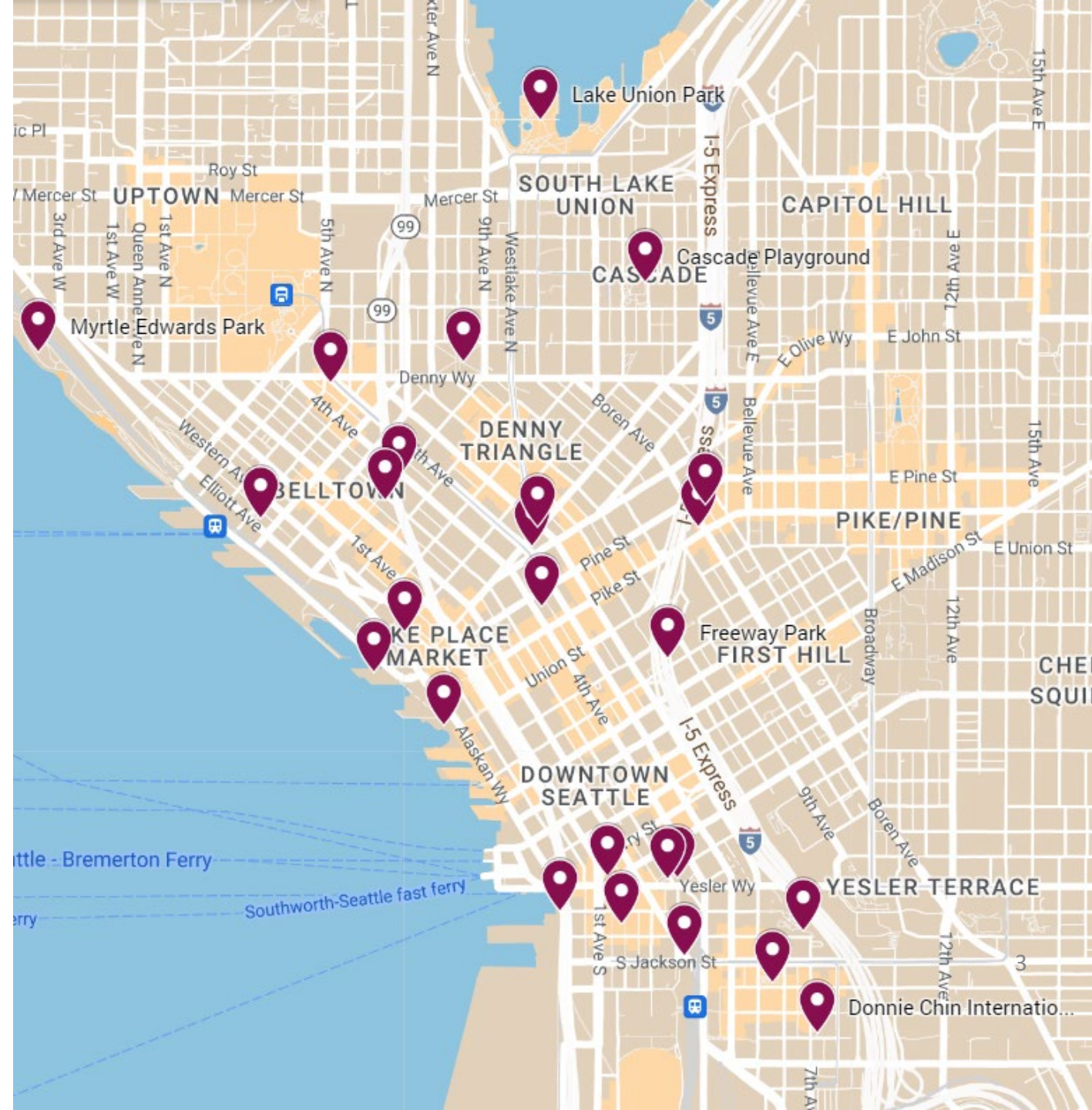
- Through active and passive park activation, the Park Activation Unit:
  - Provides positive park programming
  - Increases community involvement and thus park safety
  - Increases diverse social and community connections
  - Leverages public and private partnerships



