

City of Cosmopolis Parks Comprehensive Plan



DRAFT

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City of Cosmopolis

Park Board Vision & Mission Statements

Vision

We, the members of the City of Cosmopolis Parks and Recreation Committee envision that citizens of all ages will have wholesome recreational, educational and cultural opportunities, as well as a clean, safe and accessible integrated system of exceptional parks and open green spaces. These opportunities will help to preserve the "quality of life" in our community for future generations.

Mission

It is our mission to develop and maintain a high quality, diversified parks & recreation system that preserves our existing opportunities, while creating new recreation and leisure time opportunities to support the growing needs of our community.

**Example Mission Statement from
Montesano. We need to develop ours.**

City of Cosmopolis
Park & Recreation Plan, 2020 – 2025

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Introduction

A park and recreation plan is an expression of a community's needs and priorities for the provision of recreation space, services and facilities.



A park and recreation plan should be a comprehensive, policy-oriented document that describes recommendations and guidelines for public and private decisions related to recreation. The plan also makes recommendations for acquisition, development, and management of public parks or facilities for recreation uses.

City Profile

History

Although this history deals primarily with the settlement of Grays Harbor by the early pioneers, it should also be remembered that this area was already inhabited by groups of people who had developed sophisticated cultures. The original inhabitants of the area were the Chehalis or Tsihalis people. They had several villages in the area, five on the Chehalis River as well as seven on the north side of the bay and eight on the south side.

Other tribes that once lived in Grays Harbor County were the Hookium, Humptulips, Wynoochee, Satsop, and Quinault. All were part of the Salish linguistic group, and as such, shared cultures, social organization and religious systems with the other coastal people. These Native Americans prospered from the abundant riches of the sea and the land of the Pacific Coast, the very riches which attracted the early pioneers.

On the morning of May 7, 1792, Captain Robert Gray, representing the Boston Fur Company, sailed his ship, the Columbia, into the bay of water which now bears his name. His log tells little of his findings, but he did give the name of Bulfinch to this region in honor of Charles Bulfinch of Boston. However, when George Vancouver came later, he logged on his charts the name of Grays Harbor.

Those that came by water had heard reports of the abundance of sea otter to be found. As this news spread, various groups came to see for themselves and liked what they saw. The fur trade developed into a thriving business and as early as 1788 the first trading took place between the Boston Fur Company and the northwest. As time went on, small groups of inland people came to visit by way of the Chehalis River and the Willapa Bay. Because of the density of growth of this northwest region and the inaccessibility, Grays Harbor was one of the last areas in the northwest to be settled

One of the early inland travelers to the area was R. Brunn. Brunn made several trips with supplies in the early 1850's and on one occasion spent the night at the home of Samuel James on Scatter Creek. It is from this meeting that the name Cosmopolis "City of the whole world" came into being.

An act of Congress, approved in September of 1850, provided for donations of public lands to settlers. James Pilkington was granted 155.25 acres of land on the Chehalis River. This parcel of land became

the cornerstone for the City of Cosmopolis. Pilkington sold the land in 1859, at the price of \$1,500, to David Byles and Austin Young. Byles and Young dedicated all streets and alleys to be located on this parcel to the public, in 1861, with the stipulation that the town be named Cosmopolis.

Early businesses included a brickyard (Ed Campbell, 1860), a tannery (George Lee and George Byles, 1861), and a grist mill located on Beaver Creek, later renamed Mill Creek (Charles Stevens, 1879). Due to transport and climatic problems, the grist mill was converted to a sawmill in 1880. The mill was sold to Esmond and Anderson and was converted to steam.

The Grays Harbor Mill Company followed in 1888. The name changed to Grays Harbor Commercial Company in 1892. Cosmopolis was incorporated in 1891 with a population of approximately 300. George Stetson, the first manager of the Grays Harbor Commercial Company was the City's first mayor. The Grays Harbor Commercial Company was the largest sawmill in the world at the time and drew workers from many nationalities. The variety of cultures and difficulty of lifestyle produced a colorful history for the growing city.

Neil Cooney attained ownership of the mill in 1920 and mill closure followed shortly thereafter in 1929. The year 1929 was a memorable year for Cosmopolis. In addition to the mill closure and the national stock market crash, a disastrous fire struck downtown Cosmopolis. Nineteen buildings were destroyed in the central business district which ran along Front and First Streets. Front Street ran adjacent to the Chehalis River and those structures were never replaced.

R.J. Ultican purchased the old mill site and built a barge yard. The barges were used by the U.S. Corps of Engineers during World War II. Ultican then built a small sawmill which he operated until 1951. He sold the property to Weyerhaeuser Corporation who converted the site to a pulp mill that became operational in 1957. Weyerhaeuser closed the pulp mill in 2006 and it remained closed until 2011 when The Gores Group partnered with Richard Bassett of Charlestown Investments to purchase the mill and to form Cosmo Specialty Fibers. This mill is still operational and represents the largest employer in the City.

Location

The City of Cosmopolis is located at the east end of the Grays Harbor estuary approximately two miles upstream on the Chehalis River. Grays Harbor is on the Pacific Coast of Washington State, 45 miles north of the mouth of the Columbia River and 110 miles south of the Strait of Juan de Fuca (*see Map#*). The City of Cosmopolis is located between the two largest cities in the Pacific Northwest; Seattle Washington is 109 miles to the north, and Portland Oregon is 133 miles to the south. In combination with the adjacent cities of Aberdeen and Hoquiam, the City of Cosmopolis is within the Olympic Peninsula's largest economic center. As identified on (*Map#*), the planning area encompasses the entire city which is approximately 1.76 square miles.

Vehicular circulation is provided by US 101 and SR 105, as well as a complete network of secondary and arterial streets. The Grays Harbor Transit Authority supplies the city with mass transit opportunities through a variety of routes which provide linkages to all adjacent communities including Olympia. Genessee & Wyoming's Puget Sound & Pacific Railroad provides rail freight opportunities and the Port of Grays Harbor operates marine terminals linking national and international markets through the only coastal estuary in the state with an authorized deep-water navigation channel.

What has Happened Since the 2013 Plan – Progress has Been Made

Progress has been made since the development of the *2013 – 2018 Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan*. With the City of Cosmopolis still recovering financially from the five-year closure of the Pulp Mill as well as the *Recession of 2015*, projects both small and large were completed. Some of the projects completed have been:

- Installation of Dog Waste Stations (*Donated by Cosmopolis Lions Club and City of Cosmopolis*).
- Installation of new Park Benches (*Donated by Cosmopolis Lions Club*)
- Installation of an Information Kiosk at Makarenko Park.
- Installation of barbecue stands at Lions Park (*Donated by Cosmopolis Lions Club*)
- Construction of a new modern Dam at Mill Creek Park (*funded by Chehalis basin Flood Authority*)
- Construction of a new Fish Ladder on Mill Creek (*funded by Chehalis Basin Flood Authority*)
- Installation of .1 mile to 1-mile signs for a wellness trail in Makarenko Park (*Installed by Hunter Raines as an Eagle Scout Project*).

What to Expect in the Plan?

This plan is executed and organized in a way to meet the planning requirement for Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) grant programs. Although achieving funding eligibility is of high importance to the City of Cosmopolis, the planning process also identifies recreational needs and preferences of the citizens of Cosmopolis and helps guide future decision-making effort regarding acquisition, development, and improvement of recreational facilities and lands. The planning process was implemented in a manner that follows RCO planning requirements, which include goals and objectives, inventory, public involvement, demand and needs analysis, capital improvement program, and adoption:

- Review and update of the City's existing facilities.
- Gather citizen input to express the needs and demands of the City's recreation resources that guide the capital improvement program. This was accomplished through public meetings of the Park Board, Planning Commission, and a community survey.
- Review the recreational goals established for the City, and formulate a plan to achieve those goals, keeping in mind the financial constraints of the City.
- Adoption of the Comprehensive Park and Recreation plan by the City Council.



Chapter 1

Goals and Objectives

An analysis of existing park, recreation, and open space facilities along with community input provide the basis for establishing goals and objectives. The goals and objectives are designed to guide park and recreational development in Cosmopolis and help achieve the wants and desires identified in Chapter 4 Needs Assessment.



Goal 1 - Parks and Recreation Facilities Serving all Residents

Maintain a coordinated system of well-designed parks and facilities that strengthen community livability, improve ADA accessibility, and promote community sociability with recreational opportunities that meet the diverse needs of all Cosmopolis residents in an affordable manner, while listening to community needs.

