



Camas Parks & Recreation Commission 2025 Annual Review

April 20, 2026 City Council Workshop

“Begin the begin” R.E.M.

1. Strategic Plan Alignment
2. Parks Data
3. Team
4. Special Events
5. Facilities
6. Recreation Programming
7. Maintenance
8. Projects
9. Challenges
10. 2026 Preview
11. Summary



“The only people for me are the mad ones...” Jack Kerouac

2025 Parks & Recreation Commissioners

Ellen Burton - Chair

Katy Daane

Jason Irving – Vice Chair

David Dewey

Alicia Brazington

Bud Henson

Jenny Wu



City Council Liaisons

Tim Hein

John Svilarich

“Vision without resources is hallucination” Thomas Edison

Alignment with Strategic Plans

City Strategic Plan 2025-2030

Vibrant Community Amenities

Stewardship of City Assets

2022 Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan (PROS)

Maintain What We Have

Welcoming for All

Stewardship of Land, Parks & Programs

Plan for & Fill Known System Gaps

"I dwell in possibility" Emily Dickinson

Camas Parks (2025)	
Total Visits	771,000
Unique Visitors	308,000
Out of Town Visitors	195,000
Usage increased 11% from 2024	

Source: PlacerAI Data

State of Washington 2024 Outdoor Recreation Spending	
Total Spending	\$25.2 billion
Local Parks Economic Contribution	\$862.7 million
Clark County Spending per Resident	\$1,000-\$2,500

Source: Earth Economics "Economic Analysis of Outdoor Recreation in Washington State (2025 Update)"

Benefits of Urban Parks	
Improves Physical & Mental Health	Increase Community Engagement
Lowers Healthcare Costs	Reduce Crime
Attract Residents & Businesses	Increase Equity
Increase Revenue & Job Opportunities	Reduce Infrastructure Costs
Mitigate Effects of Climate Change	Increase Property Values

Source: City Parks Alliance

“We are in the hands of utter lunatics...” Edina Zichy Pallavicini

Saying Goodbye



Krista Bashaw - Retired in May after 30 years of service

Welcome to the Team

Chris Witkowski – May

Jacque Hill - September



The Stalwarts

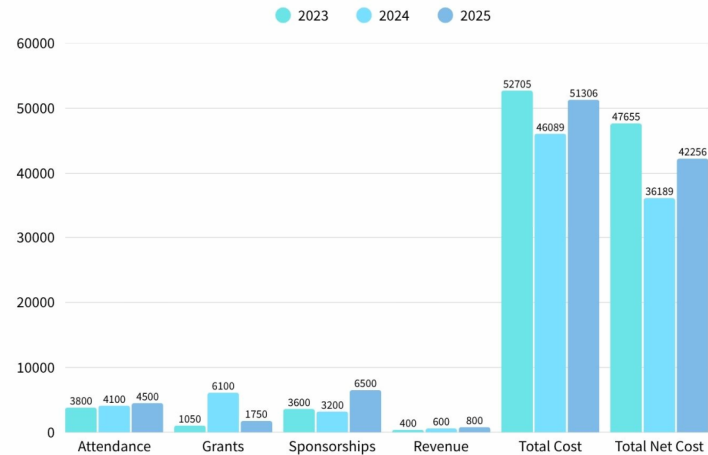


Tammy Connolly – 25th year

Susan Palmer – 18th year

“Great moments are born from great opportunity” Herb Brooks

Hometown Holidays



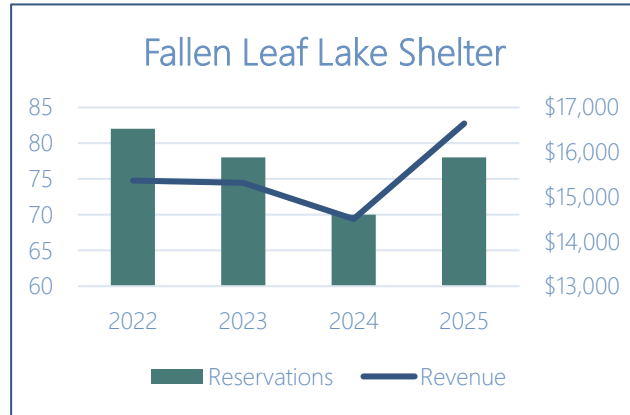
2025 Special Events

- Egg Scramble
- Movies in the Park
- Concerts in the Park
- Leadbetter Walk & Roll
- Hometown Holidays

