



CITY OF NORMANDY PARK

Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Trails Plan Update

March 2024

City of Normandy Park

801 SW 174th Street

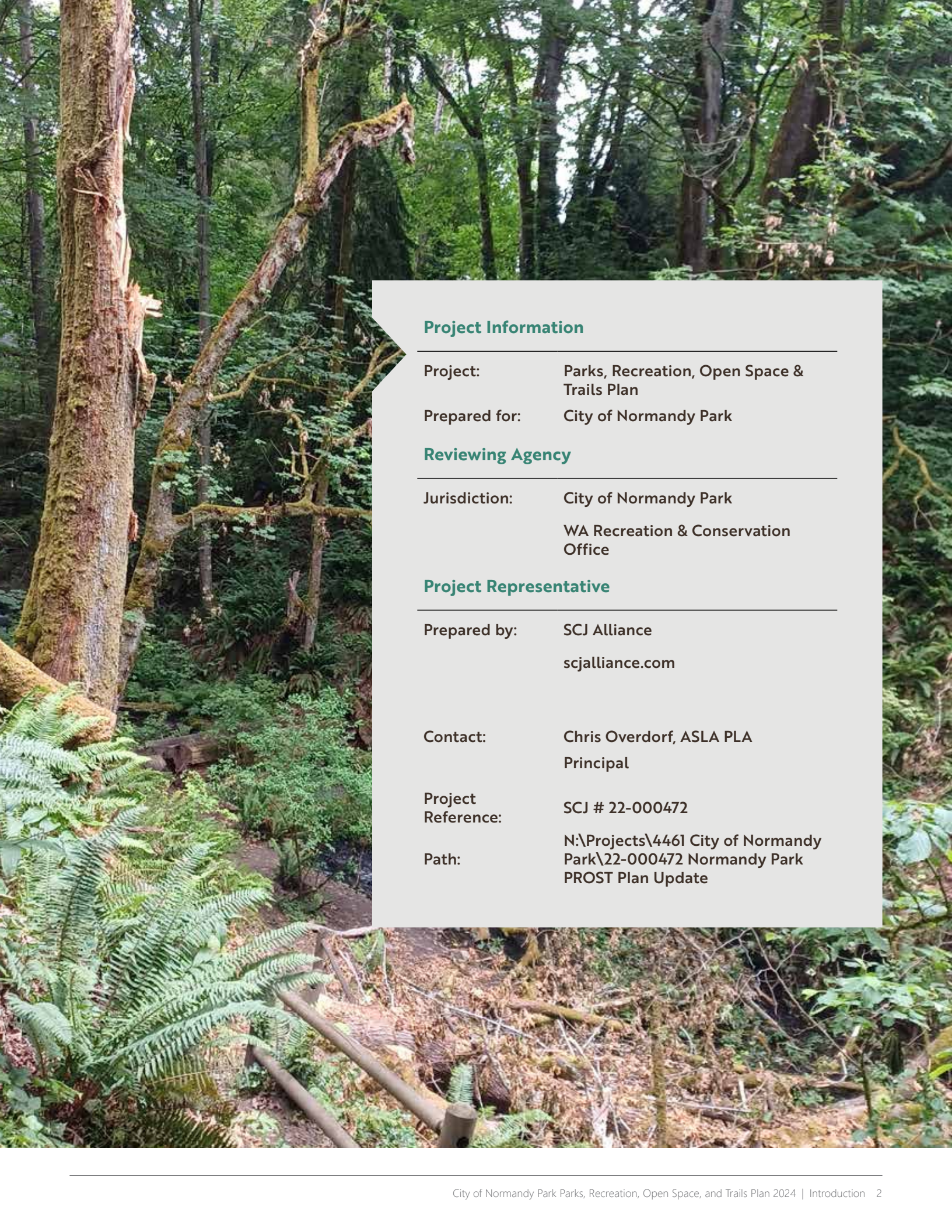
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Project Information

Project: Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Plan

Prepared for: City of Normandy Park

Reviewing Agency

Jurisdiction: City of Normandy Park
WA Recreation & Conservation Office

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Project Reference: SCJ # 22-000472

Path: N:\Projects\4461 City of Normandy Park\22-000472 Normandy Park PROST Plan Update



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

City of Normandy Park

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Overview

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the City of Normandy Park’s comprehensive parks & recreation plan update. Commonly referred to as a Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails (PROSTT) Plan, this document is purposefully designed to be a fluid and dynamic document to satisfy Growth Management Act (GMA) requirements while allowing the City to remain eligible for Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) funding and other funding sources for the next six-to-ten years.

This document summarizes the inventory and assessment of the city’s parks, recreation, open space, and its non-motorized trails and documents the community’s recreational needs and wishes gathered from surveys, public outreach, and online tools. It establishes a vision, planning goals, examines the level of service currently provided by the current mix of city parks and open spaces. The capital improvement plan (CIP) and its formal approval adoption completes the PROST Plan suggesting a series of recommended improvements to better serve the citizens of Normandy Park for the next six years and beyond, each tied to potential grant funding sources, serving to guide the City’s response and priorities to the desired quality of life envisioned from its citizens.

PURPOSE

The PROSTT Plan Update assesses how well the City of City of Normandy Park’s parks, open spaces, and trails, together with other local and regional parks & recreation assets, serve the community. Contained within are a set of functional and aspirational goals, objectives, desires that propose improvements and changes to meet the evolving recreational demands and needs of the community.

This plan is a dynamic six-year strategic guide and aspirational plan for managing and enhancing the City of Normandy Park’s parks, trails, open space, and recreation services. It establishes an implementable framework for serving the community’s desired quality of life related to its parks, recreation, trails, green open spaces, and recreational opportunities. In addition, this Plan provides a vision for the City’s park and recreation system, proposes updates to level-of-service standards for park and facility classifications, and addresses departmental and community-wide goals, objectives, and other management considerations toward continuing high-quality recreation opportunities to benefit the Normandy Park community.

Developed with input and direction directly from city residents, City staff, Parks Commission, and Planning Commission, this update inventories and evaluates existing park and recreation areas and assesses how well the City of Normandy Park’s parks, open spaces,

and trails, together with other local and regional parks & recreation assets serve the community and propose improvements and changes to meet the evolving recreational demands and needs of the community. In addition, this plan assesses the conditions for acquisition, site development, financing options, and operational improvements and offers policies and recommendations to support the community’s desired quality of life.

REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

GROWTH MANAGEMENT ACT REQUIREMENTS

The State of Washington, under [RCW 36.70A.070 ‘Comprehensive Plans - Mandatory Elements’](#), outlines the components that each city’s comprehensive plan must include, stating the plan “shall consist of a map or maps, and descriptive text covering objectives, principles, and standards used to develop the comprehensive plan. The plan shall be an internally consistent document and all elements shall be consistent with the future land use map. A comprehensive plan shall be adopted and amended with public participation as provided in RCW 36.70A.140.

Each comprehensive plan shall include a plan, scheme, or design for each of the following:

1. A land use element designating the proposed general distribution and general location and extent of the uses of land, where appropriate, for agriculture, timber production, housing, commerce, industry, recreation, open spaces, general aviation airports, public utilities, public facilities, and other land uses.
2. A housing element ensuring the vitality and character of established residential neighborhoods.
3. A capital facilities plan element consisting of an inventory of existing capital elements, forecasts of future needs, proposed locations and capacities, a six-year financing plan, and a requirement to reassess if probable funding falls short of meeting existing needs. Park and recreation facilities shall be included in the capital facilities plan element.
4. A utilities element consisting of the general location, proposed location, and capacity of all existing and proposed utilities.
5. Rural element including lands that are not designated for urban growth, agriculture, forest, or mineral resources.

6. A transportation element that implements, and is consistent with, the land use element.
7. An economic development element establishing local goals, policies, objectives, and provisions for economic growth and vitality and a high quality of life. A city that has chosen to be a residential community is exempt from the economic development element requirement of this subsection.
8. A park and recreation element that implements, and is consistent with, the capital facilities plan element as it relates to park and recreation facilities. The element shall include:
 - a. Estimates of park and recreation demand for at least a ten-year period;
 - b. an evaluation of facilities and service needs; and
 - c. an evaluation of intergovernmental coordination opportunities to provide regional approaches for meeting park and recreational demand.

WASHINGTON RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE (RCO) REQUIREMENTS

The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) is a state agency that “manages several grant programs to create outdoor recreation opportunities, protect the best of the state’s wildlife habitat and farmland, and help return salmon from near extinction.” The agency awards approximately 270 grants totaling \$78M each year. To be eligible to apply for grant funding, a municipality or agency must have adopted a recreation or conservation plan before applying for a grant, and plans must meet specified requirements. The methodology, organization, and content of this PROST plan address RCO eligibility guidelines.

CITY OF Normandy Park REQUIREMENTS

Consistent with City of Normandy Park Code Requirements

Potential improvements outlined in this PROST Plan were developed to be consistent with the City of Normandy Park’s Comprehensive Plan and Municipal Code.

Normandy Park’s PROST Plan forms the 6-year and 20-year Capital Improvement Plans (CIP) serving to inform possible near-term and long-term city budgeting, procurement, and construction needs, while providing the flexibility to adapt to unforeseen opportunities that may present themselves during this plan’s performance period.

The CIP noted in this document is in no way or means the final plan to guide all park development, acquisition, and maintenance needs the city will undertake over the next six years. It is an aspirational vision of potential projects, agreements, and possible programs developed thorough a public involvement process designed to capture the community’s needs and wishes for its parks & recreation system. Many projects, due to funding changes, procurement challenges, staffing needs, and political priorities, may not be implemented. Yet, the projects reflected in the CIP have been developed in a way so that if the city decides to pursue a specific project, they are best-positioned to secure competitive funding from other sources or are prioritized correctly.

PROCESS

While RCO has no specific requirements for the number of pages, number of chapters, or format for comprehensive parks plans, it is expected that the plan will capture the needs of the organization and, more importantly, the quality of life desired by the community.

The process used to develop the City of Normandy Park’s PROST Plan Update is modeled after six minimum elements noted in RCO Manual 2: Planning Policies & Guidelines. Whether this plan supports a grant application for a capital project (facility development and land acquisition) or a noncapital project (architectural, engineering, planning, etc.) the organization of this plan and the process followed is purposefully designed to capture the elements expected by RCO.

Aside from this, the first section, the project overview, this plan is structured around six primary sections or elements needed for an effective comprehensive parks plan:

Existing Conditions (Systems Inventory)

A description of the planning or service area, including the physical setting, the community profile, other mutually supportive planning efforts, and a summary of conditions of the complete inventory of each existing outdoor recreation asset or program.

Public Involvement

A description of how the planning process gave the public ample opportunity to be involved in plan development and adoption.

Demand & Needs Analysis

An analysis that takes your inventory work and public involvement into consideration, balancing public demand with your organization’s current capacity and future expectations.

Goals and Objectives

The plan must support the applicant’s park and recreation mission, including the current project, with broad statements of intent, or goals that capture a community’s desired outdoor recreation resources.

Capital Improvement Program

A list of the desired capital improvements or capital facility programs of at least 6 years that lists and prioritizes desired land acquisition, development, renovation, and restoration projects.

Approvals

A resolution, ordinance, or other adoption instrument showing formal approval of the plan and planning process by the governing entity.

The process diagram below identifies the priority sections needed to develop a GMA-compliant and RCO-certified PROST plan, however, many steps ran concurrently.



Goals & Objectives



PLANNING CONTEXT

The following vision statement still holds weight as the foundational core of the city’s desired quality of life:

To ensure our hidden gem provides the highest quality of life, public safety, recreation, history, and community – all in the beauty of our natural surroundings.

-Vision and User’s Guide, Normandy Park Comprehensive Plan

The City is currently updating its Comprehensive Plan during the PROST planning process, and the following vision, goals & objectives should be integrated into, and adopted as the Parks & Open Space Element, of the City’s Comprehensive Plan.

VISION FOR THE CITY OF NORMANDY PARK

As evidenced in the City’s vision statement, Normandy Park’s natural setting and features are seen as integral – even synonymous – with the community’s identity. For this reason, a set of core goals & objectives has been included to help reference and coordinate parks,

recreation and open space policy with the full range of City objectives. This element achieves this by:

- Presenting a brief summary of conditions adapted from the 2017 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan (PROS)
- References current capital improvement work associated with parks features
- Discusses parks-related findings gleaned from community input offered during this plan update process
- Summarizes the policy framework presented in the 2017 PROS plan.

This element is also provided to ensure full compliance with grant programs offered by the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO). For several of its granting programs, including the Boating Facilities Program, Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, the RCO requires a completed, adopted PROS plan as part of supporting documentation. Submitted plans must be less than six years old, indicating that Normandy Park will need to update and adopt its PROS by March 2030. For reference and for RCO purposes, the Normandy Park PROST plan is available from the City.

The City also works with the Normandy Park Municipal Parks District (MPD), a taxing district passed by voters in 2009 to help operate and fund public parks within City boundaries. The MPD is led by the

Normandy Park City Council as an ex-officio board, and has an operating agreement of 10 years with an annual auto-renew clause effective thereafter.

Purpose & Relationship to the GMA

Washington State’s Growth Management Act (GMA) requires cities to consider as part of the development of their comprehensive plan the goal to:

“Retain open space, enhance recreation opportunities, conserve fish and wildlife habitat, increase access to natural resource lands and water, and develop parks and recreation facilities.”

The GMA also requires a Parks and Recreation element be included in comprehensive plans. Specifically, the GMA requires the element to include:

- Estimates of park and recreation demand for at least a ten-year period
- Evaluation of facilities and service needs
- Evaluation of intergovernmental coordination opportunities to provide regional approaches for meeting park and recreation demand.

Overview

As discussed in the introduction to this section, the goals and policies contained in the following section are gathered from existing related policy, and are intended to supplement those contained in the City’s Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails (PROST) Plan. An overview of those contained here includes:

- Support for a system that is financially sustainable, maintains Levels of Service (LOS), and enhances the natural environment
- Increases public access to shoreline areas, as appropriate and feasible
- Support for the City’s Shoreline Master Program (SMP)
- Identification and incorporation of important viewpoints, wetland areas and other natural features into park system planning

- Incorporation of non-motorized trails and school district facilities into park system planning

- Maintaining a Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) including parks and recreation needs, optimizing system function and helping make investments timely and cost-effective

- Maintaining and improving the local stock of parks, open space areas, landscape features and forested areas as part of the city’s “park-like” character.

PROST Plan Goals & Objectives

The following are the Parks & Trails Plan goals, objectives, and policies which are in alignment with the City’s Comprehensive Plan Parks and Recreation Element.

Note that objectives uses the following key:

LU = Land Use

HO = Housing

XP = Transportation

CF = Capital Facilities

PR = Parks & Recreation

EV = Environment

Goal 01 -PR Develop a system of parks, walking trails and recreation facilities that are financially sustainable, meet public recreation needs, and incorporate and enhance the natural environment.

Goal 02 -PR Increase public access to shoreline areas as appropriate and feasible, considering:

- ◆ Property rights
- ◆ Maintaining public safety
- ◆ Limiting municipal liability
- ◆ Maintaining natural character and appearance
- ◆ Maintaining ecological functions

Policy A -PR Protect park and recreation areas from physical damage and/ or limitations on use resulting from surrounding conditions including heavy traffic, excessive noise, surface water runoff, or air and water pollution

Policy B -PR Designate accessible, publicly owned

shorelines using appropriate signs.

Policy C -PR Priority for shoreline access acquisition should consider resource desirability, availability and proximity of population.

Policy D -PR Acquire and develop shoreline areas and access features in accord with the City's Shoreline Master Program and with park and recreation goals.

Policy F -PR Make public shorelines fully accessible per ADA standards whenever physical conditions reasonably permit.

Policy G -PR Make viewpoints, lookouts, and vistas of shorelines and wetlands publicly accessible where conditions reasonably permit, ensuring adequate protection of private properties.

Policy H -PR Work to connect parks facilities, public viewpoints and shoreline access areas using trails and bicycle pathways.

Policy I -PR Work to optimize the recreational, educational and historic value of publicly-owned shoreline areas and access points.

Policy J -PR Coordinated with community needs, work to identify, acquire or reserve lands for future open space, parks or recreational needs, or shoreline access, whether visual or physical.

Policy K -PR Shoreline recreational areas should be sited and designed to facilitate adequate monitoring of activity and maintenance.

Policy L -PR Bicycle path planning should take into consideration opportunities for shoreline views.

Policy M -PR Cooperate and coordinate with the Highline School District, and with other public agencies and private groups to meet the recreation needs of the city.

Policy N -PR Consider opportunities to obtain additional lands and facilities for parks throughout the city, particularly in those areas facing the most potential development.

Policy O -PR Periodically compare recreational demand and usage to established Levels of Service, informing consideration of additional capital programs for parks.

Policy P -PR Maintain an updated and financially viable plan for meeting park and recreation needs.

Policy Q -PR Develop and update a Parks

Improvement Program on an annual basis, in conjunction with the City's overall Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and the annual City budget process.

Policy R -PR Assign a high funding priority to park projects that incorporate non-motorized trails and increase safe and accessible routes to the City's parks, schools, and open spaces that will eliminate safety hazards.

Policy S - PR Consider the cost of operation and maintenance when developing or enhancing parks.

Policy T - PR Ensure adequate annual funding for general and preventative maintenance of existing parks.

Policy U - PR Utilize supervised volunteers to aid provision of parks and recreation services whenever appropriate.

Policy V - PR Balance public use needs and preservation of the natural environment in park design.

Policy W - PR Open newly acquired parklands to the public as soon as possible, completing improvements as necessary to implement parks-related goals and policies.

Policy X - PR Incorporate features in park design that benefit the natural environment and educate users regarding their presence and function.

Policy Y - PR Utilize eco-friendly methods and products in development and maintenance of parks.

Policy Z - PR Establish LOS targets to ensure appropriate park and trail levels of service provided in the PROST Plan.

- ◆ Investment: Maintain a level of investment per capita (resident equivalent) that is consistent with the current value of the system per person. The 2017 value is \$XX per resident equivalent, as may be adjusted periodically for system value, inflation, or annexation.
- ◆ Recreation Facilities: Provide for a mix of parks and recreation facilities at a level consistent with the community's current level of facilities, desired needs, with room to address forecasted growth.
- ◆ Active Recreation Facilities: Fields, Courts, Tracks, Gyms: Resident equivalent population per Sumner facility consistent with the current ratio. The current ratio is XXX resident equivalent per facility.
- ◆ Increase Passive Recreation Amenities: Picnic

Shelters, Off Leash Areas, Playgrounds, Paths, Community Gardens, Flexible Open Turf Areas, Gathering Spaces and Amphitheaters: Resident equivalent population per facility consistent with the current ratio. The current ratio is X resident equivalent per facility.

- ♦ Trails: Resident equivalent population per trail mile consistent with the current ratio of X.
- ♦ Parks: Resident equivalent population per acre consistent with the current ratio of X
- ♦ Access and Distribution: Parks and open space are located within a 1/2 mile (10 min walk) accessible by pedestrian or bicycle facilities.

Goal 03 - EV Protect and restore shoreline areas, implementing the goals, policies and actions listed in the City's adopted Shoreline Master Program.

Policy A -EV Restore and/or preserve identified wetland and marsh areas in Normandy Park, supporting stormwater control, habitat preservation and open space provision.

Policy B -EV Restore and/or preserve buffering vegetation surrounding identified wetland and marsh areas.

Policy C -EV Promote soil erosion prevention techniques, including:

- Preservation and/or restoration of natural vegetation
- Minimizing the use of grading or cut and fill activities to help retain natural slopes and watershed function.

Policy D -EV Shoreline features having historic, cultural, scientific or educational value should be designated and then retained and protected.

Policy E -EV Plan future shoreline access areas to include ancillary facilities such as parking and sanitation when appropriate.

Policy F -EV Shoreline access and ancillary facilities should be designed and developed to minimize conflicts with adjacent private properties.

Policy G -EV Shoreline recreational use and development should enhance environmental qualities with minimal adverse effect on the natural environment

Goal 04 -LU Locate and organize

land uses citywide to balance among objectives including:

- ♦ Protection and enjoyment of natural resources
- ♦ Optimized health, safety and welfare of citizens
- ♦ Efficient, cost-effective service provision
- ♦ Improved shopping and service options
- ♦ Preservation of community character
- ♦ Compatibility / reduced function and aesthetic conflicts among differing adjacent land uses.

Policy A -LU Promote and coordinate the provision of public facilities with public and private development.

Policy B -LU Participate in the planning and siting of capital facilities by County or other agencies where such facilities may mutually benefit or influence Normandy Park planning goals.

Policy C -LU Support the provision of features and services in community facilities that benefit all residents of Normandy Park.

Policy D -LU Control development in environmentally sensitive or critical areas, preserving natural function, water quality, public safety and open-space character.

Policy E -LU Work with municipalities and agencies surrounding Normandy Park to ensure City notification and opportunity for comment on pending land use actions that may affect water quality, air, water or noise pollution, increased traffic or other factors that influence the local quality of life.

Policy F -LU Retain publicly-owned street ends.

Goal 05 -XP Maintain established Level of Service (LOS) standards for the street system, supporting alternative means of transportation including walking, bicycle riding, and public transit.

Policy A -XP Support coordinated efforts between the city and other jurisdictions including neighboring cities, the county, region and state to:

- ♦ Increase accessibility to adjacent jurisdictions trailheads and non-motorized trails
- ♦ Coordination transportation plans and projects
- ♦ Coordinate land use with transportation planning
- ♦ Develop funding and concurrency strategies to meet the requirements of GMA
- ♦ Coordinate public transportation, including

opportunities for local circulator routes (sweep shuttles) and service to the new S. 200th Street light rail station.

Policy B-XP In the annual update of the six-year Transportation Improvement Program, consider:

- ◆ The priorities established in the Capital Facilities Plan
- ◆ Recent land use decisions
- ◆ Street sections that are substandard and in need of repair and/or upgrading
- ◆ Pedestrian and bikeway improvements that will reduce vehicle trips
- ◆ Opportunities to place utility lines underground.

Policy C-XP Manage single occupant vehicle usage and encourage walking, biking, carpooling, and transit ridership to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and foster public health. Methods may include:

- ◆ Prioritizing pedestrian and transit corridor improvements
- ◆ Monitoring employer compliance with Commute Trip Reduction Act, if applicable
- ◆ Working with transit providers to pursue new local circulator (“sweep shuttle”) and light rail shuttle service
- ◆ Working with King County METRO and PSRC on efforts to increase carpooling and transit ridership
- ◆ Encourage use of low-emission vehicles.

Policy D -XP Enhance pedestrian and bicycle opportunities, and preserve the capacity of city streets by expanding the existing system of sidewalks and trails to create a more effective pedestrian/bicycle circulation system connecting all the parks together. Give priority (in this order) to:

- ◆ Marine View Drive
- ◆ 1st Avenue South
- ◆ Internal pedestrian paths, allowing walkers to return to their origin without having to go on 1st Avenue or double back
- ◆ East - west sidewalks, such as along Normandy Park Drive SW that provide the best opportunities for improving east-west circulation.

