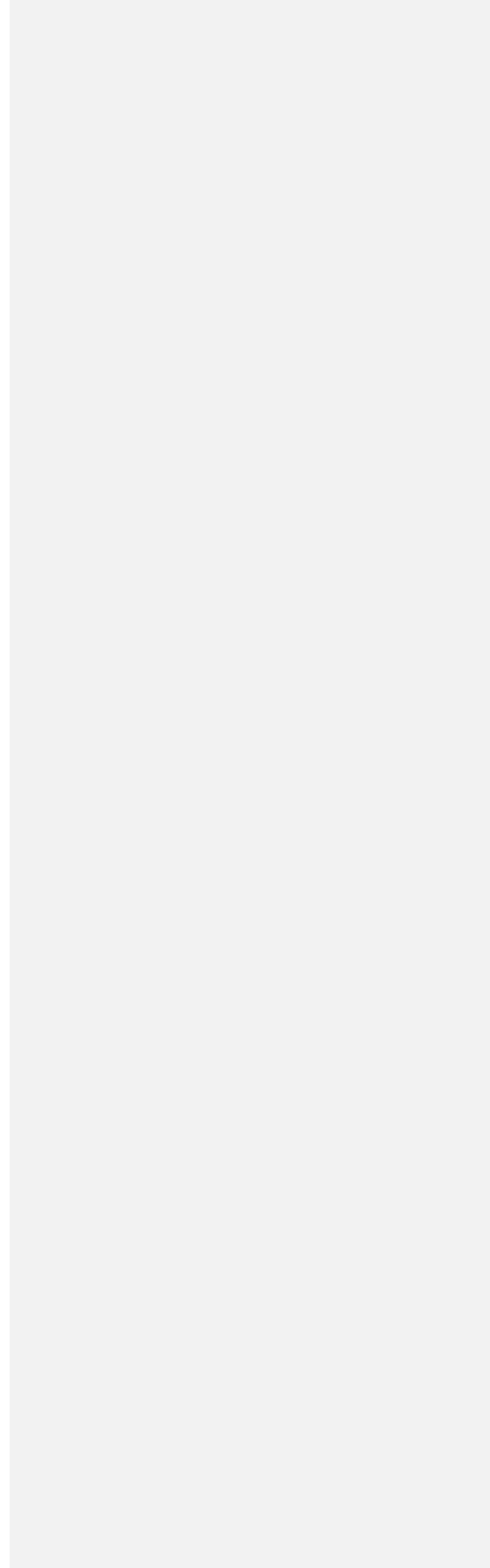


PT: Parks, Trails, and Open Space



Introduction

The Parks, Trails, and Open Space Element Goals and Policies support the City's commitment to developing and maintaining an exceptional park and trail system that provides diverse recreational opportunities in addition to preserving environmentally sensitive areas and forested and habitat areas. The element includes policies that provide guidance on park maintenance, expansion, funding strategies, and tie-ins to the *Legacy 100-Year Vision*.

Additional information supporting these goals and policies can be found in Parks, Trails, & Open Space Element Background Analysis (Volume II), which includes:

- Inventory of the City's parks
- Standards for various types of parks
- Integrated Pest Management information
- One Percent for Art Program information



Goals and Policies



Goal PT-1: Development and Maintenance

Maintain a high standard for the development and maintenance of the City's parks for both active and passive uses.

Policy PT-1.1: Seek and encourage the development of a sustainable funding source to acquire, develop, and maintain recreational properties and facilities taking into account equity and geographic diversity.

Policy PT-1.2: Continue efforts toward identification and acquisition of appropriate property for development of parks and open space that address the community's needs.

Policy PT-1.3: Support community gathering places as valuable assets for community members including the Commons, the Farmers market, and future gathering space at the Lakefront Park.

Policy PT-1.4: Promote parks, recreation, open spaces, and trails as essential components to physical, mental, and emotional health and well-being.

Commented [CH1]: Comment: Add at the end.

Commented [CH2]: Comment: Consider adding at the end.



Goal PT-2: Trails

Promote a safe, interconnected system of trails throughout the city, that serve important recreational and transportation roles for regional and local bicycle and pedestrian trail systems.

Policy PT-2.1: Encourage safe walking and bicycle paths through and throughout the city.



Goal PT-3: Safe Access to Parks

Provide multimodal and non-motorized transportation routes to parks, trails, open space, and recreational facilities that are consistent with the Safe Streets project and Safe Routes to School program requirements.

Policy PT-3.1: Promote accessible routes to parks that meet the needs of all residents.

Policy PT-3.2: Consider appropriate mitigation strategies for the impacts of SR-522 on active transportation modes when accessing parks and trails, including the new waterfront park.

Policy PT-3.3: Prioritize infrastructure in the Capital Improvement Plan that improves access to parks and open space.