Goal 1 Objectives

- Improve ADA Accessibility to All Cosmopolis Parks
- Provide a variety of recreation opportunities that will improve the physical and mental well-being of community members.
- Promote park projects and activities on the City website to encourage the participation of Cosmopolis residents in the development of park and recreational priorities, operations and facilities within the next two years.
- Provide facilities designed for maximum affordability to residents.
- Promote volunteerism to enhance community ownership and stewardship of parks, recreation programs, and services, through the City website within the next two years.

Goal 2 - Recreation Activities for the Diverse Needs of the Community

Ensure a variety of park types that support a wide range of active and passive recreation experiences and meet the needs of diverse age groups, recreational interests, and abilities.

Goal 2 Objectives

- Design and manage park and recreational trails and facilities offering universal accessibility for residents of all physical capabilities, skill levels, age, income, and activity interests through the development of this plan, at Mill Creek and Makarenko Park within the next five years.
- Coordinate walking, biking, and hiking opportunities with the Grays Harbor Public Health and Social Services Department and the Grays Harbor Council of Governments who worked together to develop an assessment of existing bicycle facilities. A small pilot project within the main urban core of Grays Harbor (Aberdeen, Cosmopolis, and Hoquiam) was completed to identify existing bicycling facilities preferred bicycle street routes; community activity centers and destinations; and impediments to biking. Explore opportunities to create a city-wide system, within the next ten years.
- Enhance and expand informal play such as play equipment, open fields and other options for children through development of a master plan for all playgrounds in Cosmopolis within the next five years.
- Provide parks and areas that accommodate passive recreation opportunities such as people watching, picnicking, and community gathering by adding amenities to Makarenko Park, such as restrooms and signage.
- Support the development of athletic facilities that meet quality playing standards and requirements for all age groups and recreational interests through continued improvements of Lions Park and Makarenko Park over the next five years.
- Improve access for the disabled and seniors by providing wheelchair ramps and other appropriate facilities as park facilities are developed and renovated.
- Strengthen partnerships with Washington State Parks, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife,

Cosmo Specialty Fibers and preserve waterfront access for recreational activities, such as canoeing, kayaking, and boating, along the Chehalis.

Goal 3 - High Quality and Sustainable Parks

Provide a system of high-quality parks that are well maintained and aesthetically pleasing, which are efficient to administer and maintain, and encourage partnerships to maximize local resources for parks and recreation.

Goal 3 Objectives

- Provide operational and preventative maintenance to ensure safe, serviceable, and functional parks and facilities.
- Prepare master plans for parks and facilities prior to development, major improvement, or renovation to promote cohesive, quality designs and ensure consistency with community needs within the next five years.
- The Parks and Recreation Committee should review and update the Park and Recreation Plan Capital Improvement Program, every year or two, for continued long-term benefits of investments in parks and facilities.
- Seek state, federal, and private funds for priority acquisition and facility improvements.
- Encourage citizen involvement and participation in maintaining, improving, and restoring parks and natural areas, through the City website and other social media within the next two years.

- ***Consider the maintenance costs and staffing levels associated with acquisition, development, or renovation of parks, and adjust the annual operating budget accordingly for adequate maintenance funding of the system expansion.***

Goal 4 - Recreational Pathways and Connections

Develop a network of pedestrian and bicycle corridors to improve community walkability, connectivity, and park access.

Goal 4 Objectives

- Continue to support the efforts of the Grays Harbor Council of Governments to enhance existing bicycle trail systems.
- Create an integrated recreation and transportation system of multi-purpose pathways and off- road trails for recreational hikers, walkers, road cyclists, and mountain bikers, within the next ten years.
- Coordinate trail and pathway planning with transportation planning efforts, within the next ten years.
- Create a trail and pathway system which provides connections to parks, open space, schools, and regional points of interest, such as the Basich Trail, Lions Park, Makarenko Park, Mill Creek Park, Blue Slough and Preachers Slough trails, within the next ten years.

- Explore possibilities for trail connections between neighboring communities, Aberdeen, Hoquiam, and Cosmopolis, and Montesano.

Goal 5 - Collaboration and Coordination

Coordinate recreational opportunities and funding strategies with the Cosmopolis School District, community sports groups, state agencies, nonprofit and community organizations, and other municipalities in fulfilling Cosmopolis' recreational needs.

Goal 5 Objectives

- Expand cooperation with the Cosmopolis School District to improve shared recreation facilities and establish long-term planning for improvements
- Continue to coordinate with recreational programs and youth associations to fund and prioritize community organized sport's needs.
- Explore opportunities to bring back youth and adult recreation opportunities such as the Summer Recreation Program and Open Gym night at Cosmopolis School



- Utilize Recreation and Conservation Office resources and request site visits by RCO staff to assist with prioritizing recreation projects, in the year prior to applying for RCO funds.
- City should coordinate with community organizations and sports groups that are fundraising to build infrastructure in City parks.
- The City, in partnership with organizations and sports groups, which have been fundraising and building infrastructure in City parks, should consider supporting the formation of a community non-profit organization that would coordinate community organizations and sports groups fundraising efforts with City park development.
- Continue to work with and support the volunteers that help build and maintain trails in the City Parks
- Encourage a community group to provide volunteers to assist with maintenance of City parks, through the City website and Facebook within the next two years.
- City should coordinate with sports groups to enhance tracking of field and facility usage to make stronger grant applications by the 2022 RCO grant cycle.

Chapter 2

Cosmopolis Park Classification System & Standards

Current System

While the goals identified above reflect the vision for the Cosmopolis Park and recreation system, specific standards must be developed to measure the level of service of the current system and identify future deficiencies. Park and recreation standards are set to determine the amount of parkland and facilities, relative to meet community need.

Standards provide detailed targets which allow the city to assess the progress toward meeting community goals. Several criteria should guide standards development.

- They must reflect the needs of the residents.
- They must be realistic and attainable.
- They must be acceptable and useful to both the professional and the policymaker.
- They must be based on a sound analysis of the best available information.

As the goals in this plan represent the views of Cosmopolis' residents, the standards are also tailored to local attributes. For instance, residents may express desires for a level of service which differ from national standards or other communities. There may be unique assets and conditions which do not fit traditional standards.

The level of service standards used in this plan have initially been established by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and, in some cases, have been altered to properly reflect the City of Cosmopolis. A universally accepted standard methodology is the per capita acreage standard. The per capita acreage standard, expressed as the number of acres of a specific park category or the number of facilities of a specific type per thousand population, is intended to determine whether the overall number of park sites and facilities is enough to satisfy the recreation demands. To begin the application of this standard, the existing park types within the city, and those which are not within the city but provide service thereto, should be categorized.

There are many various park classification systems currently in use by the various recreation agencies. Specific classifications have been identified in the State of Washington "*Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan*" (SCORP). These classifications have been used as a beginning for the city system.

The system used in this plan focuses on categories typically provided to meet recreational needs of the local population. Also, of importance are park classifications which provide recreation opportunities on a regional, multi-county or statewide scale. Those classifications are included in the region wide system.

The classification system utilized for the City of Cosmopolis is intended to serve as a guide for the identification of the variety of recreational opportunities and for the provision of a well-balanced park

system. The important consideration is to provide a variety of park types which satisfy the range of community needs. The Cosmopolis classification system is shown in [Table 2.1](#).

Another level of service standard utilized in this plan is the accessibility standard. Through the accessibility analysis, specific service radii have been given to recreation sites and facilities. Identifying areas within the city physically served by a certain park classification or facility will assist in determining the spatial distribution and consequently, the areas not being served by specific sites and recreation facilities. The findings of this analysis are intended to serve as a guide in the selection of locations and facilities which would satisfy a locational need. Physical boundaries such as major highways and rivers are utilized to accurately identify the hazards and impediments to accessing sites and facilities.

The recommended per capita acreage requirement and maximum service radius for the various park classifications within the city are also shown in [Table 2.1](#).

[Table 2.2](#) has taken the variety of recreation sites inventoried in the City of Cosmopolis and grouped them into their respective classification. As reflected in [Table 2.2](#), the city has a wide variety of park types ranging in size from 0.1 acre to 39.2 acres.

Community parks are defined as recreation areas capable of supplying a broad range of active and passive activities. Community parks typically contain both natural settings and developed play areas. Facilities normally provided at community parks include swimming pool or beach, field and court games, picnicking, nature study and serves as nodes for a citywide pathway system.

The minimum per capita acreage standard for a community park is 5.0 acres per 1,000 population with a desired 10-acre minimum size. These parks serve multiple neighborhoods and efficiently provide an urban service radius of 1.5 to 3.0 miles.

