

Board of Parks & Recreation Commissioners Superintendent's Report

AP Diaz, Superintendent
June 13, 2024



Seattle
Parks & Recreation

Healthy People, Thriving Environment, Vibrant Community

#SeattleShines



Department Update

- Healing Garden
- Seattle parks ranked 6th in nation!
- Murals celebrate environment
- Green Flag award
- Alki & Golden Gardens hours
- Denny Blaine guidelines
- Greater & Greener Conference



Martin Luther King, Jr. Park



New murals near the Seattle Waterfront

Parks & Recreational Services: Parks and Environment

- Storm cleanup
- Spring tree planting
- Trails Crew improves path at Discovery Park



Downed tree at Queen Anne Community Center



Trail restoration work at
Discovery Park

Spring tree planting

Parks & Recreational Services: Parks and Environment

Jefferson Greenhouse

- Propagates 60,000 plants a year
- Provides plants for parks, greenspaces
- Supports urban food programs, food banks



Parks & Recreational Services: Recreation

- Summer Aquatics
- Discovery Park Beach Shuttle
- Green Schoolyards launch
- Beacon Hill Festival
- Juneteenth closures

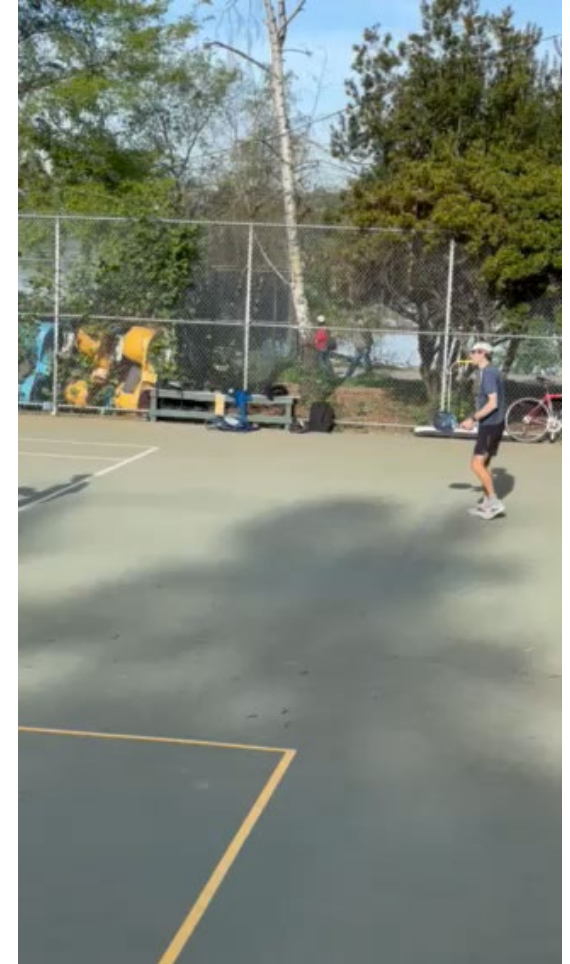
**Green Lake:
LET'S PLAY
PICKLEBALL**



Beacon Hill Festival



Green Schoolyards launch

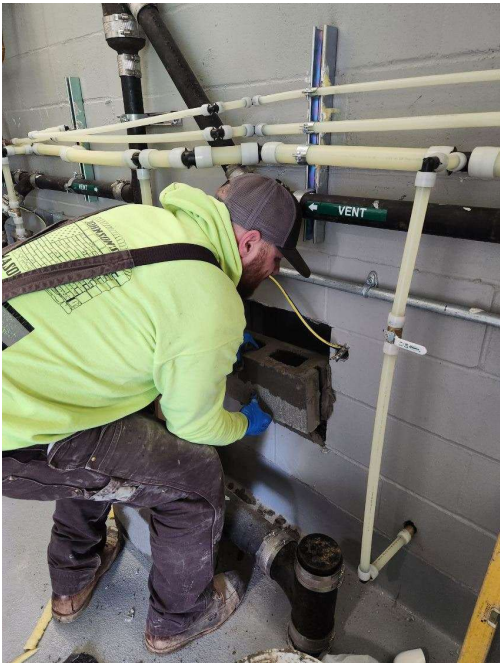


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Parks & Recreational Services: Facilities

Recent work by Facilities crews at

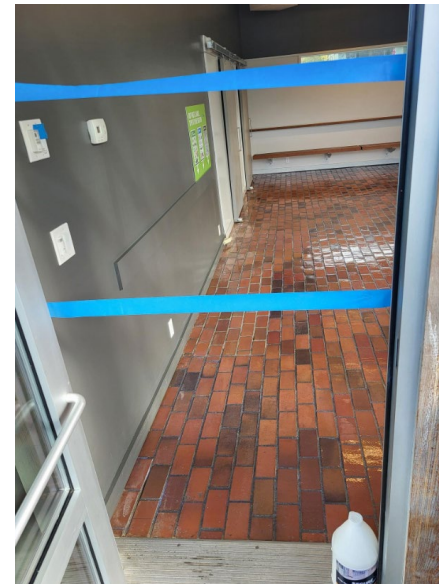
- Brighton Park
- Othello Park
- Ross Shelter House
- Mounger Pool



Brighton Park restroom



Othello Park restrooms



Ross Playfield Shelter House



Mounger Pool slide

Planning and Capital Development



T.T. Minor Play Area



Pathways Park ribbon cutting



Policy & Finance

- City Council briefings on trees, fields
- 2023 Impact Report
- Scholarship applicants increase
- Underwater cleanup at Seacrest Pier



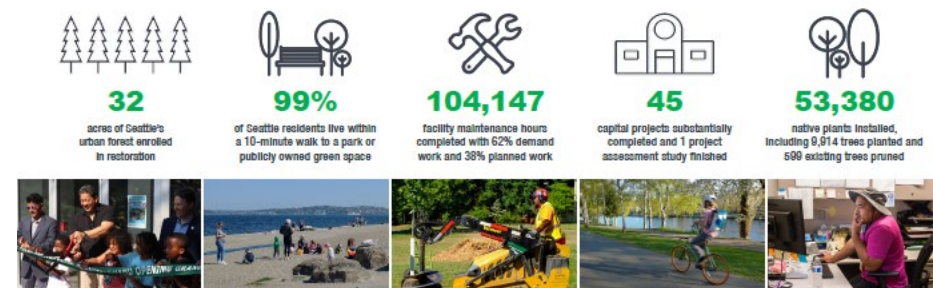
Cleanup underneath
Seacrest Pier in West Seattle



HEALTHY PEOPLE



THRIVING ENVIRONMENT



VIBRANT COMMUNITY



Upcoming Events

- June 15-16 & 22-23: Bicycle Weekends on Lake Washington Blvd.
- June 15: Mountain Fest at Camp Long
- June 16: All Gender Recreation Swim
- July 11 – Aug. 15: Summer Series at Volunteer Park Amphitheater
- Aug. 17: Big Day of Play



Thank you!



Seattle
Parks & Recreation

Healthy People, Thriving Environment, Vibrant Community

Park Inspection Programs: What's New with Park Inspections

Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners

Travis Buell, Deputy Director of Parks & Environment

Craig Chatburn, Planning & Development Specialist

| June 13, 2024



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What's New with Park Inspections

THEN

Volunteer Inspection
Program



Volunteer Inspections

Community Inspections

Crew Chief Inspections

NOW

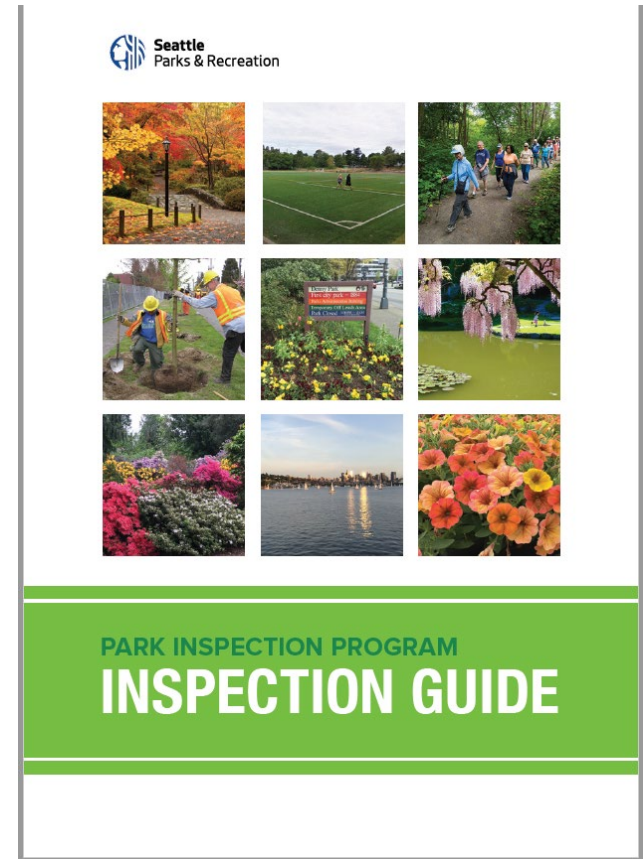


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Volunteer Inspection Program Purpose

- Program Goal: Ensure safe, welcoming and ecologically functional parks
- Program Purpose: Get the public's perspective on our performance
- Results of inspections:
 - Share with volunteers the outcome of their inspection
 - Track performance for each inspection element in a park, in a district, and across our system
 - The data helps inform decision making and planning



Volunteer Inspection Program initial process

Inspection Tools

GARBAGE CONTROL

MAINTENANCE GOALS

Cans available and collected beyond half full, litter free throughout park, cans in good shape with lids that fit.