G.02-CF Develop and maintain the city’s public facilities to ensure adopted levels of service exist for current users and for forecasted growth.

G.03-CF Actively influence the future character of the city by coordinating the development of city facilities and services with adopted land use patterns and intensities.

Policy A -CF Coordinate land use and public works activities with an ongoing program of long-range financial planning to ensure availability of fiscal resources for implementing the Capital Facilities Plan (CFP).

Policy B -CF Where appropriate and reasonable, utilize utility and transportation rights-of-way for public access and use.

Policy C -CF Determine which services are most cost-effectively delivered by the city, and which services should be contracted out to others. Use joint facilities with adjacent service purveyors, where appropriate, to provide the most efficient and cost- effective service.

Policy D -CF Encourage the use of public rights-of-way for multiple purposes, including basic transportation, major utilities, stormwater systems and recreational trails.

Policy E -CF Seek land acquisitions in advance of or concurrent with growth and accept donated property consistent with the guiding principles and vision set forth in this Plan. The highest priority is to acquire land for parks or trails in identified gap areas. Prioritize acquisitions and donations in gap areas identified in the PROS Plan.



Inventory & Assessment

INVENTORY & ASSESSMENT

The purpose of this chapter is to gain a broad understanding of the current conditions of the City of Normandy Park’s parks, recreation, open space and trails, the population that the parks are serving, and the regional context and planning efforts that frame the system.

Currently, the City manages eight named parks, one named preserve & open space and has two land-banked properties for additional parks, with each providing a variety of recreation amenities and experiences for the Normandy Park community to enjoy.

The inventory and assessment section is assembled across the following four distinct contexts:

- ◆ **Physical Context**
- ◆ **Demographic Context**
- ◆ **Planning Context**
- ◆ **Site Inventories & Evaluations**

PHYSICAL CONTEXT

Overview

The City of Normandy Park was originally platted as a planned residential community in 1929 with the vision of a distinctive community designed in the French Normandy style. Slowed by the Great Depression, the city was eventually established in 1953, and consists of 6.68 square miles within King County Washington. Unique to this community, 4.16 square miles of its total area are in water due to private properties extending into Puget Sound, leaving 2.52 square miles of land area. Normandy Park’s characteristic single family homes on winding streets set within a landscape of rolling hills, forests, and bluffs overlooking Puget Sound provide a distinct and desirable character. Housing is primarily single family residences with multi-family housing emerging in recent years in the Manhattan Village Subarea located near the city’s northeast edge. Less than 2% of the city area is zoned for commercial use, and two small commercial areas exist along the city’s east perimeter, First Avenue South, providing grocery stores, restaurants, and other basic community services. Larger commercial and retail areas exist in neighboring Burien, SeaTac, and Des Moines. Normandy Park is home to one elementary school, Marvista Elementary which is part of Highline School District, and several places of worship.

Normandy Park, located in King County, Washington, is a suburban city nestled along the shores of Puget Sound. Its physical context is characterized by several key features. The city boasts a picturesque waterfront along Puget Sound, offering stunning views of the water and opportunities for activities such as beachcombing, picnicking, and enjoying the natural beauty of the coastline.

The city is known for its lush greenery, wooded areas, and abundant natural spaces. Parks, trails, and green belts are prevalent throughout the community, contributing to its scenic beauty and providing recreational opportunities for residents.

Hydrology

Normandy Park is bisected by four creek watersheds. Miller Creek, Walker Creek, Des Moines Creek, and Normandy Creek pass through the community before emptying into Puget Sound. Miller, Walker, and Des Moines are salmon-bearing and classified as streams of significance by Washington Department of Ecology. Normandy Creek is not a stream of significance and is not believed to be a salmon-bearing stream. The health of these tributaries is critical to the Puget Sound region and Normandy Park holds a special responsibility as a watershed steward. Of particular importance to this PROST plan are Miller Creek and Walker Creek which traverse Walker Creek Preserve.

Arrow Lake is Normandy Park's only inland lake. It is bordered by private properties with no public access.

Wetlands

Normandy Park has mapped approximately 83 acres of wetlands within the city. Two of these wetlands, comprising about 17 acres, are designated as Class 1 wetlands (10 or more acres in size and/or inhabited by endangered, threatened, or rare plant and animal species or a unique combination of plant associations). There are five Class 2 wetlands (over one acre in size and/or having three or more types of vegetation systems) totaling about 65 acres and one Class 3 wetland (one acre or less in area, having two or fewer classes of vegetation systems) with an area of one-half acre.

The Normandy Park Sensitive Areas Ordinance (Title 13 of the Municipal Code) categorizes Class 1 and 2 wetlands as "significant" and Class 3 as "important" wetlands and prescribes protective measures. Significant to the PROST planning effort, several of the Class 1 and 2 wetlands are associated with Walker Creek Preserve and Nature Trails Park.

STORMWATER AND HYDROLOGY

Relative to other nearby cities, Normandy Park's large single family residential lots afford a benefit of green space to allow natural stormwater infiltration. Additionally, the city's parks and open spaces provide a valuable contribution to the city's stormwater management, providing areas for natural stormwater cleansing and infiltration.

FOREST AND TREE CANOPY

Located in Puget Sound's maritime climate the forested areas and naturally occurring trees throughout the city are indicative of Pacific Northwest temperate rain forest. Lowlands and wet areas are populated with emergent and early succession species, primarily red alder with an understory characterized by nootka rose, salmonberry, snowberry, and spirea. Mature forest remnants are dominated by Douglas fir and western red cedar, punctuated with bigleaf maple and understory trees including vine maple and beaked hazelnut. Associated native shrub and groundcover communities include salal, Oregon grape, and ferns. Several of Normandy Park's bluffs are home to Pacific madrona.

WILDLIFE

Resident and migratory birds and mammals find habitat in Normandy Park's parks and open spaces and warrant consideration in the planning of future improvements.

This physical context provides residents with a balance between tranquil suburban living, access to natural beauty, and convenient proximity to urban amenities. Normandy Park's blend of waterfront views, green spaces, and a close-knit community contributes to its unique appeal and distinctive quality of life it so justly tries to protect.

DEMOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

The population of Normandy Park at the time of its incorporation in 1953 was relatively small with an estimated population of between 1,500 to 2,000 residents. As one of the newer cities in King County, Normandy Park began with a relatively modest population compared to neighboring communities. Over the subsequent decades, it experienced gradual growth as more people moved into the area seeking suburban living near Seattle.

In the early 1900s, the land that comprises Normandy Park was primarily used for logging and farming. As Seattle expanded, suburban development began in the 1920s and 1930s. In 1929, developers planned a community called Normandy Park Estates, which was intended to be an upscale residential area.

The area was officially named “Normandy Park” in honor of the Normandy region in France. The city was officially incorporated on June 8, 1953, following a community vote, making it one of the youngest cities in King County.

Key Takeaways

- Normandy Park’s population was estimated to be 6,688 in 2023 and has been growing at a much slower rate than the rest of King County and Washington State.
- The population projection for Normandy Park in 2044 is roughly 6,879. This means that Normandy Park will need to accommodate roughly 191 new residents by 2050 – a 2.9% increase from 2023 estimates. This includes implementing a parks plan to accommodate the level of service desired by the community.
- Over 80% of all housing units in Normandy Park are single-family units, which is much higher than King County (55.5%) and Washington (66.6%). Normandy Park also has a lower percentage of buildings with 20 or more units (14.2%) than King County (25.3%). Considering population density with Normandy Park would only benefit the parks plan.
- The median age in Normandy Park is 47.2, which is much higher than that of King County (35.7) and Washington State (37.9). Over 25% of Normandy Park residents are 65 or older, and parks considerations should be taken to accommodate the needs of an older population.
- Nearly 30% of households have at least one person under 18, and 40% of households have at least one person 65 or older. It is important that the parks plan takes these two populations into account.
- Of the total population, 10.7% have a disability. 3.3% have difficulty with hearing, 1.6% have difficulty with vision, 6% have cognitive difficulty, and 4.2% have difficulty with walking. These disability categories should be taken into consideration when planning public spaces.
- Over 1/3 of Normandy Park residents have access to 3 or more vehicles at any given time. This is useful to determine the level of service that the current parks plan serves and the access that residents have to the parks. Considerations should be made to serve those who don’t have access to vehicles (6.2% of the population).
- 81.9% of Normandy Park’s population is white, which is a much higher percentage than King County and Washington at large. Approximately 5.8% of the population is Hispanic or Latino, which is a lower percentage compared to King County and statewide

percentages. Implementations which serve people of all cultures and heritages would be useful measures to ensure the parks system is safe and accessible to all people in Normandy Park.

- Over one-third (36.5%) of Normandy Park residents who work outside of the city work in Seattle. Over 90% of Normandy Park residents work less than 25 miles from their home. Considerations should be made to accommodate those who both live and work within the city, and it may be useful to use employment locations and concentrations to better serve the workforce with parks near businesses.
- About 57% of both Normandy Park and King County household incomes make \$100,000 or more, and the average median household income is much higher than Washington median. Median home values and rents follow the same pattern, which is consistent with a higher median income. Considerations should be made to have the parks implementations reflect the expectations of a higher-income population.

Introduction

In order to make planning recommendations that will work for Normandy Park, it is important to understand the who lives in the Normandy Park Community, with details including population, demographics, income, housing, education, employment, and transportation.

Each of these categories and sets of data shares something new about Normandy Park and their use of the parks and recreation system. With each data point, it is important to consider how parks, trails, and open spaces can better serve both the sets of people who show as the majority in a data set and those who are a minority. It is clearly a necessity to make sure that the parks system works well for those in the majority and who already frequent these spaces. It is also sometimes most critical to see who the minority is and to think about how to make the parks system more accessible, so that Normandy Park can increase its park use and ensure the system is working for all community members.

POPULATION

Historic Trends

The City of Normandy Park has experienced minor growth over the past 30 years, and had population decreases between 1990 to 2000 and between 2000 to 2010. Normandy Park’s population appears to be increasing at a much slower rate than overall trends in King County and Washington State. Between 2010 and 2023, Normandy Park has seen natural growth, slowly and steadily increasing its population, with the

exception of minor dips in population from 2010 to 2011 and from 2018 to 2019.

Table 1: Historic Population (US Census)

Census Population State of Washington		Normandy Park King County		
Count	Growth Rate	Count	Growth Rate	
1990 4,866,692	6,709 -	1,507,319	-	
2000 5,894,121	6,403 -4.56% 21.11%	1,737,034	15.24%	
2010 6,724,540	6,335 -1.06% 14.08%	1,931,249	11.18%	
2020 7,705,281	6,771 6.88% 14.58%	2,269,675	17.52%	

Source: OFM Decennial Census Counts of Population for the State, Counties, Cities and Towns 1990-2020.

Table 2: Normandy Park Population by Year

Year	Normandy Park Population
2010	6,335
2011	6,331
2012	6,374
2013	6,432
2014	6,491
2015	6,568
2016	6,598
2017	6,634
2018	6,489
2019	6,577
2020	6,665
2021	6,673
2022	6,680
2023	6,688

Source: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles, DP05 and PSRC LUV-it City Population Forecasts.

Population Forecast

The population projections for Normandy Park are based on the Puget Sound Regional Council’s (PSRC’s) forecast product called the Land Use Vision - Implemented Targets (LUV-it). The key inputs to LUV-it are the VISION 2050 Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) and the countywide growth targets for 2044, developed to implement the RGS. Using this product, the population projection for Normandy Park in 2050 is roughly 6,879.

This means that Normandy Park will need to accommodate roughly 191 new residents by 2050 – a 2.9% increase from the population estimate of 2023.

Figure 1: Population Projection

Source: US Census (1990, 2000, 2010, 2020) and PSRC LUV-it City Population Forecasts.

Population Demographics

Age & Gender

The City of Normandy Park has a higher percentage of male residents than female residents. The 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates indicate the age categories with the highest populations in Normandy Park are 75 to 85 years (13.1%), 45 to 54 years (12.8%), and 35 to 44 years (11.9%). The median age in Normandy Park is 47.2, which is much higher than that of King County (35.7) and Washington State (37.9). Approximately 25% of the population is under 25, and 22.8% of the population is age 65 or older. According to census data, nearly 30% of households have at least one person under 18, and 40% of households have at least one person 65 or older. It is important that the parks plan takes these two populations into account.

Table 3: Normandy Park Gender

Gender Estimate	Count	Percent
Male	3,529	52.5%
Female	3,187	47.5%

Source: American Community Survey 2021 5-year estimates, DP05.

Table 4: Normandy Park Age Group

Age %	Normandy Park Estimate	King County %	Washington %
Under 5 years	501	7.5%	5.1% 5.4%

5 to 9 years	282	4.2%	5.5%	6.0%
10 to 14 years	367	5.5%	5.4%	6.1%
15 to 19 years	423	6.3%	5.4%	5.9%
20 to 24 years	136	2.0%	6.1%	6.4%
25 to 34 years	671	10.0%	18.2%	15.1%
35 to 44 years	799	11.9%	15.9%	14.3%
45 to 54 years	858	12.8%	12.9%	12.0%
55 to 64 years	555	8.3%	5.7%	5.8%
65 to 74 years	592	8.8%	5.5%	6.2%
75 to 84 years	880	13.1%	8.4%	10.1%
85 years and over	312	4.6%	4.1%	5.0%

Source: American Community Survey 2021 5-year estimates, S0101.

Race & Ethnicity

More than 80% of the population in the City of Normandy Park is white, which is a much higher percentage than King County and statewide percentages. About 8.6% are two or more races, and about 6% are Asian. The rest of the racial groups each make up 3% or less of the population.

Approximately 5.8% of the population is Hispanic or Latino, which is a lower percentage compared to King County and statewide percentages.

Figure 2: Race Percentages for Normandy Park, King County, and Washington

Source: 2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates, S0601

Table 5: Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Normandy Park Estimate	King County %	Washington %
Hispanic or Latino (any race):	391	5.8%	10.0%
Normandy Park %	13.2%		
Not Hispanic or Latino:	6,325	94.2%	90.0%
Normandy Park %	86.8%		

Source: 2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates, DP05.

While understanding racial and ethnic demographics can help identify the need for incorporating languages other than English into parks planning, operations, and programming, it is even more critical to examine English proficiency and languages spoken at home, as Census data does not indicate cultural identities of populations. Increasing efforts to engage with residents

in the languages represented by community members could help make planning efforts and parks more accessible to all.

Of Normandy Park residents over the age of 5 who were included in the ACS data, 8.3% speak a language other than English (2021: ACS 5-Year Estimates, S1601). 1.3% of residents in Normandy Park indicated that they speak English “less than very well” (2021: ACS 5-Year Estimates, S0601). Of those who speak a language other than English, 48.0% speak Asian and Pacific Island languages, 32.8% speak Spanish, and 19.2% speak another language. It is also worth noting that Census data and estimates often have an undercount of non-English speakers, as undocumented residents with the community do not feel safe filling out the surveys.

Disability

Disability metrics for Normandy Park are important to understand, as they help in identifying the accessibility needs of the population and incorporating amenities within the parks system for greater access. This information also helps to determine how many people are likely to travel to parks and open spaces. According to the U.S. Census, 5% of residents under 65 have a disability. Including all residents across every age bracket including residents 65 and up, that number jumps to 10.7% of the population. As Normandy Park’s median age is higher than the county and statewide median ages, it is important to consider amenities and accommodations which would serve an older population and the general public who have disabilities.

Figure 3 below shows the percentage of residents within Normandy Park living with a disability according to the U.S. Census. This includes all age ranges. Of the total population, 3.3% have difficulty with hearing, 1.6% have difficulty with vision, 6% have cognitive difficulty, and 4.2% have difficulty with walking. These disability categories should be taken into consideration when planning public spaces. Additionally, 7.3% need assistance with independent living, and 3.3% need assistance with self-care. Disability impacts most people at some point in their lives, so the more accessible communities are, the more they will be able to benefit the whole population.

Figure 3: Percentage of Normandy Park’s Population Living with Disability Source: 2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates, B18101-B18107.

Income

The median household income in Normandy Park per 2021 ACS estimates was approximately \$113,328,

compared with King County at \$116,255 and Washington State at \$91,306. Overall, income brackets are similar to the overall median incomes in King County, which is higher than overall median statewide. About 57% of both Normandy Park and King County household incomes make \$100,000 or more, while only about 46% of Washington state households make \$100,000 or more. Approximately 82% of Normandy Park households make over \$50,000 or more a year.

Table 6: Household Income

Household Income	Normandy Park Households	King County Households	Washington Households
Less than \$10,000	0.4%	4.2%	4.5%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	0.8%	2.6%	2.8%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	5.1%	3.6%	4.9%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	1.8%	4.4%	5.4%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	9.4%	6.5%	8.8%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	13.6%	11.7%	14.7%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	11.9%	10.3%	13.1%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	21.2%	17.7%	18.9%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	12.4%	11.8%	10.5%
\$200,000 or more	23.2%	27.1%	16.2%
Total Households	2,705	945,040	3,079,953
Median income (dollars)	\$113,328	\$116,255	\$91,306

Source: American Community Survey 2021 5-year estimates, Table S1901.

Figure 4. Normandy Park, King County, and Washington Household Income

Source: 2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates, S1901.

Table 7 identifies the number of residents over the age of one and their poverty status in 2021. For reference, according to the 2021 Federal Poverty Guidelines, being below the poverty level for a one-person household would earn less than \$12,880 or for a four-person household it would be \$26,500, with other amounts for other household sizes. 150% of the poverty level for a one-person household is \$19,320 or \$39,750 for a four-person household. This paints a picture of finances for all residents in Normandy Park – with a reminder that this includes both adults and children. It’s important to

note that 15.7% of residents are living at or below 149% of the poverty level, indicating that they probably have limited disposable income available for recreational activities.

Table 7. Poverty Status in Chelan Population

# of People for Whom Poverty Status is Determined (Age 1 and over)	6619
Below 100% of the poverty level	8.8%
100-149% of the poverty level	6.9%
At or above 150% of the poverty level	8.2%

Source: 2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates, S0701.

Housing

Housing Type

Table 8 presents the distribution of various housing unit types in Normandy Park, along with their corresponding percentages relative to the total housing within the city of Normandy Park, King County, and the state of Washington. Over 80% of all housing units in Normandy Park are single-family units, which is much higher than King County (55.5%) and Washington (66.6%). King County’s percent share of multi-family units are much higher than Normandy Park. Normandy Park has fewer multi-family living options when compared to the county and state. Normandy Park also has a lower percentage of buildings with 20 or more units (14.2%) than King County (25.3%).

Table 8: Types of Housing Structures in Normandy Park vs. King County and Washington

Housing Type	Normandy Park	King County	Washington
# of Units	2,906	1,004,742	3,313,479
1, detached	2,350	80.9%	50.1%
1, attached	12	0.4%	5.4%
2	25	0.9%	1.5%
3 or 4	18	0.6%	3.5%
5 to 9	59	2%	6%
10 to 19	29	1%	6.5%
20 or more units	413	14.2%	25.3%
Mobile home	0	0%	1.6%

Boat, RV, van, etc. 0 0% 0.1% 0.3%

Source: 2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, DP04.

Housing Tenure

Excluding a vacancy rate within the city of approximately 0.6%, all of which are rental vacancies, 76% of occupied units are rentals and 24% units are occupied by the owner. The percentage of owner-occupied housing is much higher than King County (55.6%) and Washington state (64.2%) percentages. This is consistent with Normandy Park’s higher median income and median age of residents.

Figure 5: Owner vs Renter in Normandy Park, King County, and Washington

Source: 2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, DP04.

Average Household Type

The average household size in Normandy Park is 2.48 people, which is a larger average household size than King County at-large at 2.36 people. Table 12 provides a breakdown of the average number of households per type of household. This information is useful while considering what housing types might be best suited for people in Normandy Park with differing life circumstances. While a single-family home might be most suitable for certain family households, multi-family homes might create a greater sense of community for households with one parent present, and smaller units may be better suited for nonfamily households. This table shows that Normandy Park has a higher percentage of married households (62.5%) than King County percentages (45.6%) and statewide percentages (48.7%).

Table 9: Average Household Type

Household Type	Normandy Park Number of Households	Normandy Park %	King County %	Washington %
Total	2,705	--	--	--
Married-couple family household	1,691	62.5%	45.6%	48.7%
Male householder, no spouse present, family household	440	16.3%	21.3%	18.6%
Female household, no spouse present, family household	442	16.3%	24.3%	24.1%
Cohabiting couple household	132	4.9%	8.8%	8.6%

Source: 2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, DP02

Home Price

The median value of the 2,057 owner-occupied units in Normandy Park was \$715,700 in 2021. Table 10 shows the number of units in each price range for a broader picture of what people are paying to own housing in Normandy Park, King County, and Washington. This shows that median home values in Normandy Park (\$715,700) are comparatively lower than King County (\$862,200) but higher than Washington state (\$569,500). It is worthy of note that there are no units under \$300,000 in Normandy Park, and that the city has a very high percentage of homes in the \$500,000 to \$999,999 range – nearly three quarters of housing units are in this range.

Table 10: Value of Owner-Occupied Units

Value of Owner-Occupied Units	Normandy Park # of Units	Normandy Park %	King County %	Washington %
Total:	2,057	-	-	-
Less than 50,000	0	0.0%	1.5%	2.9%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	0	0.0%	1.2%	2.2%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	0	0.0%	0.9%	1.7%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	0	0.0%	0.5%	2.1%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	0	0.0%	2.2%	7.2%
\$300,000 to \$499,999	272	13.2%	10.7%	26.3%
\$500,000 to \$999,999	1490	72.4%	44.5%	41.6%
\$1,000,000 or more	295	14.3%	38.5%	16.1%
Median Value (dollars)	\$715,700			
	\$862,200		\$569,500	

Source: 2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, DP04.

Rent Costs

The median price of rent in Normandy Park was \$1,784 per month in 2021, which was lower than the median costs in King County (\$1917) but higher than the statewide median (\$1630). Table 15 shows a breakdown of what people are paying for rent in Normandy Park’s occupied units. About 75% of rent costs are over \$1,500, with 40% of all rents in Normandy Park being in the \$1,500 to \$1,999 range. Of the 648 occupied units paying rent, 41.2% of households pay a rent that is 35% or more of their total household income.

Table 11: Rent Costs in Occupied Units

Gross Rent	Normandy Park # of Units	King County %	Washington %
Normandy Park %			
Total occupied units paying rent:	648	648	
409352	1063333		
Less than \$500	0	0.0%	4.9%
\$500 to \$999	0	0.0%	4.4%
\$1,000 to \$1,499	177	27.3%	17.7%
\$1,500 to \$1,999	259	40.0%	27.6%
\$2,000 to \$2,499	108	16.7%	20.4%
\$2,500 to \$2,999	60	9.3%	10.3%
\$3000 or more	44	6.8%	14.7%
No rent paid	--	--	--

Source: 2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, DP04.

