

A. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Open Space, Parks and Recreation Plan is to guide the City in acquiring, developing, improving and managing its current and future open space, park and recreation facilities and programming. This Plan assesses the strengths and weaknesses of the current park system, provides direction for future development and capital expenditures, and establishes an implementation program.

This independent Open Space, Parks and Recreation Plan for the City of Snoqualmie supersedes all inconsistent elements in the City Comprehensive Plan.

In addition to providing the Snoqualmie Parks and Events Commission and Snoqualmie City Council with a basic framework for park system decisions, this document also provides other benefits to the City. A Plan supports requests to obtain funds for park system capital improvements, improves coordination between various recreation planning agencies, helps maximize the benefits of each dollar spent, facilitates the protection of important natural areas and habitats, and generally helps provide for the area's current and future park and recreation needs.

Goal 10: Provide a high-quality, integrated parks system¹ to meet the evolving needs of city residents and to enhance community character, livability, health and well-being.

B. OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

The policies in this Plan provide a basis of support for a functional and integrated parks system which includes, but is not limited to, open spaces, parks, trails, urban forest, community gardens and other recreational amenities and programs. The components of this vital system contribute to the physical, mental and emotional well-being of Snoqualmie residents and surrounding areas. Other publicly-owned lands outside of formal parks contribute to the system of open spaces and its environmental benefits, and are addressed in the Snoqualmie Comprehensive Plan "Snoqualmie 2032."

"The more successfully a city mingles everyday diversity of uses and users in its everyday streets, the more successfully, casually (and economically) its people thereby enliven and support well-located parks that can thus give back grace and delight to their neighborhoods instead of vacuity."

The following policies address various aspects of parks planning, namely: acquisition & development; open space preservation; financial planning; level of service standards; communications; recreation programming; community gardens and urban forestry.

ACQUISITION & DEVELOPMENT

Objective:

10.1 Acquire, develop, improve and maintain an integrated parks system that is safe, functional, attractive and accessible to all population segments.

Policies:

- 10.1.1 Develop a variety of active and passive facilities in a coordinated, integrated parks and recreation system.
- 10.1.2 Design and construct parks and facilities to allow multiple uses and provide amenities accessible to users of diverse physical capabilities, mental capabilities, skill levels, age groups, income levels, cultural backgrounds, and activity interests.

¹ An integrated parks system includes, but is not limited to, open spaces, parks, trails, urban forest, community gardens and other recreational amenities and programs.

- 10.1.3 Plan for and provide facilities per the adopted level of service (LOS) standards.
- 10.1.4 Locate appropriate parks and recreation facilities near and accessible to the matching populations they serve per table 10.3, while avoiding an overconcentration of similar facilities in any one area.
- 10.1.5 Consider consolidating facilities and/or converting some facilities to less-intensive uses where parks and recreation facilities are overconcentrated, to encourage the efficient use of City resources.
- 10.1.6 Consider locating larger active outdoor recreation facilities in commercial areas to minimize impacts on residential neighborhoods.
- 10.1.7 Develop and maintain athletic facilities that meet competitive playing standards for diverse abilities, age groups, skill levels, and recreational interests.
- 10.1.8 Development of athletic fields by private developers shall be designed to meet the minimum standards articulated in Appendix I, Development Standards for Athletic Fields and Lawns.
- 10.1.9 Initiate joint planning and operating programs with other public agencies and private organizations where appropriate to determine and provide for additional activities on a regional basis.
- 10.1.10 Collaborate with the Arts Commission to utilize artistic resources and talents in the integrated parks system.

OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION

Objective:

- 10.2 Preserve, protect and acquire additional natural and developed open space areas within the city.**

Policies:

- 9.B.2.1 Prioritize the importance of open space for the preservation of natural resources, and use the full range of regulatory and land preservation tools available to create, maintain and steward the local and regional open space system.
- 10.2.2 Cooperate with King County and other jurisdictions to develop coordinated level of service standards for the provision of parks and open space areas.
- 10.2.3 Energize the community around stewardship by utilizing volunteers for habitat and urban forest restoration and conducting continued outreach regarding stewardship, such as through the Green Snoqualmie Partnership.
- 10.2.4 Identify and prioritize acquiring and protecting open space sites that provide scenic views, valuable wildlife habitat, watershed conservation, serve scientific or education purposes, and/or contain other significant natural or cultural resources; examples include threatened and urban wildlife habitat, nesting sites, foraging areas, and wildlife mitigation corridors that promote habitat connectivity.
- 10.2.5 Ensure development protects and conserves open space areas, views and viewsheds, and maintains natural vegetation.
- 10.2.6 Develop and retain green belts or other vegetated buffer areas where appropriate between residential neighborhoods and between residential and adjacent non-residential areas.
- 10.2.7 Protect visual access to water bodies and rivers.

- 10.2.8 Work with the Meadowbrook Farm Preservation Association to better reflect the needs and desires of city residents for Meadowbrook Farm.
- 10.2.9 Promote wildlife viewing areas on Meadowbrook Farm, including Elk Viewing opportunities for State Route 202.

FINANCIAL PLANNING

Objective:

- 10.3 Create and maintain a stable, long-term financial plan for the City's integrated parks system.**

Policies:

- 10.3.1 Identify as early as possible suitable land for acquisition for the City's integrated parks system.
- 10.3.2 Utilize multiple sources in acquiring funds and properties for parks, park facilities, and park programs.
- 10.3.3 Create partnerships with the county, neighboring communities, schools, park districts, and other entities to provide a balanced mix of facilities within the Snoqualmie planning area and the upper Snoqualmie Valley.
- 10.3.4 Pursue joint use agreements with the Snoqualmie Valley School District, Si View Metropolitan Park District, and other entities for use of sports fields, gymnasiums, classrooms and other facilities.
- 10.3.5 Review the park use fee schedule annually to ensure fees are equitable, promote accessibility, and address City costs to manage and maintain park facilities.
- 10.3.6 In park development or re-development plans, place a high priority on creating facilities that are energy efficient, vandal resistant, and water-conscious and that require minimal maintenance.
- 10.3.7 Require adequate compensation for any lands removed from the publicly owned parks and open space system in the form of an equivalent or better site/facility nearby, or adequate compensatory funds.
- 10.3.8 Sustain parks system maintenance and operation budgets without regular reliance on local voter-approved maintenance or operation bonds or levies.

LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS

Objective:

- 10.4 Appropriately guide the provision and maintenance of the City's integrated parks system utilizing level of service standards in the Comprehensive Plan.**

Policies:

- 10.4.1 Periodically review and update the City of Snoqualmie Comprehensive Open Space, Parks and Recreation Plan and capital improvement program, projecting development and acquisition priorities, costs and funding sources.
- 10.4.2 Utilize park acreage and facility standards, when available, to guide park and recreation facility decisions, periodically reviewing and updating these standards to help meet the desires and preferences of city residents.

- 10.4.3 Ensure that minimum acreage requirements in the park facility standards refers to unconstrained, usable land suitable for active recreation. If non-park facilities (such as retention ponds, pump stations, etc.) are sited in parks, include compensatory acreage as necessary to meet minimum acreage requirements in the park facility standards.
- 10.4.4 Ensure park acreage, trails, and recreational facilities are provided consistent with adopted level of service standards in all Mixed Use, Planned Unit Development, Planned Commercial/Industrial and Planned Residential Development projects, and that the developments provide a comprehensive park and trail plan prior to development approvals to ensure that adequate usable parkland sites are available.
- 10.4.5 Consult the Parks and Events Commission prior to approval of development agreement provisions, or amendments thereto, that involve parks acreage, open space, facilities mitigation or adjustments to the number of residential units.

COMMUNICATIONS

Objective:

- 10.5 Improve communication with the public on the City's integrated parks system through a variety of media.**

Policies:

- 10.5.1 Continue to utilize citizen participation in planning, developing, operating, stewarding and maintaining the City's integrated parks system, encouraging citizen input at all stages of parks planning to inform park management decisions.
- 10.5.2 Utilize ongoing public information and awareness strategies to keep the community informed and supportive of park projects.
- 10.5.3 Coordinate with other City and community agencies to increase public awareness, use of park facilities and a cohesive community atmosphere.
- 10.5.4 Provide adequate, coordinated and aesthetically pleasing signage for City parks and park facilities, and incorporate signage needs into planned facility improvements.

RECREATION PROGRAMMING

Objective:

- 10.6 Offer services and programs that enhance community health and quality of life for people of diverse ages and abilities while complementing programs offered by other community providers.**

Policies:

- 10.6.1 Promote partnerships with public and private service providers to meet cultural, recreational and social needs of the community in parks program planning.
- 10.6.2 Offer programs that utilize the unique resources and variety of facilities within and connected to Snoqualmie's park system.

- 10.6.3 Provide opportunities for Snoqualmie residents of diverse ages, abilities (physical and mental), cultural backgrounds, and interests to participate in a wide range of recreation programs and community events that are accessible and affordable.
- 10.6.4 Ensure that partnerships and program providers using public resources deliver services and programs in accordance with their contracts and the City's priorities.

COMMUNITY GARDENS

Objective:

- 10.7 Maintain and promote open public space within the city for community gardens.**

Policies:

- 10.7.1 Protect and support existing community gardens in the city as important open space resources that build community and provide a local food source.
- 10.7.2 Expand and increase support for community gardens and youth involvement in growing and preparing their own food through partnerships with other agencies such as schools, senior centers, neighborhood groups, businesses, and civic and gardening organizations.
- 10.7.3 Identify existing and potential community garden sites on public property, including parks, recreation centers, public easements and rights-of-way, and surplus properties, and prioritize community gardens in underserved areas.
- 10.7.4 Encourage and promote new construction to incorporate green roofs, edible landscaping, and use of roof spaces for community gardening.

