

Chapter 9: APPENDICES

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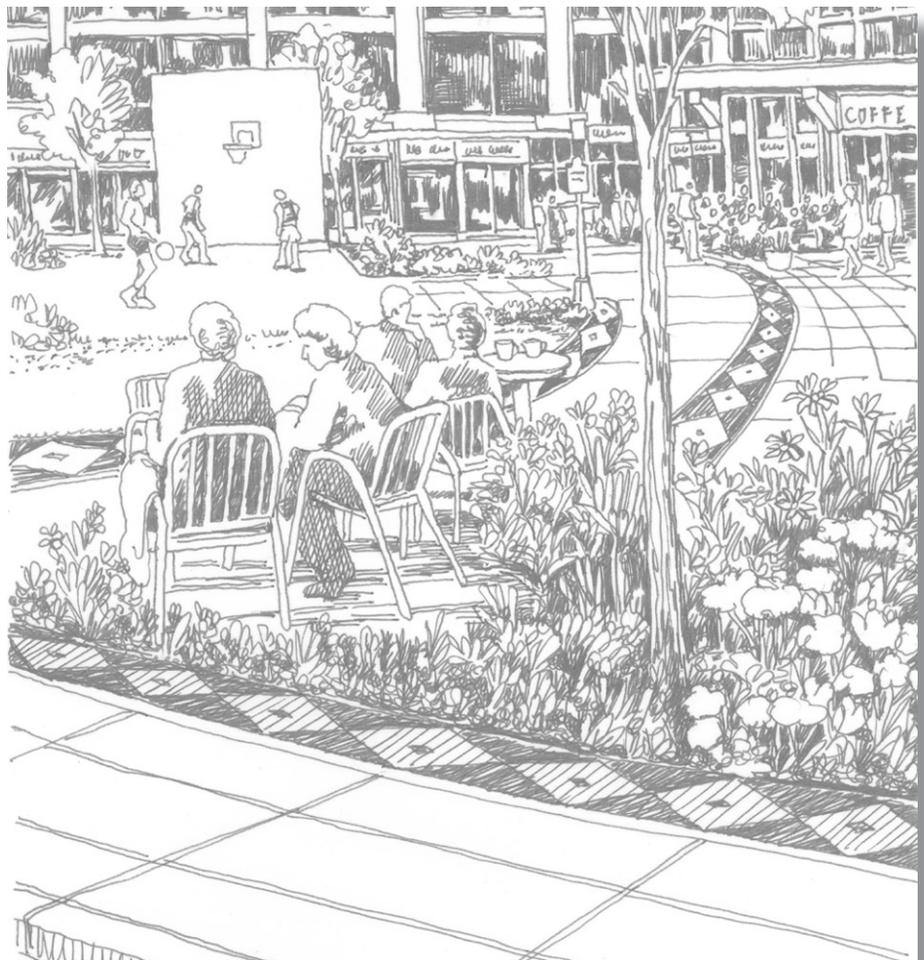
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Chapter 9A:

Public Involvement

The public outreach effort is a critical component of every land use planning process. Involving Bellevue citizens in the process of identifying their community's issues and needs ensures a successful planning process, provides for a mutual exchange of ideas, and helps meet the community's needs. As stakeholders in the planning process, the citizens can work with the City to ensure parks and recreation needs are accurately identified, planned for, and funded.

The Park Plan update process has benefited from a wealth of public input, which has been utilized in determining needs and priorities and in developing short-term and long-term recommendations. This section outlines the public involvement that has helped shape the recommendations contained in the 2003 Parks and Open Space System Plan.

Initial Public Meetings with City Council and Parks & Community Services Board

- City Council Study Session October 16, 2000
- Parks & Community Services Board September 12, 2000
public meetings October 24, 2000
November 14, 2000
December 12, 2000

Parks Plan Update Telephone Survey (June 2001)

The Parks Department hired a research firm to conduct a telephone survey of 414 Bellevue residents to obtain input regarding current usage patterns and future needs. When residents were asked to prioritize parks and open space needs over the next 20 years, the priorities were rated in order of importance from first to last as follows: trails, mini- and neighborhood parks, waterfront parks, community parks, community centers, and sports facilities. When asked to compare level of importance on acquiring and preserving open space and conserving habitat for fish and wildlife versus developing new parks and recreation facilities for the public, residents rated open space and wildlife habitat acquisition and preservation as top priority and developing new parks and facilities as second priority.