RATING: 5

CONDITION: EXCELLENT

REASON:

Cans available, lined, dent-free, less than half full, no litter.



RATING: 3

CONDITION: NEEDS IMPROVEMENT

REASON:

Can available, in good condition, but full and unusable.



RATING: 1

CONDITION: UNACCEPTABLE

REASON:

Garbage is on the ground, can is full, grill full of ash, can in disrepair.



PARK INSPECTION PROGRAM
INSPECTION GUIDE

Rating Guide



Seattle
Parks & Recreation

Park Evaluation Form –

See inspection book for rating details and example photos.

Ratings: 1 = unacceptable, 2 = barely acceptable, 3 = needs improvement, 4 = meets almost all goals, 5 = excellent

Park Inspected: Burke-	Inspec Brian Rapalee	Date: 4/17/18	Time: 10:30am	Weather: Partly
Inspected Areas	Rating	Comments / Improvements Needed		
Garbage Control	4	No comments. No photos.		
Restrooms	3	Minor cleaning of interior surfaces and floor required. Painting/repair of exterior		
Community Center Entry	N/A			
Picnic Shelters and Areas	4	Minor surface cleaning of picnic tables and several separate bench seats required. One		
Play Areas	3	Additional mulch material, leveling and grading required. Weeding required at some		
Sport Courts	N/A			
Hardscapes	1	Significant tripping hazards at 12-15 raised/lowered walkway panel edges require immediate mitigation by edge grinding, feathered ramps or selective reconstruction. Worst area is a sagging/cracked walkway area at edge of nature trail entrance which will ultimately require reconstruction of four large panels or more—maybe with subsurface edge drains at toe of landscape mound. Most walkway joints and cracks are filled with grass/debris and/or lacking joint filler/sealer. All walkways require surface cleaning of moss/debris. See 3 photos.		
Lighting	4	No comments. No photos.		

Evaluation Form



4

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Inspection guide categories & updates

Original categories

1. Garbage Control
2. Restrooms
3. Community Center Entry Ways
4. Picnic Shelters and Areas
5. Play Areas
6. Sport Courts
7. Hardscape
8. Lighting
9. Grass Turf Field and Grass Areas
10. Shrub and Landscape Beds
11. Tree Management
12. Trails and Natural Areas
13. Beaches Shoreline and Waterfront
14. Athletic fields (Natural and Synthetic)

Updated inspection app categories

1. ~~Garbage Control~~ **Waste Management**
2. Restrooms
3. ~~Community Center~~ **Building** Entry Ways
4. ~~Picnic Shelters~~ Areas, **Grills, or Benches**
5. Play Areas
6. Sport Courts
7. Hardscape
8. ~~Lighting~~ **Infrastructure (electrical, mechanical, structural, plumbing)**
9. ~~Grass Turf Field~~ and **Meadow** Areas
10. Shrub and Landscape Beds
11. Trees Management
12. Trails and Natural Areas
13. Beaches Shoreline and Waterfront
14. Athletic fields (~~Natural and Synthetic~~)
15. **Signs**
16. **Biodiversity**



Analyzing the data

Performance Standard Achieved by Feature by District-- 11/2017- Present							
Feature	South West District	South East District	Central West District	Central East District	North West District	North East District	City Wide
Garbage Control	88%	76%	81%	76%	90%	88%	83%
Restrooms	74%	79%	84%	68%	82%	72%	76%
Community	86%	79%	77%	79%	95%	82%	83%
Picnic Shelters	82%	75%	75%	72%	82%	75%	77%
Play Areas	76%	78%	77%	69%	87%	74%	77%
Sport Courts	73%	78%	83%	76%	85%	76%	79%
Hardscapes	85%	74%	73%	67%	86%	73%	76%
Lighting	84%	91%	73%	91%	90%	89%	86%
Grass Turf Field	85%	78%	81%	72%	86%	74%	79%
Shrubs and	77%	71%	71%	71%	81%	69%	73%
Tree Management	80%	74%	72%	75%	81%	74%	76%
Trails and Natural	75%	76%	76%	74%	85%	76%	77%
Beaches	87%	80%	68%	81%	85%	86%	81%
Athletic Fields	76%	75%	84%	79%	82%	64%	77%
District Average	80%	77%	77%	75%	86%	77%	79%

Play Areas

Comment	Frequency	139 parks inspected
Relevel playchips	58	42%
Remove weeds	51	37%
Graffiti	22	16%
Unsafe fixture	20	14%
Repair playturf	15	11%
Replenish sand	12	9%
Pressure wash	10	7%
Excellent condition	7	5%



Inspection effort from 2017 to today

Year	Volunteer Inspections	Quarterly Inspections	Total
2017	12		12
2018	72	8	80
2019	72	8	80
2020	21		21
2021	21	1	22
2022	38		38
2023	40		40
2024	16		16
Total	292	17	309



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3:50 56% 76%

✕ Park Inspection Program ☰

I am Inspecting a... *

Structural, Electrical, Plumbing, or Mechanical Infrastructure

Infrastructure Goals Met:

- ☒ Undamaged fixture or infrastructure.
- ☐ Fixture is off when not in use.
- ☒ Unobstructed access or light path.
- ☒ Damage does not require an engineered solution.
- ☒ Infrastructure is free of graffiti.


This Infrastructure Report:

★★★★

Infrastructure Comments (Optional):

Take a Picture (Optional)

1 of 1



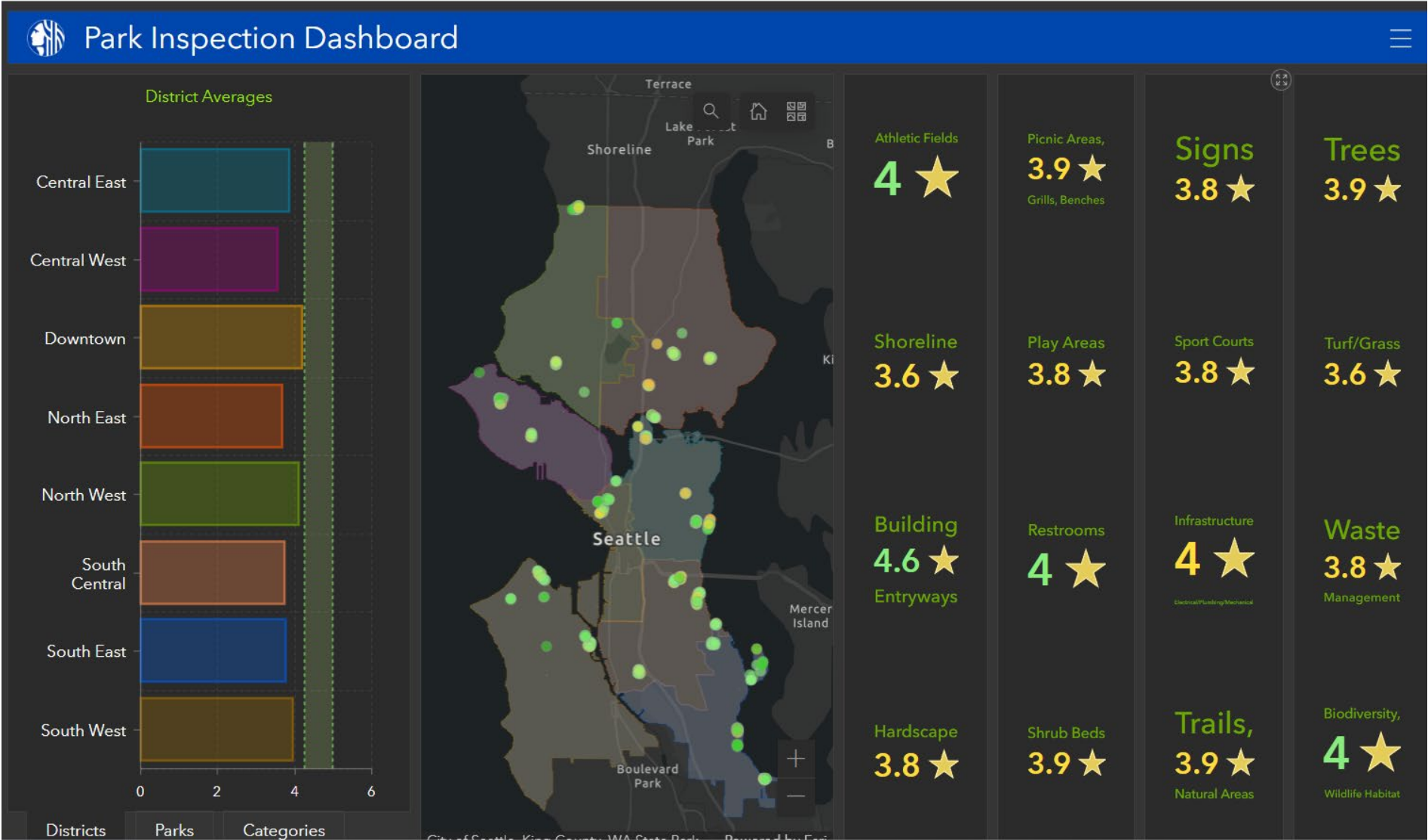
New app captures data in real time

- Since April 2024 inspection can be performed using the Park Inspection Program app
- Issue discovered: Exterior lights were on during broad daylight
- Deselect the checked boxes for each standard that is not met “Fixture is off when not in use”.
- One star is automatically removed due to one maintenance goal not being met.
- All data is uploaded in real time in a dashboard that can be made publicly available