URBAN FORESTRY

Objective:

- 10.8 Promote tree planting, preservation and maintenance on public and private lands to enhance the city's beauty, environmental health, wildlife habitat and to take advantage of the economic value contributed by urban forests.**

Policies:

- 10.8.1 Fully implement urban forestry standards and programs that provide education, encouragement and assistance for planting, maintaining and preserving trees on private property, street frontage planter strips, parks and natural open spaces.
- 10.8.2 Ensure that trees are an important part of public investments made for economic development and redevelopment activities.
- 10.8.3 Plant street trees on all new streets and ensure street trees are prioritized in improvement plans for existing city streets.
- 10.8.4 Encourage the selection of species appropriate to projects, locations and site conditions to minimize conflicts with existing or planned public infrastructure. Provide adequate diversity for the local ecosystem by varying tree species, distribution, forms, textures, flowering characteristics and other aesthetic benefits to enhance city street environments.

- 10.8.5 On lands being converted from timber production, integrate trees preserved in naturalistic settings in the development of the property.
- 10.8.6 Encourage removal of invasive species and noxious weeds to protect native plant and animal habitat on public property, and educate citizens on the importance of their removal on private property. Prioritize removal of invasive species in valuable habitat and/or ecological function areas such as wetlands and streams.
- 10.8.7 Encourage the use of native and/or regionally produced edible plants and fruit-bearing trees.
- 10.8.8 Develop a citywide canopy cover survey to protect and enhance the current coverage offered by our urban forest and ensure that the forest's air, water quality, water management and economic benefits continue in perpetuity or are enhanced in the future.
- 10.8.9 Maintain the landmark tree program to inventory, protect and maintain trees with historic significance or other community value and prioritize preservation of these trees during development project planning.
- 10.8.10 Balance objectives for tree preservation with considerations of preservation of viewsheds, solar access, wind protection or shade within a development and/or on adjacent property.

TRAILS NETWORK

Objective:

- 10.9 Maintain, enhance, and expand the network of trails throughout the City and ensure connections to the regional trail system.**

Policies:

- 10.9.1 Develop trail systems for a wide variety of users including pedestrian, equestrian, and bicycle users to connect open spaces, parks, recreation facilities, neighborhoods, employment areas, shopping areas, schools and other public spaces and facilities with specific attention to regional trail connections.
- 10.9.2 Integrate trails as alternative transportation routes, connecting them to transit stops, bike facilities, and sidewalk access points to create a comprehensive network of nonmotorized transportation throughout Snoqualmie and the region.
- 10.9.3 Require that new development aid in expanding and/or providing linkages to the local and regional trail systems.
- 10.9.4 Furnish trail systems with appropriate trailhead improvements that may include interpretive and directory signage, trail use rules and regulations, rest stops, drinking fountains, parking and loading areas, bike racks, restrooms, dog waste stations, trash containers and other services elements supporting trails-related use and maintenance.
- 10.9.5 Develop a comprehensive, interpretive and directory signage program; including an approved design and theme that considers best signage practices, specifications and styles, trail use rules and regulations, regional and local maps, locators, distance markers to other trail- and park-related features, and historical information.
- 10.9.6 Create and maintain strategic partnerships with the community, not-for-profit groups and other stakeholders, to foster cooperative and volunteer efforts for trails-related upkeep and maintenance.

10.9.7 Acquire and preserve shoreline access for waterfront trails and water-related recreational activities in accordance with the Snoqualmie Shoreline Master Program.

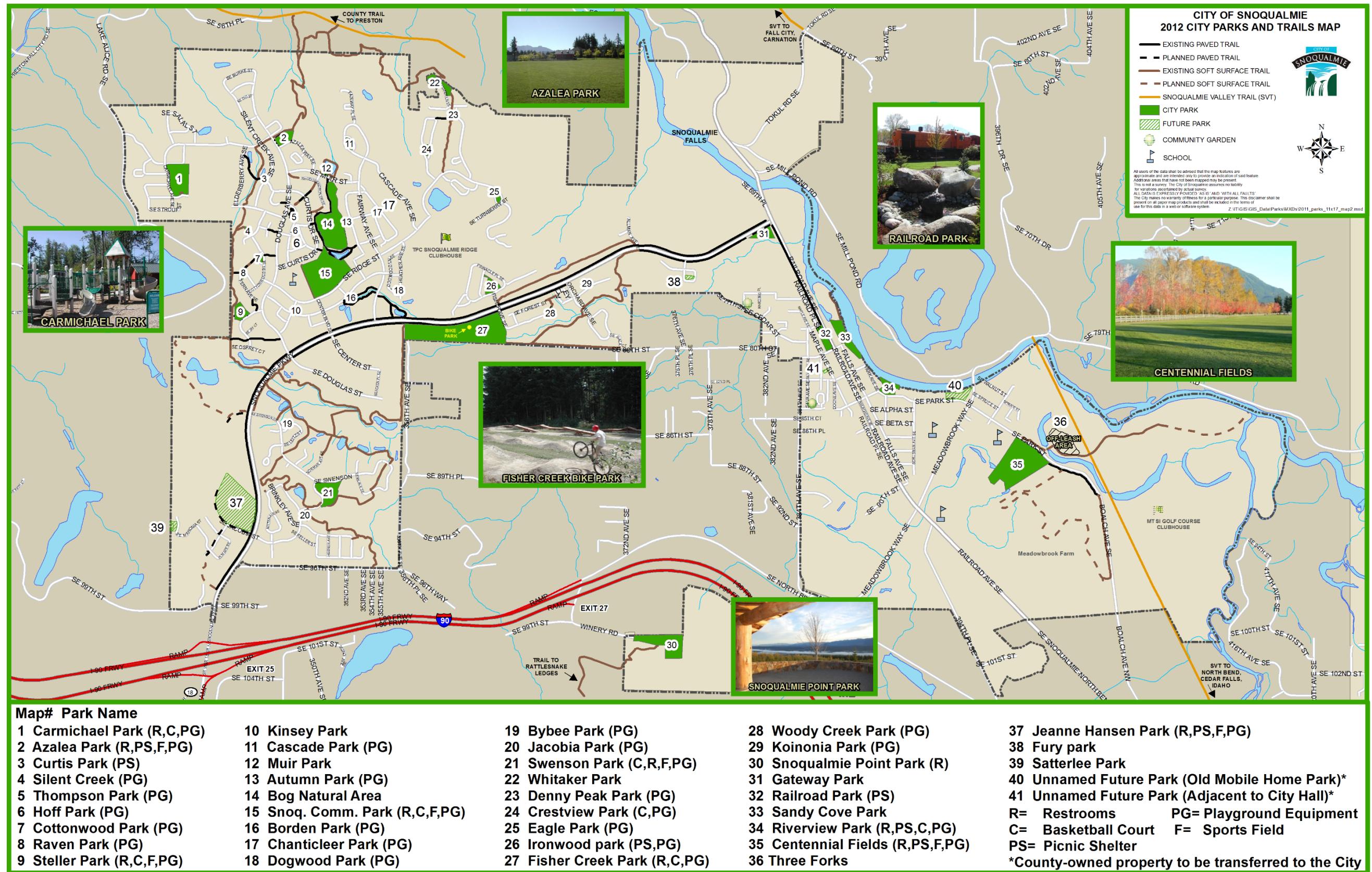


Figure 9.1 Existing Open Space, Parks and Recreation Areas.

C. SNOQUALMIE: LOCAL CONTEXT

The City of Snoqualmie is located in King County, approximately 20 miles east of Bellevue and 25 miles east of Seattle. Situated in the foothills of the Cascade Mountain range, the city occupies 7.4 square mile area mainly between the southwest bank of the Snoqualmie River and Interstate 90 and including the former Weyerhaeuser Snoqualmie Mill on the north side of the Snoqualmie River.

Snoqualmie has defined an urban growth area (UGA) that includes the existing city area and expansion areas defined by logical physical features, including nearby hillsides and Interstate 90. When incorporated, the UGA would increase the City's land area by approximately 1.2 square miles.

C.1 HISTORY AND SETTING

The upper Snoqualmie Valley with its encircling mountains has been recognized for its natural beauty and abundance since it was first settled in the 1800's. Early on, Mount Si and the Snoqualmie River figured in the histories of pioneer families, providing food, transportation, recreation and water. The fishing streams, miles of twisting river, wooded hillsides and pastures still dominate the local landscape, appealing to residents and visitors alike.

"The nation behaves well if it treats its natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired, in value."

— Theodore Roosevelt

The variety of recreation opportunities provided by the natural setting of the Snoqualmie area is unusually broad. Recreation activities include berry picking, bicycling, camping, canoeing and kayaking, horseback riding, hiking, hunting, fishing, picnicking, sightseeing, photography, pleasure driving and swimming.

The completion of Interstate 90 placed Snoqualmie within comfortable commuting distance of the west King County metropolitan area. While many residents work outside of the community, most recreation needs are met within the Valley. The area also serves the regional and visitor recreation population. Two million tourists visit the privately-owned Snoqualmie Falls Park annually, making it the second most visited tourist attraction in the state. The Mount Si Conservation Area includes one of the state's most frequented trails, attracting up to 100,000 hikers annually.

While the visitors who come to enjoy the scenic and recreational opportunities of Snoqualmie benefit local businesses, they also impact community open space, parks and recreation facilities. As development pressures in the region increase, the City needs to not only protect the quality of life for its residents, but must also participate in regional efforts to preserve the landscape and recreational features valued by all.

C.2 PARKS PLANNING: DRIVING FACTORS

Several influences affect the driving factors of City Parks planning, including a growing population of youth, a desire to create more vibrant community education programs, a need to eliminate a backlog of care for publicly owned trees and the pressures to maintain the current high level of park maintenance in a constrained municipal fiscal environment.

As will be reviewed in Section C.2, Growth Projections, the city has experienced rapid growth in the recent past. From 2000-2009 Snoqualmie was the fastest growing city in the state, with 300% population growth. A majority of new homebuyers within the City were families with young children, placing a large demand on parks facilities and particularly tot lots or mini-parks. Today the city has approximately 4,500 youth under age 18, comprising 35% of the population. Therefore, one of the main factors the City aims to address is the enhancement of facilities to support youth recreation activities.

With the large numbers of youth growing up in the city, this plan anticipates a growing need for recreation facilities geared towards youth between ages 12 and 18. Already, the new teen center at the Snoqualmie Community Center is helping to meet this growing need. However, enhanced facilities may be needed to help support youth in older age brackets, such as synthetic sports fields to meet growing needs for recreation outlets such as lacrosse.