Policy PT-3.4: Facilitate intergovernmental coordination and partnerships between public, private, and non-profit sectors to enhance regional access to parks.



Goal PT-4: Environmental Protection

Protect environmentally sensitive areas, wildlife habitats, and wooded areas.

Policy PT-4.1: Encourage open space acquisition to conserve the city's watersheds, environmentally sensitive areas, wildlife corridors, fish and amphibian habitats, and wooded areas.

Policy PT-4.2: Coordinate open space priorities with the Environmental Quality Commission and community environmental organizations.

Policy PT-4.3: Promote educational programs and interpretive materials about natural systems.

Policy PT-4.4: Promote the preservation of desirable lands for the public benefit.

Policy PT-4.5: Coordinate removal of invasive species in parks, trails, and open spaces.

Policy PT-4.6: Promote water reuse and reclamation.



Goal PT-5: Active Parks

Commented [CH3]: Comment: Somewhere in here, mention "dog parks" - that is, official enclosed off-leash areas for dogs.

Encourage a variety of recreational facilities and activities to serve the diverse interests of city residents.

Policy PT-5.1: Pursue the acquisition and development of active park facilities.

Policy PT-5.2: Engage with community groups and stakeholders in planning for active parks, recreation, [off-leash dog parks](#), open spaces, and trails.

Policy PT-5.3: Increase collaboration with community organizations that sponsor recreational and cultural activities to supplement recreational opportunities in the city.

Policy PT-5.4: Coordinate with the Shoreline School District, neighboring cities, and community agencies to expand recreational potential in Lake Forest Park.

Policy PT-5.5: Promote community engagement in parks to encourage recreation.



Goal PT-6: Signage

Promote inviting signage and wayfinding in the city's parks and at entrances to the city.

Policy PT-6.1: Encourage universal design techniques for accessible signage.

Policy PT-6.2: Support maintenance of signs and surrounding plantings to ensure visibility.



Goal PT-7: Arts and Culture

Encourage inclusive representation in and expanded public access to art and cultural heritage in public places.

Policy PT-7.1: Support visual and performing arts in the community and promote art education and participation.

Policy PT-7.2: Encourage private and corporate support of the arts.

Policy PT-7.3: [Engage with historically underrepresented groups to ensure inclusive representation in the arts.](#)

Commented [CH4]: Comment: Not sure why "inclusive representation" should be struck: the unnamed lakefront park will have significant art contributions from local tribes.

Commented [CH5]: Comment: Add a policy as recommended.



Goal PT–8: Building Community

Facilitate inclusive involvement in community activities.

Policy PT–8.1: Create and promote volunteer opportunities in the City’s parks and recreational programs.

Policy PT–8.2: Encourage and promote accessibility for community-wide events.

Policy PT–8.3: Support community collaboration in the planning and program development process of parks projects.

Policy PT–8.4: Maintain park spaces for use as staging areas for disaster response.



Goal PT–9: Legacy 100-Year Vision Implementation

Support green infrastructure in the Capital Improvement Program.

Green infrastructure is the natural life support system of the living landscape—a strategically planned and managed network of wilderness, parks, and greenways; conservation easements; and lands with conservation value that support native species, natural ecological processes, and air and water resources.

Policy PT–9.1: Identify and acquire appropriate property for future park facilities, with expansion of existing parks and active parks as priorities.

Policy PT–9.2: Encourage inclusive representation in the implementation of the *Legacy 100-Year Vision*.

Policy PT–9.3: Explore opportunities to fund property acquisitions for *Legacy* projects.

Policy PT–9.4: Consider initiating a parks bond and/or the creation of a parks district for park acquisition, restoration, improvement, and maintenance.

Policy PT–9.5: Utilize conservation easements or other means to expand protection of open space resources such as wildlife corridors and creeks.

Policy PT-9.6: Increase public access to Lake Washington.

Policy PT-9.7: Promote the development of community gardens.

Policy PT-9.8: Prioritize green infrastructure in historically underinvested neighborhoods.



Goal PT-10: Equity

Promote equitable access to parks, trails, and open spaces.

Policy PT-10.1: Prioritize historically underserved neighborhoods for parks, trails, and open space improvements and investments.

Policy PT-10.2: Ensure that parks, trails, and gathering spaces are accessible within a five-minute walkshed of all the city's residents.

Policy PT-10.3: Develop a rubric for prioritizing future investments in parks and open space.

Policy PT-10.4: Develop a rubric for prioritizing future investments in active transportation and trails.

Commented [CH6]: Comment: Agree with SCJ's recommendation: there ARE historically underserved neighborhoods in this regard, such as all those acquisitions of unincorporated King County the city made during the 1990s and 2000s, which didn't have any official parks and, to a large extent, still don't.

Commented [CH7]: Comment: I support keeping "historically"

Commented [CH8]: Comment: Add new policies as recommended.

