



parks, recreation and open space plan



ADOPTED FEBRUARY 2014



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Executive Summary

Tukwila is a community of many cultures and backgrounds, with a population and work force that is constantly evolving. As a part of a dynamic region Tukwila will continue to grow, adding thousands of new residents and jobs. One of the first and most frequent interactions new residents and employees will have is with the system of public spaces and facilities that beautify and support the wide range of recreational opportunities offered in the city. This system includes the lands, facilities and programs owned and operated by the City of Tukwila, as well as the public, community based and private partner providers that expand the opportunities for fitness, fun and relaxation.

The Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan provides a responsive, flexible guide for the continuing evolution of the system. The City will play a major role in this evolution, as developer, programmer and partner. The projects presented in this PROS plan are the first implementation of the citywide vision adopted in Tukwila's *Strategic Plan*, representing the alignment of City efforts and opening doors to State and Federal funding.

Community Priorities

The City of Tukwila has committed itself as an organization that finds more effective ways to reach its highly diverse community of residents, as well as its many visitors and employees. During development of the PROS Plan, the City reached a wide cross section of the



community. This wealth of public input revealed six overarching themes that describe the community's desires for the park, recreation and open system in Tukwila.

- *Accessible and connected parks and recreational opportunities*
- *Parks and Open Space that are safe, well maintained, and integrated into their local neighborhoods*
- *Walking and biking, health and wellness*
- *Socializing, gathering and a sense of community*
- *Opportunities for all*
- *Affordability and convenience*

Determining Needs

The PROS Plan defines needs through a quantitative and qualitative analysis of the desires, ideas and concerns identified by the community. Focusing on the overarching themes, the analysis utilized the City's geographic information system data (GIS) to build a visual map illustrating how park users travel to parks. The planning team conducted further research to understand the types of recreation opportunities that exist in these parks

and recreation areas, and determine whether there is any capacity to enhance the opportunity available within these sites.

Additional analysis examined current public and private recreation programming providers, refining how the City should direct its offerings, and exploring partnerships that can support these objectives.



Comprehensive System Framework

Building from the needs of the community, the PROS Plan defines five goals for the desired future of Tukwila’s parks, recreation and open space system. These goals enhance existing policies that relate to the park and recreation system, provided in the *Strategic Plan* and *Comprehensive Plan*.

GOAL 1: 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.

GOAL 2: A SENSE OF COMMUNITY

The parks and recreation system builds community cohesion by providing places and programs for social interaction and gathering of all sizes, with designs that strengthen Tukwila’s identity.

GOAL 3: OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

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.

GOAL 4: INVITING AND AFFORDABLE

Parks and facilities are well maintained, clean and safe, and programs and services are welcoming and accessible for all people.

GOAL 5: HEALTHY PEOPLE AND PLACES

Parks, recreation opportunities and open spaces promote healthy, active lifestyles, are designed and managed to engage and enhance the natural environment and the local economy.

Building the Concept

The goals of this PROS Plan define what should be included in the system of the future. The concept defines the vision for the future of parks, recreation and open space in Tukwila, and shapes the range of projects presented in this Plan.

The future parks, recreation and open space system unites the community by bringing residents, employees and visitors together around opportunities to gather, play and enjoy the people and places that make Tukwila unique.

The future concept comprises six categories.

RIVERFRONT PROJECTS

The Green/Duwamish River is a central feature in Tukwila for both recreational and environmental reasons. Projects within this river corridor need to be recognized for their relationship with the river and with each other. The PROS Plan aligns and unifies the efforts of many riverfront projects.

PARTNER SITES

Building a complete system in Tukwila relies on the use of partner sites including the Tukwila Pool, school sites, community organizations and sites that are owned or operated in partnership with other public entities. Expanding and protecting public access to these sites is critical to meeting community needs.

CONNECTIONS

The future system provides safer, more direct and more enjoyable connections to park and recreation facilities. Building on the City's past work to create walking and rolling connections, the future park system includes numerous new links to make getting there more fun.

EXPANDED CAPACITY

The future system requires more flexibility to support the changing needs of users. There are several parks that do not meet adopted standards, but with potential to become more appealing. In addition, each acre of park land will have to support more people. Investments in existing sites and facilities will expand the capacity of the system. Of particular importance is creating the spaces for residents to gather and build a broader community connection. Parks are also valued by visitors and workers.



SUSTAINABLE STEWARDSHIP

Looking to the long-term, sustainability in Tukwila’s parks, recreation and open space system will include caring for the environmental, social and financial well-being of the community. The goals of the PROS Plan will help focus resources on the most important sites and programs to maximize the benefits and inspire another generation of users.

DIVERSIFY PROGRAMS AND PARTNERS

New approaches to recreation programming will expand the reach of the City and partner organizations. By creating space for experimentation, the City can explore and find ways to better serve ethnic and linguistic communities as well as the more varied needs of workers in the city.



This effort, like all of the above, will not succeed without the help of community, City and private partners. The City will need to proactively establish and build new relationships to extend the resources invested.

Prioritizing and Funding

With the resource constraints (land, staff, acquisition and operational funding) facing Tukwila, prioritizing and funding projects will require both direction and flexibility. The system of prioritization accommodates the reality that many projects can not move forward until at least one important condition is met (land availability, neighboring redevelopment, grant success, etc.) and other projects are already committed and moving forward. The remaining projects are the ones that will require more conversation and prioritization by the City. For all projects in existing and future parks, maintenance and operations needs must be a key factor when basing decisions. Guided by this Plan, the City can be more flexible with capital dollars to match grants and supplement other community resources.

Call to Action

Tukwila's future path will not be a straight one. As has occurred in the past, the city will continue to undergo change and growth into the future. Assumptions in this Plan are based on this reality, and instead of setting a fixed, linear path from one project to the next, this Plan outlines the strategies needed to respond to the ever evolving face of Tukwila. Now, it should be the City's objective to rely on this document as a resource and guide, continuously measuring progress, making adjustments where needed, and celebrating successes.

The community conversations that defined the *Strategic Plan* have continued throughout the PROS planning process. Plan implementation is a continuation, rather than a completion of those conversations. With adequate resources and the continued, dedicated effort of City leadership, staff and community partners, Tukwila can adapt and grow the parks, recreation and open space system to meet the needs and challenges of this diverse community.

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*Available under separate cover:

Existing Recreation Resources Summary

Needs Analysis

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1. Introduction

Tukwila is a community of many different cultures and backgrounds, with a population and work force that is dynamic and constantly evolving. Serving as a crossroads of the region, Tukwila is a key economic center for King County. A home to businesses that provide over 40,000 jobs, the City of Tukwila serves not only residents but an expanded community of employees and customers.¹

Plan Purpose

The Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan provides a comprehensive guide for the parks, recreation and open space system, and plays a major role in supporting the citywide vision of Tukwila's recently adopted *Strategic Plan*. This document also fulfills State requirements for system-wide parks and recreation planning.

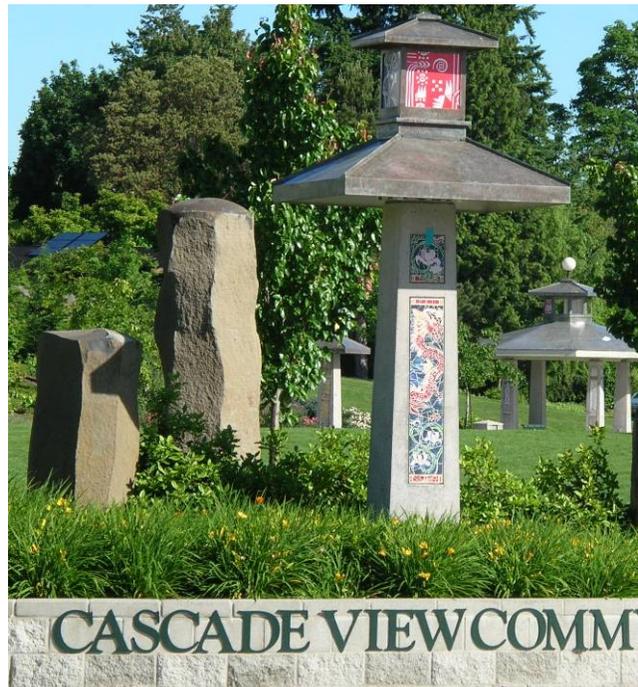
Given the overall direction of the *Strategic Plan* and community input gathered from the PROS planning process, the purpose of this Plan is to focus City and community efforts on the following outcomes:

- *Opportunities and access for all:* The park, recreation and open space system will provide a solid foundation of places and programs for the community, increasing access to all residents and workers, young and old, and across all cultures and language groups.

- *Inviting and connected places:* The park, recreation and open space system will offer safe, connected and welcoming environments, strengthening individual neighborhoods and community identity, while supporting economic vitality.

- *A sense of community:* The park, recreation and open space system will foster a sense of ownership, with places for social gathering and a network of strong partnerships.

- *Health and wellness:* The park, recreation and open space system fosters healthy lifestyles, encouraging play, interaction and information.



¹ Tukwila Strategic Plan (2012)

Figure 1-1: Planning Process



Plan Development

Development of the PROS Plan consisted of four phases, beginning in spring 2013 and continuing through fall/winter 2013. The multi-layered approach to understanding and evaluating the system provided a foundation to support plan development and system-wide recommendations (Figure 1-1).

PHASE 1: WHERE ARE WE NOW?

Beginning in spring 2013, the purpose of Phase 1 was to establish a baseline of information to support the PROS Plan, including a review of the existing conditions in the community and an assessment of the existing park system and recreation services. Chapter 1 summarizes findings from this first phase, which are also detailed in the *Existing Recreation Resources Summary* available under separate cover.

PHASE 2: WHERE DO WE WANT TO BE?

In Phase 2, the PROS planning team designed and hosted an array of public involvement opportunities with City staff, community partners and the public to identify community preferences and desires. This phase included the community questionnaire and moving and listening sessions which allowed the City to hear from a wide cross section of Tukwila.

Chapter 2 discusses the key needs identified from this phase. The combination of these efforts resulted in identifying the parks, recreation and open space concept presented in Chapter 5.

PHASE 3: HOW DO WE GET THERE?

Building on the outcomes of Phases 1 and 2, the PROS planning team began developing recommendations and plan elements in support of the envisioned future of the system. Outcomes of this phase included a list of capital projects,

project prioritization criteria and a funding strategy to identify how the PROS Plan and its recommendations will be funded. Chapters 3, 4 and 5 present the direction setting elements developed through this phase.

PHASE 4: WHERE/HOW DO WE START IMPROVEMENTS?

Phase 4 consisted of final review and refinement of the Draft Plan, presented before the public and City Council, resulting in the Final Plan.

Public Involvement

The City of Tukwila has committed itself as an organization to find more effective ways to reach its highly diverse community. Building on the lessons and connections gained from the Strategic Plan Process, the PROS Plan built in opportunities for public engagement in all four phases of the planning process. The design of this input process and the implementation of creative forms of involvement allowed for involvement from a wide cross section of the city. These activities reached specific audiences, targeted or broad, and collected ideas from involved citizens as well as those who have been outside of past planning efforts. There are selected quotes gathered from this process provided throughout this Plan, and Appendix D provides a summary of each activity.

TARGETED OUTREACH

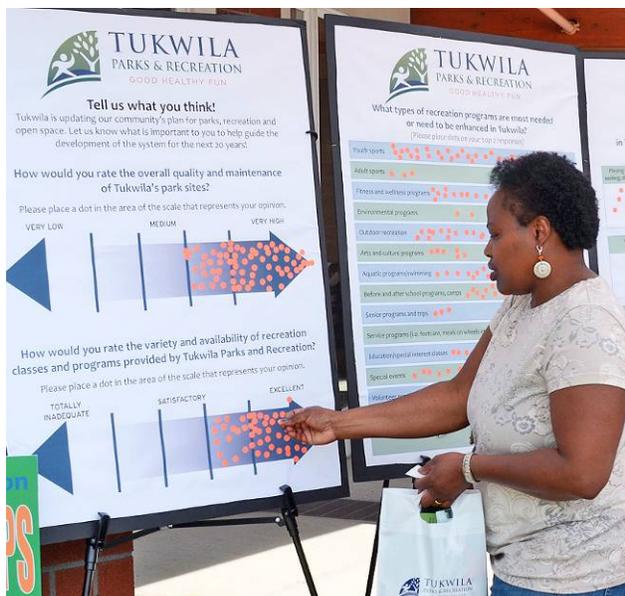
Moving Listening Sessions: Walking tours of the Tukwila International Boulevard area (from the ReWA offices



to Cascade View Park) teamed City staff with an interpreter and groups of four to seven members of a linguistic-minority community. This format provided detailed insights into how members of these communities access and use park and recreation sites.

- *National Night Out Block Party Intercept:* The PROS planning team attended the Night Out Against Crime Block Party and engaged 30 residents in English and Spanish with the assistance of an interpreter. This discussion built on the community conversations started during the Strategic Planning process.
- *Education Expert Interviews:* The PROS planning team held conversations with a selected group of teachers, administrators and staff from Tukwila School District (TSD) to understand school perspectives. Though Tukwila is

served by multiple school districts, TSD was targeted because it serves the most city residents and has the most partnerships with the City. These interviews included observations about the City’s current parks and recreation services, ideas for future recreation programming and on community needs, and feedback on how the City can become a more effective partner for TSD and other entities.



- **Community Leader Focus Group:** This meeting convened leaders from public and private organizations to identify the park system strengths and needs. The range of participants included representatives from sports groups, schools, local businesses, the county library, the Parks Commission and non-profit groups.
- **Staff Advisory Group:** An interdepartmental staff advisory team met four times during the planning process and reviewed all analysis,

planning documents and reports to guide the development of the Plan and ensure consistency with other City efforts.

BROAD OUTREACH

Balancing and validating the targeted input, the planning process also included several activities that were available to any resident, visitor or employee in Tukwila.

- **Community Questionnaire:** Allowing any respondents to candidly weigh-in on the park system at their convenience and their own pace, the questionnaire generated 418 responses. This option was uniquely suited to capturing input from residents as well as employees, and results indicated no major differences between the two groups.
- **Community Workshop:** The City held a traditional workshop meeting to offer the opportunity for face-to-face interaction with the planning team. The workshop was open to the entire community and participants could stay for as much time as they wanted, to discuss issues, opportunities and challenges related to parks, recreation programming, facilities and open space.
- **Extended Outreach:** Extending the outreach activities to gather feedback and build interest for the PROS Plan out in the community, a series of questions were posed on display boards. Participants at Teen Late Night, Backyard Wildlife and the senior lunch program were invited to indicate their answers using dots as votes. The questions were later displayed in the

lobby of the Tukwila Community Center for additional participation.

KEY THEMES

Throughout all of the public involvement activities, several common themes related to the park, recreation and open system surfaced. The recurrence of these themes through multiple channels of input provides a high level of confidence that these issues are the most important for Tukwila's PROS system today.

- *Accessible and connected parks and recreational opportunities:* Across all involvement activities, participants indicated that they desire parks and recreation activities and programming that are close-to-home and easy to access. Many felt that existing opportunities are disconnected by busy streets and physical distance and that there are few direct or affordable options to get to parks. Improved access to the river was also important to participants.
- *Walking and biking, health and wellness:* Walking, biking and activities that promote general health and wellness are the most popular and desired in Tukwila. Participants felt strongly that more opportunities for these activities are essential to overall quality of life.
- *Socializing, gathering and a sense of community:* According to community feedback, opportunities that allow for socializing and gathering are important, both for residents as well as employees. Many felt that these activities and

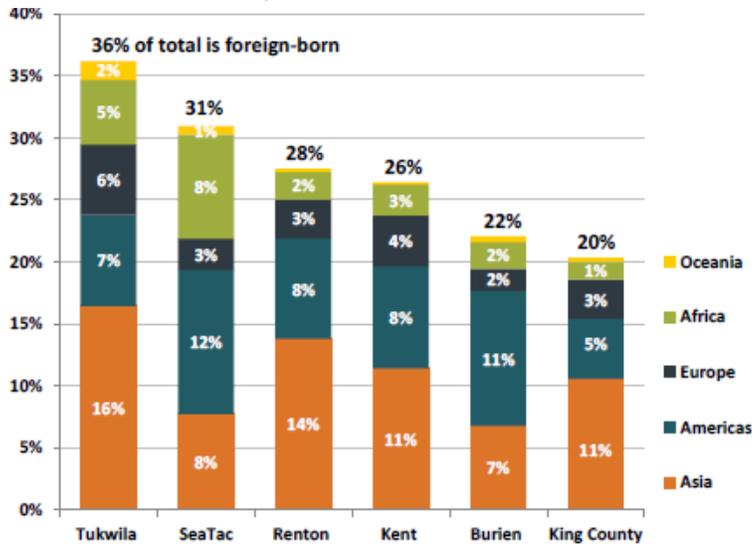
public spaces that support them are central to a sense of community and overall feeling of well-being. Feedback also indicated that Tukwila's diverse cultural groups desire both formal and informal settings to meet, celebrate and socialize.

- *Opportunities for all:* Many participants, and especially members of the city's diverse language groups, felt that the City needs to play a stronger role providing services that are offered in different languages and that cater to different cultural needs. Some felt that the language barrier prevents them from using parks and programs, or from knowing what's available.
- *Affordable and convenient opportunities:* Participants felt strongly that recreation services and programs should be affordable. Many also felt that programs and classes should be more flexible and available at different times and formats.

Community Context

Each year, the city's population base changes as refugees and immigrants from all over the world enter the United States and begin their new lives in Tukwila. There are over 70 languages spoken in the community and the city has one of the highest percentages of non-English speakers in King County and the State of Washington (Figure 1-2). This makes for a dynamic population in Tukwila, and means that the way people use parks and recreation services may shift more frequently than in other places.

Figure 1-2: Foreign-Born Population by Place of Birth in selected South King Cities, 2006-2010.



Source: City of Tukwila Strategic Plan, based on ACS, 2006-2010; BERK, 2012

The City's *Strategic Plan* projects a future population of nearly 23,000 by 2030, based on a 1.1% average annual growth rate. This growth rate accounts for annexations, as well as growth within the current city limits. Major annexations include Oxbow and Tukwila South.

Tukwila South, the most recently approved addition, encompasses about 500 acres of land along the Green/Duwamish River at the south end of the city, and could accommodate approximately 1,505 additional residents.

PARK LAND

There are 32 park properties in the City's inventory totaling 273 acres (Table 1-1). The Existing System Map shows the location of all parks and recreation resources in the system, comprising developed and undeveloped park lands. Trails, schools and recreation sites owned by other providers are also part of this system and add to the number of resources provided by the City. Appendix A provides a detailed list of park and recreation areas.

Tukwila's developed parks function as one of two park types: local parks or special use parks. There are also nearly 29 acres of open space lands.

Table 1-1: Tukwila's Existing Park Land

	Total Parks	Total Acreage
Local Parks	10	48.1
Special Use Parks	10	196.2
Open Space	12	28.8
<i>Total</i>	32	273.1

- *Local Parks:* Local parks provide for a range of opportunities, such as soccer or playground play, and are generally intended to serve the surrounding neighborhood.
- *Special Use Parks:* As their name implies, special use parks focus on a unique or singular attraction such as a water feature, garden or community center. These park types vary in size

according to the amenity that they showcase.

- *Open Space:* Open spaces are parks that protect natural system benefits such as wildlife habitat and water quality. Open space sites can also provide for public use such as trail activities, education and interpretation and water access. These sites include riverfront lands, wooded areas and/or steeply sloped hillsides.

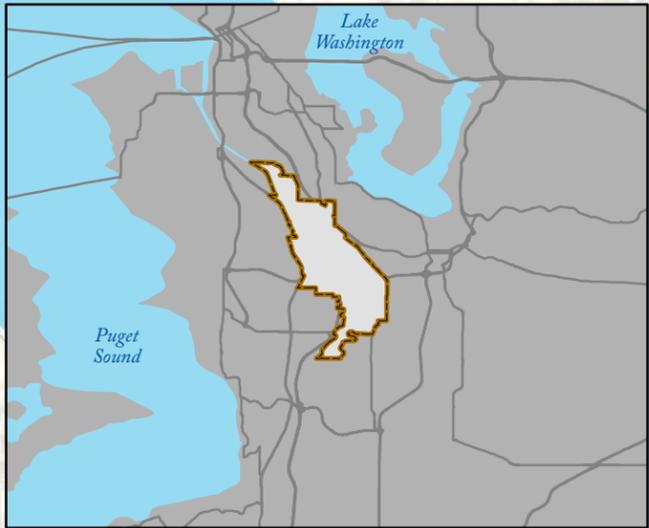
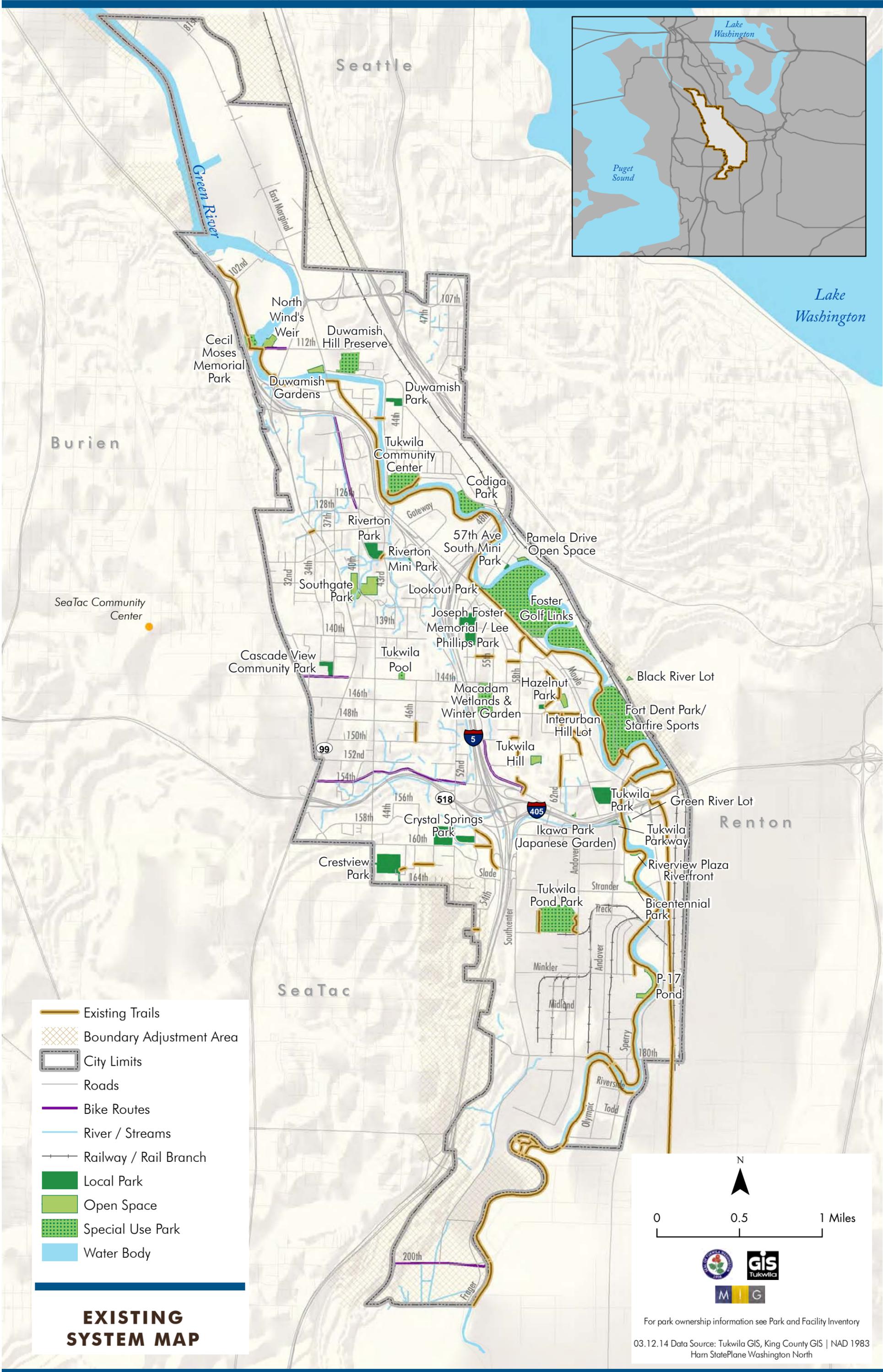
PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The Tukwila Community Center serves a vital role by providing the majority of public recreation programming and support services in the city. Along with City-sponsored programs, neighboring communities, public schools, private providers and non-profits expand the number of park and recreation related benefits available to Tukwila residents. Appendix B provides a complete list of programs.

RECREATION PARTNERS

Tukwila partners with area schools to increase access to sport fields and playgrounds in areas that lack parks. The Highline and Tukwila school districts lease former school sites to Tukwila for park uses, including Crestview Park, Duwamish Park, Riverton Park and Joseph Foster Memorial/Lee Philips Park. The City also partners with King County to expand park and recreation opportunities with area libraries and park land.

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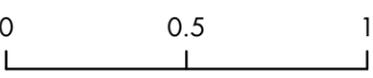
-  Existing Trails
-  Boundary Adjustment Area
-  City Limits
-  Roads
-  Bike Routes
-  River / Streams
-  Railway / Rail Branch
-  Local Park
-  Open Space
-  Special Use Park
-  Water Body

EXISTING SYSTEM MAP

N



0 0.5 1 Miles







For park ownership information see Park and Facility Inventory
 03.12.14 Data Source: Tukwila GIS, King County GIS | NAD 1983
 Harn StatePlane Washington North

2. Park and Recreation Needs

The story of Tukwila today is based on the rich diversity of its people, and the array of opportunities and challenges caused by its dynamic urban and natural landscapes. Continuously changing recreation preferences and trends place a demand on the City to meet needs, while the physically constrained and compact nature of Tukwila limits how the park system can grow and evolve. For these reasons, this PROS Plan evaluated needs differently from past plans, using multiple means of evaluating quality, quantity and accessibility.

Access to Parks and Recreation Areas

Based on the public process, nearby and convenient parks and recreation opportunities that are connected to homes, schools and other destinations are one of the most important needs of the community. The access analysis identifies gaps in access to parks by examining the physical distribution of Tukwila's park system. Those areas that lack access to the specified facility or feature within the desired distance are considered to have a gap in service.¹

This analysis is based on the walking or biking distance most people are willing to travel to reach parks, which is

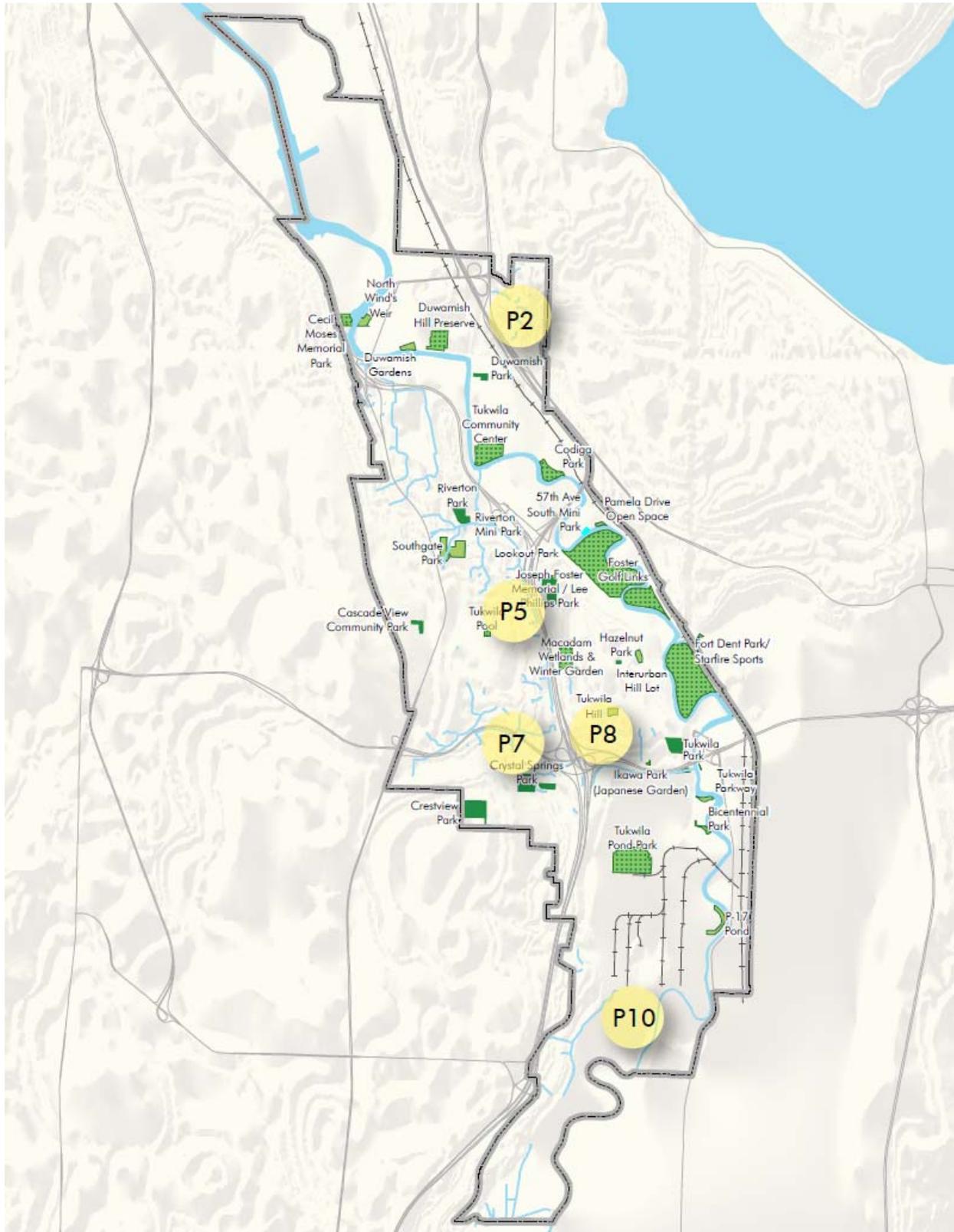
generally a ¼- to ½-mile distance or five to ten minutes. The analysis is based on use of GIS and the city's street system and trail network data to simulate the path of travel for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Physical barriers in access, such as incomplete or disconnected street networks and the Green/Duwamish River, as well as lack of park access points are accounted for in this analysis to provide a more realistic assessment of the park system, based on the way people actually get to parks. The *Needs Analysis* provides a more complete summary of service area access and is provided under separate cover.



¹ Gaps shown on the service area map represent the general location of underserved areas and are for illustrative purposes only.

Figure 2-1: Access to Parks Gap Areas



LOCAL PARKS AND SCHOOLS ACCESS

Local parks and schools provide a range of recreation opportunities that special use parks and open spaces do not provide, offering more comprehensive park benefits for residents. As such, the local parks and schools analysis omits special use parks and open space service areas, and focuses on gaps in access to local parks and public school sites. Based on the analysis, there are five locations in the city that are greater than a ¼- to ½-mile service area distance to local parks and schools (Figure 2-1).

- *P2*: Rail lines and the hillside cut off this location from the rest of Tukwila. The gap is close to Seattle’s Kubota Garden Park—however, there are no public school sites nearby.
- *P5*: There are no local parks near to this location, but Foster High School and Showalter Middle School are in close proximity and provide sports fields, courts and playgrounds. Tukwila Pool is also near this location but does not offer the types of amenities available at local parks.
- *P7*: Crystal Springs Park is a local park near to this location, but there is no public access to its western parcel from the west side. There are also no public schools in close proximity.

“Walkable, safe access to parks is the key.”

- public comment

- *P8*: This location has a higher than average density of housing but lacks convenient access to any local parks or schools. Tukwila Park is the closest local park, but it is not within a ¼- to ½-mile distance. The multi-purpose fields and playground at Tukwila Elementary School are nearby, but they lack direct access from this location.
- *P10*: Tukwila South has potential to accommodate a range of different land uses, including residential development. There are currently no parks or schools to serve this area.

Recreational Activity Needs and Park Capacity

Tukwila's parks provide different experiences and offer different activities throughout the system. Based on key themes identified during the public involvement activities, there are five types of activities that are most needed. Though not all areas of the city offer these activities, certain parks have existing capacity and can be improved to meet these needs.