Building and maintaining partnerships with other recreation providers is another key focus for the City. The City does not anticipate hiring recreation staff in coming years, so partnerships with the Si View Metropolitan Park District, the Snoqualmie Valley YMCA and the Snoqualmie Valley School District will continue to help provide additional recreation and cultural programming to city residents. The City's intent is to create a broader, deeper "community education" program for residents of all ages and interests with these partners.

Urban forestry is also a major focus for the City. Trees provide many natural benefits to the community. They help to attract new residents and businesses to the city by maintaining the natural beauty that has attracted so many before, provide environmental benefits such as slowed water runoff to ward off floods increased air quality, and even provide fiscal benefits by increasing residential property values and increasing sales in commercial districts. The City continues to be recognized by the National Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA, and has been busy getting its stock of trees into a healthy state.

A remaining driving factor for the City during the planning window is in regard to maintenance. The high use of park facilities among residents, and the high median income, there have been historical expectations about the provision of developed park space and maintenance levels in the City. With increasing City budgetary restrictions, it is uncertain whether past maintenance levels are still appropriate or sustainable. In addition, the buildup of Snoqualmie Ridge and the age of the oldest facilities in Snoqualmie Ridge will put more focus on ongoing maintenance. Related to the buildup is the concentration of facilities in different neighborhoods in Snoqualmie Ridge that may be excessive based on the adopted Level of Service. Maintenance is addressed further in the Capital Facilities Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

C.3 GROWTH PROJECTIONS

In the 2010 U.S. Census, the City of Snoqualmie population was 10,670. By April 1, 2017, the Washington State Office of Financial Management population estimate for the city was 13,210; in 2022 the City estimates its population will be 14,224 based on projected near-term housing growth.

Including remaining residential development in the Snoqualmie Ridge II and other areas of the City, the city's population is expected to continue growing more slowly over the next 15 years, requiring a corresponding increase in park and recreation facilities and services. In the near-term, the population projection for the six-year park plan timeframe is estimated to be 14,682 persons.



Youth using the play equipment at Azalea, installed in 2011.

The Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan contains detailed population projections through the horizon year of 2032.

D. DETERMINATION OF NEED

Increasing population pressures have burdened Snoqualmie's existing park system, underscoring the need for continued investment in parks and recreational facilities. In addition to the residential population within the incorporated city limits, the City of Snoqualmie park system also serves the surrounding rural areas and a dramatically increasing number of regional recreationists and tourists.

Several methods were used to determine the city's park and recreation needs. The growth projections outlined in section C.2 discusses the future population growth expected in the city. The Inventory of Existing Facilities in Section D.2 describes the major parks in the Snoqualmie parks system, outlining the supply and quality of sites and facilities. Section F, Public Involvement, details the local demand for parks and recreational facilities as reported by residents of the planning area through surveys and public meetings. This section of the plan will provide a set of standards and guidelines that can be used to specifically define local open space, park and recreation needs.

D.1 PARK STANDARDS

Level of service (LOS) standards are considered a valuable tool for assessing park type, acreage and facility needs for the population as a whole. The following Park Standards and Recreation Facility Standards should be applied on a city-wide basis to guide capital improvement program decisions, as well as decisions regarding the contributions of individual development proposals. Evaluating the impacts of new development and their corresponding needed mitigation measures should be based on the goals, standards and policies of this Plan.

The Snoqualmie Parks Board recommended the following level of service (LOS) standards after an evaluation process that included a 2010 and 2011 public opinion survey and assessments of facility rental requests and use.² LOS standards help to ensure that new development appropriately preserves open space, provides for suitable parks and facilities, and mitigates for new population impacts on the existing parks system. Mitigation should be on-site whenever possible, unless the City determines that an alternative site is more appropriate.

The below tables, 9.3: Park Standards and 9.4: Recreation Facility Standards, address needed components and facilities of the parks system per population estimates. Minimum acreage requirements in the standards refer to unconstrained, usable land. In addition, recreational fields should not overlap, except at the City's discretion. The City also has the discretion to be flexible with standards when opportunities arise to optimize unique park land acquisition and facility development in development proposals.

Table 9.3: Snoqualmie Park Standards indicates the park acreages to be provided for every 1,000 persons in the city.

Table 9.3
SNOQUALMIE PARK STANDARDS

Type of Park	Service Area Radius	Desirable Size	Minimum Units/1000 Pop.
Mini Park	Less than 1/4 mile	1/3 to 1 acre	1/4 acre*
Neighborhood Park	1/4 to 1/2 mile	2 to 10 acres	2 acres*
Community Park	1/2 to 25 miles	10+ acres	8 acres*
Natural Park	1/2 mile	sufficient to protect resource	sufficient to protect resource
Water Access Area	1/2 to 5 miles	1 acre	1 acre
Parkways and Trails	1/2 mile	0.5 to 4+ miles	1.5 miles

♦ The total amount of park land needed per standard = 10.25* acres per 1,000 population.

* All above acreage shall be unconstrained usable land.

² The public evaluation process is fully described under Section F.

Table 9.4: Snoqualmie Recreation Facility Standards indicates the facilities to be provided for every 1,000 persons in the city.

Table 9.4
SNOQUALMIE RECREATION FACILITY STANDARDS

Type of Facility	Service Area Radius	Facility Dimensions	Minimum Units/1000 Pop.
Adult Baseball Field	1/4 to 1/2 mile	Baseline 90', Field 400'; 3 acres	1/5,000
Youth Baseball/ Adult Softball Field	1/4 to 1/2 mile	Baseline 60', Field 325'; 2 acres	1/2,000
Soccer Field	1 to 2 miles	225' x 360'; 1/2 to 2 acres	1/2,000
Youth Football	5 to 10 miles	160' x 360'	1/10,000
Basketball Court	1/4 to 1/2 mile	Undefined	1/2,000
Tennis Court	1/4 to 1/2 mile	36' x 78', 2 acres	1/2,000
Volleyball*	5 to 10 miles	30'x 60'; 4,000 sq ft	1/10,000
Skate Park	3 to 5 miles	Undefined	1/12,000
Track	1 to 2 miles	1/4-mile length	1/10,000
Swimming Pool	5 to 10 miles	25m x 16m or 25 yd x 45'; need 2 acres	1/12,500
Gymnasium*	3 to 5 miles	Undefined	1/5,000
Community Center*	5 to 10 miles	Undefined	1/10,000
Community Garden	Undefined	Undefined	3 plots/1,000

*Indoor facility

D.2 ANALYSIS OF NEED AND DEMAND

Comparing the LOS standards of D.1 to existing City sites and facilities identifies current surpluses and deficiencies in the park system. Table 9.5 Standards Worksheet – Park/Trail Land Needs, identifies current park acreage supplies, current needs and future needs within the city. Table 9.6 Standards Worksheet - Recreation Facilities, identifies current facilities supplies, current needs and future needs for recreation facilities. Future need is based on a population estimate of 14,682 for the year 2024, as discussed in Section C.2.

Table 9.5 indicates that the City does not currently have adequate park acreage to meet the overall parks level of service based on the existing population. Community park and water access acreages, at present and in the future, are predicted to fall short of projected parks standards needs for the city and surrounding area. Future surveys of new populations may help provide additional context by which to prioritize planning needs. In addition, because some population gains have occurred before the development of larger facilities, service pressures may be additionally heightened in the near term.

Additional growth is anticipated over the next 20 years, with completion of Snoqualmie Ridge II and potential additional development in the city's Urban Growth Area. Given the primarily positive feedback from the 2010 and 2011 Parks and Recreation Surveys, the City's existing level of service standards appear to be sufficient to satisfy the desires of the population, and should be maintained.

Table 9.6 shows the City has a current need for a number of active sports fields and courts. Soccer and youth baseball programs in the Upper Snoqualmie Valley have grown dramatically and additional public fields are needed. Future facilities associated with Phase II of Snoqualmie Ridge will meet some of the future need identified in Tables 9.5 and 9.6, but will not meet all parks needs associated with additional population growth.

Some historical development decisions have affected the provision of park acreages and facilities. In the Mixed Use Final Plan for Kimball Creek Village, the City accepted a 40-acre open space tract adjacent to the Snoqualmie River in place of community and neighborhood acreage requirements, and a fee-in-lieu in place of recreation facility construction. Likewise, subject to the Salish Expansion Development agreement and subsequent amendments, the City agreed to accept natural open space in place of park acreage requirements. The City also agreed to accept a fee-in-lieu in place of recreation facility construction for the Salish project. To accommodate the construction of these recreation facilities, the City will need to identify and provide park acreage.

Some activities or amenities deemed appropriate by the community may be better suited for other entities to pursue—for example, there is some interest in offering a campground, miniature golf, driving range and riding stables in Snoqualmie. Those activities may be better pursued by the private sector instead of the public sector so are therefore not detailed in this Parks Plan's policies or service standards.



A picture on the trails of Snoqualmie in 2011. Trails are a popular feature in the city among visitors and residents alike.

