

Comprehensive Plan

GOALS AND POLICIES

Goals and policies guide the desired future of the parks, recreation, and open space system over the planning period. Policies reflect public needs, past and current planning efforts and priorities, as well as strategic planning, design and management principles. The Tukwila Parks, Recreation and Open Space System Concept Map is the graphic representation of these goals and policies. (Figure 2)

Goal 1: Safe, Convenient and Connected System - Parks, recreation opportunities, and open spaces are close to home and work and are interconnected by safe streets, off-street trails, and public transportation.

POLICIES

- Policy 1.1** Create a system of close-to-home recreation opportunities, aiming for a ¼-mile to ½-mile travel distance between most residential uses and parks and recreation areas. Prioritize historically underserved communities for open space improvements and investments.¹³
- Policy 1.2** Create a system of close-to-work recreation opportunities, aiming for a ¼-mile to ½-mile travel distance between most employment places and parks and recreation areas.
- Policy 1.3** Link parks to neighborhood gathering spots and other destinations in the community and region such as schools, neighboring jurisdictions, regional parks and natural areas, and major employment centers.
- Policy 1.4** Improve the pedestrian and bicycle environment by creating safe and efficient connections across busy streets, railways, and the Green/Duwamish River.
- Policy 1.5** Increase physical and scenic connectivity with the Green/Duwamish River.
- Policy 1.6** Integrate linkages to recreation areas and open spaces when planning and designing the transportation system.
- Policy 1.7** Align parks and recreation programs and services with public transit service and advertise how to attend by transit.¹⁴

¹³ Added to address PSRC Policy En-15: Provide parks, trails, and open space within walking distance of urban residents: ***Prioritize historically underserved communities for open space improvements and investments.***

¹⁴ The added text is as shown in the PROs Plan (Policy had been updated from the previous Comp Plan Policy)

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- Policy 1.8** Continue to provide a safely-designed and maintained trail system.¹⁵
- Policy 1.9** Distribute public recreational facilities throughout the City so that they are easily accessible to residents, visitors, and those who come to Tukwila to work.
- Policy 1.10** Create a trail system that links significant community focal points and connects the trail network together at strategic points.¹⁶
- Policy 1.11** Connect concentrations of commercial and retail activity with the trail network.
- Policy 1.12** Maximize potential and capacity of existing parks and recreation resources to offset existing and future demand.
- Policy 1.13** Identify and create opportunities to develop parks, civic places (including schools) and public spaces, especially in or adjacent to centers.¹⁷

Goal 2: A Network of Green Spaces- Recreational amenities, historical sites, rivers, wetlands, creeks, and other natural resources that are connected to each other and neighboring networks of lands. This network defines Tukwila as Northwest city and includes visually significant bands of vegetation that provide protection for wildlife habitat, and that provide a contrast to the built environment.

POLICIES

Policy 2.1 Recognize that the City’s open space network will be made up of public and private lands that provide, or have the potential to provide, many different functions.

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Policy 2.2 Retain and expand the open space network through acquisition, donation, easements, partnerships and regulation.

¹⁵ The added text is as shown in the PROs Plan (Policy had been updated from the previous Comp Plan Policy)

¹⁶ The added text is as shown in the PROs Plan (Policy had been updated from the previous Comp Plan Policy)

¹⁷ New Policy - added portion of PSRC Policy D-11: **Identify and create opportunities to develop parks, civic places (including schools) and public spaces, especially in or adjacent to centers.**

¹⁸ Policy in removed from PROS Plan at last update. Being removed here to keep the two documents consistent.

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Policy 2.3	Coordinate with other regional and local plans to complement and enhance the Tukwila open space network.
Policy 2.4	Integrate natural features, such as daylighting streams, and adding trees, shrubs, and other plants into the built environment, including residential, commercial, and industrial areas.
Policy 2.5	Increase the public’s awareness and stewardship of the City’s open space resources and benefits, including examples such as organizing volunteer events, developing and distributing information. ¹⁹
Policy 2.6	Monitor and maintain natural areas to control invasive species and other impacts. ²⁰
Policy 2.7	Co-locate public infrastructure, environmental and recreational projects when practicable. ²¹
Goal 6.3:	A Sense of Community - Tukwila’s parks and recreation opportunities build community cohesion by providing places and programs for social interaction and gatherings of all sizes, with designs that strengthen community identity.
POLICIES²²	
²³	
Policy 3.1	Design parks and recreation facilities that celebrate unique features of Tukwila and that contribute to quality of life and neighborhood needs.
Policy 3.2	Hold community events that encourage interaction between neighbors and celebrate the diversity of Tukwila.
Policy 3.3	Interpret local culture, history, and environment throughout the system.
Policy 3.4	Integrate art throughout the City, guided by the Tukwila Municipal Arts Plan..
Policy 3.5	Leverage the opportunities presented by multiple redevelopment projects to expand Tukwila’s park and trails system into Tukwila South and Southcenter, serving the needs of new residents, as well as visitors and workers of this evolving area.