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Walking and Biking

Walking and biking activities require safe, convenient and accessible trails for recreation and transportation. Tukwila's Green River Trail is the primary trail system in the city and provides a north/south connection along the Green/Duwamish River. The Interurban Trail is another important amenity that provides access to neighboring cities. There are also several railways and rail branches that have potential for future use as trails.

Walking and biking are the most popular and desired activities in Tukwila. Outcomes from public involvement activities indicated that more opportunities for these activities are essential to overall quality of life. However, busy streets, the river and steep slopes create safety barriers to reach parks, and there are few east/west connections across the city.

Social Gathering

Social gathering occurs in small and large spaces. These activities vary from smaller gatherings under 20, to more formal gatherings and events of 50 or greater. Large, formal social gathering activities can require a number of park and facility amenities such as restrooms, picnic tables, drinking water access and parking. For larger gatherings up to 50 people, the City requires reservations ahead of time. Group activities outside with 50 or more people require reservations at the community center.

According to community feedback, opportunities and places that allow for socializing and gathering are important. Many felt that these activities are central to a sense of community and overall feeling of wellbeing. Feedback also indicated that Tukwila's diverse cultural groups desire both formal and informal settings to meet, celebrate and socialize.

Organized Sports

Organized sports occur on fields and courts that allow for pick-up games, practices and/or team sports. These include baseball fields, soccer fields and multi-purpose fields, and full-court basketball and tennis courts. In Tukwila, the Community Center, Fort Dent Park and school fields and courts provide for most organized sports activities.

According to public feedback, places and programs that offer youth sports are some of the most needed types of offerings. Most parks do not offer the

variety of organized sports facilities, such as sport fields and ball courts, required to meet the needs of nearby residents. Residents expressed a desire for open and available soccer fields, with a decrease in interest for fee-based leagues. According to the Equity for All report, soccer is an important part of East African culture, but many youth expressed that they rarely have the opportunity to play.

Unstructured Play

Unstructured play areas encompass all of the types places where kids play, with the exceptions of sports fields and full ball courts (discussed above). Places for unstructured play include playgrounds, hillsides, open lawns and ½ basketball courts.

Services and programs for children and places to play nearby are especially needed in Tukwila. Residents—particularly area youth—seek affordable places to play.

River Access

River access includes all of the places where people can physically access or view the river, including boat launches and docks, water access points and fishing areas. Tukwila residents have a strong connection with the Green/Duwamish River and desire expanded choices to access and enjoy the river. Existing plans such as the *Southcenter Subarea Plan* also call for increased access to the river.

PARK CAPACITY

Many of the city’s developed parks are small, built-out or have limited public access. Some are intended for a specific purpose, such as the pond at Tukwila Pond Park and the Japanese Garden at Ikawa Park. Undeveloped land that is suitable for building new parks is limited. Along with these conditions, the City lacks design guidelines to direct additions and changes to existing sites.

“More space is needed for traditional cultural celebrations and gatherings.”

- public comment

The park capacity evaluation used a set of criteria to determine which parks have the potential to meet some of the demand for additional recreational activities, while filling gaps in existing access.

Capacity Criteria

Table 2-1 on presents an evaluation of park capacity to fulfill desired recreation activities based on the following criteria:

- *Ownership:* Parks under the City’s ownership make potential additions or improvements more feasible. Depending on lease agreements, sites owned by area schools or the county may involve greater complexity and uncertainty in development or use negotiations.

- *Existing Features:* This category depicts existing site features that would allow for added site capacity including access, public parking and restrooms.
- *Fills Activity Gap:* This category identifies sites that have new activity potential and that can improve access to identified activity gap areas.
- *New Activity Potential:* Parks with new activity potential are those that do not currently accommodate one or more of the top five close-to-home recreational activities but have potential to do so. In some cases, parks may already feature one of the desired activities but have the potential to add more. For example, a site may already have an internal pathway that could be expanded to improve opportunities for walking and biking.

Table 2-1: Park Capacity

	Acreage	Ownership				Existing Features			Fills Activity Gap	New Activity Potential					
		City-owned	School-owned	Joint City/School Partnership	County-owned	Good Public Access	Public Parking	Restrooms		Walking and Biking	Social Gathering	Organized Sports	Unstructured Play	River Access	Other Potential Opportunities
LOCAL PARKS															
57th Ave South Park	0.4	•				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Boat launch
Cascade View Park	2.4	•				•	-	•	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Crestview Park	10.9		•			-	•	-	-	•	-	-	-	-	Dog park
Crystal Springs Park	11.0	•				•	•	•	•	•	-	•	-	-	Natural preserve, wildlife observation, environmental education
Duwamish Park	2.1		•			•	•	•	-	-	-	-	•	-	Boat launch, dog park, community garden
Hazelnut Park	0.6	•				-	•	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Joseph Foster Memorial/Lee Philips Park	9.3			•		•	•	•	-	-	-	-	-	-	Community garden, dog park
Riverton Mini Park	0.1	•				•	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Community garden
Riverton Park	4.9		•			•	•	•	-	-	-	•	-	-	
Tukwila Park	6.4	•				-	-	•	•	•	-	•	-	-	
SPECIAL USE PARKS															
Bicentennial Park	1.3	•				•	•	•	-	-	-	-	-	•	
Codiga Park	6.7	•				•	•	•	-	•	-	-	•	•	Boat launch
Duwamish Hill Preserve	8.7	•				-	-	-	-	•	•	-	•	•	Boat launch, wildlife observation, environmental education
Fort Dent Park (Starfire Sports Complex)	51.3	•				•	•	•	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Foster Golf Links	79.3	•				•	•	•	-	-	-	-	-	•	
Ikawa Park (Japanese Garden)	0.2	•				•	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Macadam Wetlands & Winter Garden	9.9	•				-	-	-	•	•	-	-	•	-	Gardening education
Tukwila Community Center	12.7	•				•	•	•	-	-	-	-	-	-	Boat launch, permanent skate park
Tukwila Pond Park	24.8	•				-	-	•	•	•	-	-	-	-	Wildlife observation, environmental education
Tukwila Pool	1.3			•		•	•	•	-	-	•	•	-	-	
OPEN SPACE															
Black River Lot	0.3	•				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Cecil Moses Memorial Park	3.0				•	•	•	•	-	-	•	-	•	-	Wildlife observation, environmental education, river access
Christiensen Road Property/Riverview Plaza Riverfront	3.0	•				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	Boat launch
Green River Lot	0.1	•				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Interurban Hill Lot	1.7	•				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Lookout Park	0.2				•	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
North Wind's Weir	2.6				•	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	Wildlife observation, environmental education
P-17 Pond	3.6				•	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Wildlife observation
Southgate Park	10.9	•				-	-	-	•	•	-	-	-	-	Disc golf, wildlife observation, environmental education
Tukwila Hill	1.8	•				-	-	-	•	•	-	-	•	-	
Tukwila Parkway	1.0	•				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Wilcox Drive/Pamela Drive Open Space	0.7	•				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	

Recreation Programming

Public programs and community services are important to many residents. These resources contribute to quality of life and community and personal health. This section describes the City's program participation, goals for program costs and cost recovery, and program service gaps.

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Recreation program participation data provides a snapshot of the level of contact that organized recreation activities create (Table 2-2). Appendix B provides a complete list of programs.

Table 2-2: City of Tukwila Recreation Program Participation (2012)

Program Area	2012 Participation
Preschool	1,805
Youth Programs	12,848
Teen Programs	4,297
Youth/Teen Athletics	10,051
Youth/Teen Special	1,396
Special Interest Classes	3,867
Fitness Classes	7,854
Adult Athletics	2,969
Open Gym/Racquetball,	28,052
Senior Services	5,276
Senior Trips and Tours	843
Senior Social Activity	447
Senior Classes	7,345
Senior Sports/Fitness	4,046
Rentals - TCC	57,876
Rentals - Athletics Fields	2,120
Rentals Picnic Shelters	3,358

The data is collected and presented in terms of the number of units of participation, therefore showing how many times each of these program areas touches the community.²

The largest participation number is reported for the rental of the Tukwila Community Center. This reflects the significant number of small and large events that take place in and around this well used facility. Other high numbers reflect the focus on “public good” programs, such as youth and senior programming as directed by policy (described below).

Participation in specific recreation programs is a complex function of various factors including desire/demand, schedule and affordability. The magnitude of many of these numbers reflects the regular attendance of a group of participants over a series of regularly occurring programs.

COST RECOVERY GOALS

The Parks and Recreation Department is working toward a program cost recovery model based on a three tiered hierarchy. Each program service level has a different cost recovery range, from private programs that are mostly to fully

² Source: City of Tukwila. Participation measured in units = number of people in an activity x number of days the activity meets. The data does not indicate how many unique individuals participate in each category, which would be difficult or impossible to collect for some program types. The data does not include participation at the Tukwila Pool.

supported through user fees to public programs that are mostly supported by the City.

- *Private:* Programs, services, and facilities that are special interest in nature, and generally develop personal skills with specific benefits through participation. The individual or group receives the majority or all of the benefit.



- *Merit:* Programs, services, and facilities that are beyond the basic needs. Activities enhance or contribute to quality of life and address community wide issues such as health and wellness. They are accessible by all in the community and the benefit is shared between the individual and community.
- *Public:* Programs, services and facilities that are core essential services. Activities promote health, safety and welfare, and enhance or

contribute to quality of life. They are accessible by all in the community and generally benefit the population at large.

The breakdown of private, merit and public levels of service is intuitive, but obscures the unique benefits that an individual program may provide, such as reaching across multiple interests and achieving multiple benefits.

In some cases, the City could be charging more for high-demand, private level programs. This strategy would generate more revenue to offset costs related to programs that have a broader public benefit.

PROGRAM GAPS

There are several factors that influence program participation including demand, awareness, schedule, affordability and available alternatives.

Demand

While the need for programmed recreation offerings remains high over time, the specific programs, classes and activities change rapidly. The current needs for additional programs as expressed by the community during the outreach for this plan include youth sports, outdoor recreation and fitness and wellness programs.

Feedback from the public and results from other studies suggest that culturally and linguistically appropriate services and assistance are important, especially for newly arrived refugees, asylees and immigrants who need help accessing benefits, finding employment,

making appointments and enrolling in English classes. Local community centers also have a vital role in supporting youth by providing native language academic assistance, free summer camps and organizing educational excursions throughout the greater Seattle area.

Awareness

Distributing information about programming options is one of the factors that is especially challenging to Tukwila due to the large number of linguistic groups residing in the city. While finding the methods that best connect to residents is always a challenge, being able to provide the information in multiple languages and identify the most culturally effective methods adds significantly to raising awareness.

Schedule

Schedule is a key factor in matching programs to participants. Aligning programs to fit around work, school and family schedules was an important finding from the online questionnaire. Evening, weekend and early morning class times were most desirable.

Currently, the majority of programming is held during weekday evenings, between the hours of 6 and 8 pm. Most morning programs are oriented for youth, such as swim lessons, summer camps and before school programs. There are fewer programs that occur during the lunch hour, and few early morning classes oriented for adults.

Affordability

The City has a direct hand in determining the affordability of programming to the user through the application of the cost recovery policy. The gap in affordability is largely about reconciling the variety of populations to serve, the programs to offer and the level of community investment. Affordability is also about the willingness and ability of the City to make more affordable programs available and to reconsider the way its current cost recovery policy is applied.

“Many of our residents are very limited with income and cannot afford to participate unless they are heavily subsidized. This becomes a dilemma for the department which has to generate enough revenue to afford the operation of facilities and programs.”

- public comment

Community input, particularly from the cultural and linguistic minorities in Tukwila, has indicated that even small user fees can be a major barrier to participation. The community questionnaire explored the balance of City investment and user fees for a selection of program types. Overall, respondents indicated that costs should be shared in some way (few indicated that any program should be 100% supported by the City). Two categories of programs were notably high in

responses indicating that the user should pay 100% of costs: adult sports (35% of respondents) and fitness classes (21% of respondents).

Alternatives

Starfire Sports, SeaTac Community Center, Tukwila Pool, and the Matt Griffin YMCA provide the widest array of alternative recreation programs in and around Tukwila (Appendix B). These providers provide the most overlap with City of Tukwila offerings.



- *Starfire Sports:* Starfire is largely focused on soccer (and other field sports) and offers a premium experience that is utilized by users from across the region. This facility requires an annual membership that ranges from \$40 (basic) to \$60 (premier membership) for access to the facility and its programs, and field use fees ranging from \$18 per hour per participant for youth, to \$39 per hour per participant for adults (all 2014 rates). Between the cost, the demand for field space and the location on the east side of the

Green/Duwamish River, Starfire complements the City's programs and services with minimal overlap.

- *SeaTac Community Center:* The SeaTac Community Center is located just outside of Tukwila to the northeast in the City of SeaTac. The 27,000 square foot facility features an indoor gym, weight room and reservable banquet room. The building also features an arts and crafts room and multi-purpose room that accommodate different types of recreational programming. During 2014, Drop-in class fees are \$6 and most activity fees are \$2.50-\$3.50. There is also a monthly weight room pass available for \$28 (adults) and \$21 (seniors).

- *Tukwila Pool:* The Tukwila Pool is centrally located in Tukwila and operated by the Tukwila Metropolitan Park District, approved by voters in 2011. The indoor pool is open year-round and offers a range of aquatics programs and classes, including open swim and party rentals. For winter 2014, pool rates range from \$3-\$4 for youth/senior and adult drop-in fees (respectively), a 10-punch pass with discounted rates for residents, and monthly and annual passes. Scholarships are also available. During 2012/2013, the District commissioned major renovations to the pool, pool utilities and building exterior.

- *YMCA:* While not located in Tukwila, the Matt Griffin YMCA center (near the border between Tukwila and SeaTac) offers a wide range of recreation

opportunities that are similar to the City’s offerings. The YMCA requires a one-time joining fee ranging, in 2014, from \$25 (youth) to \$100 (adults) and monthly membership fees from \$32 (youth) to \$65 (adult). Membership allows for unlimited use of all 13 YMCA facilities in the greater Seattle area, including most health and wellness programs. Specialty classes and programs requiring additional fees are offered at a lower rate to members. The YMCA also offers financial assistance with the intention of serving as much of the community as possible. Considering the range of programs available, the proximity to Tukwila and its competitive costs, the YMCA is a competitor to City programs.

Strong evidence shows that when people have access to parks, they exercise more.

- The Benefits of Parks: Why America Needs More City Parks and Open Space

Growth and Economic Development

Future growth in Southcenter—the city’s urban core—and revitalization along busy street corridors such as Tukwila International Boulevard will require improved access to parks and recreation services. In addition, Tukwila’s large employee population constitutes a potential market and may have unmet recreation needs not addressed in previous recreation planning efforts.

Tukwila’s *Strategic Plan* calls for investing in the unique future of specific sub-areas of the city. These include Tukwila International Boulevard, Southcenter and Tukwila South. According to the *Southcenter Subarea Plan*, the area could accommodate approximately 2,710 new households and 5,359 new employees by 2031. The Plan presents goals for the regionally recognized urban center, calling for the redevelopment of underused properties and oversized parking lots into revitalized public spaces. It also provides a specific objective to add high quality open spaces and recreation areas to stimulate new development, including substantial housing development.

The *Southcenter Subarea Plan* calls for Green/Duwamish River restoration and Tukwila Pond enhancements to bolster community identity and create revitalized public amenities. Along with recommendations in the *Shoreline Master Plan*, the *Southcenter Subarea*

Plan envisions an urban waterfront with an amenity anchor along the northern edge of the pond containing retail, housing and hotels.

Further south, Tukwila South encompasses about 500 acres of land along the Green/Duwamish River at the south end of the city. Through a development agreement, the recently annexed area of the city will serve as a major employment center with the potential for thousands of new jobs.

3. Goals and Policies

The following goals and policies provide the framework needed to create the first parks, recreation and open space element of Tukwila’s *Comprehensive Plan*. The proposed goals enhance existing policies that relate to the park and recreation system, provided in the *Strategic Plan* and *Comprehensive Plan*. Appendix C provides a more detailed overview of how the PROS Plan goals relate to these two plans.

System Goals and Policies

There are five goals that describe the desired future state of Tukwila’s parks, recreation and open space system.

- Goal 1: Convenient and Connected System
- Goal 2: A Sense of Community
- Goal 3: Opportunities for All
- Goal 4: Inviting and Affordable
- Goal 5: Healthy People and Places



POLICIES

Each goal contains multiple policies that establish more specific directions for the PROS system. Policies reflect public needs, past and current planning efforts and policies, as well as strategic planning, design and management principles. Chapters 4 and 5 provide detailed recommendations and implementation strategies to carry out these policies.

GOAL 1: 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.

- 1.1 Create a system of close-to-home recreation opportunities.
- 1.2 Link parks to other destinations in the community and region such as schools, neighboring jurisdictions, regional parks and natural areas, and major employment centers.
- 1.3 Improve the pedestrian and bicyclist environment by creating safe and efficient connections across busy streets, railways and the river.
- 1.4 Increase physical connectivity with and views of the Green/Duwamish River.
- 1.5 Integrate linkages to recreation areas and open spaces when planning and designing the transportation system.
- 1.6 Include public transportation planning with the design and provision of parks and recreation programs and services.

GOAL 2: A SENSE OF COMMUNITY

The parks and recreation system builds community cohesion by providing places and programs for social interaction and gathering of all sizes, with designs that strengthen Tukwila's identity.

- 2.1 Design parks and recreation facilities that encourage social interaction, and gathering of large and small groups.
- 2.2 Design parks and recreation facilities that celebrate unique features of Tukwila and that contribute to quality of life and neighborhood needs.
- 2.3 Hold community events that encourage interaction between neighbors and celebrate the diversity of Tukwila.
- 2.4 Interpret local culture, history and environment throughout the system.
- 2.5 Integrate art throughout the city.
- 2.6 Support plans, policies, projects and programs to expand and improve the park and open space system in the Southcenter and Tukwila South areas, and seek opportunities to develop new facilities that enhance the overall experience of residents, while also considering the needs of employees, business owners and visitors.

GOAL 3: OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

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.

- 3.1 Offer flexible recreation programming that is constantly improving and responding to current trends and community desires.
- 3.2 Provide programs that embrace Tukwila’s many cultures, customs and interests.
- 3.3 Design accessible parks, facilities and programs for all ages and abilities.
- 3.4 Increase the capacity at existing parks and recreation facilities to maximize use and expand public access.
- 3.5 Provide indoor and outdoor spaces designed for flexibility of use.
- 3.6 Consider future growth needs and planned density when providing recreation opportunities.
- 3.7 Expand program options through enhanced partnerships and volunteerism.

GOAL 4: SAFE, INVITING AND AFFORDABLE

Parks and facilities are safe, well maintained and clean, and programs and services are welcoming and accessible for all people.

- 4.1 Design parks and public spaces using accepted public safety standards such as Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Principles (CPTED) or Defensible Space.
- 4.2 Develop park master plans or site designs that guide all major park improvements and that achieve cohesive design and efficient phasing of projects.
- 4.3 Involve the community in all aspects of project and program planning and implementation.
- 4.4 Involve community partners and volunteers in the construction and maintenance of parks to build public ownership and reduce City costs.
- 4.5 Increase access to affordable, free or reduced cost programs and services.
- 4.6 Expand awareness of the full range of program offerings and recreation options made available by the City and others.
- 4.7 Maintain parks and public spaces so that they are safe, clean, and welcoming.

GOAL 5: HEALTHY PEOPLE AND PLACES

Parks, recreation opportunities and open spaces promote healthy, active lifestyles, are designed and managed to engage and enhance the natural environment and the local economy.

- 5.1 Provide services for all ages to encourage community members to try new activities and build a habit of healthy living.
- 5.2 Ensure that projects and programs create a social, economic and environmental return on investment.
- 5.3 Consider long-term management, operations and maintenance needs when implementing new projects and programs.
- 5.4 Incorporate designs with green infrastructure, water and energy efficiency and storm water management, that create minimal environmental impacts.
- 5.5 Co-locate public infrastructure, environmental and recreational projects where practicable.
- 5.6 Regularly monitor and maintain natural areas to control invasive species and other impacts.
- 5.7 Employ best management practices in managing parks and open space areas and provide continuing education for City staff on these practices.
- 5.8 Provide public education resources to promote understanding of Tukwila's natural environment and river ecosystem while building a stewardship ethic in the community.
- 5.9 Leverage the park, recreation and open space system to meet the needs of the residents while considering economic stimulation and needs of visitors, business, and employees.

4. Recommendations

Each recommendation in this chapter is intended to achieve multiple objectives. Many will help achieve more than one of the PROS Plan goals. Recommendations cover a range of topics, organized into nine general categories.

Recommendation Categories

Walking and Biking

Social Gathering

Organized Sports

Unstructured Play

River Access

Physical Planning and Management

Forests and Waterways

Communications and Partnerships

Programs and Services

Walking and Biking

PROVIDE SAFE AND CONVENIENT PLACES FOR WALKING AND BIKING BY FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS OF ADOPTED PLANS.

Along with the needs identified in this Plan, the *Walk and Roll Plan* and *Comprehensive Plan* outline recommended walking and biking improvements throughout the city. Project priorities should be part of the City's annual capital planning process as a collaborative effort between the Parks & Recreation Department and Department of Public Works.

INCREASE ACCESS TO WALKING AND BIKING BY ADDING TRAILS IN PARKS WITH EXISTING CAPACITY.

Safe places to walk and bike should be added where possible throughout Tukwila. To meet this objective, there are several parks with potential for new trails. Nearly all are City-owned and most of these parks have good improvement potential. The City should consider adding internal or looped pathways in these sites to provide places to walk and bike. Some locations should be studied to determine whether connections can be added to link to other trails such as the Green River Trail.

Codiga Park

Crestview Park

Crystal Springs Park

Duwamish Gardens

Duwamish Hill Preserve

Macadam Wetlands

Southgate Park

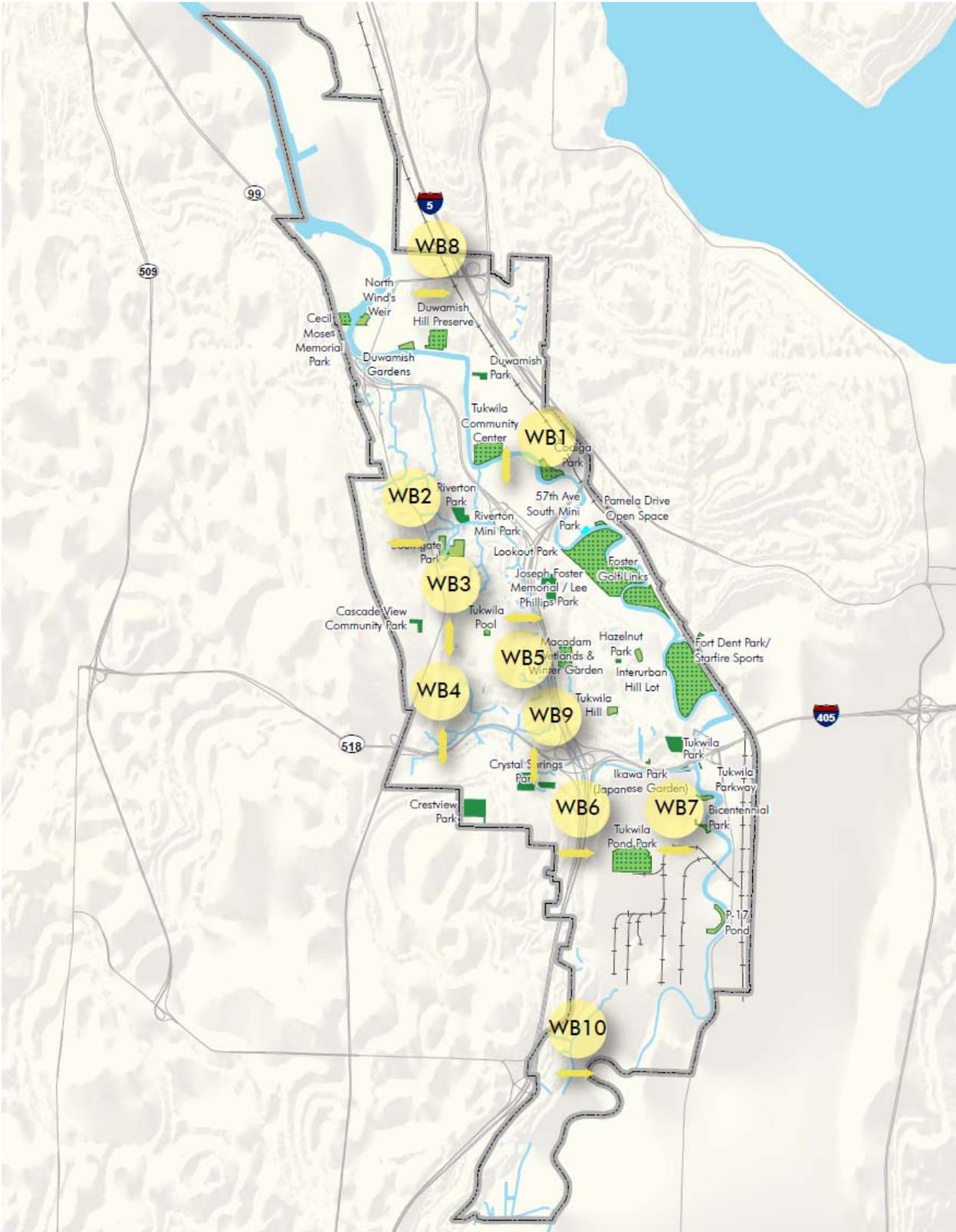
Tukwila Hill

Tukwila Park

Tukwila Pond Park

Tukwila South

Figure 4-1: Walking and Biking Focus Areas



INVEST IN BICYCLIST AND PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS IN IDENTIFIED FOCUS AREAS.

There are ten focus areas that lack convenient and safe walking and biking access (Figure 4-1). The locations are general areas within Tukwila that are greater than ¼- to ½-mile from the Green River Trail. These areas also highlight connections (envisioned in the City's *Walk and Roll Plan* and supported by input to this Plan) that could greatly improve access for walking and biking connectivity.

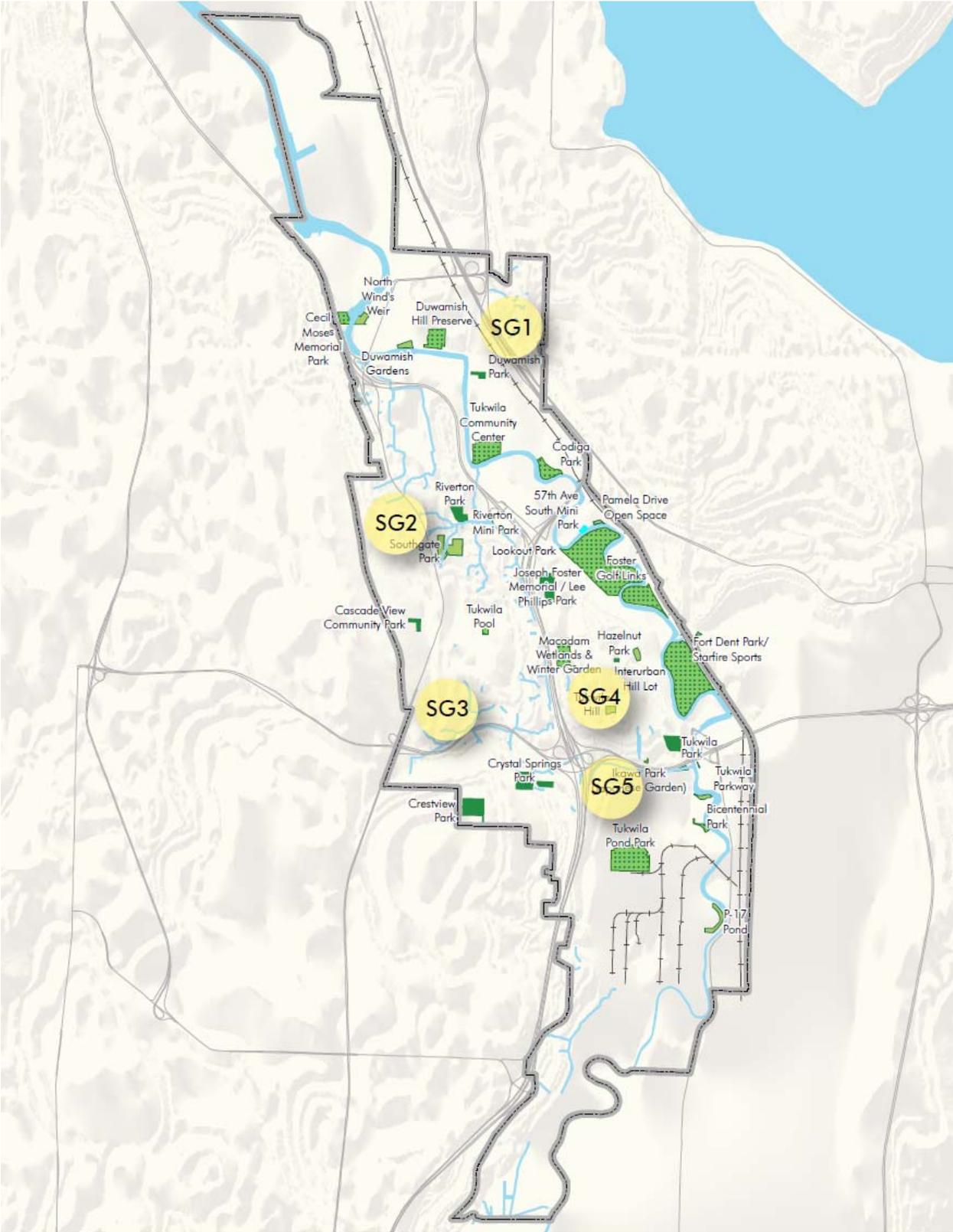
- **WB1:** Connect the Tukwila Community Center from the south and west through a modification to the Allentown Bridge, or new pedestrian/bicycle bridge.
- **WB2:** Cross Tukwila International Boulevard to access Southgate Park.
- **WB3:** Connect north/south, and cross 144th Street to improve access to Cascade View Community Park.
- **WB4:** Connect opposite sides of Highway 518.
- **WB5:** Cross I-5 and connect east/west.
- **WB6:** Cross I-5 near the Southcenter Mall.

- **WB7:** Connect the Southcenter Mall and Southcenter Transit Center with the Green River, Interurban, and Lake to Sound trails. This linkage will connect with the Sounder Commuter Rail Station and the City of Renton via a pedestrian walkway and bridge over the Green River.
- **WB8:** Cross Boeing Access Road.
- **WB9:** Cross Highway 518 along 51st Avenue.
- **WB10:** Cross the Green/Duwamish River near South 178th Street to Brisco Park, and continue with planned pathways within Tukwila South.

"Better access across I-5 is needed. It is too divided, they need a pedestrian bridge of some kind that is much safer."

- public comment

Figure 4-2: Social Gathering Focus Areas



Social Gathering

ADD PLACES FOR SOCIAL GATHERING BY ADDING FEATURES IN PARKS WITH EXISTING CAPACITY.

The public desires places to gather throughout the system. There are several parks that have available space for new picnic shelters and/or open lawns that would support informal social gathering activities such as picnicking, socializing and small family gatherings. Most of these sites are City-owned. The list below identifies these sites. Adding social gathering spaces to many of these sites will require improved public access and public parking.

Cecil Moses Memorial Park

Duwamish Hill Preserve

Tukwila Hill

Tukwila Park

Tukwila Pool

INCREASE ACCESS TO PLACES FOR SOCIAL GATHERING IN IDENTIFIED FOCUS AREAS.

There are five focus areas that do not have nearby places for social gathering or to hold community events (Figure 4-2). A combination of picnic areas and shelters, plazas and other supporting amenities should be added to these areas to meet this identified need.

- *SG1:* Add picnic areas and/or an open lawn when developing Ryan Hill Park.

- *SG2:* Partner with Cascade View Elementary School to provide space for public gathering during non school hours.
- *SG3:* Create a small “parklet” or seating area along public street frontage.
- *SG4:* Improve access to Tukwila Elementary School to accommodate this type of activity.
- *SG5:* Improve access to the picnic tables and shelter at Tukwila Pond Park as called for in planned improvements to the site.