Table 9.5
STANDARDS WORKSHEET - PARK/TRAIL LAND NEEDS, 2018 AND 2024

Park Classification	City Standard Acres/1000	2018 Current Supply	2018	2018	2018-2024	2024	2024	Total Need**
			Current LOS Per 1,000	Current Need (in acres)	Expected Additions (in acres)	Future LOS (based on population estimate of 14,682)	Supply to meet LOS Standard**	
Mini Parks:	0.25 Ac	9.96	0.75 Ac	0	0	0.68	3.67 Ac.	0
Neighborhood Park:	2.0	24.71	1.87 Ac/1000	0	1.5	1.79	29.36 Ac.	3.15 Ac.
Azalea Park		2.01						
Carmichael Park		7.13						
Ironwood Park		1.92						
“Mobile” Park*					1.5			
Railroad Park**		2.13						
Riverview Park		2.59						
Stellar Park		2.13						
Swenson Park		4.89						
Whitaker Park		1.91						
Community Park:	8 Ac.	73.97	5.60 Ac./1000	31.71	0	5.04	117.44 Ac.	43.47 Ac.
Centennial Fields		19.02						
<i>Usable acreage</i>		15.00						
Fisher Creek Park		23.90						
<i>Usable acreage</i>		16.00						
Jeanne Hansen		18.70						
Snoqualmie Community Pk		16.12						
Snoqualmie Point Park**		8.15						
Conservancy/ Natural Area:***	*Sufficient to protect resource.	684.00	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Bog Natural Area		13.45						
Gateway Park		2.00						
Meadowbrook Farm		247.43						
Snoq. Pres. Initiative Lands		144.00						
Three Forks Natural Area		216.43						
Unnamed SRII Natural Area		10.00						
SR I Quadrant Q2 parcel		50.69						

Park Classification	City Standard Acres/1000	2018	2018	2018	2018-2024	2024	2024	Total Need**
		Current Supply	Current LOS Per 1,000	Current Need (in acres)	Expected Additions (in acres)	Future LOS (based on population estimate of 14,682)	Supply to meet LOS Standard**	
Water Access Area:	1 Ac.	0	0 Ac. /1000	13.21	0	0	14.11	14.11
<i>1 Viewpoint Access/10,000</i>		<i>Snoqualmie Falls & Sandy Cove Pk</i>				Visual sufficient with 3-Forks & Sno Falls		
<i>1 Physical Access/10,000</i>		<i>None</i>				Physical insufficient; no current safe access		
Parkways and Trails:	1.5 mi./1000	30.06 miles	2.28 mi./1000	0	2.7	2.31	22.02 Mi.	0
Centennial Trail		0.50						
Centennial Fields Trail		0.50						
Deer Park (Ridge, soft surface)		3.2						
Kimball Crk Soft Surface Trail		1.2						
Meadowbrook/Park St Trail		0.90			1.2			
Snoq. Valley Trail (in city)		0.70						
Snoq. Parkway Trail -HS		4.97						
Snoq. Parkway Trail -SS		0.29						
Snoq Ridge Hard Surface Trail		3.70						
Snoq. Ridge Soft Surface Trail		11.48						
Historic Snoq. Trails-other		1.22						
Wetland D10 Trail		1.4						
Riverwalk Ph I					1.0			
Riverwalk Ph II					0.5			
Overall Park Land	10.25 Ac.	108.64	8.22	26.76	1.5	7.50	150.47 Ac.	40.33 Ac.

* Properties that are expected to be conveyed to the City, but their paperwork has not been completed. These properties do not yet have park development plans.

** Park is not intended for traditional active recreational facilities.

*** "Total Need" is less existing facilities.

****Conservancy/Natural Area acreage are only for those portions within the City.

History: In the 1994 update of the Parks Plan, the City had a deficit of Community Park Acreage of 8.9 acres, and was predicting that by 2000 they would need an additional 39.8 acres of Community Park. At that time, the only Community Park was Railroad Park, estimated at that time to be 3.5 acres, though our calculations put it 1.8 acres; as such, the realistic deficit at the outset of the Snoqualmie Ridge developments was 10.6 acres.

Table 9.6
STANDARDS WORKSHEET - RECREATION FACILITIES NEEDS, 2018 AND 2024

Table 9.6 does not include Snoqualmie Valley School District 410 facilities, as those facilities are not regularly available to the public.

Golf courses are not presented in Table 9.6 as they are not associated with an LOS standard. However, there are two 18-hole golf courses in the city at present.

Historically, some facilities were traded for other recreational facilities per Parks Board recommendation:
Snoqualmie Ridge I: 1 adult baseball field traded for 1 youth baseball field; 2 volleyball courts traded for 1 basketball court.
Snoqualmie Ridge II: 1 adult baseball field traded for 1 youth football field.

Type of Facility	Facility Standard	2018 Supply*	2018 Current LOS	2018 Current Need	2024 Supply needed to meet LOS Standard ³	2024 Total Need ⁴
Adult Baseball Field ⁴	1/5,000	3 ⁵	1/4,403	0	2.9	0
Youth Baseball/ Adult Softball ^{5,7}	1/2,000	3 ³	1/3,557	2.7	7.1	4.1
Soccer Field ⁶	1/2,000	4 ⁷	1/3,303	2.6	7.3	3.3
Youth Football ⁸	1/10,000	2	1/6,605	0	1.5	0
Basketball Court	1/2,000	5.5	1/2,402	1.1	7.3	1.8
Tennis Court	1/2,000	6	1/2,202	0.6	7.3	1.3
Volleyball Court ¹²	1/10,000	1	1/13,210	0.3	1.5	0.5
Skate Park	1/12,000	1	1/13,210	0.1	1.2	0.2
Track	1/10,000	2	1/6,605	0	1.5	0
Swimming Pool	1/12,500	0 ⁹	0	1.1	1.2	1.2
Gymnasium ¹²	1/5,000	1	1/13,210	1.6	2.9	1.9
Community Center ¹⁰	1/10,000	1	1/13,210	0.3	1.5	0.5

³ 2024 “Supply to meet LOS Standard” and “Total Need” are based on total supply of facilities required to meet LOS standard based on anticipated population of 14,682; “Total Need” is less existing facilities.

⁴ Three Adult Baseball Fields are located at Centennial Fields.

⁵ One Youth Baseball or Adult Softball Field is located at Azalea Park, Steller Park, and Swenson Park.

⁶ Soccer Field and Youth Baseball needs may be reduced by 1 if a multipurpose field at Carmichael Park is installed.

⁷ Two Soccer Fields are located at Snoqualmie Community Park and two are located at Jeanne Hansen.

⁸ One Football Field is located at Centennial Fields; one will be located at Jeanne Hansen in the future.

⁹ Although a public swimming pool is located in North Bend, this is not counted as sufficient for community needs.

¹⁰ The Snoqualmie Community Center constructed contains one volleyball court/gymnasium.

Community Garden	3 plots/1,000	36 ¹¹	3/1,101	3.6	44.1	8.1
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Table 9.7
MISSING TRAIL LINKAGES – INVENTORY*

#	Name	Starting Point <i>of missing link</i>	End Point <i>of missing link</i>	Connection Type	Route Notes
1	Snoqualmie Point Park link	Snoqualmie Pt Park	Downtown	Regional?	<i>It was previously assumed this route would run along Meadowbrook Way, though the slope off the shoulder is sometimes steep; may require an innovative design approach.</i>
2	Snoqualmie Middle School – Eastern city limit link	Snoqualmie Middle School/Mt. Si High School Freshman Campus	Eastern City boundary, on to North Bend	Inter-City	<i>Would go through Meadowbrook Farm, parallel to 202.</i>
3	Unnamed Preston-Echo Lake-Snoqualmie Point Park-SVT link	End of Issaquah-Preston Trail	Snoqualmie Valley Trail in North Bend	Regional	<i>Would run along the north side of I-90 from Preston to the Echo Lake Interchange (I-90/SR-18), cross to the southeast side of the interchange and then to Snoqualmie Point Park, down the hill on the south side of I-90, then to the SVT in North Bend via Bendigo Blvd.</i>
4	Centennial-Falls link	Snoqualmie Falls	Centennial Trail	In-City	<i>Would assist people walking from Salish to the Parkway; would run along the west side of 202.</i>
5	Centennial-Snoqualmie Valley Trail link	Snoqualmie Valley Trail (SVT)	Centennial Trail	Regional	<i>Would run along the east side of 202; would need to cross the river.</i>
6	Centennial-Kimball Creek link	Kimball Creek Village	Centennial Trail	In-City	<i>The remaining link from the soft surface here would meet Centennial Trail at SR202. This route is in the planning stage; details still be decided with how it connects to Gateway Park.</i>
7	Centennial – Snoqualmie Middle School link	End of Centennial Trail	Snoqualmie Middle School/Mt. Si High School Freshman Campus	In-City	<i>Would go through town to SMS/Freshman Campus. May be difficult as the railroad may resist some routes; in the transportation plan.</i>

¹¹ This standard does not include the Snoqualmie Ridge ROA-provided lots as they are not accessible to all Snoqualmie citizens.

8	Riverwalk	Tokul Roundabout	Meadowbrook Farm	In-City	<i>Would proceed south from Sandy Cove, eventually loop across the river, and come up east of the River along the Mill site. Planned construction in phases.</i>
9	Snoqualmie Valley Trail Extension	Meadowbrook Bridge	Snoqualmie Valley Trail	Regional	<i>A multi-use, regional trail that allows cross-state trail connections to Idaho. Link would need to connect to the current official endpoint for the SVT, bridging the gap across the river.</i>
10	Preston-Snoqualmie link	Preston- Snoqualmie Trail	Downtown/ Centennial trail	Regional	<i>Would be a multi-use regional trail, and require cooperation with King County, Puget Sound Energy, and the Railroad.</i>
11	South Side Parkway Trail link	Sno. Parkway, near Orchard Ave SE	Sno. Parkway, Allman Ave SE	In-City	<i>To connect a break in the current soft-surface trail along the south side of the Parkway.</i>

*Although LOS standards for trails are currently met, several missing trail sections inhibit full connectivity for those using the trails for bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian transportation and recreational uses. This inventory helps to track missing links so as to incorporate them in future trails planning.