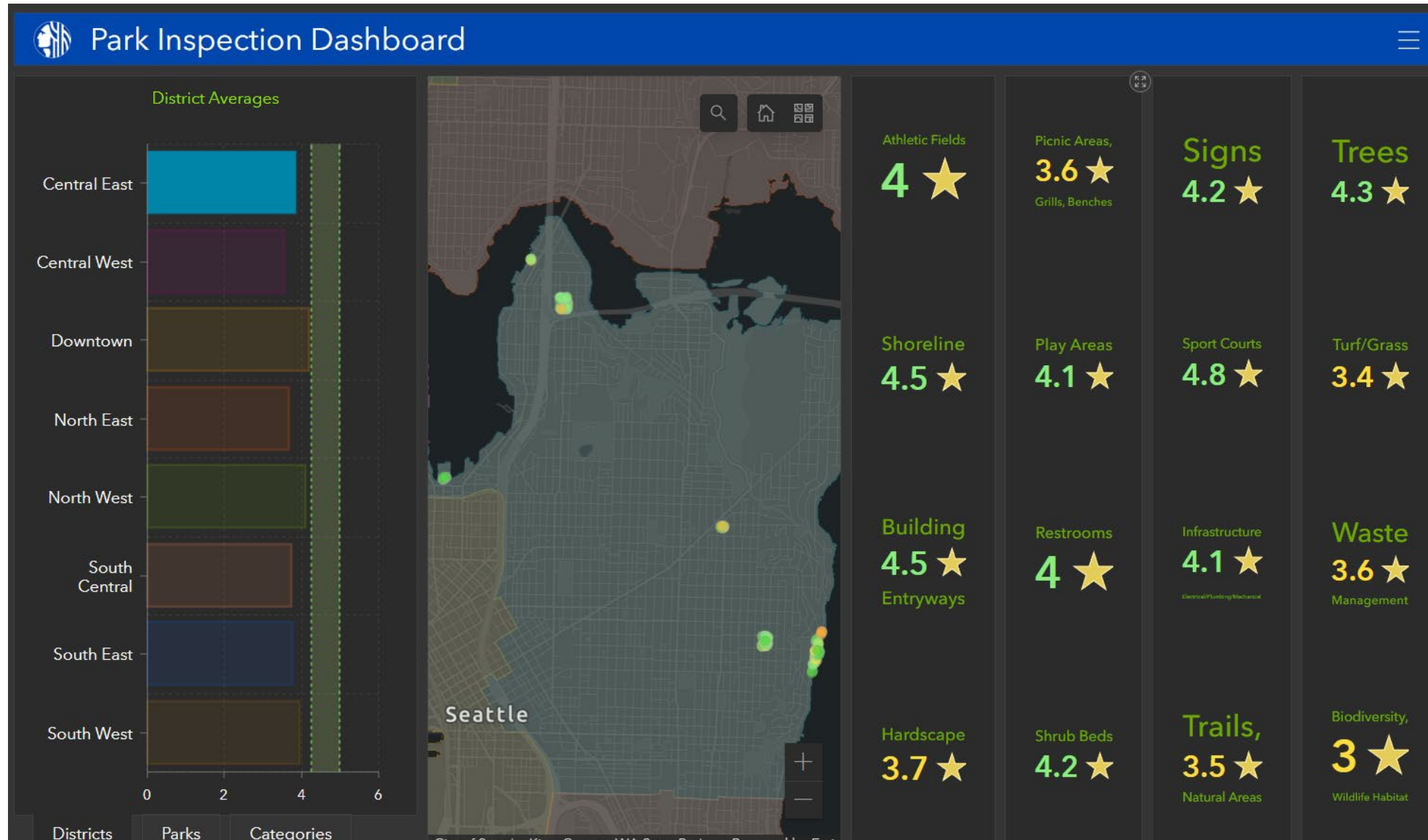


Park Inspection Dashboard:

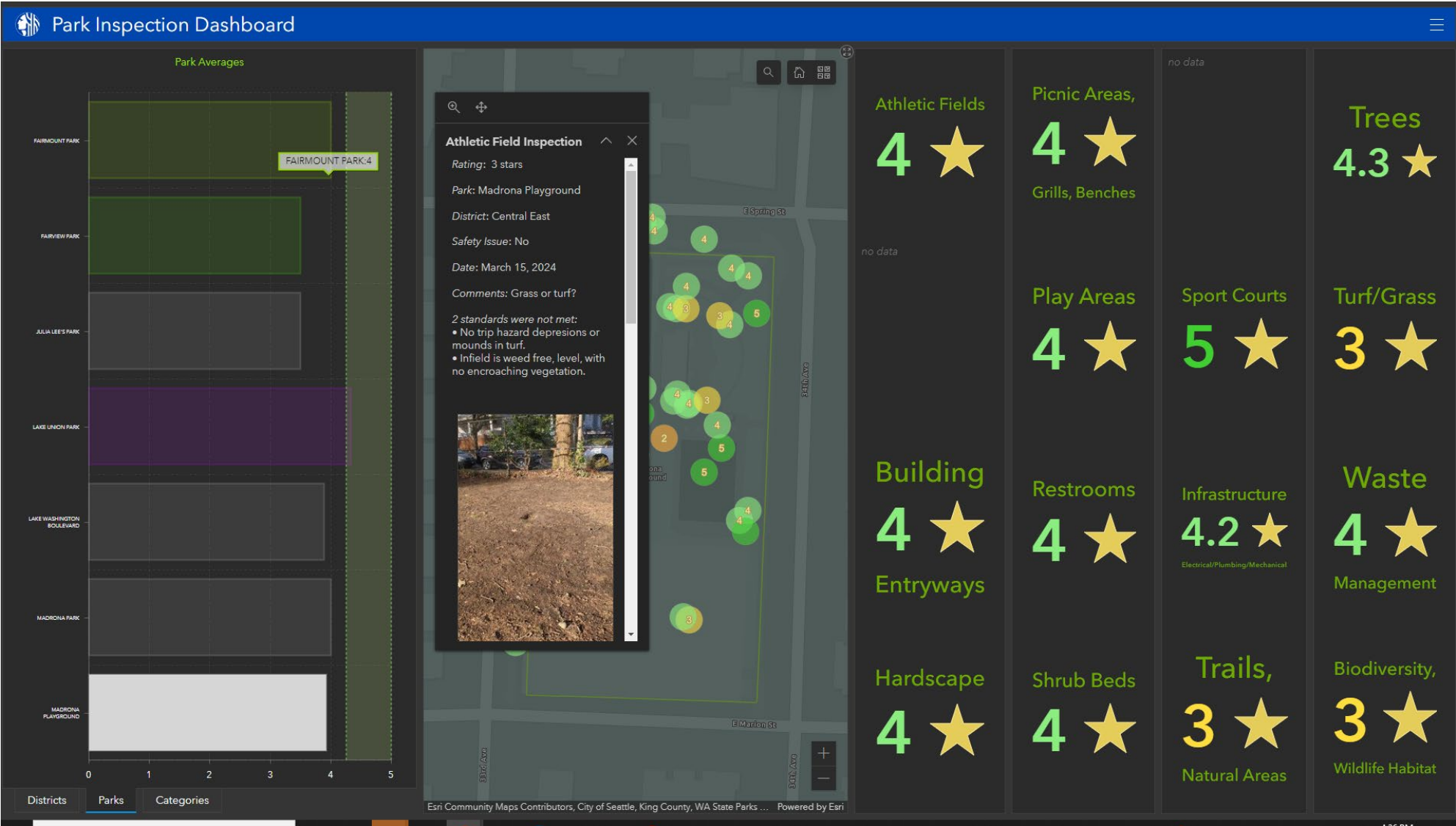
<https://gis.seattle.gov/portal/apps/dashboards/5f53c22c1d77482eaeecb8eaa2e1266>



The data can reveal where a district excels and where to focus training efforts



Click on any circle on the map to see any unmet standards, comments, and photos.