# Center City Parks

## Funded Parks:

- Bell Street Park
- City Hall Park
- Denny Park
- Freeway Park
- Hing Hay Park
- Pioneer Park
- Occidental Square
- Westlake Park







# Neighborhood Parks

- Community driven activations and programming. Uplifting parks and encouraging positive use of spaces

## 2024 Priority Locations:

- Ballard Commons Park
- Cal Anderson Park
- Be'er Sheva Park
- Lake City Mini and Albert Davis Park
- Various parks throughout the City in smaller capacity

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# Center City Cinema

- 45 Planned Events
- Increased attendance year to year
  - 15% increase in 2024
- Park Concierge staff are onsite event support









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# Dancing 'Til Dusk

- Program started in 2008
- 16 planned events in 2024
- Live Bands and DJs
- One hour of dance lessons
- Added new park locations outside of Center City



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But wait  
there's  
more.....



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# Indigenous Presentations



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# Coast Salish Prayer Paddles

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# Be'er Sheva Cultural Stage



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## Park Rangers Support

- Rangers include park activation locations on daily patrols
- Increased patrols in priority locations
- Ranger support requested for specific events based on support needs and staffing





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# Park Concierge Program

- Support Active and Passive Programming
- Associated Recreation Council (ARC) full time benefitted entry level positions
- 6 Park locations, 6-8 hours per day
- In 2023:
  - **21,677 hours** of Park Concierge presence in 6 Parks
  - **9 Naloxone** administrations in emergency situations
  - **5 CPR** administrations to provide onsite emergency assistance and save lives.
  - **15,000 positive interactions**
  - **300 real change resource guides** distributed to Park Patrons
  - Roughly **110 work orders** submitted







# Park Busker Program

- Part of Center City Programming
- Active Programming – 2-hour sets
- ARC Independent Contractors
- In summer, 126 hours of busking every week in parks
- Roughly 5,000 hours of busking annually!
- Performers are ethnically and racially diverse, performances include culturally relevant music, dance, acrobatics, and juggling performances in multiple languages





# Staff

- Karl Fields
  - Park Activation Unit Manager
- Monica Haugen
  - Center City Parks Coordinator
- Tom Diamond
  - Neighborhood Parks Coordinator
- Elise Gaubatz
  - Program Support Coordinator





# Thank you! Questions?



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# Athletic Field Summit Debrief

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Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners

Markeith Blackshire, Division Director | October 24, 2024



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# Seattle Parks and Recreation





# About the Summit

## Who Attended

- City Councilmembers
- Parks and Recreation Executive Staff
- Recreation Teams / Organizations
- Park Professionals

## Content

### **Subject Matter Expert presentations**

- Budget Update
- Athletic Field Scheduling
- Planning & Capital Development
- Maintenance/ Field Labs\_ Virtual Experience

## Q/A Session

- Networking





# Panel Discussion, Key Takeaways & Next Steps

## Scheduling

- ❖ User groups want SPR to create a forum where users can connect with each other
  - Bi-annual playfield user forum (twice per year)
- ❖ Limitations with only one rugby field in our system
  - Rigidity of historical use scheduling
  - Magnuson Field 12
  - Evaluating use of Field 5 particularly in fall for non-rugby use
- ❖ Concerns about user groups hoarding field time and not using it
- ❖ Process for choosing synthetic replacements, conversions, field improvements
  - Team evaluating Joint Athletic Facility Development Plan and will connect with Planning & Capital Development with updated knowledge and expertise

## Seattle Public Schools

- ❖ Concerns related to potential school closures and impacts on playfield availability
  - Currently only 5 schools on list, did not specify which, as that could still change.
  - Will let users and SPR know what decisions are made in light of this.





# Panel Discussion, Key Takeaways & Next Steps (continued)

## Grounds Maintenance

- ❖ Is there anything more that user groups can do to help with the upkeep of the fields? With the limitations of not being able to use power equipment it makes it difficult to help efficiently, as the tasks take longer.
  - Director advised scheduling meetings between user groups and grounds leadership to discuss this.
  - Can we restart the program of soil drops prior to season starts for user groups to help?

## Planning

- ❖ Any plans on turf conversion for Green Lake Cloverleaf fields?
- ❖ Question about order of synthetic turf projects.
  - Why prioritize communities that already have other fields before communities that have none? Magnolia and Queen Anne are the communities in question with none.