Table 12. Median Rent Costs

Median Rent Costs	Normandy Park	King County	Washington
	\$1,784	\$1,917	\$1,630

Source: 2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, DP04.

Education, Employment & Transportation

Education

Approximately 97.6% of City residents ages 25 and older have a diploma or higher. About 55% of Normandy Park residents ages 25 and older have a bachelor's degree or graduate/professional degree, and about 11% have an associate's degree. Nearly 40% of Normandy Park residents attained a bachelor's degree and pursued no higher education. Normandy Park's education levels are generally consistent with King County levels, which has higher educational averages than the state as a whole.

Table 13: Educational Attainment

Estimate	Normandy Park %	King County %	Washington %
Population 25 years and over	5007	-	-
-			
Less than 9th grade	8	0.2%	3.4%

9th to 12th grade, no diploma	112	2.2%	4.3%	3.1%
High school graduate (GED)	648	12.9%	21.5%	14.0%
Some college, no degree	938	18.7%	21.2%	16.0%
Associate's degree	573	11.4%	7.3%	10.0%
Bachelor's degree	1892	37.8%	32.1%	23.8%
Graduate or professional degree	836	16.7%	24.1%	15.7%
High school graduate or higher	4887	97.6%	92.2%	93.5%
Bachelor's degree or higher	2728	54.5%	39.5%	56.2%

Source: 2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates, S1501.

Figure 6: Educational Attainment in Normandy Park vs. King County and Washington

Source: 2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates, S1501.

Employment and Transportation

The employed population in Normandy Park is estimated at 3,271, according to 2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates. The largest industry employment sectors in Normandy Park are educational services, health care and social assistance (19.7%) and manufacturing (18.0%). Normandy Park's manufacturing sector employs a higher percentage of the population than that of King County and Washington.

Table 14: Normandy Park Employment vs. King County and Washington State

Industry Sector	Normandy Park Estimate	King County %	Washington %
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	3,271		
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	0	0.0%	0.4%
Construction	179	5.5%	5.3%
Manufacturing	589	18.0%	7.6%
Wholesale trade	211	6.5%	1.9%
Retail trade	173	5.3%	12.7%

Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	223	6.8%	4.9%	5.8%
Information	113	3.5%	5.5%	2.8%
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing	266	8.1%	5.7%	5.5%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, waste management	438	13.4%	21.7%	14.7%
Educational services, and health care and social assistance	646	19.7%	19.8%	20.9%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	171	5.2%	7.7%	8.2%
Other services, except public administration	148	4.5%	4.1%	4.2%
Public administration	114	3.5%	2.7%	5.0%

Source: 2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, S2403.

Employment Inflow/Outflow

Figure 7 shows the US Census OnTheMap estimates for inflow and outflow of daily jobs in Normandy Park. This identifies that much fewer people travel into Normandy Park for employment (751) than travel out (2,823). 40 people remain in Normandy Park to live and work. It is important to note that employment has changed for many people since the 2020 Census, with many more people working from home. These numbers continue to change each year following the pandemic. Table 15 shows where Normandy Park residents work. Over one-third of Normandy park residents who work outside of the city work in Seattle.

Figure 7: Inflow/Outflow of Employment in Normandy Park.

Source: 2020 Census.

Table 15: Normandy Park Job Counts by City

Where Workers are Employed	Normandy Park Estimate	Normandy Park %
Seattle, WA	1,046	36.5%
Burien, WA	264	9.2%
Renton, WA	154	5.4%
Bellevue, WA	149	5.2%

Kent, WA	132	4.6%
SeaTac, WA	117	4.1%
Tukwila, WA	112	3.9%
Tacoma, WA	74	2.6%
Auburn, WA	70	2.4%
Des Moines, WA	67	2.3%
All Other Locations	678	23.7%

Source: 2020 Census.

Employment Locations

Figure 8 below shows a thermal map of the employment locations of Normandy Park residents. According to the OnTheMap visualization, there are high concentrations of employment in Burien and Seattle, with lower concentrations in other neighboring cities.

Figure 8: Employment Locations of Normandy Park residents

Source: 2020 Census.

Distance Traveled to Work

Table 16 below shows the distances residents travel to work and the percentage of the populations in Normandy Park, King County, and Washington. 50% of Normandy Park residents travel 10 to 24 miles for work, which is a higher percentage compared to King County (30.4%) and statewide (27.5%). Over 90% of Normandy Park residents travel less than 25 miles.

Table 16: Normandy Park Distance Traveled to Work vs. King County and Washington

Distance	Normandy Park %	King County %	Washington %
Less than 10 miles	40.8%	60.6%	50.5%
10 to 24 miles	50.0%	30.4%	27.5%
25 to 50 miles	4.7%	5.0%	10.1%
Greater than 50 miles	4.5%	4.0%	11.8%

Source: 2020 Census.

Means of Transportation to Work

Table 17 below shows the means of transportation for the populations of Normandy Park, King County, and Washington. Over 75% of Normandy Park residents travel by car/truck/van to work, which is a higher percentage compared to King County (57.2%) and statewide (71.6%). Only 3.1% of Normandy Park residents take public transportation to work, and 17.3% of residents work from home according to 2021 estimates.

Table 17: Normandy Park Means of Transportation to Work vs. King County and Washington

Means of Transportation	King County %	Washington %	Normandy Park %
Car, truck, or van	76.9%	57.2%	71.6%
Public transportation (excluding taxicab)	6.3%	3.1%	3.1%
Walked	0.7%	3.9%	3.1%
Bicycle	0.0%	1.1%	0.6%
Taxicab, motorcycle, or other means	1.1%	2.1%	1.0%
Worked from home	17.3%	30.5%	20.5%

Source: American Community Survey 2021 5-year estimates, Table S0801.

Access to Vehicles

Figure 9 shows the access Normandy Park residents have to vehicles. Compared to King County and Washington percentages, Normandy Park generally has higher access to vehicles, as over 1/3 of residents have access to 3 or more vehicles at any given time. Considerations should be made to accommodate parking for those residents who opt to drive to parks, and parks may serve a larger area, given that residents are more easily available to drive.

Figure 9: Percentage of Normandy Park Vehicle Availability vs. King County and Washington

Source: 2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates, S2504.

PLANNING CONTEXT

Land Use Context

Vision for the City of Normandy Park

The following vision statement is from the approved City of Normandy Park Comprehensive Plan adopted in 2016. The Comprehensive Plan vision statement was formed by key themes in the community engagement process. It can be seen in the vision statement that parks and open spaces are important to Normandy Park residents. This PROS plan aims to identify ways to continue to reach the vision set by the comprehensive plan, while taking a closer look at parks and how to reach established goals.

“Nestled in a forest that rises from the waters of Puget Sound, Normandy Park is a testament to the ideals of safe and stable residential neighborhoods and the integration of the natural environment into the everyday lives of residents. The residential character of Normandy Park, coupled with surrounding open spaces and environmentally-sensitive areas are major components of the city’s character, and it is essential that they be preserved. Regarding the built environment, residents envision a future much like today, with low-density housing typical in most areas. Based on existing patterns, a higher-density, mixed-use environment is envisioned along 1st Avenue South - supporting walkable access to services, a more vital, fiscally-balanced economy, and attractive, affordable housing options for the community’s increasingly diverse needs. Regarding open space and natural areas, residents support the preservation of the city’s forested, park-like character. Enhancement of the city’s shorelines, streams and critical areas is also a priority, improving the beauty and biodiversity of such areas, including salmon runs. Whether traveling for work, for daily needs or for recreation, citizens envision being able to move about easily and enjoyably using a well-maintained network of roads, streets and trails designed appropriately for each service area, as well as for transit. Together, the citizens of Normandy Park pledge to work towards a future that preserves the city’s safe, healthy, scenic, and slow-paced character, while enhancing its natural environment, economic vitality, and overall quality of life.” (City of Normandy Park 2016 Comprehensive Plan).

Existing Plans Working Together

In the formation of this plan, any plans that have already been completed that are relevant to the City of Normandy Park’s parks, recreation, and open space goals have been reviewed and incorporated as necessary. In Appendix X, the relevant goals and

policies from each of these plans have been recorded and analyzed. The plans that have been reviewed include:

- City of Normandy Park Comprehensive Plan (2016)
- City of Normandy Park Nature Trails Park Management Plan (2016)
- City of Normandy Park Shoreline Master Program
- City of Normandy Park Critical Areas Ordinance
- City of Normandy Park PROS Codes, Regulations, and Ordinances
- Growth Management Act Requirements
- Washington Recreation & Conservation Office (RCO) Requirements
- Specific Park Master Plans, Civic Center Master Plan, and Supporting Documents

In the review of existing plans that are relevant to the City of Normandy Park's Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces (PROS), there are some key themes and priorities that have emerged, which should be highlighted in the development of the new PROS Plan. These priorities include:

- Prioritizing Normandy Park's parks and recreation access, as the beauty of the natural area is a consistent draw for tourists and residents of the area.
- Preserving natural resources and enhancing natural open space for long-term interests and benefits, including climate change resilience and statewide objectives.
- Promoting fiscally responsible development by pursuing RCO funding and strategically managing and budgeting for future improvements and enhancements.
- Maintaining and enhancing Normandy Park's trail system, encouraging public recreation and closeness to the city's ecological efforts.
- Preparing and planning for the vulnerability of critical areas like wetlands, aquifers, and fish and wildlife habitats. Existing policies support being strategic with open space to prepare for both public safety and environmental safety.
- Increasing water access and preserving the natural character of shorelines in Normandy Park.

City of Normandy Park Comprehensive Plan (2016)

The City of Normandy Park's Comprehensive Plan has a broad focus, though much of what the plan outlines and is working toward has to do with parks, recreation, and

open space. In the words of the Comprehensive Plan, "Normandy Park's natural setting and features are seen as integral – even synonymous – with the community's identity" (City of Normandy Park Comprehensive Plan). To plan for the City of Normandy Park is to plan for its recreational needs. This section will highlight any goals or policies that are relevant to this current PROS plan update.

The Comprehensive Plan shares nine policy objectives, eight of which relate more directly to parks, recreation, and open space. Below are the related objectives:

- Celebrates the community's proximity, access and visual relationship to Puget Sound
- Preserves and promotes safe, healthy, quiet and secure residential neighborhoods
- Honors the city's existing low-density, forested character
- Establishes and preserves natural open spaces and environmentally-sensitive areas
- Enhances the water quality and habitat value of local streams and shorelines
- Protects identified critical areas
- Supports cost-effective management of facilities, transportation systems and services
- Promotes long-term economic and fiscal sustainability for the City.
- In the Comprehensive Plan's Parks and Recreation section, a five-point summary of objectives are given to encompass the city's perspective regarding its Parks, Recreation, and Open Space. It is as follows:
 - Existing needs and desires for PROS features should be monitored on an ongoing basis, together with forecasted needs based on predictions of changing demographics.
 - PROS facilities should accommodate identified needs of all age groups, including seniors and handicapped, and should support a broad spectrum of recreational activities to allow for changing expectations.
 - Maintain levels of service within constraints imposed by the financial capability of the City in combination with other sources of funds.
 - Identify opportunities for new PROS features that implement community goals, and prepare plans and development schedules to help bring those features forward.
 - Maintain a PROS system that enhances resident quality of life, supports community open-space and environmental needs, and supports Normandy Park's identity as a beautiful and desirable community located next to Puget Sound.

City of Normandy Park Nature Trails Park Management Plan (2016)

The City of Normandy Park completed a plan to manage its centrally-located 19-acre Nature Trails Park in 2016, providing specific information regarding the health and function to the natural areas of Nature Trails Park and guidance for further restoration and stewardship of its features. Nature Trails Park makes up nearly 25% of Normandy Park’s undeveloped public greenspace, and it is the third largest park in the city. This management plan breaks up the management of the park into specific zones based on ecological factors and trail locations for better categorizing and prioritizing of restoration and planning efforts. Some long-term goals of Nature Trails Park include forest resiliency to climate change, recreational access for pedestrians, and community involvement in the stewardship of the park, and the management objectives are as follows:

- ◆ Establishing evergreen canopy
- ◆ Improve abundance and diversity of native plants
- ◆ Control invasive plants
- ◆ Enhance wetland and stream health and function
- ◆ Limit encroachment, illegal dumping, and spur trails
- ◆ Maintain trails
- ◆ Maintain rain garden
- ◆ Enlist volunteers for single events and long term stewardship

By working to achieve these objectives and incorporate these goals into the PROS Plan, Normandy Park has the opportunity to preserve its natural beauty and ecology while also engaging residents in a variety of healthy active and passive recreation opportunities.

City of Normandy Park Shoreline Master Program (2020)

Normandy Park’s Shoreline Master Program (SMP) establishes goals, objectives, and policies for shoreline-related uses, activities, and plans. The Program includes a Recreational element with a goal to “provide water-dependent and shoreline-oriented recreation opportunities through programs of acquisition/development, and various means of less-than-fee acquisition.” The element describes policies which seek to provide recreational opportunities and examine additional recreational, historical, and educational opportunities offered by the existing Marine View Park. The policies also seek to guide the responsible and sustainable development of the publicly owned shoreline areas, making them more accessible and enjoyable for the public while preserving their

environmental integrity. Following the guidelines and regulations established in this Shoreline Master Program would help in the maintenance and enhancement of a well-designed shoreline parks system that benefits both the community and the environment.

City of Normandy Park Critical Areas Ordinance (2019)

Normandy Park’s Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO), updated in 2019, has a dual purpose: first, to designate and safeguard ecologically sensitive and hazardous areas in accordance with the Washington Growth Management Act (GMA), and second, to strike a balance between property rights and the reasonable use of land. This ordinance seeks to protect public safety and resources from potential hazards like landslides, erosion, seismic events, and flooding. Additionally, it is designed to maintain the integrity of ecosystems by safeguarding valuable environmental features such as water bodies, wetlands, and wildlife habitats, and to conserve biodiversity. The ordinance also aims to steer activities away from critical areas whenever feasible and to manage and mitigate any unavoidable impacts. Its overarching goal is to prevent cumulative adverse environmental effects and promote the overall enhancement of wetlands and fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas. The administration of this ordinance emphasizes flexibility, tailoring its application to the specific characteristics of individual sites, and it does not intend to impose stringent standards on previously developed and currently used properties or impede the provision of public facilities necessary to support existing and planned community development.

The CAO specifically addresses wetland mitigation, critical aquifer replenishment sites, geologically hazardous areas, fish and wildlife conservation areas, and frequently flooded areas. This ordinance can be a valuable resource for parks planning in Normandy Park, as it provides a framework that prioritizes environmental protection, public safety, and responsible land use, aligning with the goals of creating and maintaining a sustainable ecologically responsible parks system.

City of Normandy Park PROS (Parks, Recreation, Open Space) Codes, Regulations, and Ordinances

Normandy Park Municipal code has several ordinances related to the implementation of Parks, Recreation, and Open Space. Here are some of the ordinances:

- ◆ • Chapter 18.76 of the municipal code designates areas with particular characteristics as “Parks

of local significance”. These characteristics include but are not limited to areas which contain significant recreational opportunities, areas which add to the identity of the city, areas associated with historical events, and areas that contain environmentally sensitive components. Seven parks in Normandy Park qualify for this designation of “parks of local significance”.

- ◆ • Chapter 7.90 of the municipal code establishes rules and policies for Normandy Park’s parks and facilities, including rules about infractions, misdemeanors, enforcements, and penalties.
- ◆ • Chapter 18.36 compiles the regulations regarding critical areas as described above.
- ◆ • Ordinance 973 was the adoption of the 2018 City of Normandy Park PROS Plan.
- ◆ Within Normandy Park’s 2011 PROS Plan, a level of service goal was established, classifying separate goals for separate types of parks and their desired service areas. These level of service (LOS) guidelines were also used in Normandy Park’s 2018 PROS Plan:
 - ◆ • Citywide: 12 acres of multi-use parks per 1,000 people
 - ◆ • Neighborhood Parks (0 to 15+ acres): two acres per 1,000 people and ½ mile service area
 - ◆ • Community Parks (2 to 20+ acres): five acres per 1,000 people and one to two mile service area

These level of service goals are important metrics to aim for when establishing an updated PROS Plan, specifically when analyzing quantitative and qualitative demands and needs.

Growth Management Act Requirements

The Washington Growth Management Act (GMA) is a framework for managing land use and development in the state. While the GMA provides guidelines and requirements for various aspects of land use planning and development, it doesn’t specifically outline requirements for implementing a parks and recreation open space plan. However, local governments in Washington, including counties and cities, are responsible for developing and implementing comprehensive plans and regulations that are consistent with the GMA.

The GMA does emphasize the importance of open space and recreational opportunities as part of the planning process and encourages local governments to consider the following principles when developing open space and parks plans:

- ◆ • Comprehensive Planning: Local governments are required to create comprehensive plans that address land use, housing, transportation,

economic development, and other elements, which can include provisions for open space and parks.

- ◆ • Urban Growth Areas (UGAs): The GMA establishes the concept of Urban Growth Areas, which are areas designated for growth and development while protecting rural areas. Within UGAs, there is an emphasis on planning for parks and open spaces to serve the needs of the growing population.
- ◆ • Environmental Protection: The GMA encourages the protection of natural resource lands, critical areas, and wildlife habitat. Parks and open spaces can play a role in preserving these areas and providing opportunities for outdoor recreation.
- ◆ • Public Participation: Local governments are required to involve the public in the planning process, and residents’ input on the development of parks and open space plans is essential.
- ◆ • Capital Facilities Planning: Local governments must include provisions for capital facilities, which can include parks and recreational facilities, in their comprehensive plans.
- ◆ • Adequate Public Facilities: The GMA requires that local governments ensure that necessary public facilities and services, including parks and recreation facilities, are available to support the population within UGAs.

Washington Recreation & Conservation Office (RCO) Requirements

Washington’s Recreation & Conservation Office (RCO) is responsible for overseeing programs related to outdoor recreation, conservation, and funding for projects in these areas. The RCO typically works in collaboration with local governments to help them develop and fund projects that align with the state’s priorities and guidelines, and local governments can apply for a variety of RCO grants to help fund the implementation of their Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plans.

When seeking grants, a PROS plan must include the following elements:

- ◆ • Goals and Objectives: Broad statements of intent and measures to reach intended goals
- ◆ • Inventory: Descriptions and conditions of existing facilities, lands, and programs
- ◆ • Public Involvement: This section synthesizes the methodology and results of public engagement, including surveys, questionnaires, open houses, workshops, stakeholder interviews, and the findings of these methods of outreach. It is important (and required) to give the public ample opportunity to be involved and give input on the

development and adoption of the PROS Plan

- ♦ • Demand and Need Analysis: A systematic assessment and evaluation of the community's needs, preferences, and priorities to make informed decisions. This includes quantitative (data-driven) and qualitative (preference-driven) analyses, and it examines how well the current PROS inventory meets the criteria of the local comprehensive plan, national guidelines, state guidelines, and public satisfaction. This may also include a Level of Service (LOS) assessment, establishing the required and desired amount of parks land per 1,000 residents.
- ♦ • Capital Improvement Plan (CIP): A comprehensive table outlining and prioritizing projects and improvements over the next 6 to 20 years. This table should include the year of anticipated implementation and potential funding sources.
- ♦ • Adoption: a signed resolution or letter which establishes formal approval by the relevant governing body.

Normandy Park's 2018 PROS Plan includes all the above elements, but it now needs to be updated both to reassess current needs and desires, and to create a future plan which takes into account future goals and improvements.

Specific Park Master Plans, Civic Center Master Plan, and Supporting Documents

Civic Center Project (2022)

Normandy Park's Civic Center Project is a plan to replace the existing spaces at City Hall Park (rec center, City Hall, and Police Department) and maximize the recreational opportunities available to better serve the community. Indoor opportunities previously offered at the recreation center are intended to be maintained and enhanced (rec programs, a public meeting room, and preschool), and more outdoor recreational opportunities are proposed (basketball half-court, picnic areas, gathering areas).

Metropolitan Park District (2009)

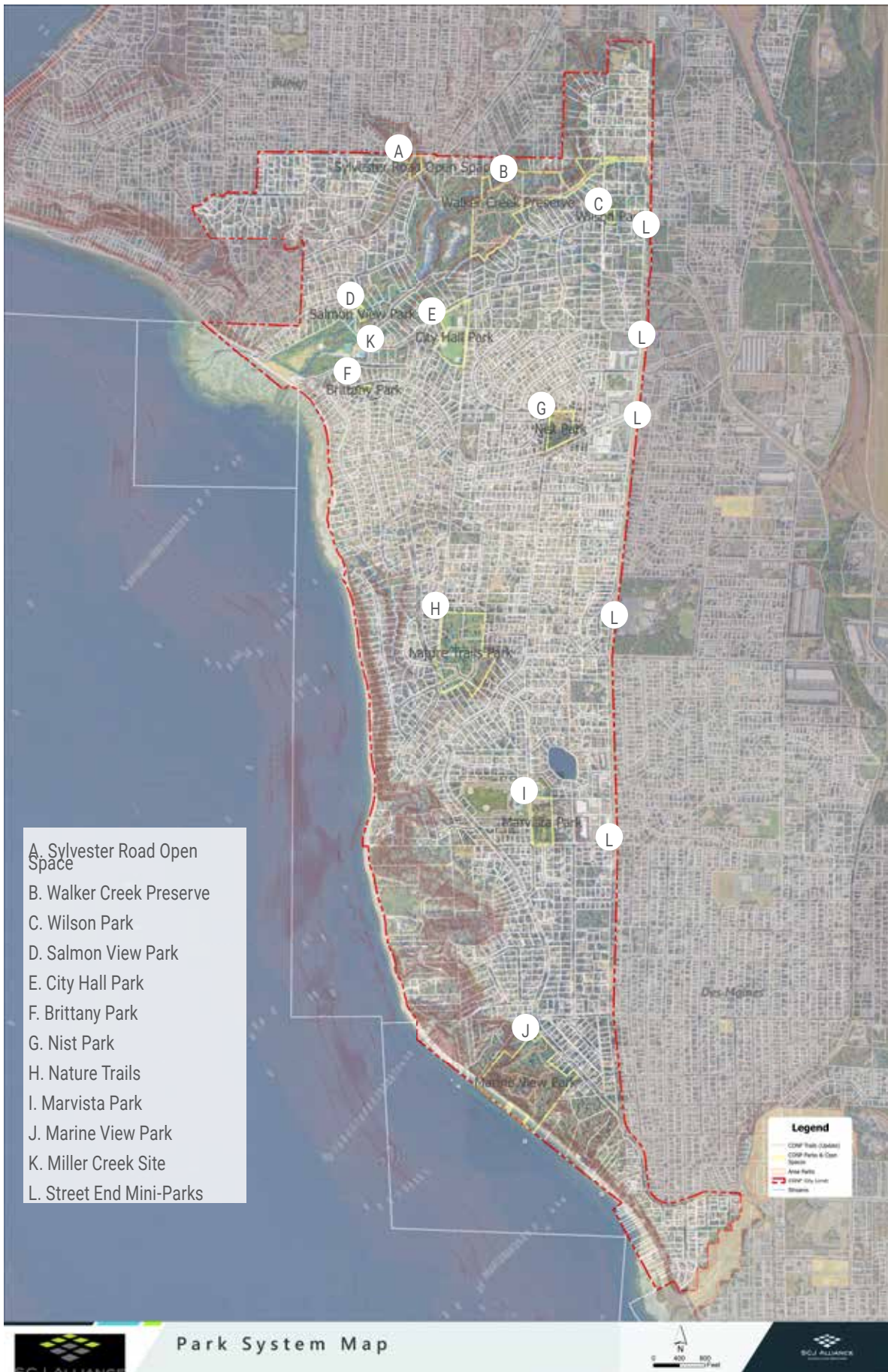
In 2009, A metropolitan park district (MPD), authorized by Ch. 35.61 RCW, has been created for the management, control, improvement, maintenance, and acquisition of parks, parkways, boulevards, and recreational facilities. The voters of Normandy Park formally approved the Normandy Park Metropolitan Parks District on November 3, 2009. The MPD funds

the Parks director and contributes to staffing in the public works department, and has been the primary source funding recent park improvements. Members of the city council serve as members of the MPD board.