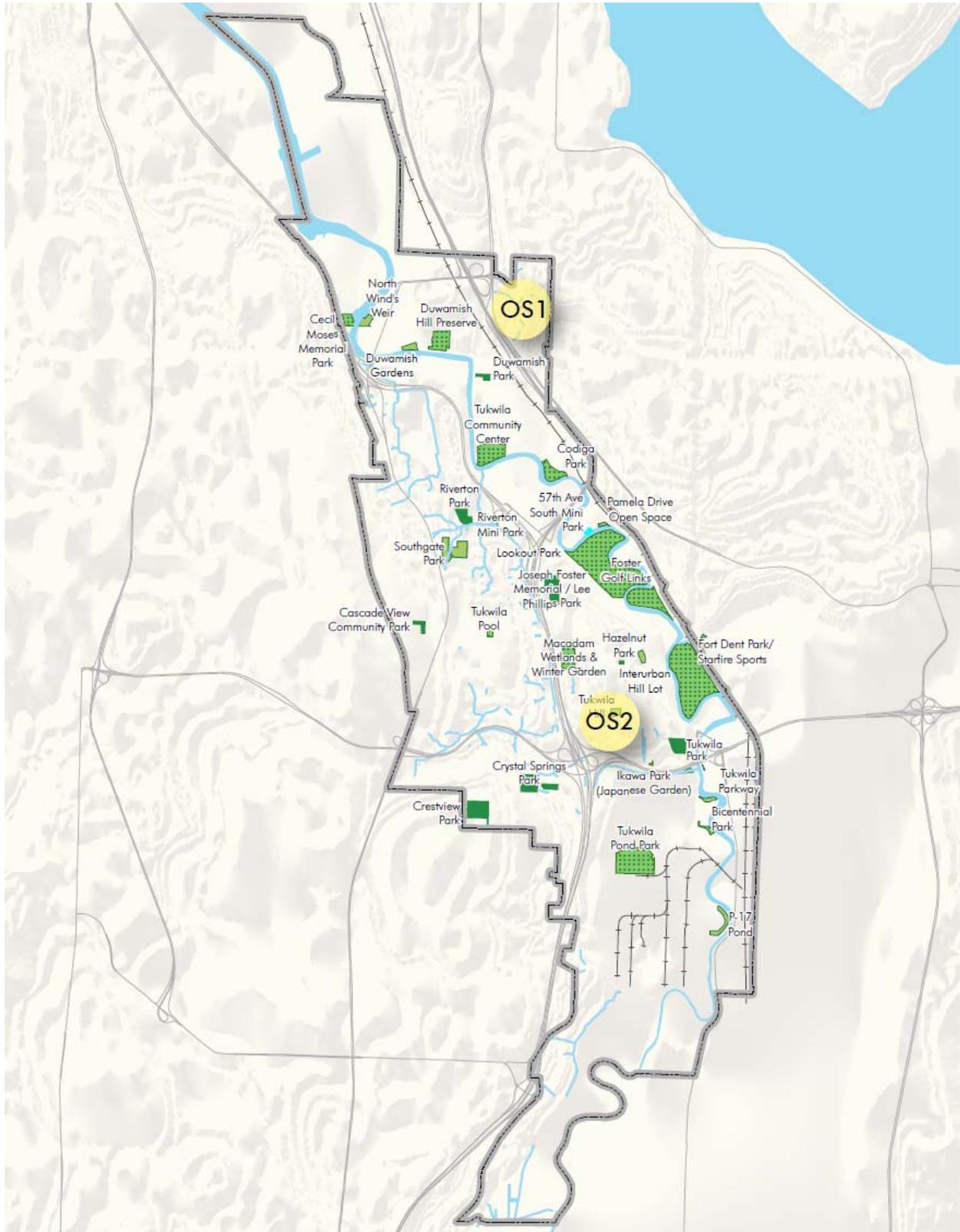
“The city should look at developing parks and amenities that attract diverse community members to participate.”

- public comment

IDENTIFY A SUITABLE LOCATION FOR A LARGER SCALE PUBLIC GATHERING SPACE.

Community events are popular in Tukwila and a new facility should be added in the Tukwila Urban Center to serve as a focal point for local gatherings and public events.

Figure 4-3: Organized Sports Focus Areas



Organized Sports

CONTINUE TO SEEK LOCATIONS FOR NEW SPORTS FIELDS AND BALL COURTS AT SITES WITH ADEQUATE CAPACITY.

Facilities that allow for organized sports require the most amount of level land area to accommodate sports fields and courts. Riverton Park currently has an open field and a small playground. The site is 4.9 acres and is mostly level with off-street parking, creating potential for a full basketball court or a more formalized sport field.

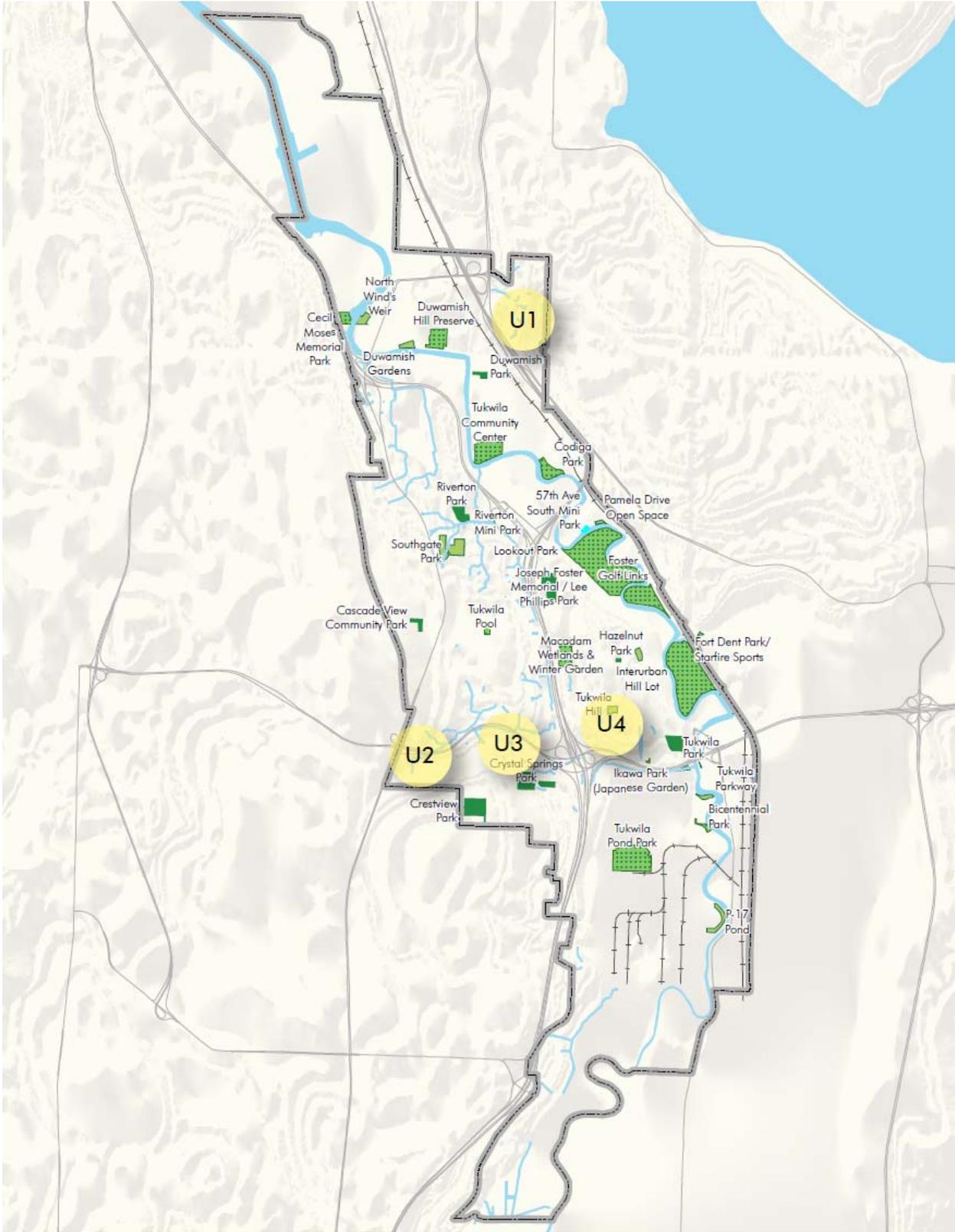
INCREASE ACCESS TO ORGANIZED SPORTS OPPORTUNITIES THROUGHOUT TUKWILA.

There is unmet demand for sports such as indoor/outdoor soccer and basketball throughout Tukwila. With limited space to add new facilities, the City should continue to partner with organizations such as school districts and Starfire Sports for providing access to sports facilities and programs. Special attention should be placed on two focus areas that currently have the least amount of access to organized sports (Figure 4-3).

- *OS1*: Partner with Rainier View Elementary School to allow public use of school facilities during non school hours.

- *OS2*: Improve access to Tukwila Elementary School, and partner with the district for use of school facilities during non school hours. Programming at Starfire Sports would also be convenient to this location.

Figure 4-4: Unstructured Play Focus Areas



Unstructured Play

ADD PLACES FOR UNSTRUCTURED PLAY BY ADDING FEATURES IN PARKS WITH EXISTING CAPACITY.

Because unstructured play can occur in a number of different settings, activities that would support this need could be added in multiple parks. Some of these sites are one acre or less but could accommodate areas that integrate play with natural features and art work, such as log or rock stepping stones, climbing or obstacle structures and interactive artwork. There are also several parks with sloping topography that can provide opportunities for play and challenge. Most of these sites are City-owned and may require public parking. Some sites, such as Crystal Springs Park have sensitive habitat areas that will need additional study to confirm compatibility.

Cecil Moses Memorial Park

Codiga Park

Crystal Springs Park

Duwamish Hill Preserve

Tukwila Hill

Tukwila Park

INCREASE ACCESS TO UNSTRUCTURED PLAY IN IDENTIFIED FOCUS AREAS.

There is unmet demand for unstructured play throughout the city. The City should increase places for safe, unstructured play in areas that lack convenient access through new features and partnerships (Figure 4-4).

- *U1*: Add a nature play area with development of Ryan Hill Park.
- *U2*: Partner with McMicken Heights Elementary School for use of school facilities during non school hours.
- *U3*: Improve access to Crystal Springs Park and add a nature play feature to this park.
- *U4*: Improve access to Tukwila Elementary School to allow for use of school facilities during non-school hours.

Research on the brain demonstrates that play is a scaffold for development, a vehicle for increasing neural structures, and a means by which all children practice skills they will need in later life

-Association for Childhood Education International

Physical Planning and Management

REPLACE THE EXISTING NUMERICAL PARK LAND LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD WITH AN OVERALL PARK LAND SERVICE AREA DISTANCE.

Tukwila's approach to park and recreation services should be based on providing different park types that serve specific functions, following the classifications outlined in this Plan. The service area distance is based on providing convenient access and maximizing benefits to the public by preventing duplication of services. Use of this measurement also considers non-residents, such as workers and visitors.

RANK PARK AND RECREATION PROJECTS THROUGH THE USE OF PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA.

The criteria should be used as a starting point to identify how projects should be ranked, while factoring changing conditions and opportunities.

DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT UPDATED PARK DESIGN GUIDELINES AND POLICIES.

Design guidelines for park and recreation development should be used as a basis for all future park master plans and park improvements. These should reference the guidelines provided in the *Southcenter Subarea Plan*, and outline best practices in system development, including parameters for park character and size, access and compatible amenities and

features. The guidelines should promote compatibility between uses and structures adjacent to parks.

REDUCE THE MAINTENANCE NEEDS OF LOW-FUNCTIONING SMALL PARKS.

Several of the city's smaller parks should be undergo maintenance efficiency improvements to better align with the way these sites are used by the public. This could include replacing selected areas of turf with groundcover or permeable pavers, increasing or adding to tree groves or replacing park benches with seat walls.

ADD A DISC GOLF COURSE TO THE SYSTEM.

Parks with capacity for a disc golf course offer open areas or fairways ranging between 20-40 feet wide, and can accommodate nine tee pads and baskets, signage and user amenities such as benches. Southgate Park has potential for adding a disc golf course. However, the park currently has no public access, parking or access to transit.

IDENTIFY THE PREFERRED LOCATION FOR AN ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY GARDEN.

The public has identified Duwamish Park as having potential for a community garden. Gardens require at least six hours of unobstructed sunlight, access to a reliable water source and fencing. Duwamish Park is not City-owned but has good public access, parking and portable restrooms.

The City can also consider adding small-scale community gardens in underused spaces such as parking strips, trail corridors and site edges.

IDENTIFY THE PREFERRED LOCATION FOR AN OFF-LEASH DOG PARK.

The public has also expressed a need for a dog park, or off-leash dog area, at Crestview, Duwamish and/or Joseph Foster Memorial/Lee Philips Park. Basic requirements for dog parks should include secure fencing, access to water, shade and parking. All of these parks have parking but are not owned by the City.

CREATE A PERMANENT SKATE PARK.

The Tukwila Skatepark should be a permanent feature of the park system. The facility should be located within the Tukwila Community Center property or Foster High School in a location with good visibility and access.

DEVELOP AN ACCESSIBLE PLAY AREA

Identify a site suitable for designing an accessible play area that meets ADA guidelines while providing a fun and engaging place to play. The City should form a partnership team with public and private groups to design the site and seek donations of materials and/or services to make the project cost effective for the City.

Forests and Waterways

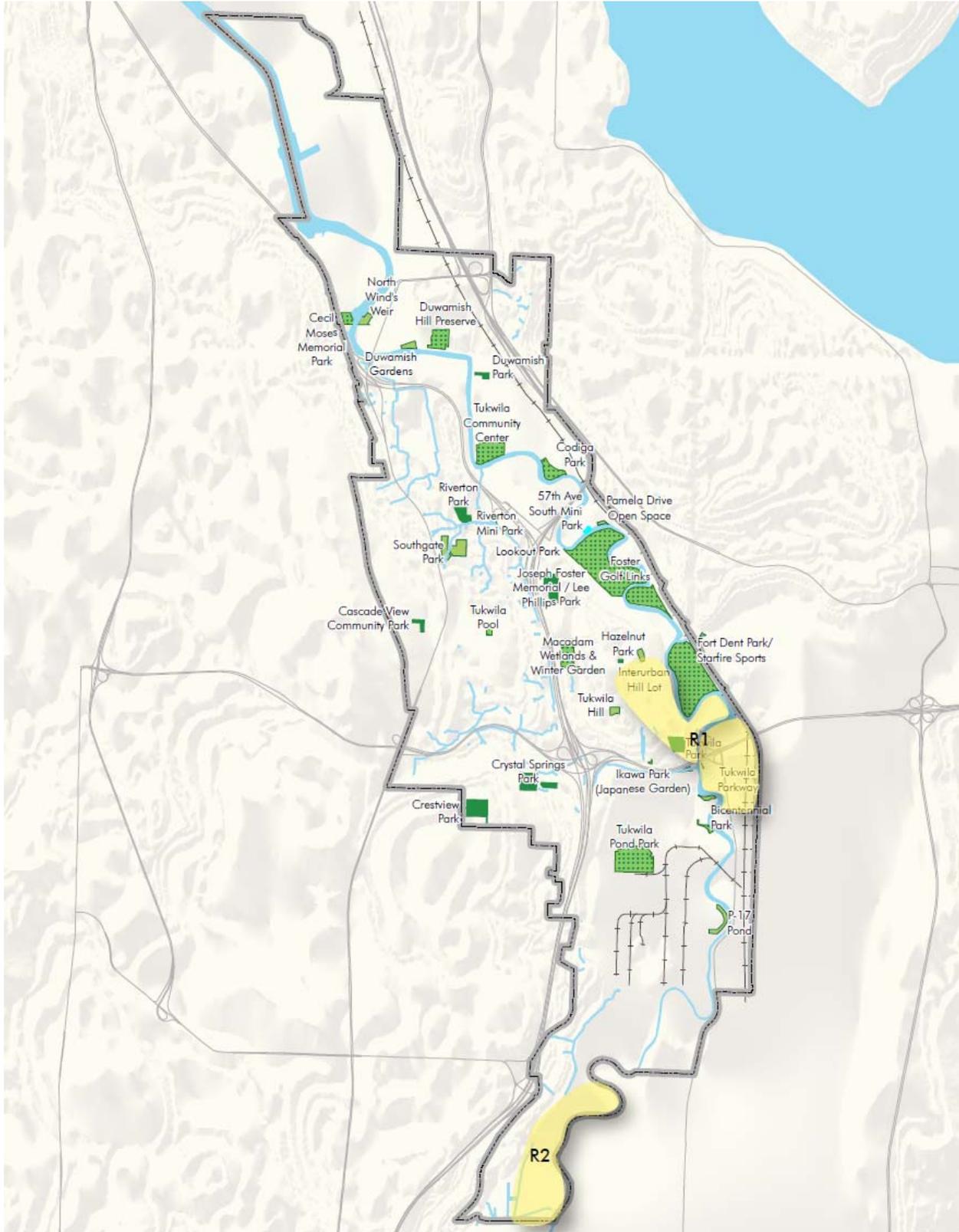
INCREASE ACCESS TO FORESTS AND THE RIVER.

There are six parks that have capacity to increase access to forests and the river, or that can incorporate open space or views of these resources. Some sites, such as Duwamish Park are near the river but could have access to the river through safer street crossings or trail connections. Planned improvements for Duwamish Hill Preserve will provide access to the river. Duwamish Park is not City owned, making future improvements more challenging.

The city's proximity to the Green/Duwamish River make non-motorized boat launches a desirable amenity to supply activities such as canoeing and kayaking. Duwamish Hill Preserve and Duwamish Park both offer potential for boat launching if access is available.

- Bicentennial Park
- Christiensen Road Property
- Duwamish Gardens
- Duwamish Hill Preserve (Phase III Improvements)
- Duwamish Park
- Foster Golf Course (north end)

Figure 4-5: River Access Focus Areas



IMPROVE CONNECTIVITY TO THE RIVER.

Tukwila is defined by the Green/Duwamish River and many of the city's existing parks are located on or adjacent to this waterway. The *Southcenter Subarea Plan* calls for improved connectivity to the river, as well as a bridge to connect with the Sounder Station and future park near this location on the east bank of the river.

However, there are two general locations where connectivity should be improved to allow for increased use and enjoyment of the river (Figure 4-5).

- *R1*: Work with willing property owners to identify opportunities to connect to the river in this location.
- *R2*: Implement planned trail within this area to increase connectivity to the river.

CONTINUE TO SEEK OPPORTUNITIES FOR OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION TO INCREASE LAND/TRAIL CONNECTIVITY, ACCESS TO RECREATION AREAS AND LAND CONSERVATION FUNCTIONS.

The City should identify properties that would increase greenway and/or habitat and park land connectivity through inventory of desirable properties and through conversations with willing property owners and/or partnering with other land managers.

ENHANCE AND PROTECT DUWAMISH HILL PRESERVE.

User groups have identified the Duwamish Hill Preserve as an important site to preserve for natural and cultural reasons, allowing certain uses such as walking and viewing wildlife. The site also provides views of the Green/Duwamish River and could accommodate a view point area.

DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE VISION FOR RECREATION ALONG THE GREEN/DUWAMISH RIVER CORRIDOR.

The Green/Duwamish River corridor is a major asset that should be enhanced through a comprehensive corridor plan. The plan should provide direction for integrating trails, street and river crossings and riverfront parks along the corridor, as well as a prototype design for public and private spaces along the river. Locations and recommendations specified in the Shoreline Master Program should be included in development of this vision.

ALLOW FOR LOW IMPACT ACTIVITIES IN OPEN SPACE AREAS TO INCREASE PUBLIC ACCESS AND USE OF THESE LANDS.

Open spaces in Tukwila, including riverfront sites and inland forest properties, should offer opportunities for environmental education and interpretation, wildlife viewing and walking and biking.

ENHANCE THE URBAN TREE CANOPY.

The City should conduct a citywide tree inventory and identify ways to improve and increase the urban tree canopy by working with volunteer groups and other public and non-profit agencies. This effort should also seek ways of improving the health of the existing urban forest.

PROVIDE MORE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION.

The Parks & Recreation Department should continue to integrate the city's natural resources with public awareness through a variety of volunteer programs, nature walks and interpretive services as well as use of social media and public outreach, to foster long-term support and stewardship.

By incorporating trees into a city's infrastructure, managers can build a smaller, less expensive stormwater management system.

- American Forests Urban Resource Center

Communications and Partnerships

UPDATE THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO REFLECT POLICY DECISIONS OF THE UPDATED PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN.

The goals, policies and recommendations of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan should be added to the *Comprehensive Plan* as a plan element. The goals, policies and recommendations of this Plan should be the basis for the updated parks, recreation and open space element of the *Comprehensive Plan*.

DEVELOP PROCEDURES TO HELP FOSTER VOLUNTEER/PUBLIC-INITIATED PROJECT IDEAS.

The City should consider developing a project proposal application for the public, as well as a City scoring process, that allows for volunteer-initiated proposals that could add value to the parks and recreation system.

CONDUCT A MULTI-FACETED PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAM TO CONNECT AND ENGAGE WITH THE CITY'S DIVERSE POPULATION.

The City should periodically engage in an outreach process to foster two-way communication between the City and residents. Outreach should promote conversations with a cross section of the community, in different languages, settings and formats that will be appealing to residents.

STRENGTHEN COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION AMONG CITY DEPARTMENTS TO SUPPORT PARKS AND RECREATION.

The Parks and Recreation Department and members of the Staff Advisory Group should market the purpose and function of this Plan to other City departments to increase awareness of the Plan and build support for park and recreation projects among competing priorities.

CONTINUE TO PROVIDE AQUATICS OPPORTUNITIES BY PARTNERING WITH THE TUKWILA METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT.

The Tukwila Pool is a valued community resource and the City and District should continue their collaboration to offer affordable aquatics options in the city.

CONSIDER JOINT PLANNING WITH SCHOOL DISTRICTS FOR PROGRAMMING AND SITE DESIGN OF DISTRICT OWNED SITES.

The City should seek increased collaboration with school districts to maximize access to recreation opportunities in Tukwila.

IDENTIFY POTENTIAL PARTNERS TO ACQUIRE AND DEVELOP PUBLIC GATHERING AREAS IN THE TUKWILA URBAN CENTER.

Develop strategies for public-private partnerships in the Tukwila Urban Center that will result in public open spaces to serve as focal points and settings for special events and activities.

STRENGTHEN VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AND PARTNERSHIPS TO ENHANCE PARKS, EVENTS AND PROGRAMS.

The City should consider developing a volunteer project database to serve as a clearinghouse for citywide volunteer opportunities. At the same time, the City should provide an accessible way that allows the public to propose volunteer-led park and recreation projects and programs. The City should work with volunteer organizations, such as Forterra, to identify opportunities to strengthen the park system.

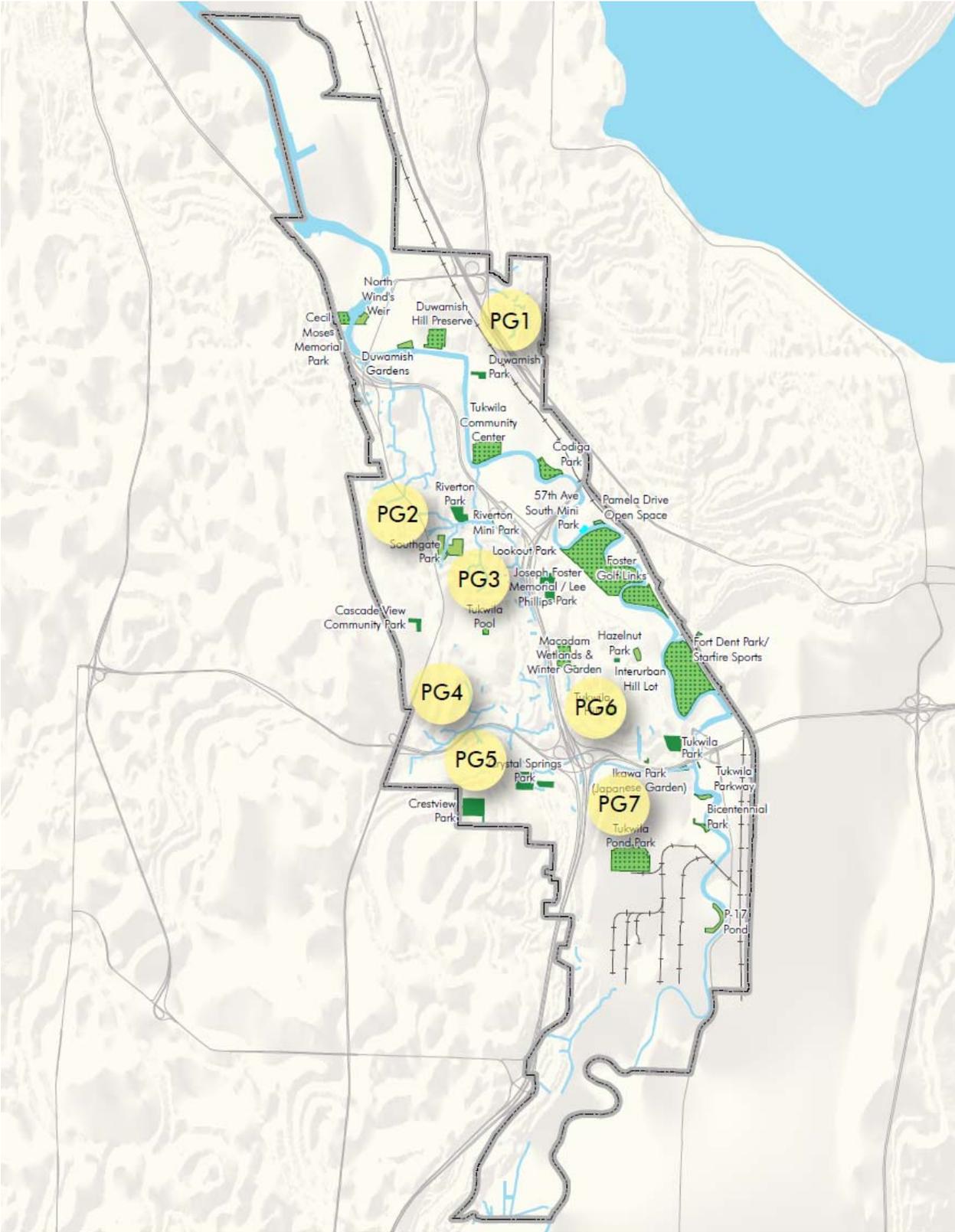
ALIGN INVESTMENTS TOWARDS CONTRIBUTING PARTNERS WITH DIRECTIVES OF PLAN.

The City should closely monitor its role and contributions toward contributing partners of the parks and recreation system. Investments and resources directed from the City should align with expected outcomes and benefits, linking to goals, policies and recommendations of this Plan.

GROW PARTNERSHIPS BY TARGETING SPECIFIC GROUPS THAT CAN IMPROVE PROGRAMMING IN IDENTIFIED GAP AREAS.

Potential partners should include Highline and Tukwila school districts, Tukwila Metropolitan Park District, King County and the SeaTac Community Center, as well as other cities and organizations that can extend their offerings to Tukwila residents such as public service organizations, faith-based groups, Starfire Sports and private health and recreation facilities.

Figure 4-6: Programming Focus Areas



Programs and Services

INCREASE PROGRAMMING LOCATION OPTIONS, TARGETING ACCESS FROM THE DENSEST RESIDENTIAL AREAS, WHERE PRACTICABLE.

The City should expand recreation programming and services in these locations using a combination of mobile programming and classes and activities held at City-owned and school-owned locations. Environmental education, community gardening and skill-building programs can all occur within parks. In particular, the City should focus attention on the following seven focus areas that currently lack convenient access to programming (Figure 4-6).

- *PG1*: Continue to offer programming at the Tukwila Community Center.
- *PG2*: Consider adding programming at Cascade View Elementary School.
- *PG3*: Consider partnering with the MPD to add non-aquatic programs at Tukwila Pool, and partner with schools to provide programming at school-owned property during non-school hours.
- *PG4*: Partner with Thorndyke Elementary School to consider adding programming during non-school hours.
- *PG5*: Consider offering mobile programming in nearby parks to meet the needs of this area.
- *PG6*: Partner with Tukwila Elementary School to consider adding programming during non-school hours.
- *PG7*: Demand for programming and public services in Southcenter will

continue to increase in the future as new residential growth occurs. Consider traditional place-based offerings, such as programming at a park or building, as well as alternative options such as mobile programming, to meet the needs of this area.

- *PG8*: Partner with Tukwila Village to provide for social gathering.

REFINE THE CURRENT COST-RECOVERY FRAMEWORK TO INCREASE AFFORDABILITY OF DIFFERENT PROGRAMS.

The Parks and Recreation Department should increase the base of options provided for free or at low cost to the public. Experiment with different types of programs based on enhanced outreach to the city's diverse populations, and allocate resources to test new and alternative programming. The City should allocate resources to expand the availability of programming available to different cultures and language groups. The City should annually evaluate the performance and need of these services, against the value provided for participants.

PURSUE ALTERNATIVE SERVICE DELIVERY MODELS TO ENHANCE PROGRAMMING OPTIONS AND CONVENIENCE.

Tukwila should seek non-traditional programming options such as mobile programming at employment centers, and partnerships with schools and private providers to increase access to programming.

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5. Implementation

Implementation takes the Plan from recommendations to action. The key to this step is creating a clear process for identifying the projects that are ready for action and those where additional conditions must be met before the City can proceed. This process must also be designed to address new projects that emerge after the PROS Plan is complete.

System Concept

Creating a complete park, recreation and open space system in Tukwila will require maximizing existing park land and facilities and expanding partnerships that extend what the City can provide within its constrained land base.

The system concept is the summarization of the recommended improvements for the City of Tukwila's PROS system.

The future parks, recreation and open space system unites the community by bringing residents, employees and visitors together around opportunities to gather, play and enjoy the people and places that make Tukwila unique.



Project Categories

There are five categories of projects that emerged from the recommendations. The Parks, Recreation and Open Space Concept Map, on page 5-3, depicts these recommendations. This map provides a visual guide to the future system.

RIVERFRONT PROJECTS

The Green/Duwamish River occupies a central place in the identity and natural systems of Tukwila. The *Southcenter Area Plan* calls for increased connectivity to the river from the Tukwila Urban Center. Projects that touch, overlook and cross the river should all be considered part of a larger whole. Sites and facilities touching the river also have the opportunity to positively impact flood risk, fish habitat and water quality. Furthermore, sites

that overlook or cross the river benefit from the expanded openness of the corridor and the connections along the regional trails.

PARTNER SITES

With limited space to grow, the PROS system and services will expand through concerted effort to establish, grow and maintain partnerships with public, non-profit and private organizations. Using these sites, Tukwila will be able to fulfill community needs for close-to-home recreation opportunities in built-out neighborhoods. Utilizing school sites for recreation takes advantage of the central location of these facilities in the day-to-day lives of children and their families and builds public support through intergovernmental cooperation.