Neighborhood parks are defined as recreation areas providing primarily active recreation opportunities. Facilities may include; softball and baseball diamonds, playground equipment, tennis courts, basketball goals and other intensive facilities. Passive recreation opportunities may also be provided if a natural setting exists. Due to size limitations, nonconforming uses should be carefully planned to avoid conflicts.

The recommended minimum level of service standard for a neighborhood park is 2.50 acres per 1,000 population with a range of 2-10 acres in size. The maximum service radius for neighborhood parks typically range from one-quarter to one-half mile. The primary users of the neighborhood park are children and young adults. These parks should be evenly distributed to provide safe access to bicyclists.

The intensive recreational activities available at school sites also serve to fulfill a recreation need in the city. Since the facilities are like facilities provided at neighborhood parks the service radius is identical, one-quarter to one-half mile.

Table 2-1 City of Cosmopolis Park Classification System				
Type	Use	Service Radius	Recommended Acreage	Acreage per 1,000 population
Regional Park/ Reserve	Passive & Natural	Multi-Community 1-hour drive time	50 +	5 to 10

Community Park	Active & Passive	1.5 - 3 miles	10 +	2.5 to 5
Neighborhood Park	Active & Passive	0.25 - 0.5 mile	2 to 10	1 to 2.5
Special Use Sites	Unique Activities	Citywide	n/a	n/a
Urban Pathways	Trail Activities	Citywide	n/a	n/a
Urban Malls & Squares	Passive	< 0.25 mile	n/a	0.25
Open Space	Conservation	Variable	n/a	n/a

Special use sites are defined as sites which provide facilities for unique activities. There are no size requirements, but the site should be large enough to accommodate support facilities for the activity.

Urban pathways provide an opportunity within an urban setting for walking and bicycling. Where possible, they provide links to other recreational areas, scenic vistas, historic points of interest, and often provide public access to a waterfront. These pathways are typically designed as a portion of a statewide or local trail system. Trail systems service the entire community.

Urban malls and squares are small passive areas designed primarily to improve and maintain urban environmental quality. They provide rest and relaxation areas and provide aesthetic improvements to adjacent developed areas. No intensive recreation facilities should be provided at these sites, however, landscaping, benches, tables, etc. are typically developed. In addition, areas of protection from the elements through screening, plantings and covered areas should be provided. These small green spaces normally service residents and visitors within one-quarter mile with a recommended standard of one-quarter acre per 1,000 population.

Open space sites are undeveloped sites which serve a variety of uses. These lands may include but are not limited to wetlands and wetland buffers; creek or river corridors; steep sloped areas or other geologically hazardous areas; and undeveloped areas within existing parks. There are no recommended acreage requirements for the provision of open space lands.

In addition to setting per capita acreage and accessibility standards for park classifications, facilities must also be analyzed. Standards identified for various recreation facilities are in [Table 2.2](#).

TABLE 2.2

**STANDARDS FOR VARIOUS RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IN THE CITY OF
COSMOPOLIS**

FACILITY TYPE	MAXIMUM SERVICE RADIUS	FACILITY/1000 POPULATION
Baseball	2.00 Mi.	1/5,000
Basketball	0.25-0.50 Mi.	1/1,000
Boat Launch	-- ¹	1/7,500
Pathway	-- ²	N/A
Picnic Area	0.50 Mi.	1/1,500
Playfield	0.25 Mi.	1/1,000
Playground	0.25 Mi.	1/1,000
Softball	1.00 Mi.	1/2,500
Swim Beach	10.00 Mi.	10LF/1,000
Swim Pool	3.00 Mi.	1/20,000
Tennis	1.00 Mi.	1/2,000

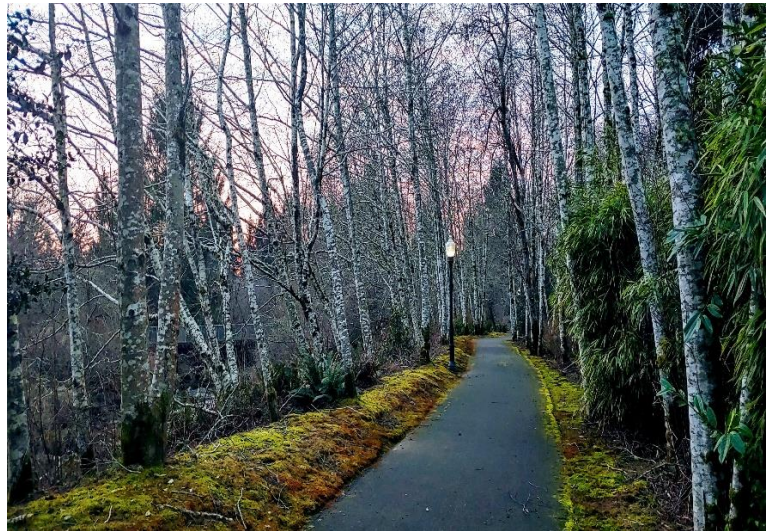
Community Park

Recreation areas that support a broad range of activities, both active and passive, at a single location. Users might access the facility by foot, bicycle, or vehicle. Community parks are generally over 10 acres in size.

Typical amenities:

- sports fields
- nature trails
- bicycle pathways
- covered picnic areas
- botanical garden
- swimming pool or beach

Table 2-3 Existing Community Park Inventory	
Park	Acres
Mill Creek Park	22.83
Makarenko Park	18.23
Total Acres	41.06



First Street Trail Head

Neighborhood Park

Recreation areas providing active recreation opportunities, within walking distance of residential neighborhoods. The primary users of the neighborhood park are children and young adults. These parks should be distributed in a manner that provides safe access for pedestrian and bicyclists. Neighborhood parks are generally small, a few acres or less.

Typical amenities:

- playground equipment
- tennis courts
- basketball court
- picnic tables
- playfields

Table 2-4 Existing Neighborhood Park Inventory	
Park	Acres
Highland Park	0.8
Olympic Terrace	0.1
Dewitt Park	2.24
Total Acres	3.14

Special Use Sites

Single use facilities provided for unique activities. There is no recommended size for special sights.

Typical features:

- landscaped areas
- community gardens
- historic sites
- public place
- viewpoints

Table 2-5 Existing Special Use Sites Inventory	
Park	Acres
Cosmopolis Cemetery	3.9
Total Acres	3.9

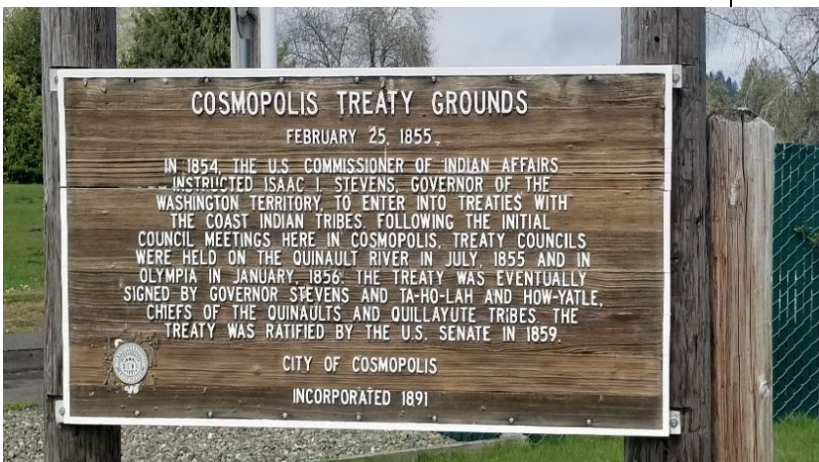
Urban Pathways

Provide an opportunity within an urban setting for walking and bicycling. Where possible, they provide links to other recreational areas or community services. These pathways may be planned as a portion of a regional system. Trail systems service the entire community. There are no urban pathways classified in Cosmopolis.

Typical Features:

- greenway trail
- benches
- tables

Table 2-6 Existing Urban Malls & Squares Inventory	
Park	Acres
Cosmopolis Treaty Grounds	0.4
First Street (Cosmo) Park	0.5
Total Acres	0.9



Cosmopolis Treaty Grounds

Open Space

Natural areas or open space with limited nature trails or no planned development. These lands may include but are not limited to; wetlands, wetland buffers, public access sites and wildlife habitat areas. They may also be undeveloped areas within existing parks.