# Learning and Collaborating





# Questions?





# Recreation Division Summer Report

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October 24, 2024

Presenter: Brian M. Judd, Interim Division Director



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# Summer Day Camp



## School Aged Care Day Camp

- 10 weeks (130 camps)
- 4,791 enrolled
- 13 locations
- 5-12 yrs



## Nature Day Camp

- 8 weeks (24 camps)
- 872 enrolled
- 2 locations (Carkeek and Discovery Park)
- 3-5, 6-12 yrs



## Activity Camps

- 10 weeks (236 half day camps)
- 2,114 enrolled
- 16 locations
- 5-12 yrs



## Citywide Youth Athletics Camp

- 3 camps
- 171 enrolled
- 3-5, 6-12 yrs



## Preschool Camps

- 8 weeks (20 camps)
- 273 enrolled
- 3 locations
- 3-5 yrs

\*Includes Nature Preschool Camp



## Specialized Programs

### Overnight Camp

- 4 camps
- 101 enrolled
- Located at Camp Long
- 6-21 yrs

### Day Camp

- 4 weeks
- 125 enrolled
- 2 locations (Ravenna and Seward Park)
- 4-21 yrs



## SPP Summer Preschool

- 6-week program (24 weeks)
- 278 enrolled
- 4 locations
- 3-5 yrs





# Summer Youth Employment



117 Teens Employed  
23,644 Hours Worked

## Osprey Volunteers

3 volunteer interns, 148 volunteer hours

## YES

- 15 participants 13-15 yrs
- 540 participation hours
- Garfield Community Center

## Career Explorations

- 31 youth 13-21 yrs
- 4,233 hours worked
- 13 locations

## YAW

- 58 youth 16-21 yrs
- 12,590 hours worked

NEW

## Teen Summer Musical Interns

- 15 interns 16-24 yrs
- 4,973 hours worked
- Langston Hughes

## Osprey

- 9 teens with disabilities 16-22 yrs
- 1,278 hours worked
- 3 Locations

## Environmental Education

- 4 interns 16-22 yrs
- 570 hours worked



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# Outdoor Activation & Summer of Safety

2024

8036 Meals

5508 Snacks

13 Parks

July 1-Aug 23/10am-4pm

Open to kids of all ages

Free recreation activities



**STEM programming/60 hrs**

**6 sites**

Aviation & Flight Concepts



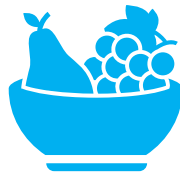
**Physical Challenge/13 sites**

Completing challenges and winning prizes



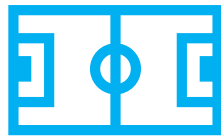
**Language Arts**

- Book Mobile/ 2 sites
- Reading Circles/42 hrs/7 sites



**Nutrition Education**

- Organ Wise program/ 10 sites/150 hrs



**Field Days**

Field Games/ 8 sites

**NEW**

**Summer of Safety**

8 sites/343 unique participants

Arts and Crafts, Sports, Field Trips



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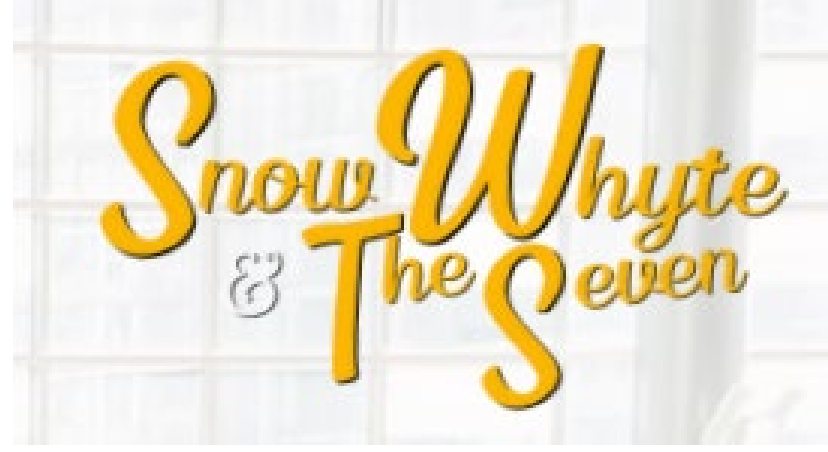
# Teen Summer Musical