CONNECTIONS

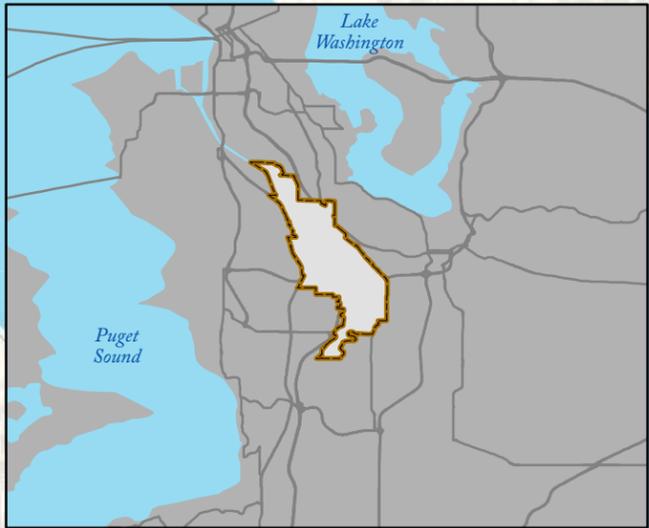
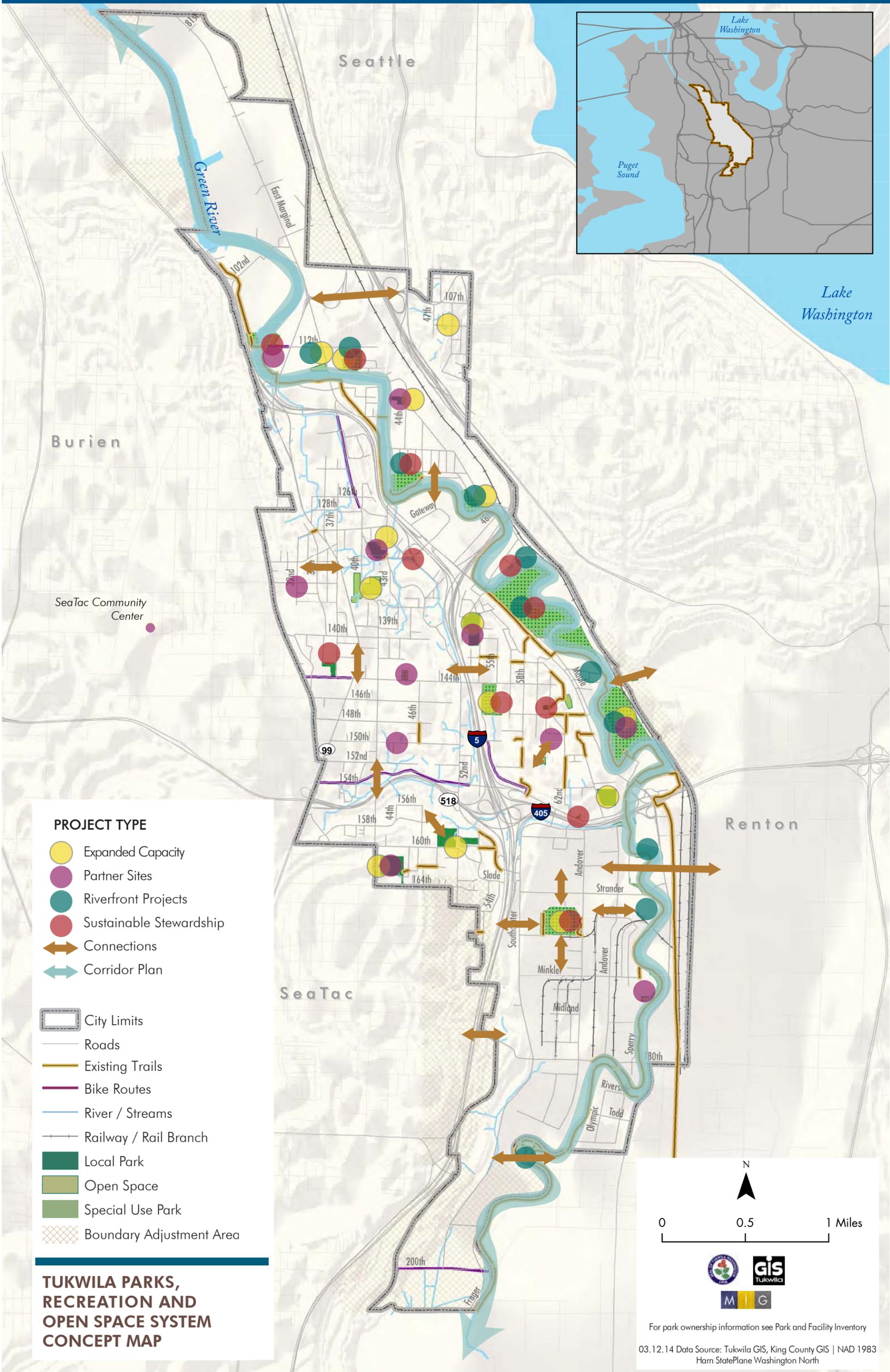
A critical part of providing access to recreation opportunities is addressing the need for safe pedestrian and bicycle connections. By crossing barriers, completing links and improving the experience of traveling without a car, connections will support more recreation and encourage active transportation. Some connections are large, challenging projects attempting to improve the use of limited connections across Interstate-5 or the river, while others are about providing a more direct point of access to a park or partner site, effectively bringing the park closer to users.

EXPANDED CAPACITY

Many recreation opportunities require more than just access to park land. Furthermore, as the population changes, the needs at individual park sites will change. Through carefully considered improvements at existing and new park sites, the City can create spaces that are able to flexibly accommodate a larger number of users participating in a wider range of activities. Incorporating the types of gathering places that are engaging to all creates the type of new park system capacity desired by Tukwila residents.

SUSTAINABLE STEWARDSHIP

By supporting the parks, open spaces, facilities and programs with an eye toward the long-term, Tukwila can do more with all of the resources available. By targeting strategic investment at the smallest and least functional of the City's park sites, the City will reserve limited operating funds for sites that benefit a wider range and larger number of users. By providing appropriate access to habitat improvement projects in the forests and at river's edge, the City can inspire a conservation ethic amongst park users. Even at sites that do not currently need improvements, the long-term care of the system will have positive impacts on the safety of users.

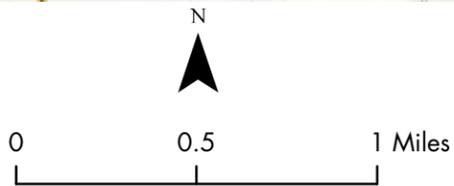


PROJECT TYPE

- Expanded Capacity
- Partner Sites
- Riverfront Projects
- Sustainable Stewardship
- ↔ Connections
- ↔ Corridor Plan

- City Limits
- Roads
- Existing Trails
- Bike Routes
- River / Streams
- Railway / Rail Branch
- Local Park
- Open Space
- Special Use Park
- Boundary Adjustment Area

**TUKWILA PARKS,
RECREATION AND
OPEN SPACE SYSTEM
CONCEPT MAP**



For park ownership information see Park and Facility Inventory
 03.12.14 Data Source: Tukwila GIS, King County GIS | NAD 1983
 Harn StatePlane Washington North

Capital Projects

Those improvements that require construction or renovation are capital projects, and will be eligible for different funding options than ongoing operations such as maintenance and programming. Capital projects, grouped by project category, are summarized below and explained in site-by-site detail on Table 5-1 on page 5-9.

RIVERFRONT PROJECTS

There are many different opportunities for recreation along, in and around the Green/Duwamish River Corridor. To make the most of this citywide resource a coordinated, guided effort is needed.

The first step in aligning riverfront projects is a Recreation Corridor Plan. This project should bring together the many small projects that have been considered, begun or completed along banks of the Green/Duwamish River. The Recreation Corridor Plan should build on existing recreational, engineering, environmental and transportation planning efforts for the full extent of the river corridor in Tukwila and identify opportunities, specific projects and design treatments that will make the most of each (generally small) site and the connecting trails. The street ends of several local streets fronting the river serve as an existing asset to the system that hold potential for increasing river access. Improvements should include repair and restoration of shoreline habitat.

Riverfront Project Sites

Bicentennial Park

Black River Trail/Lake to Sound Trail

Christensen Road Property

Codiga Park

Duwamish Gardens

Duwamish Hill Preserve

Fort Dent Park

Foster Golf Links

Green River Trail

Log House Park

Pamela Drive Open Space/
Wilcox River Park

Tukwila Community Center

Tukwila South Crossing

PARTNER SITES

Continue and expand critical partnerships with local school districts and other entities. To secure public access, the City should pursue and renew formal agreements and be prepared to make targeted improvements at partner sites if necessary.

Expand Partnerships Sites

Cascade View Elementary School

SeaTac Community Center

Showalter Middle School

Thorndyke Elementary School

Tukwila Elementary School

Maintain Partnership Sites

Crestview Park

Duwamish Park

Grandview Off-Leash Dog Park

Joseph Foster Memorial/Lee Philips Park

Riverton Park

Tukwila Pool

CONNECTIONS

Improve pedestrian and bicycle access through key connections to park and partner sites.

Connection Project Sites

152nd Street Open Space/Tukwila Elementary School

Black River Trail/Lake to Sound Trail

Crystal Springs Park

Southgate Park

Tukwila Pond Park

Tukwila South Crossing

Tukwila South Trail Links

Walk and Roll Plan Connections

EXPANDED CAPACITY

Address the needs for social gathering, organized sports, unstructured play and other facilities by utilizing capacity at the following sites.

Expanded Capacity Sites

Christensen Rd. Property

Codiga Park

Crestview Park

Crystal Springs Park

Duwamish Gardens

Duwamish Hill Preserve

Duwamish Park

Fort Dent Park

Joseph Foster Memorial/Lee Phillips Park

Macadam Wetlands and Winter Garden

Riverton Park

Southgate Park

Tukwila Park

Tukwila Pond Park

In addition to expanding existing sites, acquire, design and develop a new park site.

New Park Site

Ryan Hill Park

SUSTAINABLE STEWARDSHIP

Make targeted efficiency improvement investments to reduce the cost of operating Tukwila's smallest sites. Sustain the sites that do not otherwise have improvements planned so that they maintain a high quality park experience. While there are more sites that need heightened stewardship, the following are those recommended for prioritization.

<i>Efficiency Improvement Sites</i>
57th Avenue South Park
Hazelnut Park
Ikawa Park
Riverton Mini Park
<i>Stewardship of Existing Sites</i>
Cascade View Community Park
Foster Golf Links
Macadam Wetlands and Winter Garden
P-17 Pond
Tukwila Community Center
Tukwila Pond Park

Table 5-1: Prioritized Capital Projects, lists the capital projects broken down by the prioritization categories described in the next section.

"Tukwila has great parks and I like that there are so many little neighborhood parks scattered throughout the city."

- public comment

Capital Project Prioritization

As a relatively small and physically constrained city, Tukwila must carefully prioritize on which projects to spend staff time and capital and operations resources. Some projects are already in motion, with the City making progress on design or construction, while others are awaiting critical actions or conditions to be right to move forward. The following structure identifies the set of projects that are ready for a go-ahead decision, recognizing that these projects generally fall into an active, pending or conditional status.

ACTIVE PROJECTS

Active projects are those that have received all necessary City approvals or those with an open development application that have begun or are in the process of construction. These projects require community investment in staff time, consulting fees or capital resources. The City will likely complete these projects within a one to three-year period.

PENDING PROJECTS

Pending projects are those that have the support of the City and/or community, but are awaiting a commitment of capital dollars and staff time to move to the next step. The pending projects are often identified projects that have not started yet or projects that have completed some level of design and are awaiting resources for construction or implementation. The timing of these projects will likely occur within a three to six-year period.

CONDITIONAL PROJECTS

Conditional projects are important to the long-term vision of the park and recreation system but require a major trigger event that is outside of the City's control before they can move forward. These projects will take six or more years to occur and may require additional partnerships, agreements or arrangements, or outside funding sources to move forward toward the pending category. Projects in this category may also be dependent on the priorities of another City department. For example, a proposed trail connection along a street may be dependent on the capital planning by the Public Works Department.

A special subset of the conditional projects category includes the sites that primarily require ongoing care and stewardship. These sites are conditional in that they are awaiting a change prompted by the end of life of a major element (requiring replacement and reconsideration) or a proposal for a change or improvement to the site.

Utilizing this structure to sort the list of projects provides a functional working list of the important projects listed in this Plan. Table 5-1 presents the projects by their status, with indications for the categories the projects fall into and which goals they support.

Capital Project Costs

In Table 5-1: Prioritized Capital Projects, the right column reports a planning level cost for the projects at each site.¹ These costs are drawn from the City's capital improvement program estimates, where applicable, as well as allowances based on the experience of the planning team in similar northwest communities. The planning level costs are not anticipated to be the exact final price of the improvements listed, but rather a reasonable estimate of the amount of resources that should be committed to the project at the preliminary capital project budgeting stage. These numbers and this project list should be considered a precursor to the City's Capital Improvement Program list, which will provide details about the timing and commitment of funding.

¹ Costs for projects identified in the Walk and Roll Plan are not available due to the varying conditions related to project feasibility, street type, design needs, property ownership and timing.

Table 5-1: Prioritized Capital Project List

Project	Ownership	System Concept Category					Project Description	Forwards PROS Goals					Planning Level Cost
		Riverfront Projects	Partner Sites	Connections	Expanded Capacity	Sustainable Stewardship		Convenient and Connected System	A Sense of Community	Opportunities for All	Inviting and Affordable	Healthy People and Places	
ACTIVE PROJECTS (1-3 YEARS)													
Black River Trail/Lake to Sound Trail	City of Tukwila/Private	✓		✓			Complete the 1/4 mile link between the Green River Trail at Fort Dent Park and the City of Renton at the Black River sites, becoming a segment of the Lake to Sound Trail.	✓			✓	✓	\$ 1,500,000
Duwamish Hill Preserve	City of Tukwila	✓			✓	✓	Complete the remaining phases of planned park development.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$ 8,500,000
Tukwila Pond Park	City of Tukwila			✓	✓	✓	Complete the remaining phases of planned park development.	✓			✓	✓	\$ 8,000,000
SUBTOTAL: ACTIVE PROJECTS												\$ 18,000,000	
PENDING PROJECTS (3-6 YEARS)													
152nd Street Open Space	City of Tukwila			✓			Trail connection to Tukwila Elementary School site.	✓				✓	\$ 1,250,000
57th Avenue South Park	City of Tukwila					✓	Invest in landscape and surfacing improvements to reduce maintenance demand.					✓	\$ 30,000
Codiga Park	City of Tukwila	✓			✓		First of three non-motorized boat launch to provide access to Green/Duwamish River, included in Hand boat launch CIP project.	✓			✓	✓	\$ 200,000
Crestview Park	Highline School District		✓		✓		Consider adding off-leash dog area.		✓	✓	✓		\$ 200,000
Crystal Springs Park	City of Tukwila			✓	✓		Trail connection linking a gap neighborhood (P7 in the needs analysis) to this existing park; redesign the park for better clustering of activities.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$ 500,000
Duwamish Park	Tukwila School District		✓		✓		Add a community garden by designating a small area with room to expand (within limits).			✓		✓	\$ 50,000
Green/Duwamish River Recreation Corridor Plan	City of Tukwila	✓		✓		✓	Recreation corridor plan to unify improvements on, adjacent to, overlooking and crossing the Green/Duwamish River.	✓	✓		✓	✓	\$ 250,000
Fort Dent Park	City of Tukwila	✓			✓	✓	Create a large scale themed play area and complete necessary parking improvements to support park, concessionaire, trail access; develop a non-motorized boat launch to access the Green/Duwamish River.	✓		✓	✓	✓	\$ 3,000,000
Hazelnut Park	City of Tukwila					✓	Invest in landscape and surfacing improvements to reduce maintenance demand.					✓	\$ 30,000
Ikawa Park	City of Tukwila					✓	Invest in landscape and surfacing improvements to reduce maintenance demand.					✓	\$ 30,000
Joseph Foster Memorial/ Lee Phillips Park	Tukwila School District, City of Tukwila		✓		✓		Create additional capacity at this site to address the need for social gathering and sports by repurposing/redesigning the baseball field with poor drainage.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$ 1,000,000
Macadam Wetlands and Winter Garden	City of Tukwila				✓	✓	Build a boardwalk trail through the wetlands, add an internal loop trail and add connections with adjacent neighborhoods.	✓				✓	\$ 1,000,000
Riverton Mini Park	City of Tukwila					✓	Invest in landscape and surfacing improvements to reduce maintenance demand.					✓	\$ 30,000
Riverton Park	Tukwila School District		✓		✓		Maintain lease arrangement and take advantage of the capacity for group picnics at this site.		✓	✓	✓		No Identified Capital Cost
Ryan Hill Park	Private				✓		Acquisition, design, development following the upgrade of local sewer service which is anticipated to drive additional housing demand in this area.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$ 3,000,000
Southgate Park	City of Tukwila			✓	✓		Trail connection on abandoned access road, consider adding nature play features or other context sensitive features along the trail and improve access to and connections with Riverton Park and Tukwila International Boulevard.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$ 1,250,000
Tukwila Community Center	City of Tukwila	✓				✓	Maintain this site as a primary destination for recreation activity in Tukwila, including establishing a permanent skate park on the site.		✓	✓	✓	✓	\$ 250,000
Tukwila South Crossing	City and Partner	✓		✓			Pedestrian/bicycle bridge connecting Tukwila South to Brisco Park in Kent (see recommendation WB10).	✓			✓	✓	\$ 5,000,000
SUBTOTAL: PENDING PROJECTS												\$ 17,070,000	

Table 5-1: Prioritized Capital Project List

Project	Ownership	System Concept Category					Project Description	Forwards PROS Goals					Planning Level Cost
		Riverfront Projects	Partner Sites	Connections	Expanded Capacity	Sustainable Stewardship		Convenient and Connected System	A Sense of Community	Opportunities for All	Inviting and Affordable	Healthy People and Places	
CONDITIONAL PROJECTS (6+ YEARS)													
Bicentennial Park	City of Tukwila	✓					Sustain this site as indicated in the Green/Duwamish River Recreation Corridor Plan.	✓		✓		✓	No Identified Capital Cost
Cascade View Community Park	City of Tukwila					✓	Invest in landscape and surfacing improvements to reduce maintenance demand.					✓	\$ 30,000
Cascade View Elementary School	Tukwila School District		✓				Improve outdoor recreation facilities in exchange for public access after school hours, pending an agreement with the school district.	✓		✓	✓	✓	\$ 300,000
Christensen Road property	City of Tukwila	✓			✓		Non-motorized boat launch to provide access to Green/Duwamish River, included in Hand boat launch CIP project.	✓		✓	✓	✓	\$ 500,000
Duwamish Gardens	City of Tukwila	✓			✓		Develop site based on design process (underway in 2012).	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$ 2,800,000
Foster Golf Links	City of Tukwila	✓				✓	In addition to golf operations, continue to program and maintain this site recognizing the capacity and quality of the clubhouse and the relationship to the river.		✓	✓	✓	✓	No Identified Capital Cost
Grandview Off-Leash Dog Park	City of SeaTac		✓				Maintain partnership with SeaTac to provide access to this facility.			✓	✓		No Identified Capital Cost
Green River Trail	City of Tukwila	✓					Develop nodes and access points to connecting trails and the river per the Green/Duwamish River Recreation Corridor Plan.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$ 1,000,000
Log House Park	City of Tukwila	✓					Develop site consistent with the Green/Duwamish River Recreation Corridor Plan.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$ 250,000
P-17 Pond						✓	Invest in landscape and surfacing improvements to reduce maintenance demand.					✓	\$ 30,000
Pamela Drive Open Space/ Wilcox River Park	City of Tukwila	✓					Develop site consistent with the Green/Duwamish River Recreation Corridor Plan.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$ 250,000
Showalter Middle School	Tukwila School District		✓				Improve outdoor recreation facilities in exchange for public access after school hours, pending an agreement with the school district.	✓		✓	✓	✓	\$ 300,000
Thorndyke Elementary School	Tukwila School District		✓				Improve outdoor recreation facilities in exchange for public access after school hours, pending an agreement with the school district.	✓		✓	✓	✓	\$ 300,000
Tukwila Elementary School	Tukwila School District		✓				Improve outdoor recreation facilities in exchange for public access after school hours, this site has the potential to address multiple recommendations OS2, U4, pending an agreement with the school district.	✓		✓	✓	✓	\$ 300,000
Tukwila Park	City of Tukwila				✓		Upgraded features creating additional capacity at this site.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$ 1,000,000
Tukwila Pool	Tukwila School District/Tukwila MPD		✓				Continue to partner with the Tukwila MPD for aquatic programming at this site.			✓	✓	✓	No Identified Capital Cost
Walk and Roll Plan Connections													
Boeing Access Rd. - S. Ryan Way (WB8)	Private, City of Tukwila						Bicycle and pedestrian improvements detailed in the Walk and Roll Plan (designated WB2, WB4, WB5, WB6, WB7, WB8, WB10 in the recommendations).	✓		✓		✓	No Identified Capital Cost
S. 144th St. from Military Road S. to 53rd Ave. S. (WB2 and WB5)													
Tukwila International Blvd. and East Marginal Way (WB4)													
Trail through WSDOT ROW (WB6)													
Southcenter to Sounder Station/Baker Blvd./Southcenter Blvd./Longacres Way/Minkler Blvd./RR spur through Southcenter (WB7)													
Orillia Rd./S. 200th St./Green River Trail Extension (WB10)													
SUBTOTAL: CONDITIONAL PROJECTS													\$ 7,060,000

Programming and Operations Projects

In addition to moving the capital projects forward, Tukwila should align resources around the following programmatic and operational projects.

PROGRAM DIVERSIFICATION

Create a new category of recreation programs and services that is designated for continuous experimentation, with the purpose of diversifying the participation in Tukwila recreation programming. These programs should target both geographic areas that are distant and cut-off from existing programs and those demographic groups that have been underrepresented. This project should be kept outside of the cost-recovery calculations, measured instead by the attendance of these targeted users. After a program is offered and evaluated as successful, it can be moved from the experimental program category to the regular program schedule and be offered on a continued basis. Programs that fail to gain traction should be discontinued and new experimental programs can be generated to replace them.

An important part of this turnover process is the ongoing evaluation of all recreation program options in which Tukwila is investing staff time and facility resources. Programs that are not meeting City goals should be evaluated for their current relevance and discontinued if they have reached the end of their life cycle.



EXPANDING INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS

Recreation programming is an important interaction point between the City government and the citizens and employees in Tukwila. As the City becomes more connected to the full range of residents, recreation needs will increase. At the same time, the overall programming efforts of Parks and Recreation are anticipated to include more elements of community and social service. This will require additional and deeper partnerships to accomplish.

The role of the Parks & Recreation management team will include more facilitating and coordinating of efforts in cooperation with multiple City departments as well as with numerous external partners. Drawing from the multi-departmental staff project team

and new contacts made through the public outreach process, Parks & Recreation staff should actively expand on the relationships and formal partnerships that will forward the goals of this Plan.

Targeted Internal Partnerships

Community Development Department

Human Services Department

Police Department

Public Works Department

Potential External Partnerships

City of SeaTac Parks and Recreation

Highline School District

Immigrant and Refugee Organizations

La Casa de la Raza

Tukwila Metropolitan Park District

Tukwila School District

UTILIZE NEW PROGRAM LOCATIONS

Building on the partnership with area schools, Tukwila should continue to explore opportunities to bring programs to the school sites where the youth of the community already attend classes and participate in activities. Further exploration should also be made into utilizing less conventional spaces, such as community service group offices, rented space, and even restaurants and coffee shops to bring existing and experimental programs out into the community and reach new audiences.

ESTABLISH GUIDELINES FOR COMMUNITY INITIATED PROJECTS

Many enhancements to individual sites have potential to tap into the passion of the community for construction and ongoing maintenance assistance. In order to efficiently harness this enthusiasm, the City should document the expectations for community organized projects and the process and conditions under which they can be approved for City property.

INVENTORY UNDEVELOPED LAND

To ensure that the City only acquires open space property that serves the purposes laid out in this Plan, an inventory should be prepared of the publicly and privately held undeveloped land. The inventory will help fulfill Goals 3 (Policy 3.6), 4 (Policy 4.2) and 5 (Policies 5.3 and 5.6), allowing the City to make informed decisions when opportunities arise. The purpose of this inventory is to identify the full extent of open space in the community and the potential for development. This inventory should overlay constraints to development, such as steep slopes, wetlands and other factors that would keep the property open regardless of ownership. This will allow the City to properly assess the importance of any potential open space acquisition or donation.

Funding and Implementation Strategies

EXPAND FUNDING FLEXIBILITY

The ability to follow opportunities, such as grants and smaller but high impact projects, will be key to the continuing development of the parks system. This flexibility requires the identification of resources that will fund improvements or match grant funding. A key element of the City's current funding strategy is the designation of projects for the use of the Parks Impact Fee funds. The existing impact fees are set based on a very short and specific list of projects. The approximate cost of these projects is split with 80% attributed to new growth and then distributed by an established formula to the per unit fees. Assigning a project to one of the three prioritization criteria discussed previously (active, pending or conditional), the City can shift the specific projects in the impact fee list to categories of improvements (matched to this Plan) that represent citywide benefit. This approach would be more responsive to the opportunity based direction of this Plan. The total cost of the impact fee list (and therefore the resulting fees) could be maintained at current levels while still ensuring that the City funds at least a 20% share of the total cost of projects as established in the current ordinance.

ENHANCE COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIP BUILDING CAPACITY

The importance of community partners, from individual volunteers to school administrations, is a major emphasis in this planning effort. Developing and coordinating this effort is going to require additional staff time and expertise. Beginning with the addition of a stewardship coordinator to manage the volunteer efforts around the forest and river resources in Tukwila, the City can build knowledge of partner organizations, explore ways to connect with new groups of potential volunteers and manage on-the-ground projects that benefit the system. The next step would be to add or develop this position into a broader focused community relationship manager.

MAXIMIZING OTHER CAPITAL PROJECTS

At any given time, the City or other agencies are completing a variety of capital projects that are located nearby or even within park sites. For example, new parks or plazas can be designed and developed along with future fire stations. These projects present an opportunity to piggy-back on the mobilization, restoration or even the cost of the project as match funding for grants. For this strategy to be useful, interdepartmental and interagency communication and project planning must be aligned to make sure that the opportunity is identified before it passes. Street, utility and redevelopment projects adjacent to and surrounding park sites should be monitored for the advance signs of action.



Future Projects

The only certainty that the community can rely on is that the situation will change over the life span of the PROS Plan. Whether it be a new idea emerging from the community or a conditional project moving forward, decision making about how to integrate these projects into the pending and active project list should be guided by a set of evaluative criteria. The following questions provide a starting point for a discussion about how emerging projects should be dealt with, presented in no particular order.

Capital and Resource Availability

Are there adequate resources to move the project forward and maintain it in the future?

Adequate resources should be identified for construction and maintenance needs

that align with the type of facilities added. These resources could include a mix of City and other resources such as developer contributions, sponsorships, volunteer labor or private ownership. Projects that have an identified source of funding or support should have priority.

Property Availability and Condition

Does the City own or have an agreement for use of the project site?

The availability or relative difficulty of acquiring an appropriate park site adds complexity to the decision and is closely related to having adequate resources. In some situations the land will be available because it is a condition of approval of a redevelopment. In others the City may need to purchase the land on the open market, a process that can introduce significant cost.

The condition of the site should also be a factor, and the site should be free of encumbrances such as environmental issues, limited public access, infrastructure needs, etc. Projects located on sites that are owned or publicly available to the City and are in good condition should have priority.

Meeting Identified Needs

Will the project fulfill an identified park and/or recreation need?

Projects should include facilities that serve the community's needs as identified in goals and policies of the future parks and recreation Comprehensive Plan elements. Projects

that improve gaps in park and recreation access should have priority.

Completing Connections

Does the project improve connectivity to parks and recreation resources?

Trails and safe streets are some of the most valued resources in the park and recreation system. Major trails such as the Green River Trail and Interurban Trail form critical community links and connect multiple park and recreation sites to one another. Projects that improve or contribute to connections to parks and recreation resources should have priority.

Available Partnerships

Does the project have the support of one or more partners?

Neighborhood support and corporate and community partnerships will be critical to the development of Tukwila's park system. Projects with one (or more) identified community partners that will assist in the development or maintenance (or both) should have priority.

Enhancing/Maintaining Existing Resources

Will the project reinvest in an existing park or recreation area?

Tukwila has built up an investment in park sites and facilities that should be protected through scheduled capital replacement and improvements as

recommended. Projects that address issues or enhance capacity on existing sites should have priority.

Supporting Strategic Plan and Comprehensive Plan Goals

Can the project support multiple goals found in these plans?

The City has an existing policy framework based largely on the Strategic Plan and Comprehensive Plan. These documents outline the long term strategies and desires of the community that each proposal should strive to achieve. Projects that meet as many goals as possible, including those that promote social equity, economic development, and other related benefits should have priority.

Pending or Conditional

Is there a condition that needs to be met before the project can move forward?

New projects will be added to two parts of the prioritization framework, pending projects or conditional projects. The key to this question is whether or not there is a hurdle that needs to be overcome before the project could be funded to move forward. If there is, the project would be added in the conditional projects list. Otherwise, the project would be pending until action begins.

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Appendices A-C

Appendix A: City of Tukwila Park and Recreation Facility Inventory

	Acreage	Ownership	60' Base paths	90' Base Paths	Soccer/Football	Multi-Purpose Field	Aquatics Facility (Pool, Splash Pads, Swim Beach)	Playground	Basketball Court	Tennis Court	Volleyball Court	Horseshoes	Dog Off-Leash Area	Skate Park	Shelters	Hand Boat Launch	Water Access	Community Garden	Fishing	Interpretive Sites	Historical Significance	Public Art	Restrooms	Off Street Parking
LOCAL PARKS																								
57th Ave South Park	0.4	City of Tukwila															•							
Cascade View Park	2.4	City of Tukwila						1							1								•	•
Crestview Park	10.9	Highline School District	1					1	1						1							•	•	•
Crystal Springs Park	11.0	City of Tukwila						1	1	1		•			1						•	•	•	•
Duwamish Park	2.1	Tukwila School District	1					1	1						1						•	•	•	•
Hazelnut Park	0.6	City of Tukwila						1													•	•	•	•
Joseph Foster Memorial/Lee Philips Park	9.3	Tukwila School District, City of Tukwila	3		3	1		1	1	1					1						•	•	•	•
Riverton Mini Park	0.1	City of Tukwila				1		1							1						•	•	•	•
Riverton Park	4.9	Tukwila School District				1		1							1			•					•	•
Tukwila Park	6.4	City of Tukwila						1	1	1											•	•	•	•
Total Local Parks	48.1		5	0	3	3	0	9	5	3	0	0	0	0	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SPECIAL USE PARKS																								
Bicentennial Park	1.3	City of Tukwila						1							1	•	•				•		•	•
Codiga Farm Park	6.7	City of Tukwila													1	•	•				•		•	•
Duwamish Hill Preserve	8.7	City of Tukwila																			•		•	•
Fort Dent Park (Starfire Sports Complex)	51.3	City of Tukwila			12			1	1								•				•		•	•
Foster Golf Links	79.3	City of Tukwila															•				•		•	•
Ikawa Park (Japanese Garden)	0.2	City of Tukwila																		•				
Macadam Wetlands & Winter Garden	9.9	City of Tukwila																						
Tukwila Community Center	12.7	City of Tukwila	1					1	1					•	1	•	•				•	•	•	•
Tukwila Pond Park	24.8	City of Tukwila													1		•			•			•	•
Tukwila Pool	1.3	Tukwila School District/Tukwila MPD					1																	•
Total Special Use Parks	196.2		1	0	12	0	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Parks and Recreation Facilities	244.3		6	0	15	3	1	12	7	3	0	0	0	0	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OPEN SPACE																								
Black River Lot	0.3	City of Tukwila																						
Cecil Moses Memorial Park	3.0	King County														•	•			•	•	•	•	•
Christiensen Road Property/Riverview Plaza Riverfront	3.0	City of Tukwila																						
Green River Lot	0.1	City of Tukwila																						
Interurban Hill Lot	1.7	City of Tukwila																						
Lookout Park	0.2	King County																						
North Wind's Weir	2.6	King County																						
P-17 Pond	3.6	City of Tukwila, King County															•							
Southgate Park	10.9	City of Tukwila																						
Tukwila Hill	1.8	City of Tukwila																						
Tukwila Parkway	1.0	City of Tukwila																						
Wilcox Drive/Pamela Drive Open Space	0.7	City of Tukwila																						
Total Open Space	28.8		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Appendix C. Plan Integration

The PROS Plan goals and objectives will serve as the parks, recreation and open space element of the City’s *Comprehensive Plan*. As an integral part of other city-wide planning efforts, PROS Plan goals must comply with the adopted planning goals of other City planning efforts. This appendix includes a summary that shows how the PROS Plan integrates with relevant goals of these plans.

Strategic Plan

There are five goals set forth in the City’s *Strategic Plan*. As shown in the table below (Table C-1), each of the five PROS goals relates to the Strategic Plan goals, meeting the intent of one or multiple goals.

Table C-1: PROS Goals and Strategic Plan Goals

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS	PROS Goals				
	Convenient and Connected System	A Sense of Community	Opportunities for All	Inviting and Affordable	Healthy People and Places
A Community of Inviting Neighborhoods & Vibrant Business Districts	•	•	•	•	•
A Solid Foundation for All Tukwila Residents	•	•	•	•	•
A Diverse & Regionally Competitive Economy	•		•		•
A High-Performing & Effective Organization	•	•	•	•	•
A Positive Community Identity & Image	•	•	•	•	•

Comprehensive Plan

Tukwila’s *Comprehensive Plan* contains many plan elements that guide the planning of the city. Though there are several goals that relate to parks and recreation, the existing *Comprehensive Plan* lacks a parks and recreation-specific element of its own. Table C-2 lists the most recent goals related to parks, recreation and open space, and indicates how these goals relate to the PROS Plan goals.