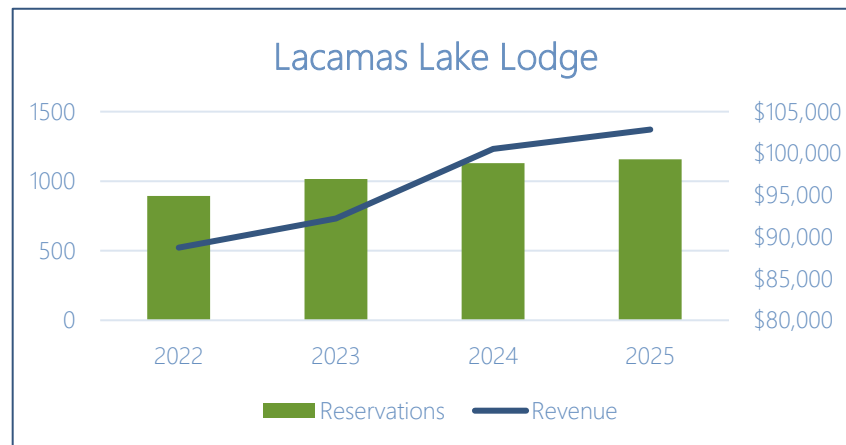
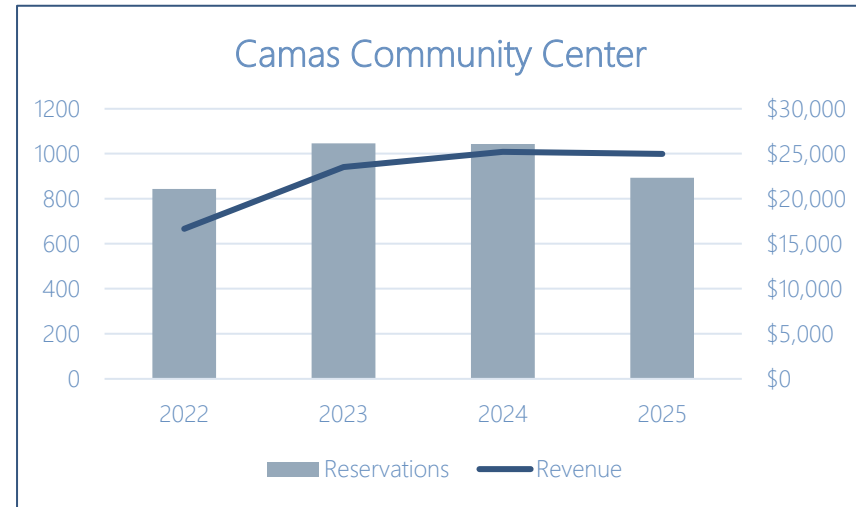
- 2025 event offerings were reduced due to staff transition
- Traditional and new events are back for 2026

“Everybody’s working for the weekend” Loverboy

Facility Rentals



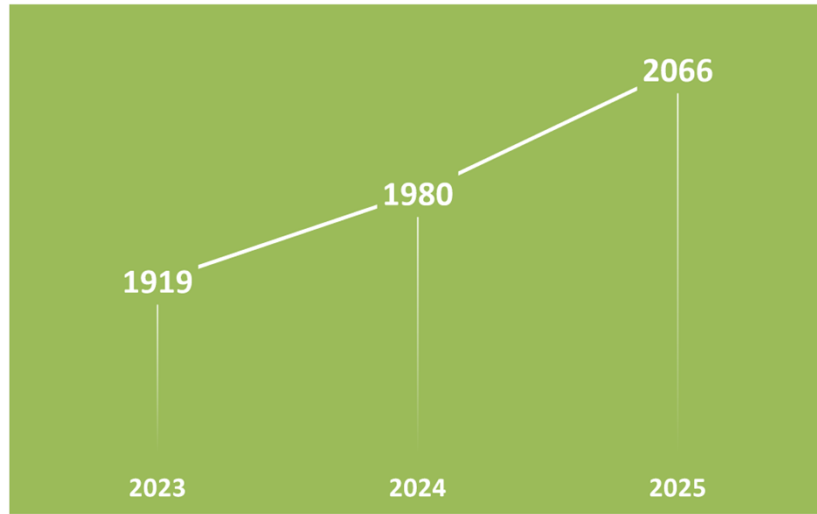
Note: 2024 decline equates to seven reservations



