



STAFF REPORT

Meeting Type: Parks and Trails Advisory Board
Meeting Date: September 13, 2023
From: Rochelle Anderholm-Parsch, Parks and Recreation Director
Subject: Staff Report - Support for Clackamas County's Ordinance ZDO-286 Amendment

DECISION TO BE MADE:

The Parks and Trails Advisory Board is asked to consider and provide support for the proposed amendment to Clackamas County's Comprehensive Plan, specifically Ordinance ZDO-286 – Local Park Master Plan Framework in EFU Zoned Lands.

PURPOSE / OBJECTIVE:

The purpose of this report is to present an opportunity for the Parks and Trails Advisory Board to endorse Clackamas County's proposed amendment to Ordinance ZDO-286. The objective is to seek the Board's support in bringing the County's zoning regulations into alignment with Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 660-034-0035 and 660-034-0040, thereby allowing for public parks in Exclusive Farm Use (EFU), Timber (TBR), and Ag/Forest (AG/F) zoning districts through a master planning process.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT:

Clackamas County currently faces the challenge of reconciling the preservation of agricultural and forest lands with the growing demand for recreational spaces for residents and visitors. One of the key considerations in this endeavor is aligning Clackamas County's zoning regulations with existing Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 660-034-0035 and 660-034-0040.

These state regulations provide guidance on land use planning in Oregon and aligning Clackamas County's code with them is a critical step in achieving its land use objectives. The proposed amendment to Ordinance ZDO-286 seeks to establish a structured framework for the development of public parks within EFU, TBR, and AG/F zoning districts, in accordance with OAR guidelines. This framework is essential for achieving the county's land use objectives while addressing the need for recreational opportunities.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS / ANALYSIS:

- 1. Alignment with State Regulations:** The proposed amendment aligns Clackamas County's zoning regulations with existing Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 660-034-0035 and 660-034-0040, ensuring consistent land use planning practices.
- 2. Improved Land Management:** Allowing for public parks in these zoning districts will enable better management of urban and rural interfaces, mitigating potential conflicts and promoting sustainable land use practices.

3. **Enhanced Recreational Opportunities:** Adoption of the amendment will significantly increase access to recreational facilities within Clackamas County, catering to residents' diverse needs and promoting active, healthy lifestyles.
4. **Community Well-being:** Access to parks and recreational areas enhances overall community well-being, attracting new residents and supporting the local economy.
5. **Written Testimony Timeline Deadline:** It is important to note that the timeline for submitting written testimony is as follows: Written testimony received by 4 p.m., Monday, September 18, 2023, will be included in the information packet provided to the Board of County Commissioners one week before its scheduled hearing. Written testimony received after that time and before 4 p.m., Tuesday, September 26, 2023, will be emailed to the BCC before the hearing.

Once recommended by the Parks and Trails Advisory Board, the letter of support will proceed to the Sandy City Council for signature and official endorsement.

BUDGET IMPACT:

The proposed amendment is not anticipated to have a direct budgetary impact. Costs associated with park development will be covered by the respective master planning process, ensuring that the financial burden does not fall on the County.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommend that the Parks and Trails Advisory Board supports Clackamas County's Ordinance ZDO-286 Amendment. This endorsement will signify the Board's commitment to advancing recreational opportunities while considering the County's unique land use challenges.

SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE:

Motion Language, "I move that the Parks and Trails Advisory Board endorses Clackamas County's proposed amendment to Ordinance ZDO-286 – Local Park Master Plan Framework in EFU Zoned Lands, aligning the County's zoning regulations with Oregon Administrative Rules 660-034-0035 and 660-034-0040 to allow for public parks in Exclusive Farm Use (EFU), Timber (TBR), and Ag/Forest (AG/F) zoning districts through a master planning process."

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS / EXHIBITS:

1. ZDO-286 CPO and Interested Parties Notice
2. Letter of Support ZDO-286