Table C-2: PROS Goals and Comprehensive Plan Goals

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN GOALS		PROS GOALS				
		Convenient and Connected System	A Sense of Community	Opportunities for All	Inviting and Affordable	Healthy People and Places
1. Community Image (Dec. 2008)						
1.1	A community where residents stay because they feel a strong emotional attachment, including: Opportunities for interaction with neighbors and public servants; and an image consistent with neighborhood identity, pride and long-term residency.	•	•	•	•	•
1.5	A riverfront that is accessible, developed, and appreciated as a major amenity of the community and region.	•	•	•	•	•
1.10	A network of lands, connected where possible with other such regional networks, that includes and connects Tukwila’s recreational amenities, historical sites, water resources, and other natural resources and provides visually significant bands of vegetation that contrast with the built environment.	•	•	•	•	•
1.11	A high quality and safe park system that meets the needs of all its community members.	•	•	•	•	•

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN GOALS		PROS GOALS				
		Convenient and Connected System	A Sense of Community	Opportunities for All	Inviting and Affordable	Healthy People and Places
2. Economic Development (Dec. 2008)						
2.1	Continuing enhancement of the community's economic wellbeing.	•	•	•	•	•
4. Natural Environment (Oct. 2013)						
4.1	The City's air, land and water resources are restored and protected for future generations.			•	•	•
4.2	An educated public that understands the importance of protecting sensitive areas, wildlife and fish habitat in the City's natural areas, wetlands, watercourses and the Green/Duwamish River and assists in their stewardship.	•	•	•	•	•
4.3	Increased number of Tukwila residents who are trained as environmental stewards and actively participate in environmental restoration and maintenance.		•	•	•	•
4.4	Water resources that function as a healthy, integrated system; provide a long-term public benefit from enhanced environmental quality, and have the potential to reduce public infrastructure costs.		•	•	•	•
4.5	Vital and self-sustaining fish and wildlife habitat areas that provide, where appropriate, opportunities for recreational and educational uses.	•		•	•	•
4.6	Watercourses and their buffers, wetlands and wetland buffers protected from encroachment and degradation and improved through mitigation, enhancement and restoration projects.				•	•

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN GOALS		PROS GOALS				
		Convenient and Connected System	A Sense of Community	Opportunities for All	Inviting and Affordable	Healthy People and Places
4.7	The water quality in Tukwila’s wetlands, watercourses, fish and wildlife habitat areas and the Green/Duwamish River is improved over time.				•	•
4.8	Surface water generated by urban development does not exceed pre-development discharge rates.				•	•
4.9	The natural flood attenuation functions of wetlands, floodplains and floodways are protected and severe flooding is reduced to help prevent damage to life, property and public safety.				•	•
4.12	Trees are recognized by Tukwila citizens, businesses, City staff and decision-makers for their benefits to the environment, urban infrastructure and their aesthetic value.	•	•		•	•
4.13	Overall city-wide tree canopy increased to a total of 29% by 2034.	•		•	•	•
4.14	Tukwila’s streetscapes and landscaped areas are sustainable and attractive, and its urban forest is healthy, diverse, and safe.	•	•	•	•	•
5. Shoreline Element (Oct. 2013)						
5.1	Shoreline Environment designations that meet Washington State Shoreline Management Act requirements, and reflect local conditions and Tukwila’s long-term vision for its shoreline. The shoreline zone generally extends for 200 feet on either side of the Ordinary High Water mark, consistent with the Washington State Shoreline Management Act.				•	•

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN GOALS		PROS GOALS				
		Convenient and Connected System	A Sense of Community	Opportunities for All	Inviting and Affordable	Healthy People and Places
5.2	Expanded value of the river as a community and regional resource through regional coordination of shoreline management programs and through programs that foster river appreciation and awareness, involving partnerships among businesses, schools, residents and government and community organizations.	•	•	•	•	•
5.3	Development along the shoreline that fosters the economic vitality of Tukwila while preserving the long-term benefits of the river.	•	•	•	•	•
5.4	Protect rights of property owners to reasonable use and enjoyment of private property through appropriate location, access to, and design of shoreline uses.		•	•		•
5.5	Enhanced identity of the river as a unique community asset through high-quality development and public activities that reflect Tukwila’s history and sense of community pride.	•	•	•	•	•
5.6	Increase the amount and diversity of opportunities for public recreation and access to and along the river, including visual and cultural access, access to the water’s edge, opportunities for small boat navigation and access, and connections to other neighborhoods consistent with the shoreline character.	•	•	•	•	•
5.7	Safe corridors and amenities for pedestrians, cyclists, and users of public transportation, allowing more citizens to access and enjoy the river.	•	•	•	•	•

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN GOALS		PROS GOALS				
		Convenient and Connected System	A Sense of Community	Opportunities for All	Inviting and Affordable	Healthy People and Places
5.8	Recognition of the river’s contribution to Tukwila history and community identity through identification, enhancement, restoration, and protection of sites with historic and cultural value and through development of interpretive and educational programs.		●	●	●	●
5.9	Restored, enhanced, and protected natural environmental resources along the river, including trees, wildlife habitat, and features with value for long-term public, scientific, and educational uses.		●	●	●	●
5.10	Improved water quality and quantity control programs affecting the Green/Duwamish River that improve the river’s water quality, provide habitat for fish and wildlife, protect public health and safety, and enhance public enjoyment of the river.			●	●	●
5.11	Shoreline uses that do not endanger public health, safety, and welfare or the capacity of the river to provide long-term benefits and resources to the community.		●	●	●	●
7. Residential Neighborhoods (Dec. 2008)						
7.1	Urbanization and development that fosters a sense of community and replaces lost vegetation and open spaces with improvements of at least equal value to the community.		●	●	●	●
7.5	Neighborhood gathering spots that provide a social focal point for supporting and enhancing neighborhood communication and quality.		●	●	●	●
7.8	Continuing enhancement and revitalization of residential neighborhoods.	●	●	●	●	●

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN GOALS		PROS GOALS				
		Convenient and Connected System	A Sense of Community	Opportunities for All	Inviting and Affordable	Healthy People and Places
9. Tukwila South (Dec. 2008)						
9.3	Protection and enhancement of the natural environments and effective integration of them into the residential and commercial/light industrial environments.	•	•	•	•	•
10. Southcenter – Tukwila’s Urban Center (Oct. 2013)						
10.1	Southcenter will contain an intense, diverse mix of uses, which will evolve over time. The character and pace of this change will be set by a combination of guidelines, regulations, incentives, market conditions, and proactive private/public actions which will reinforce existing strengths and open new opportunities. The desire for a high quality environment for workers, visitors, and residents will also drive this character transition.	•	•	•	•	•
10.2	The northern portion of the Southcenter area will contain a central focus area. Throughout Southcenter, the natural and built environments are attractive, functional, environmentally sustainable, and distinctive, and support a range of mixed uses promoting business, shopping, recreation, entertainment, and residential opportunities.	•	•	•	•	•
11. Manufacturing/Industrial Center (Dec. 2008)						
11.1	Support for existing industrial activities in the Manufacturing/Industrial Center and development of new industrial activity in order to maximize the employment and economic benefits to the people of Tukwila and the region, while minimizing impacts on residential neighborhoods.		•		•	•

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN GOALS		PROS GOALS				
		Convenient and Connected System	A Sense of Community	Opportunities for All	Inviting and Affordable	Healthy People and Places
12. Utilities (Oct. 2013)						
12.1	Utility services and facilities that meet the community’s current and future needs in a safe, reliable, efficient, economic and environmentally responsible manner.	•	•	•	•	•
14. Capital Facilities (Oct. 2013)						
14.1	Public facilities and services that reflect desired levels of quality, address past deficiencies, and anticipate the needs of growth through acceptable levels of service, prudent use of fiscal resources, and realistic timelines.	•	•	•	•	•
14.2	A Capital Improvement Program and facility designs that meet the broad spectrum of the City’s human needs rather than just traditional needs such as vehicular and pedestrian circulation, drinking water distribution, and sewage collection.	•	•	•	•	•
15. Roles and Responsibilities (Dec. 2008)						
15.1	Provide a service oriented government that works with citizens and citizens groups to recognize and solve problems within the community.		•	•	•	•

Topic Reference

The PROS Plan provides discussion of several topics that may be of interest to particular groups or City departments. A select list of these topics, and their location in the PROS Plan, is provided below.

Boat Launches.....	2-5, 2-7, 4-11, 5-9
Joint City/School Planning.....	4-15, 4-17, 5-5, 5-11
Off-leash Dog Park	2-7, 4-11, 5-6
Program Cost Recovery	2-9, 3-4, 4-17, 5-11
Public Involvement Summary	1-3, Appendix D
Service Area Standards.....	2-1, 4-10
Skate Park.....	2-7, 4-11, 5-9
Small Parks Maintenance.....	4-10, 5-6
Southcenter.....	2-5, 2-13, 3-2, 4-3, 4-10, 4-13, 4-17, 5-1, 5-10, C-7

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Appendix D

Extended Outreach Intercepts
Moving Listening Sessions
Technical Advisory Group
Night Out Against Crime
Community Workshop
Education Expert Interviews
Community Leader Focus Group
Community Questionnaire



Tukwila Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan Extended Outreach Summary

Extended Outreach Intercepts

To expand the reach of the public involvement process for the Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan, the City held three Extended Outreach Intercept events intended to gather feedback and build interest in the community. The events targeted programs oriented towards different ages and areas of the city. Feedback gathered from these activities will be used to identify problem areas, gaps in service and new opportunities to serve the community better. The Extended Outreach posters are attached at the end of this summary.

Locations

The Extended Outreach activities occurred at three events spanning from early May through early July. The City also provided a non-staffed display at the Tukwila Community Center.

- Teen Late Night, May 3, 2013
- Backyard Wildlife Festival, May 11, 2013
- Senior Lunch Program, July 2, 2013
- Tukwila Community Center, May 28 - July 1, 2013

Materials

Each activity involved a series of three interactive poster boards that asked participants questions related to the existing state of the park system and needs for the future. Participants indicated their responses and preferences by placing sticky dots on the corresponding poster board location. Participants had six colored dots to indicate their answers, along with optional write-in space for other responses or comments. Except for the Community Center location, representatives from the planning team were on hand to give information about the PROS Plan and respond to questions.

Tukwila Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan

Key Findings

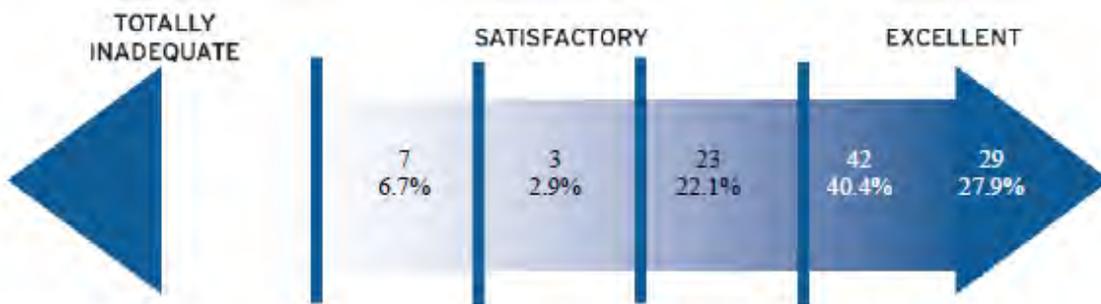
Overall Quality and Maintenance

Most participants rated overall park quality and maintenance as high to very high. Only one percent of respondents identified quality as being medium and there were no dots placed on low to very low.



Variety and Availability of Recreation Classes and Programs

Most participants rated the variety and availability of recreation classes and programs as excellent. There were only three percent of responses for satisfactory and 6.7% indicated that the level is inadequate.



Desired Activities

- Swimming or water play (indoor or outdoor), fitness/wellness and social gathering had the most responses across all events and locations. These were also of the most popular activities identified at the Senior Lunch Program/Tukwila Community Center and the Teen Late Night.

Top Desired Activities:

- Fitness/wellness
- Swimming or water play
- Playing casual sports/games
- Participating in team/individual sports

Tukwila Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan

- Fitness/wellness, swimming or water play, playing casual sports/games and participating in team or individual sports received the most responses from Teen Late Night participants.
- Walking/biking and walking or playing with dogs received the fewest responses from Teen Late Night participants, but received the most responses at the Backyard Wildlife Festival.

Table 1: Desired Recreational Activities by Total Responses

	Teen Late Night	Backyard Wildlife Festival	Senior Lunch and Community Center	Total Responses
Swimming or water play	24	15	11	50
Fitness/wellness	32	9	3	44
Social gathering	9	17	9	35
Playing casual sports/games	22	5	3	30
Walking/biking	2	20	5	27
Team/Individual Sports	19	4	3	26
Playing	6	15	4	25
River activities	5	14	5	24
Walking or playing with dogs	3	9	5	17

Desired Programs

- Youth sports, outdoor recreation and before and after school programs were the most popular responses across all events and locations. Because the Teen Late Night had the most participants of all Extended Outreach activities and locations, these choices were also the most popular of Teen Late Night responses.
- Based on responses from the Senior Lunch and Community Center, senior programs and trips, adult sports and aquatic programs/swimming had the most responses.
- According to Teen Late Night outcomes, choices with the fewest responses included senior trips and programs, service programs, adult sports, environmental programs and education/special interest classes.

Tukwila Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan

Table 2: Desired Recreational Programs by Total Responses

	Teen Late Night	Backyard Wildlife Festival	Senior Lunch and Community Center	Total Responses
Youth sports	29	7	2	38
Outdoor recreation	23	5	1	29
Before and after school programs, camps	18	7	2	27
Fitness and wellness programs	15	8	0	23
Senior programs and trips	0	6	17	23
Special events	10	10	3	23
Aquatic programs/swimming	5	9	6	20
Adult sports	2	6	8	16
Education/special interest classes	3	7	4	14
Environmental programs	3	4	4	11
Volunteer programs	4	2	2	8
Service programs (i.e. footcare, meals on wheels, etc.)	1	3	2	6
Arts and culture programs	5	9	5	1



TUKWILA

PARKS & RECREATION

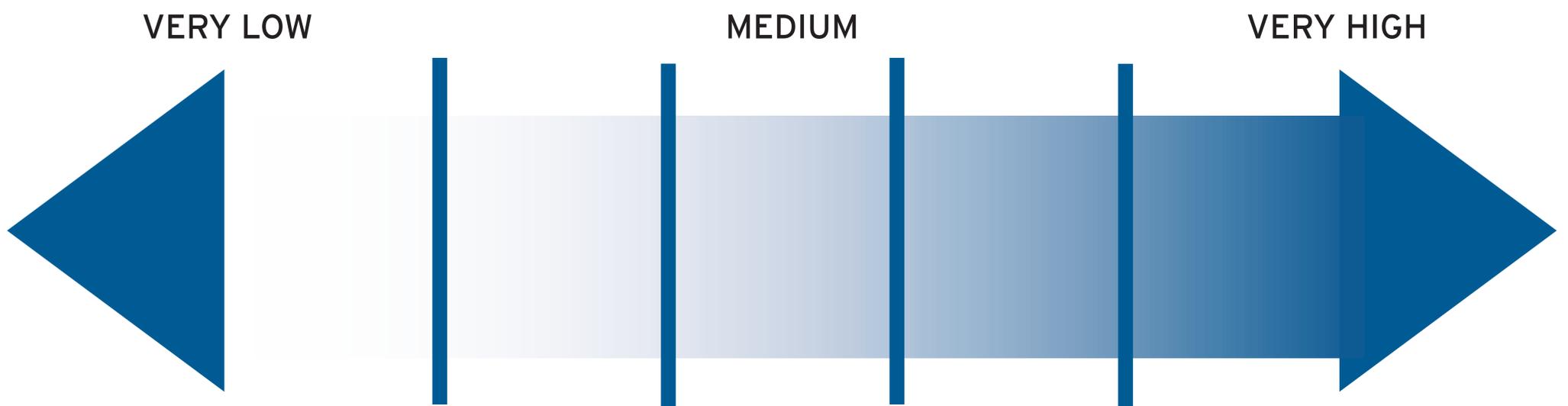
GOOD HEALTHY FUN

Tell us what you think!

Tukwila is updating our community’s plan for parks, recreation and open space. Let us know what is important to you to help guide the development of the system for the next 20 years!

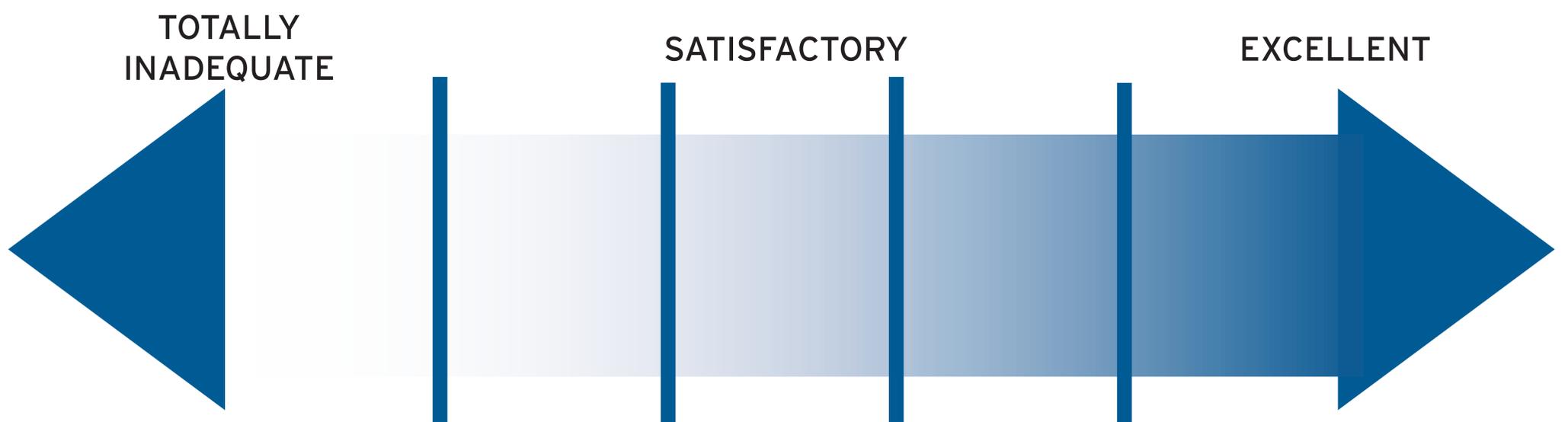
How would you rate the overall quality and maintenance of Tukwila’s park sites?

Please place a dot in the area of the scale that represents your opinion.



How would you rate the variety and availability of recreation classes and programs provided by Tukwila Parks and Recreation?

Please place a dot in the area of the scale that represents your opinion.





TUKWILA

PARKS & RECREATION

GOOD HEALTHY FUN

What activities would you like to see more of in Tukwila's parks, recreation and open space system?

(Please place dots on your top 2 responses)

Playing (running, hiding, seeking, sliding, climbing, etc.)

Fitness/wellness

Swimming or water play (indoor or outdoor)

Walking/biking

Participating in team or individual sports

River activities (fishing, boating, paddleboarding, etc.)

Social gathering (picnics, community events, parties, etc)

Playing casual sports/games

Walking or playing with dog(s)

Other: *(add on a sticky note)*



TUKWILA

PARKS & RECREATION

GOOD HEALTHY FUN

What types of recreation programs are most needed or need to be enhanced in Tukwila?
(Please place dots on your top 2 responses)

Youth sports

Adult sports

Fitness and wellness programs

Environmental programs

Outdoor recreation

Arts and culture programs

Aquatic programs/swimming

Before and after school programs, camps

Senior programs and trips

Service programs (i.e. footcare, meals on wheels etc.)

Education/special interest classes

Special events

Volunteer programs

Other:
(add on a sticky note)



Tukwila Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan

Moving Listening Sessions

SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

The City of Tukwila is updating its Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan to guide the future of the City's parks and recreation system. To create a plan that meets the needs of Tukwila's diverse community, the PROS planning process included many opportunities for public input, participation, and engagement. An inclusive process that attracted diverse community input was critical to developing a plan that meets the needs of the community now and in the future.

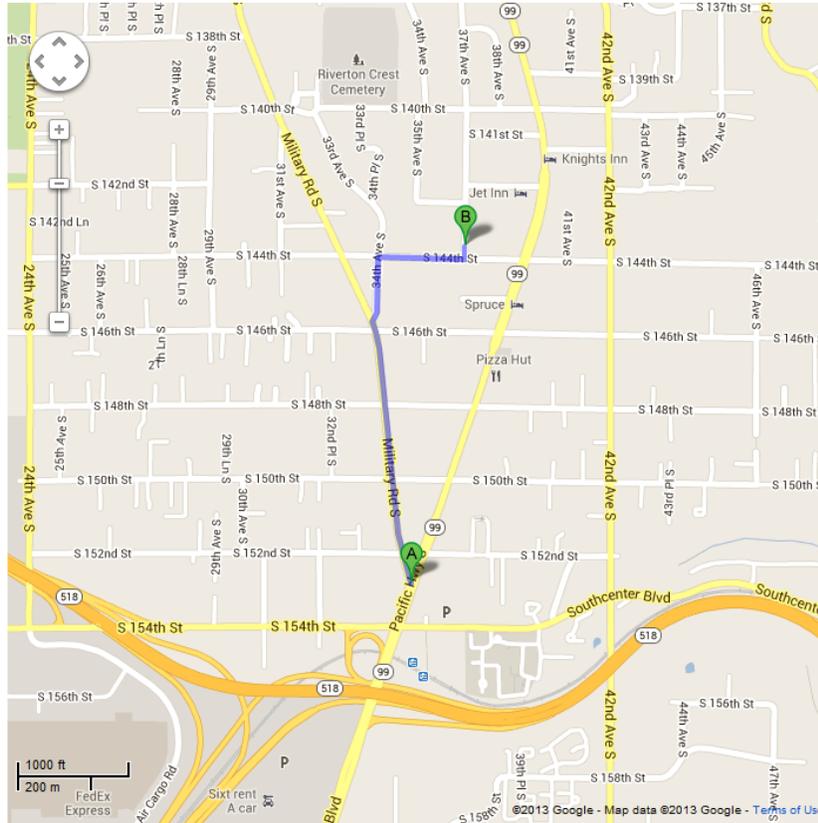
Many members of linguistic minority communities have participated in community workshops as part of the City's recent strategic planning process, as well as planning for the development at Tukwila Village. Instead of a similar workshop-format, we gathered information on community priorities and concerns through a moving listening session with a staff member, an interpreter, and several community members. The moving listening sessions generated similar information to a focus group, but will be tied directly to the park spaces and individuals' specific experiences. The objectives of the session were to:

- Engage members of the linguistic minority communities in conversation about recreation and play in the neighborhood, including Cascade View Park.
- Identify obstacles, both material and perceived, to the City's parks and recreation facilities and program.
- Identify community needs and preferences as they relate to the City's Parks, Recreation, and Open Space systems.
- Identify priorities for improvements in recreation spaces and programming.

Description and Summary

Four Moving and Listening sessions were held on Saturday, June 1, 2013 from 10-12 pm. The Moving Listening Sessions paired City of Tukwila staff with an interpreter and 4-7 members of a linguistic minority community. Interpreters were arranged through the Refugee Woman's Alliance and Dynamic Languages. City staff were provided a focus group protocol and coached on information needs and questions to ensure similar information. The focus groups were conducted as the party walked between the ReWA offices and Cascade View Park, the route map is shown in Exhibit 1. Immediately after the focus group, staff and interpreters discussed what they heard and checked for mutual understanding. The staff and interpreter discussion was recorded and transcribed. The summary presents input by theme and discussion topic.

Exhibit 1
 Moving Listening Session Route Map



PARTICIPANTS

The City conducted four Moving Listening sessions, each focused on a specific linguistic minority. They included:

Language	Parks and Recreation Staff Member	Interpreter	Number of Community Participants
Somalian	Randy Engle	Abdirahman Hashi	6
Nepali	Stephanie Gardner	Lila Alan	9
Chin, Burmese	Tim Carpentier	Clifford Chankim	7
Tigrinya, Amharic	Dawn Couch, BERK	Afeworki Ghebreiyesus	6
Float	Dave Johnson		

SUMMARY

What do you like about this park and others in the community?

- Nepali, Somali, and Burmese participants appreciate the clean-up of the “jungle area” (where there was dense vegetation on the hillside of the park) and want to see it maintained. They were complementary about the change. Staff described it as a “work in progress”.
- The Somali participants have very positive reviews of the parks. They have been in the community a long time and good networks. They sometimes have celebrations at Starfire and sometimes have celebrations at the community center because the community organizes.
- Participants note how much families use the park—the park is beloved by the community.
- Though older people of the various communities do not mix that often, the park is a place that everyone uses, and the children and mix. Participants note the importance of both having the opportunity to gather as a group, and the opportunity to mix with other groups in a non-threatening way. Parents gather and share the news with members of their own ethnic community while the children do what children do in the middle [a staff member notes that this is the dynamic he often observes in the park].
- Participants like the open mountains and the park is a lush area to come to. Green space is very important to them.
- Participants like this place, love this park, and are very comfortable coming there, especially in the daytime.

If no, what prevents you from using this park and others in the community? What would make you use it more?

- **Personal safety and security is a primary barrier to park usage for some participants.**
 - People generally feel safe at the park, but there are some issues there, too. The Somali and Eritrean participants felt safe in the park.
 - The biggest issues are safety at the park and walking around in the neighborhood (between the park and ReWa).
 - The Nepali community has recently experienced harassment, theft, and people trying to take money. Some women in the community have been mugged, their jewelry has been ripped from them in broad daylight. These experiences of being threatened in the neighborhood has made the community uncomfortable with being out in public, including in the parks. The muggings have happened to younger people, so the older people feel that they themselves must be even more vulnerable and are afraid to go out.
 - While they love the park in the daytime, nighttime can be intimidating.
 - Participants describe gang members and people brandishing guns taking over the park at night. The park users call the police, and when the police come the threats always run up the hill and never get caught. The parks users were realistic and understand that the police can’t always come right away, and when they do the threat is rarely resolved, it just chases the threats off temporarily.
 - There is a lot of gang activity and drug dealing within the parks. Local youth seem to be part of the problem, and immigrants believe they are seen as an easy mark.
 - People asking for money and cigarettes at bus stops intimidate Park users.

- Burmese participants' questions seemed centered around security. They feel more security is necessary, including things like security cameras.
- Community members don't always know how to get help if something happens.
- **Transportation to and from parks and trails outside the neighborhood is a challenge**
 - Many people do not have transportation between parks.
 - Walking to and from is sometimes not an option because of the public safety concerns.
 - Many parks and facilities are far removed from the cultural communities.
 - When it's summer, it's hard because they want the kids to get out and about but transportation is a big issue; no shuttles that are easy for them to use.
- **Awareness of resources and events are an obstacle to using them**
 - While some of the participants had "heard" of the community center, none had actually ever used it. Some described it as a myth—something they everyone has heard about but no one has seen.
 - Somali participants who knew where the Community Center was, thought it was too difficult to get to.
 - The Burmese participants had never heard of it.
 - It is particularly difficult to access for new arrivals.
 - Some community events don't have a lot of relevance to their community. For example, some community members don't really celebrate public safety services in an American way—so a touch a truck event doesn't mean anything to them. [Once it was explained exactly what the event was about, they thought their kids would probably love to attend].
 - The Eritrean participants who like jogging did not know there were running trails available in Tukwila. They thought if they knew where they were and how to get to them, that they would enjoy using them for jogging.
 - When asked if they use any other park, the Eritrean participants' response was "what other parks? Where are these parks? Do you have a list of parks to give us?"—this speaks to the lack of awareness of the recreation amenities in the City.
 - Even with a translated list, participants would be disinclined to go out and explore the parks on their own. However, if a tour could be organized for a group of 10 or so, they would share the information broadly throughout the community. No one would go on their own to a place unfamiliar with everyone in the community.
 - There could be an opportunity to do parks tours for community groups and group leaders.
 - There is also some confusion about which open areas are parks, or are for private use.
- **For newly arrived groups, navigating the cultural diversity in the community and park is somewhat of an obstacle.**
 - Participants value that it is a public park, and believe it is good all cultural groups use it. However, for some who are trying to navigate American culture, having to navigate all the cultures is intimidating.
- **Fees are an obstacle for some user groups.**

- **In the summer months there are lots of activities and opportunities for recreation and exercise, but there are not many opportunities the other nine to ten months of the year when the weather is bad.**

If yes, what activities do you or your family enjoy in this park? How do you get here?

- **Celebrating and gathering with other community members.**
 - Communities have lots of events in the summer, but there is often not enough room for them to celebrate/host them.
 - They go to SeaTac a lot since there is more space for them there.
- **Non-traditional sports and soccer.**
 - Badminton and table tennis are popular sports.
 - Participants like Starfire, but need them to provide discounts because there are a lot of people in their groups.
 - Many cultural communities need soccer facilities that are closer to them. Many youth play soccer on the school properties, but they are not technically allowed to do so. The communities are trying to navigate the community and the resources, but it is very complicated. They have tried to organize informal tournaments, but learned they couldn't reserve the grounds—an in fact weren't supposed to use them.
 - Participants want to be able to use soccer fields and we need to let them know they can use the fields in the City, that it's affordable and can be reserved.
 - The Burmese community likes to play a traditional game with woven ball.
- **Health and fitness activities.**
 - Cultural communities are much more focused on fitness and exercise than the city thinks.
 - Many participants like to jog and feel there is a real focus on group jogging in their communities. For many, there was a social aspect to jogging—so they prefer to jog where they are likely to see their other co-ethnics jogging. For that reason, they always go to Foster Higher.
- **Activities that they can participate in groups.**
 - People like to spend time together, as a community. Many of the participants mentioned a desire to do things in community or family groups.
 - Participants stressed that in their cultures they want to do things as groups – can they sign up all in a group instead of as individuals? People are disinclined to sign up for activities, or sign their children, up for activities as individuals.
 - Is there a standardized process or way that Tukwila could help them with organizing group events or group registration for classes?
 - The ethnic communities need time and opportunities to spend time together as a community, so places they can gather are very important.
 - Participants would like to do a soccer tournament to get all the people in their communities and other neighborhoods together.

What activities would you like to do but can't?

- **Soccer is the most popular activity**
 - Both the Nepali and Somali participants mentioned soccer as a desirable, popular activity.
 - The Cascade View Park, the closest park to the community isn't well set up for soccer. You do get people practicing footwork, but it doesn't have the space for playing soccer.
 - Starfire is somewhat far away—many people can't access it.
- **There is interest in non-traditional sports, especially those that don't have school sponsored counterparts, like badminton and table tennis.**
 - Kids create their own games since they don't have facilities for doing the games they want to play, like table tennis or badminton.
 - Many children played table tennis and badminton back home, and don't have a place to play here.
 - Volleyball is a popular sport in Eritrea, table tennis and foosball are also popular.
- **Gardening is an activity that many would like to participate in, if there was community space to do so.**
 - It's a big deal for them to use back at home, so they would like to do it here.
 - Pea-patches would be something they're interested in, perhaps not year around but in the warmer months. There are lots of open spaces on Highway 99 that have been vacant for a long time, that could fill this need
 - The trouble with Tukwila's pea-patch is that it is far away from would-be users.
- **Space for traditional, cultural celebrations and gatherings.**
 - The park needs a larger, more usable covered area.
 - The small covered area that does exist is not big enough for gathering under, and there is no sitting area. It is not a shelter that meets their needs.
 - The Nepali participants said they needed a shelter they can use year around, so that they can come outdoors all times of the year. They have a love of being outdoors, being outside of the apartment space.
 - In Nepali culture, mourners need outdoor space to honor their dead. They need a place they can gather every day for 13 – 16 days when a family member passes. It needs to be big enough to accommodate children and immediate family members, and something that they can reserve for an hour a day during the 13-16 day mourning period.
 - Current options for large gatherings are expensive, such as Starfire and school properties.
 - The local Somali community is very large, and there are not a lot of options (especially low-cost options) for venues in which to gather and celebrate traditional holidays. For example, July 1 is Somali Unification Day and they need a place to gather. It is good for the community.
 - People need space to be together as a cultural group.