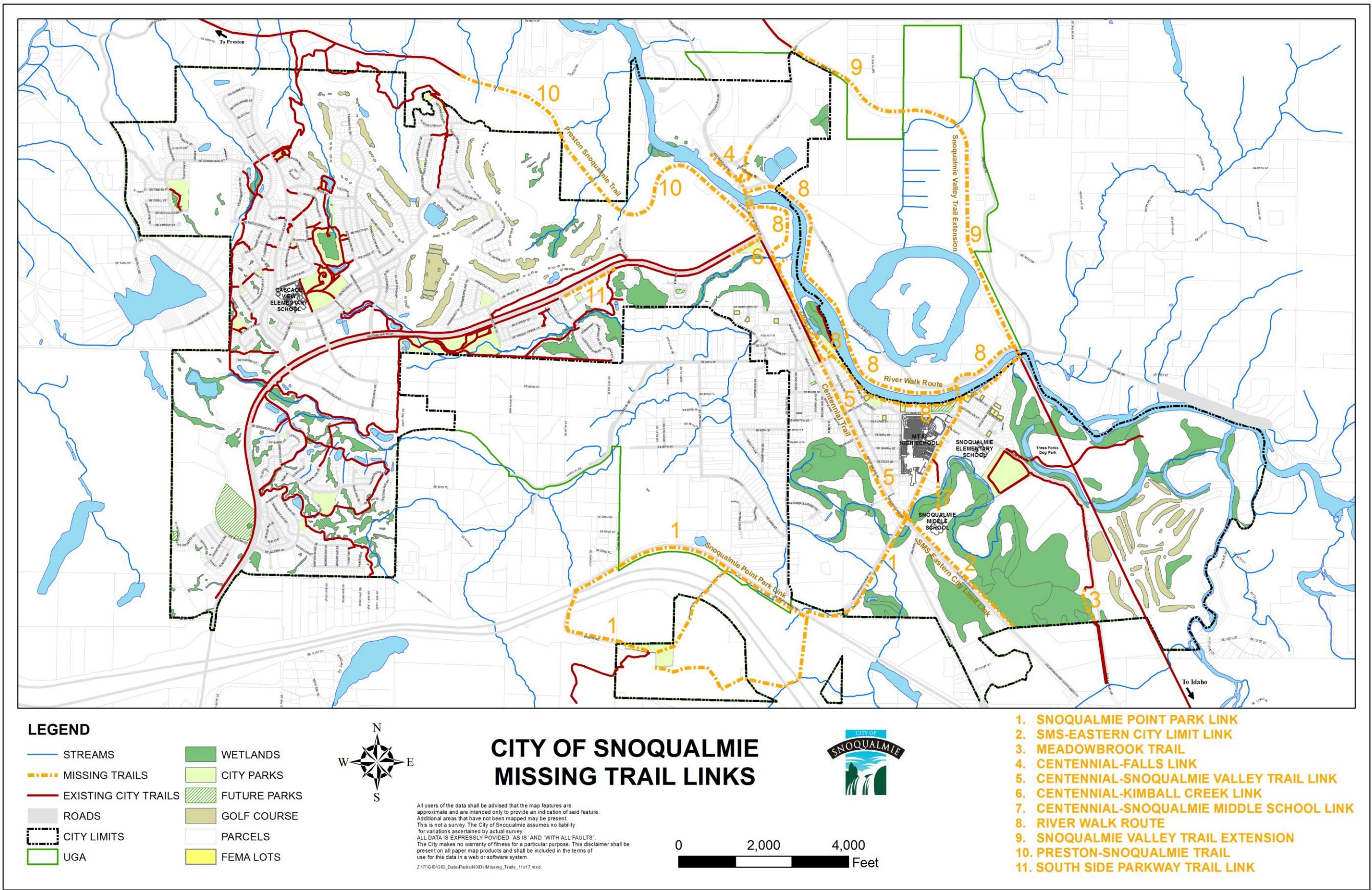


Figure 9.2 Missing Trail Links.

Summary

The population of the city has changed dramatically over the past twenty years, with Snoqualmie now comprised primarily of young families with children. As a result, the City will need to take a proactive approach to meet the recreation demands of the current population, as well as the needs of youth and families in future decades.

Existing park sites should be maintained and improved to meet community needs. To ensure appropriate maintenance and geographic distribution of park and recreation facilities, the City should carefully consider the types and locations of existing facilities. In addition, continued demographic changes create a need for a development program for enhanced park, open space and recreation facilities. These enhancements include both active facilities with sports fields, play courts, bicycle and exercise trails, and passive facilities for activities such as walking, picnicking, and enjoying nature. Non-motorized walking, hiking, bicycle and equestrian trails have been consistently demanded, and are widely used by both residents and visitors. Missing links in the trails network should be developed to connect neighborhoods, parks, schools, open space, regional trails and shopping areas.

E. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The Snoqualmie Parks and Events Commission has assessed the needs of the community and identified park and recreation capital improvements projects through the year 2024.

"I never worry about action, but only inaction."

— Winston Churchill

The Capital Improvement Program, as currently adopted, is hereby adopted by reference.

E.1 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM SUMMARY

Based on the demand and need analysis, the following projects briefly summarizes opportunities for the Snoqualmie citizens of Snoqualmie. The following are not listed in order of priority; the full project listing is shown in the Capital Improvement Program. Dedicated funding sources such as bonds or grants may enable certain projects below to be accomplished earlier than scheduled.

- Renovate or develop new recreational fields in Centennial Fields, Snoqualmie Community Park and Jeanne Hansen Park.
- Replace or repair deficient or deteriorating playground equipment as identified per the CIP.
- Construct skateboard facilities in Snoqualmie Community Park.
- Develop a pedestrian/equestrian bridge across the Snoqualmie River and further trail construction to connect the Snoqualmie Parkway Trail and Centennial Trail with the Snoqualmie Valley Trail.
- Acquire vacant properties along the Snoqualmie River for a river walk, to provide shoreline protection, park space and visual shoreline access.
- Begin construction of Riverwalk in phases.

Some opportunities may arise that are not listed in the 6-year Capital Improvements program, but which the City may pursue should it help meet other identified needs for the longer planning timeframe. These include:

- Acquire unique available sites to develop community and neighborhood parks and trailheads and/or connections.
- Work towards developing facilities identified as a current or future need in Tables 9.5 Park/Trail Land Needs and 9.6 Recreation Facility Needs to meet the City's level of service standards.
- Provide safe water access to the Mill Pond upon annexation and development of the former mill site.

E.2 CRITERIA FOR ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT

It is important to recognize that meeting the long-term open space, park and recreation goals of the community may require that the City respond to immediate opportunities such as short-term grant funding programs, land trades and limited development proposals which present viable acquisition or development projects, even though they may not be identified in the current Action Program project list. It is suggested that such acquisition and development opportunities be considered relative to criteria for Park System as follows:

Acquisition Criteria.

- Natural areas or features with outstanding scenic, ecologic, historic or recreational value;
- Lands that provide access to rivers, streams and lakes;
- Lands that define the boundaries of and separate urban communities or distinct neighborhoods, including land for parks, trails and scenic corridors;
- Lands that visually or physically connect natural areas, or provide important recreation and wildlife linkages;
- Lands valuable for active and passive outdoor recreation facilities, such as ballfields, trails, river access, swimming or picnic areas; and
- Acquisition or development support facilities, such as access easements, scenic easements and parking areas.

Development Criteria.

- Active facilities identified as part of current or long-term recreation facility and program needs, such as: playgrounds; baseball, softball or soccer fields; bike, pedestrian or equestrian trails; skateboard facilities, indoor recreation and sport courts; and swimming pools;
- Passive facilities identified as part of current or long-term community activity needs including picnic areas, nature trails and interpretive facilities; and
- Beautification and urban design improvements such as street tree plantings, landscaping, gardens and town plazas.

E.3 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The City of Snoqualmie is fortunate that a number of sources and opportunities exist to obtain funding to assist with completion of its Capital Improvement Program. Financial assistance from the following sources shall be explored and utilized to the greatest extent feasible.

1. Grants from the Recreation and Conservation Office, Community Development Block Grants, King County Conservation District grants and Conservation Futures Tax grants;
2. Corporate and private donations;
3. Volunteer time and labor;
4. Impact mitigation; and
5. King County trail levy dedicated funds.

F. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Public involvement is vital to the park and recreation planning process. Decision makers must have a clear and accurate understanding of community needs and attitudes to make informed decisions and appropriately allocate resources. This means a basic understanding of current levels of citizen participation, the frequency and types of facilities use, and the demographic characteristics of the user groups. Otherwise, the decision-making process can become arbitrary, and resources may be allocated inconsistent to public need.

Various forms of public involvement were used in preparation of this Plan. Surveys, public meetings and field contacts were used to gather information regarding the needs and desires of community members. In addition, the City continues to cooperate with other jurisdictions and agencies in planning for both short and long-term open space, park and recreation acquisition, development and programming (See Appendix I). The following discussion describes the different public involvement processes used for development of the plan, as well as other ongoing planning activities.

F.1 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT FOR 2018 UPDATE

The public involvement process for the 2018 update included review by the Parks and Events Commission, including a public hearing; and the City Council review process. The 2018 update is largely focused on minor updates to policies and the narrative of the Plan. The Plan may be more comprehensively updated for the next update cycle, with substantial public outreach and involvement.

F.2 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT FOR 2012 UPDATE

A Parks and Recreation Department online survey from July to October of 2010 provided helpful information on the current parks experience of Snoqualmie citizens; there were 85 responses from Snoqualmie Ridge and roughly 10 surveys from the downtown area. Survey results indicated that respondents were generally satisfied with the current park systems, with over half of the respondents consistently finding there that the number of parks and amenities was “just right.” The highest-ranking items of which citizens felt there were too little were skate parks (56%), picnic shelters (54%), picnic tables (52%), barbecues (44%) and community gardens (41%). It should be noted that since the survey was conducted, several improvements were made, including increasing the number of plots at the Delurum (South 380th Street) community garden from 12 to 24 plots, increasing the total community garden plots to 36 in the city, not counting plots owned and managed by the Snoqualmie Ridge Residential Owners Association.

In 2011 the survey was repeated and garnered 95 responses; the highest ranking items of which citizens felt there were too little were skate parks (52%), natural open spaces (43%), bike paths (42%) as well as picnic shelters and tables (both at 42%). The demand percentages of some items in 2010 had changed, with percentages of those responding “too little” decreasing for barbecues (now at 33%) and community gardens (now at 31%).

Following the community surveys, the City Parks Board – consisting of appointed volunteer citizens – provided extensive input in the 2012 Parks Plan update, reviewing and amending policies from spring to late autumn of 2011, and also reviewed a re-prioritized Parks Capital Improvements Program. Parks Board recommendations came from citizen input, the above survey on park priorities, staff research and Parks Board member experience with City park resources as well as contacts with local youth sports and recreation groups. Following Parks Board review of the final plan, it was recommended for review and potential adoption by City Council. From there it went to Planning Commission, where a public hearing was held to hear public testimony on the updated Parks Plan. Comments submitted at the Public Hearing on the Parks Element were considered by the Planning Commission and revisions provided for Council.

Other bodies also influence Parks Board decisions through interactive and cooperative efforts. For more information on these groups, please see Section H.1, Cooperative Planning Efforts.