The MPD authorizes a property tax levy of 75 cents per thousand dollars of assessed park property valuation for governance and management of the parks. The MPD Board will be holding a public hearing on November 14, 2023 for input from residents on the proposed 2023-2024 Biennial Budget Amendment No. 2305.

Marine View Park Restoration Program (2010)

In 2009, a year-long project commenced to remove invasive species from Marine View Park and replant native vegetation in its stead. It was designed to "develop long-term habitat protection and enhancement" within the area. Ecological protection and habitat restoration has continually been a priority to the City of Normandy Park. This project brought together both volunteer community members and conservationists alike.



EXISTING PARKS & RECREATION FACILITIES

The City of Normandy Park provides a variety of recreation opportunities and park spaces to its citizens and visitors, primarily in the form of smaller neighborhood parks and open space areas. The City has placed a strong emphasis on developing park spaces that reflect the community’s values within its small park system. In total, Normandy Park’s park system currently contains about 18 acres of mostly developed or partially developed parklands along with non-congruent trail segments along the White River that also try to connect to the downtown core.

To understand how what improvements are needed or desired by a community, the first step in this plan is to catalog and assess the current conditions of all the City’s existing parks, open space areas, and trail resources. This section identifies the assets that the City of Normandy Park currently owns, manages, and maintains, and evaluates them to assure they meet or

exceed park development standards, safety criteria, liability & risk concerns, address recreational trends, aesthetic appeal (placemaking), and support landscape & climate change resiliency objectives.

Assessment Methodology

Modeled after RCO’s suggested Level-of-Service (LOS) grading system and NRPA’s “system level” approach, a custom assessment methodology was used in this study to inventory and assess the current range of recreation and open space opportunities within any particular area. The methodology used in this report is ranked on a scale of 5 to 0, from high to low, across a number of different criteria, including:

- ◆ Location
- ◆ Park Classification
- ◆ Facility Age
- ◆ History
- ◆ Funding Encumbrances or Regulatory Framework
- ◆ Condition of Individual Components & Amenities
- ◆ Maintenance / Known Issues

Please note that park areas developed by private entities e.g., a HOA, or and public or private schools were not included on the overall City Park map, therefore they were not part of the assessment procedure.

Assessment Ranking Scale

Based on the evaluations of all the individual elements, an overall assessment for each park was calculated by averaging the individual rankings. “0” ratings were ignored.

Key	Park	Classification	Acreage
A	Sylvester Road Open Space	Open Space	1.22
B	Walker Creek Preserve	Open Space	27.73
C	Wilson Park	Neighborhood	0.58
D	Salmon View Park	Neighborhood*	0.60
E	City Hall Park	Neighborhood	8.09
F	Brittany Park	Neighborhood	0.35
G	Nist Park	Neighborhood	4.38
H	Nature Trails Park	Neighborhood	18.79
I	Marvista Park	Neighborhood	5.39
J	Marine View Park	Neighborhood	27.24
K	Miller Creek Site	Open Space	0.73
L	Street End Parks (Multiple)	Mini-Parks	0.1
	TOTAL		93.88*

** Does not include other non-park related properties such as the ‘Piano Keys’*

Ranking (High to Low)	Description
0	n/a - Not Present
1	Major liability and structural failures present and imminent. Needs to be closed.
2	Condition is poor with major structural, cosmetic, maintenance, and liability issues observed.
3	Condition is moderate with some major cosmetic or maintenance issues that create minor liability concerns.
4	Condition is very nice with only minor cosmetic or maintenance issues observed.
5	Perfect condition with a long life cycle and no risk or liability issues.

Process

The following steps were executed to capture the institutional knowledge of City staff, while allowing the consultant team to observe and assess each park and trail component.

1. Inventory and build maps of the existing parks.
2. Develop a detailed inventory of each park from the previous planning process and geospatial sources, including encumbrances research and park / funding histories.
3. Perform site tours and field investigations.
4. Update each park map and inventory form.
5. Assing an assessment reating for each park element or category. The overall park assessment was an average of the available individual assessments.

Park Classifications

Classification systems provide a standardized method to develop, organize, operate, and manage parks based on certain criteria, which can include factors such as their size, ecological importance, recreational opportunities provided, historical or cultural significance, placemaking potential, economic development, and ability to support conservation & climate resiliency goals.

Washington State Parks & RCO use different classification definitions but are built on the same premise - consistent methodology is critical to best manage our public spaces and to ensure the public are active and able to enjoy a quality mix of structured and natural environments and all the benefits that they provide.

There are six basic park and greenspace facility types typically classified and utilized by municipalities the size of Normandy Park of which only four are currently exhibited (**bold & italicized**):

- ♦ ***Pocket Parks / Mini-Parks / Tot Lots***
- ♦ ***Neighborhood Parks***
- ♦ Community Parks
- ♦ ***Natural Areas & Greenspaces***
- ♦ Trails, Bikeways & Pathways
- ♦ Special Facilities

Neighborhood or Local Park – generally considered the basic unit of traditional park systems, neighborhood or local parks are small park areas designed for unstructured play and limited active and passive recreation. They are generally 3-5 acres in size, depending on a variety of factors including

neighborhood need, physical location and opportunity, and should meet a minimum size of 2 acre in size when possible.

Community Park – larger multi-acre sites developed for organized play, contain a wider array of facilities and, as a result, appeal to a more diverse group of users. Community parks are generally 20 to 50 acres in size, meet a minimum size of 20 acres when possible and serve residents within a 1-mile radius of the site.

Natural Areas & Greenspaces – Natural areas are those which are preserved to maintain the natural character of the site and are managed to protect valuable ecological systems, such as riparian corridors and wetlands, and to preserve native habitat and biodiversity. In managing for their ecological value, these natural areas may contain a diversity of native vegetation that provides fish and wildlife habitat and embodies the beauty and character of the local landscape. Low-impact activities, such as walking, nature observation, and passive recreation are allowed, where appropriate.

Trails, Bikeways & Pathways - Trails are non-motorized transportation networks separated from roads. Trails can be developed to accommodate multiple uses or shared uses, such as pedestrians, in line skaters, bicyclists, and equestrians. Bikeways are different than trails in that their principal focus is on safe and efficient non-motorized transportation. Bikeways & pathways serve distinctly different user groups than trail users. For shared-use trails, it is important that the alignment and cross sections be designed with flexibility to accommodate higher speeds, passing zones and greater widths. Surfaces will vary with intended use and environmental considerations.

More information on the other classification types not used can be found in Appendix B.

To aid in understanding the role of parks & recreation for a specific community and to plan for budgeting and resource allocation effectively based on the park's level of service or area of influence, parks are also assessed to determine their individual contributions they provide a community, including:

- ♦ **Physical & Mental Health:** Assessing a park by expected or projected use helps visitors know what to expect and allows park managers to establish rules and guidelines that ensure visitors' safety and preserve the park's resources.
- ♦ **Ecological Diversity:** Parks often vary in terms of their ecosystems and biodiversity. Assessing parks based on their ecological features can aid in understanding and protecting these unique natural environments.

- ◆ **Cultural and Historical Significance:** Some parks are often assessed based on their cultural or historical importance. These designations help preserve and showcase sites of cultural heritage, such as historical landmarks, archaeological sites, and areas with indigenous significance.
- ◆ **Tourism & Branding Benefits:** Classifying parks can aid in promoting tourism and attracting visitors. Visitors often have varying interests, so categorizing parks allows tourism agencies to target specific audiences with appropriate marketing strategies.
- ◆ **Educational and Interpretive Benefits:** Classification helps in developing educational programs and interpretive materials tailored to the park's unique characteristics. This enhances visitor experiences by providing relevant information about the park's natural, cultural, and historical attributes.
- ◆ **Research and Conservation Planning:** Scientists and conservationists can use classification systems to prioritize research efforts and develop conservation plans. By understanding the different types of parks and their specific features, they can focus on areas that are most in need of study and protection.

Parks & Recreation Programs & Amenities

The city's parks and open spaces total over 93 acres distributed between 8 recognized parks and one undeveloped open space. Size, use, and landscape character vary between the city's parks and open spaces with natural woodlands, wetlands, and shorelines, as well as lawns, athletic fields, and developed playgrounds provided. Up until a few years ago, the city used to run a recreation center at City Hall Park where the old school gymnasium, built in the 1950's, served as the City's recreation center. The building housed several programmed activities and was available for rental by residents. Due to structural and life-cycle issues, the building was razed in 2021.

Currently, the city's parks and open spaces provide:

- ◆ Preschool (in rented space at a local church)
- ◆ Walking/running routes on city sidewalks
- ◆ Nature trails
- ◆ Playlots
- ◆ Baseball/softball fields
- ◆ Basketball courts
- ◆ Picnic tables
- ◆ Picnic/event shelter
- ◆ Community garden plots
- ◆ Open lawn areas
- ◆ Botanic gardens
- ◆ Beach access
- ◆ Nature interpretation

City-Sponsored & Affiliated Programs

Currently, aside from special events that are programmed and held throughout the year at multiple sites across the City, the only formal program the City sponsors is its pre-school program. The following programs are organized by outside agencies, groups, and instructors who now

- Preschool programs
- Baseball (youth little league offered through South Highline Little League)
- Soccer (youth)
- Tae kwon do (all ages)
- Dance classes (all ages)
- Yoga (all ages)
- Pickleball (seniors)
- Bridge (seniors)
- Music in the Park concerts

The City Hall Ballfields and Marvista Park Gazebo Shelter are available for public rental.

Trails and Bikeways

Normandy Park has recently developed a walking map identifying measured loop routes utilizing city streets and sidewalks. Currently, sidewalks are available on portions of the primary collector streets – Marine View Drive and Normandy Road, and a few neighborhood streets such as SW 185th.

Most low traffic streets do not include public walks and right of way widths limit opportunities to add walks. Several of the city's parks, especially Walker Creek Preserve, Nature Trails Park and Marine View Park include walking trails.

Presently, no marked bicycle lanes or bike trails exist in Normandy Park. Outside of the city, King County has mapped numerous bike routes on roads and trails which could be accessed by residents.

Funding

The City of Normandy Park established a Metropolitan

Park District (MPD) in 2010. This voter-approved, tax funded entity is chartered to exist for ten years, with the opportunity to continue annually unless terminated by the City or District. The MPD is charged with the purpose of funding the operation and improvement of parks and open spaces, and is the primary source funding recent improvements. Beyond the MPD, additional park improvements have been funded through user impact fees, private philanthropy, and grants.

Operations

Normandy Park’s parks and open spaces are managed and maintained by a Parks Director and staff, with activities, programs and events typically facilitated by part-time coaches and instructors. Additionally, Normandy Park has a committed volunteer base who contribute trail maintenance, invasive plant removal, and other park improvements.

Private Recreation Facilities

In addition to citywide facilities, Normandy Park

Residents have access to and make use of nearby recreational facilities:

- Marvista elementary school playgrounds and athletic fields (accessible only during school hours and planned after school events)
- Des Moines Senior Center
- Des Moines Mt. Rainier Pool

Private recreation facilities in or near the city include:

- Normandy Park Swim Club
- The Cove Community Club
- Normandy Park Athletic Club
- Olympic View Swim and Tennis Club

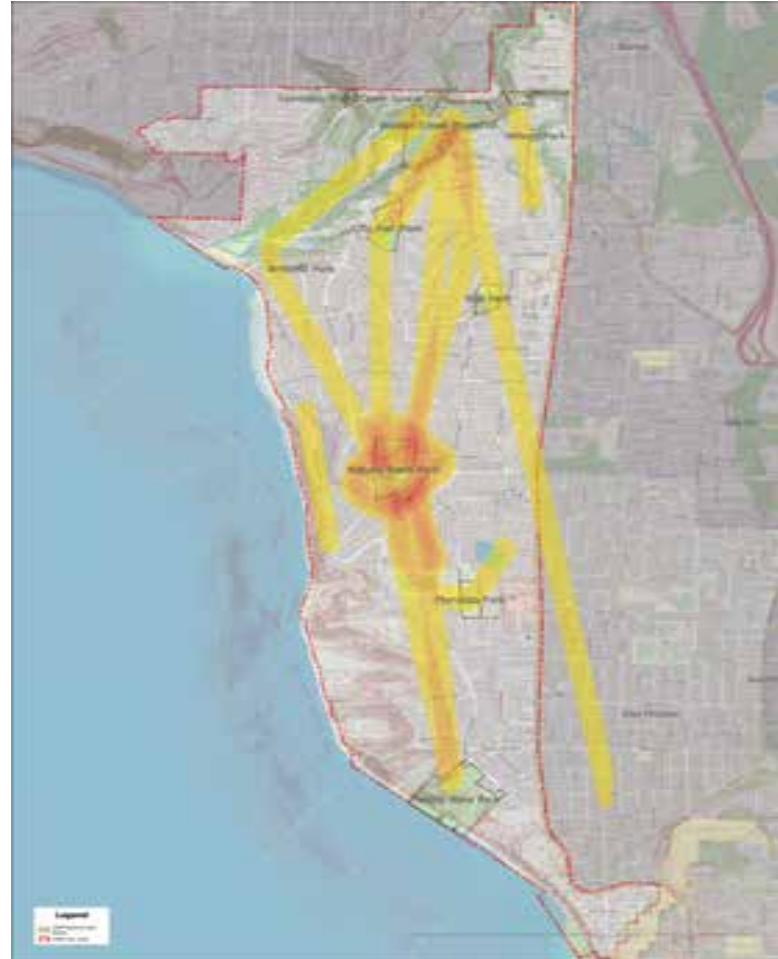
The following tables and pages provide a summary and assessment of each of Normandy Park’s parks and open spaces.

A - Sylvester Road Open Space			
Address	X	Park History	The site has been listed as reserved open
Classification	Open Space		
Size	X		
Status	Existing / Undeveloped	Encumbrances & Funding History	♦ N/A
Assessment Rating	1.5		
Description	A wild and inaccessible ravine that runs underneath Sylvester Road. Currently, the site is steep, heavily vegetated, including numerous invasive species.		

Table 1: Inventory & Assessment			
Element	Qty	Notes	Rating
Open Space	1	A critical area / open space with steep slopes. heavily vegetated with invasive species	1.25

A photograph of a forest trail with a wooden post-and-rail fence. The trail is covered in fallen leaves and ferns. The background shows a dense forest with tall trees. A large white graphic overlay, consisting of several overlapping, angular shapes, covers the top and right portions of the image, partially obscuring the text and the background.

Public Involvement



INTRODUCTION

The successful development and implementation of a community’s parks system ultimately relies on listening to the needs, demands, and ideas the community has for its parks and recreation system. Knowing that “the people who show up get to make the decisions”, it was imperative that a successful public involvement process be implemented that allowed Normandy Park citizens, and its visitors, multiple opportunities to inform the process and results.

With grant programs and other decision makers focusing on understanding a community’s desired quality of life, public involvement is the most crucial and time-consuming element of the PROS planning process, allowing a correct assessment of a community’s desired quality of life. This is where the public and users can share their ideas, goals, and objectives for their parks system and communicate these needs and desires to the City.

The intention behind the public involvement approach was to maximize an equitable distribution of needs, wishes, and ideas from the public.

To ensure that the PROS Plan is reflective of the Normandy Park community and their interests, needs, and priorities, a series of engagement goals and methodologies were discussed and developed.

ENGAGEMENT GOALS

1. Ensure equitable distribution of survey results throughout the whole city.

Gathering survey results from every neighborhood within a city is imperative for a holistic understanding of its diverse communities and ensure the “quality of life” is not being weighted to a particular demographic. The surveys, where applicable, were designed to capture where in the City the respondent lived, ensuring that representative insights into localized needs were identified, enabling tailored strategies for equitable resource allocation, targeted interventions, and community engagement. This also allowed city officials to track trends, promote inclusivity, and build trust while fostering informed decision-making for a more resilient engagement process.

2. Create multiple virtual and analog engagement opportunities

In addition to online and virtual surveys, options were made available allowing the public to participate at several public workshops in addition to taking the surveys out to specific City-sponsored events, such as the Music in the Park summer series.

3. Provide a broad range of constituents the ability to supply both broad and specific action-oriented

feedback.

The process ultimately allowed not just the public to provide a range of broad needs and desires, but also to help “design” their parks with very specific site-specific suggestions. This PROS planning process needed to provide ways to provide “real” ideas and concepts where the public can feel they made a difference, while drawing participants that represented the truest profile of the Sumner community

Public Engagement Plan Overview

The engagement plan was organized around a series of both virtual and analog, in-person events.

1. Parks Commission Public Presentation
2. Needs & Assessment Digital Survey
3. Parks Commission Public Presentation
4. City Council Public Presentation
5. Project Visioning Virtual Workshop
6. All-Day Public Project Visioning Workshop #1
7. Parks Commission Public Presentation
8. City Council Public Presentation
9. Parks Commission Project Visioning Special Workshop #2
10. Parks Commission CIP Workshop
11. City Council CIP Public Presentation
12. Planning Commission Public Presentation
13. Project Priority Survey
14. City Council Special Session & Non-Project SEPA Checklist

Needs & Assessment Survey

Overview

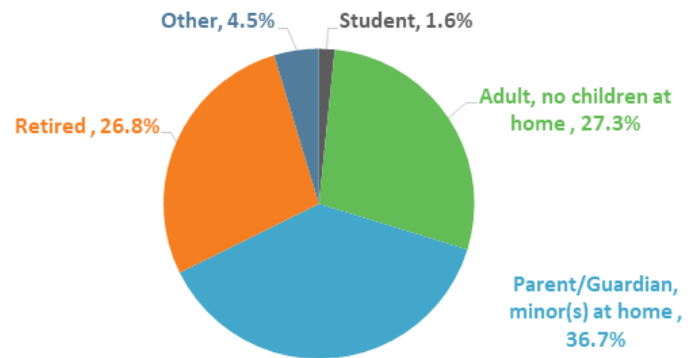
The Normandy Park PROS Plan Survey was open for responses from all community members from June 27 to November 6, 2023. During that period, 546 responses were submitted by the community, constituting 8.17% of the total population of Normandy Park. Of the 549 responses, 434 surveys were complete and 112 were partially completed.

Respondent Demographics

It is important to understand who responded to the survey, as the results are based on the lived experience of the respondents and their knowledge of the Normandy Park facilities and systems.

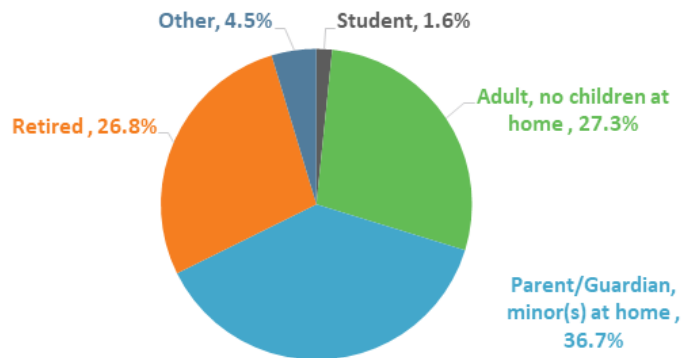
36.7% of respondents are adults with minor children at home. 27.3% are adults with no children at home, 26.8% are retired, 1.6% are students in high school or younger, and 4.5% do not fit in these categories.

Figure 1: Respondent Description Categories



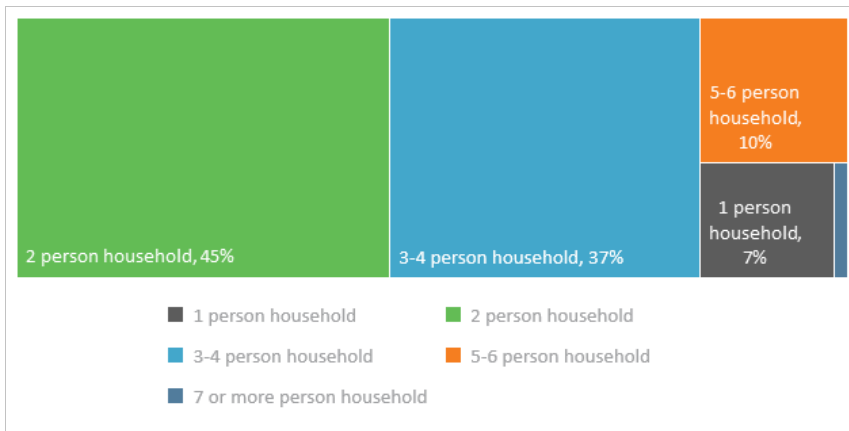
24.4% of respondents are age 40 to 49. 19.6% are 50 to 59, 19.1% are 60 to 69, 18.2% are 70 or older, 15.7% are 30 to 39, 1.4% are 20 to 29, 1.2% are 13 to 19, and 0.5% are under 13. 56.9% are 50 years old or older, and 43.1% are under 50 years old. Figure 2 shows a pie graph of the age ranges.

Figure 2: Respondent Age Ranges



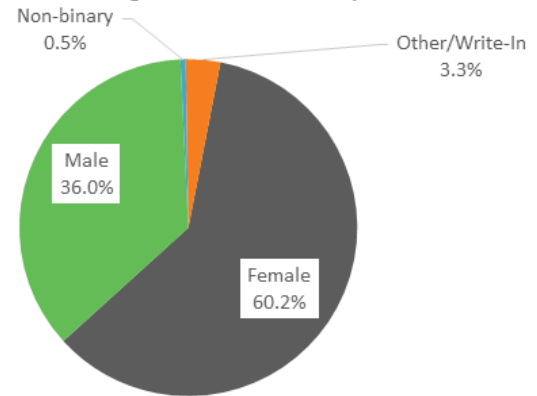
45% of respondents live in a 2-person household, 37% live in a 3 to 4 person household, 10% live in a 5 to 6 person household, 7% live in a one-person household, and 1% live in a household of 7 or more people. 82% live in a household of 2 to 4, and 89% live in a household of 4 or less. Figure 3 shows the breakdown of the household sizes.