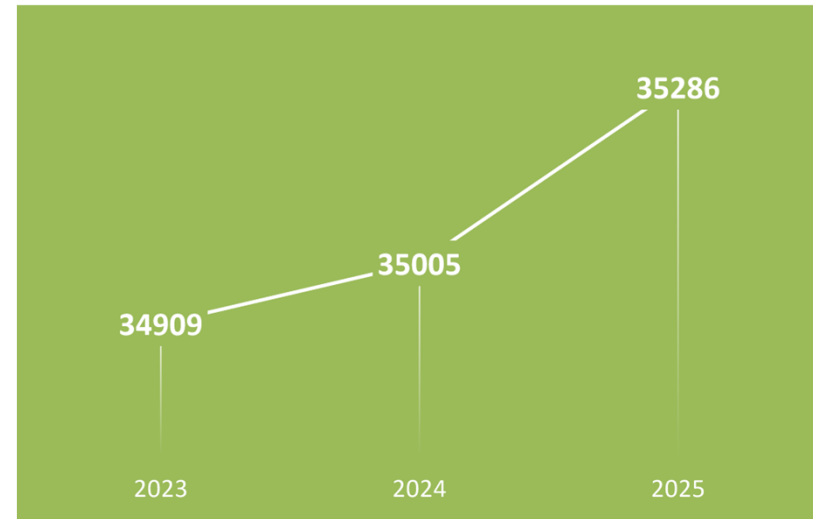
Nearly every 2025 weekend was booked in our facilities

“Run Forrest, run!” Jenny

Recreation Programming



Class Hours



Participant Hours

- Continual trend upwards in classes offered and participant registration
- Available programming space is near capacity

“I’m a fool to do your dirty work” Steely Dan

Operations

Eight staff maintained:

- Over 1,000 acres of developed park land
- 21 miles of trails
- Approx. 9,200 urban trees
- 8.5 acres of shrub and tree beds
- Cemetery
- City facility grounds
- Roundabouts & medians

Completed approx. 100 unplanned maintenance projects in 2025

Staff is at capacity yet community growth continues to increase demand for services



“Great things are done by a series of small things brought together” Vincent Van Gogh

Completed Projects

- South Lacamas Creek Trailhead
 - 30% increase in use since completion
- Water Safety Signage (Everett St Bridge)

Ongoing Projects

- Crown Park Improvements
- Legacy Lands Master Plan
- Citywide Sports Fields Assessment Report

South Lacamas Creek Trailhead Project Summary

Project Type: Park Improvement

Total Project Cost: \$1,198,540 (\$500,000 grant funded)

Construction Timeline: March 2024 - November 2025

Project Details and Benefits

- Installation of restroom building
- New paved parking and sidewalks
- Wood seating on low gabion walls
- Updated entrance, signage, and furnishings



“Life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all” Helen Keller

Department Challenges

Staff Capacity

- Staff, including director, are spending approx. 20% of time on admin duties
- Operations team is moving to a 7-day per week schedule

Deteriorating Assets

- 3 of 13 playgrounds closed for safety reasons
- Park assets, including irrigation, are nearing the end of their useful life
- Camas Community Center is becoming less desirable to the community due to neglect

Operational Pressures

- Older park equipment & amenities are requiring more maintenance time
- Unplanned maintenance requests are increasing
- Non-resident use of parks
- Green space in new subdivisions



“The secret to getting ahead is getting started” Mark Twain

2026 Commission Preview & Departmental Objectives

Departmental Policies

Brainstorm Special Events

RCO Grant Applications

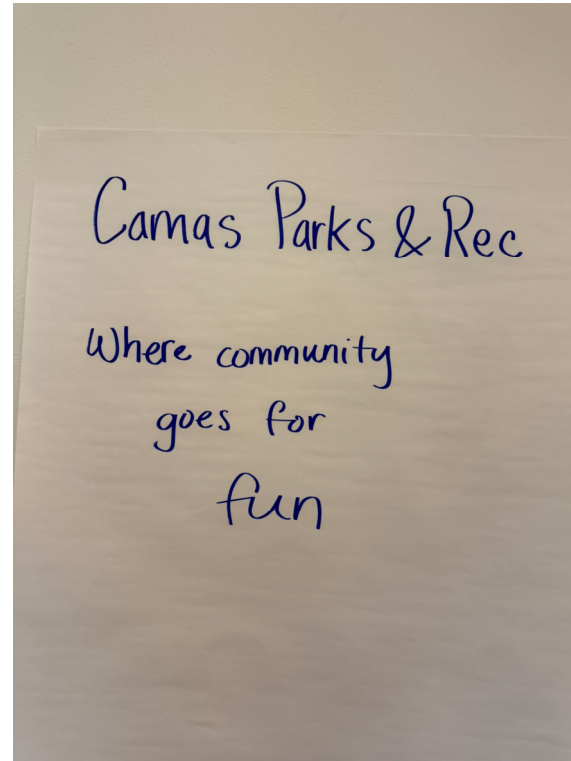
National Benchmarking Program

County Regional Parks Funding Model

2027/28 Budget Prep

Asset Management

Technology Upgrades



Wall chart statement from 2025/26 Department Planning Session

“Elvis has left the building” Horace Lee Logan

Parks & Recreation Commission Summary

- Parks & Recreation are a tourism and economic driver in the community
- All areas of the department are in a growth phase
- Staff and facilities are operating near capacity
- Investment in parks is resulting in positive outcomes
- Asset management and replacement strategy is a high priority