- Often this space would be used for very close family members, so not a huge amount of space but enough that would be covered for a big family; maybe with picnic tables for 10-12 people.
- It is important to find indoor opportunities for adults to gather, too. Maybe like an open community room.
- **More open space for amateur and non-organized soccer and sporting use.**
 - Many children are used to playing pick-up soccer on plain open space.
 - It is hard and expensive to plan and make a reservation; people would like to be able to just go play.
 - Right now there is no place to play pick-up soccer but they would really like to. Often the park is so crowded that you can't really play.
 - Everyone likes playing soccer at Starfire, but they need some sort of discount because there are a lot of people trying to use it and it is expensive.
- **Open space, with amenities like benches and covered areas, for being outdoors year-round.**
 - Green space and more open space for passive use would be nice.
 - There are no shelters at the park; there is not a place you could gather and sit at.
 - Parks need more benches, because people don't want to sit on the concrete. Especially around the swing area, or areas where people are supervising their children. People are watching their kids here for hours sometimes.
 - Participants would like to have a space they could use year-round; there's a real love of the outdoors.
- There is a need for more swings. They get very crowded.

If you were able to change one thing about the parks or community spaces what would it be?

- **For Cascade View park, lighting is a significant issue.**
 - The Somali participants feel the lights that are here are not bright enough. They look nice but are a decorative item, not a security item.
- **Play equipment is not sufficient to meet the needs.**
 - People fight over the swings, there are not enough of them. We looked around to where we might put more swings, but swings need a pretty big fall area. That is what takes up so much room. There are only a couple of flat areas, or you would have to dig into that hill.
- **More information, especially information in their languages, that will help them navigate parks and tell them what they can and can't use.**
 - People don't know what they can and can't use, so they are uncomfortable going to unfamiliar parks.
 - A park and information center would be a big help – people don't want to look ignorant and don't want to have to ask for help, so they sometimes avoid those situations. They would access this information passively.
 - They don't see people at parks sometimes, and don't know who can go where or do what at parks, so it can be confusing to use those facilities.

- **Parks should be equipped with clean, drinkable water fountains.**
 - There are no water fountains at some of the parks.
 - There is no water source; this can be an incredible expense for people (buying and hauling water bottles).
 - Often a water fountain either doesn't work or isn't clean.
- People don't want to be around smoking, and don't want their children around smoke.
- Some participants couldn't think of anything they would change.

Is there anything else the City can do to improve the neighborhood environment for encouraging wellness?

- **Provide linguistically appropriate tours, tutorials on use, and information about parks.**
 - It would be ideal if we could get linguistically appropriate information to them so they can share it amongst themselves.
 - Park tours would be a good way to get information out about the parks system, and they would be easy to expand to community groups.
 - People are really interested in knowing about the parks, but they don't necessarily want to go to them on their own.
- **Keep the dialogue with linguistic minority communities going.**
 - Somali people have a lot of centers nearby, which could provide an inlet.
 - Some attendees would be willing to work as community ambassadors.
 - It would be a good idea to work with the school at the Mosque and set up a time to meet with members.
 - Using common agencies is the best way to connect with the community.
 - It might be possible to get some volunteer translators to help distribute a survey to gather information.
 - Parks and Recreation staff could attend a practice session at the soccer fields and meet with the community there.
 - Parks and Recreation staff should speak with the people who are using the facilities.
 - There should be specific outreach out to seniors from these linguistic communities.
 - Parks and Recreation staff should let people they reach out to for information know well in advance of when you want to meet with them, so that they can plan on what they want to talk about.
 - Many participants were very interested in how they could work to improve the park and community conditions in the neighborhood

Other Community Concerns

In addition to the questions queried by city staff, community members also mentioned other areas of concern not directly related to the City's parks. These include:

- **Parking during Ramadan** is very limited in the City of Tukwila.

- It is an issue for this area, Ramadan brings sometimes up to 1,000 people to the parks, but they have nowhere to park.
- In the evening, some of the local merchants will allow them to use their spaces, but during the day time there is really nowhere to park.
- Ramadan is a 30-day event and parking is probably more of a constraint sometimes than others are, but you know when it going to happen so the City could help plan for it. There are empty lots along Tukwila International Boulevard that can be used for parking needed for the community to attend Ramadan events at the mosque.
- Participants shared many concerns and questions about **neighborhood conditions**. Community members are very interested in improving their neighborhoods, but often do not know how to address their concerns about neighborhood conditions.
 - Participants wondered about the empty houses and properties in the neighborhood. They believe the empty properties attract crime.
 - The Colonial Garden Apartments are in need of maintenance and attention from the owners. It sounds like the owners don't follow up with needed repairs. They say that the Samara Apartments owners are a lot more responsive. The residents at Colonial Garden Apartments have had a lot of legitimate maintenance concerns, including problems with toilets.
 - No one deals with garbage or maintenance and repairs in many neighborhoods.
 - [from an interpreter] there is an opportunity to involve the community in maintaining the park, it is their park. There is more opportunity with women, not so much the boys, they boys are always messy. The women can teach the boys about respect for the park.
- The Burmese participants asked for a **school bus to stop** at Samara Apartments.



Tukwila Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan Technical Advisory Group Meeting #1

March 20, 2013, 1:30-3:00

Tukwila Community Center, Meeting Room B

Meeting Summary

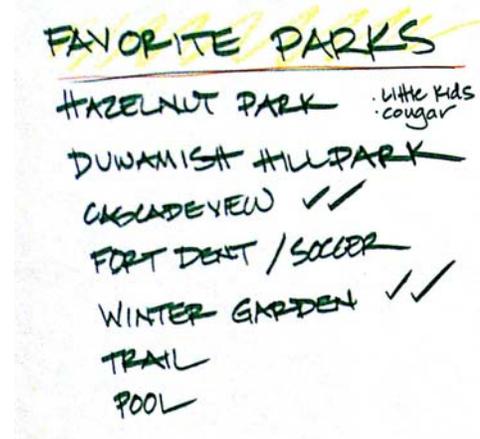
The technical advisory group (TAG) is an interdepartmental team working along side the planning team to ensure the updated PROS plan will be useful and relevant to the City and community of Tukwila. The TAG will meet at key points in the process with the planning team. The purpose of this group is to provide guidance on PROS plan development and feedback on interim products.

Welcome Introductions

At the beginning of the meeting, the TAG members present were asked to introduce themselves and indicate their favorite park in the system. Throughout the meeting, notes were recorded and are presented in this summary.

The TAG Team members in attendance:

- Kathy Houghardy, Council President
- David Cline, City Administrator
- Chris Flores, Acting Fire Chief
- Joyce Trantina, Mayor's Office
- Moira Bradshaw, Planning and Community Development
- Dave Johnson, Recreation Superintendent
- Rick Still, Director of Parks and Recreation



MIG, the consulting firm selected to assist the City with this plan, will facilitate the meetings of the TAG. The MIG planning team is made up of three key representatives:

- Lauren Schmitt, MIG Principal in Charge,
- Ryan Mottau, MIG Project Manager, and
- Dawn Couch, BERK Public Outreach Specialist (teleconferencing in).

Process Overview and Questions

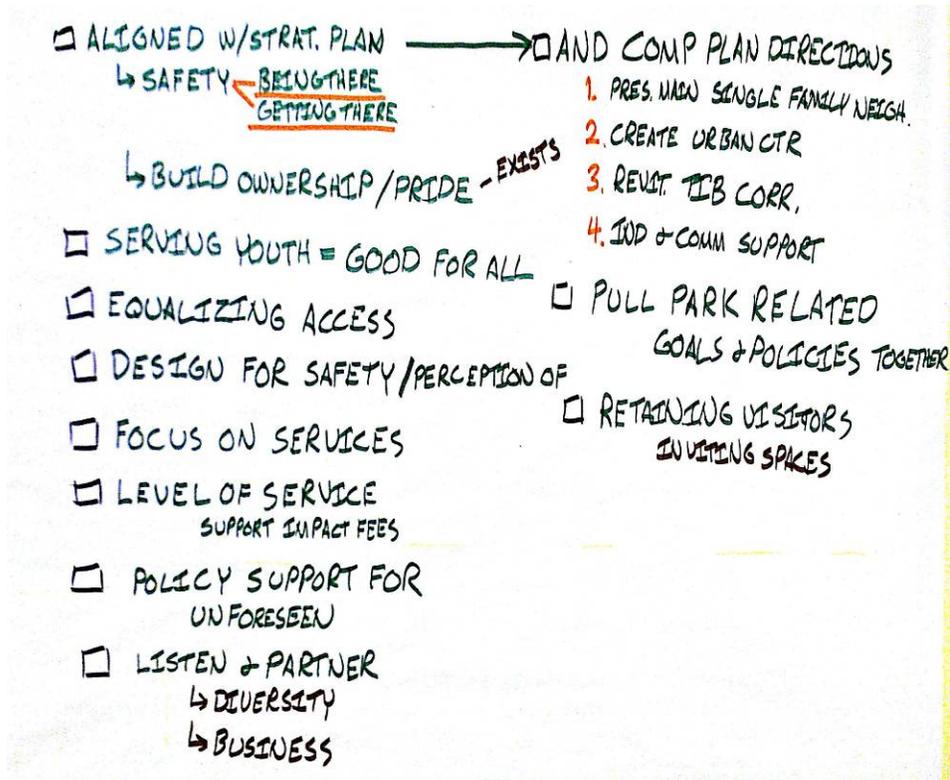
The first discussion included a series of questions about the planning process, how to reach the community and what elements should be included. A key point was the need to coordinate the multiple public outreach efforts the City is currently engaged in or initiating soon. Other questions will be raised and, as the process goes forward, Dave Johnson will be the point of contact for questions.

QUESTIONS
 SERVICES?
 GOLF COURSE?
 HOW DO WE MAKE
 THE COMM. SAFE
 W/PARKS & REC?
 CONSOLIDATING
 PUBLIC OUTREACH?
 ↳ MTGS HAPPENING NOW
 UPDATE? BLANK SLATE? BOTH
 PARKS ELEMENT?

Planning Objectives and Desires

The group also focused in on the objectives for this plan, the need for alignment with the new Strategic Plan and the existing Comprehensive Plan direction. Other considerations include:

- Equalizing access
- Designing for safety
- Focus on services
 - Particularly for youth
- Provide policy support for an uncertain future
- Finding partnership opportunities
 - Diverse communities
 - Businesses
- Retaining visitors, employees to use parks services

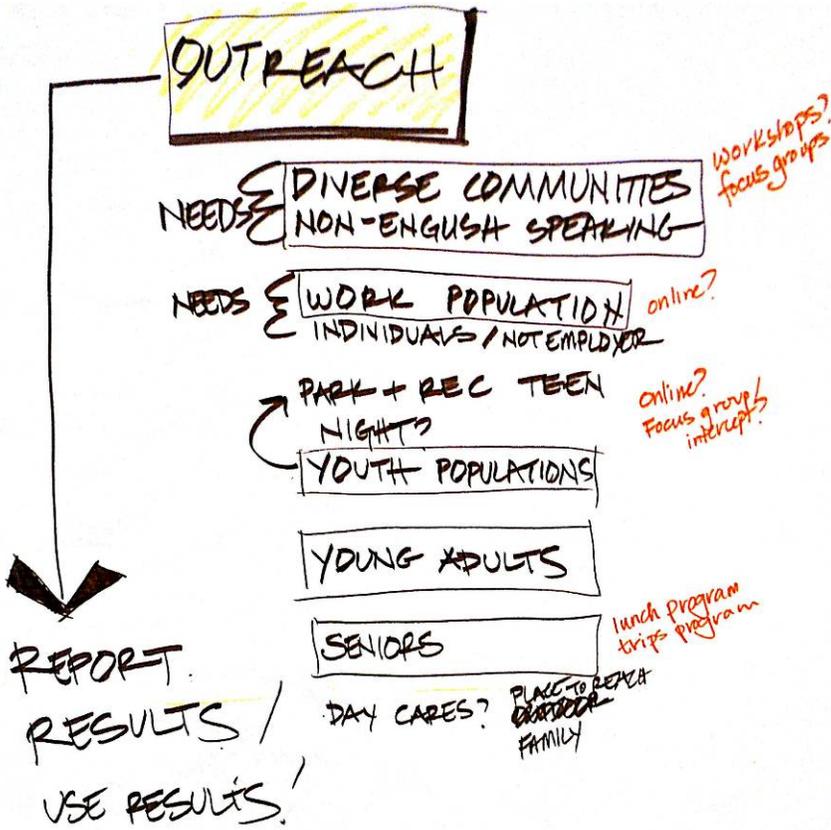


Community Outreach

The final point on the agenda was a review and discussion of the outreach process. Key questions for the outreach process include:

- Who are we serving?
- How are we serving
- What alternatives are possible?
- What is the role of Parks and Recreation?

Other outreach considerations include identifying the needs of non--English speaking and employee populations and how to use existing events and connections to maximize reach. The graphic notes of this conversation are included below.



WHO ARE WE SERVING?
HOW ARE WE SERVING?

- LOOK AT ALTERNATIVE WAYS OF SERVING

TUKWILA DAYS

BACKYARD WILDLIFE
TOUCH A TRUCK

MORPH TO SOMETHING NEW | MULTIPLE ACTIVITIES

- ROLE OF P+R

TASTE OF TOKWILA
SHARE FOOD
SHARE CULTURE

CULTURAL HERITAGE
FESTIVAL BEING REIMAGINED

The next steps in this planning process include collecting and summarizing the background information, including updating the details of the park and recreation inventory from the prior plan. The planning team will also be working on finalizing the approach and schedule for the big community outreach push coming up in April.

Additional questions, comments and information are welcome; please send them to Dave Johnson via email at dave.johnson@tukwilawa.gov.



Tukwila Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan

Tukwila Night Out Against Crime Rainbow Haven Trailer Park

August 6, 2013

SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

The City of Tukwila is updating its Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan to guide the future of the City's parks and recreation system. To create a plan that meets the needs of Tukwila's diverse community, the PROS planning process includes many opportunities for public input, participation, and engagement. An inclusive process that attracts diverse community input is critical to developing a plan that meets the needs of the community now and in the future.

As part of the City's recent strategic planning process, the City along with La Casa de la Raza convened a community meeting at Rainbow Haven Trailer Community on South 152nd Street on August 23rd, 2012. The community is an established low-income, Latino community near the Tukwila International Highway corridor. At that meeting, community members expressed concern over the lack of suitable areas for children to play, and crime and other negative activity at the closest public park. For the PROS planning process, the City re-visited the community during their National Night Out Against Crime block party, on August 6th, 2013, organized by community members and La Casa de la Raza.

The PROS team was comprised of BERK (the facilitator), a city staff representative, and a Spanish interpreter from Dynamic Language. The team conducted intercept interviews with small groups of people who attended the block party. Approximately 80 -100 people were at the event at any one time, and the PROS team interviewed approximately 30 people over an hour and a half.

The interviews focused on the following topics:

- Where do children and youth spend time afterschool? Where do they most often play?
- Do you use any community parks? What are your typical activities?
- What can be changed or improved to increase your ability to use the parks?
- Have you ever used, or are you familiar with, the Tukwila Community Center?
- How could the City best support your family in having a safe and healthy life?

SUMMARY

Top Concerns

- **Access to a safe places for children to play remains a priority.** When asked about where children play, everyone said having a safe place for children to play was a primary concern: “We worry about the children.”
 - **Children mostly play in the street in front of their homes.** Everyone reported that children play in the street in front of their homes, which the residents do not consider safe due to:
 - **Traffic speed.** Many people expressed concern over how fast people drive, and more than one requested speed limit signs and enhanced speed bumps to slow traffic.
 - **Unknown people idling in their cars.** In addition to traffic, a couple of people were concerned about unknown vehicles pulling into the complex, idling, and then leaving again. Though the unknown people did not do anything wrong, it was unsettling to the residents and prevented them from letting their children play outside. They have tried to call the police—but technically the idlers are not doing anything wrong.
- **Access to sports and other organized youth activities.** Most people’s middle and high school students spent their afterschool time at home. Only one family reported having their children enrolled in afterschool sports (track). Many were interested in having their children participate in afterschool sports, but were unsure of what was available and felt that price would be an obstacle, particularly for families with more than one child. Everyone we spoke to with children, had three or more; while sports and activity fees for one child may not be too much, the cost of enrolling all of their children was prohibitive.
- **Crime, prostitution, and public safety.** Crime remains a concern of the community and continues to affect community member’s quality of life negatively. A couple of residents who have lived in the community for 15 years shared that for the first 5 years they lived in the neighborhood they wouldn’t even lock their vehicles. That would be unheard of today.

Current Park Use

- **Cascade View Pak.** Most participants were familiar with Cascade View Park but reported not using it. When asked why, the first response was that it was unsafe/uncomfortable due to people buying and selling drugs there. A couple of people reported being shouted at and approached, but they could not understand what the people wanted due to language barriers. While they liked the park, the felt the distance and presence of bad activities were obstacles to using the park.
- **Participants only reported using two parks:**
 - **Angle Lake Park.** One family had family barbeques at Angle Lake Park. They liked the picnic areas and ability to swim in the lake.
 - **Crestview Park.** A couple of people reported going to Crestview Park, which they thought was nice, but noted that it was a 30 – 35 minute walk away.

Desires for Parks

- **A park closer to their home.** Many considered Cascade View Park too far from their neighborhood to be a reasonable option (aside from the crime they associated with the park). Thorndyke Elementary School was considered close enough to reasonably walk to.

- **Park amenities for smaller children to play.** Apart from the street, the other place kids played were at the local schools. Foster High School was specifically mentioned for pick-up soccer but lacked any amenities for smaller children. Residents asked if the school grounds could be improved with play equipment such as a slide or swing set for smaller children.
- **Picnic shelters for family gatherings and the Ability to reserve them.** Residents said they would like to have picnic shelters and barbeque pits that could be reserved for larger family gatherings. They would have more parties and picnics at the parks if they could reserve the area. When asked about fees, most thought they could pay a nominal fee if it wasn't too much.

Community Center and City Recreation Programming

- **Most participants were unfamiliar with the Tukwila Community Center.** Most people were unfamiliar with the Tukwila Community Center. Some had never heard of it and some knew the building but thought it was a school. One woman had been to the center and felt it was very nice, but too costly for her to use regularly. She was unaware that there were scholarship opportunities available for using the facility. [We gave free pass coupons to some of the people we spoke with].
- **Programming desires focused on youth needs.** Most requests for services focused on the needs of children and youth. When asked if they themselves (adults) had any interest in recreation or fitness programs, most said they believe they needed to exercise more but could not due to work and family responsibilities. If they were to fit more exercise in, women reported walking as their preferred form of exercise.
- **Teen Night was appealing, but most people were unfamiliar with the program.** Many of the people we spoke with have teenaged children, but were unfamiliar with the Teen Night program. Once we described the program, they were excited about it and thought it would be a good fit for their needs. They like that it was supervised and safe, with many saying their teens were bored staying at home in the evening. The mothers generally asked about the cost of the program and whether transportation was available, suggesting cost and access could be barriers. The fathers (a small number) generally asked about what the activities were and if it was supervised.

Other Feedback

- **Appreciation for the city asking about their needs and concerns.** Some people expressed gratitude toward the City for soliciting their input and concerns. A few acknowledged that the Latino community needs to improve their own efforts to better the community and advocate for their needs to the City.
- **Landlords not responding to maintenance requests.** One woman is having difficulty getting her landlord at Amara Point Apartments to respond to requests for maintaining the deck railings on her apartment. She feels it is unsafe for her and her children, but the landlord has been unresponsive.



Tukwila Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan

Community Workshop

May 22, 2013

SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

The City of Tukwila is updating its Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan to guide the future of the City's parks and recreation system. The Community Workshop is an open public meeting in the situation assessment phase of the project. The meeting design supports community conversation on:

- Issues related to the City's parks, recreation programming, facilities, and open space.
- Which parks and facilities attendees use and how they use them.
- Barriers to accessing and/or using parks, recreation and open space amenities (including geographic, pedestrian access, transit, cultural or other material or perceived obstacles)
- The activities people would like to do in parks.
- The desired role of the City's parks, recreation, and open space amenities in the future of the community.

This document presents a summary of the Community Workshop, including the data collected during it. The Community Workshop was held at the Tukwila Community Center on Wednesday, May 22, 2013, from 6 to 8 pm. The Workshop was open to the entire community, and attendees were invited to drop in for as much or little time as they wanted.

6:00 PARTICIPANTS ARRIVE AND SIGN IN

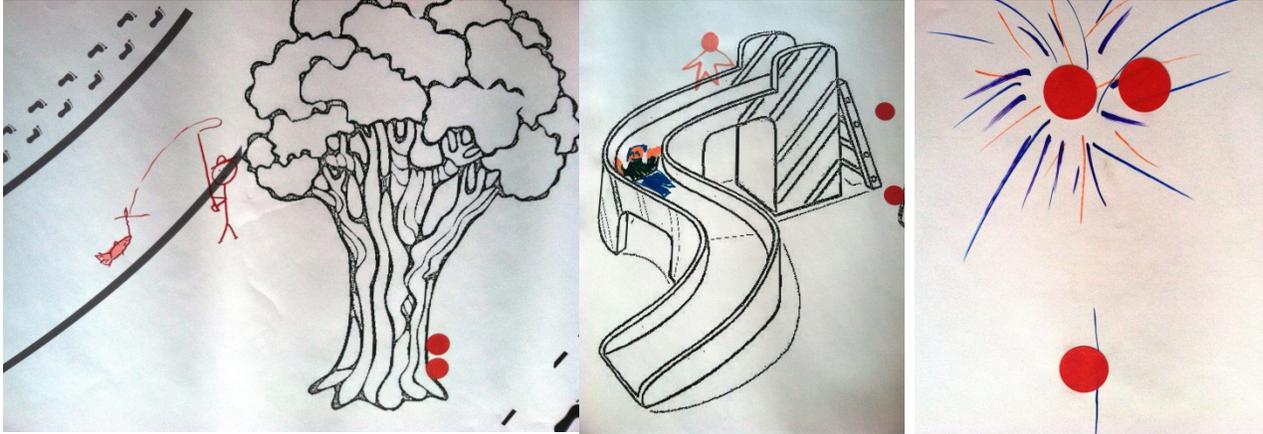
As participants arrived and signed in, they were directed to participate in some interactive activities, including interacting with a "graffitee board" on which they could illustrate their favorite parks, recreation, and open space activities.

6:10 OPENING AND WELCOME

Dave Johnson, City of Tukwila Parks and Recreation, greeted attendees and thanked them for attending. Dave also provide a little background on the PROS Planning process and schedule.

6:15 OVERVIEW OF WORKSHOP PLAN

Dawn Couch, BERK, provided an overview of the workshop plan, reminding participants of the interactive activities available (dotting a map of their favorite Tukwila parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces and a “graffiti board” where they could illustrate or dot their favorite activities to do in Tukwila’s parks, recreation facilities, and open space). Dawn then explained the small group discussion portion of the workshop.



6:20 SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

Dawn Couch broke the group into three small groups of between four and six. Each group selected a volunteer reporter/recorder, charged with leading the group discussion and recording the main points of the discussion.

What do you like most about the City’s parks, recreation amenities, and open space?

- **Tukwila has a variety of parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces throughout the city.**
 - We have good quality and many parks and open spaces.
 - There are parks of all sizes and uses.
 - The parks we have are dispersed throughout the city.
- **Parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces are clean, well-maintained, and aesthetically pleasing.**
 - Our parks are clean and well maintained.
 - The parks and facilities are beautiful.
 - The Tukwila Community Center is beautiful, well maintained, and has a lot of amenities.
 - Our parks and facilities are well kept and clean.

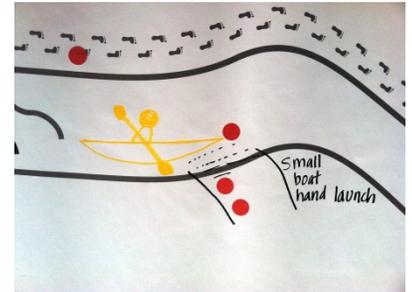
- **Various park amenities allow for a variety of uses that suite all audiences.**
 - The spray park is really a cool amenity and very well used and loved.
 - There are a wide variety of activities at our parks.
 - We provide a lot of options—and try to have something for everyone. If we realize that there is a population that isn't being served, then we try to find a way to serve them.
 - The River Trail is a unique resource and really fun!
- The easy access, from all directions, of the golf course makes it a great resource.
- People feel safe in our parks and they contribute to improving public safety, because people have something to do.



What barriers do you and other members of the community face in accessing and using these City amenities?

- **Mobility of Tukwila’s community members and the lack accessibility of parks and other facilities is a challenge.**
 - There is limited public transportation to, from, and near many of our parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces.
 - We need our facilities to be more accessible; new transit routes and pedestrian/bike access would help with this.
- **Income and ability to pay for fee-for-service programs is a barrier for many communities.**
 - The need of the Parks Department to maintain revenue generation limits opportunities for some, especially the low income.
 - Many of our services are costly, which limits how many slots for each the department can provide and who can access those slots.
 - We have limited funds for providing scholarships to people, so some low-income people are underserved by our fee based programs.
- **Some community members do not feel comfortable with or aren’t interested in program offerings.**
 - We need to explore the community to find accessible instructional class topics for diverse communities that do not feel comfortable with or aren’t interested in/served by current class topics.
 - We need to make more community members comfortable taking classes through the Parks and Recreation Department; right now many community members are barred from participating because they don’t feel comfortable or feel they don’t have the skills to take a class.
 - There are a lot of cultural barriers to exercise and valuing physical activity that we don’t know enough about yet.
- **There is a lack of information about parks and recreational offerings, in some communities.**
 - Some community members, especially new ones, don’t know where our parks are.

- The Recreation brochure is primarily sent to residents and not delivered to many businesses.
- Park signage is only written in English.
- **There is a lack of access to the water and water-related programming.**
 - There is limited access to the river—we need more hand launches for kayaks and small boats. We also need to maintain the river's edge, to limit blackberry bush growth.
 - We need to provide better access to swim lessons—particularly adult ones.
- We need to embrace the nontraditional sports that are becoming more popular in this area—lacrosse comes to mind.
- The functions of the Community Center are limited, even though the facility is suited for and could be serving broader purposes.



What roles do the City's parks, recreation programming, and facilities play in the Tukwila Community? What role should they play?

- **Parks are community centers.**
 - The parks we have are organizing centers for the community.
 - Many of our parks and recreation facilities accommodate parties and things, making them a celebration area.
 - Our facilities are community gathering places.
 - The parks and community center build a sense of community and are the most visible representation of our community—specifically communicating our City's values and commitments.
 - Our community facilities provide the social interaction that keeps our neighborhoods strong and healthy.
- **Parks Department facilities are a nexus between the City and its staff, and community members.**
- The Parks Department also builds relationships within the city—especially between community members and City staff and the City as an institution.
- Our parks should provide opportunities for community engagement with the City and City staff.
- **Parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces directly serve our most vulnerable and highest need populations.**
 - Parks and other facilities are often a safe haven for the vulnerable in our community—especially kids, seniors, and the homeless. This includes care services that provide structure and safety for people who might not have that at home.
 - We need to provide more free and low cost programming—the City should make a commitment to not letting money be a barrier to access to Parks and Recreation programs.
- **The Parks and Recreation Department serves public health functions, and brings health and wellness services to our communities.**

- The Parks and Recreation Department should involve the community in health and wellness activities, taking a role in improving the community's health.
- Parks should play a role in dealing with the current health and obesity crisis and making our community a healthier place.
- **Parks and Recreation's services are often educational and provide exposure to topics outside of the common core.**
 - Our open spaces allow for nature exploration, environmental education, and stewardship in an otherwise urban environment.
 - Our Arts Commission should promote the Parks and Recreation department's arts activities.
 - The Parks Department provides a lot of skill building and educational programming.
- The Parks and Recreation department is a great place to centralize disaster recovery efforts—its facilities definitely are the first place people would go in case of emergency.

6:45 SHARE BACK

Led by their group appointed reporter/recorder, each of the three groups shared a summary of the key points from their group discussion.

Group One

- Our community members value that we have great amenities that are clean, safe, well-maintained, and varied. They also like that these options are open and never too crowded.
- We think some key barriers are in communication and public knowledge of all of our facilities and programs.
- There is limited access to water resources like the river but we need more water safety if we open those opportunities up.
- It is important to note that Parks facilities are safe, structured resources for our most vulnerable (children, seniors, and low-income) and that in this way, the Parks and Recreation Department serves human services and community needs for these groups. This (human services) might be an opportunity to partner.

Group Two

- There is a new for community awareness of parks and recreation facilities and services.
- We should make an effort to fill voids (like in the Riverton area and on Cascade Hill) in the park system
- We should continue to make our facilities more accessible and work with transportation officials to provide more transportation options to and from them.

Group Three

- We wanted to note that we have great parks that are a source of community pride.
- We could make our parks more effective for serving the community if we provided more translated signage and advertising. This would also help us bring in some of the groups we are trying to target.

- We need to help provide community voice to our leaders, not just about the value of parks and recreation facilities and services, but also about the needs of the communities that we interact with—most of whom do not have an established voice with community leaders.

7:15 THANK YOU

As the meeting adjourned, Dawn Couch reminded attendees to add to the interactive activities on their way out. She also provided opportunities to address specific questions and feedback to her and the meeting team.



Tukwila Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan

Education Expert Interviews

SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

The City of Tukwila is updating its Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan to guide the future of the City's parks and recreation system. To create a plan that meets the needs of Tukwila's diverse community, the PROS planning process included many opportunities for public input, participation, and engagement. One of the inputs selected for this process is data gathered through interviews with Education Experts from the Tukwila School District.

This document presents a summary of key informant interviews conducted with representatives of the Tukwila School District. BERK staff conducted the interviews, either in person or by phone. The interview protocol was designed to solicit school district staff perspectives on the following topics:

- The City's current parks and recreation services;
- Any additional programming and/or parks that should be planned for
- Feedback on how the Parks and Recreation Department operates including how it can be a more effective partner, and
- Needs of the community that aren't being met.

INTERVIEWS

- Guled Ali, Refugee Impact Strategic Advisor, Tukwila School District Administration
- Brett Christopher, Principal, Showalter Middle School
- Kathleen Gantz, Parent Involvement Coordinator, Tukwila School District Administration
- J.D. Hill, Athletics, Activities, & Transportation Director, Tukwila School District Administration
- Anne Marie Littleton, Social Worker, Cascade View Elementary School
- Nina "Will" Williams, ELL & Student Services, Tukwila School District Administration

STRENGTHS

An objective of the Education Expert Interviews was to hear what educators feel are the core strengths of Tukwila Parks, Recreation, and Open Space facilities and programs as well as the department's relationships with partners and stakeholders. Core strengths that educators mentioned throughout the interviews were:

- **Services and programs for youth are great and well received.**
 - Afterschool programs for teens, which provide structure, safe space, and help keep kids and teens off the streets at night are great. Teen Late Night, in particular was described as “an awesome place to be. They are getting around 150 kids a night and it is a quality program. Another interviewee notes “it isn’t too far from where people live, and they have so much energy” and “I hear good things about it from the kids—it’s like the cool thing to do. The kids have a good time and they provide transportation.”
 - The teen room at the community center is a great asset for kids and teens, and allows them to connect with Parks and Recreation in a safe, but self-directed way.
 - “The summer sack lunch program is really important to the community, and I know that we are keeping kids from going hungry.” Another interviewee notes “What they are doing at Cascade View is awesome, if that can be built up. Keep doing that and more of it!”
- **Tukwila has quality recreation facilities.**
 - The pool has been refurbished and is starting to provide more offerings for kids.
 - The community center is a great asset—it really helps connect children and families to Tukwila’s local government. It is also a community nexus. A lot of the community knows about it—but not everybody.
 - Our facilities are wonderful; they are high quality, clean, accessible, and well-maintained.
- **There is diverse and responsive programming.**
 - The Parks Department has embraced diverse programming—like music lessons—that aren’t traditional parks and recreation offerings, but which have grown their active constituency.
 - One interviewee noted that, “the pool and community center are really meeting needs by having women’s only swims and workouts.”
 - The Parks and Recreation Department is really responsive to the community and easy to talk to. People trust the staff.
- **The Parks and Recreation Department has cooperative staff with heart.**
 - Parks and Recreation Department staff members are focused on building relationships and helping engage the people they come into contact with.
 - One Education Expert said, “Tukwila Community Center has quality staff, who really believe in what they do; they have a lot of ideas.”
 - The fact that [the staff] are trying to talk to the community is a strength. One interviewee said, “five years ago I only knew Stacy and Evie [from the human services department], now I know a lot of the Parks & Recreation staff. The fact that the City is trying to collaborate with the community is a good thing.”
 - The Parks and Recreation Department is really introspective and self-aware; interviewees appreciate that they are frequently reevaluating community needs. They are always evolving.