Downtown Needs Assessment Phone Survey (February 2002)

As part of the **Downtown Needs Assessment** report, the Parks Department hired a research firm to conduct a telephone survey of 607 Bellevue residents and downtown business employees to explore the need for parks, recreation, open space, and human services in downtown Bellevue. The respondents indicated that the biggest recreation and human service needs facing the downtown area in 2020 will be for: more parks, open spaces, and places to relax; more pedestrian friendly walking trails and paths; and more programs for people with disabilities. When respondents were asked to prioritize a list of recreation activities and human service needs, they rated space for walking and running trails as their highest priority.

Park Bond Phone Surveys (April and June, 2002)

The Parks Department hired research firms to conduct two separate phone surveys of 400 registered voters each to gauge citizen support for a potential park bond issue and property tax levy to acquire, develop and maintain new parks and facilities. The April 2002 survey indicated respondents rated neighborhood and mini-parks are their top priorities for spending additional tax dollars, followed closely by preserving open spaces and undeveloped natural areas. The April 2002 respondents also overwhelmingly (90%) endorsed expanding the City's partnership with the Bellevue School District because funding and facilities are already in place and facilities could be more accessible to the public. The June 2002 survey results indicate that respondents mainly would support spending additional bond money to maintain, complete, improve, and enhance existing neighborhood and community parks and to preserve and protect natural areas, natural landscape, and open space.

Ethnic Focus Groups (July – Sept, 2001)

Focus group meetings were held with the Russian, Latino, Vietnamese, and Chinese communities with the help of translators and facilitators speaking their respective languages. Questionnaires were also translated into their languages to help facilitate the discussion by these groups. The purpose of these ethnic focus groups was to learn more about their recreation usage patterns and how the City could better meet their future needs. It was also the first time that the City has specifically sought input from these communities. A total of 75 people attended these four meetings. While information received was usually general, the people attending the focus groups were very appreciative of the Parks Department's efforts to include them directly in the park planning process.



Sportsfield Users Focus Groups (September – November, 2001)

Three focus group meetings were conducted with sportsfield users to understand issues and to gather information about how to improve Bellevue’s sportsfields. Of the 77 different leagues or athletic organizations invited to participate, a maximum of 27 individuals attended at least one of these meetings. The focus group participants were asked to identify issues, propose solutions, and then rank the issues and solutions in importance. Their top recommended solutions included: placement of artificial turf at the Robinswood and Wilburton lighted fields and at Newport Hills, and upgrading existing fields instead of building new fields. The resulting **Sportsfield Analysis Report** is a companion document and forms the basis of the recommendations for sportsfield improvements contained in this Plan.

Chronological List of Public Outreach Meetings

All public outreach efforts used as part of the Park Plan update process are listed below.

- Parks & Community Services Board Meeting September 12, 2000
- City Council Study Session October 16, 2000
- Parks & Community Services Board Meetings October 24, 2000
November 14, 2000
December 12, 2000
- North Bellevue Senior Center Group November 15, 2000
- Bridle Trails Community Group November 16, 2000
- PTSA Council June 4, 2001
(Parent, Teacher, Student Association)
- East Bellevue Community Council July 3, 2001
- South Neighborhood Network Group July 11, 2001
- Sammamish Community Council July 17, 2001
- Latino Focus Group July 19, 2001
- North Neighborhood Network Group August 8, 2001
- Russian Focus Group August 9, 2001
- Chinese Focus Group August 23, 2001
- Vietnamese Focus Group September 10, 2001
- Sports field Users Focus Group Meetings September 12, 2001
October 24, 2002
November 7, 2001
- Bellevue Youth Council December 5, 2001
- Bellevue Youth Link Board December 12, 2001
- Bellevue Chamber of Commerce,
Public Affairs Council staff Fall 2001
- Vuecrest Community Association January 15, 2002