Typical features:

- natural areas
- wildlife areas
- wetland areas
- area set aside for future development

1. No specific size limitations for special use sites are listed due to the uniqueness of recreational activities provided.
 2. One trail system should be provided linking as many recreational nodes within the city as possible.
1. This parcel is preserved for mitigation, and thus represents a special use of the site.
 2. This site is the one-half acre park located near Front and E Streets.
 3. This open space represents the 1.7-acre parcel located on Mill Creek adjacent to Lions Park, the 0.4- and 30.6-acre mitigation areas, and the areas adjacent to Altenau and Franklin and between Mill Creek and Paisley Addition
1. Boat launch facilities are regional in scope. The standard for boat launches are typically large requiring determination of need for the city by other means including public input.
 2. The pathway system serves the entire city.

Chapter 3

Existing Parks and Facility Inventory

Introduction

The existing supply of park and recreation sites and facilities provides the basis upon which to build a park and recreation plan for the city. An inventory of such sites and facilities is necessary, therefore, not only to assess their location, quantity, and quality, but also to provide the basis for comparing the existing supply against the present and probable future demand for recreation sites and facilities. Definitive knowledge of existing park and recreation sites and facilities also permits comparison with park and recreation goals, standards, and strategies defined to attain the goals, thereby enabling judgments to be made of the adequacy of the present system.

Table 3-1 Existing Inventory		
Park Site	Classification	Acres
Major D.S. Makarenko Memorial Park	Community Park	39.2
Mill Creek Park	Community Park	22.83
Highlands Park	Neighborhood Park	0.8
Olympic Terrace Park	Neighborhood Park	0.1
Cosmopolis School Site	School Site	1.3
Forest Hills Cemetery	Special Use Sites	3.90
Cosmopolis Treaty Grounds	Urban Malls & Squares	0.09
Cosmo Park	Urban Malls & Squares	0.5
Dewitt (Lions) Park	Neighborhood Park	2.24
First Street Dog Park Parking lot	Special Use Site	.16
Basich Trail	Urban Pathway	4.64
Dike Trail	Urban Pathway	2.53
	Total Acres	78.29

Present System

Map 3.1 identifies the spatial distribution of all sites included in the inventory of the present system. Table 3.1 condenses the facilities provided by all the various sites.

Cemetery: While inclusion of cemeteries in park systems is unique, there exist public restrooms which are accessible to users of Olympic Terrace Park (see Map 3.1). The City Public Works Department is responsible for maintenance of the cemetery.

Cosmopolis School District No. 99: The Cosmopolis elementary school is in the south-central portion of the city (see Map 3.1). While not within city ownership, a cooperative agreement exists between the School District and City for use of recreational facilities. The intensive recreational opportunities available at the school fulfill a recreation need in the city.

Facilities include a playground, two basketball goals, baseball diamond with backstop, a playfield which is utilized for league soccer games, and a passive area adjacent to a woodlot.

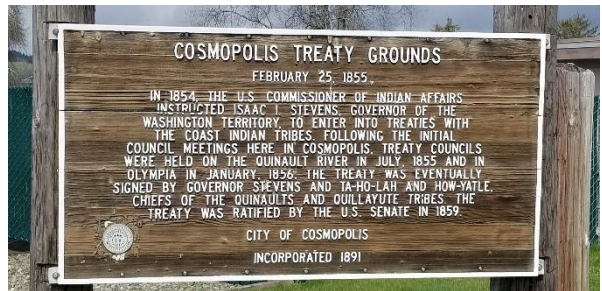
Cosmopolis Treaty Grounds: This small, 0.4-acre parcel commemorates the signing of a treaty between Governor Isaac Stevens and the local Indian tribes. A mural adorns the treatment facility with a historical marker located on the site. There are picnic tables provided at the site.

Highland Park: As shown on Map 3.1, Highland Park is in the west-central portion of the city. This site provides a peaceful, naturally landscaped, setting. The site offers some playground equipment, an open playfield, and two basketball goals. Benches are also provided for rest and reflection.



Forest Hills Cemetery

Dewitt (Lions Park): Lions Park is a 1.5-acre park providing active recreation. The site is in the north western portion of the city and provides a softball diamond with backstop and bleachers which is utilized for girls' softball activities, T-Ball league games, and Little League practices. Playground equipment, playfield (utilized as a soccer field by Grays Harbor Youth Soccer Association), a basketball goal, and restroom facilities are also provided. New vehicle parking, ADA accessible restrooms, landscaping, and a pedestrian trail connection to Aberdeen's Pioneer Park was constructed in 2002 & 2003.



Cosmopolis Treaty Grounds

In 2004 new playground equipment was purchased and installed at Lions Park with the help of grants from the Weyerhaeuser Employees Foundation and EK and Lillian F. Bishop Foundation.

TABLE 3.1**EXISTING SITES AND FACILITIES IN THE CITY OF COSMOPOLIS**

SITE NAME	EXISTING FACILITIES											
	Baseball	Basketball	Boat Launch	Pathway/ Trail	Picnic Area	Playfield	Playground	Softball	Swim Beach	Soccer	Tennis	Support ¹
Forest Hills Cemetery												X
Cosmopolis S.D. No. 99	X	X				X	X	X		X		X
Cosmopolis Treaty Grounds					X							X
Highland		X		X		X	X					X
Dewitt (<i>Lions</i>)	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X		X
Makarenko				X	X	X				X		
Mill Creek		X		X	X	X	X				X	X
Olympic Terrace		X			X		X					X
Cosmo Park					X							X

Regional Context



The Lions Club operates a building which encompasses a 90-person capacity community center. This center is available on a rental basis.

Site improvements include replacement of the playground equipment, provision of better softball field drainage and resolution of conflicts which occur when both the softball field and playground equipment are in use. The replacement of playground equipment and construction of new ADA Accessible Restrooms are were completed in 2003

Major D.S. Makarenko Memorial Park: This 39.2-acre park is in the southwest corner of the city (see Map 3.1). The site is currently developed for soccer fields, nature trails, and a community garden. It possesses numerous recreational opportunities. The terrain is flat with 0-3 percent slopes in the northern 30 acres. Alder Creek traverses the park in the southwestern portion of the site where steeper slopes occur. The park is predominantly wooded with a stand of Red Cedar, Alder, Hemlock, Spruce and Douglas Fir.

The site was used for the Cohasset Riding School until 1968. Structures used for the riding school have collapsed. Trails that were developed during the operation of the school are currently utilized as nature trails by residents.

The site was willed to Cosmopolis by Olivetta Faulkner in 1991. Specific terms are included in the will and Statutory Warranty Deed. The terms required the city to:

- construct a perimeter fence, provide security patrols, and maintain the site in its natural state; keep the park clean of garbage;
 - provide a memorial plaque at the park entrance.

Specifically permitted uses include:

- removal of small conifers growing in trails and existing open areas and

removal of brush, crabapple and alders;

- maintaining the bridle paths;
- providing a parking lot within the park and allow public access;
- allowing access by city vehicles for maintenance and policing of the park.

The terms prohibit:

- harvesting any large conifers except "danger trees".
- allowing use of the park by motor-cycles, 3- or 4-wheel vehicles or other vehicles which would endanger the natural environment.
- sale, lease, mortgage or giving the property away.

Mill Creek Park: This 22.83-acre park is in the south eastern portion of the city. The natural setting provides visitors with a quality recreational experience incorporating upland woods and lowland areas associated with Mill Creek.

The site provides a pathway and benches associated with Mill Creek and a picnic area with approximately ten tables and a picnic shelter. The pathway extends to and encompasses Mill Creek Pond.

Playground equipment, restrooms, and a parking area for about thirty vehicles are provided in the lower area and the upper section of the park includes two tennis courts, playground equipment, a basketball goal, restroom, and another ten picnic tables.

Olympic Terrace Park: This small, 0.1-acre park, located at the intersection of Alder Drive and Altenau Street provides some playground equipment, a basketball goal and a bench for neighborhood use.

Open Space: The City of Cosmopolis owns approximately 1.7 acres located adjacent to Mill Creek. As shown on [Map 3.1](#), these parcels are directly across the Creek from Lions Park and serves as a landscaped entrance to the city. A new vehicle parking lot, pedestrian trail to Mill Creek and a foot bridge over Mill Creek to the Cosmopolis / South Aberdeen Trail were built in 2003.

Open Space: A 0.4-acre parcel adjacent to the north side of First Street on Mill Creek is designated as mitigation lands for the South Side Dike project.

Open Space: A 30.6-acre parcel north of the Chehalis River is designated as mitigation lands for the Deeper Draft Project.

Cosmo Park: Located at First & E Street, this one-half acre park provides a picnic table and benches for passive use.

