



## Staff Report

July 6, 2026 Council Workshop Meeting

Parks National Benchmarking

Presenter: Chris Witkowski, Parks & Recreation Director

Time Estimate: 20 minutes

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**BACKGROUND:** The National Parks & Recreation Association (NRPA) conducts an annual nationwide benchmarking study of municipal parks and recreation systems. Data is uploaded by municipalities in January and a report, entitled NRPA Agency Performance Review, is published in June. The report is specific to each agency and compares data in a variety of categories to other municipalities of similar size, as well as nationwide.

**SUMMARY:** For 2026, Camas Parks & Recreation participated in the NRPA study. The agency report was provided in early June and published comparisons in such categories as:

- Personnel
- Park Sites
- Amenities
- Operating Budget
- Revenue
- Programming

Camas participated this year to gain a better understanding of where the department may be under- or over-provisioned in specific functional areas. This also complements a smaller, regional benchmarking study performed as part of the Clark County Parks Regional Funding Task Team study. As the department expands on a forward-thinking approach, a greater understanding of strengths and opportunities is required to maximize resources and prioritize future initiatives.

**BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY:** This report serves as another tool for Parks & Recreation decision-makers, including staff, Paks & Recreation Commission, and City Council, to make informed, data-driven decisions on future projects and initiatives. It also provides the department with a snapshot of which elements of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan are being met and which need to be addressed in the 2027-28 plan update project.

**STRATEGIC PLAN:** In some capacity, the benchmarking study addresses all priorities of the Strategic Plan, including Vibrant Community Amenities, Stewardship of City Assets, Safe & Accessible Community, Economic Prosperity, and Engaged Workforce.

**POTENTIAL CHALLENGES:** There are no identified challenges to completing this study.

**BUDGET IMPACT:** There is no budget impact to completing this study. Participation in the benchmarking exercise is included with our annual NRPA membership.

**RECOMMENDATION:** This is for Council's information only.