App goals updated to align with BMP's and policy

GARBAGE CONTROL

MAINTENANCE GOALS

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Can available, in good condition, but full and unusable.



RATING: 1

CONDITION: UNACCEPTABLE

REASON:

Garbage is on the ground, can is full, grill full of ashes, can in disrepair.

✕ Park Inspection Program

I am inspecting a...

Waste Management Area

Waste Management Goals Met:

- ☐ Both Garbage and Recycle receptacles are available.
- ☒ A recycle receptacle is visible from each trash can.
- ☒ Cans are collected beyond half full.
- ☒ Area is free of noticeable litter.
- ☒ Each receptacle and lid is undamaged and labeled.

This Waste Management Report:

★★★★

Waste Management Comments (Optional):

Take a Picture (Optional)

1 of 1



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Updates to maintenance goals matters

Lone garbage can



Garbage cost \$145 per ton

Collocated waste cans save \$



Recycle cost \$70 per ton



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Putting the data to work

How inspection data/results are operationalized

- Informed design standards for trash and recycle ratio
- Informed crew training on leaf retention tactics
- Inspired the drought vulnerable tree map
- Informed tree protection tactics
- Informed mower operator training
- Informed new employee onboarding training
- Informed pollinator habitat corridor placement



Inspectors help us see what we are missing, and better understand public priorities and perspectives



Park Classifications and Inspection Frequency

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Inspection Frequency</u>
1. Mini Parks/Pocket Parks	Quarterly
2. Neighborhood Parks	Bi-Monthly
3. Community Parks	Monthly
4. Downtown Parks	Monthly
5. Regional Parks	Monthly
6. Special-Use Parks/Specialty Gardens	Monthly
7. Greenbelts/Natural Areas	2 times annually
8. Boulevards/Green Streets/Greenways	Quarterly

Crew Chief Inspections

- [South District Inspection Form](#)



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2. Garbage/Recycle Control: Please rate the overall condition of the garbage and recycle control throughout the park.



3. Restrooms: Please rate the overall condition of the restrooms within the park. Please do not enter a restroom assigned to a gender you do not identify as.



4. Picnic Shelters and Areas: Please rate the overall condition of the picnic areas within the park.



5. Play areas: Please rate the overall condition of the play areas within the park.



6. Sport Courts (tennis, basketball, pickleball): Please rate the overall condition of the sport courts within the park.



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Restroom

30. Does this park have a restroom? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

31. Restroom - Locking Mechanisms



32. Comments - Restroom - Locking Mechanisms

Enter your answer

33. Restroom - Hand Dryer



34. Comments - Restroom - Hand Dryer

Enter your answer



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Park Inspection Survey:



See something that needs immediate attention?

Please download and use the **Find it Fix It** app. For more information on this program, email Park.Inspection@Seattle.gov

Park Inspection Survey

Help us keep your happy place...happy!

We are seeking feedback from park users.

Please use the QR code to complete the survey.



2024 Statistics:

- 1,031 surveys completed
- 81 locations
- 3.68 overall rating

Memorial Day Weekend:

- 159 total surveys completed
- 25 locations
- 3.72 overall rating

Healthy People, Thriving Environment, Vibrant Community



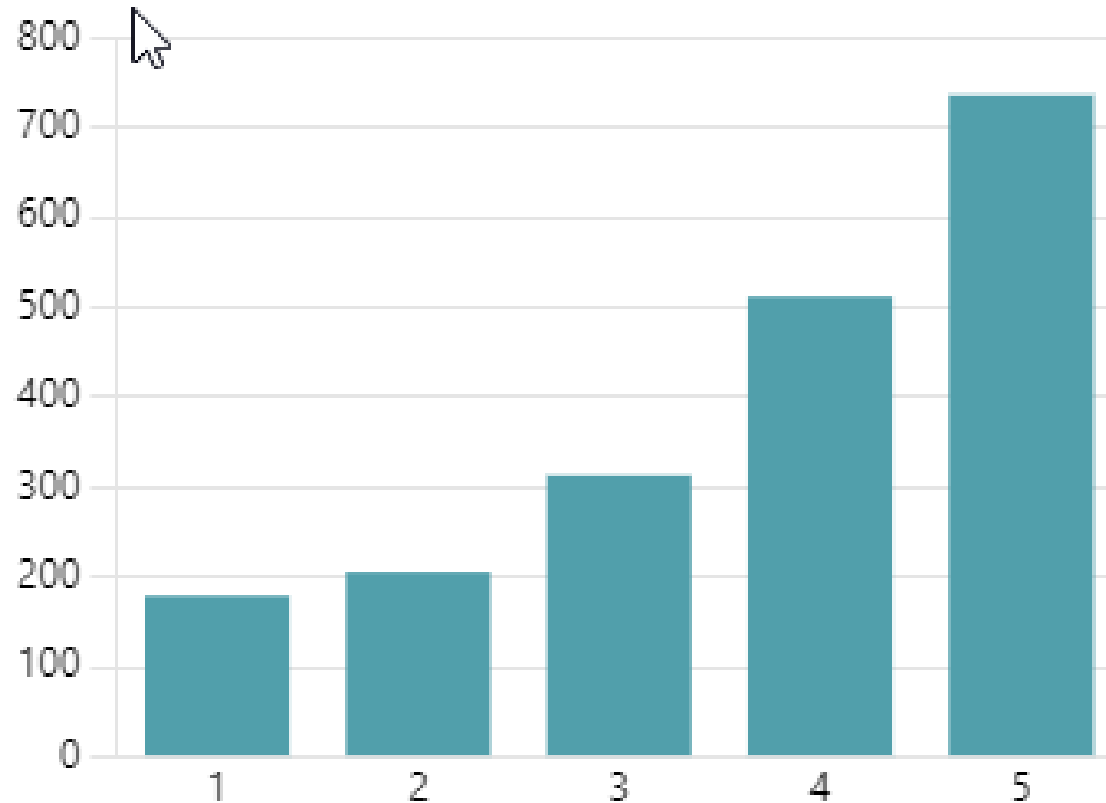
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Park Inspection Survey:

15. Graffiti: Please rate the overall condition regarding graffiti within the park.

3.73
Average Rating



Categories:

1. Garbage/Recycle Control
2. Restrooms
3. Picnic Areas
4. Play Areas
5. Sport Courts
6. Hardscapes
7. Lighting
8. Grass/Turf
9. Shrubs and Landscape
10. Tree Management
11. Trails and Natural Areas
12. Shorelines
13. Athletic Fields
14. Graffiti
15. Overall Condition



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A new way to interact with SPR

- [Community Surveys/Inspections](#)



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Memorial Day Weekend: Green Lake Park

Statistics:

Garbage/Recycle: 4.22
Restrooms: 3.30
Picnic Areas: 3.93
Play Areas: 4.02
Sport Courts: 4.12
Hardscapes: 4.08
Lighting: 3.09
Grass/Turf: 4.07
Shrubs/Landscape: 4.40
Tree Management: 4.50
Trails and Natural Areas: 4.30
Beaches and Shorelines: 3.87
Athletic Fields: 4.09
Graffiti: 3.96
Overall Condition: 4.25

Comments:

- “Looking for some shared gym areas in the park-Pull up bars, stretching stations and also some things for kids to stop to play on”
- “Good overall! I like how they haven’t been mowing under the trees. Vegetation management has been good. Lots of great benches and places to sit. Thank you for having public restrooms throughout. Not much lighting but I like it that way. Tell SDOT we need more crosswalks to get to the park!”
- “At Green Lake, we need to repaint the decals on the path for the bike lane pedestrian lane to keep the bicycle lane is clear as possible of uninformed pedestrians”
- “I ❤️ greenlake! Please keep the native shoreline vegetation healthy and protected. Appreciate all the folks who work to keep this park special.”

