

Comprehensive Plan Policy Development – Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element

Parks Board Recommendations made 5/13/14.

Line #	Element Goals and Policies	Action	If action proposed, why?	Proposed change
1.	PA-1 Establish a coordinated and connected system of open space and greenways throughout the city that provide multiple benefits including preserving natural systems, protecting wildlife habitat and corridors, and providing land for recreation.	Keep		
2.	PA-2 Support a region wide park and open space system.	Edit	Too vague – specifically call out connections to other city, county and state park facilities and systems.	Connect Bellevue’s parks and trails to the regional system of nearby state, King County and neighboring city parks, greenways, trails and facilities.
3.	PA-3 Obtain land throughout the community to meet present and future open space needs.	Edit	Clarity	Obtain land throughout the community to meet present and future parks and open space needs.
4.	PA-4 Equitably distribute neighborhood park and recreation opportunities by type throughout the city.	Merge	Broaden the scope of PA-4 to allow deletion of PA-18, which has common themes.	Equitably distribute a variety of parks, community centers and other indoor and outdoor recreation facilities throughout the city.
5.	PA-5 Incorporate utility, storm drainage, and other public lands into the open space system through cooperative use agreements.	Merge	Broaden scope to allow deletion of PA-8 and PA-25	Maximize use of public lands by collaborating with other City projects and programs to incorporate utility, storm drainage, underutilized right-of-way and other public lands into the parks and open space system.
6.	PA-6 Obtain, for preservation, natural areas that are sensitive to urbanization or represent a valuable natural and aesthetic resource to the community.	Keep		
7.	PA-7 Provide additional public access to Lakes Washington and Sammamish.	Merge	Merged with PA-23	Acquire and develop waterfront property to increase public access to Bellevue’s lakes.
8.	PA-8 Coordinate park planning, acquisition, and development with other city projects and programs that implement the Comprehensive Plan.	Delete	Theme captured in edited PA-5	

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9.	PA-9 Actively pursue private dedication of land and funds for park related purposes through a variety of methods such as purchase, donation, easement, and through the development review process.	Edit	Clarification edits – includes Board recommendation to reference regulatory incentives as a tool to leverage private investment in urban neighborhoods.	Pursue private dedication of land and funds for park related purposes through a variety of methods such as purchase, donation, easement, and land use code incentives.
10.	PA-10 Actively seek funding from a variety of sources to help implement a park acquisition and development program.	Keep		
11.	PA-11 Develop partnerships with school districts, other public agencies, and private groups to meet the open space and recreation needs of the city and region.	Delete	Theme of partnerships with school district and other groups captured in PA-14, 15, & 16.	
12.	PA-12 Determine the appropriate uses within natural areas based on the environmental sensitivity of the site.	Delete	Unnecessarily specific for the Comprehensive Plan. Also, duplicative with PA-30.	
13.	PA-13 Develop pedestrian and bicycle linkages between neighborhoods and major natural areas, recreation facilities, and education centers.	Edit	Add “commercial” to list of places	Develop pedestrian and bicycle linkages between neighborhoods and major natural areas, recreation facilities, schools and commercial centers.
14.	PA-14 Develop partnerships with other public agencies and the private sector to meet the demand for cultural and recreational facilities in the city.	Edit	Clarify and broadened scope to allow deletion of PA-11	Develop partnerships with other public agencies and the private sector to provide parks, open space, and cultural and recreation facilities in the city.
15.	PA-15 Develop partnerships with not-for-profit organizations in planning, developing, and utilizing facilities.	Keep		
16.	PA-16 Develop partnerships with the public school districts to utilize school sites to provide active recreation and cultural facilities.	Keep		
17.	PA-17 Provide geographically dispersed community centers, using city owned facilities as well as partnerships with the school districts and other nonprofit agencies, to meet residents’ needs for indoor recreation, athletic instruction, arts, meeting space, and special activities.	Edit	Focus policy on the collective impact service delivery model. Themes of geographic distribution and partnerships covered in PA-4, PA-15 and PA-16.	Collaborate with school districts and private and non-profit providers to deliver a coordinated array of recreation, athletic instruction, arts, gathering spaces and community services.