- “Recreation coordinators are great partners!” Another interviewee provides a similar sentiment: “I’ve never had anything but positive experiences, they are a great caliber of people—sweet, professional, and kind—I’ve enjoyed everyone I have worked with in the community.”

CONSTRAINTS & WEAKNESSES

When prompted, Education Expert interviewees offered insight into what they feel are the primary constraints and weakness of the Tukwila Parks and Recreation Department and its parks, recreation, and open space facilities and programs.

- **Community language and awareness barriers and the City’s outreach strategies**
 - We need to put some effort into providing information and advertising in more than one language, and having more translators and interpreters at events.
 - We need to build relationships with our Burmese and Nepali communities.
 - There are partners who could help us with culturally and linguistically appropriate outreach—the Parks and Recreation Department hasn’t taken advantage of this yet.
 - One Education Expert said, “You have a community meeting at the community center, but your community can’t get there. Your community is extremely impoverished; you are demonstrating you really don’t want feedback. I am constantly explaining to families how to get to the community center.”
 - The schools have had to work hard at getting feedback. “We use word of mouth, you can use print but many families are illiterate, so we have to put out a huge effort”. Robocalls work well and have increased turnout. Somali speakers prefer to hear the message, rather than read it. You must also keep in mind whether or not they can walk there—most [families] do not have transportation.
 - [Referring to the Tukwila Community Center] “Not everyone knows about it, they learn things through word of mouth. It is important they everyone knows about the community center and that everyone can benefit from it. [How would you recommend the City reach people?] “Emailing the different organizations that know the communities, like ReWA and SCSC, they can translate and send messages to as many people as possible and word will get out pretty quickly.”
 - The city [staff] is not diverse at all—the people who work with the City do not reflect the community at all. To build good relationships they need to establish those positions. They should establish community liaisons. Getting an invitation for a one-time event doesn’t build relationships. [The City get applicants from across the region, and they have to assess candidates based on their skills] People from Tukwila should get priority. You can’t have the same expectations for a new immigrant as everyone else, if you do they will never have a chance.
 - People think they give input to the City with no follow up—there is an opportunity for improvement here.

- **Lack of transportation and access are barriers to using parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces.**
 - One interviewee said, “I think mobility is a key issue, which makes affordable transportation a key need. Many of our facilities are too long of a walk.” Others mentioned that it would be great to co-locate programs in schools and other buildings near Tukwila’s transit centers, Southcenter Boulevard, Highway 99, 144th by the Foster Apartment complexes, and key cultural community centers.
 - Transportation is a problem—kids can’t get to the community center. It is too far to walk, making it a constraint.
- **Costs are a barrier to the parts of the community that have the most to gain from access to parks and recreation programming.**
 - Starfire is expensive to rent—more than other regional rentals like Highline Stadium, so people go outside of Tukwila to use field turf areas.
 - “A challenge to the before and after school care is that it does not accept DSHS vouchers. That eliminates families that are most in need.” [What is the obstacle?] “Being licensed, but they can get licensed if they want to. They are a City—they could get it done if they wanted to. No one wants to go through the required paperwork that you have to yearly to be licensed.”
- **The relation between the City of Tukwila and the Tukwila School District is seen as an obstacle.**
 - “Different leaders [at the District] came through with different visions of what a partnership looks like. The relationship between the City and the School District became unstable—to increase access to services and programs we need to get back to what is best for kids and families.” [What’s the problem?] We share facilities and grounds; we are teaming on ball fields, etc. We just need to build the partnership back up. [How?] “Look into best practices—figure out the focus, the mission—students, community and family, and inclusiveness...What will offer the best experience to the diverse communities?”
 - [What can be done to improve the relationship?] Just forget the past 5 years, come back to the table, and do what’s best for kids. We’re all here to help this community be a place kids are safe from all our adult issues.

COMMUNITY NEEDS

Education experts encounter community needs on a daily basis. To best insure the City’s parks recreation, facilities and programming best meet community needs now and in the future, interviewers queried what community needs were unmet and how the communities’ needs may change in the next five years.

- **Tukwila community’s need is characterized by dramatic and quick community change**
 - [What is unique about the community’s needs?] The speed in which development came—it just landed on the people here. It is now time to think about cultural competence. It is never done—it is an ongoing effort. Open dialogue encourage more conversation from both sides, we just need a structured environment to have those conversations.
 - The city is very dynamic and growing—it is also varying a lot, so we must be responsive to that.
 - More people are coming—the City is growing more and more diverse each year. Finding apartments is getting difficult.

- **Health and nutrition information, particularly for parents**
 - Health and fitness benchmarks are not being met in many communities.
 - The Tukwila community needs to put a greater focus on health and nutrition—which could be enhanced through recreation programming focused on fitness and other programs focused on healthy living (like healthy cooking classes).
 - I am hearing things from the community—they want help with healthy eating habits. How to have healthy eating habits—we need to show them what works.
 - Health literacy is an area of community need.
 - Exercise is not an accessible concept for cultural communities; we need to make it so.
 - We need some gardening programs because Burmese and Bhutanese communities like gardening, and this might be a great gateway for engaging these communities. They have some gardens along the church.
- **Services for children who are often put into the position of being adults**
 - It is really a challenge in that in some of the cultural communities, kids are the adults in their homes and they are put into a position of leadership that they aren't ready for. They sometimes have to miss school to help their parents. We have to help involve parents. [What would you recommend?] I'm not sure how this is done...It would take a special person to run, someone who reaches parents and kids, but kids at that age don't want their parents around.
 - [What do the youth want?] Relationships, trust. I am always looking for opportunities, to find fun things to build relationships. You'd think we'd have everything in the big city, the truth is everything costs and a lot of kids are looking for things to do.
 - People don't like to admit it, but there are gangs here. We need education and intervention.[What kind of gangs?] The same old things—Bloods, Crips, Latino gangs. They are all in Tukwila.
- **Transportation resources and enhanced connectivity and walkability within the Tukwila community, especially between parks, recreation facilities, open spaces and residences.**
 - We need shuttling to and from programs, especially late at night.
 - We need more walkable routes and connectivity to and from parks and facilities.
 - Rather than move kids from here to there, bring the programs up here to the kids.
- **Services and programs for children, and especially at risk children.**
 - We need a Boys & Girls type program. For impoverished people there can be no fees associated. There is an opportunity to partner with Community Schools Collaboration. Their program is free and a lot of kids benefit. The only kids who are benefiting from the City's programs are those who don't qualify for government benefits.
 - Many of programs are fee-based, so we need more free programs and scholarships for the children and families in our community who can't afford to pay.
 - A lot of our youth crave leadership and more traditional relationships with adults where they have trust and structure. Children also want to learn.

- Think about afterschool care differently; open it up to more kids. Currently [the school] provides afterschool services from 3 – 5 that includes all staff to run academic groups and homework help. The City staff can supplement to open it up to all kids. No fees, with snack, and a wide range of activities based on student needs.
- We need more pre-school services. We have ECAEP that can take 25 kids in the morning and 25 kids in the afternoon. Families work so hard to get into that program, which is based on a point system. Early education is grossly underserved here—tons and tons of families are turned away. There are no DSHS providers in the area—it is really difficult to find. People are relying on family, friend, and neighbor care, which is very sub-par. There is a real opportunity to make a difference here.
- **Places for children and youth to play in their neighborhood**
 - I would love to see more playgrounds with play equipment for young children.
 - More playgrounds with play equipment for kids at all the parks. Now we have some big parks with only one slide or two swings. We especially need equipment for three to seven year olds.
 - Kids need open spaces where they can play, when they live in apartment complexes. Some of the areas where we need more parks are near Cascade Community Park (which is over capacity), Thorndike, and 42nd Hill.
 - I see a lot of open spaces (empty lots) near 144th S and 146th S. There is an opportunity for some public/private development for the community. You could set up as soccer fields, bike loops, or regular playground equipment.
- **Employment opportunities, in general and for youth**
 - Offering summer jobs is important because it prevents youth crime and gives kids something to do. This is also a great thing for workforce development. This is something the City can expand. The City is not going out of its way to hire students from different backgrounds. [What age group are you taking about?] Ages 15 – 21, it will give them some job experience, some income and professional development...help to build their resume.
 - [What are the most important community needs in the African communities?] Summer jobs.
- **Swimming, particularly for Muslim women**
 - Not too many people [in the Somali community] know how to swim. The Mosque is interested in helping children learn to swim. It is important that women have access to the pool—it can work if they have women staff at women only times. Swimming is very important for women. It can help keep them healthy, and they can show their kids that you have to make an effort to be healthy. Otherwise, obesity can happen over time.
- **Educational programs for adults and seniors that enhance their quality of life and that of their family.**
 - We are seeing a lot of health issues in the cycle of poverty especially with needing to encourage fitness in refugee/immigrant communities, and needing to prevent long-term illnesses and obesity related disease.
 - We need more education for adults and seniors.
 - Parent involvement is a community need—it would really be great to have some classes for parents and children to do as families.

- [in the Somali community] Recreational opportunities for older men—they don't feel comfortable working out alongside women.
- You are providing recreational programs for seniors—[the schools] could really use the volunteers to help in the classrooms. It would give a chance for youth to connect to seniors. Cascade View could be an opportunity for a very interesting volunteering program for seniors.
- Seniors get a little left out because Tukwila has such a focus on families. Seniors are an important community to serve, though.
- **Other needs**
 - We need to collect and leverage our community data—thinking about areas where we could share this burden as partners.
 - We need to build community hubs at these parks and facilities.
 - Now that the pool is refurbished, it would be a good time to build water safety and swimming lesson programs for children and diverse communities that don't have experience around the water.

PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE

The Education Experts were asked for ideas and preferences for Tukwila's Parks, Recreation, and Open Space facilities and programs over the next five years. Themes across education experts' responses include:

- **A focus on health and fitness.**
 - I definitely think that health and fitness is an important end goal for Parks and Recreation over the next five years.
- **Enhanced outreach and service to Tukwila's diverse and historically underserved communities.**
 - We need to provide more outreach and awareness for citizens, and new residents, so that they know what resources are available to them.
 - Building partnerships with nonprofits would help the department target communities through key leaders and build constituencies in specific communities (including underserved communities).
 - Building City of Tukwila's capacity and cultural competencies, to have more cultural understanding and awareness.
- **Continue to focus on Tukwila's children, regardless of income or ability to pay.**
 - Have more youth programs that are free or scholarship eligible.
 - We need to prepare to serve more children—our youth base is growing!
 - I would like to see our Big Brothers, Big Sisters program come back.
- **Build relationships and trust with community members, including by engaging a variety of people in Parks Department service delivery.**
 - We need more community members to know who staff members are, and build relationships and trust with them.
 - The City staff needs to be more diverse and Tukwila residents should get priority for those spots.

APPENDIX D: PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT SUMMARIES

- The city should engage more volunteers to help with classes and bring fresh faces to programs and activities.
- Build co-located **programs outside of the community center** and closer to high need areas in Tukwila.
- Build a **dog park**.
- I would like to see more **mission-based leadership** focused on serving students, families, and the community.
- Parks and Recreation serves some **public safety** goals—especially in the prevention of gangs and violence.



Tukwila Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan

Community Leader Focus Group May 29, 2013

SUMMARY

BACKGROUND & SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

As part of the City of Tukwila's efforts to gather broad and inclusive feedback to inform an update of its Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan, the City held a community leader focus group to identify individual and collective viewpoints on the strengths, opportunities, and desired future of Tukwila's parks, recreation facilities, recreation programming, and open space resources. The main objectives of the community leader focus group were to:

- Identify strengths of Tukwila's Parks & Recreation system.
- Identify community needs and how those needs may be changing.
- Discuss how Tukwila's parks, recreation facilities, programming and natural amenities can best meet community needs and preferences.

The Community Leader Focus Group was held at the Tukwila Community Center on Wednesday, May 29, 2013, from 4 to 6 pm. Community leaders were identified by the City of Tukwila's Parks and Recreation Department program staff and invited to participate. BERK designed and facilitated the focus group. In this summary, participant' ideas, perspectives and comments are presented according to theme and discussion question, rather than the order in which they were originally shared. Comments are not attributed to individual speakers.

ATTENDEES

- Sean Albert, Parks Commission and Land Steward
- Mike Arizona, BECU
- Scott Elston, Tukwila Skyway Soccer Club
- John Forsyth, Showalter Middle School
- Nicole Grubbs, Westfield Shopping Center
- Mike Hansen, Sabey Corp.
- Chuck Parrish , Former Parks Commissioner
- Todd Pietzsch, BECU
- Alice Russell, Parks Commission
- Deborah Salas, Community Schools Collaboration
- Donald Scanlon, Parks Commission
- John Sheller, King County Library System
- Mitch Stone, PacWest Little League
- Joe Tice, Tukwila Pantry

DISCUSSION

What are the strengths of the Tukwila's parks, recreation facilities, recreation programming, and open space amenities?

- **The community center is a quality, well-used community gathering place.**
 - Our Community Center building is amazing and award winning. It has great parking lot designs (Southcenter could use that!). The run off from the building goes into swales and trees.
 - We use the Community Center a lot: from a business prospective, we use it every year for scholarship foundation lunch. We have used it for last six or seven years. Others use it for fundraising events, lunches, and dinners.
 - Meetings and signups are easy to do here—and it's expected that they will be here in the community.
 - The city appointed library board and the rotary meets here (or did). This is excellent because it is transparent for other community members.
 - It is great that kids can walk here (to the community center).
 - The Community Center is great as a place for meeting.
 - The Community Center is a focal point, one thing you identify Tukwila with. It is a place for the community to get together.
- **Tukwila has some well-attended events that are a draw.**
 - We work with the Parks team and to the Dr. Seuss event each year – attendance is close to 1,000 people.
 - The wildlife fair was here about a week ago, about 2,000 people attended.
- **Tukwila has unique parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces amenities.**
 - My family comes down for the spray park; there really isn't anything of this quality nearby us. It is a unique feature of Tukwila.
 - Parks are a big draw for not only youth of this community but others.
 - Having Starfire in the community is great. We start lots of the kids there for indoor soccer leagues and then move them through the system. Starfire always gives financial support for the youth programs.
 - Tukwila has a great variety with picnic shelters, playfields, habitat, etc.
- **The connectivity and functionality of the river trail is an asset.**
 - The path is a huge strength. Having a trail is great!
 - The trail gets used a lot for walking and running. I use it all the time.
 - The Duwamish has a bad reputation as a river but the trail is pretty nice.
- **Parks and Recreation Department staff members are responsive to the community and committed to Tukwila.**

- Whether or not they live here, there's a strong commitment to Tukwila. They work their tails off. The City has also done a great job at retaining staff people.
- 10-15 years ago the Parks Department met with kids at the high school and asked what they wanted to change. I feel like they have done a great job at getting things going that the kids are interested in. But how safe is it for the kids to walk home at midnight on a Friday?
- They're accessible and responsive, one can get responses quickly.
- The staff people have a can do attitude. We work with Darren and Nate a lot. They always have ideas on how to pull things together, are always positive, and never say no. Not just Nate – I get that positive attitude from everyone. It must be the culture on Tukwila Parks and Recreation department.
- Some of the long time staffers were kids here. This was their first jobs for some of them – they've been here a long time. That has built a strong sense of community.
- I spoke to a youth recently who said that some of the staff are absolutely amazing – Nate, Darren.
- The staff have done a great job networking and finding partners in the community. Expertise in that brings a lot to the table. Rotary does Thanksgiving lunch – if it weren't for the staff here, that wouldn't happen. All groups rely on the staff to help them out. I think they do a great job, bring in all kinds of businesses and clubs and groups here. They'll get you involved one way or another.
- I was at the Forterra breakfast this morning and am so proud of the relationships with the City and Duwamish Hill.
- **The golf course is well-positioned, geographically, and accessible to novice golfers.**
 - People will drop off kids at soccer and go play golf.
 - I heard it's a good golf course to learn on
- Summer camps and basketball are the biggest draws for kids. Some are local kids, but others are parents that work in the community but don't live here.
- I do use the senior programs, they vary across the region. There's a hiking program, lunches, etc. I'm very pleased with what they do here. If something is lacking, I'm not aware of it. Also they are very reasonably priced. There's been a big push within the City for these programs to be self-sustaining, but the Idea is that these are subsidized so that they are affordable.
- Happy, healthy kids perform better in schools.

What needs or preferences of the community are not being met?

- **Embrace the community's diversity and make programs and facilities more accessible for its myriad linguistic and cultural groups.**
 - A lot are having a hard time with language and they have their young kids interpreting. You deal with it using a lot of patience, making sure the child understands basic English, so that they can easily interpret. You're not there to take advantage, that's the perception. A lot are refugees, and were just sort of dropped here. They're trying to figure it all out.
 - There are cultural issues, stigmas with other cultures, divisions within cultures.

- The mall has it figured out, there are all kinds of people there! The mall use the language line, but the stores don't really need it. It's hard to tell what a lot of people are doing [at the mall], but it is there is lots of diversity.
- You can use what we call "tour guides" – one quasi-English speaker brings in a group and points things out. We work with them. We have a paid subscription to language line, and ask them to help us. Some cultures don't even have a library. They have pretty distinct needs: immigration, law, computer access, etc. Make use of the schools, they have key people they can turn to for communication. We provide a space for people to come and watch Americans. They can hang out without doing anything. There are low barriers to participation. Passive participation is an option with the Culturefest.
- We used to have a vibrant outreach program. Some things we learned: first, never say you speak for the community. We used to bring in various groups and all the conversation would be in the target language. If you didn't speak it, you had an interpreter that could interpret for you in English. We'd do a presentation first, an orientation, and then we'd allow more of an open conversation, instead of a facilitated-type. [The participants] would all yell and talk and in the end come up with an agreement, often not at all on the topic you needed.
- **Engage the community in staffing the Tukwila's Parks and Recreation department, and providing service delivery to the community.**
 - Budgets are tight everywhere, but we have a huge resource of youth here. There are many without jobs. It would be great if there were summer jobs programs. Seniors need their lawns mowed, jobs done; there are lots of youth that could do all that. Not sure where funding comes from, but that could be done through the Parks Program. I think this would give them a sense of ownership in their community.
 - We try and encourage kids to apply for the summer camp jobs; we have probably five or six who actually do it. We are trying to get more of the diverse kids to do it.
 - We need to make things accessible and available. When we started the food bank, it was all middle class white people. Now it's a diverse community – making them feel comfortable, allowing them to just participate and then not ask them to do a lot. Let them slowly take ownership. No one wants to take over.
 - We should provide more opportunity to participate and volunteer.
- **Leverage the excellent parks to improve Tukwila's image regionally.**
 - Starfire is a point of community pride.
 - Starfire does a lot for the community in allowing the kids opportunity to be in that park and through its after school programs.
 - Starfire has really successfully marketed itself as a regional soccer facility.
- **Make the Community Center inviting for children from all backgrounds.**
 - The Community Center is a focal point, what you identify Tukwila with. But what we heard in the Strategic Plan was people on the other side of the Tukwila can't get here.
 - For the most part, kids on other (East) side of Highway 99 are minorities and isolated from this center.
 - This facility is seen more as an adult facility, because most of the groups that use it are adult driven. A lot of the youth don't come down this far.

- There is a perception that the community center is not for minority children— more middle class, not something that’s for lower income families. Not the first time I’ve heard that, but heard it again a few days ago.
- **Provide safe, direct access to the river for all community members, including children.**
 - We need to open up the river a little more. It is a tidal river, which has slowly been canaled. The shoreline has been ignored and made it so you can’t get there. There is no connection to the river.
 - We miss out on great educational opportunity like the salmon run, which goes right through the City.
 - The river is an underutilized asset.
 - We set up boat access, it has been a five year project. We partnered with Forterra, a partnership which is ongoing. We are trying to get more businesses to join us. We have had a few others help fund us. We need more help – a lot of the volunteers had no idea it was there.
 - Part of the fun run was to plant trees at the end, in an effort to get the community involved. Not sure how successful it will be.
 - It is a jewel, still another thing that could be included in parks that isn’t inclusive of the kids. Right now there is no place for them. They have no experience with it—how many of them will kayak?
- **Get people to services as well as locate programs and services where the people are.**
 - [Taking services to the neighborhoods and bringing users to the community center] needs to be combined, otherwise you will end up with a community of smaller communities with a ‘you stay over there and we will stay over here’ attitude.
 - Over the last summer, when there was one event [at the community center] there was not as many kids when they did the same event in different areas. You saw a lot more kids and integration.
 - When I’m around the High School and Middle School area, there are always kids playing soccer on the fields. Technically they’re trespassing – it’s funny because they aren’t hurting anything and it’s not enforced. Either the signs need to come down and the gate removed, or there needs to be another place where the kids can go and be and not be in the wrong place, even though it is technically there for them.
 - They’re organizing enough to play soccer, so why kick them off? Where do they go?
- I think we need to maintain centralized service and programming because otherwise there won’t be fair service (or the perception that service isn’t fair).
- That community (around Cascade View) needs to be uplifted and safer.

Do you have any concerns about the City’s parks, recreation facilities, recreation programming, or open space?

- **Access for those most in need.**
 - Transportation is the biggest issue, to get kids safely to any events in the City. It is simply lacking.

- It's true, there's no access for kids from low income families with working parents. They can't get here. They don't want to get on the bus, it is scary for kids. We need to make sure they have a same way to get here when they do not have any transportation.
- The Parks Commission had sent a letter to the mayor requesting more bus service – most bus routes run north south, need east west. When light rail came in, they got rid of some routes, so there is tension between these two issues.
- There is not adequate access; kids with low-income families or working parents can't get here. They don't want to get on the bus. It is scary for kids; we want to make sure they have a safe way to get here. Right now they have transportation.
- **Infrastructure for people using transit, pedestrian, and bicycle modes is lacking.**
 - Those crosswalks on Highway 99 are the most terrible design—you can't see those lights on a rainy date.
 - I have to ride or walk to the Rainier Beach stop – I don't ride across the bridge. It's a very dangerous road with no sidewalks and no shoulder.
 - Not great for kids to ride bikes. Lots of neighborhoods without sidewalks.
 - There is a walking path from Samara Apartments to Cascade View, that's why we put the food bank where it is, because one third of our clients walk to us. It is really dramatic how many don't have access to vehicles.
 - By the Foster Library, I am impressed by the amount of walking people do. Some cities spend so much money trying to create walkable communities to encourage walking, but here the walking is already happening. We just need to make it safer.
 - The Foster area is a tough place to walk to, but the kids want to go there and play.
- **The golf course uses a lot of resources, but is not optimized for its best use.**
 - It's subsidized. It's getting \$500,000/yr. [there was some disagreement here]. There will be no purchase of parkland if [the golf course] is using park funds. I've heard 94% of the customers are from outside of Tukwila. It's not being used by the community here, so it shouldn't be subsidized. Nothing will change here in the short term. Does the golf course qualify as open space? Or is it like the creek? Not a park, but a green belt. What is open space?
 - The golf course should market itself as a regional golf facility– when there's bad traffic, go play golf.
 - One of our best open spaces that we never use is the golf course. Even if you're not a citizen you get a cheap rate. Would love to see it used for other things. You could have all kinds of great things there – not JUST the golf course. Could be used for all kinds of things. Should use it for more of the population.
 - We do all our business events on bigger courses. Foster is not a big course. To make it better, it must be bigger.
- **There is a disconnect between neighborhoods and specific cultural communities; these pockets need to coalesce around Tukwila as a whole.**

- We are a community of 31 languages, from 70 cultures. As a volunteer, this is the most exciting part. Seeing the diversity in your own backyard. We need parks department staff to find the leadership in those groups and introduce themselves. The school district has been hosting different conversations to talk about different cultures. This expands into the city as a whole; people need to feel like they belong. We all live in the same neighborhood.
- It is ironic that groups we're targeting are not represented today [in the community leader focus group].
- A lot of the new community members were leaders at home, but they don't feel like they are in that position now.
- As a diverse community, we have little pockets. But we need to start an overall community, that isn't just based on culture. One thought is with the use of parklands, we can encourage one group or another to sponsor a fair. Encourage groups to mingle that way.
- **We don't know if senior's needs are being met.**
 - We haven't talked much about the senior program – is it meeting the needs? JoAnne is always commenting the community center is the only place seniors can do anything. They come from all over the place.
 - Some seniors aren't able to get here or don't know that there are programs here.
- **There is a need for partnership, understanding, and cooperation between the Tukwila School District and Parks and Recreation Department.**
 - The constraints to partnering are around the programming – schools are facilities, you just need to figure out joint use. The constraint is the lack of programming.
 - There is a long standing problem that both groups have between them, but they need to sit and talk about it.
 - People should be receptive to how making the parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces in the city more useful.
 - The incoming superintendent wants to create a productive relationship, to pull it all together. She wants the school district and city to come together a couple of times a year.
 - It would be a better use of resources if the Parks and Recreation department did more programs at the schools. It is certainly something they could do. There are elementary schools in all the neighborhoods, and they are very accessible.
 - Strikes me as you have some special groups that aren't pulling together to maximize their resources. Wouldn't it be great if it was required that all kids had to learn to swim? Same with little league and schools, that way they become lifetime users? Maximize those tax-paid resources, how do we do that in a way that it is not divisive. Seems to me that if soccer is the primary interest in the community then Starfire, little leagues, and schools could be good partners in that.
 - [The Library] used to have issues with kids and drugs after school. We had a lot of animosity between the library and schools. We started to meet quarterly and now have a unified approach. School relationships make it all run much more smoothly.

- There are more people who work and leave than residents. So it is hard for people to invest time in parks and open space. There will never be enough dollars. I would like to see more of a push for **employers to be involved**, and getting employees involved on company time. Those are huge untapped resources. Otherwise they leave and focus on where they live.
- We live in an amazing area to be outside to take advantage of everything in the region. But it is hard to get people further from this facility involved.

Where would you like to see Tukwila's Parks & Recreation System focus over the next five years?

Changes to Existing Facilities

- **Improve and capitalize on the partnership between the City of Tukwila and the Tukwila School District.**
 - Always use assets wisely. Every community has a school – it's the one public space that's always there. I think that you have nice schools and fields, and should expand programming and use the spaces there where kids come. Work out plans to have ongoing programs around the school. Those are expensive buildings that aren't being used more than ½ the hours the entire year. Get more programs out to kids in the neighborhoods.
 - School Districts are really hard to work with. They charge for all kinds of stuff, but if they're willing why not use them.
 - There are schools where there have been facilities set up for both city use and school use. There are community rooms/facilities on school grounds. No need to create new infrastructure, use current assets. Much easier to add a gym or something as a joint use. Managed in a way that it's used in a respectful way so that it's both a district and school asset.
 - Want to see the school district and City resolve their issues and make this happen.
 - We used to have issues with the kids, drugs, etc. So the Library and Schools started to meet quarterly and now have a unified approach. School relationships to make it all run much more smoothly.
- There's a lot of caring in this community. Focus on inclusion and cultural identity. How do you take that perception and make it better? Make them feel like they are more accepted?
- Take the negative and turn it into a positive.
- Open up golf course to Frisbee, soccer, etc. It needs to attract more people.

New facilities

- **Growth and development of Parks and Recreation facilities, especially in areas where there are gaps in service.**
 - There is a problem with people being underserved in terms of open space along the Pacific Highway corridor. It is a big population with limited facilities, so we need to add more facilities and services. There are facilities there that could be used.
 - The property behind Showalter is owned by City and should be developed for its best use.

APPENDIX D: PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT SUMMARIES

- I would love to see some sort of youth facility in the Cascade neighborhood. A long time ago, we talked about doing something at Foster Library. We do stuff at the schools, but they close at a certain time. Just having a recreation space that's open late would help a lot more. Maybe a gym or center on that end of town.
- Would like to see something done about the soccer use, some sort of improvement to the parks-owned land behind Showalter.
- The more open space we have the better, once it's gone it's gone. You don't tear down buildings for parks.
- The turf field owned by the school district—In the summer you can drive by at any time and there are no less than 70-90 kids out there. As a soccer guy, it's cool, but the youth only know one thing. Kids are coming from places where soccer is super popular. Is it our value to offer them other opportunities in addition to soccer? Right now that is all they know. They need something they can expand into. These kids are all low income—mom and dad work, so they're out there all day. What do you do with these kids in the summer? They are the kids of the community.
- Focus has been on youth, but parks and open space are for all users. We need to talk about everyone—biking and walking trails would really help everyone.
- Wouldn't it be great if it was required that all kids had to learn to swim?
- There's been some discussion about a disc golf course at a park; appeal was that that's an activity that all ages would be able to participate in and it's very inexpensive.
- Would like to do low cost things. There's an anti-tax attitude, so much so that we can't get things funded anymore. Create a Parks District to pay for these things.
- Programming to get people out and about in the region.
- I want to see parks more wildlife friendly – get rid of grass and use native species. I also want to see better use of parks along the river.



Tukwila Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan Community Questionnaire

This community questionnaire was prepared for the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan to reach out as broadly as possible to the residents, visitors and employees of Tukwila. The questionnaire was available both online and on paper from April 30th – July 8th, 2013 and resulted in a total of 331 complete responses.

The tables below present the results by question. The percentages are calculated based on the number of responses to the specific question, which varied because the respondent was given the option of skipping individual questions and some did not complete the entire questionnaire. Where no total is presented, respondents were allowed to pick multiple responses and the percentage is based on the number of respondents who answered the question, not the number of answers selected.

The responses to these questions have been included in the analysis of the system, along with other community input.