**71 Participants**

**16 w/ disabilities**

**400+ hours of preparations**



**14 Youth Employment Interns,  
5,000 hrs**

**40 Volunteers, 200 hrs**



**5 shows with 3.5-5k attendance**



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# Big Day of Play

Participation:

4,202

Vendors

97

Mt Baker

192

Mile Fun Run

NEW

141



Live Music & Entertainment



3 on 3 Basketball  
Pickleball  
Inflatables



Balloon twisting  
Face painting  
Arts and crafts





# Specialized Programs

## Camps



226 youth enrolled



Overnight Camp Staff

18 Counselors

4 Supervisors

1 Nurse

1 Chef

## High School Interns



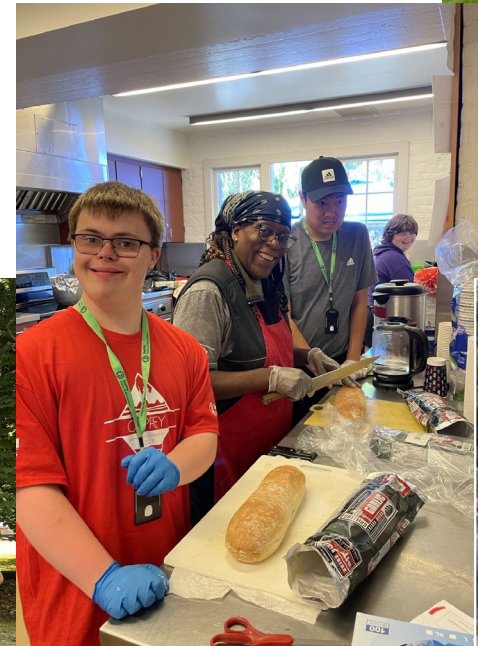
9 Employees w/disabilities

3 Volunteers

## Trips



81 Enrolled in 5 trips



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# Lifelong Recreation 50+

1,734 Enrolled  
141 Activities  
18 Trips  
4 Visual Arts  
96 Fitness  
6 Book Clubs  
11 Nature Programs  
4 Performing Arts



## Program Impacts



1 Volunteer Drivers,  
5 Pre-Pandemic



.5 Reduced FTE

## Leading with Equity

220 Soul Line  
Dance/Partnership with Seattle  
Housing Authority, weekly  
dance class



22 SOAR hiking program for  
Younger Onset  
Alzheimer's/Partnership with  
UW Memory Hub

25 7-week dance class for  
people with Parkinson's and  
their caretaker/Partnership  
with Dance for Parkinson's



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# Environmental Education

4,686

Shuttle riders at  
Discovery Park Beach  
Program



\$ales

Gift Shop support FREE  
programs at Discovery  
Park Visitor Center



1,414hr

33 Volunteers



872

Nature Camp enrollment



570hr

5 Interns

Garfield Family Gardening Series  
Meet your Community Naturalist  
World School Partnerships  
Wonder Wednesdays  
Summer in the Parks  
2 Summer camp outs with SHA





# Seattle Mentors: Ignite the Potential



## Accomplishment Overview Highlights

- Evolving Entourage Cohort
- Visionary Voices
- Empowerment Exchange Cohort
- Feels like summer
- Professional Development (59 youth Every Friday for the summer at Garfield High School)
- Partners with: Urban League, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Mentor Washington, Converge.



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# Visionary Voices Special Guest



**David Washington**

Firefighter  
Emergency Responder  
Mentor



**Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth, M.Ed.**

City Councilmember  
Educator  
Coach



**Angela Rye**

Media Host  
Social Justice Advocate  
Lawyer



**Dr. Alvertis Brooks, Jr.**

Athletic Administrator  
Educator  
Business Owner



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# Seattle Mentors: Community Engagement and Exposure

- Microsoft Headquarters filed trip
- Seahawks facility visit and tour.  
How to impact an organization on the field.
- Dwayne Eskridge of Seattle Seahawks came to RBCC 1 time a month to mentor a small group.



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# Thank you!



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