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18.	PA-18 Develop a variety of active and passive facilities in a coordinated system of neighborhood and community parks.	Delete	Themes of coordination and variety captured in PA-1 and edited PA-4.	
19.	PA-19 Develop parks and facilities in a quality manner to assure attractiveness, full utilization, and long term efficiency.	Keep		
20.	PA-20 Promote a diversity of privately funded recreational and cultural facilities throughout the city, especially in coordination with major employment centers.	Edit	Clarity	Encourage privately funded recreational and cultural facilities throughout the city, especially in major employment centers.
21.	PA-21 Coordinate with other jurisdictions, including state agencies and the Port of Seattle, in the planning and development of regional greenways, parks, cultural, and recreational facilities, including the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) trail system.	Edit	Regional park planning and development captured in PA-2. Focus on ERC to create a policy foothold for the City as others develop this facility in the future.	Collaborate with King County, Sound Transit and neighboring jurisdictions in the planning and development of the regional Eastside Rail Corridor trail system.
22.	PA-22 Encourage the linkage and access of private facilities with those in the public system.	Keep		
23.	PA-23 Expand and develop public waterfront sites.	Delete	Merged with PA-7	
24.	PA-24 Encourage the development of facilities for special purpose recreation.	Keep		
25.	PA-25 Retain and develop underdeveloped public right-of-way for public access and passive recreation where appropriate.	Delete	Theme captured in edited PA-5	
26.	PA-26 Require a public review process for the conversion to non-recreational use of lands and facilities that were acquired, purchased, and developed with voter-approved funding, CIP project funding, or private donation.	Edit	Clarity	Require a public review process for the conversion to non-recreational use of park lands and facilities.
27.	PA-27 Designate active and passive recreation uses and cultural use of parkland through the master plan approval process.	Keep		
28.	PA-28 Establish a funding plan for long term maintenance and operation before constructing park-related facilities.	Keep		

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29.	PA-29 Evaluate existing parks and facilities, and renovate, where appropriate, to maximize efficient maintenance and operating practices, improve safety and accessibility for all users, and to reduce, where feasible, the impacts on adjacent properties.	Keep		
30.	PA-30 Design, construct, operate, and maintain parklands and facilities to preserve the ecology of natural systems on parklands.	Keep		
31.	PA-31 Protect and retain, in a natural state, significant trees and vegetation in publicly and privately-dedicated greenbelt areas.	Keep		
32.	PA-32 Conserve energy, water, and other natural resources, and practice efficient and environmentally responsible maintenance and operation procedures.	Keep		
33.	PA-33 Manage Bellevue’s forest resources, including street trees, formal plantings, and self-sustaining natural stands, to ensure their long term vitality.	Keep		
34.	PA-34 Provide a variety of services and programs throughout the city serving the general population and placing special emphasis on programs and services for youth, seniors, the disabled, and the disadvantaged.	Edit	Reworded to use contemporary terms. To avoid generalizing the needs of certain population groups, reference to “those with limited opportunities” added for clarity, per Board recommendation.	Provide a variety of services and programs accessible to all throughout the city with special emphasis on serving those with limited opportunities including low-income households, youth, individuals with disabilities and older adults.
35.	PA-35 Promote partnerships with public and private service providers to meet cultural, recreational, and social needs of the community.	Keep		
36.	PA-36 Provide opportunities for individuals to develop a sense of community through services and programs.	Edit	Phrase encouraging intercultural interaction added per Board recommendation	Provide opportunities for individuals to develop a sense of community through services and programs including programs that encourage intercultural interaction.

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37.	PA-37 Actively solicit community input in the planning and delivery of services and programs to ensure that they are convenient and beneficial.	Keep		
38.	PA-38 Accommodate social services at recreation facilities and community centers when they complement recreational, cultural, and social programs.	Edit	More proactive phrasing used per Board recommendation	Welcome social services at recreation facilities and community centers when they complement the site's recreational and cultural programming.
39.	PA-39 Offer programs that utilize the unique resources and variety of indoor and outdoor facilities within the park system.	Keep		
40.	PA-40 Provide a nature interpretation program to increase the community's awareness, understanding, and appreciation of natural areas.	Edit	Per Board recommendation, reword to broaden scope of policy.	Provide environmental stewardship and nature education programs to increase the community's awareness, understanding, and appreciation of Bellevue's natural environment.
41.	New-1	Add	Per Board recommendation, signage and wayfinding will increase utilization of existing recreation resources.	Provide signage and wayfinding tools to direct individuals to park facilities from nearby streets and trails in order to promote and facilitate public use of parks.
42.	New-2	Add	Reflects how parks are now and increasingly will be used to preserve Bellevue's history and cultural heritage	Use parks to celebrate, promote and preserve Bellevue's history, cultural arts and local heritage when consistent with the park's design and programming.
43.	New-3	Add	Reflects the department's desire to understand an ever-changing customer base and remain nimble in providing services.	Monitor and respond to the community's evolving recreation and community service needs to ensure a diverse mix of relevant and effective facilities and programs.