- Downtown Needs Assessment Parks Depart.
internal focus groups: November 13, 2001
January 22, 2002
January 24, 2002
- Park Plan update Parks Department
internal focus groups: October 25, 2002
October 28, 2002
October 31, 2002
November 5, 2002
- Parks & Community Services Board briefings January 7, 2003
February 11, 2003
March 11, 2003
March 25, 2003
May 13, 2003
- Planning Commission presentation June 25, 2003
- City Leadership Team presentation June 25, 2003
- Human Service Commission presentation July 1, 2003
- City Council Study Session July 7, 2003
- Parks & Community Services Board Public
Hearing and recommendation July 8, 2003
on Park Plan Update
- Environmental Services September 4, 2003
Commission presentation
- City Council regular meeting September 15, 2003
adopting Park Plan

Written Public Information and Written Questionnaires

Bellevue's *It's Your City*, August 2001, article published on the Parks and Open Space System Plan update process. In addition, information on the Park Plan update process was forwarded to the PTSA Council president for inclusion in an e-mail newsletter to the PTSA audience during summer 2001.

Written questionnaires were distributed to all public groups during speaking engagements. Citizens were encouraged to fill out and return the questionnaires for Parks Department use during the Park Plan update process.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was prepared in 1987 in conjunction with the *Open Space, Parks and Recreation Plan* adopted that year. The 1993 Park Plan was issued a Determination of Significance and Adoption of the original EIS in April 1993.

The Environmental Review for the 2003 Park Plan update involved adoption and amendment to the 1987 EIS. A Determination of Non-Significance was issued on May 8, 2003.



Chapter 9B:

APPENDICES

Relevant Regulations

Since the adoption of the 1993 Park Plan, several new environmental regulations were passed and implemented by the federal and state governments. These new regulations will result in changes to the City's *Comprehensive Plan* and *Land Use Code*, and may impact how our park system develops. Much the City's critical areas, including wetlands, streams, lakes, and wildlife habitat areas, are within our park system. Therefore, these regulations have implications on the development and management of our parks and open space system. Development and maintenance practices will likely change to better protect these critical areas and their resources. In addition, these new environmental requirements may provide opportunities for the City to acquire some of these environmentally sensitive sites, thus providing valuable open space for the enjoyment of the community and for habitat for wildlife.

Growth Management Act (GMA, 1990)

The Growth Management Act (GMA) establishes 13 statewide planning goals that must be considered locally as the City's *Comprehensive Plan* and resultant development guidelines and regulations are reviewed. Several of these planning goals apply to parks, including open space retention, development of recreational opportunities, conservation of wildlife habitat, public facilities sufficient to support growth, and attention to historic preservation. We have evaluated our parks and open space system based on the relevant GMA goals.

State Growth Management Act (GMA), Best Available Science Legislation (1995)

Washington State added a new section to the GMA that raised the standard for designating and protecting environmentally critical areas and for protecting anadromous fisheries. Local governments must include "best available science" when evaluating and protecting these critical areas. The City has updated its *Comprehensive Plan* and is revising the *Land Use Code* to reflect these 1995 GMA Best Available Science requirements. The Park Plan short-term and long-term recommendations include additional acquisition, protection, and enhancement of these critical areas defined by the Best Available Science legislation.

State Shoreline Management Act Guidelines

The State Shoreline Management Act requires local governments to regulate their shorelines through adoption of local Shoreline Master

Programs. The City will be updating its Shoreline Master Program to conform to the state's proposed update of the Shoreline Master Program Guidelines. Changes to the City's Shoreline Master Program may impact park operations and development since some of the park and open space land is subject to the City's Shoreline Master Program.

Watershed Planning Act (RCW 90.82)

This state legislation allows local jurisdictions to form Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIA) planning units and to receive state assistance for watershed planning. The City of Bellevue is located within the WRIA 8 planning area (the Lake Washington, Cedar River and Lake Sammamish Watershed). It is the City's goal that participation in this watershed planning process will help ensure compliance with the Federal Endangered Species Act. Recommendations and requirements from this watershed planning process could impact park and open space operations and development.