Figure 3: Respondent Household Sizes



60.2% of respondents were female, 36% were male, 0.5% were non-binary, and 3.3% wrote in other answers. Figure 5 below shows the breakdown of the respondents' genders. According to census data, 52.5% of Normandy Park is male and 47.5% is female, which means that a much higher percent share of female residents participated in this survey.

Figure 5: Gender of Respondents

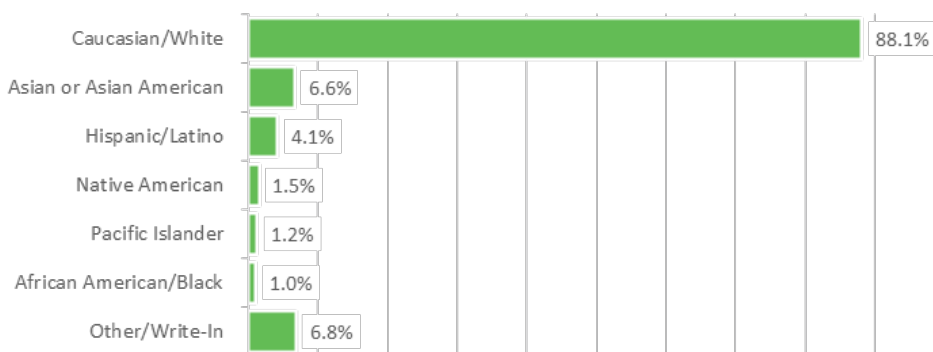


93.8% of respondents live in Normandy Park, and the other 6.2% were from Burien, Des Moines, Seattle Area and other neighboring cities.

Figure 4 below shows the Ethnic/Racial Identity of Respondents. 88.1% are Caucasian/White, 6.6% are Asian/Asian-American, 4.1% are Hispanic/Latino, 1.5% are Native American, 1.2% are Pacific Islander, 1% are African American/Black, and 6.8% wrote in other answers. The racial/ethnic demographics of the survey respondents are consistent with the demographics of the city, indicating that these survey results match the desires of the community.

Respondents were asked to identify the languages most often spoken in their home. 99.8% of respondents indicated that they speak English at home, 2.3% indicated that they speak Spanish at home, and 1.2% speak other languages at home, including French, Italian, Lithuanian, and Urdu.

Figure 4: Ethnic/Racial Identity of Respondents



Parks and Recreation Frequency of Use

This survey asks respondents to choose how frequently they use the City's park and recreation facilities. Below is a chart showing the breakdown of answers. According to responses, Marvista Park is used on at least a weekly basis by 42.9% of respondents, with City Hall Park following at 40.4% and Nature Trails Park at 33%. City Hall Park is the park most used daily by respondents (14.7%). Notably, Wilson Park stands out with a substantial 64.7% of respondents indicating that they never visit this park, suggesting it might face challenges or lacks appeal for a majority of the surveyed population. Marine View Park and Nature Trail Park seem to attract more occasional visitors, with a considerable portion of respondents indicating monthly and yearly visits.

Average Facility Use Time

Most respondents spend 2 hours or less on average when they visit parks in Normandy Park, with 56.8% spending 1 to 2 hours visiting. 40.8% use the parks for less than an hour. Spending over 4 hours at a park is quite rare for respondents, constituting only 0.4% of the responses.

Seasons of Visits

Nearly 60% of respondents prefer to visit parks in the summer season, and spring is a close second with 38.5% of the vote for favorite season to visit. For 76.3% of the respondents, the winter season is the least favorite season to visit parks.

Barriers to Use of Parks

The survey asks respondents to identify the barriers to utilizing the parks in Normandy Park. Figure 9 below indicates the identified barriers to use.

The most commonly cited reasons include personal busyness or the sense that recreation at the parks is simply not a priority, with 34.8% of respondents expressing this sentiment. Additionally, a significant number of respondents (29.9%) reported uncertainty about the locations of parks, reflecting a potential need for improved information dissemination.

Other notable concerns include a lack of awareness about available recreation programs (18.0%). This suggests a potential opportunity for better communication and outreach regarding recreational offerings.

Issues related to safety and security, such as unleashed dogs and general safety concerns, were reported by 16.0% of respondents. This highlights the importance of addressing safety measures and enhancing the overall sense of security in recreational spaces. Within write-in

responses, there were many concerns that either dogs were unleashed and causing safety concerns, or that respondents had no leash-free opportunities such as an off-leash dog park to let their dogs play without concern. This is an important metric to consider for the development of the Normandy Park Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan.

Furthermore, challenges related to accessibility and amenities were raised, with 9.3% citing problems with the availability or proximity of amenities, and 4.3% expressing concerns about poor accessibility or ADA issues.

In summary, the survey suggests that improving communication about available programs and park locations, addressing safety and security issues, and enhancing accessibility and amenities could contribute to a more inclusive and widely utilized recreational environment.

From the write-in responses provided, several trends can be identified:

- **Off-Leash Dogs:** A recurring theme is the concern about dogs not being on leashes or off-leash dogs using the park. This is mentioned multiple times and seems to be a significant issue for some respondents.
- **Distance and Convenience:** The proximity of parks to respondents' homes appears to influence park usage. Some mention the convenience of parks like Marvista Park and City Hall Park due to their proximity.
- **Desire for Specific Facilities:** Some respondents express specific desires, such as the need for a dog park, a paved safe area for kids to bike and scooter, and more facilities for Little League.
- **Environmental Factors:** Issues related to the environment, such as the presence of ivy (causing allergies) and the need for better drainage in winter, are mentioned by a few respondents.
- **Lack of Indoor Facilities:** Some respondents express a desire for indoor facilities, with a call for a new recreation center for indoor activities.
- **Smoking and Safety Concerns:** Concerns about people engaging in drug use in cars near parks and safety issues related to loose dogs are raised.
- **Call for Art Installations:** Suggestions are raised for having a kid-friendly art installment similar to the whale tale at Alki.
- **Accessibility for Special Needs and ADA accessibility:** The importance of fenced/gated areas in parks for a toddlers and those with special needs was

mentioned, emphasizing the need for safety measures. Respondents with mobility issues and those with elderly family members express the need for level paving and benches for accessibility.

- **Trail Closure Concerns:** The closure of a trail to Des Moines Beach Park is mentioned as a concern that should be a top priority for reopening.
- **Variety and Lack of Shade:** Some respondents mention the lack of variety between parks and suggest adding more shade to playgrounds, indicating a consideration for environmental comfort.

Overall, these responses highlight a mix of practical concerns, environmental considerations, safety issues, and specific desires for facilities, indicating a diverse range of perspectives within the community.

Usage By Specific Recreational Element

The survey asks respondents to identify their level of interest in using existing and potential recreation facilities, using a scale of 0 (no interest) to 10 (high interest). They also had the option to skip the recreational element, which is why there are different response rates for each element. Figure 10 shows a breakdown of the answers.

Figure 10: Usage By Specific Recreational Element

Facilities with Highest Reported Usage (Scores 8-10):

- **Public Beach Access:** A substantial number of respondents (140) gave this facility a score of 10, indicating very high usage.
- **Open Space:** Open spaces received high scores (8-10) from a significant number of respondents, suggesting widespread and frequent use.
- **Unpaved Nature Trails:** A considerable number of respondents (149) indicated high usage (scores 8-10) for unpaved nature trails.
- **Natural Places Supporting Wildlife Habitat:** Similar to unpaved nature trails, a significant number of respondents (131) reported high usage (scores 8-10) for areas supporting wildlife habitat.
- **Paved Trails for Walking and Biking:** This facility received high scores (8-10) from a substantial number of respondents, indicating frequent use.
- **Shaded Place to Picnic and Gather:** A significant number of respondents (101) gave this facility high scores (8-10), suggesting it is frequently utilized for gatherings.

Facilities with Lowest Reported Usage (Scores 0-2):

- **Skate/Wheels Park:** A majority of respondents (171) reported low or no usage, with scores ranging from 0 to 2.
- **Mountain Biking/BMX/Pump Track:** Similar to the skate/wheels park, a substantial number of respondents (160) indicated low or no usage, with scores ranging from 0 to 2.
- **Climbing Walls:** A significant number of respondents (122) reported low or no usage, with scores ranging from 0 to 2.
- **Outdoor Sport Fields:** A substantial number of respondents (111) reported low or no usage, with scores ranging from 0 to 2.
- **Outdoor Sport Courts:** A significant number of respondents (96) reported low or no usage, with scores ranging from 0 to 2.

Understanding these usage patterns is valuable for the Parks and Recreation Open Space Plan, as it helps prioritize resources, enhance popular amenities, and address concerns in underutilized areas to better meet the community's needs.

Desired Service Levels of Facilities

Respondents were asked to indicate their desire for more or less of various recreational facilities and programs in Normandy Park. Figure 11 below shows the breakdown of answers, with the score of 0 meaning fewer facilities and a score of 10 being more facilities. Red points indicate an interest in less of the given facility/program, and green points indicate an interest in more of the given facility/program.

Figure 11: Interest Level of More or Less of Recreational Facilities and Programs

Based on the averages, the top five most desired facilities are Public beach access, Urban trails/sidewalks, Undeveloped natural areas/Open spaces, Aquatics, and Arts programming/classes. On the other hand, Infant/toddler activities, Early childhood programs, Senior programs or classes, Childcare/after-school programs, and Teen programs or classes are the least desired facilities on average.

Keep in mind that these rankings are based on the average scores and might not represent the preferences of every individual. It's also essential to consider the specific needs and demographics of the community when interpreting these results. In each facility/program category, there is at least 38 people who want more of the facility or program identified.

Normandy Park Positive Qualities

Respondents were asked to provide one place, event, attribute, or thing that they love about Normandy Park. Below is a word cloud showing the frequency of the most-used words in the responses. The larger a word is, the more it was used in responses.

After analyzing the responses, several common themes, trends, and insights emerge:

- **Community and Safety:** Many residents appreciate the sense of community, friendly neighbors, and a feeling of safety in Normandy Park. The presence of the police force is frequently mentioned as a factor contributing to the overall safety of the neighborhood.
- **Natural Beauty and Parks:** The abundance of trees and green spaces is a recurring theme, contributing to a park-like atmosphere. Residents value the variety of parks, including Marine View Park, Walker Preserve, City Hall Park, and Marvista Park. Access to beaches, trails, and open spaces is highly cherished.
- **Family-Friendly Environment:** Normandy Park is praised for being a family-friendly community, with playgrounds, events, and activities for children. The Fourth of July parade and festivities, as well as music in the park events, are highlighted as family favorites.
- **Walkability and Sidewalks:** The walkability of Normandy Park is appreciated, with mentions of sidewalks, neighborhood walks, and proximity to parks without the need for driving. Access to various parks within walking distance is a common positive aspect.
- **Events and Community Activities:** Community events such as concerts in the park, Food Truck Wednesdays, and holiday celebrations contribute to the vibrant community atmosphere. The desire for more events and a centralized gathering space is expressed by some residents.
- **Unique Features and Views:** Residents value unique features like Marine View Park, the Cove, and the overall natural beauty of the surroundings. Views of Puget Sound and the proximity to the water are highlighted as positive aspects.
- **Pet-Friendly Environment:** Normandy Park is appreciated for being pet-friendly, with mentions of off-leash areas, trails, and parks suitable for dogs.
- **Sense of Identity:** The small-town feel, sense of identity, and familiarity with neighbors are recurring themes, contributing to residents' positive experiences.

In summary, the residents of Normandy Park appreciate

the community's natural beauty, safety, family-friendly environment, and the availability of parks and events. While there are concerns about potential changes, overall, there is a strong sense of pride and attachment to the unique features that make Normandy Park a special place for its residents. Here are a few quotes from respondents answering why they love Normandy Park:

"A great community where people like to say hello and meet their neighbors."

"The old growth trees and natural surroundings. The unique older homes."

"The concern for balancing growing vs. density is much appreciated."

"Our family loves the trees, sidewalks, trails, parks, friendly neighbors and excellent police force and general feeling of safety."

"The well-maintained park and city space combined with the safety of the city."

"Normandy Park is the best! First off, I always feel safe here no matter what park I use, and I love that you see kids riding bikes and playing in the neighborhood independently."

"Love the Fourth of July event. Beautiful parks. Safe neighborhood. Dedicated police force."

"I appreciate that I can visit our parks with my child with little concern about encountering dangers that are a concern in other communities in our region."

These comments provide insights into the unique and magical experiences residents have in Normandy Park, emphasizing the strong community bonds, appreciation for nature, safety, and memorable events.

Normandy Park Opportunities for Growth and Changes

The survey asked respondents to write a sentence identifying one thing they would change about their parks and recreation system. Below is a word cloud showing the frequency of the most-used words in the responses. The larger a word is, the more it was used in responses.

After reviewing the responses, here are some trends and insights from the answers regarding changes to the City of Normandy Park's parks and recreation system:

- **Community Gathering Spaces:** Several respondents expressed a desire for more spaces where

the community can gather, including indoor spaces. Suggestions include a community center, multipurpose gym, and improved facilities for group activities.

- **Waterfront Access:** A recurring theme is the desire to improve public access to the waterfront, making it more inclusive and less “elitist”, as one respondent describes it.
- **Connected Trails:** Many respondents want parks to be connected by trails, creating greenways for both animals and people.
- **Specific Park Improvements:** Requests for more shade in certain parks, additional playground equipment, and improved beach access are common. Specific park-related requests include trail connections, new playgrounds, a swing set, a water faucet, and a Bocce Court.
- **Recreation Facilities:** There is a desire for a public pool and an outdoor gym, as well as more facilities for organized sports like tennis, racquetball, and pickleball. Some respondents suggested building a recreation center with a pool for various community activities.
- **Communication and Events:** Many individuals emphasized the need for improved communication about events and activities happening in the parks. Requests for more events, movies in the park, and structured activities for children were common.
- **Dog Parks:** Some respondents want a dedicated, gated dog park to eliminate the need to use other facilities.
- **Equitable Access:** There’s a strong sentiment for ensuring that all Normandy Park residents, regardless of property ownership, have equal access to parks and facilities.
- **Infrastructure and Maintenance:** Requests for better sidewalks, increased maintenance, and attention to public safety were mentioned. Concerns about poor cell connection and the need for guest Wi-Fi at certain parks were raised.
- **Environmental Considerations:** Some respondents emphasized the importance of maintaining natural, green spaces with healthy trees and minimal concrete. Requests for removing invasive plants and adopting environmentally friendly practices, such as banning fireworks, were mentioned.
- **Cove Access:** Many respondents addressed the issue of Cove access, expressing the need to make it accessible to all residents and not limited to specific property owners.

- **Community Engagement:** Suggestions for community involvement include creating a permanent committee for citizen advisory, encouraging citizen-based ideas, and promoting civic pride.

- **Infrastructure Improvements:** Some respondents highlighted the need for better lighting, improved sidewalks, and additional parking.

- **Fitness and Recreation Classes:** Requests for more fitness classes, yoga classes, and recreation programs for different age groups were common.

- **Miscellaneous Requests:** Some respondents suggested specific additions like a splash pad, covered and lighted facilities for rainy season play, and a full-sized soccer field.

Additional Considerations

The survey asked for additional comments that Normandy Park respondents would want considered in the development of the PROS Plan. Several themes emerged:

- **Positive Feedback:** Residents appreciate the existing parks and trail system, expressing gratitude for the beauty and conservation efforts. Positive comments about the removal of ivy in Nature Trails and Marine View.

- **Concerns about Overdevelopment:** Multiple comments express a desire to avoid overdeveloping parks, emphasizing the current quality and appeal of the parks. There was a specific concern about not building a recreation center, given the small town’s size and financial considerations.

- **Suggestions for Park Improvements:**

- o Requests for a covered and lit basketball court at City Hall or other alternatives if a gymnasium is not feasible.

- o Desire for walking paths and continuous sidewalks.

- o Specific ideas for unique park features, such as magical spaces every 100 feet, tree houses, lounge chairs, and art/craft spaces.

- o Calls for more natural play structures, educational activities, and events for kids and teens.

- **Community Access and Inclusivity:**

- o Concerns about the Cove beach membership policy and suggestions to update it for all residents.

- o Calls for publicly accessible parks, green spaces,

and natural spaces for all residents.

- o Suggestions for inclusive events and activities for various age groups, including youth and seniors.
- Infrastructure and Maintenance:
 - o Requests for improved lighting, benches, and restroom facilities in parks.
 - o Concerns about neglected areas and calls for proper maintenance of stormwater structures.
 - o Suggestions for better communication and transparency, including releasing reports from previous planning efforts.
- Financial Considerations:
 - o Concerns about tax increases and calls for affordable and practical solutions.
 - o Opposition to unnecessary spending and emphasis on focusing on essential community needs.
- Transportation and Connectivity:
 - o Requests for improved sidewalks, bikeways, and pedestrian pass-throughs for a walkable city.
 - o Calls for a comprehensive town map highlighting walking paths and routes.
- Environmental Conservation:
 - o Emphasis on preserving trees, green spaces, and natural habitats.
 - o Concerns about potential negative impacts of overdevelopment, including light pollution and non-native plantings.
- Recreation and Programming:
 - o Calls for diverse recreational programming, arts, and community gatherings.
 - o Suggestions for pickleball courts, sport courts, and an amphitheater for community events.
- Specific Requests:
 - o Requests for more dog parks and leash laws.
 - o Suggestions for a phased, multi-year plan for park development.
 - o Specific requests for snowplow services and road maintenance in winter.
- Access to the Cove Beach:
 - o Differing opinions on public access to the Cove,

with some advocating for more inclusivity and others expressing concerns about private property.

Overall, residents are passionate about preserving the natural beauty of Normandy Park, ensuring inclusive access to recreational facilities, and expressing a desire for thoughtful and community-driven development.

Project Visioning Workshops

The second major phase of the public engagement plan was an online survey hosted through a virtual tool called Maptionnaire that immediately followed the Needs & Assessment survey. The tool allowed respondents to “plan or design” what specific improvements they would prefer to see and where.

In addition, there were two in-person public workshops that created an analog version of the virtual mapping exercise. Overall, there were 175 respondents whom contributed over 400 “comments” where they would like to see specific amenities within Normandy Park and the surrounding area. These results are broken down into three categories:

- a. New or Increased Access to Recreation Desired
- b. New or Upgraded Amenities Desired, and Trail, Pathway, and Connection Improvements.
- c. New or Increased Access to Recreation Desired

New or Increased Access to Recreation Desired

Play Spaces for Children

The places most identified for play spaces for children, along with the amount of points that were plotted at each park, were Marvista Park (8 points), Nature Trails Park (6 points), EJ Nist Park (5 points), and City Hall Park (5 points).

Figure X: Play Spaces for Children Results (45 total points)

Sport Courts

Of the 34 total points plotted by respondents identifying locations for sport courts, the majority are clearly seen at City Hall Park (12 points) and Marvista Park (9 points).

Figure X: Sport Courts Results (34 total points)

Water Play Opportunities

The areas most identified for a desire for water play opportunities were City Hall Park (7 points), Normandy Park Cove (7 points), and Marine View Park (5 points).

Figure X: Water Play Opportunities Results (25 total points)

Gardening & Nature Interpretation

This category received the most amount of total points plotted, at 55, which shows it is something that is highly desired in Normandy Park.

Points for this category were scattered throughout nearly all of the parks, but the parks that show most clearly on the heat map are Walter Creek Preserve (8 points),

Figure X: Garden & Nature Interpretation Results (55 total points)

Conserved Open Space or Critical Areas

The mapping survey asked respondents to draw a polygon of areas that they would like to see conserved open space or critical areas, rather than just placing one point.

In the figure below, it shows in yellow the areas that were identified by one or few respondents, areas in orange were identified by many respondents, and areas in red highlight where the most responses overlapped.

Figure X: Conserved Open Space or Critical Areas Results (21 total results)

Wildlife Habitat Enhancements

The heat map for Wildlife habitat Enhancements highlights an area in Marine View Park that had 4-8 public comment overlaps.

Figure X: Wildlife Habitat Enhancements Results (10 total results)

New or Upgraded Amenities Desired

Invasive Species Removal

The area most identified in Normandy Park for invasive species removal was Marine View Park.

Figure X: Invasive Species Removal (12 total results)

Restrooms

- The locations most identified for new or improved restrooms are EJ Nist Park, Marvista Park, and Marine View Park.

Figure X: Restrooms Results (31 total points)

Picnic Areas for Gathering or Shade

The points identified for picnic areas for gathering or shade were distributed around Normandy Park, with the heat map not as clearly identifying most desired areas.

EJ Nist Park had four points identified, followed by most of the other parks with 3 points at each of them.

Figure X: Picnic Areas for Gathering or Shade Results (21 total points)

Benches and Places to Rest

The 21 points identified are distributed around the city. The park with the most points identified for benches and places to rest was City Hall Park, with 5 points placed.

Figure X: Benches and Places to Rest Results (21 total points)

Trail, Pathway, and Connection Improvements

New Sidewalk and Improved Sidewalk

The figure below shows the mapped results for new and improved sidewalk locations. For sidewalk results, respondents were asked to draw lines to show connections they desired.

Figure X: New Sidewalk and Improved Sidewalk Results

(9 results for Improved Sidewalk in orange, 11 results for New Sidewalk in pink)

- There were two main areas highlighted for new sidewalks, around the existing access to Nature Trails Park from Normandy Park Drive and along Southwest 208th Street.

Figure X: New Sidewalk Results (11 total results)

- The areas highlighted in the Improved Sidewalk heat map are the southwest corner of Marvista Park at Southwest 200th Street, the bend in Marine View Drive SW south of the intersection with Edgecliff Drive SW, and on Marine View Drive Southwest north of the intersection with Southwest 207th Place.

Figure X: Improved Sidewalk Results (9 total results)

for improved infrastructure such as enhanced parking, sidewalks, crosswalks, and playgrounds designed for inclusivity and safety. Furthermore, the survey shed light on the demand for diverse recreational options; requests included the development of sports courts catering to activities like pickleball and basketball, the establishment of dog parks, and the creation of nature trails. These insights underscored the community's desire for a more varied array of recreational facilities, catering to individuals of all ages and interests, thereby promoting a more active and engaged populace.

