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## PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

### **COMMISSIONERS:**

Ellen Burton	Katy Daane	David Dewey
Brittany Grahm	Jason Irving, Vice-Chair	Steve Lorenz, Chair
Jenny Wu		

### **CITY COUNCIL LIAISONS:**

Tim Hein	Shannon Roberts ( <i>Served January – July</i> )
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It was a busy and productive year for the Parks & Recreation Commission (Commission), the first ‘normal’, post-COVID year. With three new commissioners joining the group during the pandemic, in-person meets in 2022 provided the opportunity for group formation and personal interactions. The Commission continues to be a highly dedicated and productive group with meaningful participation by all commissioners and city staff involved. And most importantly, we are having a ton of fun!

Per Camas Municipal Code, Chapter 2.28.060 – Annual Report, we are pleased to present this report which provides a snapshot of the Commission’s and the Parks & Recreation Department’s (Department) work and accomplishments in 2022.

### **Key Highlights of 2022:**

- **Steve Lorenz, Commission Chair, was awarded the Florence B. Wager Award – The V-Formation Flyer** by the Parks Foundation of Clark County for his caring, thoughtful leadership and advocacy work for Camas Parks and Recreation. And more importantly, Steve is inspiring the next generation to love the outdoors and care for our parks, trails and open spaces.
- **We welcomed, Jenny Wu to the Commission**, the newest member appointed by the Mayor in April 2022.
- **Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan** was approved by the Commission in February, adopted by City Council in March, and the Capital Facilities Plan was adopted per Ordinance 22-002 in April.
- **Camas Parks & Recreation special events** came back in full force in 2022 with 11,379 people attended twenty-one events throughout the year. Thank you to staff and volunteers for bringing our community together.
- We are grateful for the continued **partnership with the Camas Parks Foundation**. They have accomplished so much for us in 2022 from fundraising for the skate park to scholarship funds and from Ivy League events (that brought in 308 volunteers totaling 818 volunteer hours) to bringing back Turkey Bingo.



Florence B.  
*Wager*  
AWARDS

### **Steve Lorenz**

#### *The V-Formation Flyer*

We not only have current park lovers, but through Steve, we are gaining a new generation of park users, advocates, and professionals. The Parks Foundation is honored to present the V-formation Flyer award to Steve Lorenz.



- In May, the **Ivy League celebrated their 5-year anniversary** of ‘pulling together’ to clear and maintain Camas parks, trails, and open spaces free of invasive English Ivy. **THANK YOU** for your service to our parks, trails and open spaces.
- Thank you to our volunteers for the **2360 volunteer hours** with the Department in 2022.
- Resolution 17-018, a voluntary no smoking/tobacco compliance program, was implemented in 2022. The **No Smoking signs** in our parks features elementary and middle students’ artwork.



No Smoking signs with student art



#### Facilities Rentals:

Facility	Lacamas Lodge	Fallen Leaf	Community Ctr.
Total Reservations	894	82	843
# No Fee	0	0	228
# Rec. Classes	792	14	540
# Rentals	91	60	107
# Non-Profit Rentals	11	8	5
Total Gross Revenue	\$88,709	\$15,360	\$16,659

#### Recreation Programs:

Recreation Classes	# of Classes & Participants	Notables
Free classes – Pop-up in the Park & Self-defense	5 classes 110 participants	
Youth and Adult Classes	263 classes 2,376 participants	Class offerings back to pre-COVID numbers.
55+ Program Pilot	7 classes 45 participants	Extra marketing effort to kick-off first year pilot and discounts/scholarships were provided to help make classes affordable.



### Special Events:

# of Events	# of Participants and Notables
Live Events	21 live events from April through December 11,379 participants Staff + 1,303 volunteer hours to makes these events come to life

### Grants & Donations:

Organization or Program	Award Details
Camas Parks Foundation	Skatepark Improvements - \$27,620.44, plus \$10,000 donation to the Camas Parks Foundation from Norman C Danielson Foundation totaling <b>\$37,620.44</b>
Parks Foundation of Clark County	Skatepark Improvements - <b>\$1,220</b> Sand volleyball court - <b>\$8,000</b> Recreation (programs & scholarships) - <b>\$976</b>
Special Events	Cash Donations/Sponsorships/Grants - <b>\$11,597.71</b> In-Kind Donations - <b>\$11,436.62</b>
Recreation Program	Donated Instructor Services - <b>\$1,430</b> – for Pop-up in the Park & Self-defense classes In-Kind art supply donation - <b>\$1,000</b> In-Kind wedding event décor/supplies - <b>\$2,000</b>
SEEK Funds - grant	The City was awarded \$14,820 from the Summer Experiences & Enrichment for Kids Fund (SEEK Fund) through the Association of Washington Cities to pilot two new outdoor programs over the summer. The Department partnered with EatWell Camas to provide the Growing Gardens Summer Camp and Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group to provide the Hope for Salmon Summer Day Camp. <b>The programs spent \$6,197.64 of the awarded grant.</b>
Clark County Conservation Futures -grant	The City was awarded <b>\$1.25 million</b> from Clark County's Conservation Futures grant program for the acquisition of Green Mountain.