Table 3-2 Existing School & Other Public Lands Inventory	
Facility	Features
Cosmopolis School	1 football/soccer field baseball & softball practice field Playground Equipment
Chehalis River Boat Launch	1 Boat Ramp

OTHER LOCAL RECREATION AREAS

In order to provide an accurate assessment of the needs for additional park and recreation acreage or facilities, adjacent sites and facilities must also be reviewed. Since the City of Cosmopolis is adjacent to the City of Aberdeen, recreational sites and facilities located in parks close to the corporate limits were examined. If facilities within Aberdeen provide service to an unserved area of Cosmopolis, then the need for that facility, in that portion of Cosmopolis, will not be identified as deficient.

In addition to intensive nonresource-oriented facilities, such as playgrounds and tennis courts, the city should also be adequately served by resource-oriented activities. These types of activities (camping, swimming, and golfing) are typically regional in scope and serve a large geographic area. Regional facilities, as identified in the Regional Park and recreation element, which influence Cosmopolis residents include:

Friend's Landing: This 152-acre site, owned by Trout Unlimited is located about eight miles east of Cosmopolis. Located directly on the Chehalis River, facilities include a boat ramp, fishing piers, picnic shelters, covered fishing shacks, and restrooms.

All designed for disabled accessibility. Proposed facilities include RV's which will provide overnight accommodations and an interpretive trail around the on-site lake. Both facilities will be accessible by the disabled.

Grays Harbor Community College - Lake Swano: Less than one-half mile from western Cosmopolis, the college provides both, intensive resource and nonresource-oriented facilities.

Nonresource-oriented facilities include a baseball diamond, multi-purpose ball field, basketball goal, and a gym. The college recently completed the Bishop Center for the Performing Arts designed for cultural activities.

Resource-oriented activities are focused on the Lake Swano model watershed project. The project deals with a 4.5-acre manmade lake and associated watershed. As part of the project a 1.5-mile interpretive pathway was developed around the lake providing education on the effects of soil erosion and runoff; the beneficial role of native plants and other vegetation; the cumulative effects of logging and other activities; and the need for enhancing fish and wildlife habitat.

Grays Harbor Country Club: The Grays Harbor Country Club offers a nine-hole golf course and is in Central Park.

Highland Golf Course: This golf course provides direct service to residents of Cosmopolis. Adjacent to Mill Creek Park on the south eastern edge of the city, this 18-hole course permits readily accessible opportunities for golf.

Lake Aberdeen Recreation Area: This recreation area is owned by the City of Aberdeen. It is located approximately two and one-half miles north of Cosmopolis and provides about 105 acres of water-based activities. Of the

105 acres, 100 are surface water while the remaining five acres provides about 100 feet of swimming beach; swimming dock; boat launching; rowboat dock; lifeguard station; dressing rooms; and restrooms. The park is located in 640 acres of woodland.

Morrison Riverfront Park: This 11.5-acre park is located on the Chehalis River at the east entrance to the City of Aberdeen. Through numerous grants and donations, the park provides 3,700 feet of waterfront access and regional scale facilities including a riverfront pathway and fishing pier. Other facilities located at Morrison Riverfront Park, i.e. playground equipment, are not considered capable of serving residents of Cosmopolis due to accessibility and distance.

Pioneer Park: This 24-acre park is in the southern portion of the City of Aberdeen. This park represents the foundation for the league baseball and softball programs in Aberdeen. The City of Cosmopolis also utilizes this facility for all softball league games. The two cities completed the construction of the Cosmopolis / South Aberdeen Pedestrian Trail in 2002. This trail links Lions Club Park in Cosmopolis with Pioneer Park in South Aberdeen.

The site includes seven ball fields capable of accommodating: Babe Ruth; Slow pitch Softball; Minor; and Little League activities. Support facilities include parking for about 420 vehicles; concessions; lighting for all fields; bleachers; restrooms and caretakers' quarters with storage shed.

Public Access – Cosmo Specialty Fibers Property:

This one and one-half acre parcel is located on the Chehalis River. While privately-owned, it is an extremely popular boating access point for city residents. This site includes a boat launch.

COUNTY RECREATION AREAS

Grays Harbor County Fairgrounds:

The fairgrounds are a multi-use facility, largely maintained by user fees and rentals. Horse stalls are rented on a regular basis. Besides the annual Grays Harbor County Fair, facilities are used for horse races, auto races, dog shows, and weekly winter and spring swap meets. Private rentals are scheduled for graduation ceremonies, wedding receptions, dinners, dances, and holiday bazaars. The Fairgrounds is also a training facility for the Washington State Racing Commission.

Grays Harbor Raceway events include local, regional, and national races including the Summer Thunder Sprint Series, Washington Modified Tour, ACSC National Tour, and the World of Outlaws Races. More info can be found at www.graysharborraceway.com.

Located east of Elma on the Old Olympic Highway, the site encompasses 63 acres and includes a 3/8-mile dirt track for auto racing, with a seating capacity of over 7,000. Other facilities include a grandstand, multi-purpose pavilion of 55,000 square feet with a seating capacity of 3,000 people. There is a judging arena, poultry barn, 4-H building, FFA building, and Bennet Building. A graveled parking lot provides parking for approximately 1900 vehicles.

Grays Harbor ORV Sports Park: The Grays Harbor ORV Sports Park is managed by former Supercross/MX Champion Ryan Villapoto. (*The park is closed during winter months*) It is located on 150 acres at the Grays Harbor/Thurston County line off SR 8. It is used for individual and competition ORV activities, ranging from state, regional, and national to international in scope. The facility is also used for safety and education programs and skill clinics.

Facilities include year-round camping areas, restrooms, showers, a 3,000 square foot

meeting hall, concessions, picnic areas with covered

The park features five miles of competitive and casual trails and access to the 84,000+ acre Capitol Forest Multi-Use Recreation Area. A sand drag strip, fenced motorcycle track, 4-wheel drive and other off-road vehicle track, a grandstand and hill climbing trails are also available. www.ghorvracing.com.

Vance Creek Park: Vance Creek Park is an 88-acre site located south of Elma. The site consists of three small freshwater lakes totaling approximately 50 acres in surface area and 38 acres of high floodplain land area. Vance Creek meanders through the site on its way to the Chehalis River.

Existing facilities include a swimming beach, restrooms, a play area, boat launch, and parking. The park is presently used by a wide variety of people, including families with children, youth, and senior groups. Special events at the park have included remote control boat races; pre-school and public-school field trips; senior picnics. The Elma track team has used the park for regular cross-country training and races.

STATE RECREATION AREAS

Capitol State Forest: Administered by the Washington Department of Natural Resources this 84,000+ acre forest provides camping, picnicking, and trail facilities for hiking, ORV, and equestrian uses. The forest is in the southeast corner of Grays Harbor County and southwest corner of Thurston County.

Lower Chehalis State Forest: This 22,000-acre forest is adjacent to the Capitol State Forest on the west side of the Chehalis River. This area provides linkages to many of the activities found in the Capitol State Forest.

Grayland Beach: Located about five miles south of Westport, this park provides: beach access, fishing, hiking, picnicking, camping.

Griffiths-Priday: Located at the mouth of the Copalis River approximately 25 miles northwest of Cosmopolis, this park offers: beach access, picnicking.

Lake Sylvia: Lake Sylvia is located about ten miles east of Cosmopolis in the City of Montesano. A boat launch, fishing, hiking, row boating, swimming, tent and trailer camping, are provided.

Ocean City: Ocean City State Park is located about 25 miles west of Cosmopolis. This park provides opportunities for: beach access, fishing, horseback riding, picnicking, swimming, tent and trailer camping.

Pacific Beach: This state park is located about 10 miles north of Copalis Beach and provides opportunities for: beach access, fishing, horseback riding, picnicking, tent and trailer camping.

Schafer: Schafer State Park is located about 25 miles northeast of Cosmopolis, just into Mason County. Facilities provided at this park include fishing, hiking, picnicking, tent and trailer camping, swimming.

Twin Harbors: Twin Harbors State Park is located about five miles south of Westport and provides: beach access, fishing, hiking, picnicking, and tent and trailer camping.

Westhaven: This state park is located north of Westport near the south jetty entrance to Grays Harbor. Beach access, fishing, picnicking, and surfing are activities provided.

Westport Light: Westport Light State Park is located about 25 miles southwest of Cosmopolis near the City of Westport. Activities include beach access, boat launch, fishing, horseback riding, picnicking, and tent and trailer camping. This park also includes functioning lighthouse facility built as a navigational aide for Point Chehalis, south entrance to Grays Harbor.