Federal Endangered Species Act

In 1999, the National Marine Fisheries Service listed Puget Sound Chinook salmon and bull trout as "threatened" under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA). Actions taken that harm "endangered" or "threatened" species or their habitats are prohibited and efforts are required to recover the species. The City's approach to protecting these "threatened" fish species per ESA requirements is to pursue a watershed-based strategy. This strategy relies primarily on existing regulations and practices, with heightened sensitivity using additional permit submittal requirements. Development of parks and facilities will comply with regulations in effect at the time of application.



Chapter 9C:

Companion Documents

The Parks & Open Space System Plan does not function in isolation. A number of City plans and codes are considered companion documents to the Park Plan. In conjunction with these additional plans, the Park Plan enables the Parks Department to serve the community's recreational and human service needs. A brief summary of the most relevant plans and codes that support and expand upon the Park Plan's purpose are listed below.

Recreation Program Plan (1999)

This plan focuses specifically on the provision of publicly supported recreation activities and programming, establishing a specific role for the City as a recreation service provider in relation to others in the recreation business. It establishes a set of service priorities and a pricing policy to guide the expenditure of public resources in support of recreation programs and spells out goals and program objectives for specific populations.

Renovation and Refurbishment Plan

This six-year plan (updated annually) was developed to ensure that existing park structures and grounds are systematically refurbished and renovated to maintain the safety, integrity, and function of our park system. Items covered in this plan are beyond the scope of the normal maintenance and operating budget and are funded through the Parks Department's CIP budget.

Sportsfield Analysis Report (2003)

This report, updating the sportsfield inventory and usage analysis completed in 1996, evaluates the citywide need for sportsfields and recommends improvements to satisfy the current and future need for active sportsfields throughout the City. These recommendations are incorporated into this Plan.

Downtown Implementation Plan (2002)

The *Downtown Implementation Plan* is a 20-year planning document for development in the Downtown Subarea. The focal points in the plan include: transportation, urban design, and public safety. The urban design element encompasses the proposed system of linked parks, open space, and public spaces identified the Parks Department's *Downtown*

Needs Assessment document (see below). Part of the plan includes a capital facilities component to ensure that identified improvements and programs are implemented according to a defined schedule.

Downtown Needs Assessment (2002)

Part of the City-wide *Downtown Implementation Plan*, the Downtown Needs Assessment document was developed by the Parks Department to determine parks, open space, recreation, and human services needs over the next 20 years in the Downtown Subarea. The recommendations of this document are incorporated into this *Downtown Implementation Plan*.

City of Bellevue Comprehensive Plan

The Bellevue Comprehensive Plan is a broad statement of community goals and policies that direct the orderly and coordinated physical development of the City, and also provides the basis for adopting regulations, programs, and services to implement the Plan. The “Parks, Open Space, and Recreation Element” of the *Comprehensive Plan* provides policy support for the Park Plan’s vision and short- and long-term recommendations.

Land Use Code

The *Land Use Code* contains the regulatory requirements which implement the goals and policies of the *Comprehensive Plan*. Regulations governing development of the elements of the park system, including street tree requirements, are found in the code.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan Update (1999)

This Plan provides a blueprint for the development of the City’s pedestrian and bicycle system, which is intended to create a balanced transportation system that provides mobility choices for residents and visitors. Non-motorized linkages between neighborhoods, schools, parks, and activity areas are identified. This Plan is the primary resource for trail policies, projects, and implementation strategies.



Bellevue Human Services Needs Update (2001)

Updated biannually, this document summarizes local, regional, statewide and national quality of life trends. Based on these social and economic indicators, the report identifies human service needs in Bellevue and on the Eastside, and provides information on Bellevue's role in addressing these needs.

Urban Land Institute's Downtown Bellevue, Washington Report (1996)

The Urban Land Institute (a non-profit research and education organization promoting responsible land use in order to enhance the environment) evaluated Downtown Bellevue and developed recommendations for ensuring a vibrant urban center. The report lists planning and design strategies, including recommendations for recreation and open space areas. Many of these recommendations have been incorporated into this Plan, the *Downtown Needs Assessment*, and the City's *Downtown Implementation Plan*.