F.3 HISTORICAL PUBLIC PARK PLANNING INVOLVEMENT

In the summer of 2002, the Parks and Recreation Department circulated a written survey to all City residents to gauge resident opinion on the parks system. Out of 3,008 sent surveys, 168 were returned, representing a 5.5% response rate. Survey results indicated that respondents were generally satisfied with the current park standards (58%), though 29% of respondents also requested increasing the overall number of parks. The most requested park, recreation, trail, and open space improvement projects included more trails (24%), a community center (21%), a community center with a pool (8%), and an off-leash dog park (7%). The Open Space, Parks and Recreation Element was updated in 2003 as part of the overall update of the Comprehensive Plan. At the time it was amended to reflect new population figures and forecasts, park facilities, and revised park planning priorities. Since 2003 both a community center and an off-leash dog park have been financed and constructed by the City.

The City of Snoqualmie maintains 157 acres of parks and about 620 acres of open space, natural and conservancy areas. There are over 35 parks and more than 25 miles of trails within the City.

G. DESCRIPTION & INVENTORY OF EXISTING FACILITIES

The supply of parks and recreation facilities available to Snoqualmie residents includes a number of public and private recreation lands and facilities, including those operated by other jurisdictions. These facilities are detailed below. Existing open space, park and recreation sites in the city and urban growth area are depicted in Figure 9.1 Open Space, Park and Recreation Areas. Only City-owned park and open space acreage, trails, and facilities are included in the level of service analysis of current and future city population needs.

G.1 PARK CLASSIFICATIONS

Mini-Park

Mini-parks are generally less than 1 acre in size and are designed to serve a concentrated or limited population. Typical improvements at mini-parks include play areas and active play equipment, picnic tables and landscaping. On-site parking is not required for mini-parks. Desirable locations for mini-parks are within neighborhoods and in close proximity to apartment complexes and elderly housing. Mini-parks are also appropriate within business districts to meet the passive and active recreation needs of employees and/or customers.

Neighborhood Park

Neighborhood parks serve a wider population than mini-parks, and are usually sized between 2 to 10 acres with a portion of the park developed for active recreation. Typical facilities include athletic fields, sport courts, playground equipment and covered picnic areas. Neighborhood parks should also include on-site parking and restrooms, as well as landscape plantings, benches, security lighting and other accoutrements. Potential neighborhood park sites should be suited for intense development, geographically centered and easily accessible to the surrounding population.

Community Park

Community parks are designed to accommodate a wider variety of recreational uses than the neighborhood parks. They are generally larger than 10 acres and may have unique amenities such as a waterfront location, natural/conservation areas or special facilities. Smaller parks with special amenities that attract users from throughout the city may also be included in this category. This type of park should include athletic fields or complexes for intense recreation as well as areas for passive recreational uses, such as a walking, viewing, sitting and picnicking. Other features should include parking, play structures, a covered picnic area, restrooms and other amenities found in mini and neighborhood parks, as well as a storage building for facility maintenance equipment.



Centennial Fields is an example of a Community Park, boasting three softball/baseball fields, one soccer/football field, restroom/concession stand, play equipment, picnic tables and shelter, two barbecue pits and a walking path around the fields.

Natural Park/Conservancy Area

Natural parks or conservancy areas offer protection and management of the natural and cultural environment, with recreation as a secondary objective. These sites generally feature passive, low-impact recreation facilities while providing for the preservation of plant and wildlife habitats or cultural/historic landscapes. Facilities may include educational, interpretive and/or historical information features, trails, educational centers and picnic areas. The size of a natural park or conservancy area varies depending on the resource being protected. Regulated sensitive areas

and buffers may qualify as natural park/conservancy area acreage when both the public benefit and the City's passive recreation objectives are met.

Water Access Area

Water access areas provide public access to shorelines, and typically include facilities for passive enjoyment, including viewpoints, trails, and picnic areas. Where appropriate, water access areas should take advantage of non-motorized (canoe/kayak) boat put-in and take-out locations.

Parkways/Trails

Parkways and trails provide for circulation between residential areas, commercial areas and major open space and designed parks. They also provide for general recreation opportunities. Generally, parkways should follow shorelines, wooded areas, historic trails and scenic routes. When a trail is located in an area of scarce natural amenities, the use of designed landscaping is recommended.

G.2 MUNICIPAL SITES

Natural / Conservancy Areas

- Gateway Park (aka Rotary Park)
Located at the corner of Snoqualmie Parkway and State Route 202, this approximately 1.5-acre park will be developed into a passive recreation site with a trailhead site and playfield. The site used to be an old pole yard storage facility, and is currently used for temporary seasonal activities. This site will be rehabilitated to a new use with a mixture of donated funds and volunteer efforts from the Rotary, the City and others.
- Meadowbrook Farm (Open Space/Urban Separator)
Meadowbrook Farm is a 462-acre property located within the corporate limits of North Bend and Snoqualmie, of which approximately 247 acres are located in the City of Snoqualmie. An interlocal agreement between King County and both cities restricts development of the site to passive, open space uses.
- Sandy Cove Park
This 4.4-acre park is located along the Snoqualmie River at the end of King Street, adjacent to downtown Snoqualmie. A 900-foot nature trail located on King County property begins in the park and leads to a sandy beach at the river's edge.
- Snoqualmie Preservation Initiative Lands
A large tract of land to the north of the Snoqualmie Parkway, adjacent to Snoqualmie Falls, acquired through the Snoqualmie Preservation Initiative,¹² One hundred forty-four acres of this mature forest land is within City Limits, and is set aside in perpetuity for undeveloped open space.
- Snoqualmie Ridge I Quadrant Parcel Q2
This tract of land was recently donated to the City by Quadrant for increased public benefit through the existing Urban Forestry program administered by the City Arborist. The parcel is approximately 51 acres of forest land.

Community Parks

- Centennial Fields
Snoqualmie's largest athletic field facility, Centennial Fields contains 19 acres (15 usable acres) and provides 3 youth/adult baseball fields and a football/soccer field, as well as a paved perimeter jogging trail, a restroom and concession building, play structure, picnic shelter and barbecue pits.
- Fisher Creek Park

¹² For more information, see the Snoqualmie Comprehensive Plan, Element 3

Fisher Creek Park is a roughly 24-acre park (16 usable acres) located adjacent to the Snoqualmie Parkway. The park contains a climbing wall, restroom, basketball court, picnic tables, and paved and unpaved trails, as well as beginner and intermediate bike park facilities.

- **Snoqualmie Community Park**

Snoqualmie Community Park is a roughly 16-acre park located at the center of Snoqualmie Ridge. The park contains 2 soccer fields, 3 tennis courts, a basketball court, restrooms, a play structure, and paved and gravel trails. The Snoqualmie Community Park also houses the Snoqualmie Community Center. The facility is a little less than 13,000 square feet with a cardiovascular room, multi-purpose rooms, teen center, gym, family changing rooms, restrooms, office area and lobby with fireplace.

- **Snoqualmie Point Park**

Snoqualmie Point Park is the site of the old winery that burned down in 1999. The roughly 8-acre park includes a performing-arts stage, view shelter, restrooms and kiosk and has been used for a number of outdoor events, including concerts. The park is well known for its panoramic view of the Snoqualmie Valley and surrounding mountains. In addition, one of two trailheads for the Rattlesnake Mountain trail along Rattlesnake Ridge is located adjacent to Snoqualmie Point Park facilities; it includes a parking area and restrooms.

- **Jeanne Hansen Park**

Located in the Eagle Pointe neighborhood, Jeanne Hansen Park is the newest Community Park in Snoqualmie, encompassing over 18 acres and including two synthetic sports fields, a tennis court, playground, picnic shelters, restrooms, and barbecue pits. The park has hosted several sports events utilizing the fields.

Neighborhood Parks

The below listing does not include the mobile home park. The site has not been conveyed to the city and no form of parks plan exists for this site.

- **Azalea Park**

Azalea Park, a neighborhood park located at the corner of Douglas Avenue SE and Azalea Way SE, is 2 acres in size and provides a Little League-sized ball field, play structure, picnic tables, a picnic shelter and restrooms.

- **Carmichael Park**

Carmichael Park is a roughly 7-acre park with basketball courts, tennis courts and a playground for 5 to 12 years-olds. The park also has restrooms, benches, one picnic table and a large playfield.

- **Ironwood Park**

Ironwood is a roughly 2-acre park with two full-sized and two infant swings, plus picnic benches and an open-air picnic shelter the play area.

- **Railroad Park**

Railroad Park is a passive 2.13-acre parkway and plaza located along SR 202, across the street from the historic train depot. The small plaza includes the Steward Swenson Rose Garden, Bud King memorial gazebo and a kiosk used by artists and craft-persons during events like Snoqualmie Railroad Days. The covered historic log on display in the park also features informational displays and seating. All the railroad parks and open space are partly owned by both the City and the Northwest Railway Museum.

- **Riverview Park**

Riverview Park is a roughly 2.6-acre site located at the end of Newton Street, along the Snoqualmie River. Facilities in the park include picnic tables, playground equipment, public restrooms, basketball court and a picnic shelter.

- **Steller Park**

Steller Park is a 2.1-acre neighborhood park located on SE Steller Way in Snoqualmie Ridge. The park contains a youth softball field, ½ court basketball court, a children's play structure, restroom and picnic tables.

- Swenson Park
Swenson is almost 5 acres in size, and hosts basketball courts with benches and a baseball fields with bleachers.
- Whitaker Park
Whitaker Park provides roughly 2 acres of informal open space overlooking the Snoqualmie Valley below Snoqualmie Falls. The park includes the Deep Creek Trail, which connects down the hill to the Snoqualmie-Preston trail.

Mini Parks

- Snoqualmie Ridge Mini Parks
Each development parcel on Snoqualmie Ridge, with a few exceptions, contains a public mini-park, with an average size of $\frac{1}{4}$ acre. Each mini park includes children's play equipment, a picnic table and landscaping. There are a total of 19 mini parks in the City.