FEDERAL RECREATION AREAS

Grays Harbor National Wildlife Refuge:

The Grays Harbor National Wildlife Refuge is located at Bowerman Basin directly west of the City of Hoquiam. Administered by the

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, this refuge will provide approximately 1,800 acres to preserve critical shorebird resting and feeding habitat.

When fully developed, the site will provide a visitor center, boardwalk, viewing platforms, restrooms, and parking.

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary:

The sanctuary, administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration will extend from Koitlah Point on the Strait of Juan de Fuca to the south end of the Copalis Wildlife Refuge.

The primary scope of regulations for the sanctuary would include a prohibition against oil and gas development; restrictions on discharging or depositing any material; restrictions on altering the seabed; and a ban on flying motorized aircraft under 2,000 feet near the sanctuary's coastal boundaries and offshore wildlife refuges.

Olympic National Forest: The forest, administered by the U.S. Forest Service (Department of Agriculture) is located about 50 miles northwest of Cosmopolis. The multi-use management objective of the U.S. Forest Service allows for agricultural, forestry, mineral extraction, and recreational uses. Natural areas have been protected offering an extensive variety of recreational opportunities including boating, canoeing, fishing, hiking, lodging, picnicking, sailing, swimming, tent and trailer camping.

Olympic National Park: The park, administered by the U.S. Park Service (Department of the Interior) is located about 70 miles northwest of Cosmopolis. The park encompasses and preserves, in a natural

environment, the finest example of an Old Growth rain forest possibly in the world. The park also contains the majority of the Olympic Mountain Range featuring Mount Olympus which reaches an elevation of 7,965 feet as well as 57 miles of pristine coastline.

Recreational opportunities are designed to be compatible with the ecology and include backpacking, beach access, boating, canoeing, fishing, hiking, lodging, mountain climbing, picnicking, scenic vistas, and tent and trailer camping.

-
1. Support facilities typically include benches, parking, lighting, backstops, restrooms, trash containers.
 2. This site is currently undeveloped; the pathway facilities identified here are presently used but undeveloped and un-maintained.

Chapter 4

Needs Assessment

Introduction

Capturing the hopes and desires of citizens and finding the resources necessary to meet their expectations can be a challenging task. Through an analysis of community needs included in this chapter, a six-year capital improvement plan is developed to identify and prioritize upgrades, improvements and expansion that will best fulfill the community's needs. The capital improvement plan is found in Chapter 5.



Several inputs were utilized in the assessment of needs for park and recreation facilities.

- **Cosmopolis Park and Recreation Needs Assessment** identifies deficiencies in each of the city's park and recreation facilities and applies facility need based on the classification standard. The adopted classification standards were defined in Chapter 2.
- **Maintenance** considers time and expense to the City to maintain recreation facilities and anticipate future costs for upkeep of facilities and expansion.
- **Park Board Input** captures the park board members understanding and experience of the recreation needs of the community.
- **Public Input** is the expression of personal and community wants, and desires collected through a community survey. Synopsis of public input is included in this chapter and a more complete public involvement discussion is in Chapter 6.
- **Relation to Local Plans** which identify community recreational needs.

Cosmopolis Park and Recreation Needs Assessment

An assessment of each of the city park facilities was conducted to identify maintenance needs and deficiencies, life span and ADA issues, needed structure and facility updates and upgrades, and any needed or desired new structures and facilities. In addition, the park classification system and standards, from Chapter 2, was applied.

Regional Parks

(Regional Parks are generally over 50 acres in size; therefore, Makarenko and Mill Creek Parks do not meet this standard.)

Existing Acres: 0

Recommended Standard: 5-10 acres per 1,000 population

Current Need: 50 Acres

Community Parks

Existing Acres: 41.06

Recommended Standard: 2.5-5 acres per 1,000 population

No Current Need

Mill Creek Park

Mill Creek Park is 22.83 acres and provides 2 ADA accessible restrooms, 2 tennis courts, picnic tables, a lighted gazebo, walking trails, a pond for youth fishing, and a dam with a fish ladder.

Needs/Recommendations

- Restroom Upgrades
 - Replace sinks, toilets
 - Install new partitions
 - Paint
 - Replace roofs
 - Improve ADA Accessibility
- Solar Powered LED Trail Lighting
- Pave or concrete ADA trails
- Replace Tennis Court Surface and Equipment
- Install Dog Waste Stations
- Install Barbecue Pits
- Install new Benches.
- Install new Playground Equipment
- Replace Picnic Tables
- Upgrade Gazebo and all Electrical Components

D.S. Makarenko Memorial Park

D.S. Makarenko Memorial Park is an 18.23-acre park that provides walking and horse-riding trails, soccer fields, and community garden plots.

Needs/Recommendations

- Construct new permanent restrooms.
- Install interpretive signs along trails
- Install Barbecue Pits
- Install Picnic Tables
- Install additional Dog Waste Stations
- Install additional benches.
- Improve Parking Lot
- Designate ADA Parking in Main Lot and on Bell Drive
- Replace Long Footbridge
- Develop Trail Map
- Identify and Clearly Mark ADA Trails

Neighborhood Parks

Existing Acres: 3.14

Recommended Standard: 1-2.5 acres per 1,000 population

Current Need: No Current Need

Highland (Bell) Park

Highlands (Bell) Park is an 0.8-acre park with a basketball court, swing set, and picnic area.

Needs/Recommendations

- Install new playground equipment
- Install Barbecue Pits
- Install a Dog Waste Station
- Install Park Signage
- Resurface Basketball Court and Replace Equipment
- Create Shade Areas
- Install ADA Accessible Picnic Tables
- Install new Benches
- Install Insurance recommended surfacing and borders for Playground Area.

Olympic Terrace Park

Olympic Terrace Park has a single basketball hoop, park benches, and picnic area.

Needs/Recommendations

- Install new playground equipment
- Install a Dog Waste Station
- Install Park Signage
- Install Picnic Tables and Benches

Lions (Dewitt) Park

Lions (Dewitt) Park is a 2.24-acre park with a baseball field, playground equipment, a single basketball hoop, picnic area, and ADA accessible restrooms.

Needs/Recommendations

- Install Park Signage
- Update Playground Equipment
- Replace metal grandstands
- Grade and improve field drainage
- Paint Restrooms
- Add Shade Structures
- Replace Playground Groundcover and Border Material

Special Use Sites

Existing Acres: 3.9

No Current Recommended Standard



Forest Hill Cemetery

Forest Hills Cemetery is a 3.9-acre site. It is frequently used by walkers in the area.

Needs/Recommendations

- New roof on maintenance shed.
- Asphalt overlay or chip seal on roadway.



Urban Pathways

Existing miles – 0.89

- Create Citywide Trail Maps Connecting Parks and Trails

Basich Trail

Basich Trail connects Lions (Dewitt) Park in Cosmopolis with Pioneer Park in Aberdeen. Total trail length is .98 miles, of which the portion in Cosmopolis is .35 miles. The trail is paved and ADA accessible with benches in a couple locations along the trail.

Needs/Recommendations

- Solar powered LED pedestrian lighting
- Interpretive signage.
- Trail Signage
- Install ADA Accessible Benches

Chehalis River Pathway

The Chehalis River Pathway is a gravel surface on top of the .55-mile-long US Army Corps of Engineers Flood Control Levy along the Chehalis River.

Needs/Recommendations

- Benches
- Interpretive Signage
- Install ADA Ramps
- Install ADA Parking Access

Urban Trail System - to be developed

Plan and develop cross city trail system which connects the community to recreational opportunities.

Needs/Recommendations

- Cosmopolis to Chehalis River connection
- Cosmopolis to Regional connection

Urban Malls and Squares

Existing Acres: 0.9

Recommended Standard: 0.25 acres per 1,000 population

No Current Need

Treaty Grounds

The landscaped 0.4-acre site provides a picnic area for travelers of US 101. Interpretive signs are located at this site.



Needs/Recommendations

- Restrooms
- Welcome kiosk with City trail and community recreation information.
- Repaint Mural
- Install Signage
- Install Dog Waste Station
- Install Barbecue Pit
- Replace Picnic Tables

First Street (Cosmo) Park

This property was given to the City of Cosmopolis to use as a City Park. The property is now owned by Cosmo Specialty Fibers and still allowed to be used as a City Park. Amenities include benches and picnic tables.

Needs/Recommendations

- Decisions need to be made on long term use of property with Cosmo Specialty Fibers.
- Property could be used as part of a Boat Launch Improvement Project.