Chapter 9D:

Definitions

ANNEXATION - The incorporation of an area within the limits of the City; an addition.

BALLFIELD - A sportsfield with a backstop, which can be used as either a baseball or a softball field.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAM PLAN (CIP) - A major planning tool of the City of Bellevue in which needed improvements to the City's facilities are identified, prioritized, priced and discussed with the general public. Funding from a variety of sources, including local taxes, is matched with the costs of these projects. After the City Council has approved the program, these projects are implemented. The CIP deals with acquisitions, major facility construction, reconstruction, and renovation over a seven-year timeframe. The CIP is updated biennially.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN - The City of Bellevue's officially adopted plan containing goals and policies that guide land use and development. One element of the plan addresses parks, open space and recreation.

EASTSIDE - Communities on the east side of Lake Washington. Usually thought of as Bellevue, Kirkland, Redmond, Issaquah, Newcastle, Woodinville, Bothell, Renton, Medina, Clyde Hill, Yarrow Point, Hunts Point and Beaux Arts.

GREENWAY - An open space connector linking parks, natural reserves, cultural features or historic sites with each other and with populated areas. A greenway may be established along a natural corridor such as stream or ridgeline; overland along a railroad right-of-way, scenic road or other route; or any other course for pedestrian or bicycle passage.

LINKAGE - The connection of open space parcels or major activity areas. Linkages can serve as a visual delineation between neighborhood areas and provide a physical means for going from one activity to another.

MASTER PLAN - An ultimate development and program plan for a specific park site that identifies uses and establishes design guidelines. A master plan provides the basis for future construction, operation, and maintenance.

NATURAL AREA - Land maintained in a natural state and not to be considered for active recreational uses. Development would include facilities that support passive recreation and appreciation of the area (e.g., parking, interpretation, trails, picnic areas).

OPEN SPACE - Includes ecologically sensitive and/or unique natural areas, greenways, wildlife corridors, and publicly owned Native Growth Protection Areas (NGPAs) not associated with, or part of, a community park system. Also can include undeveloped park sites. The purpose of these areas is preservation, through public stewardship, for future generations and for wildlife habitat.

PARK - Depending on size, visual character, natural determinant factors, or location, addresses one or more of the following recreational needs in a neighborhood or on a community or citywide basis: 1. Preserves ecologically sensitive and/or unique open space areas where uses will primarily be passive in nature and may include trails, picnicking, viewing, environmental education, and agriculture from a historical perspective. 2. Provides structured or non-structured outdoor recreation activities, including sportsfields, play areas, golf courses, marinas, and waterfront areas. 3. Provides facilities to serve indoor recreation activities, including gyms, daycare, fitness, meeting space, classrooms, game rooms, pools, and theaters.

PLAY AREA - A defined area with special recreational equipment and surfacing for children's active play. The equipment at each play area is designed for certain age groups, from toddlers to elementary school children.

SPORTSFIELD - An area designated for organized team play, such as baseball, softball, football and/or soccer.

SUBAREA - Referring to a defined geographic subsection of the City. For planning purposes, Bellevue has been divided into 15 subareas to help address needs or concerns specific to that location. For the purpose of the Park Plan, the portion of the Evergreen Highlands Subarea located within the City of Bellevue has been included in the Northeast Bellevue Subarea Inventory and Analysis Map.

WETLAND - Those sensitive areas transitional between upland and aquatic systems where the water table is at or near the surface or the land is covered by shallow water. Vegetation includes plants adapted to wet conditions (e.g., cattails, skunk cabbage, willows and reed canary grass).