Other Municipal Facilities

- F.E.M.A. Acquisitions (Potential Mini or Neighborhood Park Sites)
Multiple houses located within the Snoqualmie River floodway have been purchased and removed through the Federal Emergency Management Agency Buyout Program. F.E.M.A. regulations allow for these lots to be maintained as parks and open space areas. All structures on these lots are prohibited. The combined lots total approximately 3.5 acres. Two of these lots, one on Silva Avenue, and one on 380th Street, contain municipal community garden plots available for public use.
- Dog Park at Three Forks Natural Area
This approximately 15-acre area is for off-leash dogs, and is a component of the Three Forks Natural Area.
- Kimball Creek Nature Trail
This ~600 ft. pedestrian trail follows Kimball Creek from SR 202 to its confluence with the Snoqualmie River. The trail is provided through an access easement across private property.
- Meadowbrook Farm – Park Street Trail
This trail connects Centennial Fields across the farm property in Snoqualmie to the farm property in North Bend, ending at the interpretive center.
- Railroad Avenue Parkway (Open Space and Greenbelt)
This parkway is located between the railroad tracks and Railroad Avenue. It begins at River Street and follows the highway in an easterly direction for approximately 2,420 feet. The parkway is 35 feet wide and totals nearly two acres.
- Riverwalk Project
The City has extended significant effort towards eventually developing a River Walk initially along Snoqualmie River's west bank to enhance its potential aesthetics, economic development, and opportunities for passive recreation and habitat restoration. The River Walk is envisioned to stretch from SR 202 and Snoqualmie Parkway south to Sandy Cove, then to Riverview Park, and eventually loop across the river along the Snoqualmie Valley (Regional) Trail corridor, and then come up east of the River along the Mill Site. Since 2012, the City has acquired eight properties for this project. The City has access to up to \$3 million FCD funding towards acquisition of up to 20 riverfront parcels, with additional FEMA funds for 3 of those homes.



Jacobia (at 0.5 acres) is one of the City's many mini-parks.

- Snoqualmie Ridge Soft Surface Trail

This soft-surface pedestrian /equestrian multi-use trail network connects through Snoqualmie Ridge and the Snoqualmie Ridge Business Park, with spurs connecting to the Preston-Snoqualmie Trail. The trail network totals 16 miles.

- Snoqualmie Parkway Trail

This black-topped, 4-mile trail parallels the north and west side of the Snoqualmie Parkway from the beginning of the Parkway down to SR-202. The trail provides the primary pedestrian connection between Snoqualmie Ridge and Historic Snoqualmie.

- Snoqualmie Centennial Trail

This black-topped, half mile trail parallels State route 202 and connects downtown Snoqualmie to the Snoqualmie Parkway, but falls short of connecting across the Snoqualmie River. The future vision for this route is to connect to Puget Sound Energy's Snoqualmie Falls Park.

G.3 SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES

School District facilities are available for public use only on a limited basis, and the City does not have the ability to program the use of these facilities. They therefore do not count toward the level of service standards for the current and future City population.

- Mount Si High School's currently usable recreational facilities include 1 softball field, 1 track and field facility, 6 tennis courts, and a school football/soccer field with stadium. The site is approximately 18 acres. Youth soccer programs use the high school field for their games. The school is currently being replaced with a new school on-site. Future added recreational facilities will include a baseball field and softball field.
- Mount Si High School Freshman Campus (formerly Snoqualmie Middle School) has 1 baseball field, 1 soccer field that can also be used for football, and approximately 10 acres of open field surrounded by wetlands.
- Snoqualmie Elementary School has 1 youth baseball backstop, field space that accommodates 3 youth soccer fields, playground equipment and a covered area for court games. The whole site is 16 acres.
- Cascade View Elementary School has 1 soccer and 1 baseball field on school property, adjacent to Snoqualmie Community Park.
- Snoqualmie Valley School District Administration Office. This 6-acre site includes 2 youth soccer fields and a children's play area.
- Timber Ridge Elementary School has 1 youth baseball backstop and one soccer field.

G.4 OTHER PUBLIC FACILITIES

- Cedar River Watershed

The watershed is located south and east of North Bend and abuts the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. The City of Seattle owns the upper 90,638 acres of the Watershed, serving as a major part of Seattle's municipal water supply; this area is closed to public access. The main recreational area is at Rattlesnake Lake, open to the public for swimming, fishing, hiking, and activities at the Cedar River Watershed Education Center. The King County Cedar River Trail/Snoqualmie Valley extension commences near the lake, as does the John Wayne Trail.

- Si View Community Center and Pool

This facility in North Bend is owned and operated by the Si View Metropolitan Park District, and offers a community center with a gymnasium, multiuse fields, year-round indoor pool, and classrooms, with over 300

programs a year; the Si View Park District also operates Toll Gate Park. The pool is open to general public, and offers general swimming sessions, swimming instruction and lifeguard training.

G.5 KING COUNTY REGIONAL FACILITIES

- Preston Athletic Fields & Park (Regional Recreation Facilities and Trail)
This 12.86-acre King County Facility provides lit, multi-use synthetic turf soccer fields, a play area, and access to the Preston-Snoqualmie Trail. The future Phase 2 development of this park will provide baseball fields, open play fields, a picnic shelter and restrooms.
- Three Forks Natural Area (Regional Open Space)
Three Forks Natural Area is a King County regional park site located at the confluence of the three forks of the Snoqualmie River. The 435-acre park will remain predominantly natural, and is meant to preserve unique habitat areas, provide river-related recreation opportunities, preserve the flood storage capacity of the land, and provide connections to regional trails in the Snoqualmie Valley. About 215 acres of the Three Forks Natural Area is located within the City of Snoqualmie's corporate boundaries.

King County Regional Trails:

Recreational trails in King County's Snoqualmie Valley planning area draw users from the greater Puget Sound region. The trails provide access to wilderness areas and parks, and link rural residential areas to Rural Activity Centers. The regional trails generally follow major travel or scenic corridors, and are planned to connect to major parks, communities or other trails. The King County Parks and Recreation Department plans to complete the Preston-Snoqualmie and Snoqualmie Valley trails. The overall plan is for a statewide system of regional trails that interconnect with a network of local trails.



Three Forks Slough, 2010.

- Snoqualmie Valley Trail (Regional Trail)
Located on the old Chicago-Milwaukee Railroad right-of-way, this 36-mile corridor runs north/south from the King/Snohomish county line to the City of Snoqualmie. A 36-mile section extends north from the City of Snoqualmie to the King/Snohomish County line. Planned as an unpaved pedestrian, equestrian and mountain bicycle trail, it will eventually be continued north to Bellingham. Another 18-mile section extends southeast from the city through North Bend and on to Rattlesnake Lake, where it connects to the cross-state John Wayne trail. The two portions of the trail are currently separated by the old Weyerhaeuser Mill property. Trail users utilize Mill Pond Road and Tokul Road to connect between the trail segments.
- Preston-Snoqualmie Trail (Lake Alice Trail) (Regional Trail)
This 8.5-mile trail corridor runs east and west from Preston to Lake Alice, with proposed connections to the Snoqualmie Valley trail system. The trail connects to the Issaquah-Preston Trail on its western end, and from there to the East Lake Sammamish Trail. The existing portion of the trail runs along old Burlington Northern railroad right-of-way, ending west of Snoqualmie Falls. An additional 2-mile section of the trail is planned to complete the link from Lake Alice to Snoqualmie.

G.6 NEARBY STATE FACILITIES

- Mount Si Natural Resources Conservation Area (Regional Open Space and Trail)

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources has protected over 13,000 acres within the Mount Si Conservation Area, which includes the Mount Si hiking trail and access to the Rattlesnake Mountain and Rattlesnake Ledge trails. The Mount Si Conservation Area is located in unincorporated King County, near North Bend; it is not within the current city limits or Snoqualmie's UGA.

G.7 PRIVATE FACILITIES WITHIN THE URBAN GROWTH AREA

- **Snoqualmie Falls Park (Regional Park)**

This park is associated with the Snoqualmie Falls Hydroelectric Power Plant, operated and managed by Puget Sound Energy. The 2-acre park is located on the north bank of the river just downstream of the Falls. Recreational facilities include an observation deck, restrooms, picnic facilities and a trail to the base of the Falls. In 2009 a 3.5-year reconstruction project was initiated to update the energy infrastructure and visitor facilities at the Falls. Construction was complete by 2013 and facilities include: improved hiking trails between the upper and lower park areas; new interpretive signage; improved lighting, fencing and viewpoints; new lower-park interpretive center, restrooms and parking; improved river access for whitewater craft enthusiasts; and rehabilitation of the Train Depot and Carpenter Shop for public display.

- **Depot Park**

Depot Park, owned by the Northwest Railway Museum, is the setting for the historic Snoqualmie railroad depot. Located in the heart of downtown Snoqualmie, the depot serves as the western terminal for the Puget Sound and Snoqualmie Valley Historical Railway steam train run between Snoqualmie Falls and North Bend. Depot facilities include a museum, ticket office, meeting rooms, gift shop, picnic areas, railway history exhibits and restrooms.

- **Mount Si Golf Course and Driving Range**

This 18-hole golf course is located within the City, between the South Fork Snoqualmie River and the Meadowbrook/North Bend Road. It lies adjacent King County's Three Forks Park and the Snoqualmie/North Bend Meadowbrook Farm open space property, and is traversed by the Cedar Falls trail. Because of its rural setting and spectacular views of Mount Si, this course attracts golfers from throughout the Puget Sound region.

- **Three Forks Island**

Three Forks Island is a riparian open space property owned by Puget Sound Energy. Located adjacent Three Forks Park, the 'island' is surrounded by channels of the South Fork and main stem Snoqualmie River.

- **The Club at Snoqualmie Ridge**

This 18-hole private membership golf course is located in the Snoqualmie Ridge development. The Club offers PGA Tour caliber golf amid stunning views with a multiple membership options, including a club restaurant, pool and swimming lessons, and fitness classes such as yoga and Zumba.

OPEN SPACE, PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN: APPENDIX

These sections provide additional reference materials on items that may be useful to policy makers, future parks planners and interested readers.

I. DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS FOR ATHLETIC FIELDS AND LAWNS

The following are adapted from Snoqualmie Ridge II Design Standards, section 8B.020 Site Preparation.

Site preparation in parks will vary according to intended design use of various areas. These areas include athletic fields, informal play/lawn areas, ornamental lawns and planting beds. In general, preparation for all uses shall make adequate provision for drainage. The following standards apply to specific areas.