Park Budget and Maintenance

The City of Cosmopolis's Public Works Department is responsible for the maintenance of public parks within the city. The City should carefully consider the increase in maintenance responsibilities and costs when improving City park properties. The parks operations expenditures for the City of Cosmopolis for 2019 is \$87,445. There is no plan to change the current park budget. In addition to regular maintenance, a budget for long-term preventative maintenance is needed to care for City parks, facilities and maintenance needs.

The City of Cosmopolis has use agreements in place for the use of facilities. Agreements have been made with the Harbor Youth Soccer and Aberdeen Little League. The Community Garden Plots in Makarenko Park are leased yearly to users of the Garden Plots.

As the City's park system grows, it will be important for the City to sensibly use limited park budget dollars and maintenance agreements to manage the cost of parks maintenance with the City's desire to improve a level of service for our parks.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

Development and upgrades to the community's parks are the current focus of the Cosmopolis Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee. Some progress has been made with installing new features at parks such as Dog Waste Stations, Barbecue Pits, Benches, and Information Kiosk's. Most of this work has been accomplished with volunteer labor from the Cosmopolis Lions Club.

Community Survey

A brief survey is being conducted the summer of 2019 – early of June to early July. The survey asked community members how often they use parks, their purpose for using parks, their assessment of maintenance of parks, and improvements and recreation opportunities they would like to see in the community. The purpose of the survey was to provide information to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee which they utilized to complete this Chapter – Needs Assessment. Detailed information on public involvement is found in chapter 6 and the complete results of the survey are found in Appendix A-1. A brief synopsis of the survey results is below.

Chapter 5

Capital Improvement Program



Welcome to Cosmopolis

This chapter identifies projects and funding options for achieving Cosmopolis's vision for parks and recreation. It includes a comprehensive projects list, a short-term, six-year capital improvement program (CIP) and potential funding options to accomplish identified projects.

A CIP, sometimes termed a capital facilities plan, is an operational tool that includes:

- an existing inventory of all capital facilities
- a forecast of future needs
- the proposed location and capacities of new facilities, and
- a six-year financing plan showing fund sources for future facilities.

Once completed and adopted, the CIP can be updated by staff. Ideally, it can be integrated into the existing annual budget adoption process and updated along with each budget.

Projects on the comprehensive list, Table 5-1, contribute to meet the community's recreational goals and objectives. However, not all these projects can be implemented within the next six years, given the City's limited funding resources. For this reason, the projects on the comprehensive capital projects list have been prioritized to determine those projects that should be included in the six-year CIP. The following criteria were used to include, prioritize and schedule projects in the CIP:

- Availability of alternative funding resources or partnerships. Projects that have potential for other types of funding, such as grants, donations, or partner contributions, should receive higher priority than projects without other funding opportunities.
- Maintenance efficiency. These are projects that will reduce maintenance costs and improve efficiency.
- Availability of other resources. There are adequate staffing and financial resources to support maintenance and operations of the project

Using these criteria, the six-year CIP was developed, Table 5-2. The six-year CIP may be updated annually by the Park Board, adopted by the City Council and submitted to RCO. Preferably the CIP will be adjusted during the budget process in consultation with the public.

The CIP provides a detailed, realistic list of proposed capital improvements that the city anticipates to fund over the next six years. This helps keep scarce capital budget expenditures focused on true system-wide, established priorities. All monetary figures are estimates and are subject to change. The years of development could also change depending on funding and opportunities that may arise for the different projects.

Even though Grays Harbor County is not a mandatory Growth Management Act jurisdiction, and therefore its municipalities are not required to adopt capital facility plans, the awarding of grants and loans are increasingly competitive and local governments who can demonstrate careful planning for their capital needs will score higher on evaluations of their applications for grants and loans.



Comprehensive Projects Lists

Table 5-1

Comprehensive Project List, City of Cosmopolis

Facility & Description of Projects	Timeframe			
	short	medium	long	ongoing
Mill Creek Park				
• Restroom Upgrades	✓			
• Improve ADA Accessibility		✓		
• Install LED Trail Lighting	✓			
• Pave ADA Trails		✓		
• Install New Benches	✓			
• Install New Playground Equipment		✓		
• Replace and Install ADA Picnic Tables		✓		
• Upgrade Gazebo			✓	
• Upgrade Electrical System		✓		
• Replace Tennis Court Surface and Equipment		✓		
• Install Dog Waste Stations	✓			
• Install Barbecue Pits	✓			
D.S. Makarenko Memorial Park				
• Construct New Permanent Restrooms		✓		
• Install Interpretive Signs Along Trail	☐			
• Install Barbecue Pits	☐			
• Install Picnic Tables		✓		
• Install Additional Dog Waste Stations	☐			
• Install Additional Benches		✓		
• Upgrade Parking Lot with ADA Stalls			☐	
• Purchase and Install Metal Bleachers for Soccer Fields		✓		
• Replace Long Footbridge	✓			
• Identify and Mark ADA Trails		✓		
Highland (Bell) Park				
• Masterplan to be More Competitive for Grants	☐			
• Install New Playground Equipment		✓		
• Install Barbecue Pits	✓			
• Install Park Signage	✓			
• Resurface Basketball Court and Replace Equipment		✓		

• Create Shade Areas			✓	
• Install New Benches		✓		
• Install Insurance Recommended Surfacing and Borders for Playground Equipment	✓			
• Install ADA Accessible Picnic Tables		✓		
Olympic Terrace Park				
• Install New Playground Equipment		✓		
• Install a Dog Waste Station	☐			
• Install Park Signage	✓			
• Install Picnic Tables and Benches		☐		
Lions (Dewitt) Park				
• Install Park Signage	✓			
• Update Playground Equipment		✓		
• Grade and Improve Field Drainage			✓	
• Paint Restrooms		✓		
• Add Shade Structures		✓		
• Replace Playground Groundcover and Border Material	✓			
• Replace Metal Grandstands		✓		

Timeframe: short - 1 to 5 years; medium - 5 to 10 years; long - 10 or more years

Capital Priorities

Six – Year Capital Improvement Plan. Park and Recreation projects the City plans to develop in the next six years, 2020 to 2025. Table 5-2 below projects the timing and costs of the projects. More complete descriptions of each project follow the table.

Table 5-2

Six - Year Capital Improvement Plan, City of Cosmopolis

Facility and Project Description	Project Cost	Funding Source	Estimated Cost						Total Estimated Cost
			2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	
Upgrade Gazebo Mill Creek Park	\$ 25,000	City					\$30,000		
Pave ADA Trails Mill Creek Park	\$ 100,000	RCO			\$100,000				
Install LED Trail Lighting	\$75,000				\$75,000				
Resurface Tennis Courts and Replace Equipment Mill Creek Park	\$ 30,000	City					\$10,000		
		Donations					\$20,000		
Install New ADA Accessible Playground Equipment Mill Creek Park	\$75,000	City						\$7,500	
		Donations						\$30,000	
		RCO						\$37,500	
Purchase and Install Metal Bleachers Makarenko Park Soccer Field	\$ 25,000	City				\$5,000			
		Donations				\$20,000			
New ADA Restrooms Makarenko Park	\$150,000	City					\$ 15,000		
		Donations					\$ 10,000		

		RCO					\$ 125,000	
Improve Parking Lot and ADA Parking Makarenko Park	\$ 30,000	City		\$ 10,000	\$ 20,000			
City Forest trailhead master plan*	\$ 30,000	City	\$ 15,000					
		RCO	\$ 15,000					
Crait Field grandstand replacement	\$ 10,000	City	\$ 10,000					
Fleet Park restrooms	\$ 115,500	City	\$ 29,000					
		0.09	\$ 86,500					
Fleet Park informational kiosk	\$ 7,500	City		\$ 7,500				
Total Project Costs	\$515,500							

Facility and Project Description	Funding Source	Estimated Cost						
		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Annual Park Maintenance costs**	City	\$ 115,000	\$ 118,450	\$ 122,004	\$ 125,664	\$ 129,434	\$ 133,317	\$ 743,867
Annual Forest Trail Maintenance costs	City	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 12,000
	City Funds	\$174,500	\$143,450	\$157,504	\$127,664	\$141,434	\$135,317	\$ 879,867
	.og Funds	\$ 86,500						\$ 86,500
	Donations	\$100,000				\$ 90,000		\$ 190,000
	RCO Funds	\$ 15,000		\$ -		\$100,000		\$ 115,000

Table 5-2 Notes:

City - city funds, including 50% match requirement

City matching funds - these funds can include contributions of private donations, such as organized youth sports

RCO - Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Grant

RCO grant cycle 2018, 2020, 2022

RCO grants 50% funding match requirement

* Only the NOVA program provides funds for master planning

**3% increase each year in maintenance costs

Six-Year Capital Improvement Program – Project Descriptions

Master Planning for Crait, Kelsey & Nelson – cost \$30,000

Crait, Kelsey & Nelson would benefit from a master plan that would direct development and identify maintenance concerns to be addressed. Master planning would make grant applications more competitive as the City would be able to show clearly the plans for the park facilities.