Prioritization Survey

TBD (in January 2024)

Unpaved Park or Nature Trail

- As can be seen in the heat map, most of the public comments for Unpaved Park or Nature Trails centered around Nature Trails Park

Figure X: Unpaved Park or Nature Trail Results (10 total results)

Paved Pathways for Walking or Biking

- For paved pathways for walking or biking, there were only 4 lines drawn to show results. Because of that, more analysis and community engagement would want to be done before depending on these results alone.
- Of the 4 points that were drawn, there were a couple of connections that Normandy Park might want to consider making with a paved path.
 - o A paved bathway connecting Nature Trails Park to Marvista Elementary School and Park.
 - o A paved bath to the south of City Hall Park, behind the residences, connecting to where SW Normandy Terrace meets SW Shoremont Avenue.

Workshop Summary

The project visioning workshop series conducted across every neighborhood within the city highlighted several key areas crucial for enhancing the city's overall well-being and inclusivity. Environmental conservation emerged as a priority, emphasizing the need to preserve natural spaces for wildlife habitats while also emphasizing the importance of educational initiatives focused on climate change. Residents voiced concerns about accessibility, emphasizing the necessity

A photograph of a lush forest with a stream, overlaid with a white graphic consisting of several overlapping, angular shapes that create a sense of movement and depth. The text is positioned on the white graphic.

Demand & Needs Analysis

DEMAND & NEEDS ANALYSIS

The purpose of the demand and needs analysis is to evaluate, quantify and understand both the facility and recreational demand and identify the existing and future needs for providing parkland, facilities, open spaces from now and into the future. The definition of needs includes both preservation of existing services/resources as well as the desired needs that are projected into the future based on population forecasts and economic outlooks. The current update, presented here, reflects the needs, desires and recommended priorities that set the foundation for the next 6 to 10 years, as well as provides some aspirations for the next 15 to 20 years.

QUANTIFICATIONS VS QUALIFICATIONS

Quantitative standards have been traditionally used to assess the need for additional parks and recreation elements. Based on the National Recreation and Park Association’s (NRPA) guidelines and online database “Park Metrics,” simple comparisons of adequate land based on normalized averages across the county was the traditional way of determining what the minimum

amount of parklands should be. This plan assesses the recreational demands of the City of Normandy Park starting with traditional level-of-service (LOS) standards, recreation trends, and a gap analysis of access of the current park system.

However, while quantifiable metrics allow for easy comparisons to be made, they are analytically and programmatically weak compared to understanding the “quality” of life a community expects or demands. The only way to develop strong strategies and a set of potential improvements is to engage with community members through surveys, public meetings, and other forms of public consultation. The previous section in this report describes this process in detail.

This section ends with a comparison of the quantitative and the qualitative to refine a methodology that can be used to test and ultimately, select, the kinds of improvements that will improve Normandy Park’s quality of life that is that aligned with its demonstrated values and preferences.

LEVEL-OF-SERVICE

To assess how these different kinds of parks may meet, or may not meet, a community’s desires, the National Recreation & Park Association (NRPA) developed and maintains some simple demand standards as a guideline to identify the number of parks facilities

potentially needed per community. There are various methods to assess the service standards of a park system, but NRPA's standards are driven solely by comparing population size vs the number and types of parks or recreational amenity offered. While the ratio of land acres per thousand people has traditionally been a widely adopted measure, it offers only a restricted evaluation of the park system. A more comprehensive approach to determining service standards should encompass the distribution of land and facilities throughout the community, the per capita value of the system, the availability of programs for all demographics, the characteristics of the park's user

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base, the quality of the facilities, including their upkeep, and most importantly, how the public views the park system as a quality-of-life indicator.

These standards can typically be approximated through the use of population ratios, participation models, or, as utilized in this particular plan, a quality-of-life-oriented approach to crafting level-of-service criteria. Since multiple three methods for developing level of service standards are commonly employed, this plan provides an overview of each and explains the rationale behind the preference for the community-based approach.

The land-to-population ratio is calculated based on the entire city's system and can be further dissected according to the specific classification of each type of park facility. For example, the suggested level of service

for the "Neighborhood Parks" classification is 1.1 acres per thousand people, drawn from an estimated total of 36 acres of parkland per thousand people citywide by the year 2022.

Because the vision, values, and needs of each community are different, planners have acknowledged that simply quantifying local LOS to a national standard is not an effective means of evaluating a community's unique needs and a community's vision. Accordingly, NRPA's LOS standards have evolved in recent decades and now recommends that each community develop its own standards based on local goals, priorities, and conditions.

Normandy Park'S LOS TARGETS

The Goals & Objectives identified in this report set the following as the new standards to achieve. Over the next five to 10 years, Normandy Park's park system should be improved to meet the following level of service standards.

1. For all parks, consider the following measures:
 - a. Provide parks that **meet the interests and needs of the City's citizens**, based on public input and survey findings.
 - b. Prioritize **development of existing undeveloped parklands** over acquisition of new parklands.
 - c. Prioritize **development of non-motorized connections** to parks.
2. For active parks:
 - a. Provide **5.8 acres per 1,000 people**.
 - b. Strive to provide parks within a **10 minute walk** of all City residents. Parks service areas, and resulting gaps, are identified later in this section
3. For passive open space:
 - a. Provide **4.1 acres per 1,000 people**.
 - b. Consider providing more than 4.1 acres per 1,000 people, if opportunities arise to acquire properties that meet the City's environmental objectives, taking into account other parks priorities.

PARK CLASSIFICATIONS

The NRPA, in addition to Washington State Parks and RCO, they use a classification system for parks and recreational amenities to help quantify the right metrics that are applicable per park. Since parks

vary in size, function, and service area depending on their classification and the needs and desires of the users, each park classification has some generalized quantifiable assumptions based on a number of factors.

A full list of the standard park classifications can be found in Appendix B.

Recreation Trends

Outdoor recreation is on the rise nationwide, and Washington State and all its communities is no exception. Since 2019, and especially throughout the Covid pandemic, outdoor recreation equipment sales saw a significant increase across all major product categories. In Washington, there has been a notable surge in the participation rates of 20 outdoor activities since 2017. Among these activities, non-motorized trails, nature and wildlife viewing, camping, paddling, winter recreation, and leisure activities in nearby parks are consistently in high demand among Washington residents. With an expected statewide population increase of 2 million residents in the next 25 years, it's more critical than ever to plan for the future demand on outdoor recreation facilities.

Outdoor recreation not only supports local economies but also connects people with the natural world, promoting physical and mental well-being. With the rise of work-from-home arrangements post-pandemic and housing shifts from larger cities to smaller communities, residents are increasingly seeking convenient access to a variety of outdoor experiences, both developed and primitive, that allow them to integrate nature-based recreation into their busy schedules while avoiding crowds and traffic.

However, striking a balance between providing access to outdoor recreation and safeguarding natural and cultural resources remains a significant concern statewide. The heavy concentration of outdoor recreation at popular sites has led to resource degradation and reduced user satisfaction. Many communities face disparities in access to meaningful outdoor recreation opportunities, and residents often struggle with the time, cost, and information needed to support their outdoor pursuits. As the state aims to promote equitable access to the social, health, and economic benefits of outdoor recreation, a careful approach to outdoor recreation management is essential to ensure the protection of natural and cultural resources.

The 2023 Recreation and Conservation Plan, or commonly referred to as the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor recreation Plan (SCORP).

The SCORP document includes Normandy Park in

the Puget Sound region stretching from the northern counties to Pierce County. Notably, the SCORP survey identifies that the activity with the highest participation rate in the region is "walking in a park or trail setting" (82% statewide, 86% Puget Sound region). This result holds true across all ages, genders, races, and incomes.

Ever since the previous survey from RCO (2012), walking as a recreational activity has seen an increase in participation. Boating and swimming have also seen an increase in participation between 2012 and 2017; swimming is now a top 10 activity in the state's Southwest region. Other top 10 recreation activities in the Southwest region include nature activities (e.g., visiting rivers, streams, beaches; wildlife or nature viewing), attending an outdoor concert or event (e.g., farmer's markets, fairs, sporting events), and day hiking. This PROS planning outreach results related to walking/hiking opportunities and nature-based activities are consistent with those identified in state surveys.

OTHER TRENDS & THREATS

Investments in Parks Will Rise

Across other municipal agencies statewide, investment in state and local infrastructure, which had been depressed since the Great Recession of 2008, and especially since the COVID-related stimulus packages, e.g., ARPA, increased federal funding has helped that fund public works and park and recreation infrastructure improvements, such as buildings, restrooms, and roads.

State and local spending is up nearly 10 percent from last year, according to data from the Commerce Department, and spending on capital outlays continues to grow. The Commerce Department data also show that spending on amusement and recreation facilities is up 31 percent from a year ago. It appears that economic conditions will remain favorable for new investments in park and recreation infrastructure if local and state tax collections continue to rise and interest rates remain relatively low. Building on the momentum of the past few years, local and state governments will make even more park and recreation infrastructure investments in buildings, playground equipment, roads and bridges, and capital repairs to aging infrastructure, topping the highest level of infrastructure spending since the recession of 2008.

Canines

With more than 90 million dogs in the United States and growing, dog parks are one of the fastest growing types of parks in the country. Larger dog parks have

become destinations and can contribute significantly to agency revenues and tourism.

Increasingly, for many, dogs are regarded not just as part of the family but as children and families, especially those in the urban environment, are constantly looking for new places to take Fido.

Trending Sports & Impacts

The participation in pickleball has witnessed a remarkable surge, growing by 159% in just three years, reaching 8.9 million participants in 2022, as reported by the Sports & Fitness Industry Association.

This swift expansion has presented challenges for public parks and recreation departments, which must strike a balance between the competing interests of diverse recreational activities while working within constraints of limited space and budgets. Parks agencies are becoming more confronted with the task of accommodating pickleball enthusiasts, who favor this tennis-like sport with a smaller court, without causing discomfort or inconvenience to others. The noise and disruption generated by pickleball is becoming more a source of frustration for some neighbors, tennis enthusiasts, parents with young children, and other community members.

In various towns and cities, homeowners’ associations and local residents have begun to impose restrictions on pickleball activities and thwart the construction of new courts. They have initiated petitions, pursued legal actions, and voiced their concerns at council and town hall meetings, all in an effort to temper the widespread enthusiasm for pickleball and its unique auditory characteristics.

Funding Threats & Availability

Funding for parks and municipal recreation services has been forced into a creative shift as municipalities have been forced to seek additional ways to fund operation

and improvements. Long-standing grant and funding assistance programs have repeatedly come under threat at both the federal and state level. Congress let the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) expire in 2015 for the first time in 50 years. In response to public outcry, several members in Congress fought for a short-term solution: an emergency authorization of three years. In 2016, Congress had another opportunity to permanently reauthorize LWCF, thanks to legislation championed by Washington’s own Senator Maria Cantwell in the Energy Bill. While LWCF initially failed under the past administration, in September 2021, LWCF was permanently authorized with full funding through the Dingell Act. This act directed a significant portion of offshore oil and gas royalties to the LWCF for the preservation of public lands, waters, and recreational opportunities.

Since then, specific funding levels and appropriations for the LWCF have varied from year to year as part of the federal budgeting process. Funding for the LWCF depends on annual appropriations by Congress, hence the program’s budget and funding levels can be subject to changes and priorities set by the federal government.

Gap Analysis

As outlined in the Goals & Objectives and related policies, ensuring that residents have fair and easy access to parks located within a half-mile of their homes is crucial for the overall health and well-being of the community. This section of the report provides a set of maps that offer insights into population density and conducts a network analysis of park accessibility. This analysis examines each property’s ability to reach a nearby park within a half-mile, either via a street or a trail. The service area maps are designed to demonstrate how accessible parks with various amenities are to the community and how accessibility could be enhanced through improvements to parks that currently offer limited amenities. It’s worth noting that these accessibility gaps can be reduced by ensuring safe access to parks can be increased with new sidewalks and transportation improvements.

Population Projections

The City of Normandy Park is currently the 167th largest city in the State of Washington but located in one of the state’s fastest growing counties with a current population growth rate of less than 1% per year. The Office of Financial Management (OFM) predicts population projections under the Growth Management Act (GMA) to accommodate growth over the next 20 years.

The total population of the City of Normandy Park in

Table 28: LOS Targets

Facility	Unit of Measure
Developed Park Acres	6.7 acres per 1,000 residents
Open Space Areas	7.5 acres per 1,000 residents
Trail/Walking Path Miles	0.11 miles per 1,000 residents
Sports Courts and Fields	0.20 facilities per 1,000 residents
Family Activities	0.09 facilities per 1,000 residents

2023 was estimated by OFM to be 6,688.

With the city encompassing only 1625 acres, or roughly 2.53 square miles, the population density in Normandy Park is 2641 persons per square mile as compared to the average population density of 113.4 persons per square mile for the state of Washington. This plan uses 6,683 as the population for the existing level of service analysis.

The population projections for Normandy Park are based on the Puget Sound Regional Council's (PSRC's) forecast product called the Land Use Vision - Implemented Targets (LUV-it). The key inputs to LUV-it are the VISION 2050 Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) and the countywide growth targets for 2044, developed to implement the RGS. Using this product, the population projection for Normandy Park in 2050 is roughly 6,879.

This means that Normandy Park will need to accommodate roughly 191 new residents by 2050 – a 2.9% increase from the population estimate of 2023.

Park Equity & Access

To better understand where the demand and need for park lands should occur, a detailed series of service area maps was created on the following pages that identifies the current service area of each existing park and the new service areas created by proposed improvements.

To develop the service maps, Open Street Map data was used to identify and verify known sidewalk data and the City's transportation grid that the City of Normandy Park provided. Sidewalks are considered to be safe walking routes. All the existing access points to each existing park and/or trail space were digitized and a network analysis of the safe walking routes to each access point was developed. The analysis would initially stop even if the end of a sidewalk was encountered before the 10-min range (approximately 1/2 mile) was reached.

A second analysis ignored the known sidewalks and trails but followed the City's existing transportation grid, essentially identifying known gaps in the walkshed that could be addressed by extending existing sidewalks.

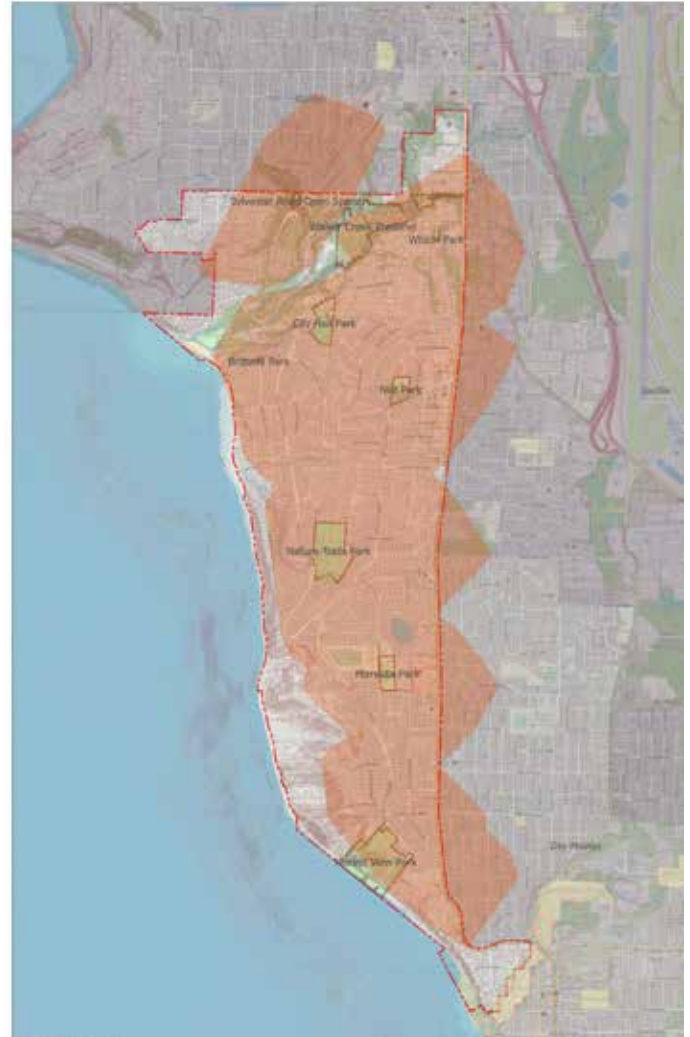
The "10-MIN WALK" METRIC

A 10-minute walk is considered an important park access metric for several reasons, as illustrated in the infographic to the right.

In summary, a 10-minute walk (approximately 1/2 mile on level ground) as a park access metric is important because it promotes physical activity, equity, sustainability, social interaction, and overall

community well-being. It aligns with various health, environmental, and social goals the City has and should encourage urban planners and policymakers to prioritize accessible green spaces as a fundamental part of city development and the community's desired quality of life.

The figure below identifies the service areas, AKA the 10-minute walksheds, for each existing park as well as showing the current gaps.





Capital Improvement Program



INTRODUCTION

The Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Plan for the City of Normandy Park stands as a pivotal blueprint influencing the residents' quality of life through its Parks & Recreation system. The administration of services, a responsibility of the limited City staff within the department, demands strategic investment of resources from both the City's and Metropolitan Parks District's budgets. These investments, annually allocated to staff, equipment, and supplies, facilitate the provision and upkeep of a diverse range of outdoor recreation opportunities, ensuring safety and meeting public expectations.

Aligned with Normandy Park's strategic goals and intertwined with the Comprehensive Plan's principles, this plan underscores the promotion of a safe healthy walkable community, cultural appreciation, and environmental preservation, thereby encapsulating the public's aspirations.

This section underscores the City's commitment to address public feedback and rectify system deficiencies by delineating a comprehensive Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The CIP encompasses specific park-based projects and overarching recommendations aimed at bridging service gaps. These propositions, summarized in tabular form and expounded upon

in detail, outline proposed enhancements and conceptual improvements slated for implementation over the ensuing six years. Furthermore, the inclusion of long-term aspirational projects demonstrates a readiness to embrace opportunistic improvements contingent upon market conditions or funding viability.

The crux of this plan pivots on key recommendations designed to efficiently tackle prevailing issues, anticipate future demands, maximize funding flexibility, and align with public preferences. It meticulously considers the gamut of available parks and recreation amenities within the city.

Summary of desired improvements included:

- ◆ Accessibility Improvements - Create more safer connections between the City's parks, schools, and residential areas, including extending or adding sidewalks, and other non-motorized trail options.
- ◆ Increasing Recreation Diversity - Creating more diverse and varied outdoor recreation and programming opportunities across the system, including adding new sports courts (pickleball), dog parks, and additional trail variety.
- ◆ Preserve and Improve Nature - continue focus on conservation of the cities green spaces.

- ◆ Make the Shoreline Accessible - Look for more opportunities to provide public access to Puget Sound waterfront.
- ◆ Increase opportunities for hands-on activities (gardening) and interpretation.
- ◆ Connect all parks city-wide with safe accessible trails.
- ◆ Explore more cost-effective ways to provide water play activities that doesn't require tremendous capital investment.
- ◆ Focus on projects that have multi-dimensional grant funding possibilities, e.g. access projects that can attract Safe-Routes-To-Schools funding.
- ◆
- ◆

DEVELOP STRATEGIC PROJECTS TO MAXIMIZE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Improvements to the parks system is not entirely on the City itself to fund. The City should become more aggressive in pursuing grants and donations from all available funding sources in order to maximize its public investment in city parks, recreation, and open space facilities and services. The City should specifically pair specific improvements with the appropriate Recreation Conservation Office program that have a long history of being funded, such as the Youth Athletic Field or Land Water Conservation Fund grants. In addition, many trail and access projects can be integrated with Safe Route to School grants and other transportation related projects. Combining park projects with transportation projects will also increase project implementation flexibility and funding opportunities from other County, State, and Federal programs.

DEVELOPING THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Thus far, this PROS Plan has discussed several trends & issues, the demand and need of the public, and its impact on the city's park system and/or interlocal partners. It is built on several key recommendations that best and most cost-effectively address current issues, projected demand, funding flexibility, and public desire – all while taking into consideration all the available parks and recreation opportunities that are available within the city. In summary.

This section will present both long-term and short-term recommendations in narrative form organized by element type, then present in much more detail, ideas to be considered for both the 6-year and 20-year CIP list.

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

The plan is designed for a full six-year lifespan with the intent that it will guide improvements from 2024 through 2030, while providing a conceptual vision of additional aspirational improvements beyond that are focused on the projected growth of Sumner in its UGA. As stated earlier, this plan is not a strict “script” to guide any and all park & recreation improvements. Since funding may be diverted or not secured or public needs or political will may change, this plan is designed to a fluid and dynamic strategic guide for the city to base decisions around. Unforeseen opportunities may present themselves that are not covered in this plan which may create better service to the public.

The capital improvement projects listed are not, nor will they be prioritized over the next six years, although specific recommendations at the beginning of this section have initially been placed in either the 6-year or long-term 20-year CIP lists. However, for planning purposes, the timeline of targeted funding sources; the likely design and permitting time; and city staff project management capacity; each recommended improvement is scheduled with an anticipated year. Note that this is for planning purposes only and is not a commitment to implementation in a particular year. This plan should be a living document being constantly updated as conditions change.

Beginning in early-to-mid 2030, a plan update process should be officially undertaken to engage the residents, staff and committee members of the City of Normandy Park in reviewing changing level of service needs, proposing new capital improvements, and renewing WA RCO eligibility for the next performance period.

To reinforce, the CIP project lists reflect the demand and needs of the public and have been vetted with both city staff, commission members, and City Council. Actual implementation over the next six years will be driven by available funding, success in grant funding availability as well as critical liability maintenance and repair improvements.

ESTIMATE OF PROBABLE COST

Included in this section is an estimate of the probable construction costs associated with the improvements recommended for each park or city-wide. Note that these estimates are preliminary for use in budgeting and scoping future design and construction projects, and are subject to change due to site conditions, final design, and market circumstances. Many of the estimates are from the current park master planning projects that have already been started.

Each item in the estimate is keyed to the recommendations on the park plans in this section and includes funding source availability and anticipated cost. Inflation, annual cost escalators, cost & design contingencies, permitting and other soft costs have been factored in as well. The cost for staff time is not included in the cost opinions.

PERFORMANCE AND MONITORING

Sumner’s plan addresses park, recreation, open space, and trails level of service and needs identified at the time of the plan’s creation. Recognizing the dynamic, ever-changing nature of people, outdoor spaces, and cities, this plan purposefully to allow flexibility and adaptability in its implementation.

To monitor progress and adapt to changing circumstances, including new grant and funding sources, the following actions should be taken in each annual capital improvement budgeting cycle to verify and confirm the improvements to be implemented:

- ♦ **Annual Prioritization Review:** An annual evaluation by city staff and Sumner’s Forestry & Parks Commission should be undertaken to determine if any changes to the park system, funding availability or demographic shifts will impact the recommendations outlined in this report.
- ♦ **Funding source review:** Anticipated vs. actual funding should be reviewed, particularly related to target grant funding, recognizing competition for grants, likelihood for success based on past grant application performance, and the reality that not all grant applications will be successful.
- ♦ **Maintenance and operational review:** Prior to implementing a park improvement or pursuing funding, maintenance and operational costs should be evaluated and budgeted accordingly.
- ♦ **Coordination with other city projects:** Recognizing that the city has transportation and other public works projects proposed each year, each park and open space improvements should be evaluated and adjusted to provide mutually beneficial efforts that contribute to Sumner’s desired

quality of life.