### Motions taken by the Commission in 2022:

MEETING DATE	MOTION
February 8 <sup>th</sup>	<p><b>Vote for Chair and Vice Chair of Parks &amp; Recreation Commission:</b></p> <p>A motion was made by Marshall, seconded by Burton, and carried unanimously to make Steve Lorenz the Chair and Jason Irving the Vice Chair of the Camas Parks &amp; Recreation Commission for 2022.</p> <p><b>2021 Annual Report to City Council:</b></p> <p>A motion was made by Marshall, seconded by Burton, and carried to approve the 2021 Annual Report with minor grammar and type-o edits and present it to City Council.</p>



February 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<p><b><i>Parks, Recreation &amp; Open Space (PROS) Plan:</i></b></p> <p>A motion was made by Dewey, seconded by Burton, and carried unanimously to approve the Camas PROS Plan Update as is and move it forward to City Council for approval and adoption.</p> <p><b><i>No Smoking sign artwork:</i></b></p> <p>A motion was made by Grahn, seconded by Burton, and carried unanimously to submit the top eight posters to Camas School District for a final vote in the “No Smoking” signage artwork contest.</p> <p><b><i>Support letter for the Florence B. Wager nomination:</i></b></p> <p>A motion was made by Dewey, seconded by Irving, and carried unanimously to approve the Vice Chair to sign and submit a support letter to the Parks Foundation of Clark County, on Behalf of the Camas Parks &amp; Recreation Commission, for the nomination of Steve Lorenz for the Florence B. Wager Award.</p> <p><b><i>Public comment period:</i></b></p> <p>A motion was made by Dewey, seconded by Burton, and carried unanimously to keep public comments at the beginning of the Parks &amp; Recreation Commission meetings.</p>
October 26 <sup>th</sup>	<p><b><i>Mayor’s FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget – Commission Support letter:</i></b></p> <p>A motion was made by Dewey, seconded by Wu, and carried to approve the Parks &amp; Recreation Commission Support letter as written and to forward on to City Council.</p> <p><b><i>Heritage Trail - Trail Bicycle/Pedestrian Courtesy Signage:</i></b></p> <p>A motion was made by Dewey, seconded by Grahn, and accepted to approve the verbiage of the “Announce, Be Aware” sign with enhanced graphic design.</p>
November 30 <sup>th</sup>	<p><b><i>Crown Park – 30% Design:</i></b></p> <p>A motion was made by Grahn, seconded by Dewey, and carried unanimously to proceed with design and construction for the entire park (i.e. full Master Plan) with value engineering to bring project cost down to align with the requested budget (in proposed FY2023-24 biennial budget).</p>

## 2022 Projects/Programs - Presentations, Discussions and Updates:

- *North Shore Subarea Plan* – In February, the Commission received a project presentation. Several Planning Commissioners were also in attendance, which provided an opportunity for a joint Q&A session with the project team. In addition, Jason Irving (primary) and David Dewey (alternate) represented the Commission on the project’s Steering Committee.
- *Crown Park* – Project surveys and open house were held in May. Nearly all Commissioners attended and staffed the “Meet your Parks & Rec Commissioners” table at the May 17 Open House. On December 5, City Council agreed with the Nov. 30 recommendation from the Commission to move the entire project forward with budget in mind.