Demographics

1. What is your age?

	Responses	Percent
Under 18	16	4.44%
18-24	7	1.94%
25-34	56	15.56%
35-44	81	22.50%
45-54	79	21.94%
55-64	62	17.22%
65+	36	10.00%
No Answer	23	6.39%
<i>Total</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>100%</i>

2. Male or Female?

	Responses	Percent
Female (F)	230	64%
Male (M)	101	28%
No answer	29	8%
<i>Total</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>100%</i>

3. Do you live, work or go to school in Tukwila? (Check all that apply)

	Responses	Percent
Live in Tukwila	158	44%
Work in Tukwila	194	54%
Go to school in Tukwila	15	4%
Visit	35	10%
Live in a nearby community	61	17%

4. What area of Tukwila do you live in?

Response map attached

5. What area of Tukwila do you work in?

Response map attached

6. How do you describe yourself? (check all that apply).

	Responses	Percent
White/Caucasian	258	72%
African American	25	7%
Hispanic/Latino	11	3%
Asian Pacific American/East Asian	31	9%
Native American	13	4%
Biracial/multiracial	10	3%
Other	13	4%

7. What primary language do you speak at home?

	Responses	Percent
Bosnian	4	1%
Burmese	0	0%
Cambodian	0	0%
English	318	88%
Nepali	0	0%
Somali	0	0%
Spanish	2	1%
Tagalog	0	0%
Turkish	0	0%
Vietnamese	3	1%
Other	9	3%
No answer	24	7%
<i>Total</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>100%</i>

Other: Russian, Japanese, Ethiopian (Amharic), Lao

8. Do you own or rent a home, condo, townhouse or apartment in Tukwila?

	Responses	Percent
Own single family detached house	121	61%
Own multifamily (condo/apartment/townhouse)	19	10%
Rent single family detached house	12	6%
Rent multifamily (condo/apartment/townhouse)	13	7%
I don't live in Tukwila	29	15%
No answer	5	3%
<i>Total</i>	<i>199</i>	<i>100%</i>

Parks**9. How would you rate the overall quality and maintenance of Tukwila's park sites?**

	Responses	Percent
Very High	52	16%
High	167	51%
Medium	65	20%
Low	6	2%
Very Low	0	0%
No opinion	23	7%
No answer	17	5%
<i>Total</i>	<i>330</i>	<i>100%</i>

11. How frequently have you visited the following parks and facilities over the past year?

Park Site or Type	At least once a week	A couple of times per month	Every few months	Once or twice a year	Never	No Answer
A park near my home	21%	22%	16%	8%	12%	21%
A school field/playground near my home	19%	15%	11%	13%	17%	24%
Tukwila Community Center	34%	11%	19%	18%	8%	11%
Tukwila Pool	11%	7%	12%	15%	34%	22%
Duwamish Hill Preserve	3%	2%	8%	15%	45%	26%
Tukwila Pond Park	3%	3%	7%	21%	40%	26%
Foster Links Golf Course	5%	3%	13%	22%	35%	23%
Fort Dent Park/Starfire	5%	9%	18%	29%	19%	20%
Other	6%	2%	2%	1%	13%	76%

Other: Green river trail, Greenbelt trail, Bicentennial trail, CC, Winter park/garden, one by Walgreens on 144 St., Old South Gate School, Crystal, South Mini Park near 57 Ave, Duwamish trail, Foster Park

12. What activities do you typically participate in when you visit Tukwila's parks? [Check all that apply]

	Responses	Percent
Walking/biking	193	58%
Social gathering (community events, picnics, parties, etc)	138	42%
Fitness and wellness	126	38%
Playing (running, hiding, seeking, sliding, climbing, etc.)	84	25%
Walking or playing with dog(s)	83	25%
Swimming or water play (indoor or outdoor)	72	22%
Playing casual sports or games	64	19%
Participating in team or individual sports	48	15%
River activities (such as fishing, kayaking, paddleboarding, boating, etc.)	16	5%
Other	46	14%

Other: golf, volunteer restoration activities, viewing flora, having lunch/ picnicing, sports spectator, jazzercise, meditation/ yoga, reading, drawing, social events for seniors, bootcamp

13. What activities would you most like to see more of in Tukwila's parks, recreation and open space system? (Note: activities can be supported by programs, classes or facilities) (Check your top two)

	Responses	Percent
Walking/biking	79	24%
Social gathering (community events, picnics, parties, etc)	74	22%
Fitness and wellness	65	20%
River activities (such as fishing, kayaking, paddleboarding, boating, etc.)	50	15%
Playing (running, hiding, seeking, sliding, climbing, etc.)	46	14%
Walking or playing with dog(s)	45	14%
Playing casual sports or games	31	9%
Participating in team or individual sports	29	9%
Swimming or water play (indoor or outdoor)	29	9%
Other	34	10%

Other: off leash dog area, competitive rowing, golf driving range, indoor play area, enlarged weight room at TCC, more yoga and dance, community festivals, Special Olympics-type, zip line, movies (for adults), cat walks, tai chi, ballroom dancing/ dance, hiking rec. classes, bootcamp nutrition classes

14. What keeps you from visiting Tukwila's parks more often? (Check all that apply)

	Responses	Percent
No time available (9)	103	31%
Don't know where they are/don't know what's available (4)	47	14%
Feel unsafe in the park (1)	38	12%
Lack of facilities (2)	35	11%
I can't walk or bike there safely (5)	30	9%
Too crowded/no parking (7)	12	4%
Poorly maintained (3)	10	3%
I don't have transportation (6)	9	3%
Not interested (8)	8	2%
I am physically unable to participate (10)	5	2%
Nothing (11)	78	24%
Other	48	15%

Other: no tent camping, don't live near them, limited venues for dogs, wheelchair accessibility, expense time, weather, kids older,

Recreation

15. What types of recreation programs, classes or activities offered by the City of Tukwila do you currently participate in? (Check all that apply)

	Responses	Percent
Fitness and wellness programs	99	31%
Special events	76	24%
Volunteer programs	43	14%
Youth sports	41	13%
Arts and culture programs	40	13%
Aquatic programs/swimming (offered by the Tukwila MPD)	32	10%
Before and after school programs, camps	25	8%
Senior programs and trips	25	8%
Adult sports	24	8%
Education/special interest classes	21	7%
Service programs (i.e. footcare, meals on wheels etc.)	7	2%
Other	37	12%

Other: family swim, golf, cycling, teen programs, adult dance, Pea Patch, family field trips, wildlife festival 1

16. How would you rate the variety and availability of recreation classes and programs provided by Tukwila Parks and Recreation?

	Responses	Percent
Excellent. There are many opportunities to do all or most of the recreation activities and programs I enjoy.	61	19%
Very Good. There are several opportunities to do many of the recreation activities and programs I enjoy.	106	34%
Satisfactory. There are some opportunities to do the recreation activities and programs I enjoy.	70	22%
Not very good. There are a few opportunities to do the recreation activities and programs I enjoy.	11	4%
Totally inadequate. There are no opportunities to do any of the recreation activities and programs I enjoy.	0	0%
Not sure. I don't know what is offered.	47	15%
<i>Total</i>	<i>295</i>	<i>100%</i>

Common responses included: Zumba, swimming and rowing programs (for different fitness/expertise levels and diff. times of the day- especially evening/ post school and work), Yoga/ Tai Chi/ Pilates (different levels and timings and kids yoga), Pre-school-aged programming.

Full text of the open ended responses is provided in an appendix to this document.

19. When would programs, classes or activities fit into your schedule? (Check all that apply)

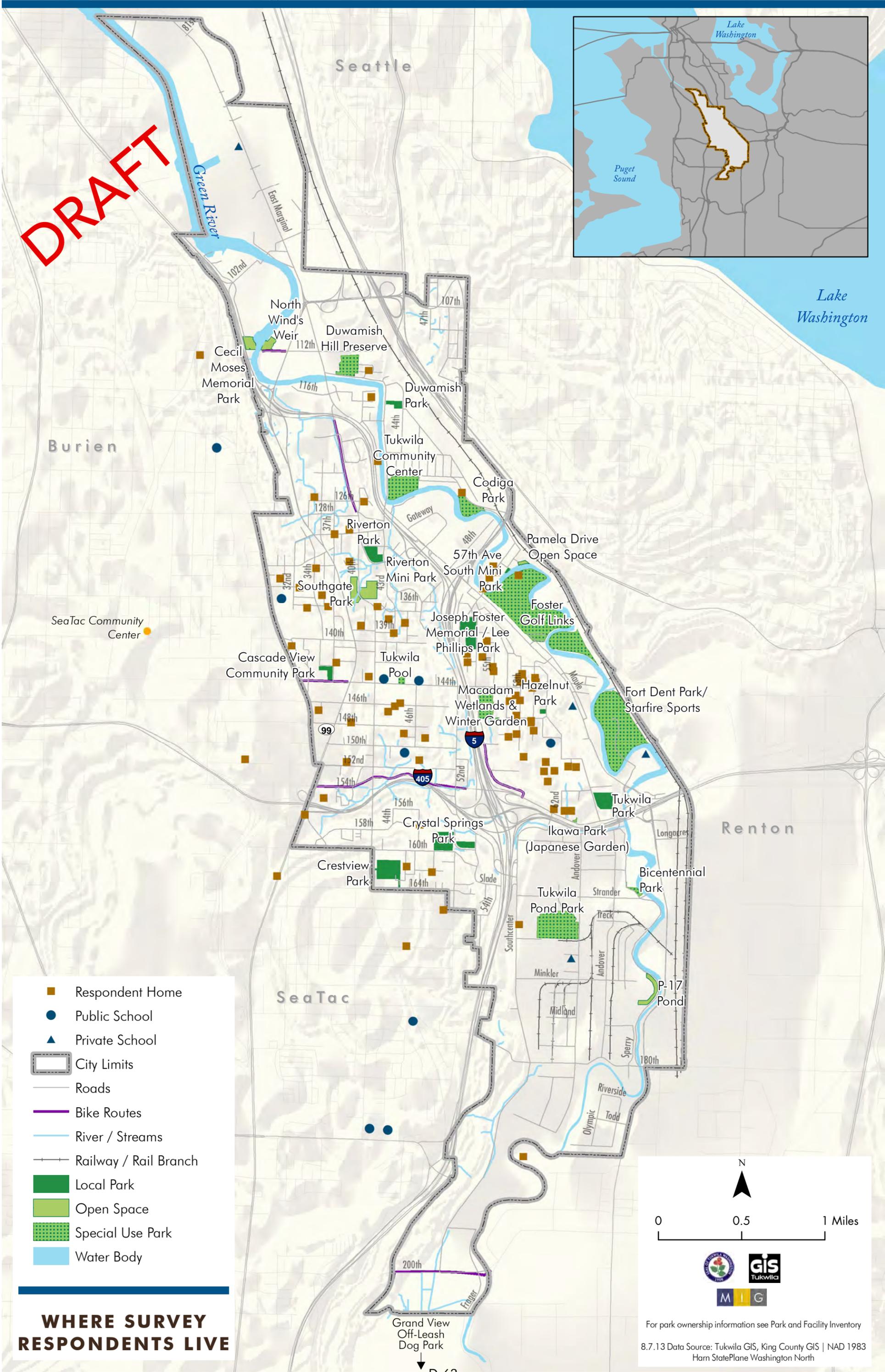
	Responses	Percent
Early morning (6am-9am)	79	26%
Late morning (9am-12pm)	35	12%
Lunch hour (12-1pm)	55	18%
Early afternoon (1-3pm)	29	10%
After school/afternoon (3-5pm)	56	18%
Evening (5-7pm)	151	50%
Night (after 7pm)	90	30%
Weekends	102	34%
Other	12	4%

Other: during vacation times

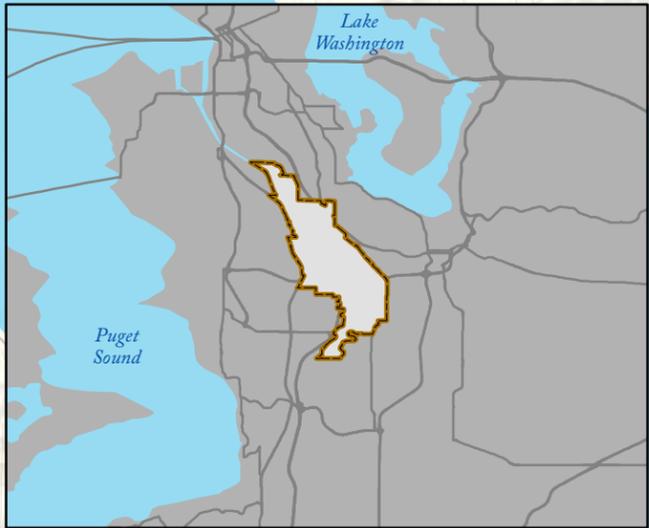
20. What other factors would increase your interest and availability to participate? (Check all that apply)

	Responses	Percent
Drop-in childcare available while I am in class	47	16%
Short classes or activities that fit in the lunch hour or other short opportunities	80	26%
Offering programs closer to where I live (such as a nearby school or park)	40	13%
Transportation	30	10%
Earlier or later operating hours to fit my schedule	73	24%
Weekend programming	83	27%
Scholarships or reduced fees	48	16%
Additional women-only classes or program time	35	12%
Other	13	4%

Other; reduced fee when participating in more than one, transportation (e.g. from school to community center), better communication



DRAFT



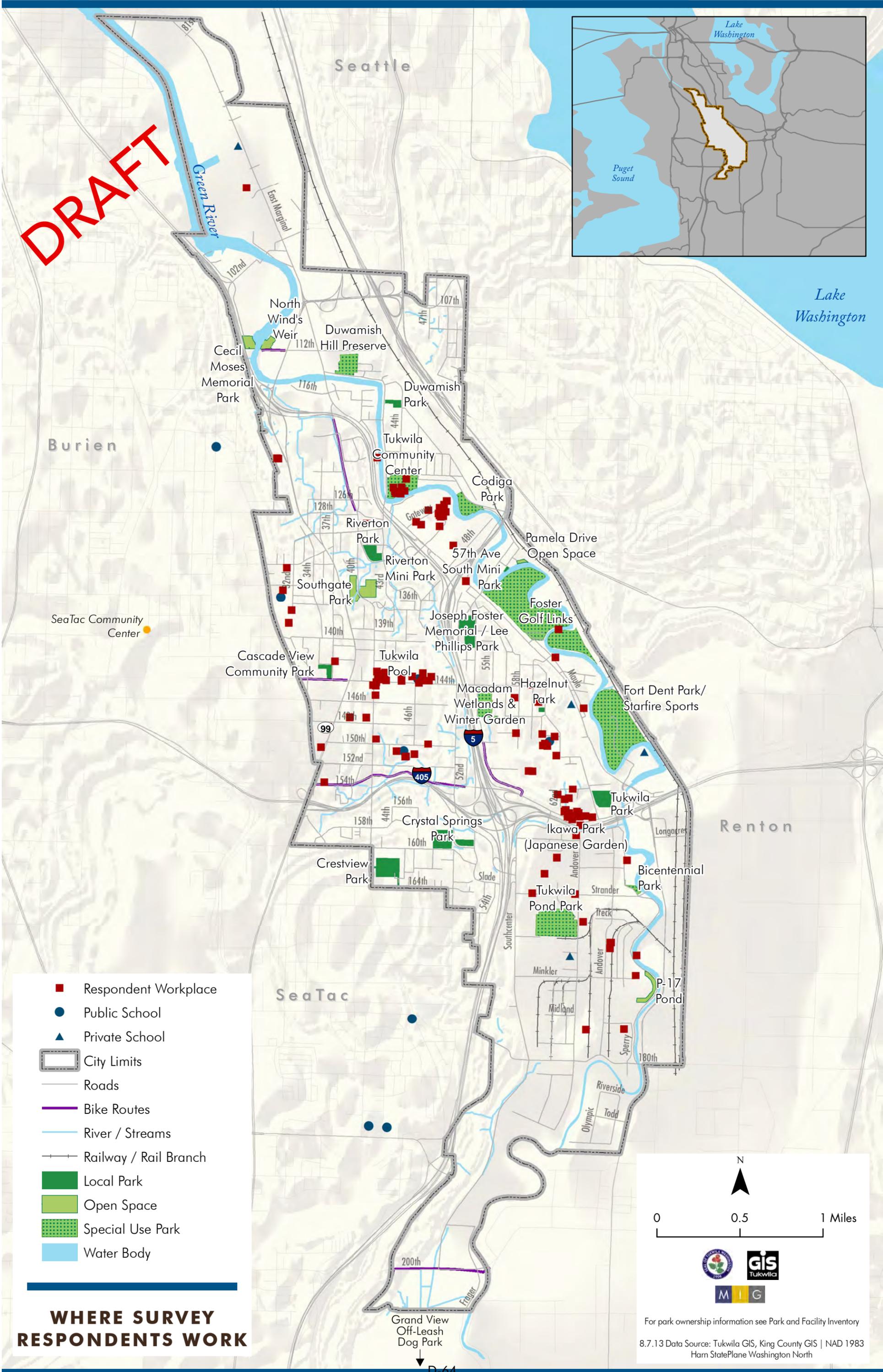
- Respondent Home
- Public School
- ▲ Private School
- City Limits
- Roads
- Bike Routes
- River / Streams
- Railway / Rail Branch
- Local Park
- Open Space
- Special Use Park
- Water Body

WHERE SURVEY RESPONDENTS LIVE

N

0 0.5 1 Miles

For park ownership information see Park and Facility Inventory
 8.7.13 Data Source: Tukwila GIS, King County GIS | NAD 1983
 Harn StatePlane Washington North





Tukwila Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan Community Questionnaire Open Ended Responses

10. Do you have any specific quality and maintenance concerns?

Common themes: More trash pick up, safety at night, lighting, clean park restrooms and shower walls, tree maintenance, pool locker room cleanliness, gym floors.

- Graffiti, unfortunately. I know it's hard to keep up with it!
- Sometimes the bushes get a bit overgrown where people can hide in them.
- just make sure they are safe and clean
- quality: I fear walking on paths that have secluded areas, so prefer tracks, but all tracks are often filled with kids and I hate to intrude. Would love a safe pretty place to walk.
- The gym floor needs to be cleaned more often.
- Safety
- long cut grass left after being mowed does not look appealing
- Overall, the Parks Department does a great job
- lack of groundcover
- Real bathrooms would be nice at Duamish park
- invasive plants in the more natural parks like Crystal Springs, Tukwila Park and others
- The pool is old
- I wish that the running/walking track along the Green River was better maintained.
- Safety and security from vagrancy and drug use
- Trash
- more "rest" stops
- Trails are sometimes overgrown, but eventually get cleared. Pool locker room is often dirty.
- Only the usual - ensuring sufficient funds for long-term, capital maintenance. Rather than treating it as a separate 'silo' ALL maintenance should be reserved for, in cash, concurrently.
- Path at Riverton Community park is no longer smooth from tree routes.
- Tukwila Pond Park has an ominous feeling. I sometimes do not feel safe there and have found condoms, etc..on the ground.
- trails are rough and poor crossing signage and markings
- continue to remove litter, water grass in summer

- Safety or children and parents
- Ikawa Park
- Bus stops need to be maintained!
- general streets wear and tear. Street and sidewalk maintenance may help and landscaping wont hurt.
- Moss on walkways at Crystal Springs Park.
- The people that hang around them.
- Seems to be some overgrowth at the parks that could be cut back. This would help with safety issues, and also maintain a better look for the park.
- Loiterers frequenting parks and trails at night. I walk on the green river trail by the community center and the short trail above 153rd st and city hall and sometimes see empty 40oz malt liquor cans.
- At Riverton Park, the doggy bags are always empty. Unfortunately, that results in many people letting their dogs go without picking up after it.
- need more staff to address tree maintenance
- yes maintain health of trees on property
- When the pool is open bathrooms need to be cleaned more often
- Keeping Trash Containers Emptied and Litter Picked Up
- Play areas
- Cleanliness, well lit, picnic tables
- too much trash piles up
- Trash pick up.
- Bathrooms
- The basketball hoops were removed from hoops at Crystal Springs Parks in Tukwila. Parks and Recreation promised to put them back, but has not happened yet
- Slide at foster park has a huge crack in it.
- Restrooms at Lee Philips Park are terrible.
- the lawns need to be watered in the summer , Tukwila Schools landscape need to be watered
- lighting
- The TIB Median and sidewalks get better attention than parks.
- People loitering in parks after sunset.
- bathrooms
- Air Pollution
- water the lawns use fertilizer maintain gardens trim trees remove ivy
- Garbage
- Trail at the top of Tukwila Park on 65th is blocked by fallen trees
- weedeatting , ivy removal , watering
- Lee Phillips ballfield seems to have a constant water issue - some kind of leak or running water problem along the 3rd base & right field side.
- trash
- Moss on path at crystal springs park
- Tree maintenance

- invasive plants like ivy and blackberry in the more natural parks
- boat launch
- lighting - safety
- clean shower walls
- clean park restrooms
- infant change tables
- garbage; toys unsafe
- cut grass
- litter
- parking lot lighting
- They look great.
- more employees
- equipment/leadership
- clean gym floors
- fix basketball hoops
- slippery gym floors

18. What is one program or class you would like to see offered?

Common responses: Zumba, swimming and rowing programs (for different fitness/expertise levels and diff. times of the day- especially evening/ post school and work), Yoga/ Tai Chi/ Pilates (different levels and timings and kids yoga), Pre-school-aged programming.

- hip hop dance
- International cooking classes
- Summer camps for teens 13 and UP
- Running Club
- Race walking group
- higher quality summer camps; less babysitting and more themed activities
- Summer Swim League
- CROSSFIT IN THE MORNINGS BEFORE WORK
- Intramural Swimming and/or Water Polo teams
- yoga
- river kayaking
- Health Screening Program
- Square Dancing?
- water exercise programs in the evening
- TENT CAMPING
- Basic Home Repair
- River Kayaking
- more preschool aged programs

- dance classes for adults
 - regular activities for special needs adults
 - Kids party theme stuff- crafts -
 - Baseball
 - more adult fitness, active classes
 - more variety of kids/family martial arts
 - Connecting those in need with those who can help
 - Immigrant Basic Ed.
 - We need a community preschool
 - Youth and Adult rowing and paddling from a dock behind AHS
 - If the TCC offered *spanish speaking classes* at a fee I would pay for this
 - painting,ceramic,guitar classes,
 - Program & walking tour of the History of the area
 - Mom and me dance class for babies
 - Kayaking/Canoeing for families
 - ballroom dance
 - golf improvement classes
 - Childhood programs when there is no school to keep kids active
 - Kids Yoga
 - Camping, Hunting, Fishing, Boating
 - River kayaking
 - Zumba
 - Kayaking
 - Zumba
 - Teen activities
-
- Youth environmental camps or programs
 - kayaking
 - Outdoor Group Adventure
 - Outdoor (weather permitting) Qi Gong
 - Running club
 - Pilates
 - before work (6:00am),Lunch (12pm-1pm),After work (4pm-6pm) fitness programs
 - boot camp
 - youth competition sponsored in partnership with private sector company
 - rowing - on the Duwamish River
 - Affordable Zumba classes
 - Lunch-time gentle yoga
 - Computer Skills
 - technology classes for teens and adults
 - Youth soccer leagues
 - Boys / Girls Club where our teens can meet - the community center location is not convenient for most of the cities youth.

- African Dance
- Special Olympics teams in more sports than swimming.
- Cultural gatherings in the park
- painting, zumba, yoga
- more yoga, more kids dance/fitness at the community center
- Teen Programs
- accessible gardening or classes in conjunction with Seattle Tilth
- Gardening and Environmental
- Basketball Leagues or Training
- walking
- adult co-rec soccer
- classes for youth
- fitness
- ballroom dance
- golf lesson
- Incorporate Swimming as an option for Physical Education within the Tukwila School
- pre-school
- before and after school programs
- Moms Club
- Toddler ages - 2-5 classes - sports
- golf lessons
- volunteer programs
- DISC GOLF
- More golf lessons and workshops
- free golf lessons
- snowshoeing
- Bike club
- Kayak launch
- finances for HS
- park aerobics, yoga
- more "How To" class
- aquatic programs
- senior trips
- couponing
- nature
- program scholarships
- gardening classes
- roller derby
- fashion/makeup class
- Tai Chi
- Zumba from 4-5PM
- Hiking

- dance
- gymnastics
- Special Olympics
- sculpture class
- meals on wheels
- basketball practice
- late night teen swim
- social classes
- baseball
- swimming
- swimming
- mixed martial arts
- pickleball
- Tai Chi
- hot yoga
- kids yoga, sports
- bootcamp/nutrition
- evening Sr. sports

22. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about parks, recreation and open spaces in Tukwila?

Common themes: Love Tukwila, enjoy the programming, great staff,

- I admire the effort to provide culturally appropriate fitness such as all women exercise classes.
- I really like what is offered and the great customer service and professionalism that I see. Tukwila has great parks and I like that there are so many little neighborhood parks scattered throughout the city.
- We have great parks and facilities. Unfortunately many of our residents are very limited with income and cannot afford to participate unless they are heavily subsidized. This becomes a dilemma for the department which has to generate enough revenue to afford the operation of facilities and programs.
- I repeat that I would love a safe pretty unsecluded place to walk. A track or park for adults/seniors would be great. Or a quarter or half-mile loop in an existing park that is out in the open or videotaped, that is not so frequently used by children.
- Tukwila Rocks!! keep up the good work
- You're doing a great job. The one thing that comes to mind is that I often use the trail from the old library down to the Teamsters building on

Interurban. It would be nice if the upper part west of the stairs from the other trail was improved with bark or something. Thanks.

- I would really like to see the basketball hoops get put back up at Crystal Springs
- please there is no available camping in kent tukwila etc your city could make a bankload of money on primitive sites for \$11 per night. it doesnt have to be anything special just somewhere for families to bond
- The golf course is my favorite. The city does a great job of keeping all the parks maintained. You offer a great variety of programs throughout the city. I don't know what percentage of cost you pay now. I would like to see the golf course stay open. Thanks
- Required for an enhanced quality of life.
- Would like to be able to walk in circuits around the City - more trails that connect places or allow a walker to connect across difficult barriers.
- The TCC gym needs air conditioning or better fans, it's too hot while working out. Same thing with taking classes. Too hot!!
- Need more staff time for volunteer coordination and recruitment
- I recently had a major surgery that put me in a wheelchair for 6 months. During that time I found a park in my communtiy, (near Federal Way) that had a paved path all around the large park. My wife would take me out daily to that park to wheel me around and I would propell myself when I got enough strength. The wheelchair bound population is small... but having a nice paved path sure was nice for me to get out and get my exercise.
- It would be lovely to have walking tours and hikes on weekends. And interesting gardening classes such as bee keeping, herb gardens, garden design.
- More opportunities with outside contracted services to minimize cost to taxpayers.
- just complete that one trail and add porta potties
- "Having used Tukwila Parks since 1974 the
- department excels.Please continue to upgrade.All of the parks & open spaces can be taken for granted and you never hear how much they are appreciated.Parks & open spaces = More the merrier.Good Work.Tukwila Parks & Recreation Department!"
- Continue to promote sites, programs, be aware of potential new acquisitions & program offerings.
- Great programs and amenities. How do we market these to employers (for their employees) and get them more engaged in City activities?
- By USER, above, I mean a) the users and b) private not for profits. Governments and public agencies of all types are over burdened as it is - which is why (for example) the State Parks system is falling apart. The Gov't needs to work with private, not for profits to take on a public/private partnership to build, operate, AND MAINTAIN parks and develop and run

programs. Have Moira Bradshaw put you in touch with me, and I can explain more.

- Overall, I am very happy with Tukwila, I was born and raised in North Seattle and never thought I'd be living in Tukwila, but I love it. It's a very convenient city to live in to get to major interstates etc. I like seeing police presence in and around my neighborhood due to break in's in the area during the day. Thank you for that. I do get tired of seeing the return of prostitutes on hwy 99 up by Tukwila Tradeing Store on 144th and vicinity etc. But thank you for all you do to try and keep us as safe as possible in this crazy world!
- TCC makes a great job!!!
- We have a great community center, beautiful parks and nice open spaces. Let's invest to keep them clean and safe to use, as well as affordable. More family recreational activities would be great. Children and Teen programs are excellent....let's keep these at as low a cost as possible so more kids have safe, fun, healthy activities to do when they aren't in school.
- I would like to see Tukwila sponsor group walking events like the WABI program Burien offers on the 1st Sunday of every month. Also, we need a new golf driving range now that our old one has been removed.
- Classes for families to motivate each other.
- Info on Backyard Wildlife fair was hard to find on City website. Once found there were few details on speakers' schedules. The link to the fair was broken.
- Tukwila needs to create a man made lake for future park development. Families have to go to other communities for this outdoor type of enjoyment. with a fresh water river this would be a good use of the existing golf course
- Need kayak landings / take outs - at least two - one upstream, one downstream in Tukwila.
- Thanks for the support of Duwamish restoration projects.
- "I love living in Tukwila and I think the parks are very beautiful, especially the well maintained gardens such as Macadam Winter. I think Tukwila has world class parks and I feel fortunate to live near them. Thank you for all you do to keep them that way! I know the police are busy but I would love to see the parks and trails get patrolled a little more. I rarely ever see officers passing by. I would feel safer if I did. I loved taking adult dance classes at the Community center. I know they weren't well attended and that's probably why they went away.
- Tukwila is doing a great job. I believe that safety could be improved along the Duwamish/Green River Trail - maybe lights under bridges and in some areas more exposure to public.
- "- Keep Foster Pool Open
- I forgot to say earlier, the doggy swimming day was awesome! Can we do that again
- Keep the Duwamish/Green river trail open

- Look into monitoring groups at Riverston Park who haven't signed up to use it. They take advantage"
- "The city should look at developing parks and amenities that attract diverse community members to participate. Meet with community members in their primary language and find out what type of amenities they would like to see at local parks. Offering tennis courts, baseball, soccer and other traditional sport facilities is needed but other non-traditional amenities and activities should also be invested in.
- I would LOVE to see more programs offered somewhere up in the Int'l. Blvd./144th area of Tukwila. There are so many people, especially children, who have almost nothing safe and healthy to do up there, yet lack the ability to get to the community center to participate in what is offered. I think that anything offered up there, especially for youth, would be highly attended and appreciated and would meet a major need!
- Regarding the costs of programs I think it is important to make programs available to all regardless of ability to pay, so it is important to have scholarships available for those who need financial assistance and then make sure the public is aware of this option.
- Would love to make sure everyone in the area knows about them and how to get to them and what is available at each. Love the parks!
- The banquet/meeting room facilities never seem to be occupied when I am at the Tukwila Community Center. An effort to promote those facilities to employers in the area and also weddings ect. No one knows about them and they are beautiful.
- Love jazzercise. Would like to see more yoga and affordable zumba classes.
- Provide more on-site recycling @ parks
- When the brochure for city activities comes out - it is sad to see so few opportunities for our young people. Many pages of activities for younger and for the older people...but what about our teens and young adults?!
- I sure hope the city can preserve some open space in the area/s S. of the big mall that is planned for intensive development.
- As a teacher in the Tukwila district, I have spent years at Cascade View Park and many trips to the pool as well. Thank you for all that you are doing to help preserve what Tukwila has.
- Better access across I-5 it is too divided, they need a pedestrian bridge of some kind that is much safer.
- turn foster golf course into a big park. there probably aren't too many golfers in a city of 35k with such a large ethnic community. there are better uses for such open space. think central park in NYC.
- I would like to see Transportation offered to McMicken Heights Elementary School since there are Tukwila residents attending this school and paying taxes toward TCC and parks/recreation improvements.
- I think Tukwila has a wonderful parks and recreation program. They offer many options. I have great interest in making the programs for youth more

affordable and transportation more easily available for low income families who would participate but don't have affordable transportation options

- The Tukwila Pool is an important part of our community, and needs to remain a public facility; operated by the City of Tukwila.
- The splash park at the community center could use some areas of shade that are near the splash pad. Also - a better fence between the street and the splash pad area. There is significantly more traffic speeding through there these days.
- I want to be a STAFF member to help out the young children involved with anything like camps, sports, or any other activities. I'm only 16, and I would be willing to do any other stuff that would help me with my volunteer hours.
- Please add a disc golf course. Thanks!
- We need a new driving range to replace the one that was redeveloped
- Tukwila elementary school grounds are terrible , the lawn is weeds the gardens are weeds , the tree's are half dead , the baseball dimond needs dirt and to be dragged , thank you
- Keep up the good work. Thanks for giving me the opportunity to provide comments. Walkable, safe access to parks is the key.
- Love that the age for seniors starts at 50, otherwise I couldn't afford to go to the gym!
- the lawns at the schools look terrible get new crew
- Communication - activities over before notification
- Staff is professional, helpful, and they have good attitudes, pleasant personalities.
- Love the parks but always surprised how little use they get. We would love a park by Thorndyke, there are no parks in that area within walking distance.
- Fantastic swimming pool and staff!
- New fitness class, volleyball league during summer. Volleyball should be outdoor in the baseball field grass area. More youth sports throughout the year. People always ask about basketball more than once or possibly longer. Increase fitness room size for more equipment. Set open gym hours at least twice a week. Outside bathroom on spray park end with showers.
- Creative, innovative classes, programs instead of the current "cookie cutter" programs. For example, can we tap into the immigrant communities to provide opportunities to learn about cultures/experiences of our new neighbors? A source of income for immigrants?
- More classes for teens ages 16-19.
- Thank you City of Tukwila and staff.
- Family piano lessons
- Senior coordinator is very good, great gal.
- Please keep locker room at community center cleaner, floors especially. Although don't clean during high traffic hours like lunch time.

- The loss of the preschool program was a really bad thing. I'm surprised and sad that it is not back yet
- I would like there to be a dog park in Tukwila
- Need more jobs for young people.
- Open more parks or buy more land for development.
- Great staff - they are fun and helpful. Program selection is good but it would be nice to bring back softball for seniors. Computer classes for seniors.
- You take good care of all the parks. My wife, Melody and I are regular users of the shower facilities. Lisa is the bomb. Amber is also very helpful. Thank you, Bob and Melody Ledbetter
- More opportunities to connect with nature.
- I think with Tukwila being low on the income scale and high on poverty, the prices should match according. Also most Tukwila residents don't drive, I think you would have more business for residents if it was on the bus line.
- TCC is awesome, clean and well organized. Please schedule the janitors to clean ladies locker room on "off" hours. They are always trying to come in during the busy time. Thanks!
- Offer reduced rates for seniors. I am not a Tukwila resident or employee - offering a senior rate equivalent to their fee would be appreciated.