May 24th-May 27th:

- **Signs placed: 5/24 10am**
- **61 total surveys**
- **48 out of 61 surveys left comments**
- **Average time to complete survey was 15 minutes**



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Dashboards and Useful Information

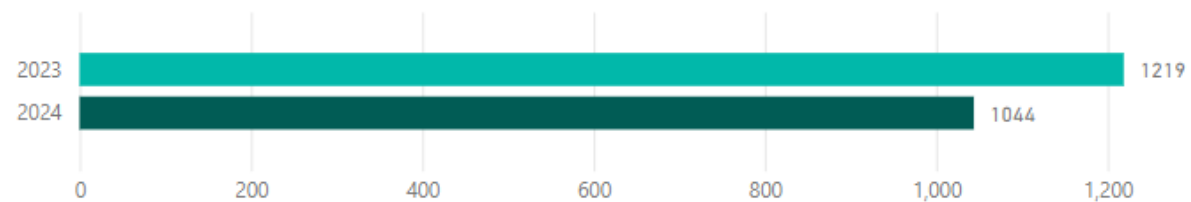
- [Reviewing the Data](#)



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Parks and Environment: Community Inspections Report

of Inspections by Year



120

of Parks Inspected

2263

Total Responses

3.61

Overall Average Rating

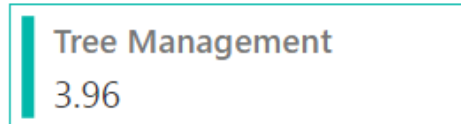
North Districts Average Overall Rating



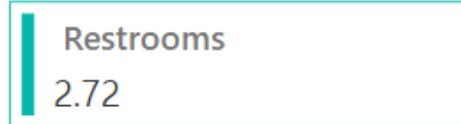
South Districts Average Overall Rating



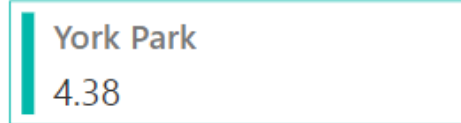
Highest Rated Asset/Cat...



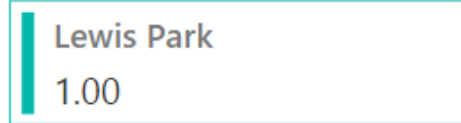
Lowest Rated Asset/Cat...



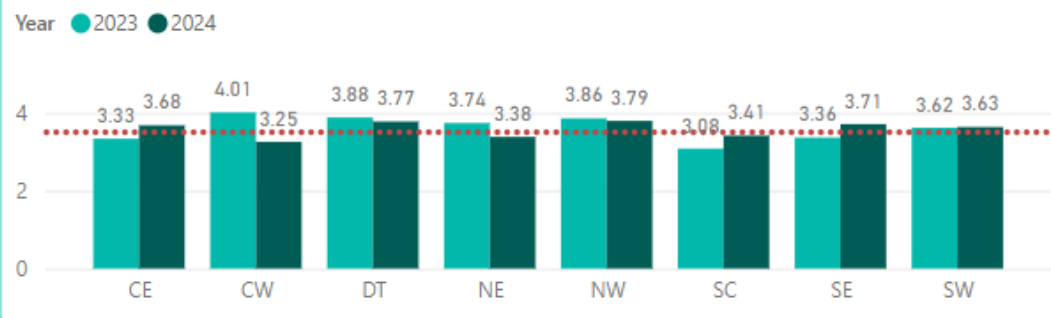
Highest Rated Park



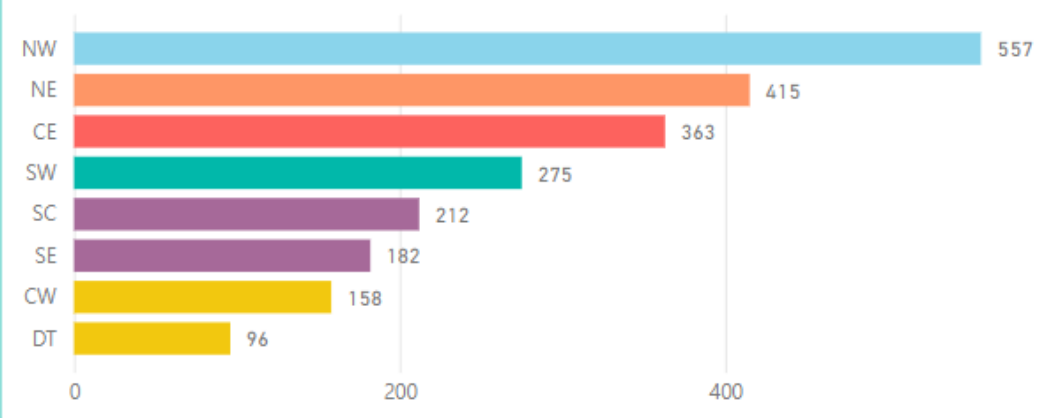
Lowest Rated Park



Average Rating By District



of Inspections by District



Parks and Environment: Community Inspections Report

Choose a Park

All

District

All

120

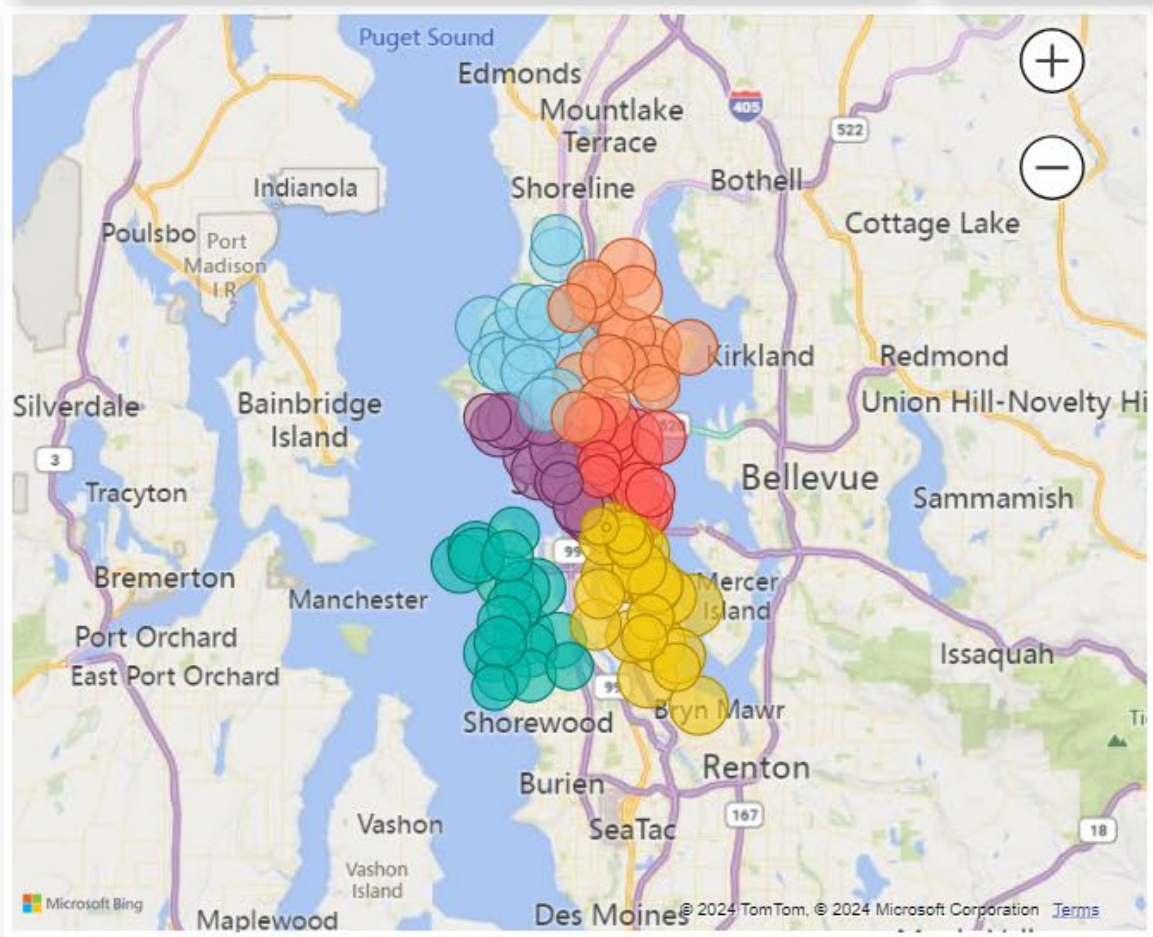
of Parks Inspected

2263

Total Responses

3.61

Overall Average Rating



3.96

Trees

2.72

Restrooms

3.51

Picnic Areas

3.72

Graffiti

3.47

Turf

3.16

Lighting

3.57

Sport Courts

3.92

Waste Mgmt

3.74

Shrubs and Land...

3.82

Hardscapes

3.40

Athletic Fields

3.68

Whole Park

3.76

Trails/Natural Are...

3.80

Play areas

3.60

Beaches/Shorelin...

Parks and Environment: Community Inspections Report

Choose a Park

All

District

All

120

of Parks Inspected

2263

Total Responses

3.61

Overall Average Rating



Please select the park you are located at.

Please share any positive or negative comments, improvements needed, safety issues, or any other information you think would be valuable for Seattle Parks to know.

Maple Leaf Park

Your survey does not instruct what to do if the park does not include the element you are asking about. It is going to skew the results. You need an N/A

Golden Gardens Park

Young men breaking bottles on beach today. Stupid! Good to keep homeless campers away. We're here virtually every evening from 3:30 - 4:15. Love this place!

Ballard Commons Park

You need to run a check in with the crew responsible for building the play ground, they are taking their sweet time. Probably asking for extensions costing the city and tax payers more because they know they can get away with it. Park is usually clean, except at night when houseless people take over and use the restrooms as drug dens. I personally would never use the restroom here, didn't the "self cleaning" bathroom cost like a million dollars? Hilario to the Foreman responsible for the construction of the playground. For 30-80\$'s an hr it's in everyone's interest for them to just get it done.