Beacon Park – Field Lighting– cost \$100,000

Beacon Park has been newly developed into a soccer field complex. This field lighting project will be funded by donations from the Montesano Youth Soccer Club. Lighting for the existing field is to be installed additionally it will be installed in a manner to light the U-10 field.

Beacon Park - U-10 Field Development – cost \$12,000

This project will provide drainage and seeding of a U-10 field on the Beacon Park property. Beacon Park has been newly developed into a soccer field complex. Over \$100,000 of locally donated funds, have been utilized to improve the park. An area that will support a U-10 field has been identified and the lighting for the existing field will be installed in a manner to additionally light the U-10 field.

Beacon Park – Restrooms – cost \$200,000

As Beacon Park becomes increasingly utilized and developed, restrooms will become a need. A master plan for Beacon Park is recommended prior to building construction to ensure the best placement and fit on the property, and to make the project more competitive for grant funding.

City Forest – Trail Signage – cost \$10,500

Improved signage on the City Forest trails and forest roads are increasingly important as more recreationalists utilize the City Forest. Signage placement recommendations were made in the Trail System Management plan.

City Forest –Trailhead Master Plan – cost \$30,000

This project would identify the placement of a City Forest trailhead outside of Lake Sylvia State Park. An additional trailhead will provide citizens greater access to the City Forest trail system.

Crait Field – Grandstand replacement - \$10,000

Due to the age of the grandstand structure, it needs to be replaced. The City is planning to utilize their crew and donated equipment for the project

Fleet Park – Restroom – cost \$115,500

The Fleet Park restroom project will replace the existing portable toilet with a permanent CXT toilet. The permanent restroom is a needed improvement to Fleet Park, which is the community gathering spot which hosts many events throughout the year including: Saturday morning market, Full Monte music festival, Festival of Lights, Catch Montesano Fish & Brew Fest, National Night Out, Historic Montesano car show and is the backdrop for the annual community photo.

Fleet Park – Information Kiosk – cost \$7,500

The information kiosk at Fleet Park will be a point of welcoming for the community and visitors to enjoy all that Montesano has to offer. The kiosk will provide community and recreation information and invite people to explore their Montesano. A highlight of the kiosk will be an introduction to the City Forest and the extensive trail system.

Annual Park Maintenance – cost \$120,000

Upkeep and maintenance of City park facilities.

Annual Forest Trail Maintenance – cost \$2,000

Upkeep and maintenance of the City Forest trail system.

Funding Park Projects

There is no magic bullet to fund park and recreation projects. There are variety of means to fund projects - grants, donations, city general budget, taxes, user fees, volunteers and community partnerships, just to name a few. Montesano has successfully utilized many of these options in the past. Reliance on one funding source isn't an option as grants require funding match and city budgets are stretched thin. Several sources need to be aligned and planned in order to take advantage of funding windows, community needs (timing), and City finances.

This section will highlight options and attempts to assist the City in weighing funding sources to build and maintain a park system that fits the City and community's current and future needs.



Funding Pieces

Grants

The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) manages several recreation grant programs, of which four below have been identified as a good fit for Cosmopolis Park and Recreation projects.

Table 5-3

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Programs

Grant Program		Description
NCLI	No Child Left Inside	Funding for outdoor environmental, ecological, agricultural, or other natural resource-based education and recreation programs serving youth.
NOVA	Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities Program	Funding to develop and manage motorized and non-motorized trail facilities and off-road vehicle areas, and to support education and enforcement activities.
RTP	Recreational Trails Program	Funding to renovate and maintain recreational trails and facilities that provide a backcountry experience.
WWRP - Local Parks	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program	Funding for local and state parks, trails, water access, state land conservation and restoration, farmland preservation, and habitat conservation.
YAF	Youth Athletic Facilities	Funding to buy land and renovate outdoor athletic facilities.

The Grays Harbor Community Foundation Community Building Grants, supports nonprofit organization's projects - <https://www.gh-cf.org/grants/application/>.

Washington State Department of Transportation grants for pedestrian and bicycle and safe routes to school programs, transportation related programs.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/LocalPrograms/ATP/funding.htm>

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/LocalPrograms/SafeRoutes/funding.htm>

Donations

Montesano has been extremely fortunate to have active and supportive youth group organizations that have raised thousands of dollars to fund sport field improvements in the city park system and the City Forest has an active group that assist with trail maintenance. It is commendable that citizens and local businesses are so supportive of their community and making personal contributions. The City should continue to work with sport groups, local businesses, and hikers and bikers that utilize the City Forest trails. As these groups grow, the City should consider creating a formal program to collect funds and outreach to volunteers.

The National Recreation and Park Association suggests funding resources to assist communities and non-profit group with their park and recreation fundraising.

<http://www.nrpa.org/our-work/Grant-Fundraising-Resources/>

Partnerships

Montesano already partners with the Montesano School District and Lake Sylvania State Park. The City has MOUs in place with the school district for school sports groups to use city facilities and for youth sports organizations to use school facilities. Also, the City Forest and Lake Sylvania State Park has MOUs in place as Lake Sylvania is a launching point for much of the City Forest trail system. The City should continue to work with these partnerships.

City Funds

The three basic options for City-based financing include the City's General Fund, Councilmanic or General Obligation Bonds, and the Real Estate Excise Tax (REET).

Given the many financial obligations of the City, the general fund cannot be depended upon to provide a significant stream of capital project funding. However, the City should allocate a small amount of general fund dollars annually to park improvements for projects where grant matches are needed, or other funding is not available. Bonds are either approved by the voters (property tax levy) or by City Council (paid by general fund). REET funds must be used for capital purpose identified in a capital improvements plan which includes park projects.

User Fees

User fees are charged to participating individuals or groups when utilizing city facilities. Montesano has user fees in place already as sports organizations pay the City for sport field use. User fees are a method of offsetting the cost of facilities and reduce the burden on the general fund for the operations and maintenance costs.

Time for a Community Park and Recreation Nonprofit?

Interested community members have established a nonprofit 501c(3) Foundation (*The Friends of highlands Park*). This provides the ability for people to make tax-exempt contributions that directly support parks and recreation activities.

A nonprofit group can help reduce the burden of community members who have so generously used their own time to coordinate local sport organizations facility needs and have raised funds for improvements at City Facilities. A nonprofit group can also solicit from the larger community and could tap into other park users, not just sport organizations.

Chapter 6

Public Involvement and Adoption

The update of the Cosmopolis Parks and Recreation Plan included a series of processes, each of which provided the opportunity for public comment and involvement. The 2020 update began in late 2018. The plan was completed with the help of the Cosmopolis Planning Commission, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, and the Friends of Highlands Park.

Parks and Recreation Committee Plan Update

The Planning Commission directed and reviewed the work undertaken by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee and the Friends of Highlands Park for the plan covering years 2020-2025. These groups represent a variety of recreational interests for the community, outdoor enthusiasts, adult fitness, sports groups, and passive recreation advocates.

Parks and Recreation Committee meetings are held on the First Tuesday of every month and are open to the public. The Planning Commission meets on the first Monday of each month and these meetings are also open to the public.

Planning Commission Members include Ken Cummings, Chairman, Bill Newman, Judi Lohr, Darin King, Mark Collette, Mike Brown, and M. Edwin VanSyckle. Parks and Recreation Committee members include Rod Matye, Chairman, Ben King, Linda Springer, Myles Wenzel, and Stana Cummings City Council Representative.

City Staff work was completed by Darrin C. Raines, City Administrator, Julie pope Finance Director, and Cheryl Chrt, Deputy Clerk.

Public Survey

A survey welcoming and encouraging community input into the park planning process was conducted in June – August 2018. The survey was administered online with a link given to residents for SurveyMonkey. An advertisement for the survey was listed on the City of Cosmopolis Website, Facebook Page, and on City of Cosmopolis Water Bills. Complete survey results are listed in [Appendix XX](#)

Public Notice and Opportunities to Comment

Community members were given the opportunity to participate and comment on the plan during Planning Commission meetings, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee meetings, and at a Public Hearing held by the City Council on [XXXXXX](#).

Parks and Recreation Committee Recommendation

City Council Consideration and Adoption

State Environmental Policy Act - SEPA