(a) Athletic Fields

Athletic Fields are designed for intensive/higher impact activities throughout the year. Athletic fields require the most intensive maintenance (including over-seeding, aeration, topdressing, fertilization) and require an automatic irrigation system for turf areas. The following standards shall apply:

- Playing surface slope shall be 1% to 1½% provided that adequate drainage to facilitate conveyance of water off the field has been provided.
- Sub-grade shall be compacted to a minimum 90% of maximum dry density according to ASTMD-1557 and sloped to drain to the sub-drain system.
- All required athletic fields shall include an approved sub-drainage system within the limits of the field connected to an approved daylight location or storm sewer.
- All required football fields shall include a minimum of 9 inches of well graded top sand growing medium with no more than 1.5 percent passing a #270 sieve.
- All required soccer fields shall include a minimum of 12 inches of well graded top sand growing medium with no more than 1.5 percent passing a #270 sieve.
- Baseball and softball fields shall include 9 inches of well graded top sand growing medium with no more than 1.5 percent passing a #270 sieve, or a sand/soil mixture approved by the City with a combined minimum total depth of 9 inches.

(b) Lawn/Informal Play Areas and Ornamental Lawn

Open turf/lawn areas are generally designed for informal, occasional use in dry weather versus that of athletic fields. Intended to be low maintenance (primarily focused on mowing, reseeding & fertilization), they may be un-irrigated or irrigated for establishment, depending on location. To avoid standing water, informal play areas shall be designed with surface conveyance to storm structures, swales or natural areas to allow drainage within 48 hours after a storm event. If open lawn/turf and play areas have been built to the following standards and do not meet the standing water drainage standard during the one year park warranty period, then, provided the areas have been being utilized and maintained as designed, the developer shall take corrective action.

- Lawn surface shall have a minimum slope of 2% with surface conveyance to storm structures or drainage swales.
- All lawns shall be compacted to 85% of maximum dry density according to ASTMD-1557.
- Lawn areas will receive a minimum of 4 inches of fertile, free draining on site or import topsoil as approved by the Parks Director.

Ornamental lawn areas designed primarily for visual continuity with little, if any, human use should generally follow these same standards except that slopes may be 2% or more, as required to meet design goals for the park or landscape area. Ornamental lawns should not exceed 5:1 slope in order to facilitate maintenance.

II. COOPERATIVE PLANNING EFFORTS

Meadowbrook Farm Preservation Association.

Meadowbrook Farm is a 462 acre historic farm property located on the valley floor between Snoqualmie and North Bend, within the city limits of the two cities. It borders the South Fork Snoqualmie River and is traversed by SR 202, the North Bend-Meadowbrook Road and the Cedar Falls trail. In January of 1993, the two cities formed a task force made up of staff members from Snoqualmie, North Bend, King County Parks and Planning, and citizen representatives from the Snoqualmie Valley Historical Society and the Mountains to Sound Greenway, as well as a representative from the Snoqualmie Tribe. The goal of the task force was to develop a viable strategy for acquisition of the property, which was threatened with development.

The task force elicited assistance from the Trust for Public Land (TPL) to aid in development of an acquisition strategy and to negotiate with the property owner on behalf of the cities. In April, 1993, Snoqualmie and North Bend submitted a joint application for funding from the King County 1993 Conservation Futures Acquisition Program. The cities were awarded \$2.5 million to purchase the majority, approximately 350 acres, of the Farm property. This land is now jointly owned by the cities of Snoqualmie and North Bend, with the full property acquisition completed in 1996.

The Meadowbrook Farm acquisition protects a critical feature of the Mountains to Sound Greenway and provides a strategic addition to the regional open space system, helping link Rattlesnake Ridge, Three Forks Park and the Mount Si Conservation Area. The property also serves as a significant urban separator and offers suitable area for a number of passive recreation opportunities for both local and regional residents.

Snoqualmie, North Bend and King County will continue to cooperate on the open space and passive recreation planning for Meadowbrook Farm. Development and management of the property must comply with the terms of the 1989 Open Space Bond and the 1993 Conservation Futures Bond (RCW 84.34.20). The cities and county executed an interlocal agreement to this effect. In addition, Snoqualmie and North Bend executed a "Memorandum of Agreement" defining principles for joint stewardship.

Since completion of the acquisition of the property, the Meadowbrook Farm Task Force has evolved into the Meadowbrook Farm Preservation Association, with the purpose of overseeing property development and management in accordance with the Meadowbrook Farm Master Plan. In 2004 the Association completed an interpretive center for the site, which provides space for public events and educational programs on local history and environmental stewardship.

Mountains to Sound Greenway

The MTS Greenway covers 1.5 million acres surrounding Interstate 90, spanning across 23 thriving cities with 800,000 acres of public land, 108,000 acres of conserved agriculture or forestry working lands, and 1,600 miles of trails. Work to promote and enhance this landscape is carried on by the Greenway Trust, which includes a 60-member Board of Directors, a 30-member Advisory Council, a 100-member Technical Advisory Committee, a 15-member staff, as well as numerous citizens and interest groups. There are five focus areas for the work of the Greenway Trust: conservation and restoration; promoting outdoor recreation; promoting natural, cultural and historical education; supporting healthy working farms and forests; and enhancing livable cities.

Si View Metropolitan Park District

The Si View Metropolitan Park District was established in 2003, when King County transferred ownership of the Si View Community Center and Pool to the then newly-formed District. The District runs multiple parks, facilities and provides recreational programming such as senior water aerobics, swim lessons, baseball, soccer, teen nights, basketball, karate, adult fitness and arts classes, summer day camps and Family Nights. Since 2010 the City of Snoqualmie has had an interlocal agreement with Si View for providing assistance on recreational programming, such as marketing and registration, while the City of Snoqualmie provides additional facilities.

Snoqualmie Valley YMCA

The YMCA of Greater Seattle and the City of Snoqualmie are partnering to provide programming at the Snoqualmie Community Center that opened in early 2012. The Snoqualmie Community Center emphasizes healthy living, youth development and social responsibility, and serves as a gathering place for people throughout Snoqualmie Valley.

The YMCA operates over 2,600 YMCAs across the county and has existed as an organization for over 160 years; the Y offers programs, services and initiatives focused on youth development, healthy living and social responsibility, according to the unique needs of the communities it engages.

II. URBAN FORESTRY BACKGROUND

As of the year 2000, it was estimated that roughly 80% of the U.S. population lived in urban areas.¹³ Snoqualmie's urban area has more than doubled since 1995, as growth and development replaced rural forest land. Over the next 20 years, the city's urban area will continue to expand, with additional forest converted to streets, housing, parking lots, business areas, and active parks. Urban forestry plays an important role in enhancing community vitality, access to nature and the City's quality of life— while providing economic benefit to residents and business.

A 2011 brochure put out by the National Forest Service and US Department of Agriculture estimated that the average tree in the Pacific Northwest will provide \$2,820 of services in its lifetime, or \$48 net benefit annually. This includes home heating/cooling savings, removal of air pollutants, health improvements, crime reduction and better business, not to mention higher property values.¹⁴

There are multiple economic benefits associated with trees to citizens and places of commerce. For commercial properties, it has been found that customer service ratings were about 15% higher for business districts with trees, and that average prices were between 9-11% higher for products in landscaped areas.¹⁵ Residences also benefit from trees, with a mature tree capable of adding 10% to a home's property value – a benefit to the residents upon property sales, and a benefit to cities in municipal property tax revenues.¹⁶

Trees in Snoqualmie's small town urban environment are a valuable public resource. More than just "extra" amenities, trees and natural areas enhance the character and quality of our local landscape. Besides providing natural beauty, trees buffer and help to soften the impacts of buildings and streets, shading from summer sun and protecting against winter weather, while also reducing noise and glare. Their leaves and needles filter air pollutants and intercept rainfall, reducing stormwater runoff and its consequent soil erosion, siltation and flooding risks. It is calculated that in one year, 100 street trees will remove 13 tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂), 123 pounds of other air pollutants and catch about 54,900 gallons of rainwater.¹⁷ They also provide bird and wildlife habitat and can grow food and materials for human use.

The character of older areas in Snoqualmie is enhanced by a rich assortment of mature evergreen and deciduous trees, both native and non-native, which have been cultivated and cared for over many years. These trees provide a sense of continuity with the past and contribute to a healthy community. In recent years, new developments have cleared large areas of forest. While natural forest has been preserved in sensitive areas and buffers, and trees have been planted on every new street and in every new park and landscape area, the natural forest landscape has been diminished and requires assistance to continue thriving in our City.

¹³ US Census Bureau, 2000 Summary file, factfinder.census.gov/servlet/GCTTable?_bm=y&_geo_id=01000US&_box_head_nbr=GCT-P1&ds_name=DEC_2000_SF1_U&redoLog=false&mt_name=DEC_2000_SF1_U_GCTP1_US1&format=US-1

¹⁴ Pacific Southwest Research Station (in partnership with the National Forest Service; US Department of Agriculture. "Trees Pay Us Back in the Pacific Northwest," May 2011. http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/programs/uesd/uep/products/18/812uesd_uep_tpib_PacificNorthwest.pdf

¹⁵ "Trees in Business Districts: Positive Effects on Consumer Behavior," University of Washington, College of Forest Resources Center for Urban Horticulture

¹⁶ Pacific Southwest Research Station, Ibid.

¹⁷ Pacific Southwest Research Station, Ibid.

The 2008 PNW Research Station found a positive effect of street trees on home sales price.

- *On average, street trees add \$8,870 to sales price*
- *Benefit – cost ratio of 12:1*

– G. Donovan & D. Butry, "Trees in the City: Valuing street trees in Portland, OR", Landscape & Urban Planning

It is calculated that in one year 100 street trees will:

- *Remove 13 tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂);*
- *Remove 123 pounds of other air pollutants; and*
- *Catch 54,900 gallons of rainwater.*

– The PSW Research Station. "Trees Pay Us Back in the Pacific Northwest," May 2011.

The City of Snoqualmie should encourage the preservation and maintenance of trees on both public and private properties by protecting trees from unnecessary removal or damage during development, and promoting the continued planting of new trees. The protected and enhanced urban forest will give character to the City, creating the legacy of a special “sense of place” for future generations.