Fremont Canal Park

You do a good job.

Greenwood Park

Would really love if there was lighting at the park so kids could play after dark (5pm).

Parks and Environment: Community Inspections Report

Choose a Park

All



District

All



120

of Parks Inspected

2263

Total Responses

3.61

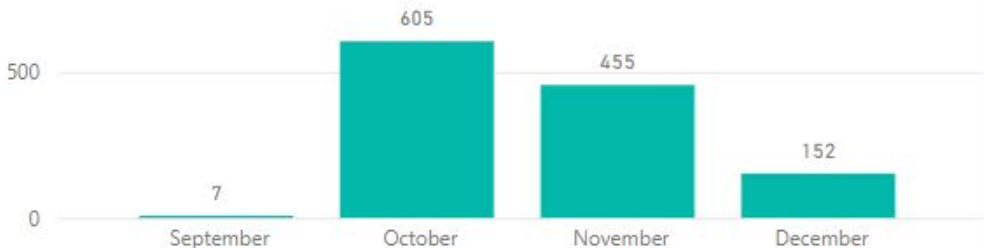
Overall Average Rating

2023

Average rating by month

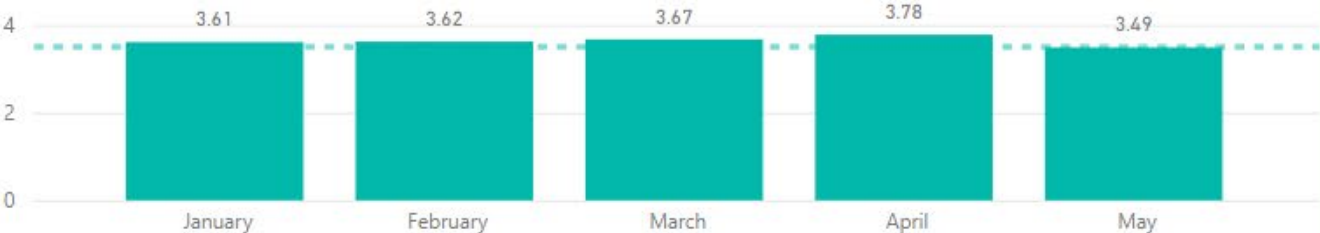


of Inspections by month

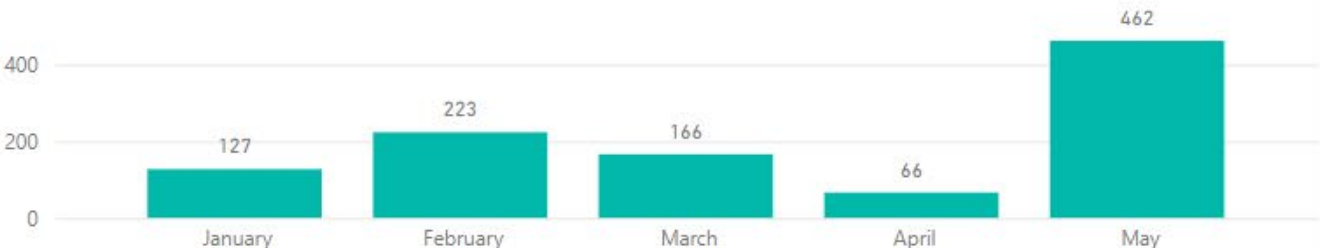


2024

Average rating by month



of Inspections by month



Thank you!



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Parks & Recreation

Healthy People, Thriving Environment, Vibrant Community

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Seattle Parks & Recreation Overview and Park District 101

Board of Parks and Recreation New Member Orientation - 2024



Seattle
Parks & Recreation

Healthy People, **Thriving Environment**, **Vibrant Community**



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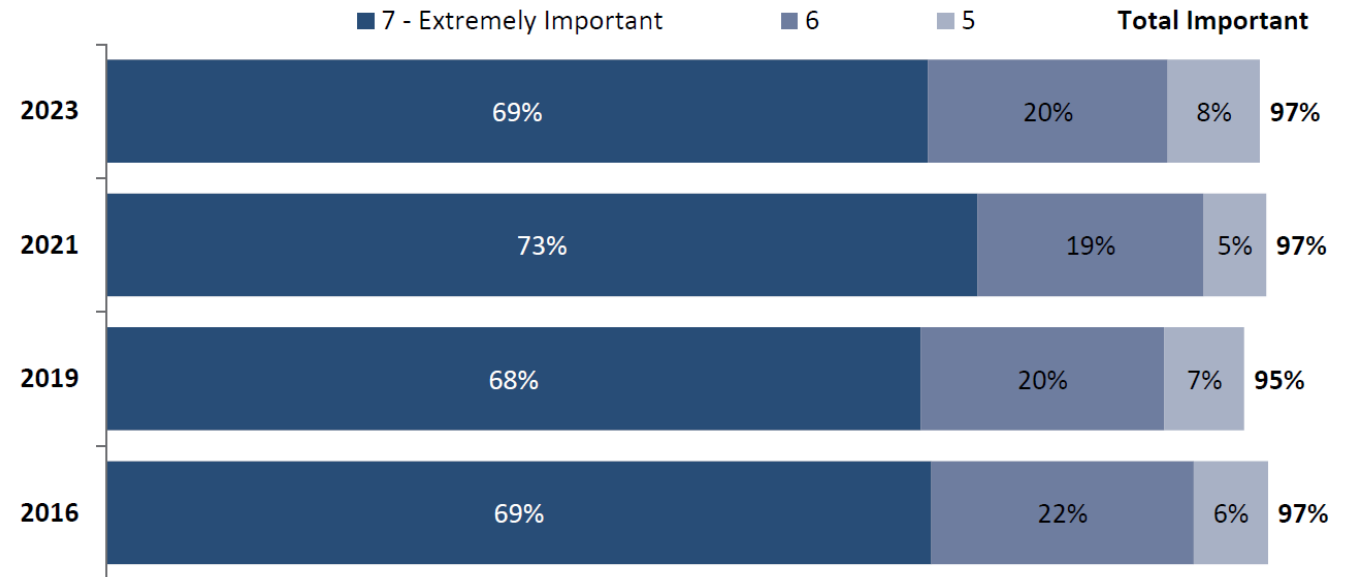
Seattle Residents Value Parks & Recreation!

Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) regularly conducts a statistically valid survey of Seattle residents' views on our parks and recreation system.

Key findings from 2023:

- ✓ 97% of residents report that our system is important to Seattle's quality of life
- ✓ 65% of residents gave the system an A or B grade, an increase from 54% in 2021
- ✓ 93% of residents report visiting a park or recreation facility at least twice in 2023, and 73% reported visiting 10 or more times a year.

How important do you think Seattle's Parks and Recreation system contributes to the quality of life here in Seattle — on a scale of 1 to 7?



Today's Presentation

- SPR in the Charter and SMCs
- SPR Mission & Affirmations
- Land Acknowledgment & RSJI Commitment
- System Overview
- Leadership and Organization
- Budget and Funding
- What We Do
- Partners
- Park District 101



SPR in the City Charter & SMCs

ARTICLE XI - Department of Parks

Section 1. - DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION:

There shall be a Department of Parks and Recreation, the head of which shall be the Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, who shall have responsibility for the management and control of the park and recreation system of the City.

Section 2. - BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

There shall be a Board of Park Commissioners, the function of which shall be to act in an advisory capacity to the Mayor, City Council, Department of Parks and Recreation and other City departments in respect to park and recreation matters.



Our Mission

Seattle Parks and Recreation equips employees and the public for well-being as we support healthy people, a thriving environment and vibrant community.

We provide safe and accessible spaces for residents and visitors to work, recreate, rejuvenate and to enhance quality of life and wellness for children, teenagers, adults and seniors.



Organizational Affirmations

Healthy People



Thriving Environment



Vibrant Community



6

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Land Acknowledgment

Seattle Parks and Recreation acknowledges and affirms the indigenous Coast Salish as the original caretakers of our waters and landscape, who nurtured and shaped today's parkland.

We honor their legacy with gratitude and appreciation and will safeguard their knowledge and stewardship as enduring treasures to promote community welfare, cultivate inclusive expressions of nature and recreation and commit to land acknowledgment for each ensuing generation.



RSJI Commitment



Race and Social Justice Initiative (RSJI)

SPR embraces the City of Seattle's long-term commitment to end institutional and structural racism and to achieve equity in our programs, projects and community contributions.