- **Water Safety Pilot Campaign** – In year two of this pilot project, in addition to our partnership with the Camas School District we also engaged the Washougal School District. The Department provided safety posters to all schools in Camas and Washougal during May’s nation Water Safety Month. Posters included a code for discounts to swim lessons at the local Golds Gym. Additionally, water safety awareness was featured at our annual CamTown Youth Festival, where kids could meet their local firefighters and coast guards and get a free life jacket.
- **Lakes Management Plan** – Led by Public Works, with Parks & Recreation staff on the project team, Phase 1 of the Lake Management Plan kicked off in 2021 and Phase 2 in 2022. At the June 15 Open House, Commissioners staffed a table to engage attendees about recreational uses in and around the lakes. We are looking forward to completion of data collection, understanding the recommendations from the project team and continuing the recreational use conversation.
- **Recreation Programs** – With the goal of ‘continued improvement and inclusiveness for all’, in 2022 we:
  - added Mountain Tops fitness classes for individuals with developmental disabilities,
  - added new classes, lowered class cost by offering coupons, and completed additional outreach to reach and encourage participation from the 55+ community, and
  - special event staff updated our Egg Scramble event to create an inclusive egg hunt area for children with developmental and physical disabilities.
- **County-wide Parks & Recreation directors quarterly meeting** – Camas Parks & Recreation Director has been convening parks and recreation directors within Clark County for quarterly meetings. The meetings provide an opportunity to present project/program updates, share best practices, and discuss partnership opportunities.
- **2022 Parks & Rec End of Summer Meet & Greet event** – It’s been many years since the parks community in Clark County convened, and COVID compounded the social remoteness between jurisdictions. In September, with collaboration from the quarterly directors meeting, Camas Parks & Recreation coordinated and hosted a meet and greet event inviting Parks & Recreation Advisory Board/Commission members from cities and county parks departments within Clark County. This was an opportunity to meet, re-engage and build relationships, learn about each jurisdiction’s park system through staff presentations, and reflect on what’s working well and current challenges. The group plans to continue to convene annually, rotating host, location and discussion topics.



C-W Fire Dept. at CamTown's water safety booth





## Parks, Recreation & Open Space (PROS) Plan – 2022 Work Plan outcomes

The Department initiated implementation of the 2022 PROS Plan immediately after adoption in March. In addition to the regular portfolio of programs and services the department provides, the 2022 Work Plan focused on 19 goals with 40 actions from the PROS Plan. Of the 40 actions, 31 were implemented or underway and on-track, and 9 were delayed due to staff capacity and/or unforeseen circumstances. These 9 delayed actions will move into 2023 for implementation. ***Of the 40 actions, the Commission and staff prioritized six (6) Strategic Initiatives – all are implemented or underway and on-track.***

## 2022 STRATEGIC INITIATIVES



### Welcoming For All



### Stewardship of Land, Parks & Programs


PROJECTS/PROGRAMS:	POLICY:
<p>GOAL: Actively communicate and improve outreach and marketing to increase participation.</p> <p>ACTION: Pursue opportunities for alternative outreach and education to diverse groups, such as piloting youth parks stewardship programs and active communication through faith groups and non-profit organizations that work with people of color and underserved communities.</p> <p>2022 WORK: Implement SEEK Grant - summer pilot programs thru LCFEG and EatWell Camas partnerships. Student recruitment thru CSD Family Community Resource Center. ✓</p>	<p>GOAL: Better understand funding gaps and funding alternatives.</p> <p>ACTION: Review and update the adopted six-year Parks Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) every two years to remain current with local recreational interests and account for the capital needs of the parks and recreation system.</p> <p>2022 WORK: Implement (FY 23/24) comprehensive biennial budget process with P&amp;R Commission. ✓</p> <p>ACTION: Pursue alternative funding options and dedicated revenues, including engaging and exploring with the City of Washougal a feasibility study to assess the potential of establishing a regional financing tool for recreation service.</p> <p>2022 WORK: P&amp;R proposing 2-3 RCO grant applications in 2022 grant cycle. ✓</p>



### Plan For & Fill Known System Gaps



### Organizational Excellence

PROJECTS/PROGRAMS:	ADMINISTRATIVE:
<p>GOAL: Design new parks, trails and amenities with environment, safety and accessibility in mind.</p> <p>ACTION: Incorporate sustainable development and low impact design practices into the design, planning and rehabilitation of new and existing parks, trails and facilities.</p> <p>2022 WORK: T-3 trail (east lake segment) - 30% Design ✓</p> <p>GOAL: Enhance outdoor recreation opportunities.</p> <p>ACTION: Prioritize implementation of existing master plans with consideration for service gap delivery and available financial resources.</p> <p>2022 WORK: 2018 Crown Park Master Plan - 30% Design ✓</p>	<p>GOAL: Promote and support Parks &amp; Recreation Commission.</p> <p>ACTION: Promote P&amp;R Commission meetings as forum to discuss parks and recreation topics.</p> <p>2022 WORK: Improve promotion of monthly Commission meetings &amp; project/ program engagement processes. ✓</p> <hr/> <p>2022 Year-End Report:</p> <div> <p>✓ Implemented or Underway &amp; On-Track</p> <p> Delayed or On-Hold &amp; moving to 2023</p> </div>

In closing, 2022 was a very successful year for the Department and Commission. We greatly appreciate the support and engagement of the City Council and liaisons to the commission, commissioners, and City staff. The strong partnership and collaboration between the Department and Commission has helped us to achieve many of our 2022 goals and provide significant opportunities and value to Camas residents and visitors.