PRIMARY FUNDING SOURCE KEY

Included in the proposed CIP project matrix is a keyed set of secured or unsecured funding options. There may be potentially, based on the individual characteristics of the proposed capital improvement, multiple options to potentially finance the project. Secured funding would include, e.g., municipal bonds backed by a specific revenue source (revenue bonds) or those secured by the municipality’s taxing power (general obligation bonds.) In some cases, the improvements may be directly financed from the City’s existing parks or general fund.

Unsecured financing would include grant programs, mainly outdoor recreation grant programs available through RCO.

Primary Funding Key	Program
A	RCO WWRP Local Parks
B	RCO WWRP Trails
C	RCO WWRP Habitat
D	RCO Youth Athletic Facilities
E	RCO Community Outdoor Athletic Facilities
F	RCO Land Water Conservation Fund
G	RCO No Child left Inside
H	RCO Outdoor Learning Grants
I	Metropolitan Parks District Funds
J	Dept of Commerce Economic Development Grants
K	King County Conservation Futures
L	City Bonds

Rank	Year	Project	Cost*	Funding Sources
	2027	Brittany Park	\$ 135,187.50	G, I,
		Interpretive artwork and signs and amenities		
		City Hall Park	\$ 5,254,575.00	
	2024	Master Plan Update & Rec Facility Feasibility Study	\$ 75,000.00	I, P
	2026	Covered Sports Courts Complex	\$ 650,000.00	A, D, G
	2028	Baseball/Sports Fields & Edge Renovations	\$ 1,000,000.00	
	2030	Accessible Play Equipment, Amenity & Safety Improvements	\$ 610,000.00	
	2030	Park Maintenance and Amenity Updates	\$ 1,783,050.00	
		Marine View Park	\$ 4,741,500.00	A, D, G
	2024	Entry/Parking Area/Accessibility Upgrades		
	2026	Trail & Amenity Improvements		
	2028	Heath Property Upgrades	\$ 500,000.00	
	2030	Outdoor Education Camp	\$ 1,250,000.00	
		Marvista Park	\$ 1,705,875.00	
		Complete Current Park Design Improvements		A, D, G
		Nature Trails Park	\$ 664,875.00	
	2025	Trailhead/Parking Improvements Trail & Intrepretive Upgrades		
		Nist Park	\$ 1,686,450.00	
		Slide Improvements & Nature Play Expansion Entry Improvements Amenity Upgrades		
		Salmon View Park	\$ 790,700.63	
		Riparian zone restoration work Interpretive signage, trails and benches Pedestrian bridges for Walker and Sequoia Creeks Property acquisition with adjacent properties		
		Sylvester Road Open Space	\$ 290,250.00	
		Remove invasive species, restoration Create ravine access		
		Trail Network		
	2024	Comprehensive Non-Motorized Trails Plan	\$ 75,000.00	P
		Walker Preserve	\$ 703,125.00	
		New Box Car Interpretive Grove New Entries/Trailheads		
		Wilson Park	\$ 171,600.00	
		More Benches & Picnic Tables (Covered)		
		Mini Parks	\$ 72,000.00	

20+ YEAR ASPIRATIONAL PROJECTS:

New Public Waterfront Park

Marine View Funicular?

Piano Keys Acquisitions

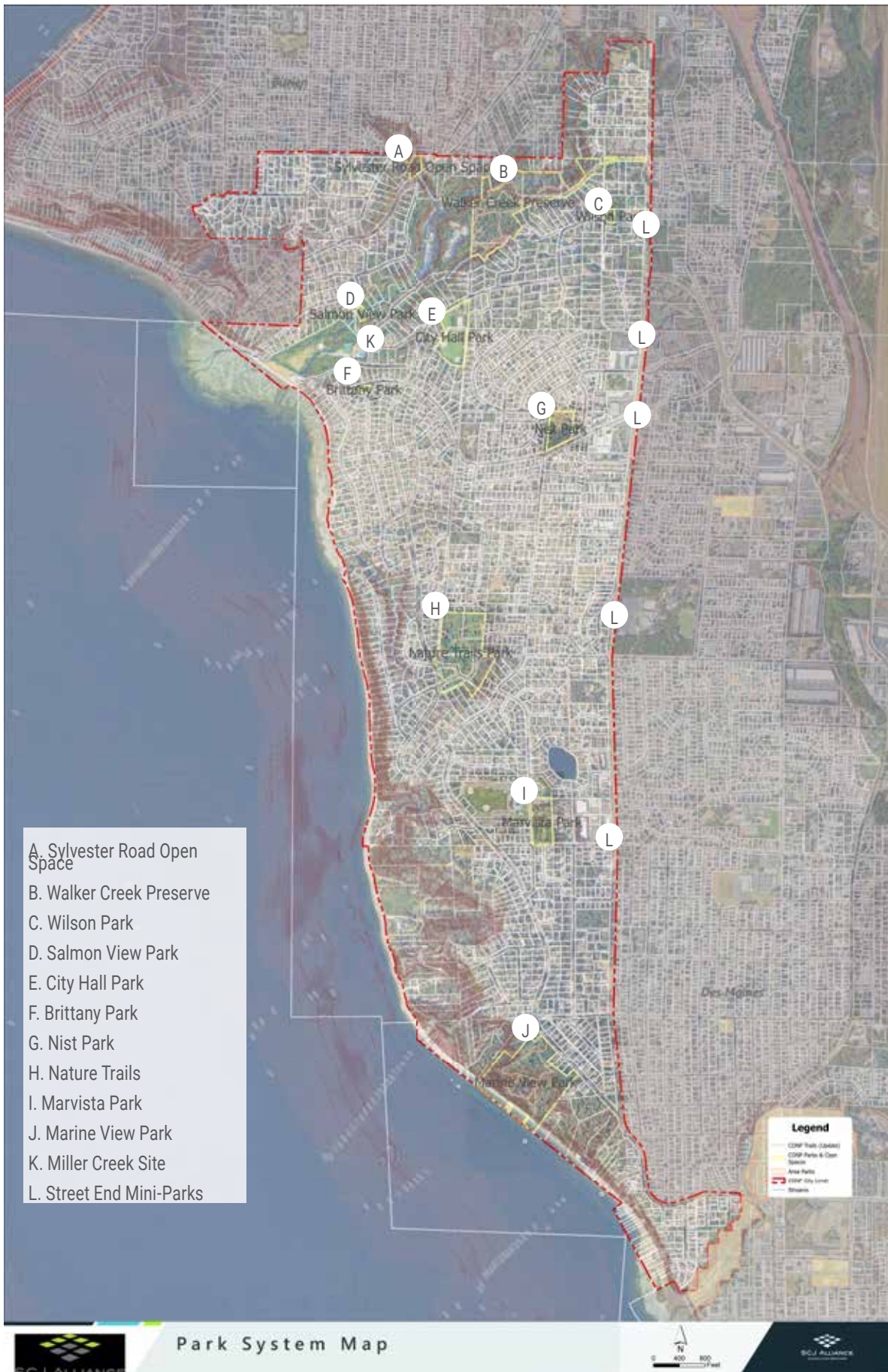
ANNUAL O&M OPPORTUNITY FUNDS:

Park Maintenance Emergency Fund \$10,000 / year

Synthetic Turf Replacement Fund \$10,000 / year

Wayfinding & Signage Fund \$10,000 / year

Community Arts & Programming Fund
\$10,000 / year



A. Sylvester Road Open Space

Description:

◆

Implementation Strategy

◆

Actions

Maintenance

◆

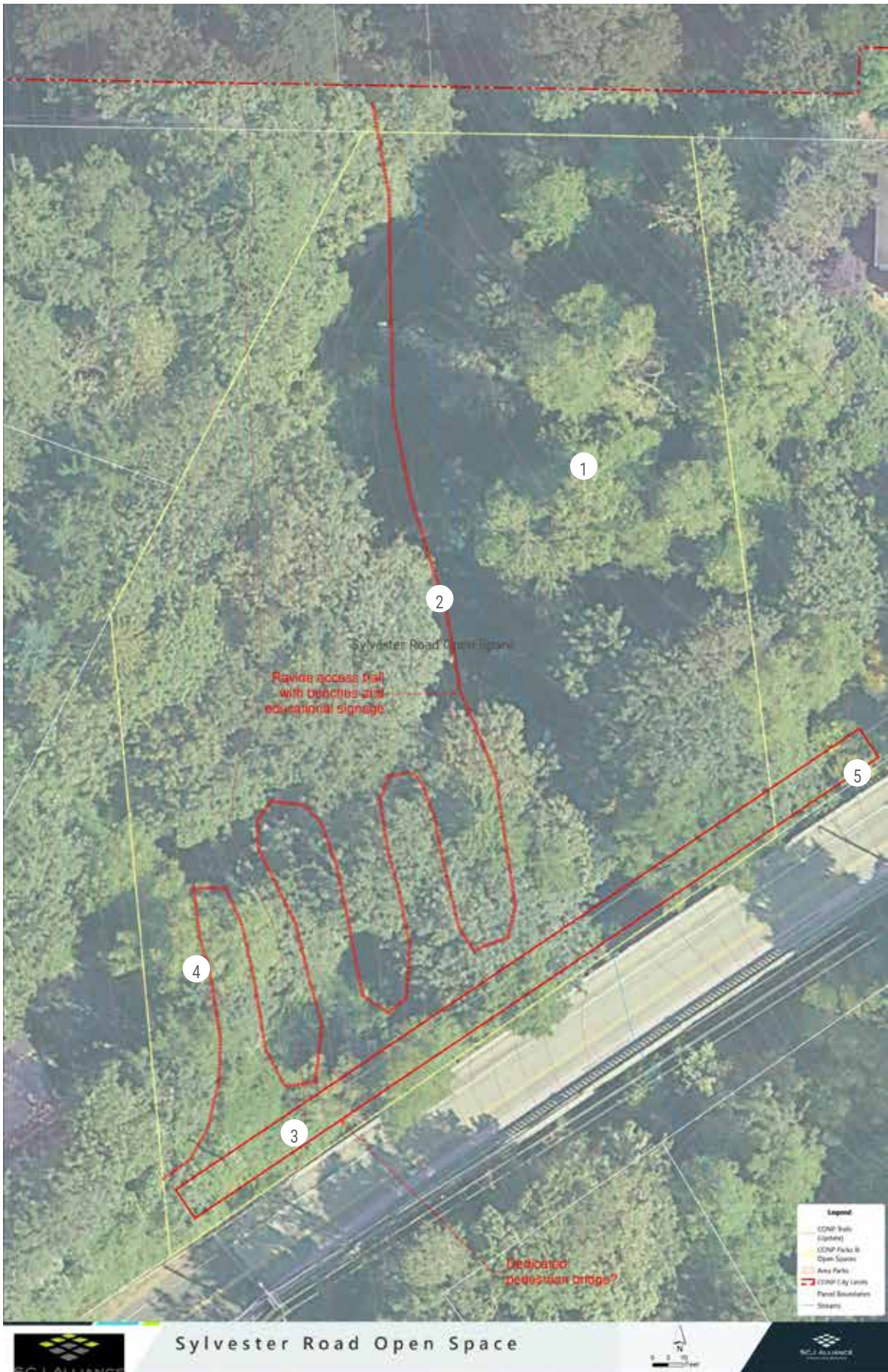
Passive Actions

◆

Active Actions

◆

Project Costs				
Element	Quantity	Unit Cost		Cost
Element				
◆ Remove invasive species, restoration	1.15 AC			\$11,500.00
◆ Trail	1000.00 LF	\$125.00		\$125,000.00
◆ Pedestrian bridge	1.00 LS			\$45,000.00
◆ Benches	4.00 EA	\$1,750.00		\$7,000.00
◆ Educational signage	4.00 EA	\$1,250.00		\$5,000.00
◆ Opinion of Probable Construction Costs				\$193,500.00



B. Walker Creek Preserve

Description:

◆

Implementation Strategy

◆

Actions

Maintenance

◆

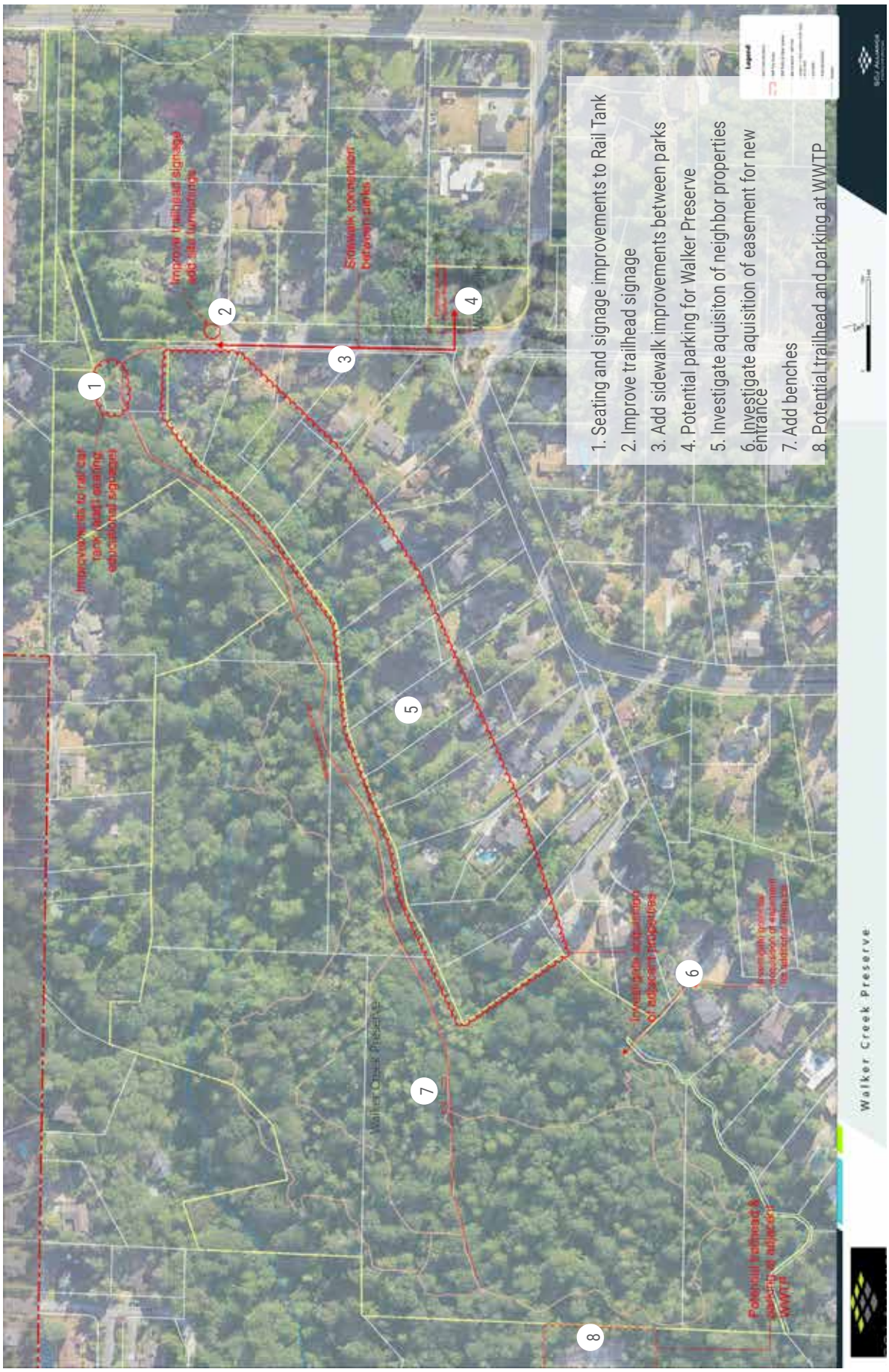
Passive Actions

◆

Active Actions

◆

Project Costs				
Element	Quantity	Unit Cost		Cost
Element				
◆ Educational signage	12.00 EA	\$1,250.00		\$15,000.00
◆ Trailhead at existing entry	1.00 LS			\$12,500.00
◆ Trail map and education kiosk	5.00 EA	\$1,750.00		\$8,750.00
◆ Connection from Walker to Wilson	1.00 LS			\$35,000.00
◆ Remove invasive species, install plants	26.00 AC			\$260,000.00
◆ Drainage improvements	1.00 LS			\$50,000.00
◆ Benches	15.00 EA	\$2,500.00		\$37,500.00
◆ Interpretive Plaza	1.00 LS			\$50,000.00
◆ Opinion of Probable Construction Costs				\$468,750.00



1. Seating and signage improvements to Rail Tank
2. Improve trailhead signage
3. Add sidewalk improvements between parks
4. Potential parking for Walker Preserve
5. Investigate acquisition of neighbor properties
6. Investigate acquisition of easement for new entrance
7. Add benches
8. Potential trailhead and parking at WWTP

Improvements to rail tank
 track, add seating
 additional signage

Improve trailhead signage
 add site furnishings

Sidewalk connection
 between parks

Investigate acquisition
 of adjacent properties

Investigate acquisition
 of easement
 for additional trails

Potential trailhead &
 parking at adjacent
 WWTP

Walker Creek Preserve

C. Wilson Park

Description:

◆

Implementation Strategy

◆

Actions

Maintenance

◆

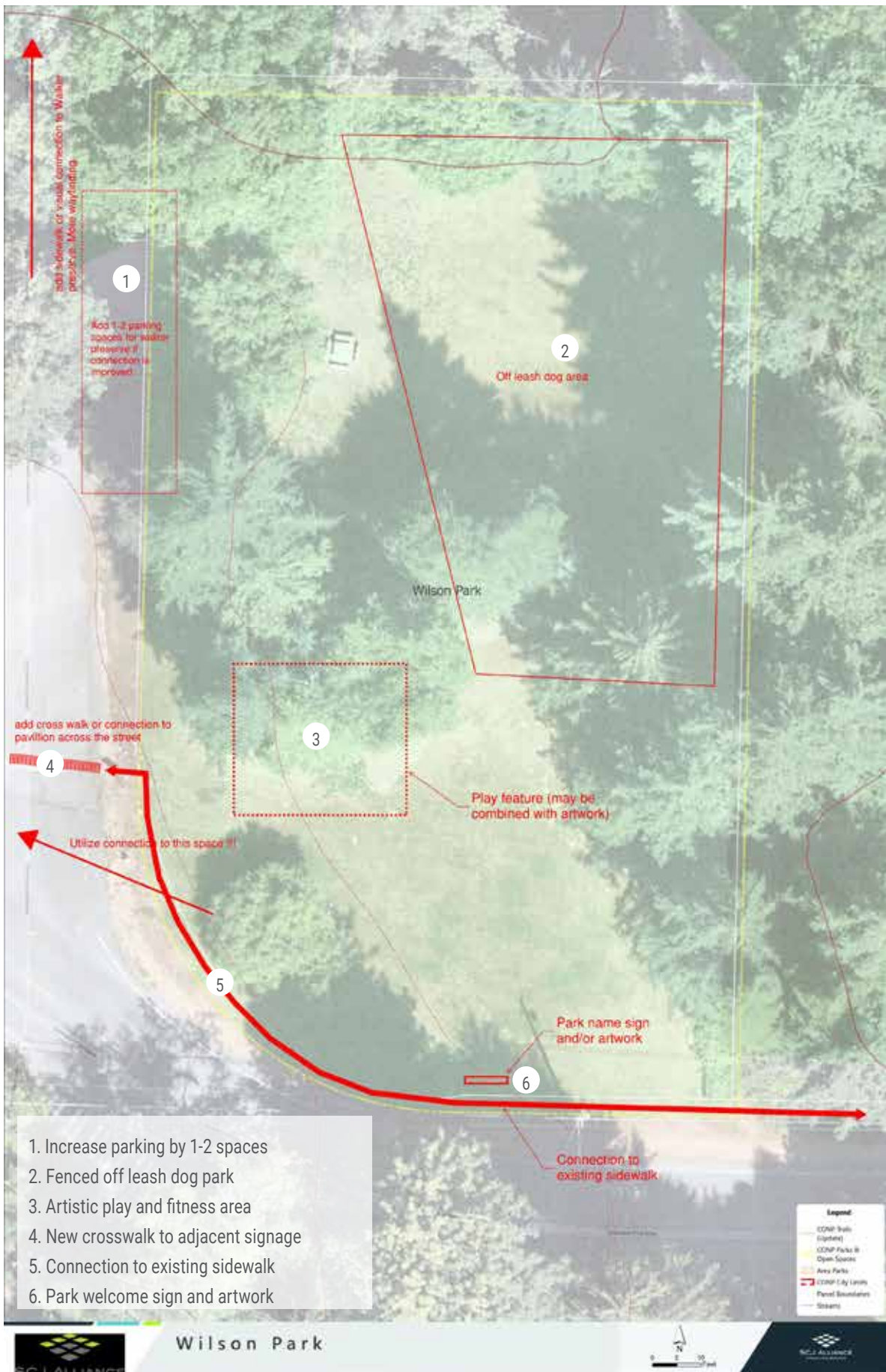
Passive Actions

◆

Active Actions

◆

Project Costs				
Element	Quantity	Unit Cost		Cost
Element				
◆ Increase parking	400.00 SF	\$12.00		\$4,800.00
◆ Sign for Walker Preserve / trail kiosk	1.00 EA	\$2,750.00		\$2,750.00
◆ Memorial to Grace & TA Wilson	1.00 LS			\$12,000.00
◆ Artwork	1.00 LS			\$10,000.00
◆ Play feature (may be combined with artwork)	1.00 LS			\$25,000.00
◆ Shrubs and perennials below trees	2000.00 SF	\$3.75		\$7,500.00
◆ Sidewalk along street	200.00 LF	\$55.00		\$11,000.00
◆ Picnic tables	3.00 EA	\$1,450.00		\$4,350.00
◆ Benches	6.00 EA	\$1,750.00		\$10,500.00
◆ Paths	300.00 LF	\$55.00		\$16,500.00
◆ Continue tree maintenance & replacement	1.00 LS			\$10,000.00
◆ Opinion of Probable Construction Costs				\$114,400.00



E. City Hall Park

Description:

◆

Implementation Strategy

◆

Actions

Maintenance

◆

Passive Actions

◆

Active Actions

◆

Project Costs				
Element	Quantity	Unit Cost		Cost
Element				



F - Brittany Park

♦ N/A

Classification:

- ♦ Pocket Park

Address:

- ♦

Size:

- ♦ .25 acre

Status:

- ♦ Existing

Description:

- ♦

Park History:

- ♦

Encumbrances & Funding History:

Project Costs			
Element	Quantity	Unit Cost	Cost
♦ Artwork	3	\$3,000	\$9,000
♦ Interpretive Signs	3	\$2,125	\$6,375
♦ Nature Play Features	1	\$25,000	\$25,000
♦ Seating / Memorial Bench	8	\$2,250	\$18,000
♦ Additional Paths	50	\$125	\$6,250
♦ Lawn Renovation & Planting	13000	\$1.50	\$19,500
♦ Slow Sign & Planting Bed	1	\$1,250	\$1,250
♦ Preserve/Maintain Trees	1	\$5,000	\$5,000
Admin			
♦ Escalators/Inflation*			\$4,506
♦ Soft Costs (A+E, Permitting)			\$18,025
♦ Contingencies			\$22,531
Total Cost			\$135,187.50

G. Nist Park

Description:

Implementation Strategy

Actions

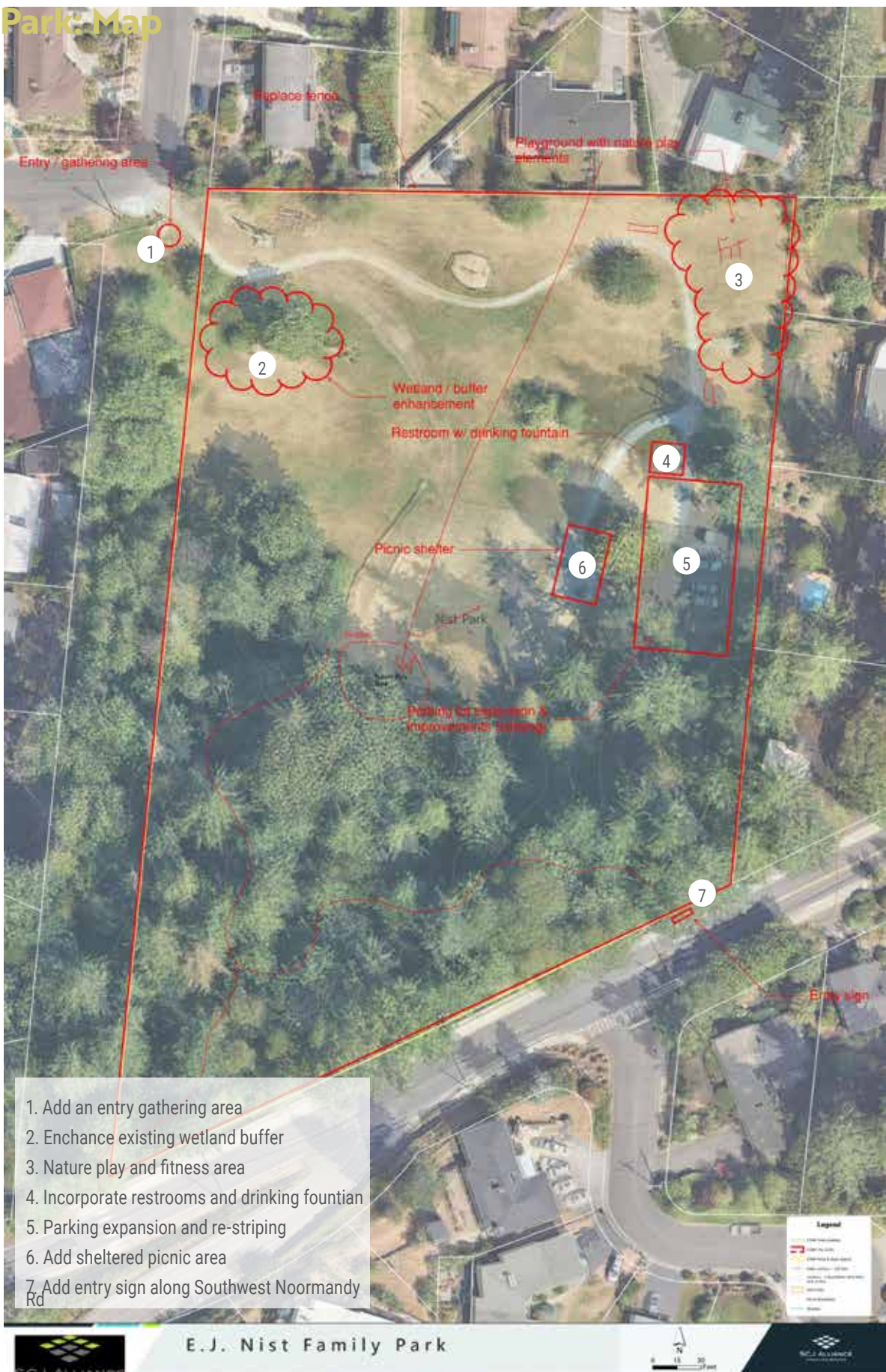
Maintenance

Passive Actions

Active Actions

Project Costs				
Element	Quantity	Unit Cost		Cost
Element				
♦ Entry gathering area	500.00 SF	\$17.00		\$8,500.00
♦ Wetland and buffer enhancement	3,000.00 SF	\$12.00		\$36,000.00
♦ Fence replacement	300.00 LF	\$65.00		\$19,500.00
♦ Add Nature Play Elements	1.00 LS	\$25,000.00		\$25,000.00
♦ Benches	5.00 EA	\$1,750.00		\$8,750.00
♦ Parking expansion w/ striping	2000.00 SF	\$12.00		\$24,000.00
♦ Lighting at entry and parking	1.00 LS	\$35,000.00		\$35,000.00
♦ Restroom bldg and drinking fountain	1.00 LS	\$250,000.00		\$250,000.00
♦ Picnic shelter (large) at Plaza	1300.00 SF	\$35.00		\$45,500.00
♦ Path and steps from parking to picnic	30.00 LF	\$85.00		\$2,550.00
♦ Landscape beds	2000.00 SF	\$7.50		\$15,000.00
Add exercise Circuit / Possible Fitlot	1.00 LS	\$450,000.00		\$450,000.00
♦ Shade shelter (small)	1.00 EA	\$10,000.00		\$10,000.00
♦ Safety surface	1200.00 SF	\$75.00		\$90,000.00
Slide /Access Improvements	1.00 LS	\$12,500.00		\$12,500.00
♦ Improve Trail and Add Signage	1750.00 LF	\$18.00		\$31,500.00
♦ Path paving and drainage	1.00 LS	\$17,500.00		\$17,500.00
♦ Park Sign	1.00 LS	\$2,500.00		\$2,500.00
♦ Remove invasive species, restore habitat	2.00 AC	\$10,000.00		\$23,000.00

Nist Park: Map

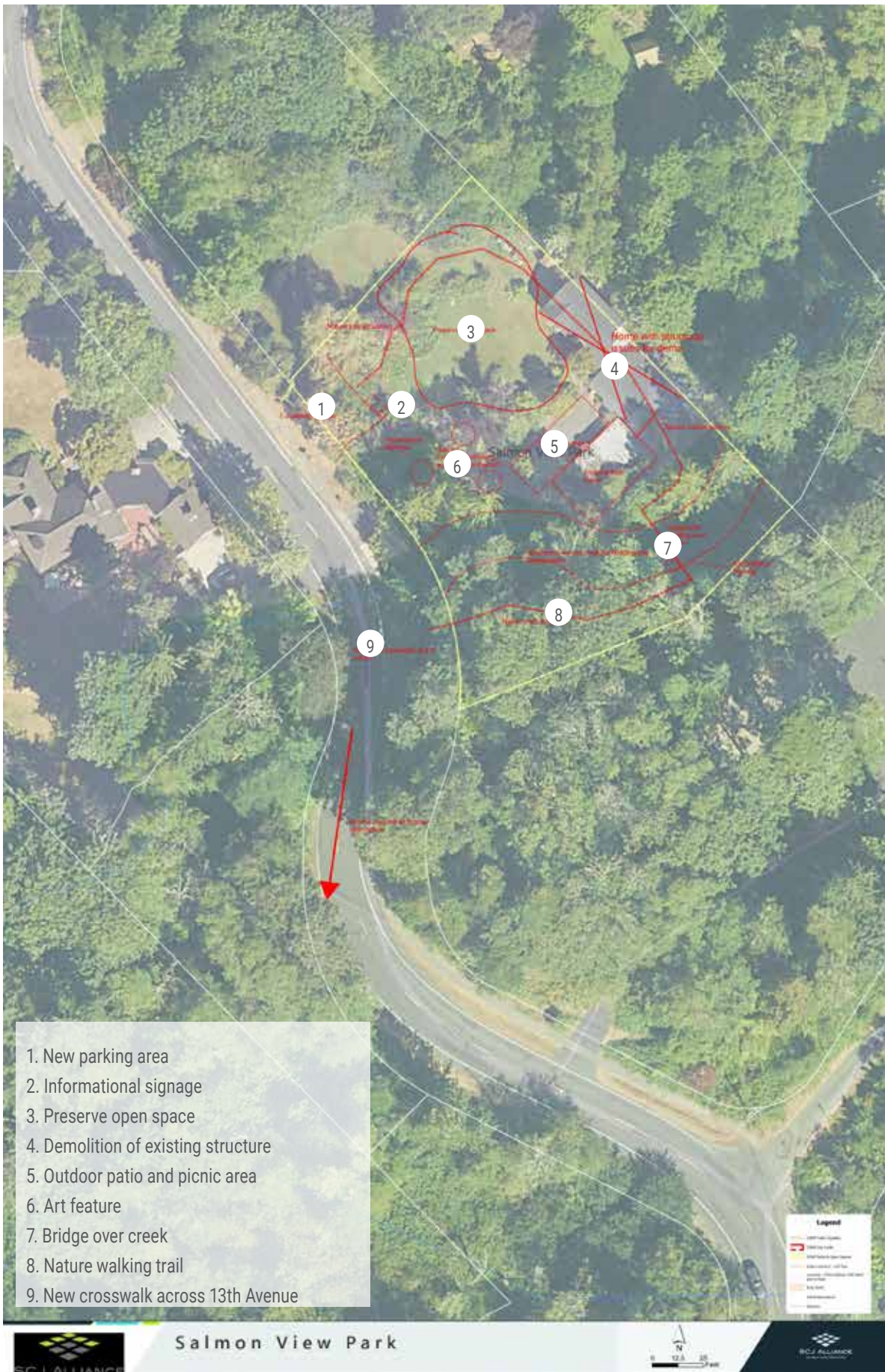


E.J. Nist Family Park



Legend

- 2024 Park Boundaries
- 2024 Park Paths
- 2024 Park Amenities
- 2024 Park Improvements
- 2024 Park Signage
- 2024 Park Lighting
- 2024 Park Seating
- 2024 Park Restrooms
- 2024 Park Fountains
- 2024 Park Play Structures
- 2024 Park Wetlands
- 2024 Park Trees
- 2024 Park Grass
- 2024 Park Other



H. Nature Trails Park

Description:

◆

Implementation Strategy

◆

Actions

Maintenance

◆

Passive Actions

◆

Active Actions

◆

Project Costs				
Element	Quantity	Unit Cost		Cost
Element				
◆ Entry gathering space	2000.00 SF	\$17.00		\$34,000.00
◆ Wood restroom enclosure	1.00 LS	\$8,500.00		\$8,500.00
◆ Education/interpretation curriculum (Nature Play)	1.00 LS			\$25,000.00
◆ Interpretive artwork and signs	15.00 EA	\$1,450.00		\$21,750.00
◆ Trail Improvement Map / Kiosk	1.00 LS			\$20,000.00
◆ Trailhead and trail improvements	1.00 LS			\$20,000.00
◆ Handrail and timber risers	1.00 LS			\$12,000.00
◆ Path repair and root prune	2500.00 LF	\$3.00		\$7,500.00
◆ Trail extension	2000.00 LF	\$12.00		\$24,000.00
◆ Benches	15.00 EA	\$1,250.00		\$18,750.00
◆ Artwork	1.00 LS			\$15,000.00
Remove ivy /invasive plants & retstore	18.00 AC			\$180,000.00
◆ On-grade boardwalk	150.00 LF	\$155.00		\$23,250.00
◆ Drainage improvements	1.00 LS			\$25,000.00
Wood pedestrian bridge	1.00 LS	\$8,500.00		\$8,500.00
◆ Opinion of Probable Construction Costs				\$443,250.00



1. Add an entry gathering area
2. Enhance existing wetland buffer
3. Nature play and fitness area
4. Incorporate restrooms and drinking fountain
5. Parking expansion and re-striping
6. Add sheltered picnic area
7. Add entry sign along Southwest Noormandy Rd
- 8.

Nature Trails Park

1. Picnic lawn and garden area
2. Introduce new path and gathering area
3. Add sidewalk
4. Expand and renovate play area
5. Improvements to sign and wayfinding
6. Vegetate buffer between sidewalks



Legend

	2024 Park Boundaries
	2024 City Limits
	2024 Sidewalk & Buffer Boundaries
	2024 Sidewalk - 10' Buffer
	2024 Sidewalk - 5' Buffer
	2024 Sidewalk - 3' Buffer
	2024 Sidewalk - 2' Buffer
	2024 Sidewalk - 1' Buffer
	2024 Sidewalk - 0' Buffer

Marvista Park





1. Pave parkinglot with traffic calming and striping
2. Wood restroom enclosure
3. New trail connection
4. Aquire piano keys for un-interrupted beach access
5. Add moderate grade trail
6. Repair/add educational signage and seating
7. Improve overlook/stair tower



Marine View Park





Plan Adoption

**Parks and/or Planning
Commission Approval
Recommendation Letter(s)**

Planning Eligibility Self-Certification Form

Use this form to certify that the need for any grant projects have been developed through an appropriate planning process. Provide the completed form with the subject plans and adoption documentation to RCO via e-mail or other means of electronic access (i.e. Web link, Box.com, etc.).

Organization Name:

Contact Name:

Adoption Date of Submitted Documents:

Seeking Eligibility for: Recreation Grants Conservation Grants Both

Initial Each to Certify Completion	Plan Element Certification	Document and Page Number Location of Information
	<p>1. Goals, objectives: The attached plan supports our project with broad statements of intent (goals) <i>and</i> measures that describe when these intents will be attained (objectives). Goals may include a higher level of service.</p>	
	<p>2. Inventory: The plan includes a description of the service area's facilities, lands, programs, and their condition. <i>(This may be done in a quantitative format or in a qualitative/narrative format.)</i></p>	
	<p>3. Public involvement: The planning process gave the public ample opportunity to be involved in plan development and adoption.</p>	
	<p>4a. Demand and need analysis: In the plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An analysis defines priorities, as appropriate, for acquisition, development, preservation, enhancement, management, etc., and explains why these actions are needed. • The process used in developing the analysis assessed community desires for parks, recreation, open space, and/or habitat, as appropriate, in a manner appropriate for the service area (personal observation, informal talks, formal survey(s), workshops, etc.). 	
	<p>4b. Level of Service assessment (optional): An assessment of the criterion appropriate to your community. Possibly establish a higher level of service as a plan goal (above).</p>	
	<p>5. Capital Improvement Program: The plan includes a capital improvement/facility program that lists land acquisition, development, and renovation projects by year of anticipated implementation; include funding source. The program includes any capital project submitted to the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board for funding.</p>	
	<p>6. Adoption: The plan and process has received formal governing body approval (<i>that is, city/county department head, district ranger, regional manager/supervisor, etc., as appropriate</i>). Attach signed resolution, letter, or other adoption instrument.</p>	

Certification Signature

I certify that this information is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Print/Type Name: _____

Signature (Hand Written or Digital): _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

City Resolution Adopting PROST Plan

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Appendices & Attachments

City of Normandy Park PROST Plan

March 2024

A - Terms & Definitions

Washington State Recreation & Conservation Office (RCO) has found that many terms commonly used in recreation planning do not have consistent definitions from one plan to another. RCO suggests, but does not require, the following definitions compiled from various sources, including Washington Administrative Code, Department of Natural Resources, and Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission used in this master

Table A1: Terms & Definitions	
Term	Definition#
Access	The public’s ability to physically use land or water.
Active Recreation	Predominately human muscle powered recreational activities.
Camping	An overnight stay in a tent or other non-permanent structure.
Capital Improvement Program (CIP)	A list or description of proposal capital projects.
Capital Project	A project that results in redevelopment of an existing property, acquisition of new property, or a new built facility with a budget that excess \$10,000.00
Consumptive	Recreation that physically consumes resources; examples include berry picking, shellfish harvest, hunting, fishing.
Development	A development project is construction or work resulting in new elements, including but not limited to structures, facilities, and/or materials to enhance outdoor recreation resources.
Dispersed	Recreation that is scattered or spread across the landscape and not concentrated at a specific site. Examples include trail uses, camping, walking, cycling, and jogging.
Impact (Low, Medium, High)	The effect that recreational uses have on resources including but not limited to soils, water, species, habitat, sites, and facilities.



Table A1: Terms & Definitions

Term	Definition#
Improve	Expanding an existing site or facility to serve more uses or more types of use.
Level of Service	Measure of the current status of a park and recreation system as a whole based on either quantitative or qualitative characteristics.
Maintain	To maintain existing areas and facilities through repairs and upkeep for the benefit of outdoor recreationists.
Multiple-use	Use by more than one type of recreation on the same facility.
Non-consumptive	Resource recreation that depends on, but does not consume, resources; for example, photographing wildlife.
Park	<p>Land or an area set aside for a special purpose, but particularly for leisure or recreation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Totlot/Mini-Park/Pocket Park – a small local park or civic space accessible to the general public without the capacity for large outdoor recreation activities like field sports and often associated with playground equipment for toddlers and young children. • Neighborhood Park – a local-scale park with a service area of a reasonable walking distance, typically ½ mile, but up to 1 mile. • Community Park – a community-scale park facility has a service area typically of 1-5 miles that includes the city limits of a town or city. • Regional Park – a larger park facility intended to serve populations and uses from multiple jurisdictions. • State Park – a park facility owned and managed by the State of Washington. • Marine Park – a state or regional park facility intended to serve populations spanning multiple jurisdictions with primary access via watercraft . • Day-use Park – any kind of park facility that does not allow overnight uses such as camping. • Seasonal Parks – any kind of parks intended for use in specific seasons.
Passive	Activities usually conducted in place and requiring minimal physical exertion such as picnicking, watching a sports event, sun bathing, or relaxing.
Qualitative	An adjective relating to the quality of something interpreted by its intrinsic non-numerical characteristics other than some quantity or measured value.
Quantitative	Relating to, measuring, or measured by the quantity of something obtained using a numerical measurement process.
Recreation	Activities of a voluntary and leisure time Nature that aid in promoting entertainment, pleasure, play, relaxation, or instruction.
Renovate (Renovation)	The activities intended to improve an existing site or structure in order to increase its useful service life beyond original expectations or functions. This does not include maintenance activities to maintain the facility for its originally expected useful life.
Restoration	Bringing a site back to its historic function as part of a natural ecosystem or improving the ecological functionality of a site.
Shared Use	Use by more than one type of recreation on the same facility.
Trail	<p>According to the Washington State Trails Plan (RCO, 2013):</p> <p><i>“...a path, route, way, right-of-way, or corridor posted, signed, or designated as open for travel or passage by the general public but not normally designated as open for the transportation of commercial goods or services by motorized vehicles.”</i></p> <p>A trail is a recreational facility that also can serve as a non-motorized route for transportation.</p>

B - Standards & Guidelines

There are six basic park and greenspace facility types typically utilized by municipalities:

- ◆ Pocket Parks / Mini-Parks / Tot Lots
- ◆ Neighborhood Parks
- ◆ Community Parks
- ◆ Natural Areas & Greenspaces
- ◆ Trails, Bikeways & Paths
- ◆ Special Facilities

POCKET PARKS / MINI-PARKS / TOT LOTS

Pocket parks are very small and serve a limited radius (up to ¼-mile) from the site; they provide passive and play-oriented recreational opportunities. Examples of pocket parks can include a tot lot with play equipment such as a climber, slide or swings; a viewpoint; or waterfront access areas such as at street ends.

A small urban plaza or civic recognition project may also be considered a pocket park. Parking is not often provided at pocket parks, although lighting

may be used for security and safety.

Neighborhood parks are generally considered the basic unit of traditional park systems. They are small park areas designed for unstructured play and limited active and passive recreation. They are generally 3-5 acres in size, depending on a variety of factors including neighborhood need, physical location and opportunity, and should meet a minimum size of 2 acre in size when possible.

Neighborhood parks are intended to serve residential areas within short walking distance (up to ½-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 or other significant natural or man-made barrier, such as ravines and railroad tracks, to get to the site.

Additionally, these parks should be located along road frontages to improve visual access and community awareness of the sites.

Generally, developed neighborhood parks typically include amenities such as pedestrian paths, picnic tables, benches, play equipment, a multi-use open field for youth soccer and baseball, sport courts or multi-purpose paved areas, landscaping and irrigation. Restrooms are not provided due to high construction and maintenance costs. Parking is also not usually provided; however, on-street, ADA

accessible parking stall(s) may be included.

Neighborhood park development may proceed in phases.

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. Community parks are generally 20 to 50 acres in size, meet a minimum size of 20 acres when possible and serve residents within a 1-mile radius of the site.

In areas without neighborhood parks, community parks can also serve as local neighborhood parks. 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.



Since community parks serve a larger area and offer

more facilities than neighborhood parks, parking and restroom facilities are provided. Community parks may also incorporate community facilities, such as community centers, senior centers or aquatic facilities.

NATURAL AREAS

Natural areas are those which are preserved to maintain the natural character of the site and are managed to protect valuable ecological systems, such as riparian corridors and wetlands, and to preserve native habitat and biodiversity. In managing for their ecological value, these natural areas may contain a diversity of native vegetation that provides fish and wildlife habitat and embodies the beauty and character of the local landscape. Low-impact activities, such as walking, nature observation, and fishing are allowed, where appropriate, and horseback riding is also permitted on certain sites.

GREENSPACES

Greenspaces are passive-use open spaces and turf areas without developed amenities or structured functions.

TRAILS & BIKEWAYS

Trails are non-motorized transportation networks separated from roads. Trails can be developed to accommodate multiple uses or shared uses, such as pedestrians, inline skaters, bicyclists, and equestrians. Trail alignments aim to emphasize a strong relationship with the natural environment and may not provide the most direct route from a practical transportation viewpoint.

Bikeways are different than trails in that their principal focus is on safe and efficient non-motorized transportation. Bikeways serve distinctly different user groups than trail users. Typical bikeway user groups would include bicycle commuters, fitness enthusiasts and competitive

athletes. Their emphasis is on speed, which can

create conflicts with recreation-type trails and their respective user groups.

For shared-use trails, it is important that the alignment and cross sections be designed with flexibility to accommodate higher speeds, passing zones and greater widths. Surfaces will vary with intended use and environmental considerations. Additionally, parking, consistent signage (wayfinding, access, use hierarchy) and interpretive markers or panels should be provided as appropriate.

C - Public Survey Comments



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