SPR Equity & Inclusion Vision Statement

Seattle Parks and Recreation commits to advancing equity and social justice in our department and in every neighborhood by growing a dynamic and diverse workforce, developing strong investments, growth opportunities and beneficial partner strategies as we acknowledge and pledge to close disparities created by historical practices which often hindered workforce development, environmental justice, access to quality open spaces, programs and facilities. [#OneSeattle](#)



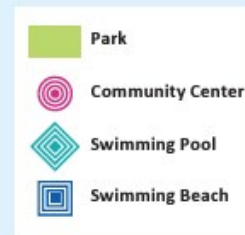
System Overview

~500 parks, 6,441-acres (12% of city land area)
and 99% live within 10-minute walk to park

- 2,584 acres of natural areas
- 152 children's play areas
- 140 racket sport courts
- 140+ miles of soft-surface trails
- 129 restrooms
- 115 ballfields
- 84 playfields
- 61.5 outdoor basketball courts
- 49.5 indoor basketball courts
- 32 P-Patch community gardens
- 31 wading pools and spray parks
- 17 fitness zones
- 17 outdoor volleyball courts
- 14 Off Leash Dog Areas
- An outdoor stadium
- Aquarium and the Zoo
- Washington Park Arboretum
- Specialty Gardens & Much Much More!

Our Footprint in Seattle

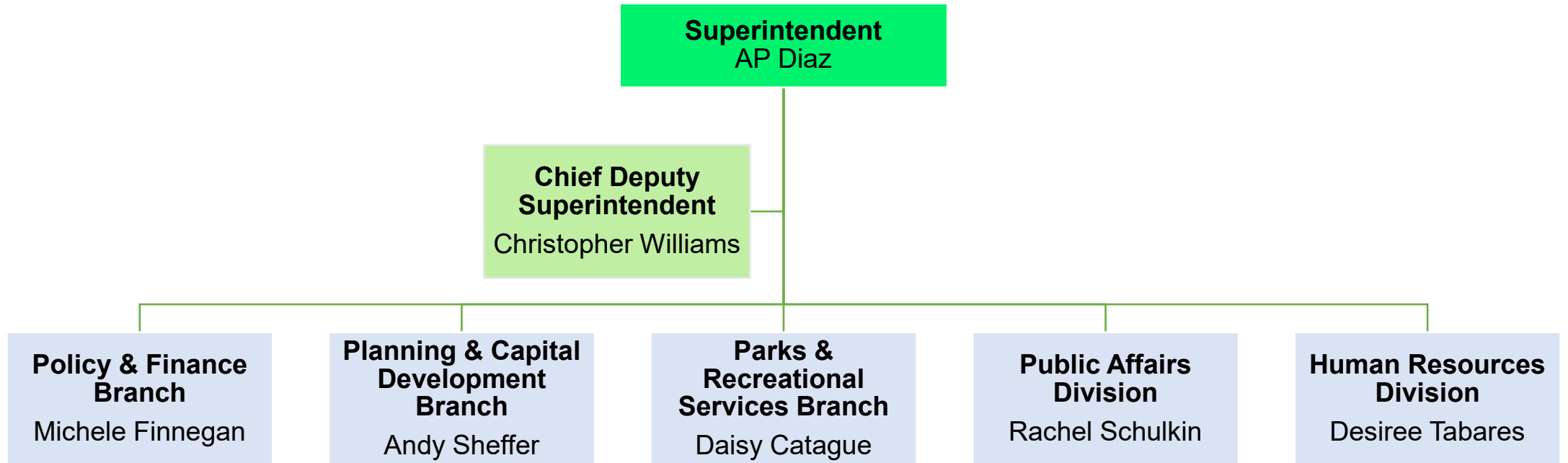
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32 P-Patch community gardens on SPR property
31 wading pools and spray parks
17 fitness zones
17 dedicated outdoor volleyball courts
14 off leash dog areas
12 skateparks
4 golf courses
...and much, much more!



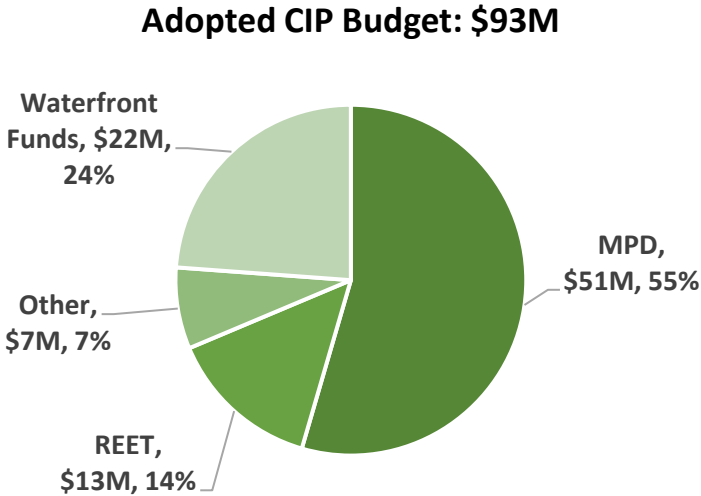
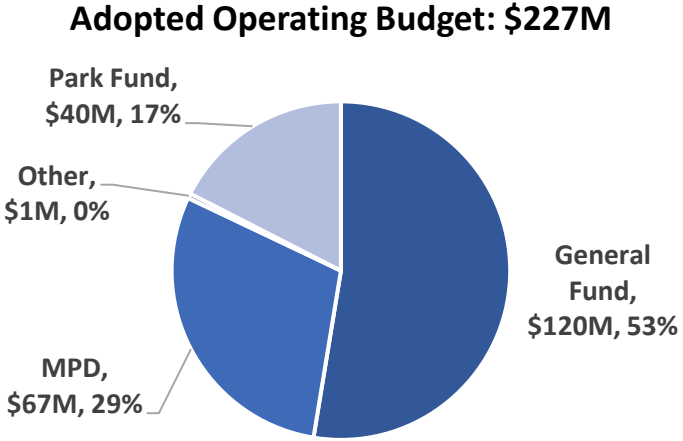
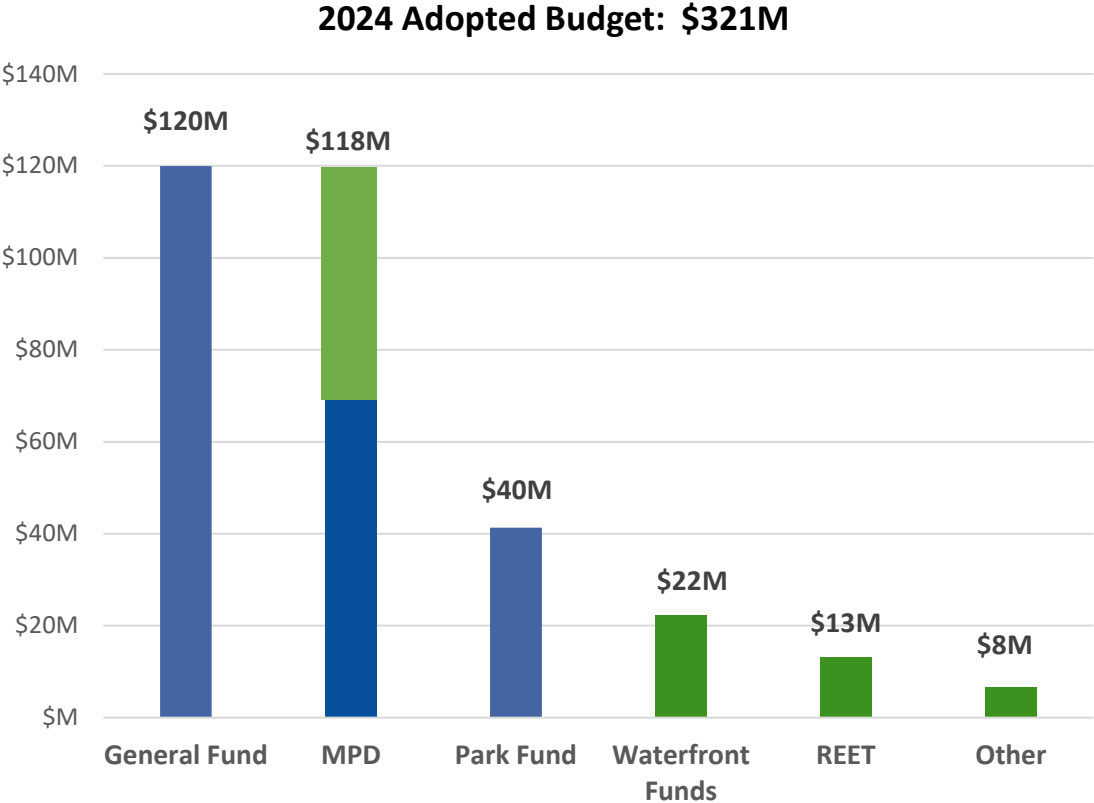
0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Note: This list of our assets uses Trust for Public Lands criteria, which includes specific ways to count various assets. For example, half basketball courts are counted as 0.5 courts.