¹⁹ Text rearranged to reflect policy in 2020 Plan.
²⁰ Policies 6-2.6 and 6-2.7 are new to the PROS Plan and have been added here to the Comp Plan PROS Element.
²¹ Policy from PROS plan added here.
²² The policies are as shown in the magazine.
²³ Deleted policy found in Comp Plan - policy was not included in PROS plan.

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Goal 6.4: Opportunities for All- Tukwila’s parks, recreation opportunities, and public services offer something for all ages, abilities, and cultures, in settings locations and times that are convenient to as many as possible.

POLICIES

- Policy 4.1** Offer flexible recreation programming that is constantly improving and responding to current trends and community desires.
- Policy 4.2** Provide programs, activities and special events that embrace Tukwila’s many cultures, customs and interests.
- Policy 4.3** Design accessible parks, facilities, and programs for all ages and abilities.
- Policy 4.4** Increase the capacity at existing parks and recreation facilities to maximize use and expand public access.
- Policy 4.5** Provide indoor and outdoor spaces designed for increased access and flexibility of use.
- Policy 4.6** Consider future growth needs and planned density when providing parks and recreation opportunities to meet community needs.
- Policy 4.7** Expand program options through enhanced partnerships with businesses and organizations, and through volunteerism.
- Policy 4.8** ²⁴Develop a city-wide special event permitting process to promote and encourage tourism, art, culture and sports events.
- Policy 4.9** Address mobility and accessibility barriers to parks, facilities, and programs through the development and implementation of a transition plan for parks and recreation, consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.
- Policy 4.10** Ensure the provision of a variety of inclusive programs, activities, and events to better serve persons with physical and/or developmental disabilities and adapt offerings to encourage social inclusion and belonging.

²⁴ New policy from Parks staff

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Policy 4.11 Provide, promote and encourage reasonable accommodations- changes, exceptions, modifications or adjustments to rules, policies, practices, programs or services so that a person with a disability has an equal opportunity to use and enjoy parks and recreation facilities, parks and programs.

Policy 4.12 Provide, promote, and encourage meaningful language access so that persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) can realize improved access to department programs, services, and information, consistent with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Goal 6.5: Safe, Inviting, and Affordable- Parks and facilities are safe, well maintained and clean, and programs and services that are welcoming and accessible for all people.

POLICIES

Policy 5.1²⁵ Design parks and public spaces using accepted public safety standards such as Crime Prevention through Environmental Design Principles (CPTED) or Defensible Space.

Policy 5.2 Reflect the highest standard of design quality in public developments to enhance neighborhood quality and set a high design standard for private development.

Policy 5.3 Develop site-specific master plans or site designs that guide all major park improvements and that achieve cohesive design and efficient phasing of projects.

Policy 5.4 Involve the community, including expected users and neighborhood residents, in appropriate aspects of capital project and program planning and implementation.

Policy 5.5 Involve community partners and volunteers in the construction and maintenance of parks to increase the sense of public ownership and reduce City costs.

Policy 5.6 Increase access to affordable, free, or reduced-cost programs and services.

Policy 5.7 Expand awareness of the full range of program offerings and recreation options made available by the City and others.

²⁵ Formatting of this document

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Policy 5.8	Maintain parks and public spaces so that they are safe, clean, and welcoming.
Goal 6.6:	Healthy People and Places - Parks and recreation opportunities that promote healthy, active lifestyles are designed and managed to engage and enhance the natural environment and the local economy.
POLICIES	
Policy 6.1	Provide services for all ages to encourage community members to try new activities and build a habit of healthy living.
Policy 6.2	Promote healthy food choices and active living programs as a central focus for community education.
Policy 6.3	Strive to create projects and programs that provide social, economic, and environmental benefit to the community. ²⁶
Policy 6.4	Leverage the park, recreation, and open space system to meet the needs of the residents while considering economic development and needs of visitors, business, and workers.
Policy 6.5	Provide public education resources and volunteer opportunities to promote understanding and appreciation of Tukwila’s natural environment and Green/ Duwamish River ecosystem, while building an environmental stewardship ethic in the community.
Policy 6.6	Encourage and support the use of public lands for urban agriculture activities through existing and new programming or partnerships. ²⁷
Policy 6.7	Consider long-term management, operations. and maintenance needs when implementing new projects and programs.
Policy 6.8	Employ best practices in managing facilities, parks, and open space areas, and provide continuing education for City staff on these practices.

²⁶ Revised Plan to be consistent with 2020 plan

²⁷ Combined 6.6.6 and 6.6.7 (as in PROS Plan)

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RELATED INFORMATION

- [Parks, Recreation and Open Space Final Draft](#) (March 2020)
- [Parks, Recreation and Open Space, Technical Supplement](#), September 2019
- [Older Adults Recreational Services Needs Assessment \(March 2019\)](#)
- [Public Arts & Culture Master Plan \(January 2018\)](#)
- [Green Tukwila 20-Year Stewardship Plan \(2017\)](#)
- [Tukwila Pond Park Master Plan \(January 2022\)](#)