Chapter 9E:

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Chapter 9F:

Bellevue Parks & Open Space 2003

41.5 Mini Park	Foresthill Neighborhood Park and Open Space	Paxton House
Airfield Park site	Forestpark Mini Park	Pikes Peak Open Space
Ardmore Park	Goddard Park	Richards Creek Open Space
Ashwood Site	Goldsmith Neighborhood Park	Richards Valley Open Space
Bannerwood Ballfield Park	Hidden Valley Sports Park	Robinsglen Nature Park
Bellevue Aquatic Center	Highland Park and Community Center	Robinswood Park
Bellevue Ballfields at Marymoor Park	Highland-Glendale Property	Saddleback Open Space
Bellevue Golf Course	Hillaire Park	Saddleback Park
Bellevue Way SE Open Space	Horizon Heights Open Space	SE 40th Street Boat Launch
Bel-Red Mini Park	Horizon Highland Open Space	SE 63rd Greenbelt North
Bovee Park	Ivanhoe Park	SE 63rd Greenbelt South
Burrows Landing	Ivanhoe Youth Theatre and Sports Fields	SE 6th Street Open Space
Chandler Neighborhood Park and Open Space	Keeney Park	Silverleaf Open Space
Chapin Property	Kelsey Creek Park	Silverleaf Park
Cherry Crest Mini Park	Killarney Glen Park	Sixth Street Park
Cherry Crest Park	Kinderling Center	Skyridge Park
Chesterfield Beach Park	Lake Hills #27 Open Space	Somerset East Open Space
Chism Beach Park	Lake Hills Clubhouse	Somerset Highlands Open Space
City of Bellevue Marina at Meydenbauer	Lake Hills Greenbelt	Somerset North Slope Open Space
Clyde Beach Park	Lake Hills Park	Somerset Park
Collingwood Mini Park	Lake Sammamish Property	Spiritridge Park
Collingwood Open Space	Lakemont Blvd Open Space	Spiritwood Park
Commissioners' Waterway	Lakemont Highlands Park and Open Space	Spring Hills Property
Compton Trails Open Space	Lakemont Park and Open Space	Stratford Open Space
Cougar Ridge East Open Space	Lakemont Trail Open Space	Sunich Property
Cougar Ridge West Open Space	Lakeridge Estates Open Space	Sunrise Park
Crestwood Property	Lattawood Park	Sunset Mini Park
Crossroads Park and Community Center	Lewis Creek Park	Sunset Ravine Open Space
Crossroads Pump Station	Little Field	Tam O'Shanter Park
Custom Industries	McCormick Park	The Heights Open Space
Downtown Park	Meadow Wood Park	The Summit Open Space
Deer Run Park and Open Space	Mercer Slough Nature Park	Viewpoint Park
Eaglesmere Open Space	Meydenbauer Beach Park	Vuermont South Open Space
Eastgate Park	NE 99th Avenue Street End	Weowna Park
Enatai Beach Park	Newcastle Beach Park	West Kelsey Open Space
Enatai Neighborhood Park	Newport Hills Mini Park	West Summit Open Space
Evergreen Park	Newport Hills Park	Westwood Highlands Open Space
Forest Drive Open Space	Newport Way Open Space	Westwood Highlands Park
Forest Glen East Open Space	Norelius Property and 41.5 Open Space	Whispering Heights Open Space
Forest Glen Park and Open Space	North Bellevue Community and Senior Center	Wilburton Hill Park
Forest Park - Lower Washout Way	North Robinswood Sports Fields	Wildwood Park
Forest Park - Upper Washout Way	Northtowne Park	Winfield Open Space
Forest Park Meadows Open Space	Northwest Arts Center	Woodridge Open Space
Forest Park Open Space	Norwood Village Park	Woodridge Water Tower Park
Forest Ridge Mini Park	Odle Trail #1	Woodside East and Wetherburn Open Space
Forest Ridge Open Space	Old Hearthstone Property	
	Owl Avenue Open Space	



Chapter 9G:

Resolution Adopting Park Plan

1043-RES
9/10/2003

ORIGINAL

CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION NO. 6903

A RESOLUTION authorizing the City Manager or designee to adopt the 2003 Bellevue Parks & Open Space System Plan (Park Plan), which updates the 1993 Parks & Open Space System Plan.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON, DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Manager or designee is authorized to adopt the 2003 Bellevue Parks & Open Space System Plan (Park Plan), which updates the 1993 Parks & Open Space System Plan, a copy of which has been given Clerk's Receiving No. 34502.

Passed by the City Council this 15th day of September, 2003, and signed in authentication of its passage this 15th day of September, 2003.

(SEAL)



Connie B. Marshall, Mayor

Attest:



Myrna L. Basich, City Clerk