Organizational Structure



2024 SPR Adopted Budget



Parks and Recreational Services: Recreation

We inspire people of all ages and abilities to reach their full potential and stay healthy through recreation programs and activities

- Aquatics and Swim Seattle
- Community Centers and Recreation Programming
- School-Age Care & Preschool
- Teen Life Centers & Seattle Mentors
- Mobile Recreation, Arts in Parks, Recreation for All
- Lifelong Recreation
- Specialized Programs
- Environmental Education
- **Community Services:**
 - Emergency Operations
 - Park Rangers
 - Park Activation



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Parks and Recreational Services: Recreation

Something for Everyone!



Parks and Recreational Services: Parks & Environment

We ensure parks, natural areas & public spaces are safe, clean and inviting

- Grounds Maintenance
- Natural Resources
- Urban Forestry
- Horticulture: Annuals, Perennials
- Specialty Gardens: Arboretum, Japanese Garden, Kubota Garden, Landscape Restoration



Parks & Recreational Services: Facilities

We enhance safety and maintain and improve valuable park assets throughout the system

- Skilled Trades
 - Carpenters
 - Electricians
 - Plumbers
 - Painters
 - Others
- Custodial Services
- Graffiti Removal



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Planning & Capital Development (PCD)

Our capital projects enhance park land, facilities, and support Seattle communities through safe, accessible and well-designed spaces

- Asset Management
- Engineering & Design
- Project Management
- Environmental Compliance
- Grant Administration
- Equity Fund
- Seattle Conservation Corps
- Golf Management



Completed Capital Projects

Projects completed across the city, across many kinds of parks and facilities, including:

- **7 play areas** renovated
- **5 athletic fields** resurfaced
- **8 outdoor sport courts** renovated
- **ADA accessibility** improvements at Discovery Park, Rainier Community Center, and Magnuson Park

...and many more detailed in the Annual Report!



45 Capital Projects Completed in 2023

CIP by Detailed Line of Business

- AC Accessibility and Compliance
- AF Athletic Fields
- B Buildings
- CC Community Center Renovation
- IU Infrastructure and Utilities
- ID Irrigation and Drainage
- M Magnuson Park Buildings & Infrastructure
- MM Major Maintenance
- MP Major Projects Challenge Fund
- PF Park Features
- PI Park Improvements

For more specific information about individual projects, [see the detailed appendix](#).

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Partners Help Ensure Success for All!



- Associated Recreation Council (ARC)
- Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners
- Seattle Parks Foundation
- Dept. of Education & Early Learning
- Seattle Public Library
- MOHAI
- Downtown Seattle Association
- Woodland Park Zoo
- Seattle Aquarium
- Tribal Partners
- Green Seattle Partnership
- Seattle Public Schools
- 60+ Friends Groups
- Over 31,000 volunteers



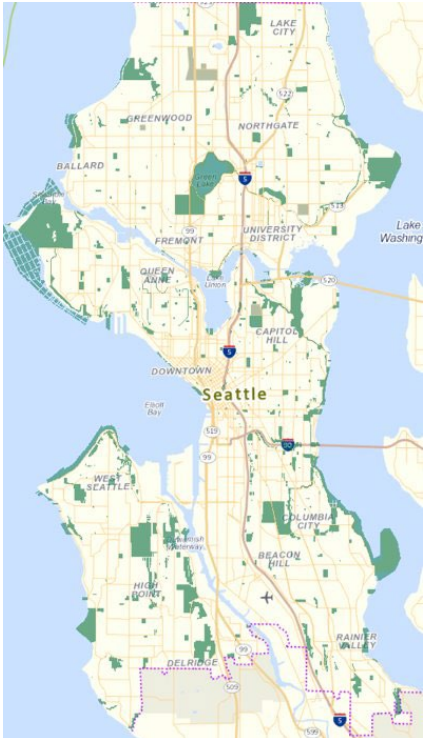
Background: Seattle Park District 101

Original intent of the Park District (*Parks Legacy Committee 2013-2014*)

- ✓ Support core parks and recreation services during an era of General Fund contraction
- ✓ Addressing a major maintenance backlog
- ✓ Better serve the needs of a rapidly growing Seattle with changing demographics

Key Facts:

- An independent taxing authority, with borders matching the City of Seattle, established in a 2014 vote
- Resources are legally restricted to supporting parks and recreation purposes
- Financial and programmatic planning occurs in 6-year Cycles
 - Cycle 1 ran from 2014-2020, making significant investments in major maintenance, day-to-day maintenance of parks and facilities, expanding access to recreation programs, and acquiring and developing new parks.
 - 2-year “interim period” during the pandemic, and Cycle 2 (2023-2028) was adopted in November 2022.



Background: Park District Governance



City Council

Sets funding levels and broad policy direction and provides oversight for SPR



Mayor

Appoints department leadership and provides more specific leadership



Seattle Parks & Recreation

Operates parks and recreation facilities for the residents of Seattle



Park District Board

Governs the independent taxing authority, the Seattle Park District, made up of ex-officio City Council-members



Board of Parks & Recreation Commissioners

Advisory and oversight board made up of appointed Seattle residents



Interlocal Agreement

Governs the relationship between the City of Seattle and the Seattle Park District, laying out roles and accountability provisions.



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Background: Interlocal Agreement



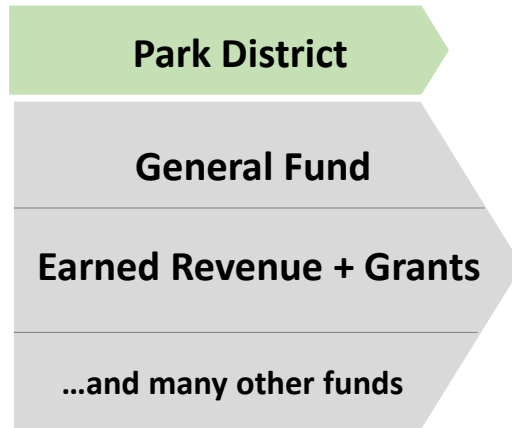
Interlocal Agreement

- ***The Park District*** levies property taxes and sets a budget for use of those funds to support parks and recreation services within its jurisdiction
- ***The City*** owns, maintains, operates, and staffs all parks and recreation facilities, using Park District and other funds to do so
- ***Planning*** occurs in 6-year cycles, with roles for SPR, the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners (BPRC), and the Mayor, with a final plan adopted by the Park District Board
- Sets a minimum ***General Fund*** contribution by the City to SPR



Background: Braided Funding & Impacts

SPR's budget is made up of various funding sources...



...that support SPR's operations...

SPR's Lines of Business:

- Activation
- Facility Maintenance
- Grounds Maintenance
- Capital Development
- Urban Forestry
- ...and many more

...resulting in benefits to the public, verified by performance measures...

of facilities decarbonized
of youth employed
beach rescues
% of parks meeting maintenance standards
...and many more

The Park District represents **37%** of SPR's total 2024 Adopted Budget:

- Braided with other funds throughout our operations—generally no “Park District activities” separate from SPR’s “General Fund activities.”
- Provides essential support to basic park maintenance, recreation facilities, CIP, and more; program goals and service levels are based on use of all funds.

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Park District Board vote 

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2019	2020	2021	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	2023
			2022												

Background: Selected Cycle 2 Investments



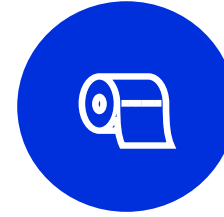
Increase evening and weekend **park maintenance**



Reboot and expand the **Park Ranger** program



Expand **Center City Activation** through the Park Concierge Program and strengthened community partnerships



Expand access and cleanliness of **park restrooms**



Expand **Community Center** operating hours



Launch an **Equitable Park Development Fund** to support community-driven park improvement projects



Preserve the urban canopy through investment in the **Green Seattle Partnership** and a new **Trees in Developed Parks** program



Bolster support for **preventative maintenance** for regulatory and life/safety compliance



Deepen our investment in **youth employment**, transitioning from stipend to wage-based



Launch a dedicated **Vandalism Response Team**



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Background: Accountability & Oversight in Cycle 2

The Seattle Park District's investment in parks and recreation services deserves a high degree of performance oversight and accountability.



Seattle Park District
Cycle 2 Ramp Up & Reporting Plan

March 31, 2023

- ✓ **Park District Board Resolution 51** outlined specific reporting requirements, and directed SPR to develop a **Cycle 2 Reporting Plan** that sets performance measures for all parts of the organization
- ✓ **SPR** provides the public updates on accomplishments using:
 - Online **financial and performance dashboards** report KPIs to the public on a twice-annual basis
 - Continuing from Cycle 1, **Annual reports** provide updates on year-to-year accomplishments, a **mid-cycle evaluation** identifies lessons learned to inform the next planning cycle, and a **cycle-end report** provides a summative assessment
- ✓ **BPRC Performance Oversight Subcommittee** tracks SPR performance against Cycle 2 commitments, and will co-design the mid-cycle evaluation
- ✓ **City Auditor** conducts independent analyses and develops recommendations (per MPD Board request, began in June)



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Questions?

For more information

www.seattle.gov/parks



Seattle
Parks & Recreation

Healthy People, Thriving Environment, Vibrant Community

